

# Central Appalachian Basin Unconventional (Coal/Organic Shale) Reservoir Small Scale CO<sub>2</sub> Injection

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US DOE/NETL Annual Carbon Storage and Oil and Natural Gas  
Technologies Review Meeting

Pittsburgh, PA

August 3, 2017

# Acknowledgments

- Acknowledgments

- Financial assistance for this work was provided by the U.S. Department of Energy through the National Energy Technology Laboratory's Program under Contract No. DE-FE0006827.

# Project Overview:

## Goals and Objectives

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### ★ Objectives:

- Inject up to 20,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> into **3 vertical CBM wells** over a one-year period in Central Appalachia
- Perform a small (approximately 400-500 metric tons) Huff and Puff test in a **horizontal shale gas well**

### ★ Goals

- Test the storage potential of unmineable coal seams and shale reservoirs
- Learn about adsorption and swelling behaviors (methane vs. CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Test the potential for enhanced coalbed methane (ECBM) and enhanced gas (EGR) production and recovery

### ★ Major tasks:

- Phase I: site characterization, well coring, injection design
- Phase II: site preparation, injection operations
- Phase III: post-injection monitoring, data analysis, reservoir modeling

# Research Partners

- **Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research (Virginia Tech)** <sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>
- **Cardno** <sup>2,3</sup>
- **Gerald Hill, Ph.D.** <sup>1,4</sup>
- **Southern States Energy Board** <sup>1,5</sup>
- **Virginia Dept. of Mines, Minerals and Energy** <sup>3</sup>
- **Geological Survey of Alabama** <sup>3</sup>
- **Sandia Technologies** <sup>3</sup>
- **Det Norske Veritas (DNV)** <sup>4</sup>
- **Consol Energy (Research Group)** <sup>2,3</sup>

- 1 Project management**
- 2 Operations**
- 3 Research**
- 4 Risk management**
- 5 Outreach**

## Industrial Partners

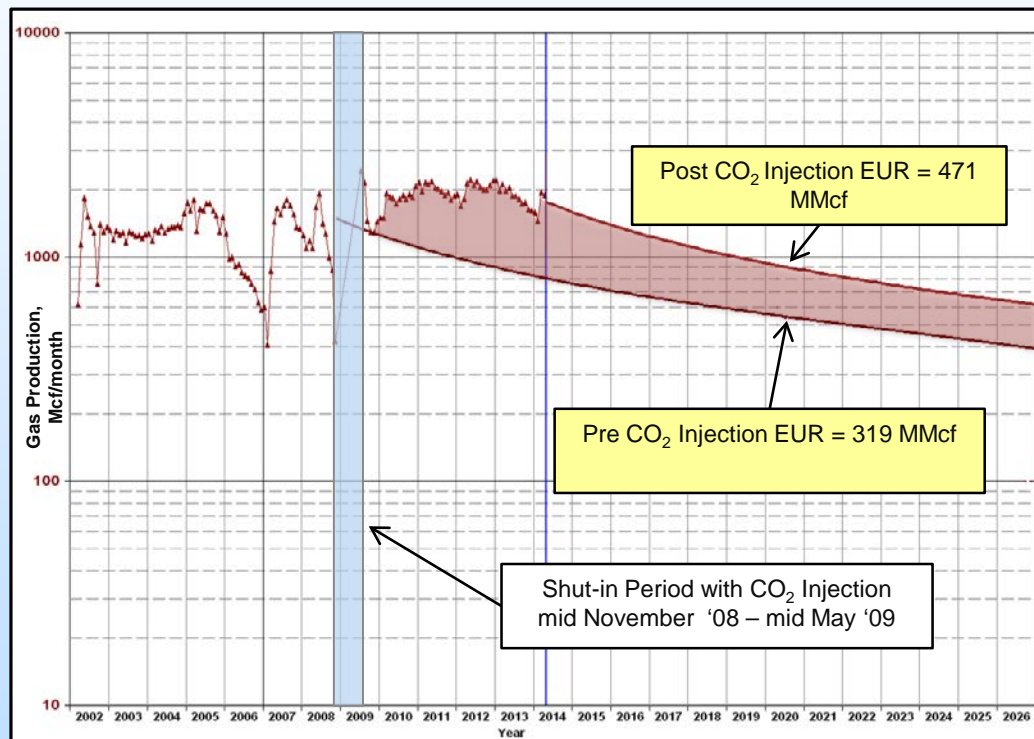
- **Consol Energy (CNX Gas)**
- **Harrison-Wyatt, LLC**
- **Emory River, LLC**
- **Dominion Energy**
- **Alpha Natural Resources**
- **Flo-CO2**
- **Praxair**

## Collaborators

- **Schlumberger**
- **Global Geophysical Services**
- **Oak Ridge National Laboratory**
- **University of Nottingham / British Geological Survey**
- **University of Tennessee**
- **University of Virginia**
- **Southern Illinois University**
- **Oklahoma State University**

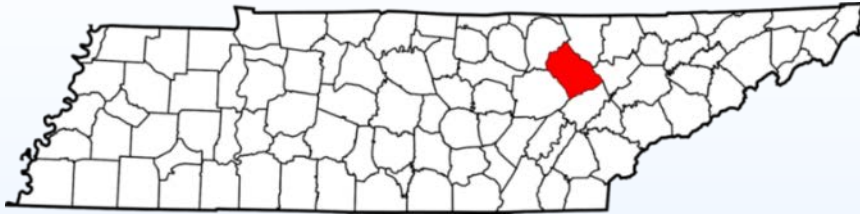
# Previous Experience in Huff and Puff Test in Russell County, Virginia (2009)

Production curve for huff-and-puff test well, Russell County, Virginia, 2009

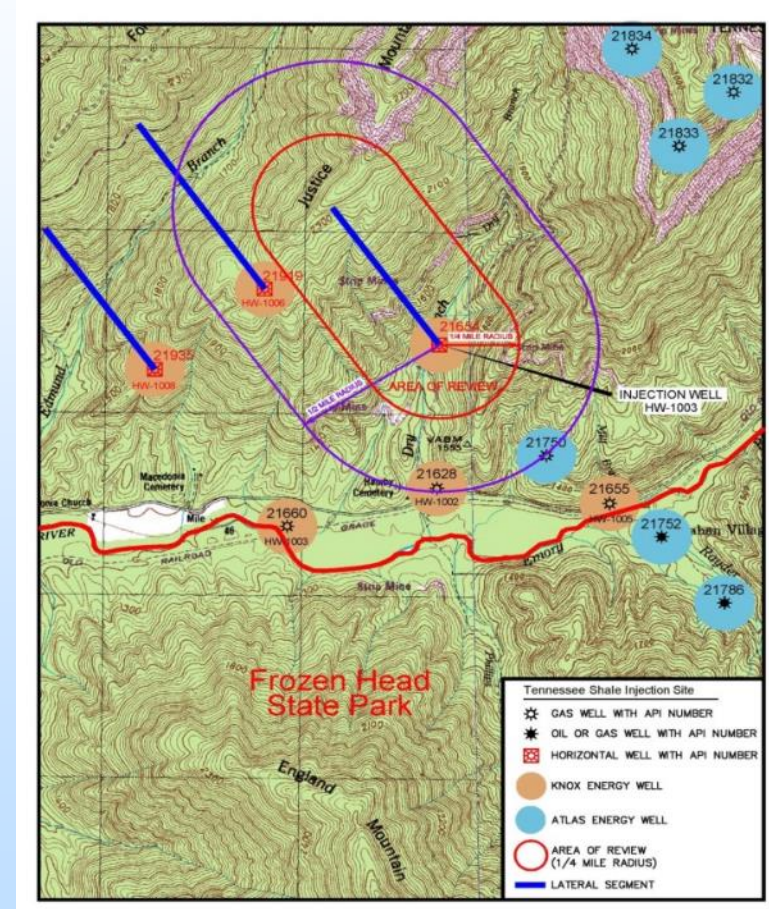


- 1000-ton CO<sub>2</sub> injection
- Stacked coal reservoir
- Evidence of preferential adsorption: elevated N<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>
- Enhanced CH<sub>4</sub> recovery at two offset wells, no CO<sub>2</sub> breakthrough
- 30% CO<sub>2</sub> in flowback over 7 years
- **EUR of test well has increased by 48 percent<sup>5</sup>**

# Shale CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test (510 tons) Morgan County, Tennessee



- Horizontal well in Chattanooga Shale formation, drilled in 2009
- Legacy producing gas well permitted under TDEC
- 510 tons for “huff and puff” injection test
- Injection period: March 18-31, 2014 (14 days)
- Shut-in period: March 31- July 29, 2014 (~4 months)
- Flowback period: July 29, 2014- present (~24 months)
- Current status: post-injection monitoring



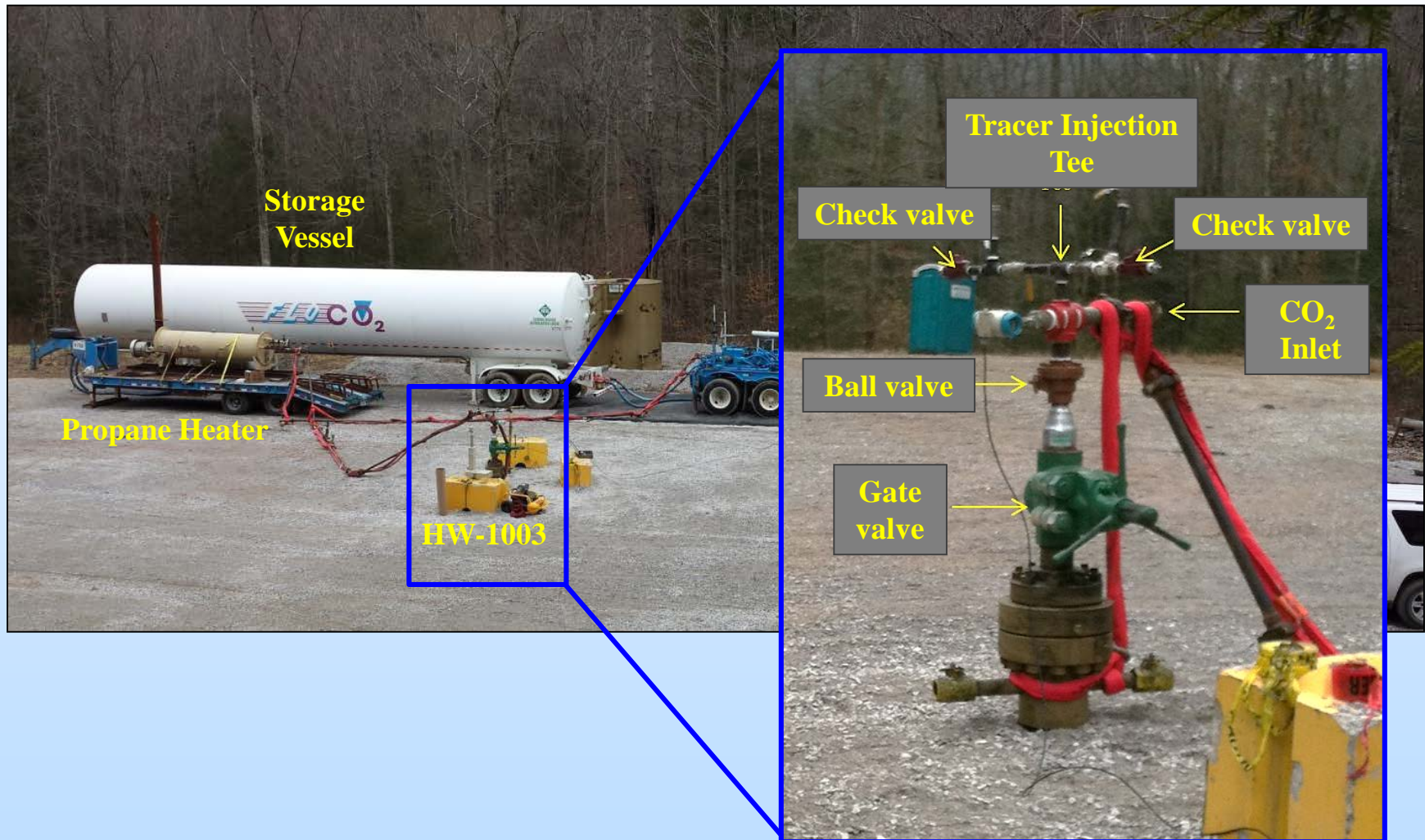
# Shale CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Morgan County, Tennessee

## Operations Overview



# Shale CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Morgan County, Tennessee

## Operations Overview

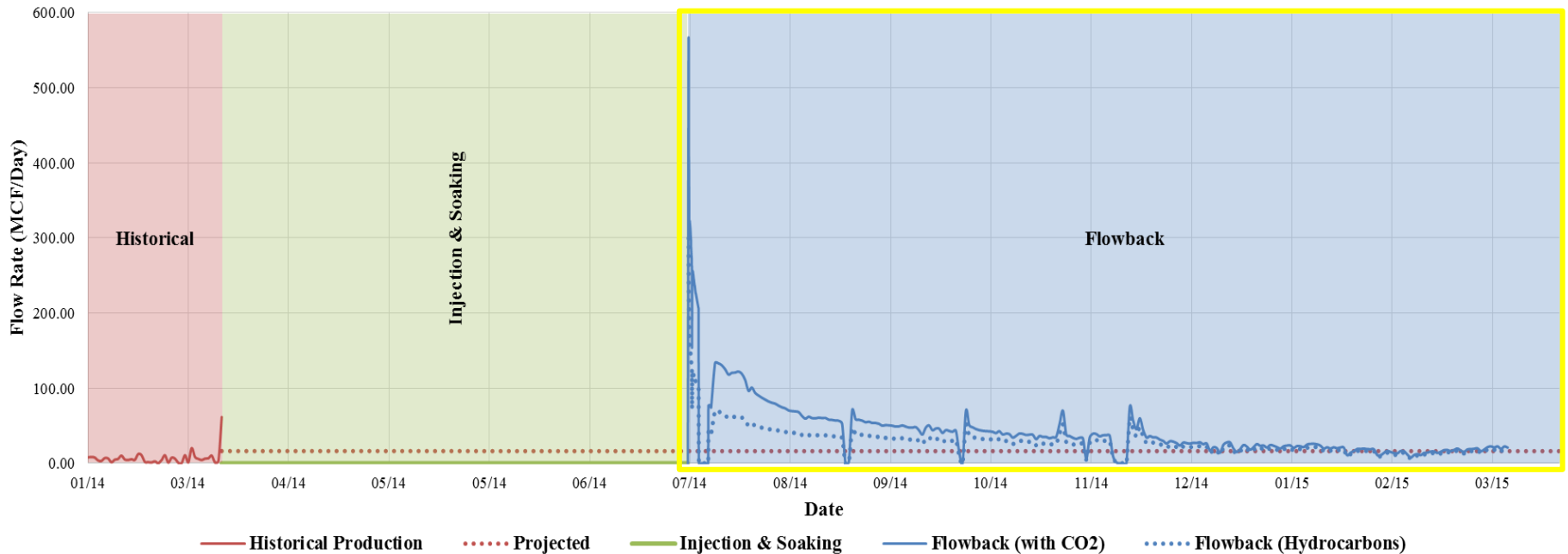




# Shale CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Morgan County, Tennessee

## Flowback Results

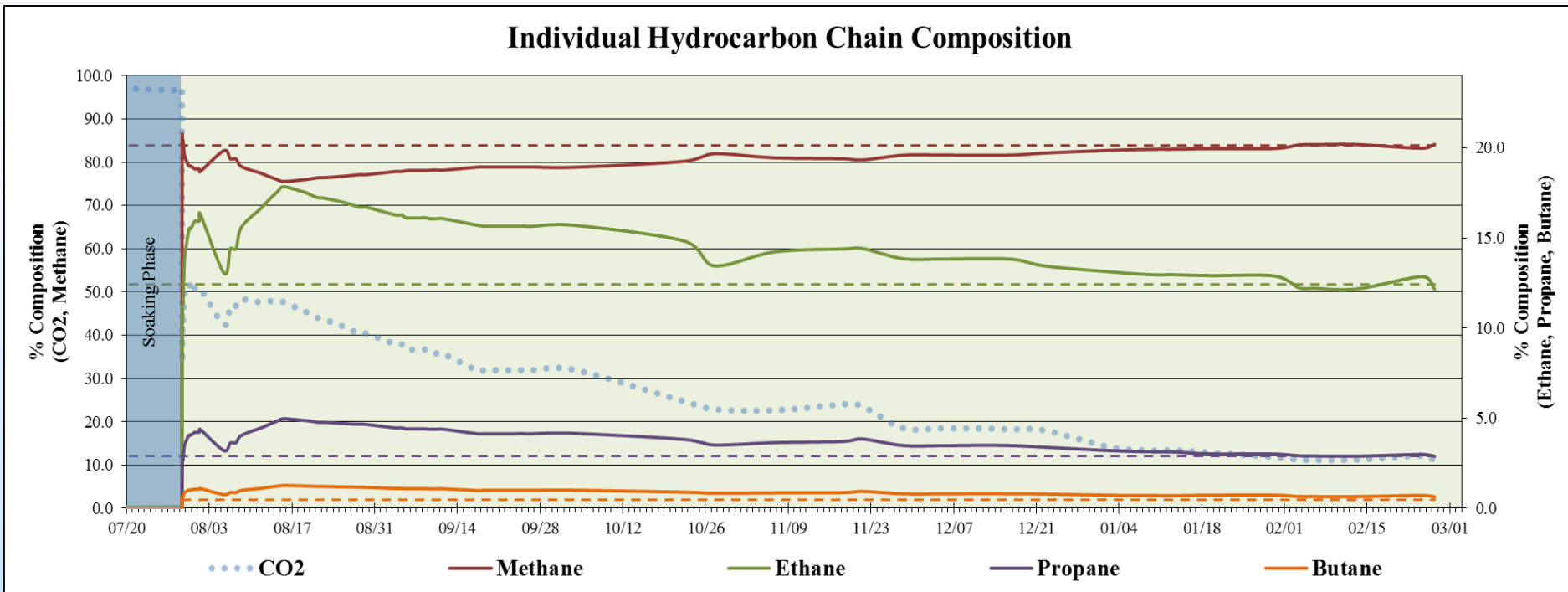
Flowback Production vs. Historical Production (zoomed)



- **EGR: An increase versus baseline production**
- **Correlated production of hydrocarbons and CO<sub>2</sub>**
- **34 percent of injected CO<sub>2</sub> produced to date (173 tons)**

# Shale CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Morgan County, Tennessee

## Results to Date

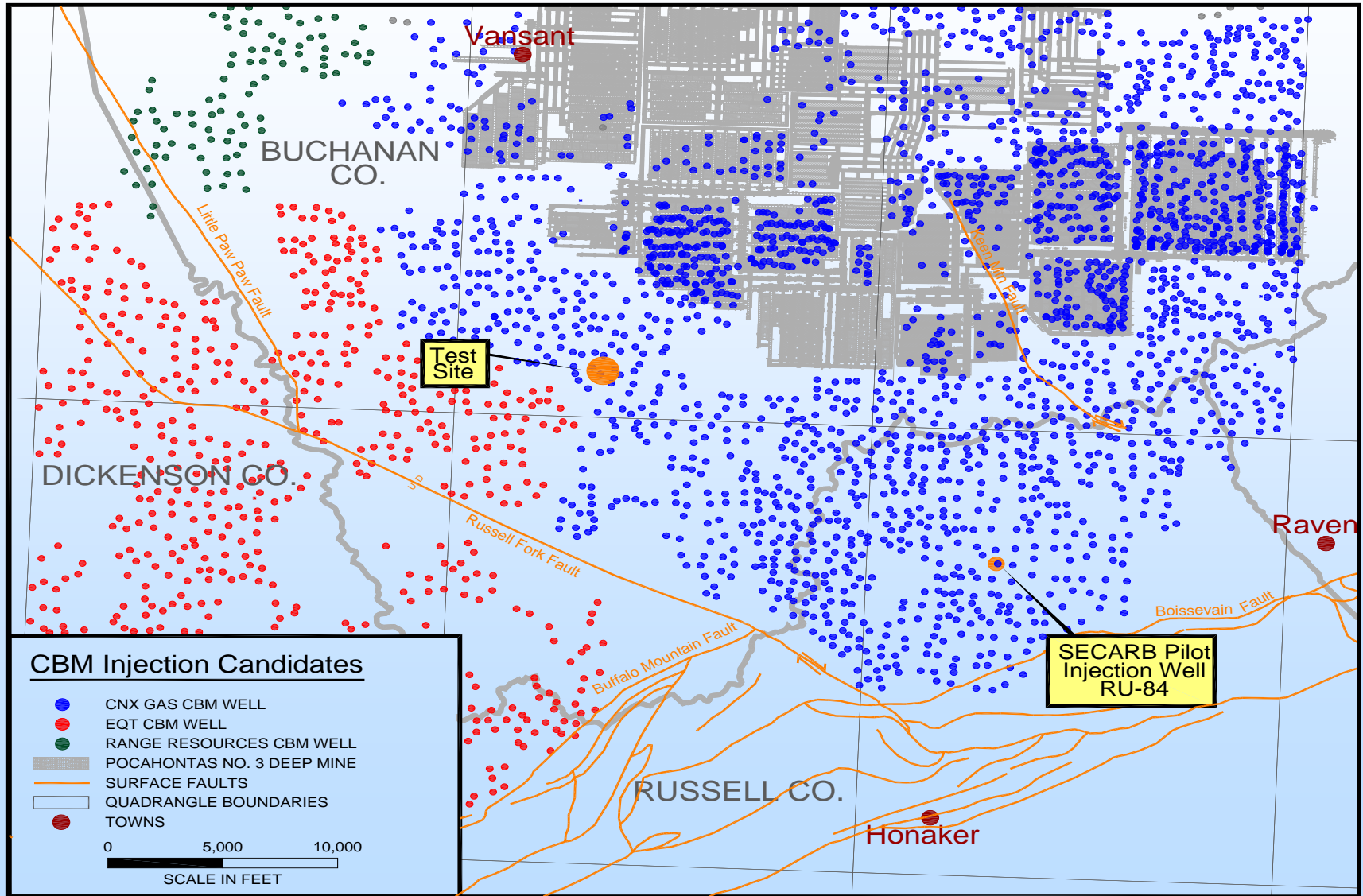


### Production of heavy hydrocarbons elevated from baseline values:

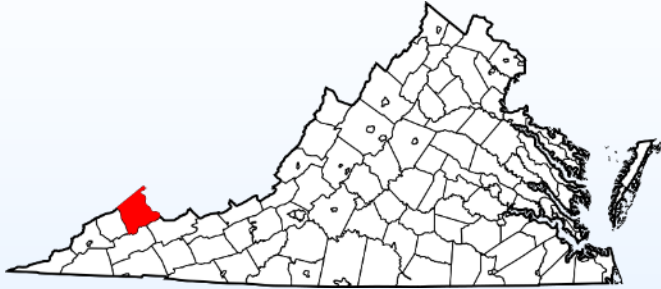
- Role of pressure, viscosity and adsorption/desorption processes
- Enhanced recovery → implications for other shale plays

# CBM Injection Test Sites

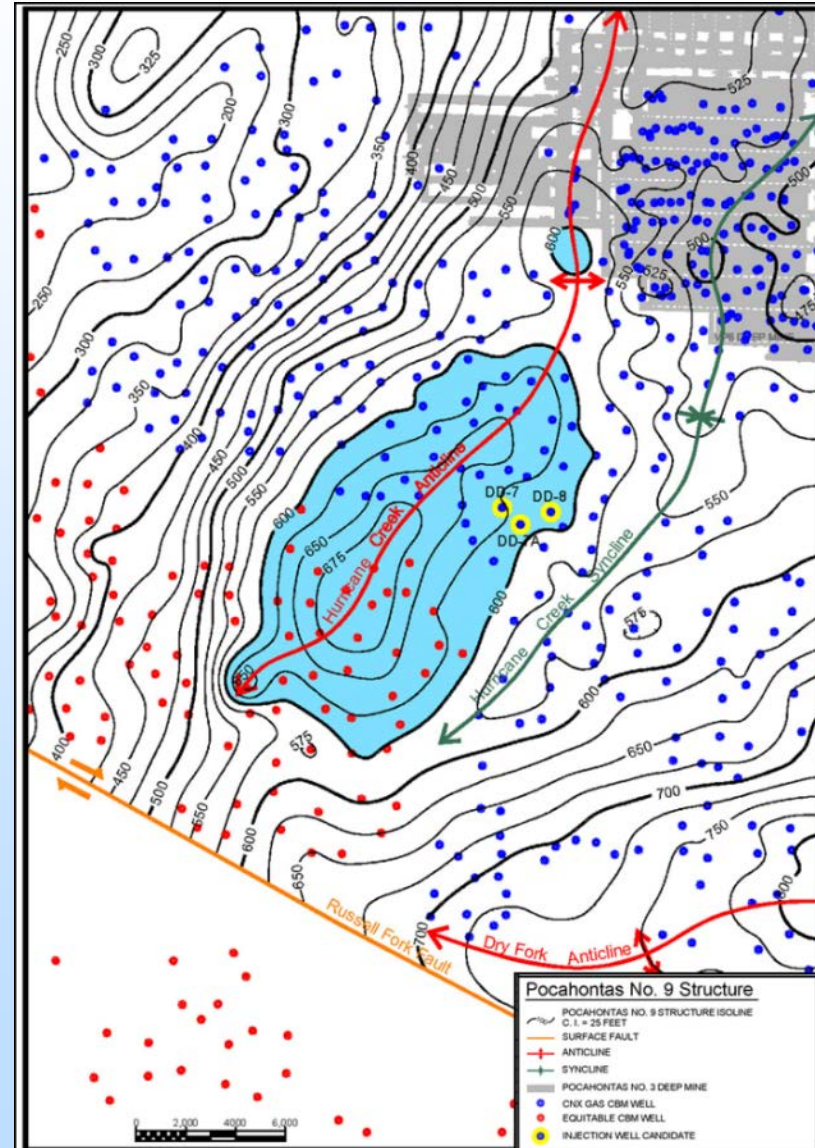
## Russell and Buchanan Counties, VA



# CBM CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia



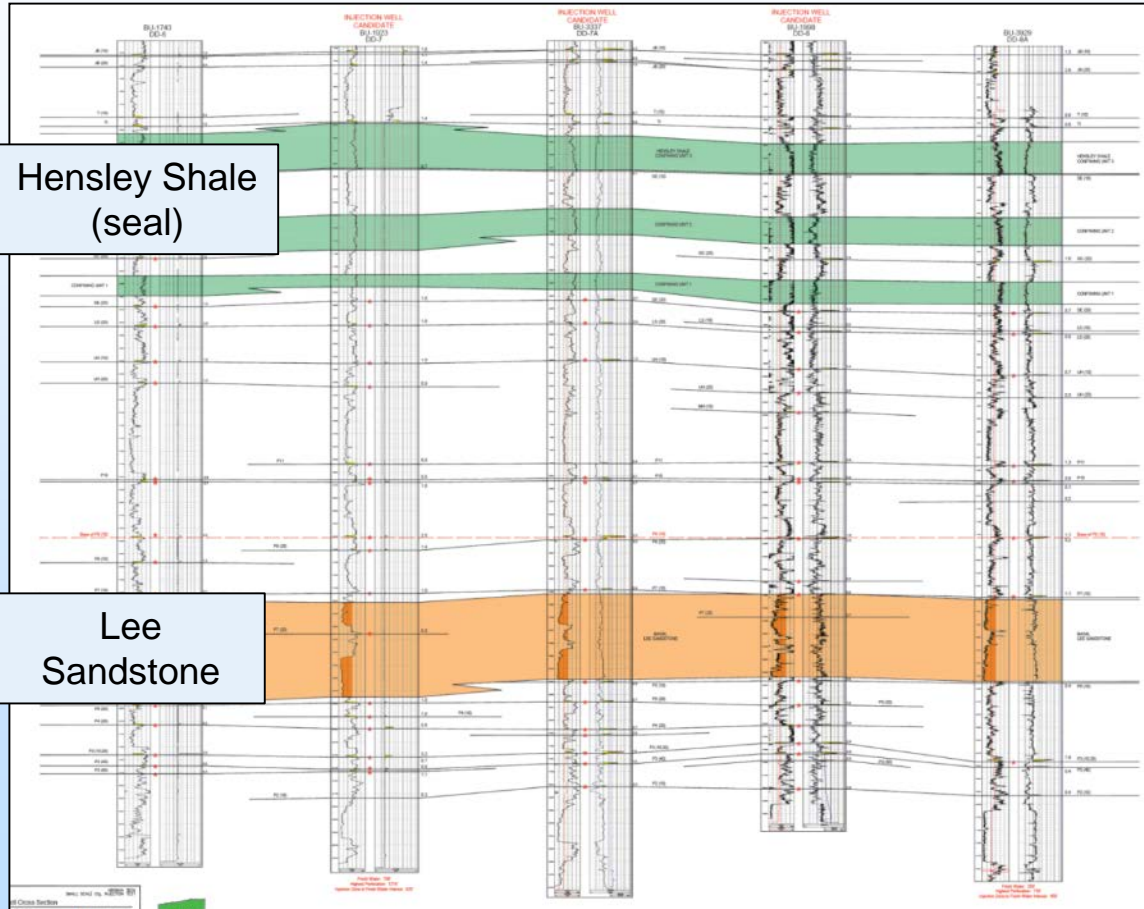
- Oakwood coalbed methane field
- Stacked coal reservoir, 15-20 seams
- Tight shale and sandstone confining units
- 14,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub> injected in two distinct Phases injection over 17 months in three legacy wells
- CO<sub>2</sub> storage + Enhanced gas recovery
- **US EPA Class II UIC Permit**
- **Current status: Post-injection monitoring.**



# CBM CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

## Reservoir Modeling

Stratigraphic cross section through injection wells

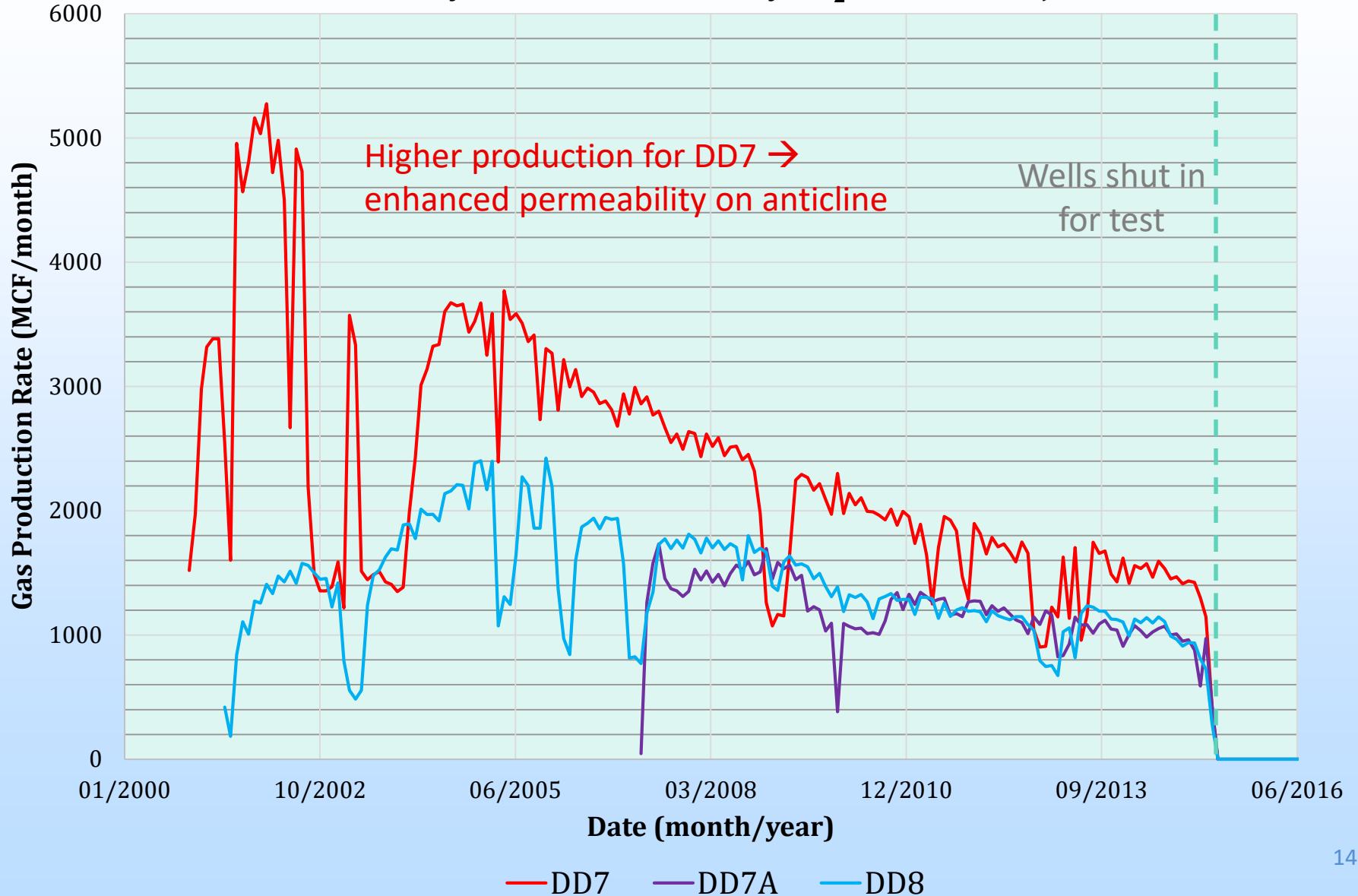


### Modeling Considerations:

- 15-20 coal seams in injection zone
- Average seam thickness of 1.0 feet
- Depth range: 900-2200 feet
- Variable lateral continuity
- Intermediate and overlying seals
- Dynamic reservoir properties (active production operations)
- Multi-phase flow

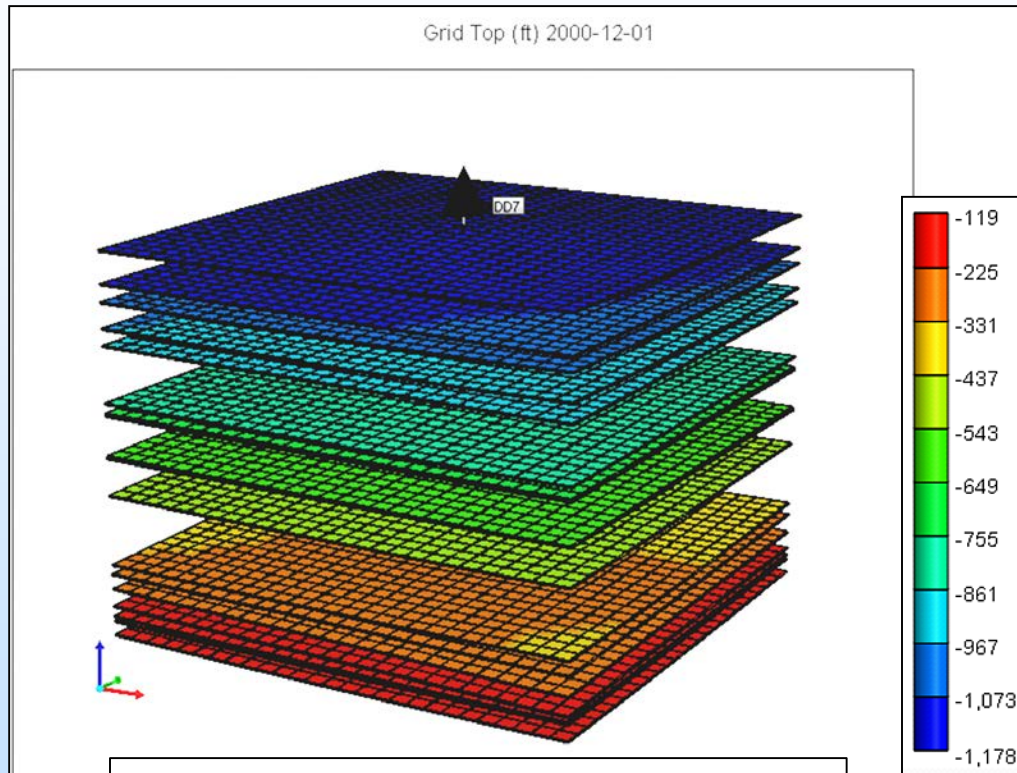
# Historical Monitoring: CBM Production Data

## Production history for Buchanan County CO<sub>2</sub>-ECBM test injection wells



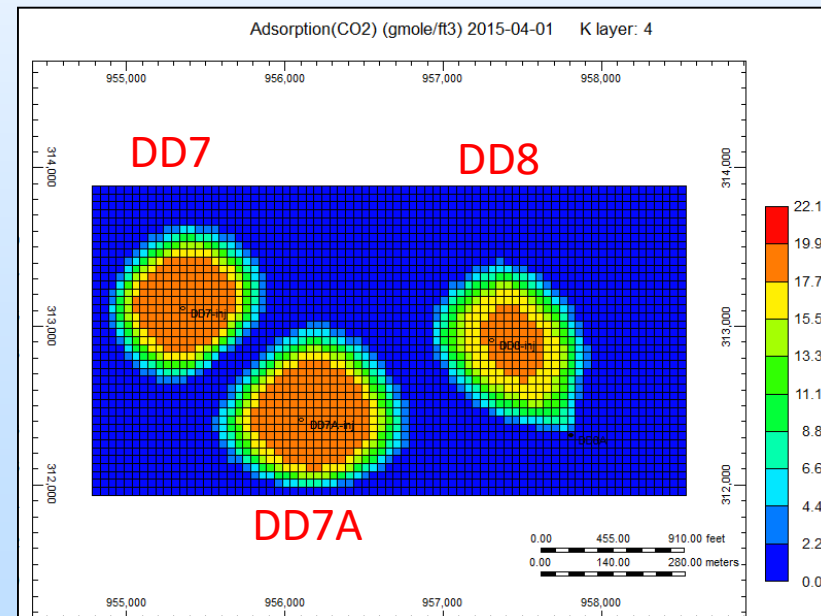
# CBM CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

## Reservoir Modeling



18-layer reservoir model

CO<sub>2</sub> Injection simulations used to define Area of Review (AOR) for monitoring program



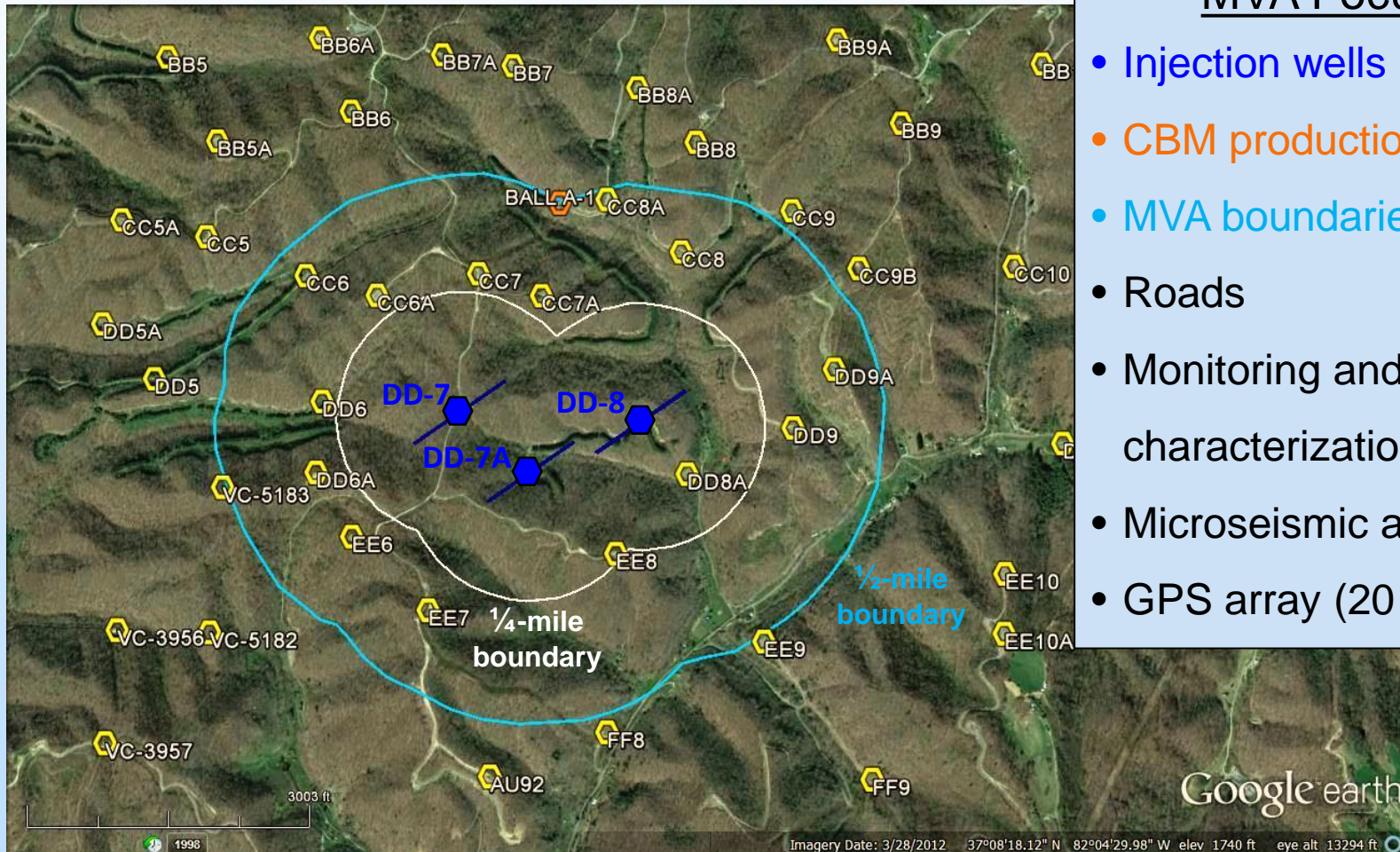
# CBM CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

## Monitoring, Verification, and Accounting (MVA)

### Oakwood Field Demonstration Site

#### MVA Focus Area

- Injection wells
- CBM production wells
- MVA boundaries
- Roads
- Monitoring and characterization wells
- Microseismic array (28 stns)
- GPS array (20 monuments)





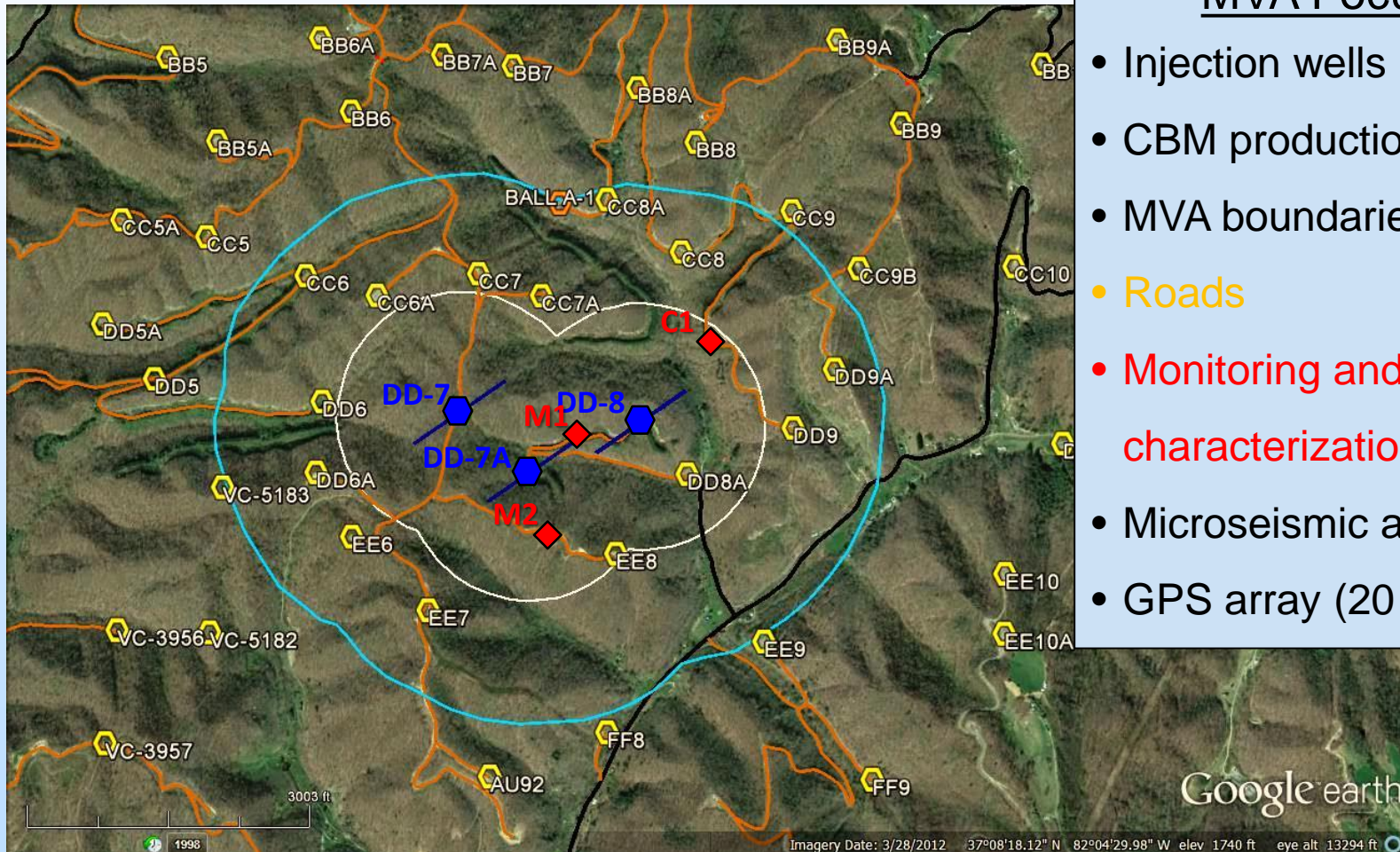
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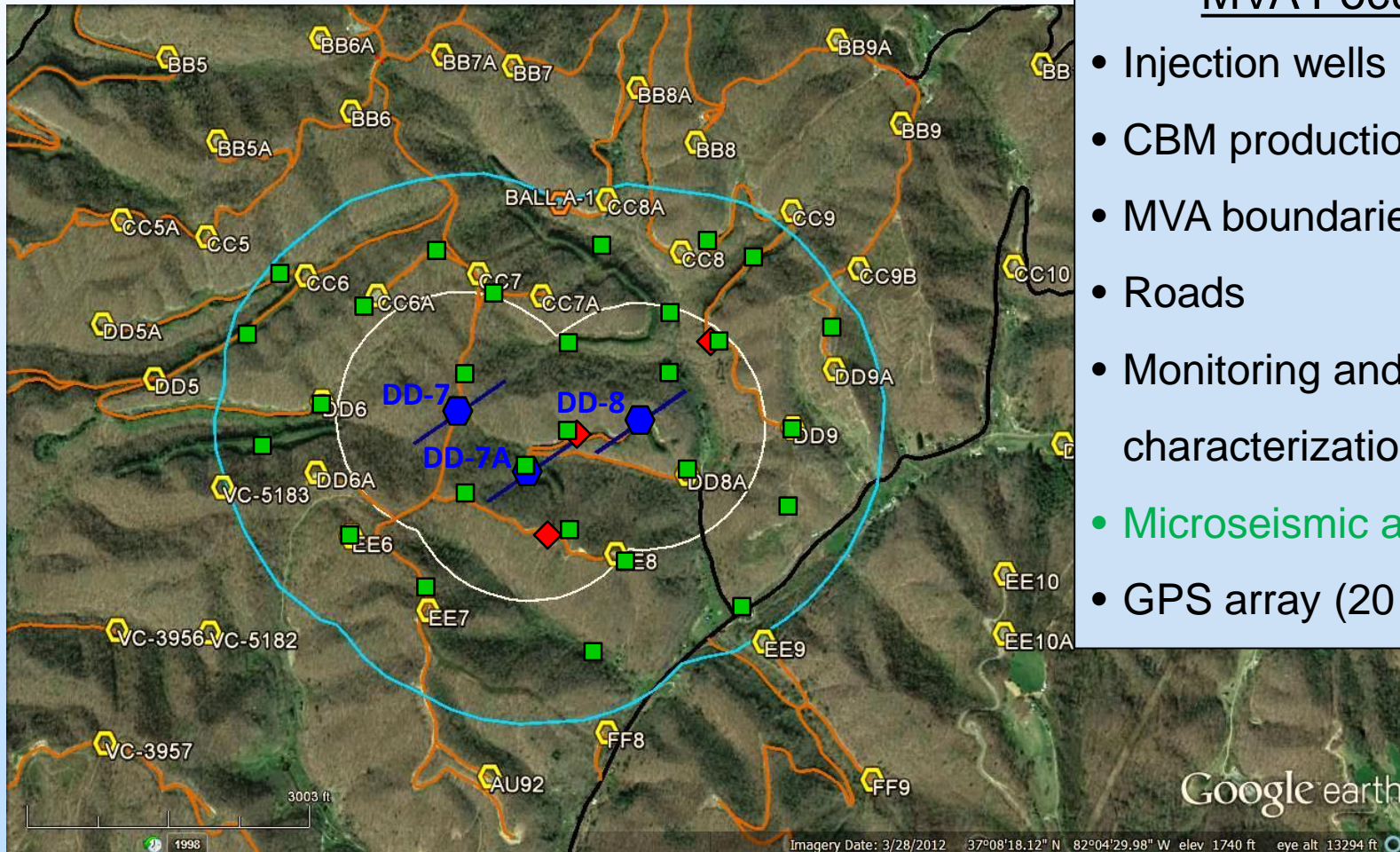
# CBM CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

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- GPS array (20 monuments)



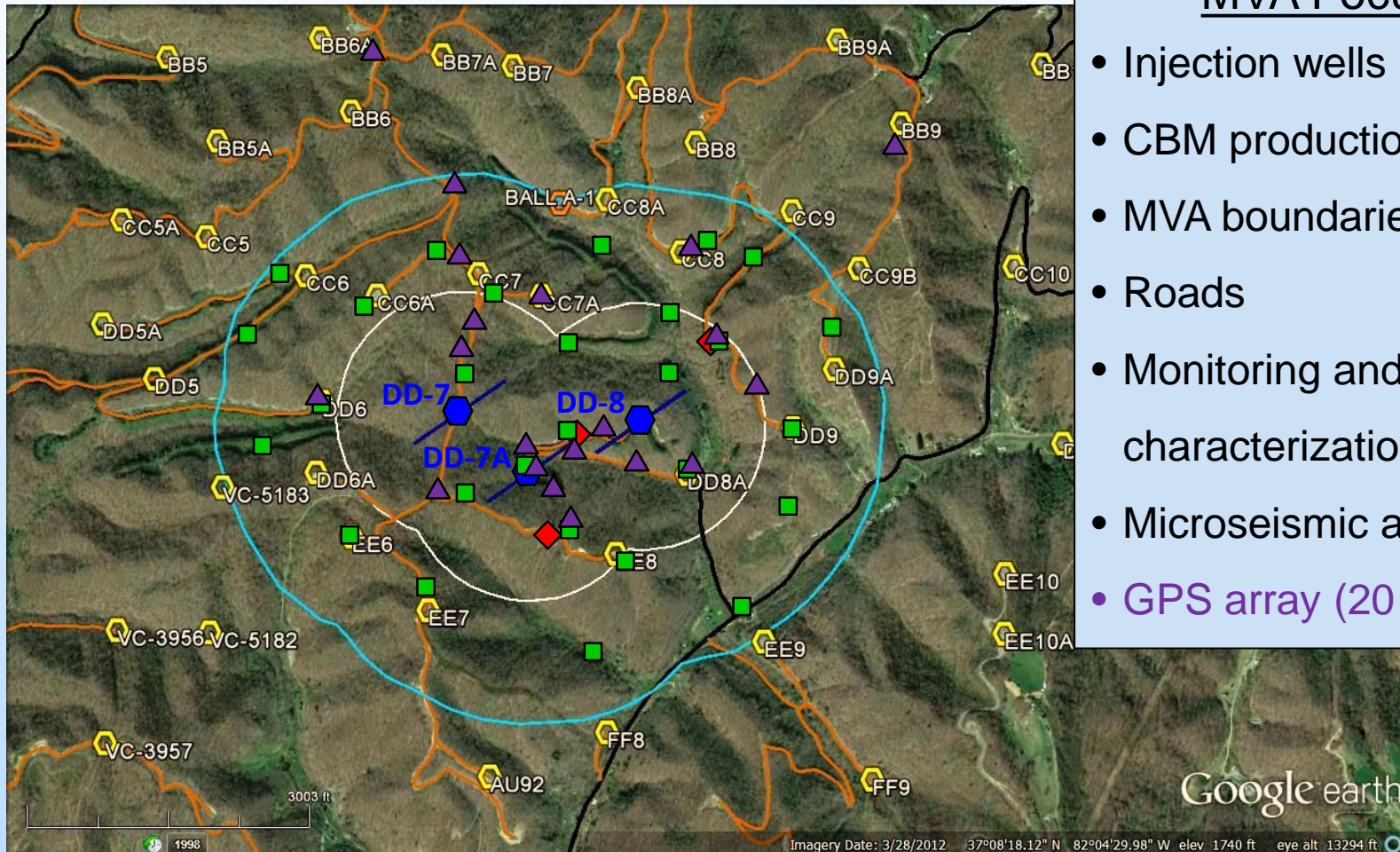
# CBM CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

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# CBM CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

## Monitoring, Verification, and Accounting (MVA)

### MVA Approach

#### Borehole-scale technologies:

- Pressure/Temperature
- Gas/H<sub>2</sub>O composition
- Tracers/Isotopes
- Formation logging



#### Technologies deployed over large areal extents:

- Microseismic/TFI
- Surface deformation measurement (GPS + InSAR)

- Combination of technologies will provide data sets with overlapping spatial and temporal scales.
  - Data will help distinguish signals from CO<sub>2</sub> operations vs. active CBM operations
  - Data sets will cross validate each other
- Selected technologies to address/overcome challenges of reservoir geometry and terrain

# CO2 Storage and Delivery and Injection Skid



# Injection Skid for 3 wells w/ Coriolis Flowmeters, Valves and Radio/Cell Communication



# CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Parameters

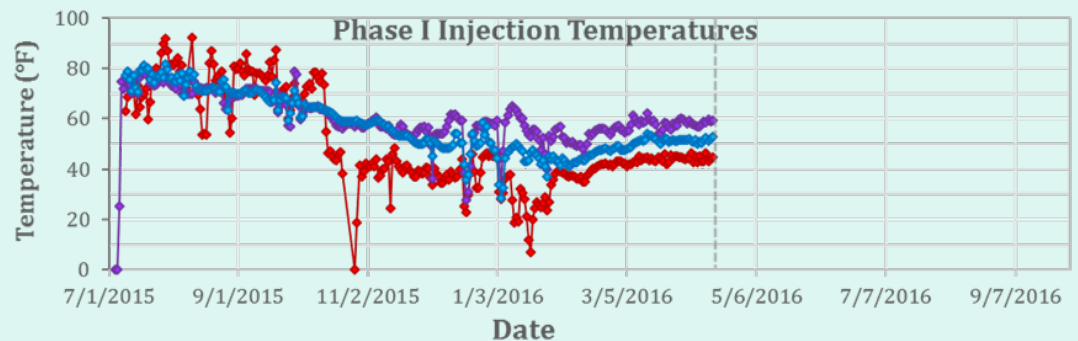
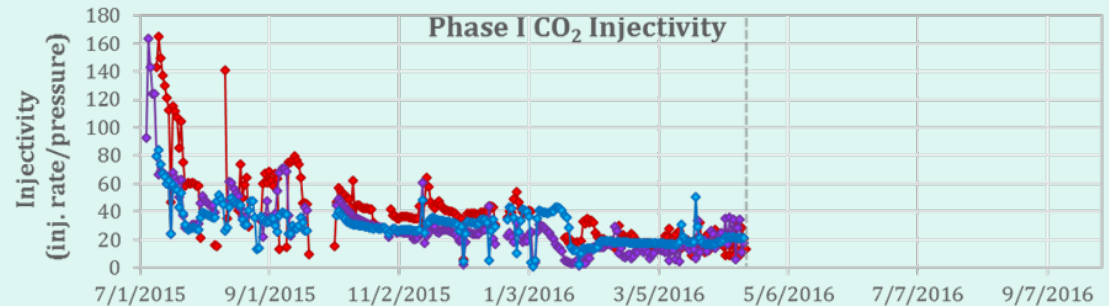
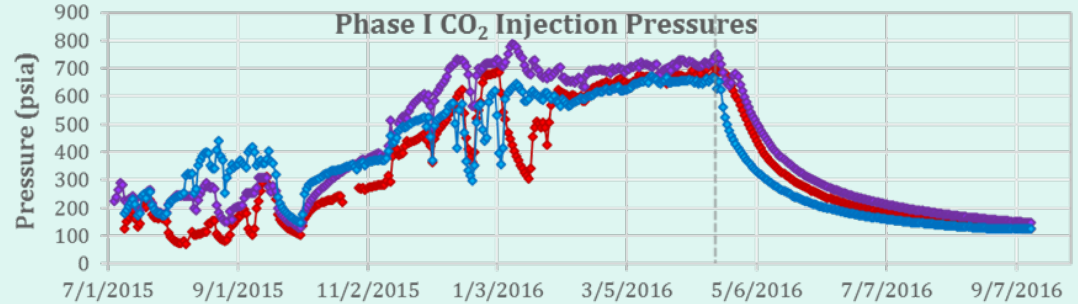
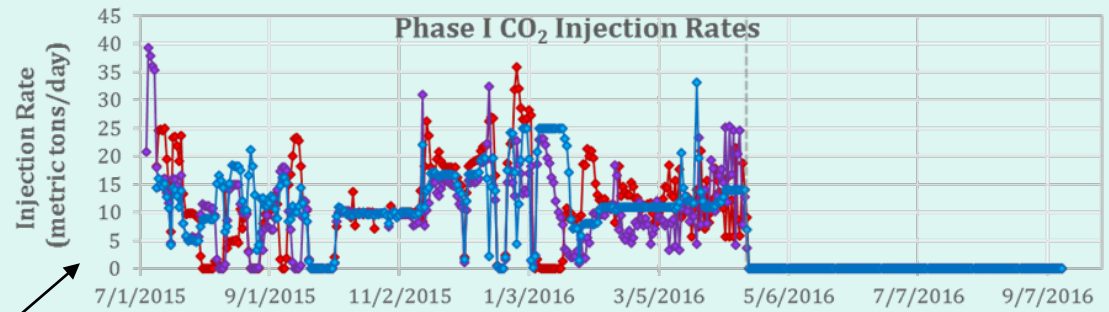
SCADA system:

- ~Continuous recording
- Remote access for monitoring and adjustments

Expected correlation

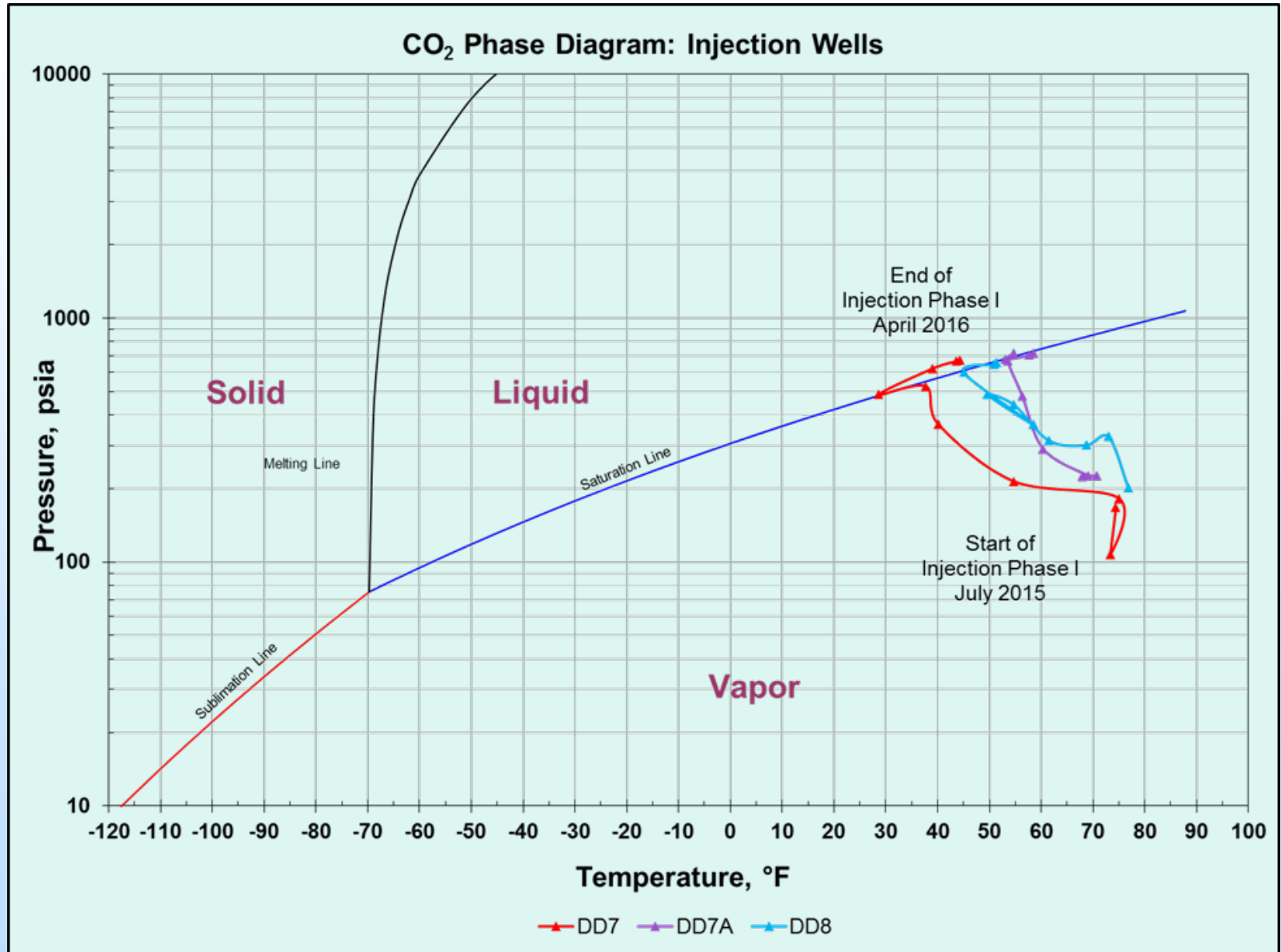
**CO<sub>2</sub> Injectivity =  
injection rate/pressure**

- **Decreases w/ incr. pressure**
- **Levels out before zero**
- **Restored**



—◆— DD7    —◆— DD7A    —◆— DD8

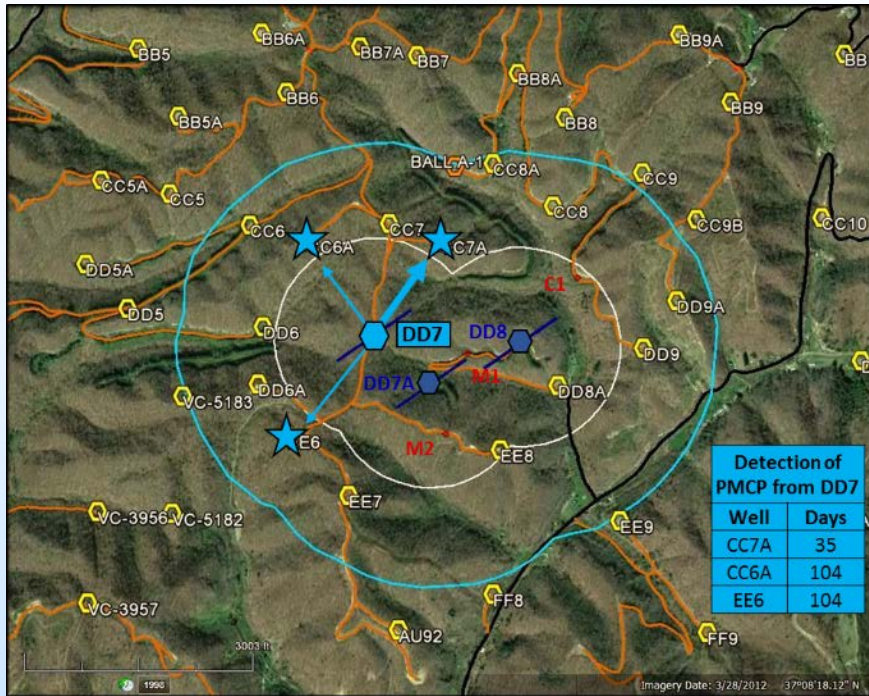
# Transition from Gas $\rightarrow$ Liquid CO<sub>2</sub>



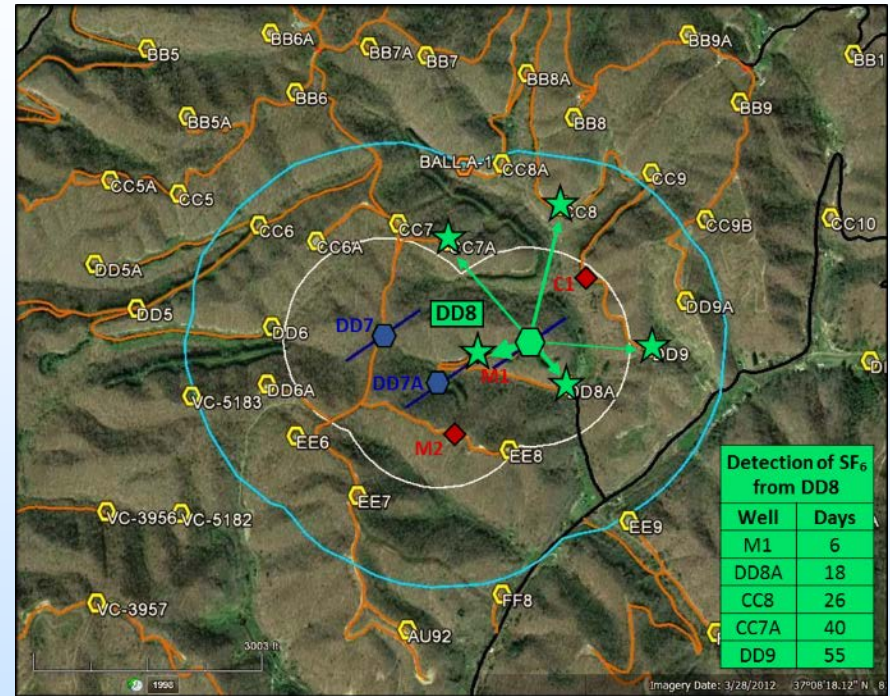


# Gas composition: Tracer Detection at Offset Wells

PMCP in DD7 water

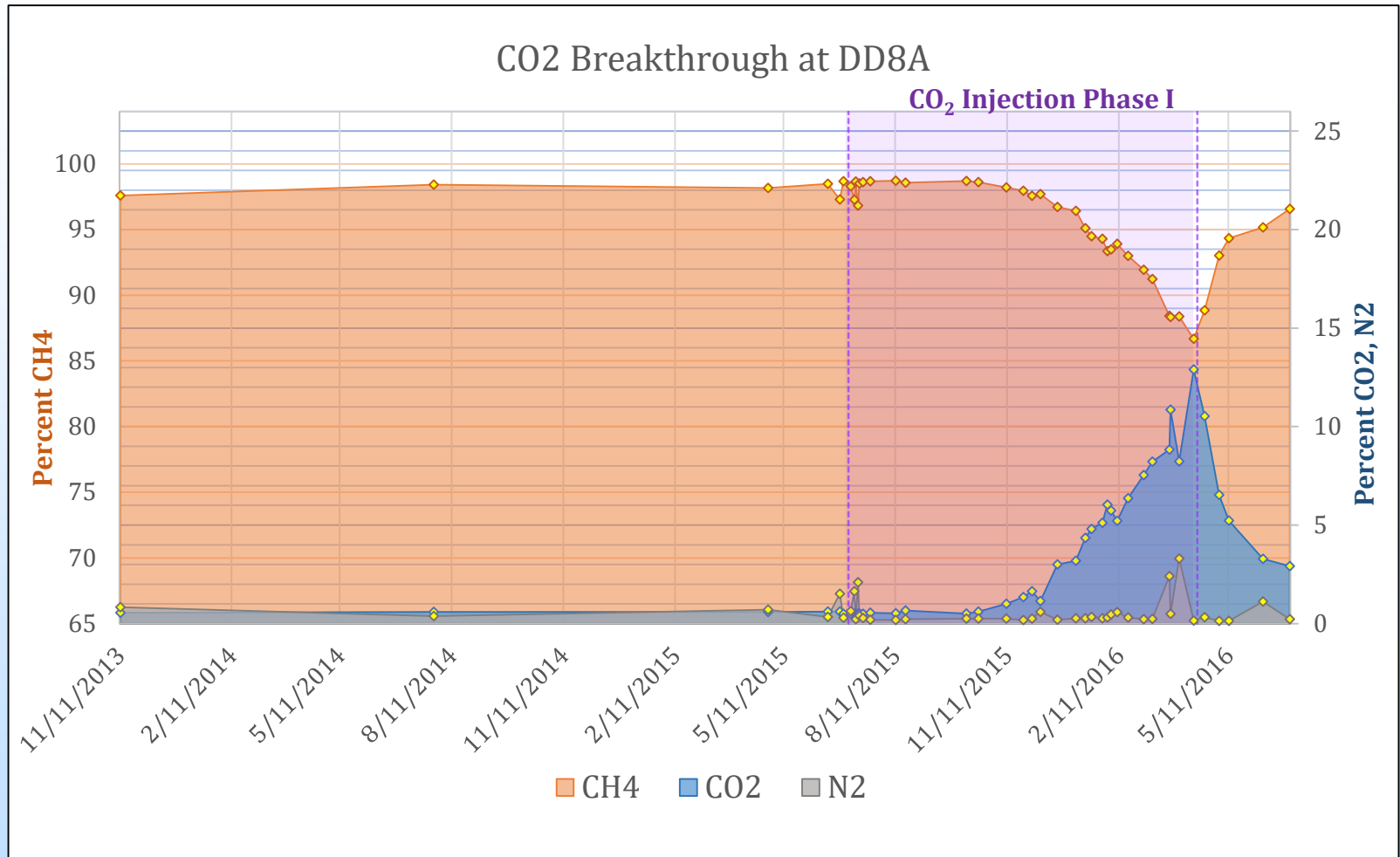


SF<sub>6</sub> in DD8 CO<sub>2</sub> stream



- Three rounds of tracers:  
Start of injection, 15% of CO<sub>2</sub> target volume, 40% of CO<sub>2</sub> target volume
- Only tracers from start of injection detected
- For DD7, all detecting wells located west (up-dip); could encounter pressure interference from other injection wells

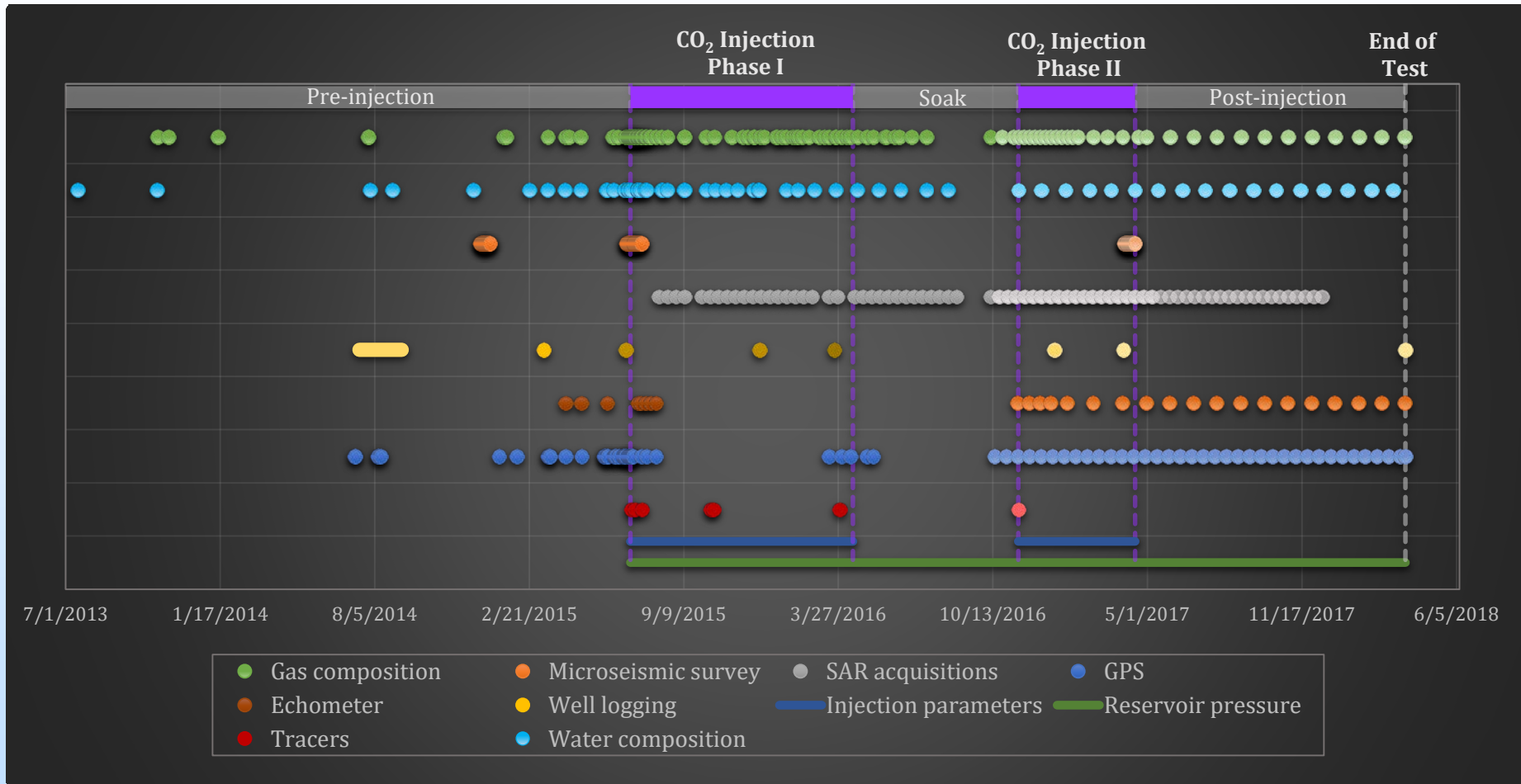
# Gas composition: CO<sub>2</sub> Breakthrough at DD8A



- Increase in CO<sub>2</sub> from < 1% to 12.9%
- Outcome: no change to operations; did not compromise test objectives or CBM operations

# Project Timeline

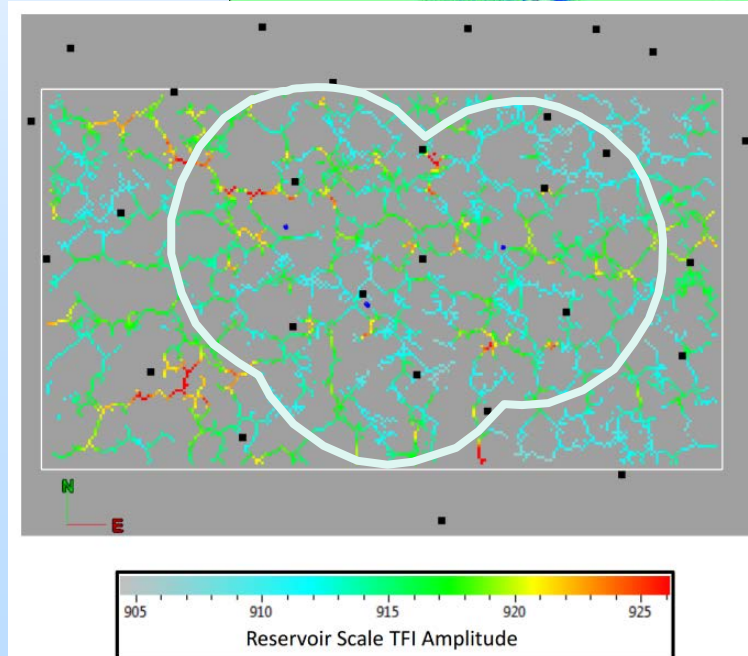
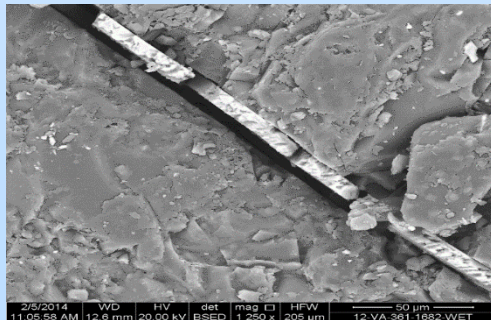
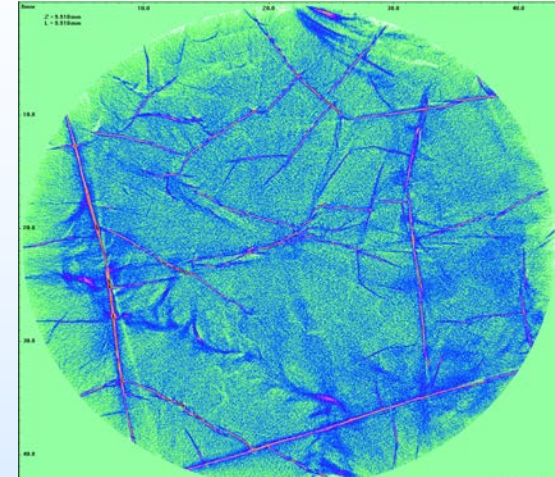
## Two Injection Phases



Currently in Post-injection Monitoring

# Reservoir Modeling – History Match Monitoring Results

- Coal swelling effects?
  - Geomechanical effects from laboratory testing
- What seams take the CO<sub>2</sub>?
  - Spinner Surveys on Injection Wells as inputs
  - Water Kill Test on Production Wells as inputs
- Why does SF<sub>6</sub> breakthrough prior to CO<sub>2</sub>?
  - Adsorption Isotherms run on SF<sub>6</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub> inputs
- How far do the hydraulic fractures go?
  - Fracture length in coalmines
  - TFI's from Microseismic Monitoring



# Summary

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- Shale Test Injection successful
  - Flowback showed EGR and specifically NGLs
- CBM Test Injection
  - 14,000 tons injected in two Phases
  - Multiple wells allow for varied injection rates and pressures as well as fall-off testing
  - Breakthrough of CO<sub>2</sub> at 1 offset well
  - Pressure has nearly stabilized
  - Expect to **flowback** injection wells during final quarter as an extended huff and puff.

# Acknowledgments

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- Financial assistance for this work was provided by the U.S. Department of Energy through the National Energy Technology Laboratory's Program under Contract No. DE-FE0006827.

# Project Schedule →

## Phase I

(10/1/11 – 3/31/13)

- Characterization
  - Drill char. Well
  - Core sample analysis
  - Modeling
  - Baselines for monitoring
- Injection design
- Monitoring design
  - Well locations
  - Geophysical surveys
- **Go/no go 1: permits, access (12 months)**
- **Go/no go 2: characterization (18 months)**

## Phase II

(4/1/13 – 1/31/17)

- Site preparation
  - Conversion of production wells
  - Drill monitor wells
  - Install additional monitor stations
- **CO<sub>2</sub> injection period**
  - (3/18/14 - 3/31/14) - Shale**
  - (7/02/15 – 1/31/17) - CBM**
- Monitoring
  - Atmosphere
  - Surface
  - Reservoir

## Phase III

(2/1/17 – 12/31/17)

- Site closure
  - Conversion of injection and monitor wells
  - Site restoration
- Post-injection characterization
  - Data analysis and interpretation
  - Post-injection monitoring
  - Reservoir modeling
  - Assessing enhanced recovery for commercialization

Ongoing: Post-Injection Monitoring, Reservoir Modeling, Education/Outreach