# **Utah Hub**

The existing landscape of industrial production, commodity transport infrastructure, and geologic carbon storage capacity in Utah provide a key opportunity for investment in carbon capture and low-carbon hydrogen deployment.

### Industrial Emissions and Fossil Fuel Use



Utah is home to a high number and concentration of diverse industries, including petroleum refining, steel and steel products manufacturing, and cement production. Facilities in the Utah hub emit 6.8 million metric tons (Mt) of CO<sub>2</sub>e annually, including 2.5 Mt from stationary combustion and 2.0 Mt from process emissions. There are 8 facilities in this regional hub that are eligible for the 45Q tax credit based on their current emissions profile.



There is one hydrogen-producing facility in the Utah hub already co-located with the central corridor of industrial activity and fossil fuel use. Industrial facilities in this regional hub use a total of 40 million MMBtu of fossil fuels per year.

Hydrogen can be used as a low- or zero-carbon alternative to fossil fuels at industrial facilities. Clusters of hydrogen production and fossil fuel demand can facilitate technology deployment and jumpstart the transition to hydrogen.

(H2) Existing hydrogen production S Fossil fuel use at industrial facility

### Industrial facility emissions

Sector	Total # of Facilities	Total Emissions	Stationary Combustion Emissions	Process Emissions
Cement	1	0.7	< 0.1	0.7
Chemicals	2	0.2	0.2	-
Gas power plants	3	2.3	< 0.1	-
Gas processing	2	0.2	< 0.1	0.2
Metals, minerals & other	11	1.1	0.8	0.3
Pulp & paper	1	< 0.1	< 0.1	-
Refineries	5	2.0	1.4	0.7
Steel & steel products	2	0.3	0.1	0.2
Total	27	6.8	2.5	2.0

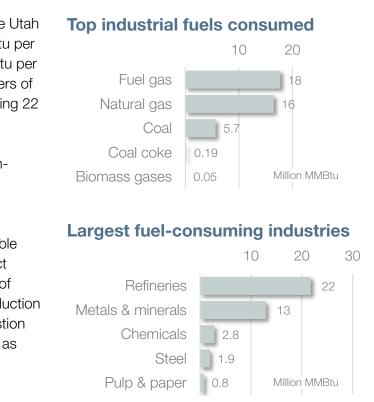
The top industrial fuels consumed in the Utah hub include fuel gas at 18 million MMBtu per year and natural gas at 16 million MMBtu per year. Refineries are the largest consumers of fossil fuels in this regional hub, consuming 22 million MMBtu of fossil fuels per year.

Using hydrogen as a medium- and highintensity energy source to displace conventional fossil fuels can reduce combustion emissions alongside other solutions like electrification and renewable energy. Process emissions from product manufacture are another major source of GHGs at industrial facilities. These production processes may not involve fuel combustion and would require other solutions such as carbon capture to fully decarbonize.

Hydrogen production and nearby fossil fuel use



All emissions are in million metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e.



# **Utah Hub**

Carbon capture and storage is an essential tool for achieving midcentury climate goals, maintaining the competitiveness of US industry, and protecting and creating high-wage jobs. Carbon capture is crucial in decarbonizing key carbon-intensive industries where CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are inherent to the chemistry of production processes and cannot be eliminated solely by switching to low-carbon electricity. The US has capacity to safely and permanently store thousands of years of carbon emissions in geologic saline formations.

### Carbon Capture and Storage



The Section 45Q tax credit lowers cost barriers to carbon capture and storage. Among the eight industrial and power facilities in the Utah hub that meet emissions thresholds for Section 45Q eligibility, two have been identified as nearto medium-term candidates for capture retrofit over the next 10 to 15 years.

#### 45Q-eligible facilities by industry Cement Steel & lime Near- to Gas power medium-term Gas $\bigcirc$ Additional processing emitting facility Refineries

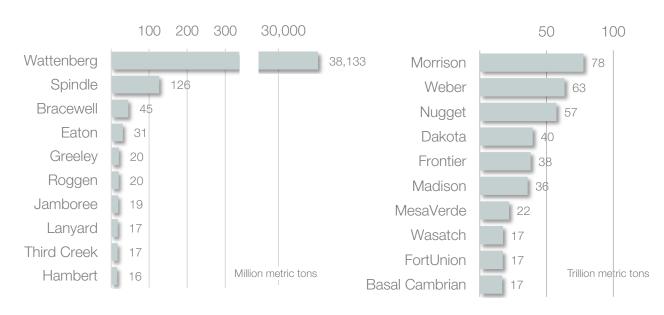
Utah has potential to act as a major carbon storage destination for capture facilities and carbon removal. The state of Utah has potential to store 95 billion metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in secure geologic saline formations, and also has extensive capacity for carbon storage in geologic fossil basins.

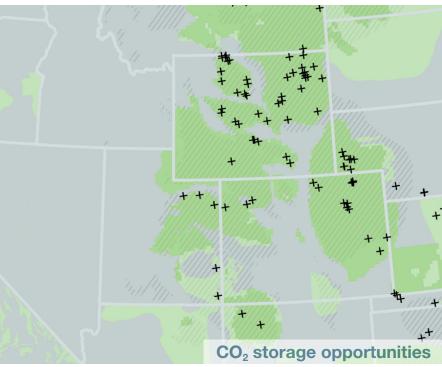
#### Geologic storage opportunity

- Assessed low-cost saline storage
- Saline CO<sub>2</sub> storage formation
- ////// Fossil CO2 storage formation
- + Existing petroleum production site



### Fossil storage formations by CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity







### Saline storage formations by CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity

# **Utah Hub**

Industrial hubs can offer existing transportation infrastructure, delivery routes, and distribution networks needed for the efficient supply of feedstocks and delivery of products. Hydrogen may be blended into existing natural gas pipelines for co-firing, and both carbon and hydrogen could be transported by rail, freight trucking, or barge. Existing pipeline rights-of-way may be crucial for efficient and equitable routing of new CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines for utilization and permanent storage.

## Transport Infrastructure

Many industrial facilities are located along rail lines and often use rail transport to import and export goods. Railroads can also play a role in transporting captured carbon and hydrogen. Many of the facilities in the Utah hub are located along major rail lines, facilitating connection to markets across the US.

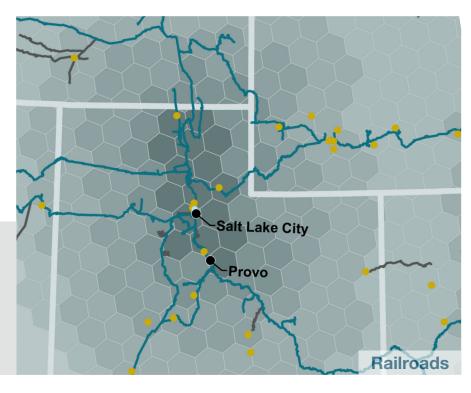
#### **Railroad networks**

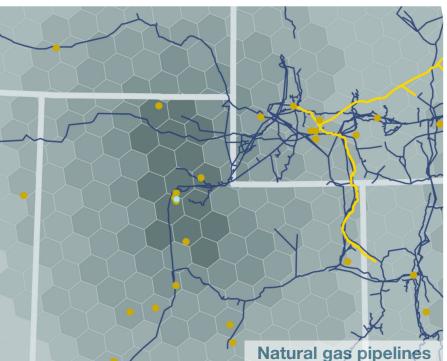


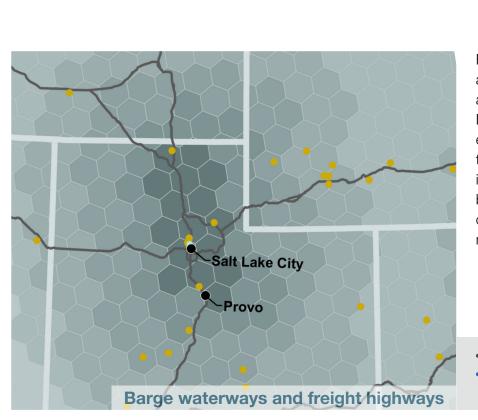
Logistical challenges to carbon and hydrogen pipeline deployment can be reduced by following existing rightof-way of natural gas lines. The Utah hub currently has 448 miles of natural gas pipelines. This regional hub is also adjacent to an extensive existing CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline networks that runs across Wyoming.

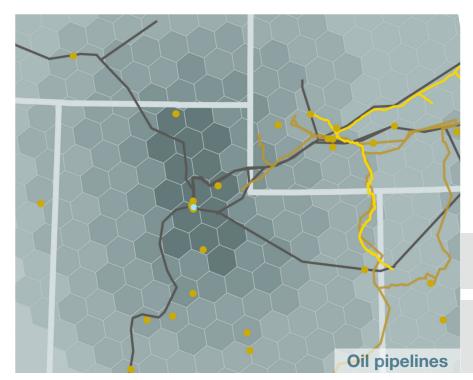
Infrastructure	Miles
Natural gas pipelines	448
Oil pipelines	1,966

Existing CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines — Natural gas pipelines —









Freight trucks and barges can each play a role in the development of carbon and hydrogen transport networks. Both transport options are flexible, enabling routes to evolve over time and the frequency of transport to adapt in line with the volume of material being transported. Freight trucking can connect the Utah hub to broader markets for carbon and hydrogen.

- Interstate highway
- Navigable waterway
- 🖞 Major port

Collocating new CO<sub>2</sub> and hydrogen pipelines along existing pipeline routes can maximize efficiency and reduce surface impacts. New CO<sub>2</sub> and hydrogen pipelines could follow existing right-of-way established along the Utah hub's 1,966 miles of oil pipelines to achieve efficient buildout.

- 45Q-eligible facility Existing hydrogen production
- Existing CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines
  Hydrocarbon gas liquids pipelines
  Petroleum pipelines

## **GPI's Atlas of Carbon and Hydrogen Hubs**

## An Atlas of **Carbon and Hydrogen Hubs**

for United States Decarbonization

February 2022

## GREAT PLAINS INSTITUTE

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A nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, the Great Plains Institute (GPI) is transforming the energy system to benefit the economy and environment. Working across the US, we combine a unique consensus-building approach, expert knowledge, research and analysis, and local action to find and implement lasting solutions. Our work strengthens communities and provides greater economic opportunity through creation of higher paying jobs, expansion of the nation's industrial base, and greater domestic energy independence while eliminating carbon emissions.

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## **Download the report at** carboncaptureready.org

