Civil society expectations for a green recovery

Tim Johnson

Aviation Noise & Emission Symposium 2021, February 23-26 2021, UC Davis
United Airlines commits to reaching net-zero emissions by 2050 through carbon capture technology investment

United Airlines has ramped up its 2018 pledge to cut its greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030 by announcing a new ambitious commitment to a 100 per cent reduction by the same year. In an industry first, the US airline says it will meet its carbon neutrality goal by moving away from purchasing carbon credits to offset residual emissions. The investment is being made in 1Point5Five, a partnership between Oxy Low Carbon Ventures, a subsidiary of Occidental, and Rusheen Capital, and Carbon Engineering in the first industrial-scale DAC plant in the United States. United has already invested $30 million in sustainable aviation fuel producer Fulcrum BioEnergy, the single largest investment in SAF production by any airline globally.

"As the leader of one of the world’s largest airlines, I recognize our responsibility in contributing to fight climate change, as well as our responsibility to solve it," said United CEO Scott Kirby. "These game-changing technologies will significantly reduce our emissions and measurably reduce the speed of global climate change. Because aviation carbon offset credits just aren't enough. Perhaps the most exciting aspect of this is that the world is not only ready to make this move, but also ready to help. We are far from the first, but we are going to be the first mover in this region to decarbonize our operations."
Could 2019 be the peak year for aviation CO$_2$ emissions?
EY to slash business travel to hit net zero target by 2025

Hannah Godfrey
Aviation’s warming impact is currently three times that associated with its CO2 emissions alone.
Aviation

20% of major airlines by revenue

10% SAF globally by 2030

100% by 2050

TRANSFORMING OUR SYSTEMS TOGETHER

A global challenge to accelerate sector breakthroughs for COP26 – and beyond

#RaceToZero
Strong regulatory and policy frameworks to create accountability and reduce uncertainty
Effective carbon pricing
Provide the consumer with information!