



**NATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY**



## **An Update of Proposed CO<sub>2</sub> Regulations for Coal- and Gas-Fired Power Plants**

**Eric Grol, NETL**

**14<sup>th</sup> Annual SECA Workshop**

**July 23, 2013**

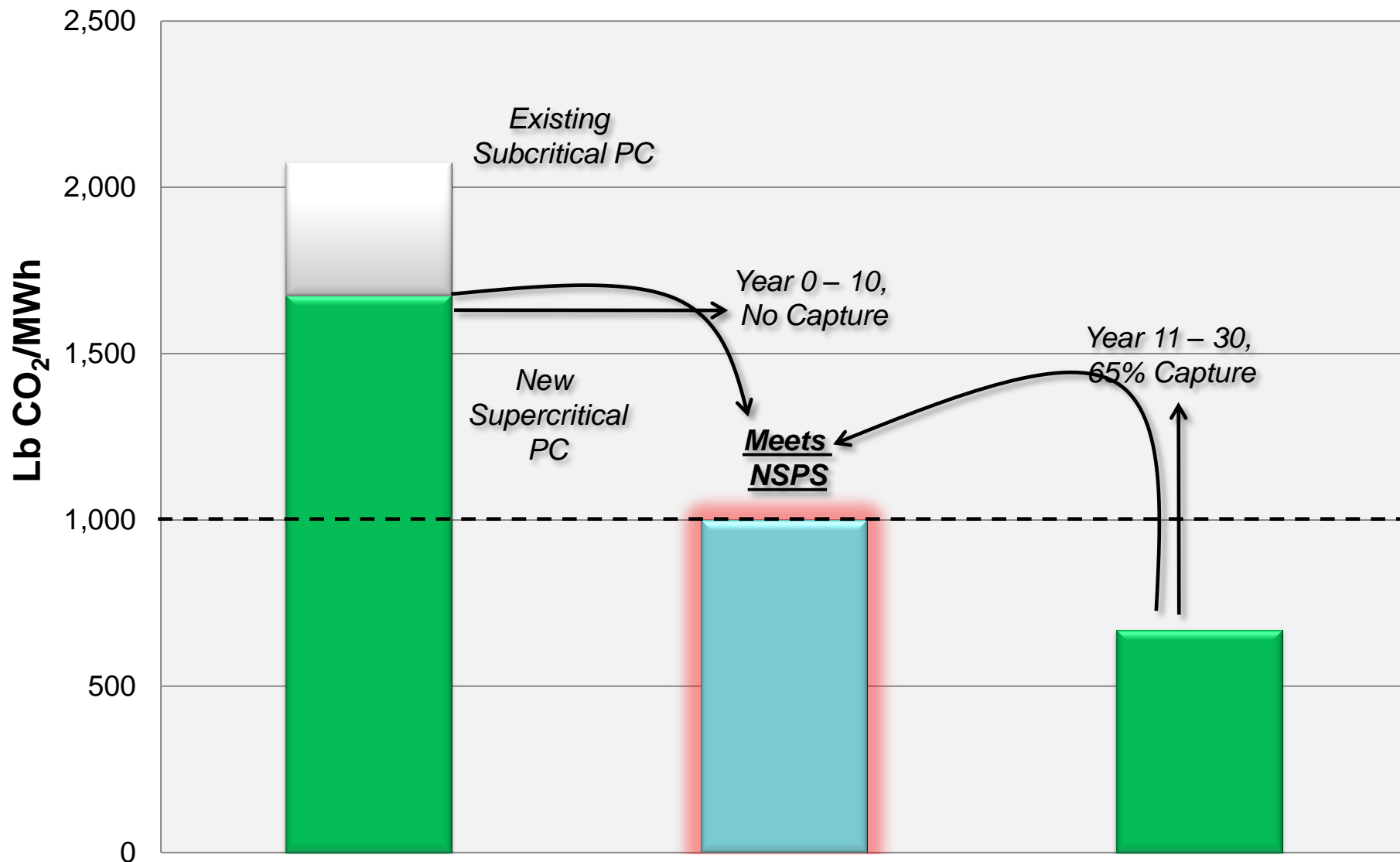


# **Summary of EPA Greenhouse Gas New Source Performance Standard\***

- **All new generation must meet an emission standard of 1,000 Lb CO<sub>2</sub>/MWh**
  - Uncontrolled coal ~ 1,675 Lb CO<sub>2</sub>/MWh

# Greenhouse Gas New Source Performance Standard

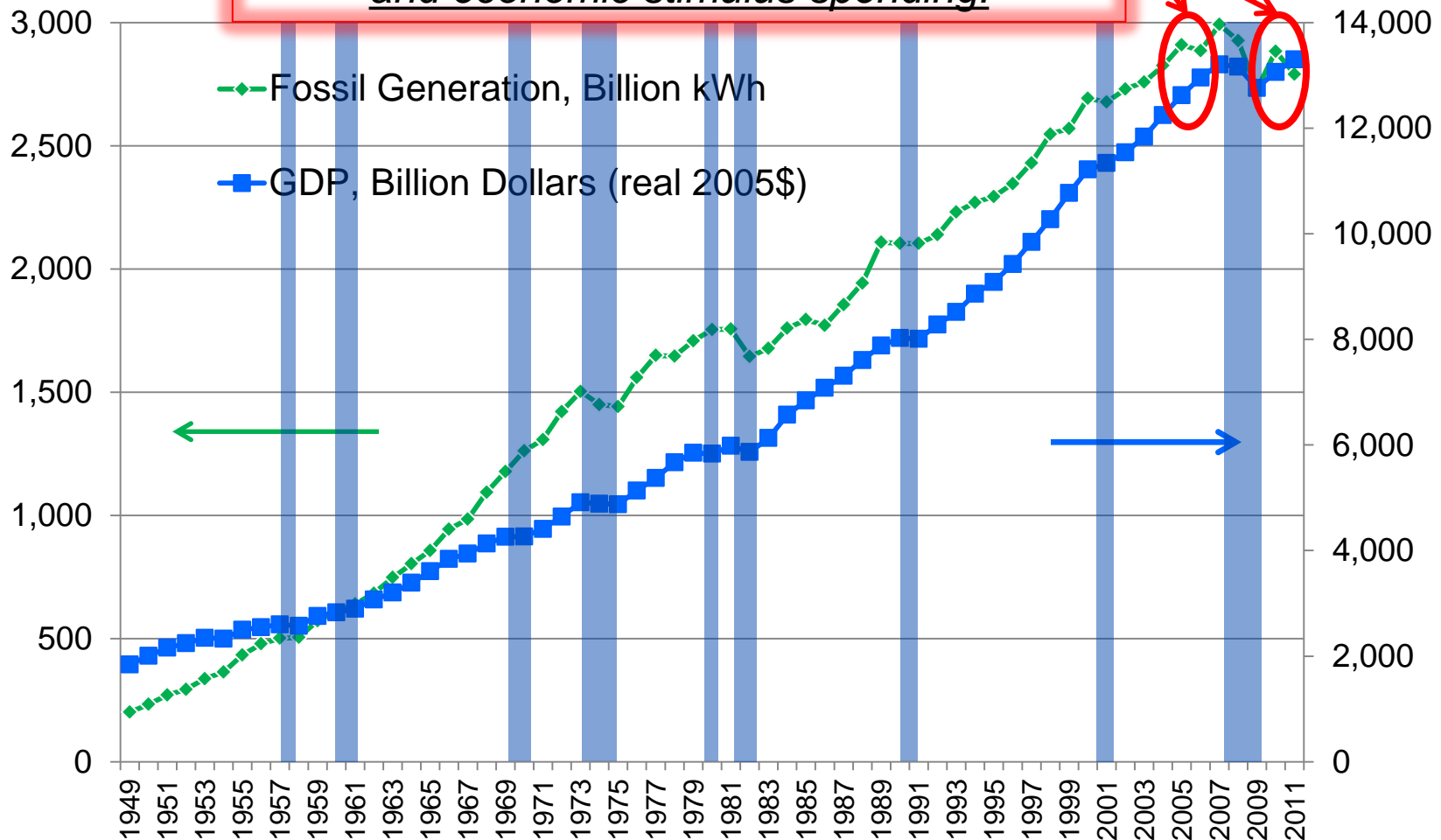
*NSPS is a formidable challenge for coal to remain in the energy mix...*



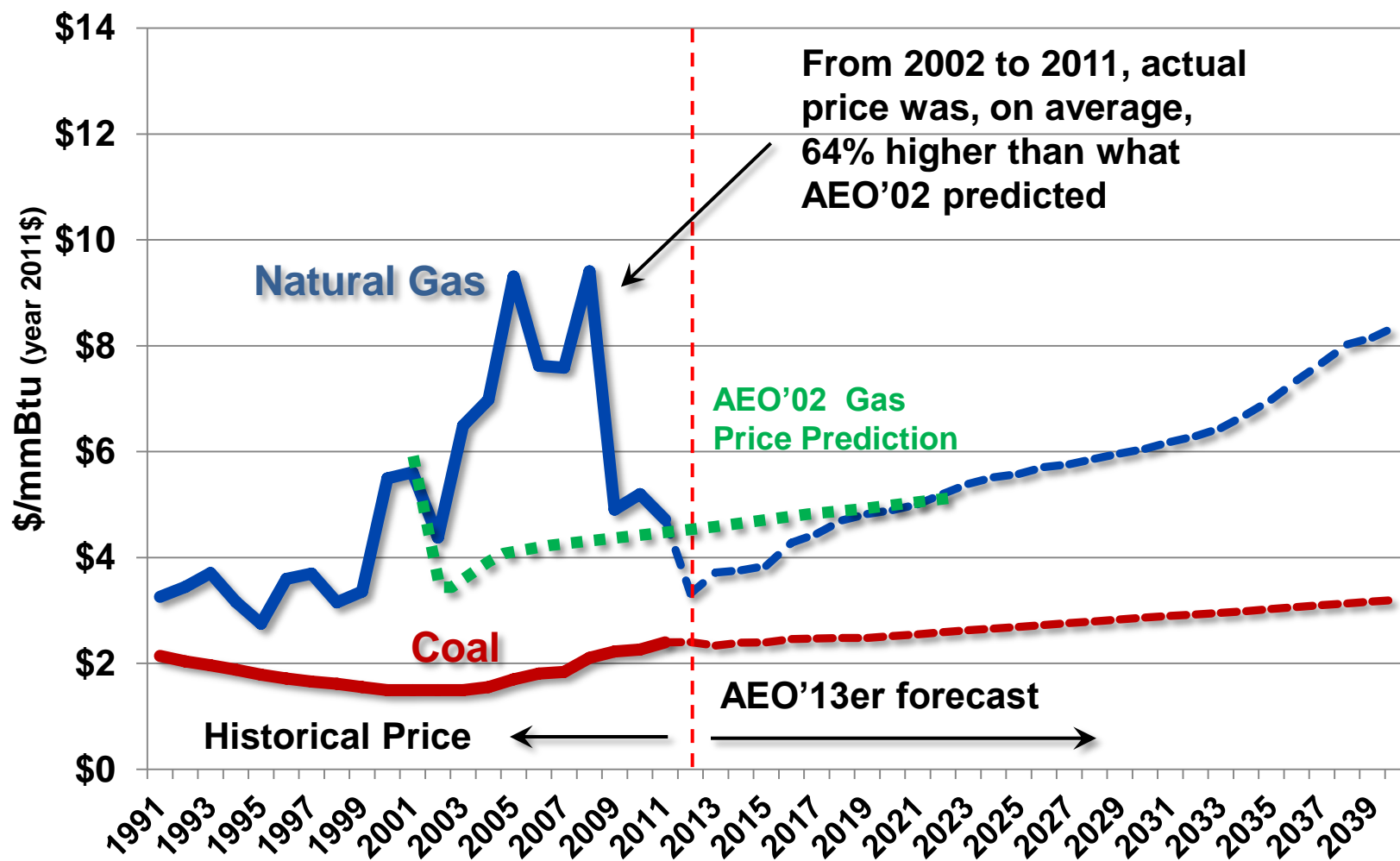
# Energy Consumption and U.S. GDP: 1949 - 2011

*U.S. GDP Strongly Linked to Fossil (Coal and Gas) Generation*

*GDP grew while fossil generation fell, but the growth was not sustainable: housing bubble and economic stimulus spending!*

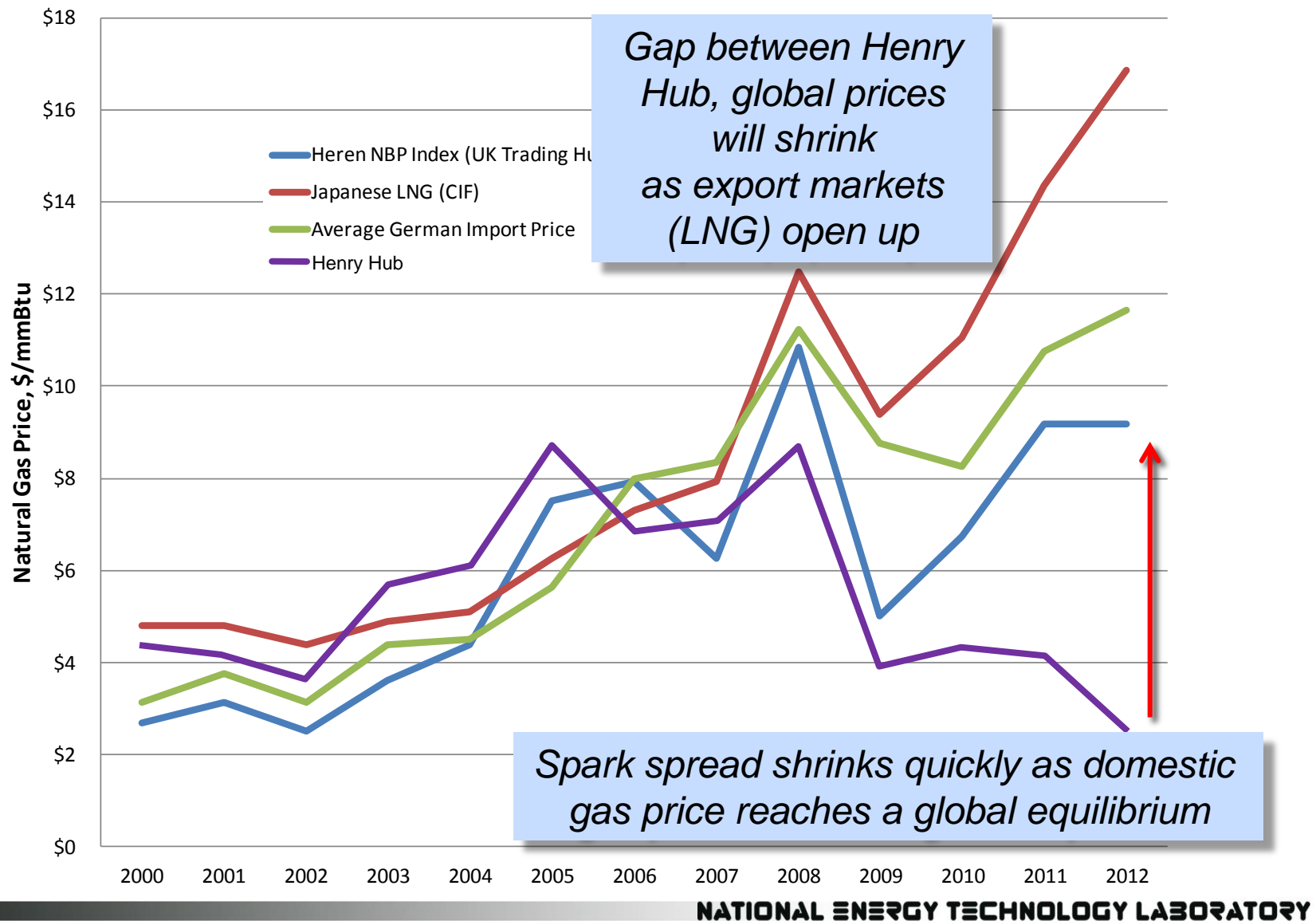


# Coal and Natural Gas Price History and Forecasts



# Global Natural Gas Price Comparison\*

*What is the likelihood that natural gas prices will remain at historic lows?*



\*"An Unconventional Bonanza – Special Report, Natural Gas," The Economist, July 14-20, 2012

# CO<sub>2</sub> Capture-Ready Coal Units

A continued investment in coal R&D via CO<sub>2</sub> capture-ready units can provide the following returns...

1. **Keeps a proven fossil resource in play**: *Power generation and U.S. economic growth directly linked. New generation needed to drive economic growth, and capture-ready coal units in compliance with EPA's proposed GHG NSPS*
2. **Capital Cost savings**: *Capture-ready coal has a 60% capital cost savings over other baseload options, e.g. nuclear*
3. **Insurance Policy**: *A mechanism to keep natural gas prices in check through promotion of energy diversity. Also, a proven way to serve baseload, as spark spreads\* shrink due to a global natural gas price equilibrium.*

*\*Spark spread = Theoretical gross profit margin of gas-fired generation from selling a unit of electricity, given a specific fuel price.*

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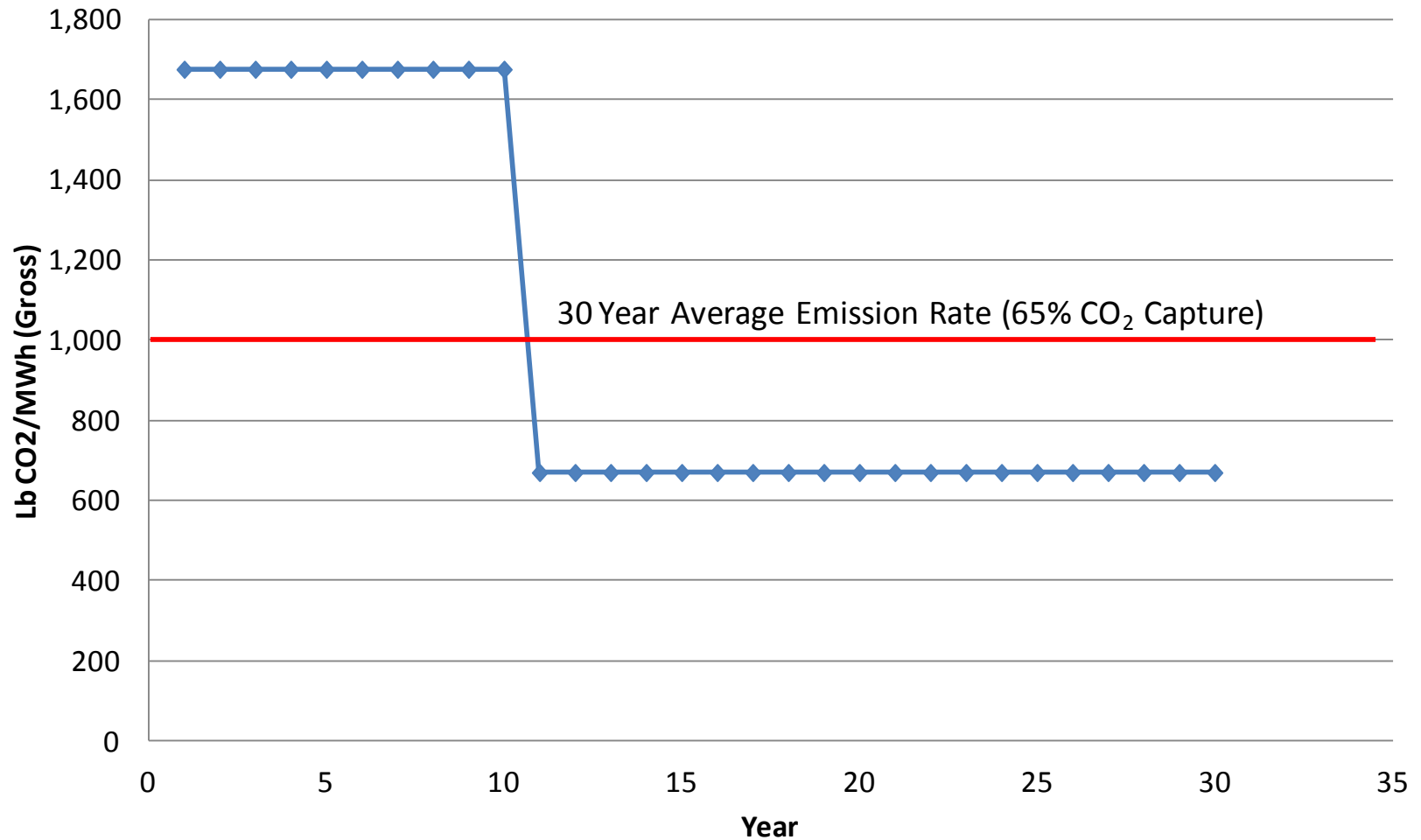


# Design Strategy

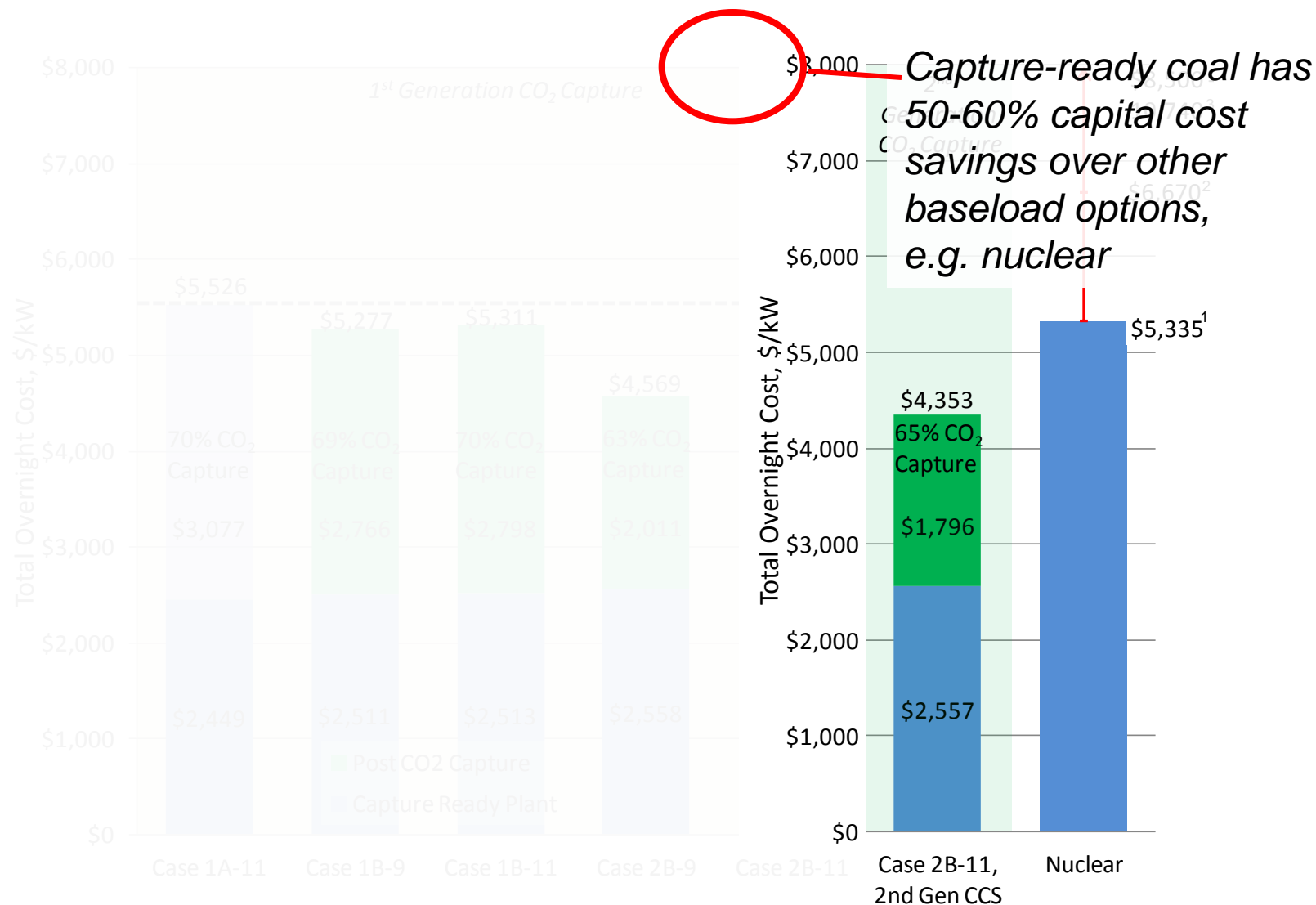
$$COE\left(\frac{\$}{MWh}\right) = \frac{(TOC * CCF) + OC_{fixed} + (Cap.Fac.*OC_{var})}{Cap.Fac.*MWh}$$

- Minimize cost of electricity by keeping capital costs low, or maximizing power output

# Capture-Ready 30-Year CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Schedule

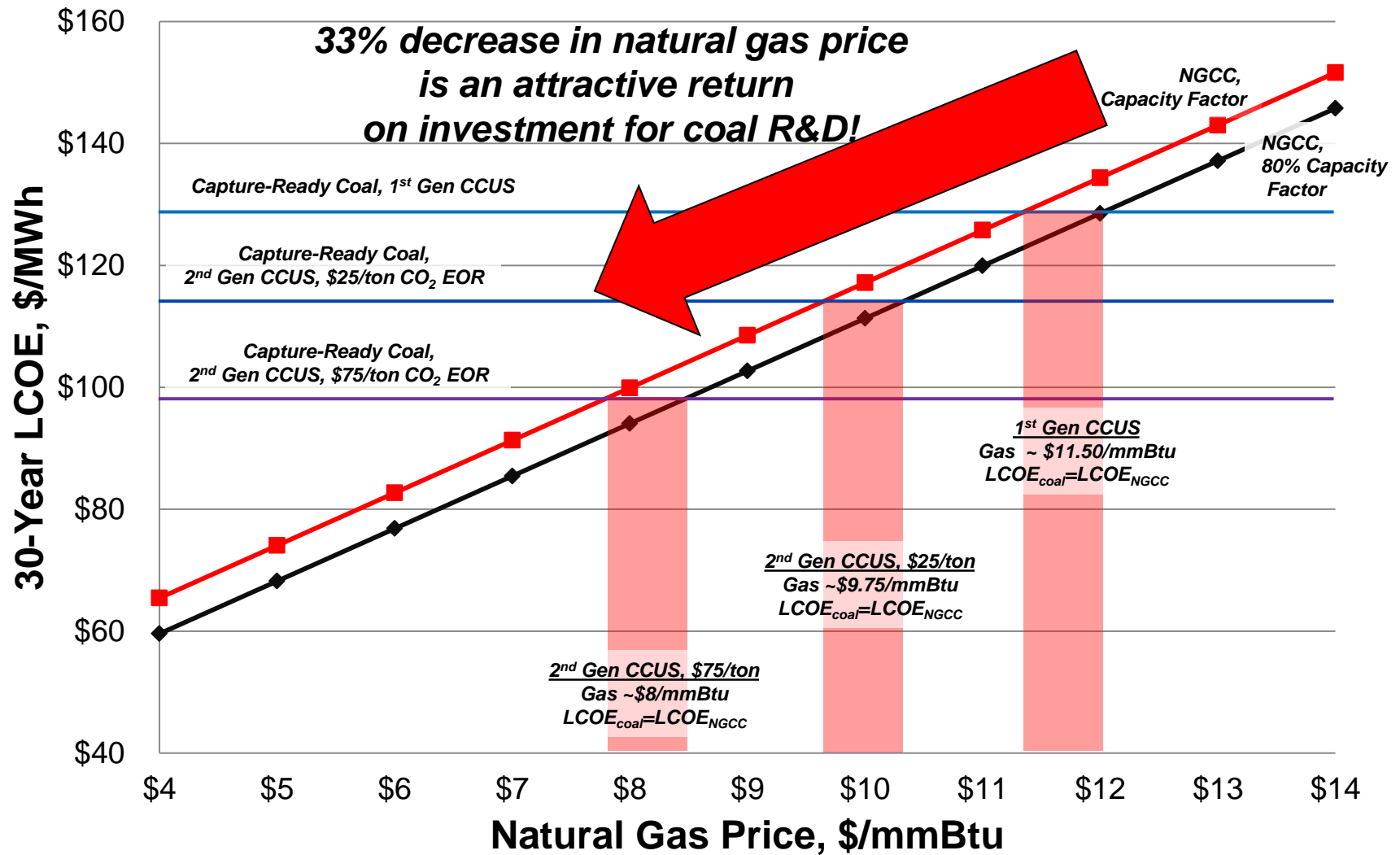


# Capital Cost Results (\$/kW)



1. 2012 Annual Energy Outlook, EIA  
 2. Atlanta Business Chronicle, May 14, 2012, [http://www.bizjournals.com/atlanta/morning\\_call/2012/05/vogtle-nuclear-plant-faces-900m-in.html](http://www.bizjournals.com/atlanta/morning_call/2012/05/vogtle-nuclear-plant-faces-900m-in.html)  
 3. World Nuclear News, May 2, 2012, [http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NN\\_Levy\\_nuclear\\_project\\_moved\\_back\\_by\\_three\\_years\\_0205122.html](http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NN_Levy_nuclear_project_moved_back_by_three_years_0205122.html)

# LCOE's for Capture-Ready Coal and Uncontrolled NGCC



# Final Thoughts

**Understanding project risk and market dynamics are critical:**

- Project Risk: *Industry needs assurance that either 1) CCUS will be available at the end of the first decade, or 2) they won't be penalized if it isn't. Without this, there is little incentive for developers to take the risk on capture-ready units.*

# **Greenhouse Gas New Source Performance Standard**

## *Recent Developments...*

- **EPA missed an April 13, 2013 deadline to finalize GHG NSPS**
- **Considerations:**
  - Coal and gas combined into the same category, an unprecedented approach by EPA

# Regulation of CO<sub>2</sub> from Existing Coal Plants

- EPA has consistently downplayed any regulation of CO<sub>2</sub> from existing coal units, but it is widely believed to be forthcoming