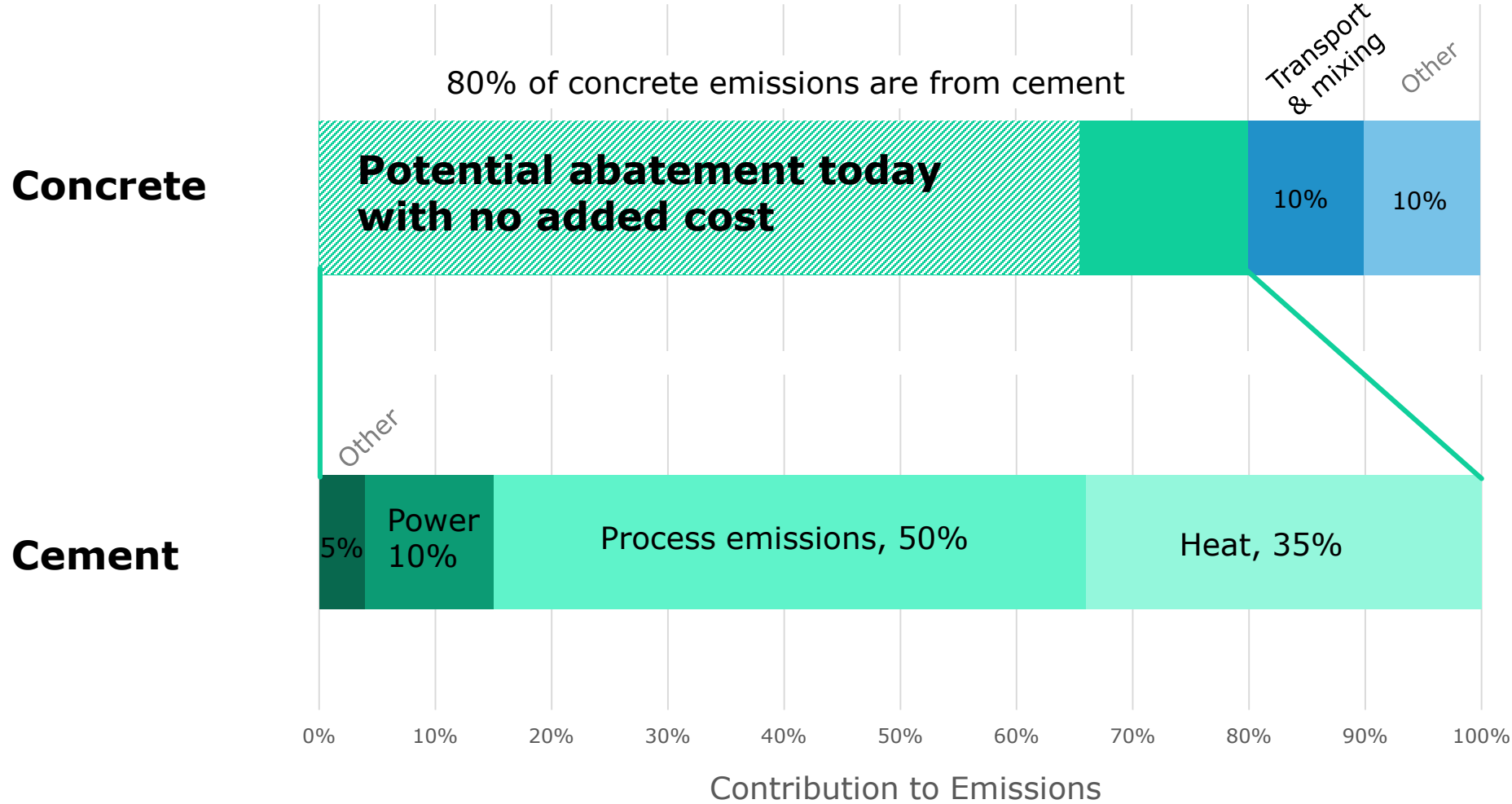


# Build to Compete: Clean Procurement that Drives Investment in Pennsylvania

Kate Dean and Sarah Frances Smith  
EFI Foundation

10.30.2025

# 80% of concrete emissions come from cement



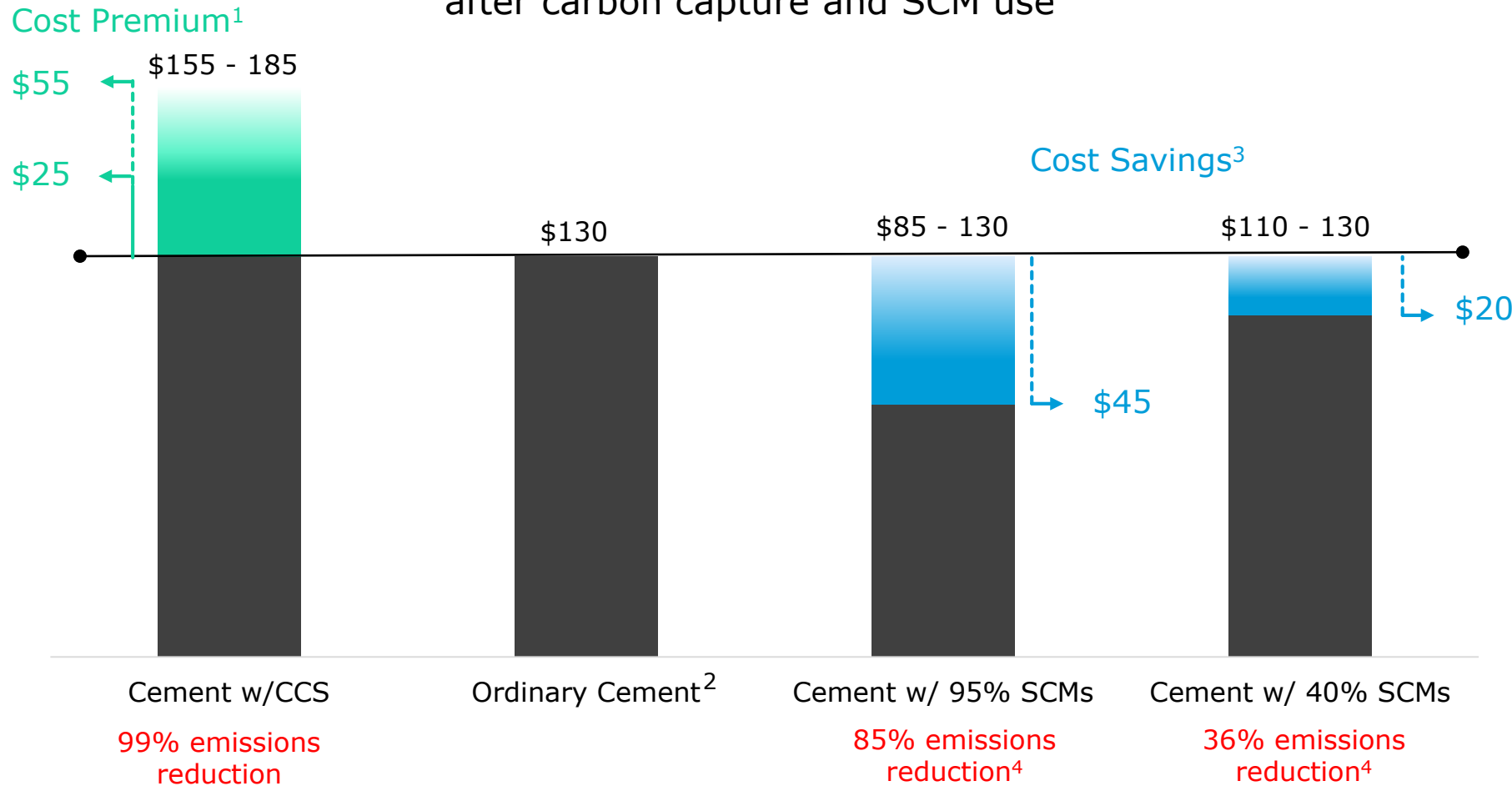
~65% reduction in concrete emissions can be achieved with increased SCM use with no additional cost

Emissions reductions over 50% achievable with significant costs/new investments

# There are cost-effective solutions deployed today to lower concrete emissions



Cost of ton of Portland cement vs. new cost after carbon capture and SCM use



**Max 95% Slag allowed under ASTM C595**

**Max 40% Slag allowed in PA pavements and structures<sup>5</sup>**

Sources

- <sup>1</sup>Values from U.S. DOE, 2023
- <sup>2</sup>USGS cement costs in PA, 2023
- <sup>3</sup>EFIF estimates based on RMI data
- <sup>4</sup>RMI estimates, 2021
- <sup>5</sup>National Academies Survey of State DOTs, 2025

# Low-carbon concrete – not just theory!



**OZINGA®**

Built in 2021

**3,212 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> averted,  
>30% reduction in emissions**

**900 RANDOLPH**

Chicago, IL  
43-Story High Rise  
25,766 Cubic Yards of Concrete

 **HOLCIM**

Opened in 2022

**300 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> averted,  
40% reduction in emissions**

State-of-the-art school outside Bordeaux reduces CO<sub>2</sub> by 40% with ECOPact

## Movement on Low-Carbon Concrete in Pennsylvania:

### Policy/Strategy:

- PennDOT Carbon Reduction Strategy
- PennDOT announced requiring EPDs for asphalt beginning this year.
- PA HB1711 – establishes Performance Incentive Program for embodied carbon reductions in concrete for state projects

### Procurement:

- Up to 40% SCMs allowed in PA procurement (2025 National Academies Survey) – increase use?
- Approved use of Portland Limestone Cement under ASTM C595 – expand uses of ASTM C595?

**Additional actions? We want to hear from you!**

# Procuring low-carbon concrete: the path from planning to reduced emissions



## Planning

Development of strategic plans

## Data Gathering

Require EPDs with procurement bids

Collect reported GWP from all bids

Pilots to test new low carbon mixes

## Data Reporting

Determine GWP average for state procurement

Publicly report CIs and costs for state-procured concrete

## Incentives & Requirements

Provide incentives for bids with GWP below set threshold

Require state contracts use concrete below set GWP threshold

## Reduced Emissions

### Example states along the policy development pipeline

Pennsylvania

Oregon,  
Washington

New York, New  
Jersey, Minnesota

# Questions for discussion



1. What is something you heard in the previous session that was new to you or made you reconsider your perspective on low-carbon concrete?
2. Was there anything from the session that didn't align with your previous experience with low-carbon concrete?
3. What barriers have you experienced for adopting low-carbon concrete in PA? Which are most relevant in the near term vs longer term?
4. What would give you confidence to use/procure low-carbon concrete tomorrow?
5. What is your perspective on the size and readiness of the opportunity space for low-carbon concrete production and use in PA?

# **Table Discussion: Opportunities for Low-Carbon Cement and Concrete in PA**

## **What opportunities could PA pilot in the next 12 months for lower carbon concrete procurement?**

- ▶ What momentum/lessons learned could be leveraged from today?
- ▶ What's the minimum set of conditions (policy, technical, financial) needed to unlock each opportunity?
- ▶ Who should be responsible for pursuing the opportunities you identify?

## **What barriers need to be addressed before these opportunities can be realized?**

- ▶ Who is responsible for addressing these barriers?
- ▶ What is a realistic timeline to reducing these barriers?

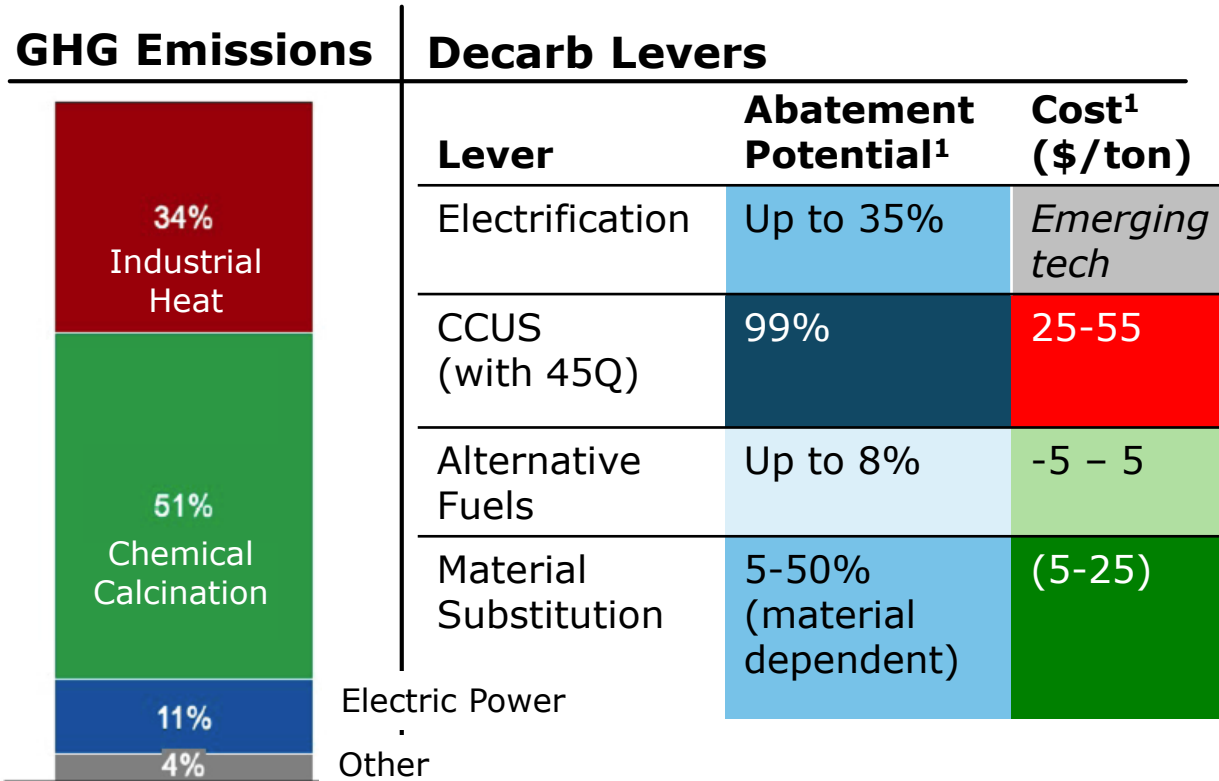
# Supplemental Slides

# Cement and concrete GHG emissions breakdown and decarbonization levers

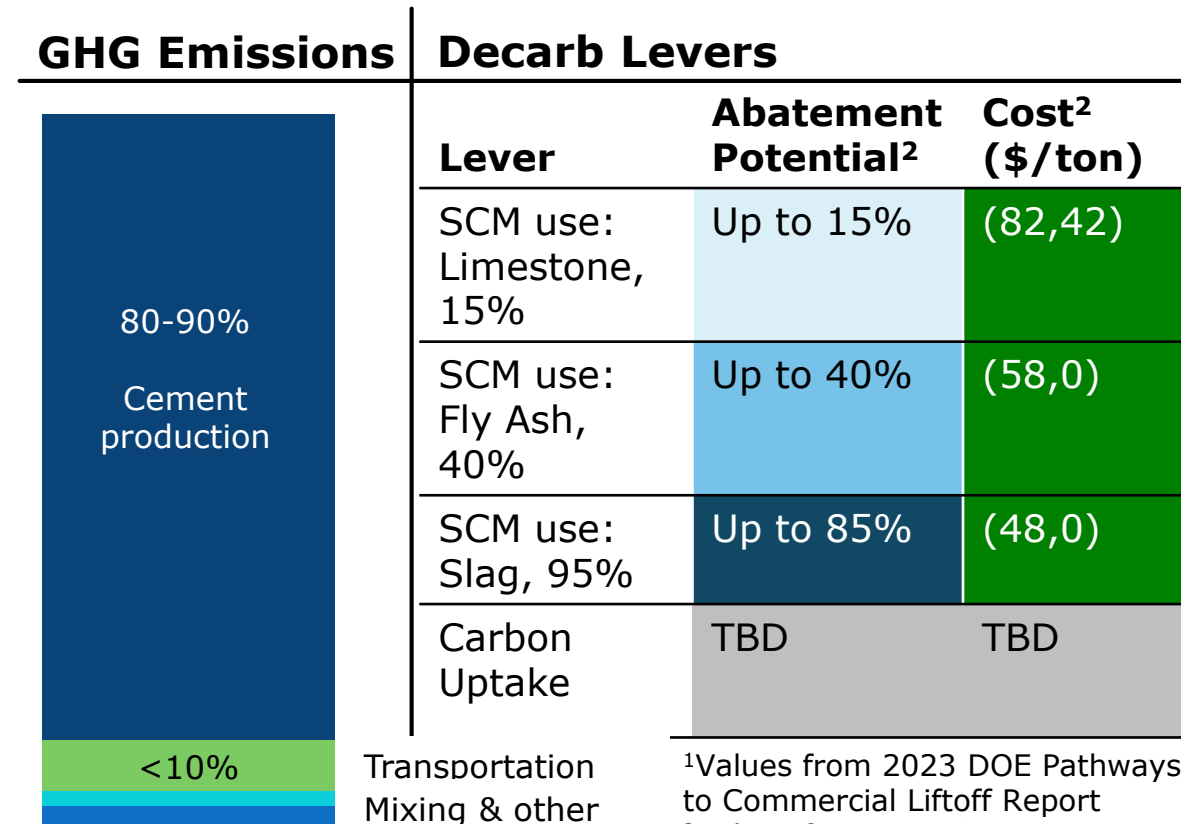


While the largest decarbonization levers for cement remain nascent today due to higher costs or emerging technologies, concrete producers can significantly decarbonize their products at low cost by just using less cement.

## Portland Cement



## Concrete



<sup>1</sup>Values from 2023 DOE Pathways to Commercial Liftoff Report  
<sup>2</sup>Values from RMI Concrete Solutions Guide, 2021