

## Summary of Major Points

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1. Geologic sequestration of carbon dioxide is a major part of the solution to climate change, though only a part. Public acceptance requires rigorous and credible regulations. Such regulations appear to be within our grasp.
2. While geologic sequestration is feasible, knowledge will increase dramatically as the technology is deployed on a large scale; therefore regulations should tend to be flexible, adaptive and performance-based.
3. It is also essential that regulations focus on assuring that underground sources of drinking water are not endangered. This will require clear and rigorous standards relating to: site characterization and selection; operations; adjustments to site characterization and operations based on experience; closure procedures; and post-closure determinations that projects do not and will not endanger underground sources of drinking water (USDWs).
4. EDF's preliminary assessment of EPA's proposed rules for geologic sequestration is positive. In particular, we generally support: creating a new Class VI separate from existing UIC well classes; defining "Area of Review" to include the entire area impacted by injection; requiring reasonably extensive information relating to permit decisions; requiring robust monitoring plans and remediation plans; and avoiding using the simple absence of known problems over a given amount of time as a basis for determining that USDWs are not and will not be endangered.
5. While our overall assessment of the proposed rules is positive, we expect to suggest a number of improvements. These will include: clarifying the methodology for determining the Area of Review; adopting more rigorous limits on maximum injection pressure; and refining the standard used to determine that USDWs are not being endangered following the cessation of injection.
6. Regional geologic storage capacity assessments are useful, but they cannot confirm that a particular site is or is not suitable for a sequestration project.
7. EDF is not convinced that "liability relief" is necessary for the carbon dioxide sequestration industry in the long run, although we are open to exploring the possibility of special rules and institutions for early projects if certain conditions are satisfied.