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NAE Grand Challenges: The Carbon Sequestration Dilemma

There are two primary challenges that engineers that are working on carbon sequestration face. We need to develop an efficient and cost effective method to capture the CO₂ molecules in the air and we need to develop a way to store or make use of the captured CO₂. Studies have shown a direct relationship between the increase in the carbon levels in the atmosphere and the trapping of heat leading to rising global temperatures. Engineers are the only people who can develop the technology necessary to counteract the ever-increasing amount of carbon in the air. It will take the combined efforts of engineers of many disciplines to create a cost effective and efficient solution to the one of the most significant threats to our way of life.