

Last Chance Technology



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12/08/2025 Climate technologies are closing the decarbonization gap.

Meeting the 1.5°C target is no longer just a global climate commitment – it is increasingly becoming a benchmark for corporate responsibility and competitiveness. Yet the reality is sobering: current emissions trends are steering us toward a temperature rise of over 2°C. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), we have only around 250 gigatons of CO₂ left in our carbon budget to have a 50 percent chance of staying within the 1.5°C limit. The time for symbolic climate strategies is long gone.

In theory, Net Zero sounds simple: avoid emissions, reduce what you can, and offset the rest. In practice, however, companies are hitting the limits of traditional decarbonization – especially when it comes to Scope 3 emissions from product use, disposal, or in high-emission industries. This is where climate technologies come in: they are not optional but a critical component of any future-proof climate strategy. The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) underscores this paradigm shift: in the new Net-Zero Standard Version 2.0, carbon dioxide removal (CDR) technologies are no longer seen merely as a “last resort,” but are recognized as an integral part of strategic climate pathways – with clear, short-term targets.

For companies, this means: without climate technologies, Net Zero goals are out of reach. Even with maximum efficiency and a full switch to renewables, unavoidable residual emissions remain – especially in hard-to-abate sectors like chemicals, pharma, construction, or aviation. These gaps must be closed by CDR technologies. A common misconception is that carbon removal is the same as traditional offsetting. But only technologies that physically extract CO₂ from the atmosphere make a lasting contribution to climate protection. "Avoidance" certificates are not sufficient for achieving Net Zero. Companies that take their climate goals seriously must invest early in genuine carbon removal.

Read the impulse in full length: Last Chance Technology

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