



PROVE IT Act

BACKGROUND

The Portland Cement Association advocates for market-based policies and initiatives that will enable the cement industry to reduce its carbon footprint responsibly while protecting domestic manufacturers.

Our industry has pledged to become carbon neutral across the cement and concrete value chain by 2050. Congress could support the cement industry goal via a carbon border mechanism, tariffs, product labeling, or content requirements. These options should center around the greenhouse gases (GHGs) produced in the manufacturing and transportation of the product. The United States has strenuous environmental laws. When combined with cement manufacturers commitment to decarbonization, these standards make domestic cement a product with fewer associated GHG emissions than those from countries like China and India. Further, the United States' strong worker and human rights protections add consideration for policymakers.

STATUS

Cement is a globally traded commodity that is energy-intensive to manufacture. It should be noted that there are varying methods of calculating and comparing GHGs. As the United States sets trade policies, policymakers should base decisions on sound data. The domestic cement industry provides consistent and detailed information to the Environmental Protection Agency as part of the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program. In some cases, international cement manufacturers may report similar data. To assist in competitive commerce and sound decision-making, the federal government must collect and analyze GHG data from the manufacturing of goods that are imported into the United States.

Data is essential to policies that protect the competitiveness of American businesses. Introduced by Senators Chris Coons (D-DE) and Kevin Cramer (R-ND), the Providing Reliable, Objective, Verifiable Emissions Intensity and Transparency Act (PROVE IT, S. 1863) is the first step towards sound policymaking that will protect domestic manufacturers as they make advancements towards carbon neutrality. The bill would require the Department of Energy (DOE) to collect data on certain manufactured products, including cement, detailing GHGs during production and transport. The DOE is best positioned among federal agencies to collect, verify, and analyze data for products imported into the United States that compete with similar domestically manufactured products. While the bill is substantially helpful to the cement industry, it still needs revisions to ensure the data captures all countries from which the industry imports. The bill passed the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee in a stout bipartisan vote of 14-9 on January 18, 2024, and is awaiting floor consideration. A House version of the PROVE IT Act has yet to be introduced.

ASKS

- Support and (co)sponsor the PROVE IT Act (S. 1863) when it comes to the Senate floor for consideration.
- Become an original House sponsor of the PROVE IT Act.

CONTACT INFORMATION

SEAN O'NEILL, PCA's Senior Vice President of Government Affairs
PHONE: (202) 719.1974
EMAIL: soneill@cement.org