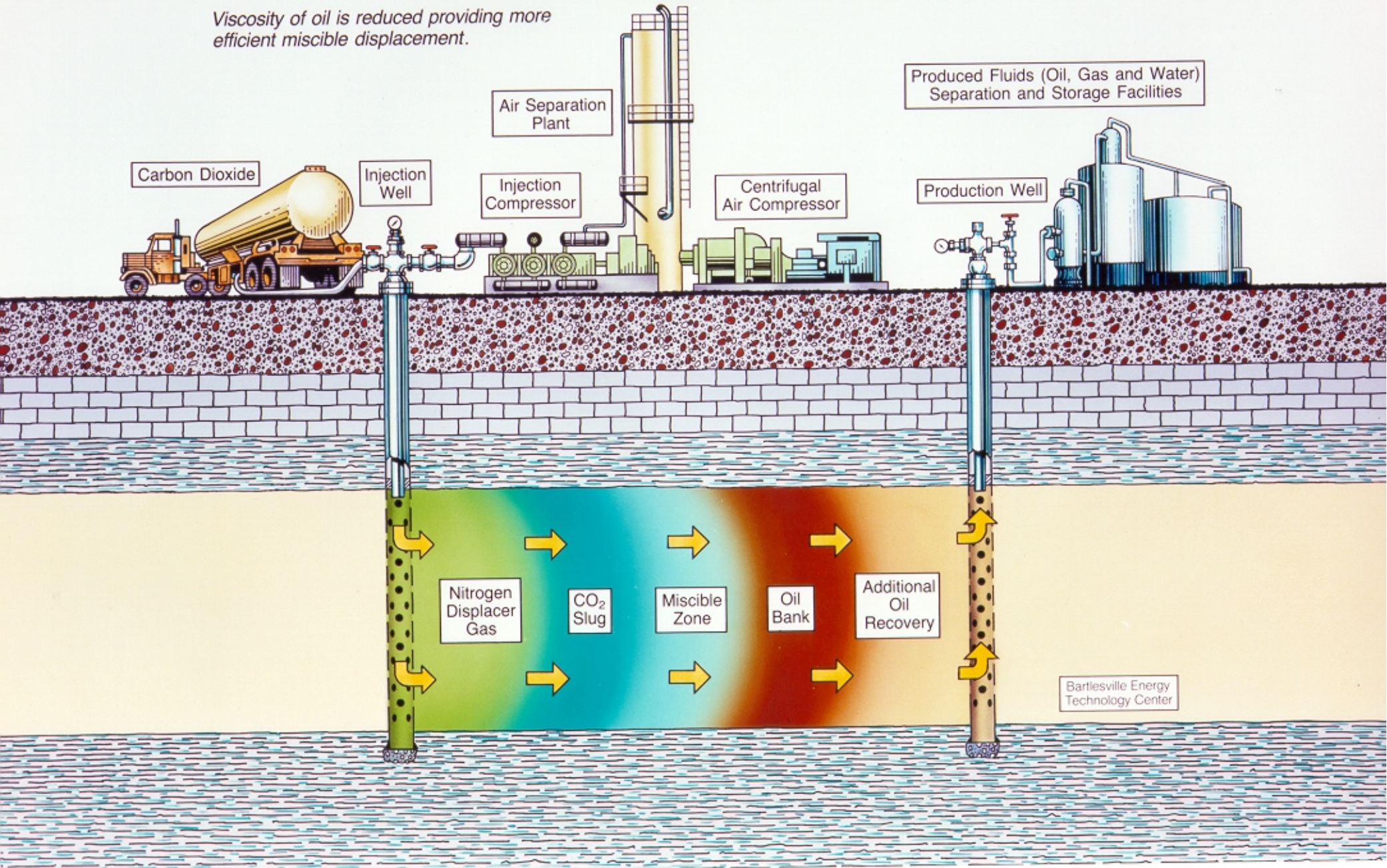
NITROGEN-CO_2 FLOODING

Nitrogen-CO_2 flooding is actually a variation of CO_2 flooding that is applied to reduce the cost of using CO_2, which must be brought in by pipeline or tank truck, a relatively expensive operation. Because nitrogen can be manufactured on site at a greatly reduced cost, it is an attractive alternative. Nitrogen can be extracted from air by cryogenic separation, the source is unlimited, and it is an inert, noncorrosive gas. In applying the process, nitrogen is injected into the reservoir to displace the CO_2 slug and its associated oil bank.

NITROGEN — CO_2 FLOODING

In a CO_2 flood, the use of nitrogen to displace the CO_2 slug and its miscible oil bank might be desirable due to the lower cost of the nitrogen.