

BECCs and the Danger of the Easy Way Out

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1.5°C: What now?

- Staying under 1.5 degrees is critical, but we have a very limited carbon budget remaining
- Limited Carbon Budget
- Two choices: cut emissions now, stay under the carbon budget, or rely on geo-engineering
- Relying on geo-engineering technology that is unproven is an unacceptable risk



The Problem BECCs

- Bioenergy Carbon Capture and Storage
- Unproven, particularly at scale
- Depends on faulty assumption of biomass carbon neutrality
- Requires massive amounts of land that just is not available
- Risk of land grabs, impacts on food security, and human rights violations



Lessons from Biofuels

- Major expansion of liquid biofuels from food and land-based feedstocks since the early 2000s
- Drives land grabs
- Increases the price of food
- Even if the technology does not always work, communities can still be impacted by the attempt



Thank you