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An Evaluation of the Potential for Deep Decarbonization in the Industrial Sector by 2050

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Who we are – ENERGY STAR Industrial Partnership

- ENERGY STAR promotes energy efficiency and decarbonization in the industrial sector through its work with 32 industries & more than 800 corporations
- We provide tools that engage specific sectors in greater energy efficiency
 - Plant energy performance indicators benchmarking tools score energy performance for a plant within its industry nationwide
 - Energy guides actual opportunities within a sector for reducing energy consumption and GHGs
 - Focus industries companies in a sector convene to share best practices and support tool development
 - Certification of plants top quartile energy performance for plants in the sector
 - Goal setting tools include Challenge for Industry, plant assessment (treasure hunts), campaigns, etc.
 - Network of energy managers



Evaluation co-authors

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- Josh Smith, *director of public policy* at ICF
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Why consider the industrial sector?



2018 US GHG emissions by economic sector, electricity emissions allocated to sectors, US EPA 2020 4



Why this evaluation

- Many have studied manufacturing sector opportunities
 - Some explore specific technologies
 - Others examine options for specific sectors
 - All show potential is there for industrial decarbonization
 - Question: what is the full impact when considering opportunities for increased energy efficiency, electrification, renewables and grid balancing?

How much decarbonization is feasible?



Scope of the evaluation

- Manufacturing sector (NAICS 31-33)
- Consider opportunities for energy-related emissions reductions
- Assess how the manufacturing sector can contribute to deep energy/emissions reductions by 2050, examining the pillars of:
 - 1. Energy Efficiency
 - 2. Electrification
 - 3. Renewables
 - 4. Grid Balancing
 - *Additional consideration was given to hydrogen, CHP, CCUS, and circular economy.
- Baseline: Energy Information Administration's Annual Energy Outlook



Industry subsectors evaluated

- Iron & steel
- Cement
- Chemicals
- Pulp & paper
- Petroleum refining
- Aluminum & glass
- "Light" industry



Example: zero-carbon paper industry

Energy Efficiency

Large technical potential

Material Efficiency

- Changing demand patterns
- Increased recycling

Renewable Energy

- Industry based on renewable resource
- Deep geothermal

New Process Designs

- Pulping Biotechnology
- Papermaking Water-free papermaking

Electrification

> New drying technologies (microwave)



Example: zero-carbon cement industry

Energy Efficiency

Sustain ongoing improvements

Material Efficiency

- Increase blending
- Improve design & concrete recycling

Renewables

- Increase use of alternative fuels
- Onsite renewables
- Carbon Capture & Storage
 - Under study
- New Processes/Raw Materials
 - Potential TBD



Estimated potential across the sectors

DDM Opportunity	Bulk Chemicals	Cement, Lime	Light Industrv	Oil Refining	Pulp & Paper	Steel	Aluminum, Glass
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Energy Efficiency	Medium	High	High	High	High	High	High
Material Efficiency	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High	Medium
Industry-Specific: Renewables	Medium	Medium- high	High	Low	High	Low	n/a
Industry-Specific: Hydrogen	Medium	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	n/a
Industry-Specific: CCS	Medium	Medium	Low	Low- medium	Low	Medium	n/a
Grid Interaction: Electrification	Medium	Low	High	Low- medium	Medium	High	High
Grid Interaction: Balancing	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	Medium	Low	Medium
Total Reduction from Reference Case	76%	90%	95%	93%	100%	93%	97%



86 percent

the estimated reduction in CO₂ emissions feasible from the US manufacturing sector by 2050,

through the actions of *Energy Efficiency*, *Material Efficiency*, *Industry-Specific Technologies*, and *Power Grid Synergies*



Reduction potential





Overall potential, detailed



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Insights

- Energy efficiency enables greater reductions
 - Has great potential remaining and is a key action for the early years & beyond
 - "Buys down" price of capital investments
 - Low in cost, relative to other options
 - Prevalent in all sectors
 - ¹/₂ additional potential in heavy industry
 - ¹/₂ additional potential in light industry
 - Some sectors have twice the benefit by combining EE & electrification (e.g., heat pump)



More insights

- Material efficiency: changes in consumer demand are important to mitigate CO₂ emissions
- Decarbonized grid is key to enabling industrial electrification
 & green H₂ fuel production
- Electrification: short to mid-term, low temp processes in light industry promising; long-term some energy intensive sectors
- Renewable energy & grid decarbonization
 - Industry can play the role of enabler with VPPAs
- CCS for select industries with fewer decarbonization options
- H₂ has a role in certain industries



Evaluation conclusions

- Industry can reduce CO₂ emissions significantly
 - 86% is estimated to be feasible
- One approach is unlikely to be successful for all sectors
 - Multiplicity of approaches ("all of the above") is needed; more likely to be robust for industry, the economy, and the environment
- Start now, or the impact to industry will be significantly more costly in the future
- Follow manufacturing's natural capital stock investment cycle
 - Least expensive approach: take advantage of full 30-year time horizon to naturally replace energy-using plants and equipment with more efficient and lower emissions technologies



Carbon Intensity Benchmarks

- Carbon metrics can inform and help industry in decision making.
- Plant level data on carbon emissions and production could provide a basis for calculating performance-based measures of carbon intensity.
- Carbon intensity benchmarks could assist industry in decarbonization planning and corporate financial climate risk assessment and disclosure.