

# Office of Fossil Energy and SubTER Overview

Carbon Storage and Oil & Gas Technologies Review Meeting

August 16, 2016

Doug Hollett Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

## **Fossil Energy Critical in All Domestic Sectors**

81%

Fossil

Energy

**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL** 91% Fossil 11% Energy NATURAL GAS 29% INDUSTRIAL 89% Fossil 22% Energy TRANSPORTATION 95% Fossil OIL -27% Energy 36% **CLEAN COAL** 16% POWER 65% Fossil 40% Energy **RENEWABLE 10% NUCLEAR 9%** 

EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2015, Reference Case.

# **DOE Office of Fossil Energy**

Office of Clean Coal and Carbon Management

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National Energy Technology Laboratory

## The Department of Energy and FE



4

# **FE Key Goals and Priorities**

### Accelerate a Commercial Pathway to CCS

- Innovation CCS
- Advanced Carbon Technologies R&D
- Domestic and international partnerships
- Reduce deployment barriers

#### Advance Safe and Environmentally Prudent Oil & Gas Resource Production and Transport

- R&D on water and air quality, induced seismicity
- Emissions mitigation and quantification
- Gas hydrates

## Modernizing the Strategic Petroleum Reserves Program

## **Natural Gas Trade Regulation**

### **Department of Energy RD&D Crosscuts**

- Intra-agency efforts to address common science and engineering challenges across the energy spectrum
  - Subsurface Technology and Engineering (SubTER)
  - Supercritical CO2
  - Energy Water
  - Advanced Materials
  - Grid Modernization







# **Meeting the President's Energy Goals**



- "I committed this country to the tireless task of combating climate change and protecting this planet for future generations....a strong global agreement....that reduces global carbon pollution and sets the world on a course to a low-carbon future....[W]e succeeded.
- "[T]his agreement sends a powerful signal that the world is firmly committed to a lowcarbon future. And that has the potential to **unleash investment and innovation in clean energy** at a scale we have never seen before. "

- President Obama, December 12, 2015



## Subsurface is a Foundation of our Energy Economy



- Majority of our energy landscape
- Production, storage, sequestration, environmental impacts, climate
- Requires greater resolution and understanding, leading to greater levels of control, to continue the evolution to a clear energy economy
- Primary challenges relate to fluid flow in porous and fractured media in the subsurface



## Subsurface is a Foundation of our Energy Economy

Even with large scale growth of gas-generated electric power generation and declining reliance on coal, reliance on subsurface remains a critical issue into the future.





energy.gov/subsurface

## Fossil Energy FY17 Budget Request (in millions)



9

## **Goals and Strategy FY18-22 – Mission Innovation**



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# SubTER Science and Technology Pillars

Signals in the Subsurface

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF



Physical and chemical changes in rock-fluid systems

# SubTER Highlights 2015-2016

- National Lab pillar-focused R&D projects underway ("Saplings")
- Office of Science Roundtables lead to \$33.8M FY17 EFRC budget request
- FY16 Joint Competitive R&D FOA (EERE and FE) \$9M
  - Development of Technologies for Sensing, Analyzing, and Utilizing Novel Subsurface Signals
- **Draft National Lab Multi-Year Workplan** (under review by Programs)
  - 10 year framework with 2 and 5 year intermediate goals







# FY15-16 SubTER Lab Projects "Saplings"





# SubTER Highlights 2015-2016 (cont.)

SubTER Industry Roundtable held in Houston, February 2016, with broad participation and support for SubTER mission



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# FY 2016 Key Accomplishments

- <u>GTO and FE's Carbon Storage</u> program released the first joint DOE SubTER FOA with a total \$9 M available for funding titled: <u>Development</u> of Technologies for Sensing, Analyzing, and Utilizing Novel Subsurface Signals in Support of the Subsurface Technology and Engineering (SubTER) Crosscut Initiative.
- <u>Stakeholder engagement</u> continues with a series of public briefings at multiple Industry professional society annual meetings, and through an Industry Roundtable hosted by the National Labs discussing the <u>SubTER</u> <u>Multi Year Work Plan (MYWP)</u>.
- The <u>SubTER Tech Team</u> continues to collaborated with industry and academia by securing funding for and initiating membership to a <u>Joint</u> <u>Industry Partnership the Advanced Energy Consortium (AEC)</u>.

BUREAU OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGY



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 The <u>SubTER Tech Team</u> continues to maintain collaboration among the <u>National Labs and DOE</u> wide by hosting the "Sapling Tech Talk" webinar series.



Controlling Subsurface Fractures and Fluid Flow: A Basic Research Agenda



DOE Roundtable Report May 22, 2015 Germantown, MD Office of Science

<u>DOE</u> published the <u>Grand</u>
<u>Challenge Roundtable</u>
<u>Report</u>, focusing on the challenge of imaging geophysical and geochemical signals in the subsurface.

# **SubTER Connections With Outside Efforts**

Bureau of Economic Geology (BEG) – Advanced Energy Consortium (AEC)



NSF program to study the structure and evolution of the North American continent and the processes that cause earthquakes



Field testing prototype multi-sensing microsystems down hole to gather information about reservoirs (in progress)

## SubTER Complements These Efforts

- Subsurface Stress and Induced Seismicity
  - New Subsurface Signals
  - Permeability Manipulation



U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) evaluation of the technically accessible storage resource  $(TA_{SR})$  for carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$ 

Implementation of a new collaborative model to tackle an energy "grand challenge" faced by multiple sectors

Imaging geophysical and geochemical signals in the subsurface





Lab R&D FE & EE \$2M <b>2014</b>		Lat F	Lab Saplings FE & EE \$6M 2015 Fiscal		New Signals FOA FE& EE - \$9M Saplings - \$1.9M <b>2016</b>		Combined Request: \$72.3 M (\$33.8 EFRC) <b>2017</b>			
2014 Big Ideas Summit I	SubTER Retreat		Calendar Year 2015 Big Ideas Summit II		R at	2016 Industry Roundtable			2017	
Seedling Work Began	AGU Town	hall	Sapling Work Began	Science Roundt Lab F brief to Do	e ables Plan ing DE	Big Sun	Ideas nmit III	New Signals Awards be Mad	to e	

# SubTER What's Next

#### **Current Status**

#### FY 16 FOA selections July '16

- 70 applications, primarily academic teams (with labs, industry)
- Roughly 7 new projects, \$9-11M total to be selected
- Joint FE-EERE FOA (1<sup>st</sup>)

#### Saplings review August '16, Pittsburgh

• Technical learnings and successes

Committed to Univ. Texas AEC Consortium FY16

- Joint FE-EE-SC support
- Nanotechnologies, sensors, signals

**Geological Society of America Pardee Symposium Oct '16** 

• Premier technical / scientific forum in the geosciences



## Outlook for FY17

- Final SubTER Multi-Year RD&D Plan
- Lab call for new projects
- Academic-Industry focused FOA #2 (pending final FY17 budget)
- NSF: Positioned to issue solicitations which could use DOE Field Sites (FORGE, Shale Demos etc) as the R&D platform
- USGS: Formal collaboration on Induced Seismicity hazard studies

# **Dwindling Industry Investment in Subsurface R&D**

Increased Benefit of Government Role

- Major oil companies have cut R&D spending since 2013
- Biggest impact on independents and non-integrated
- Few sector labs R&D partnerships are rapidly losing funding
- Narrow interest: subsea, remote technologies, operational focus, shales
- Industry increasingly in niche sectors

"Industry collaboration with SubTER will be driven by issues that require broader knowledge and capital investment than any one company can supply, and/or on topics associated with future regulations (such as induced seismicity)." -- SubTER Industry Roundtable, 2015



May 15, 2016 6:47 pm

# Research cutbacks hit oil groups' ability to invest

Ed Crooks in New York , Financial Times



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# Impact of Reduced Industry Funding on Subsurface R&D

# 5 core DOE labs: loss of \$35M in combined program and SPP funding, 2014-16

Loss of roughly \$150-225M/year in Subsurface R&D throughout the sector, combined labs and universities

- Impact on innovation, new technologies
- Immediate and long term workforce impact
- Declining enrollments and drop in supported research

# **Recalibration of federal role?**



## **Final Questions**



- Lab centric vs university vs industry?
- Annual funding levels?
- Options for new pillars?
- Finding the proper federal role
- New funding/R&D models?

# SubTER Connections With Outside Efforts – Advanced Energy Consortium (AEC)

- AEC has created a new scientific space by combining nantechnology with subsurface energy applications
- AEC funds over 30 universitiesleveraging fundamental research and moving into applied real-world applications
- SubTER is exploring avenues for leveraging AEC R&D



### Four Research Areas:

Mobility - Contrast Agents - Nanomaterial Sensors - Micro-fabricated Sensors

## **Examples of Use Cases of particular interest to SubTER Crosscut:**

- 1) Contrast agents for fracture network mapping
  - EM contrast agents help identify location of proppants and fluids in fractures near the wellbore and in the interwell space with greater accuracy than current technology allows
- 2) Subsurface autonomous nanosensor devices

Developing micro-electronic sensors capable of making temperature, pressure, pH, and/or resistivity measurements for logging, hydraulic fracturing and coiled tubing applications

