

Central Appalachian Basin Unconventional (Coal/Organic Shale) Reservoir Small-Scale CO2 Injection Test

Project Number: DE-FE0006827

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Virginia Tech

U.S. Department of Energy

National Energy Technology Laboratory

Mastering the Subsurface Through Technology, Innovation and Collaboration:

Carbon Storage and Oil and Natural Gas Technologies Review Meeting

August 16-18, 2016

Presentation Outline

- **Project Benefits, Objectives and Background**
- **Shale CO₂ Injection Test in Morgan County, Tennessee**
- **Coalbed Methane CO₂ Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia**
- **Conclusions**

Benefit to the Program

- Develop technologies that will support industries' ability to predict CO₂ storage capacity in geologic formations to within ± 30 percent.
- Conduct field tests through 2030 to support the development of BPMs for site selection, characterization, site operations, and closure practices.
- The research project is testing the potential for enhanced coalbed methane (ECBM) and enhanced gas (EGR) production and recovery
- The technology, when successfully demonstrated, will provide guidance for commercialization applications of ECBM and EGR

Project Overview:

Goals and Objectives

★ Objectives:

- Inject up to 20,000 metric tons of CO₂ 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. CO₂)
- 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)** ^{1,2,3,4,5}
- **Cardno** ^{2,3}
- **Gerald Hill, Ph.D.** ^{1,4}
- **Southern States Energy Board** ^{1,5}
- **Virginia Dept. of Mines, Minerals and Energy** ³
- **Geological Survey of Alabama** ³
- **Sandia Technologies** ³
- **Det Norske Veritas (DNV)** ⁴
- **Consol Energy (Research Group)** ^{2,3}

- 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 Tennessee**
- **University of Virginia**
- **Southern Illinois University**
- **Oklahoma State University**

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 – 12/31/16)

- Site preparation
 - Conversion of production wells
 - Drill monitor wells
 - Install additional monitor stations
- **CO₂ injection period**
 - (3/18/14 - 3/31/14) - Shale**
 - (7/02/15 – 12/31/16) - CBM**
- Monitoring
 - Atmosphere
 - Surface
 - Reservoir

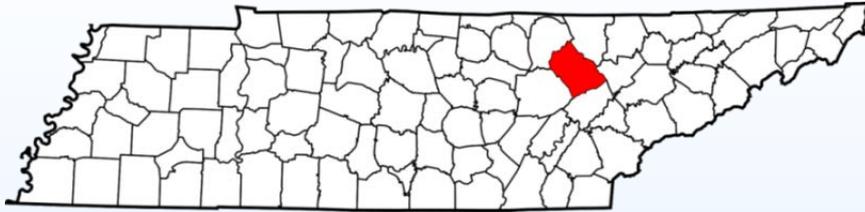
Phase III

(1/1/17 – 12/31/17)

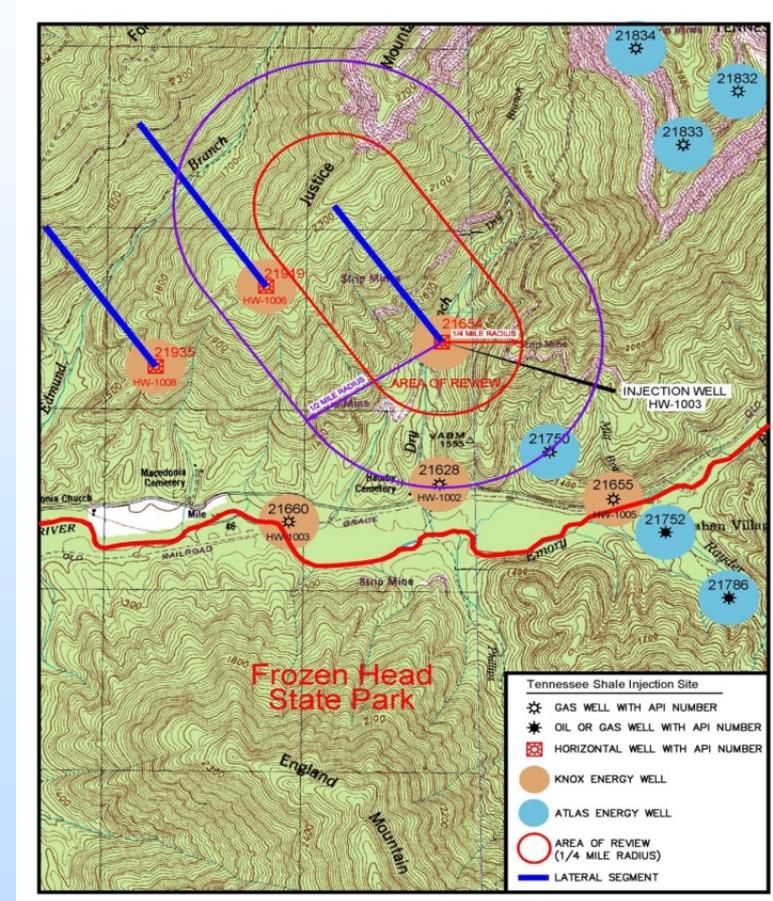
- Site closure
 - Conversion of injection and monitor wells
 - Site restoration
- Post-injection characterization
 - Data analysis and interpretation
 - Post-injection monitoring
 - Reservoir modeling
 - Assessing enhanced recovery for commercialization

Ongoing: CO₂ Injections, Reservoir Modeling, Monitoring, Education/Outreach

Shale CO₂ Injection Test (510 tons) Morgan County, Tennessee



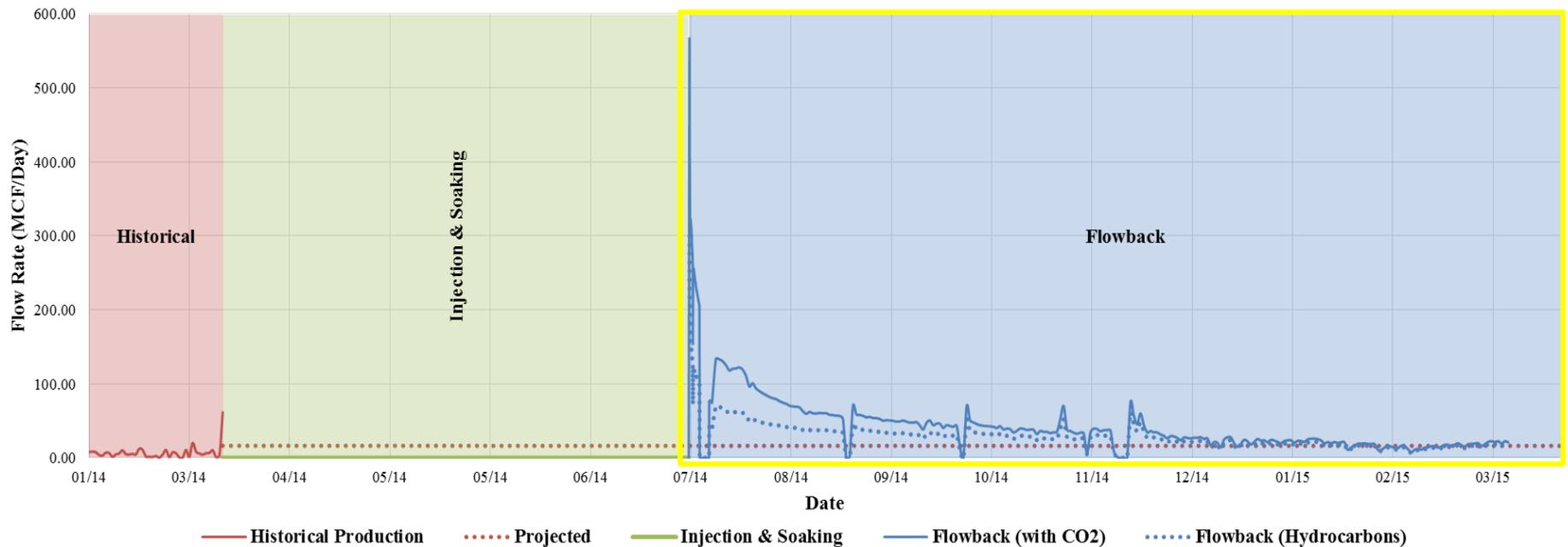
- Horizontal well in Chattanooga Shale formation, drilled in 2009
- Legacy producing gas well permitted under TDEC
- 510 tons for “huff and puff” injection test
- Injection period: March 18-31, 2014 (14 days)
- Shut-in period: March 31- July 29, 2014 (~4 months)
- Flowback period: July 29, 2014- present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



Shale CO₂ Injection Test in Morgan County, Tennessee

Flowback Results

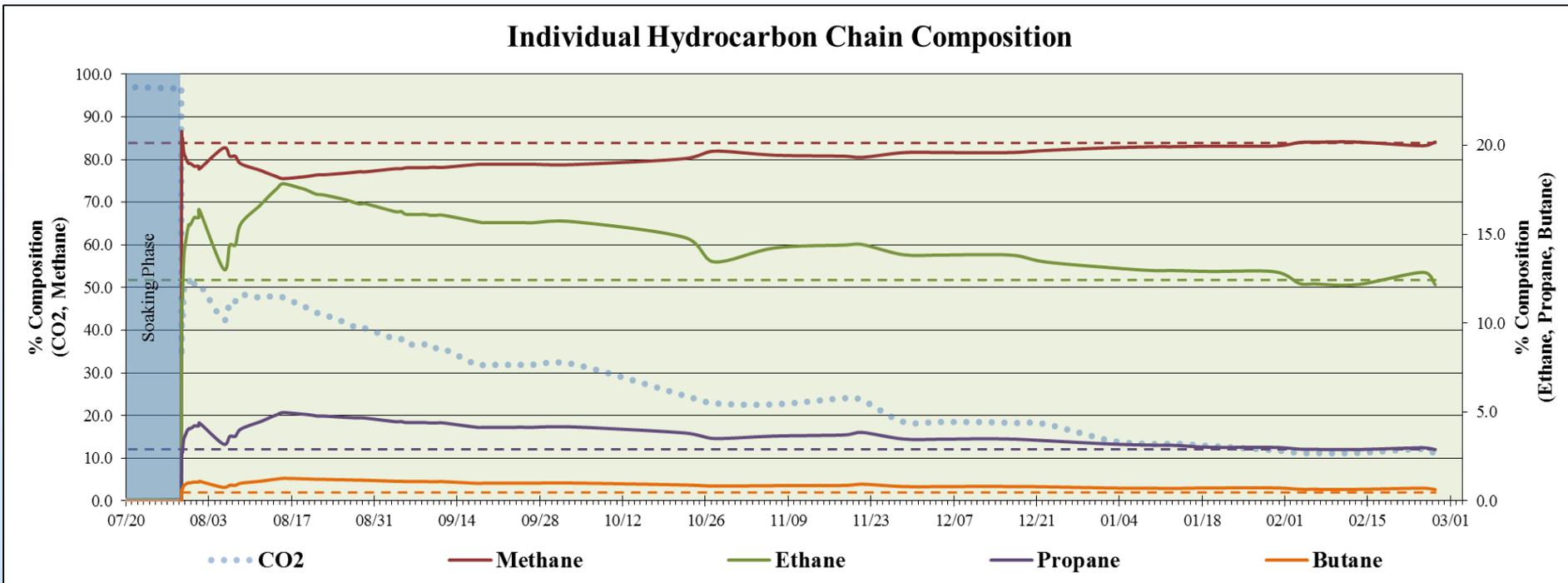
Flowback Production vs. Historical Production (zoomed)



- **EGR: An increase versus baseline production**
- **Correlated production of hydrocarbons and CO₂**
- **34 percent of injected CO₂ produced to date (173 tons)**

Shale CO₂ Injection Test in Morgan County, Tennessee

Results to Date



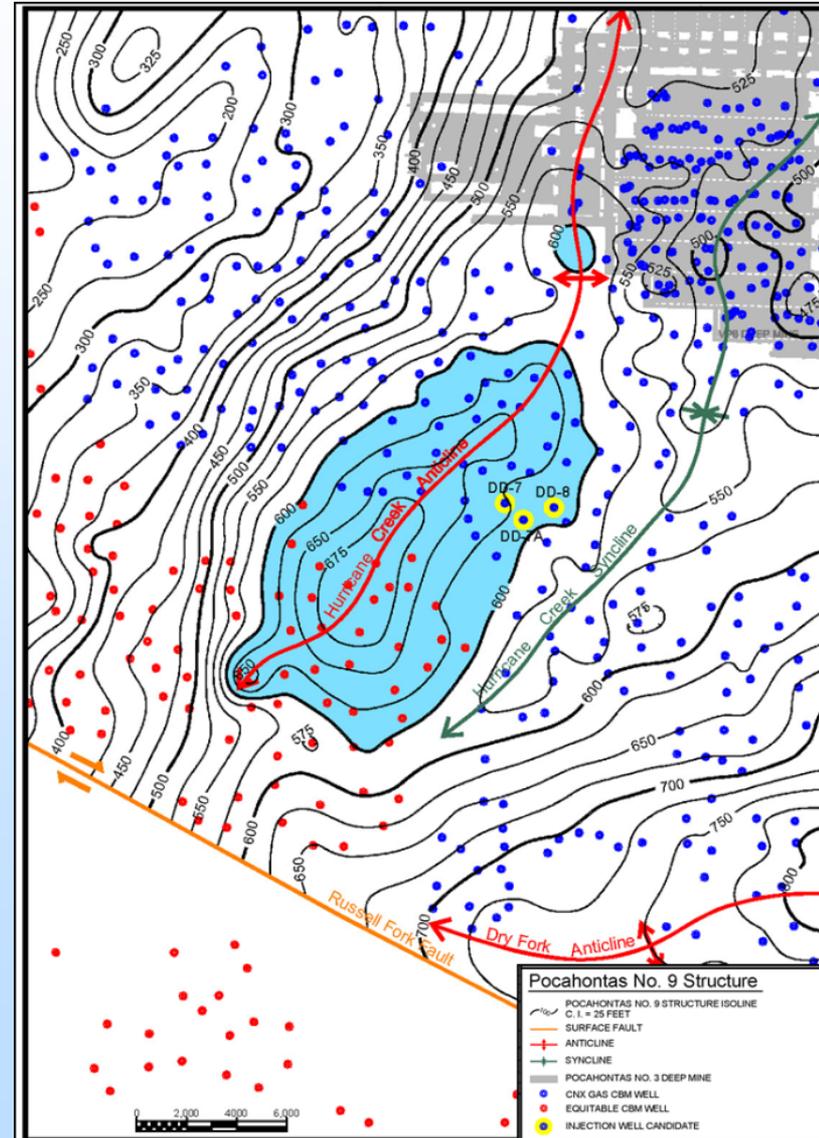
Production of heavy hydrocarbons elevated from baseline values:

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

CBM CO₂ Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

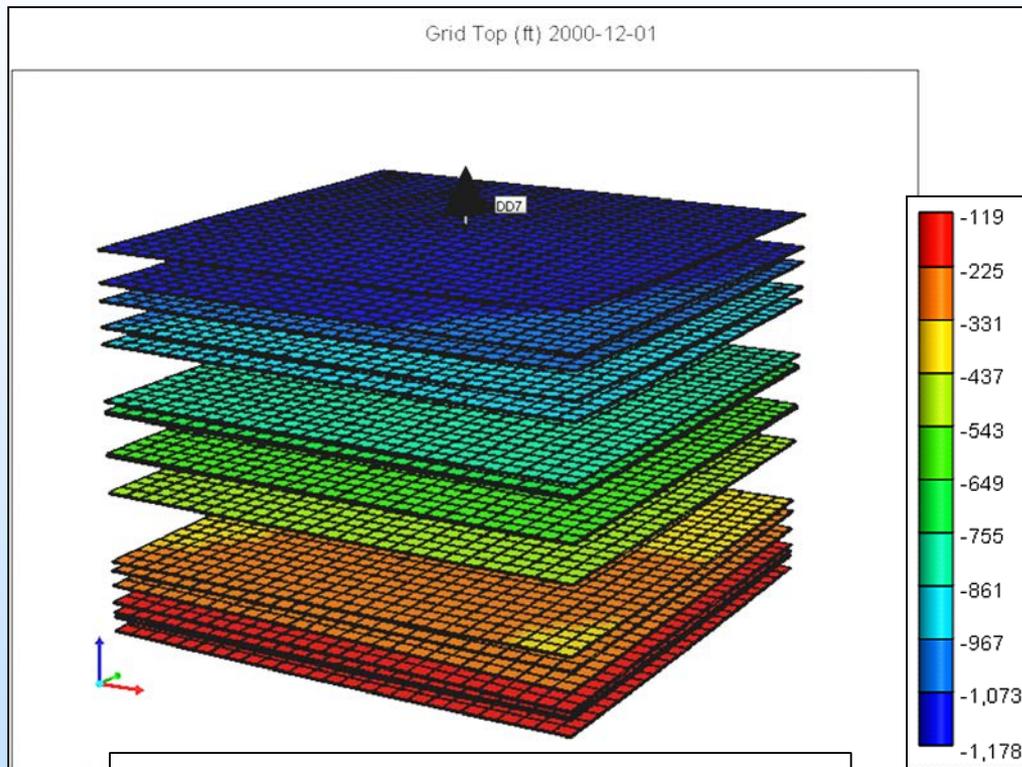


- Oakwood coalbed methane field
- Stacked coal reservoir, 15-20 seams
- Tight shale and sandstone confining units
- 20,000-tonne CO₂ injection over one year in three legacy production wells
- CO₂ storage + Enhanced gas recovery (EGR)
- **US EPA Class II UIC Permit**
- **Current status: Injection on-going.**

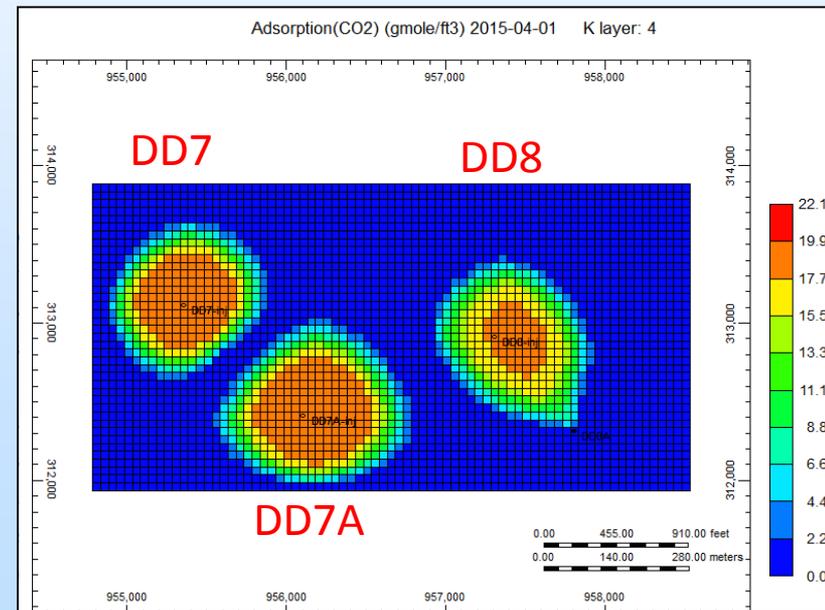


CBM CO₂ Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

Reservoir Modeling



CO₂ Injection simulations used to define Area of Review (AOR) for monitoring program



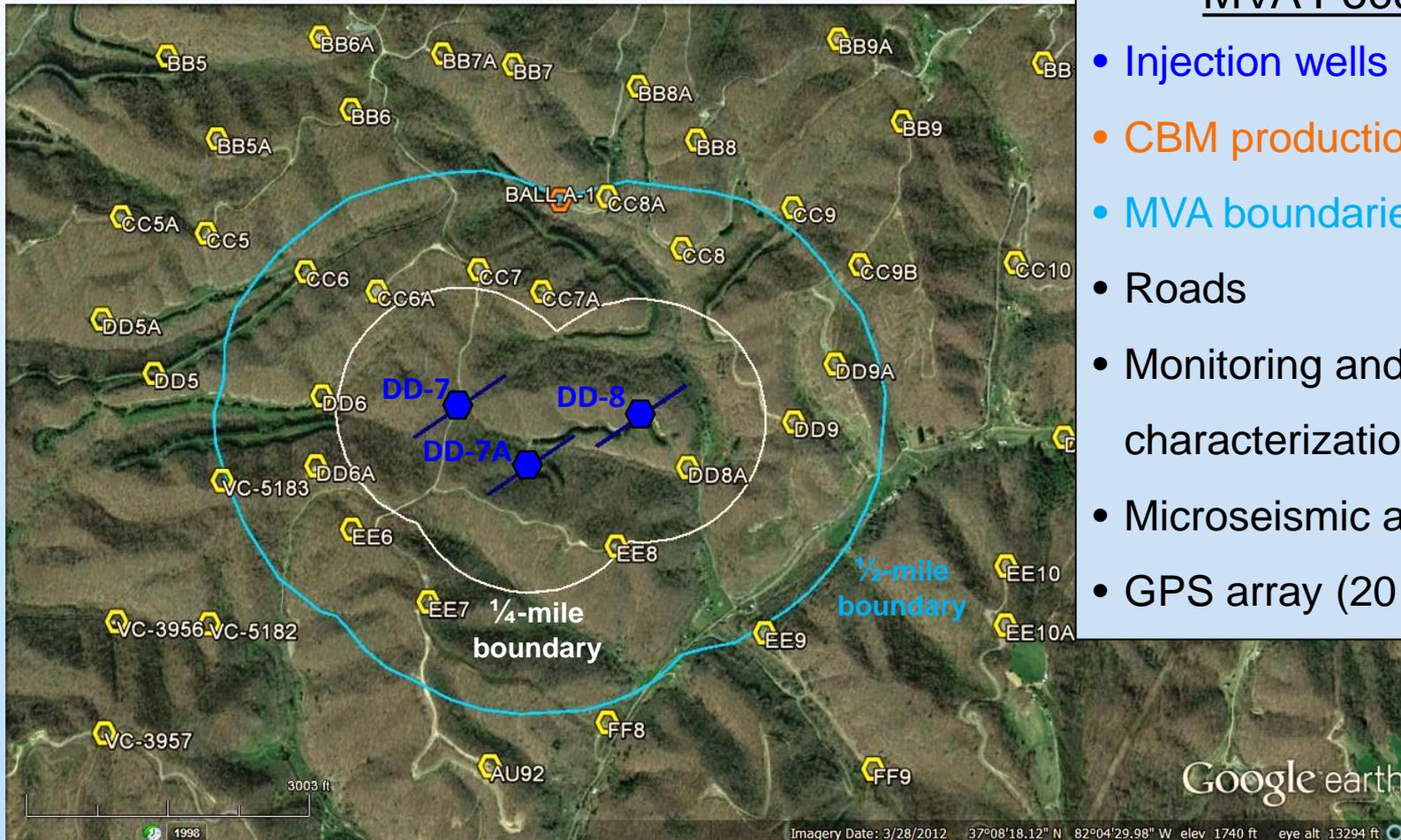
CBM CO₂ Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

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)



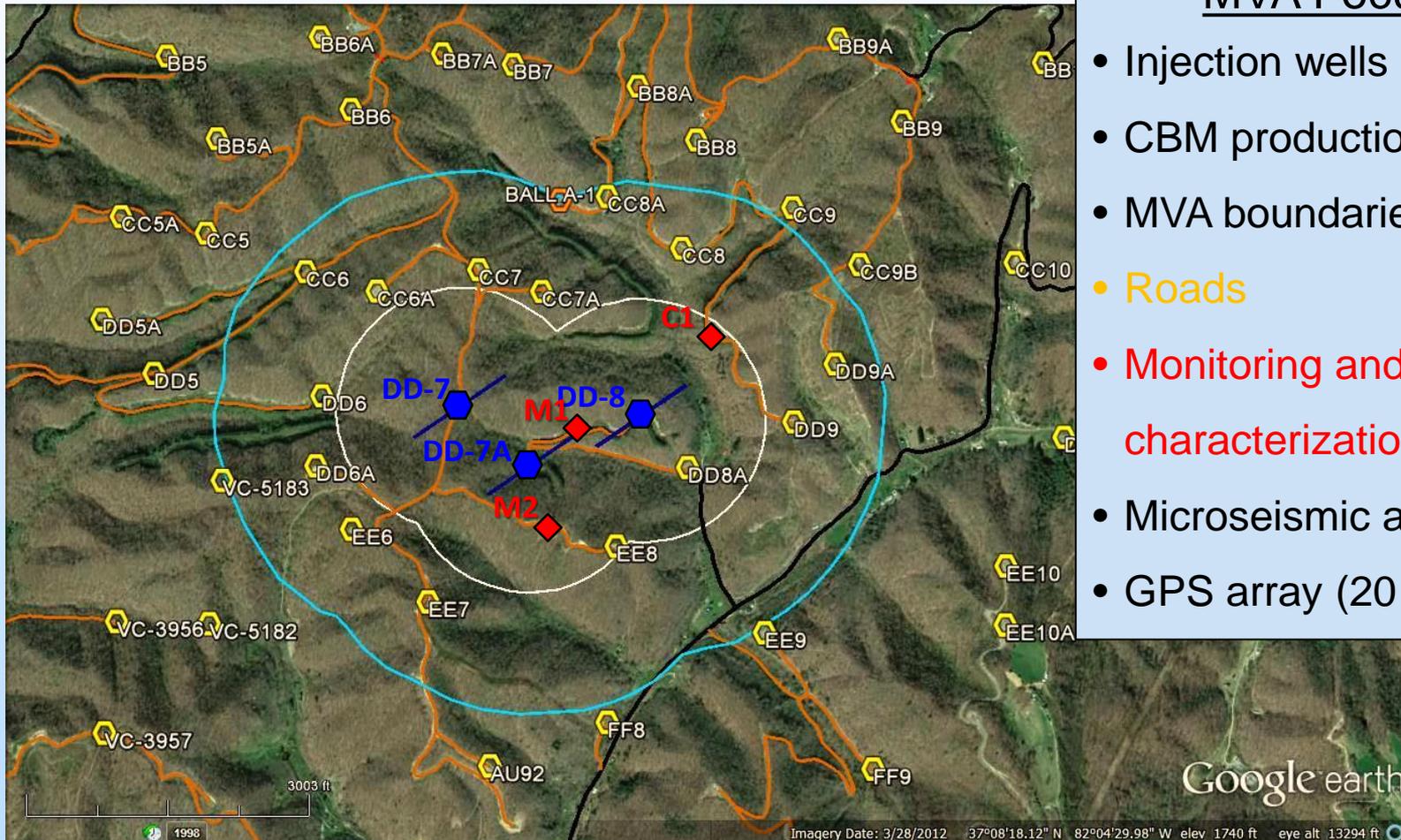
CBM CO₂ Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

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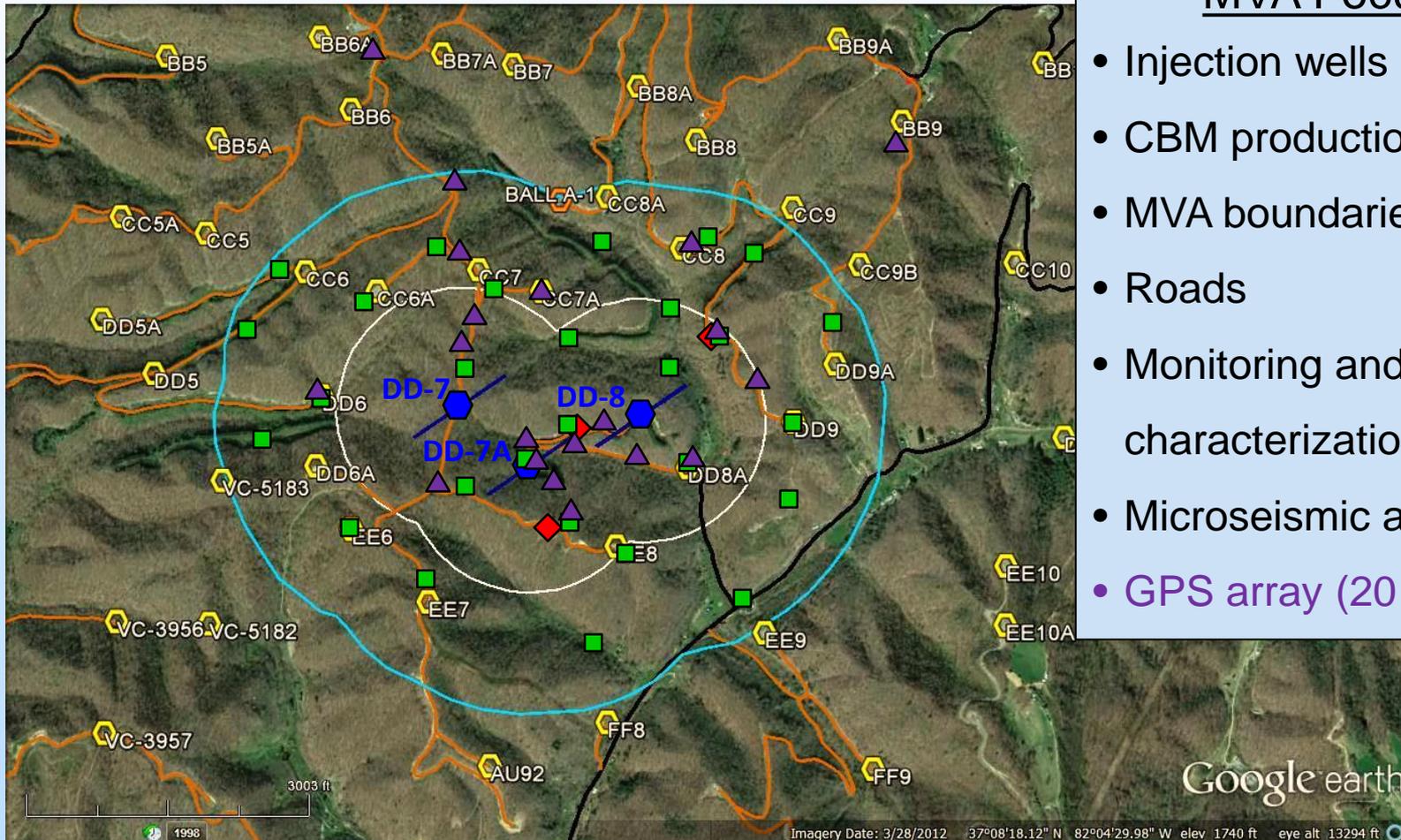
CBM CO₂ Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

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CBM CO₂ Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

Monitoring, Verification, and Accounting (MVA)

MVA Approach

Borehole-scale technologies:

- Pressure/Temperature
- Gas/H₂O 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 CO₂ operations vs. active CBM operations
 - Data sets will cross validate each other
- Selected technologies to address/overcome challenges of reservoir geometry and terrain

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



SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) system

← → ↻ scada.eagleresearchcorp.com/SelectStation.aspx



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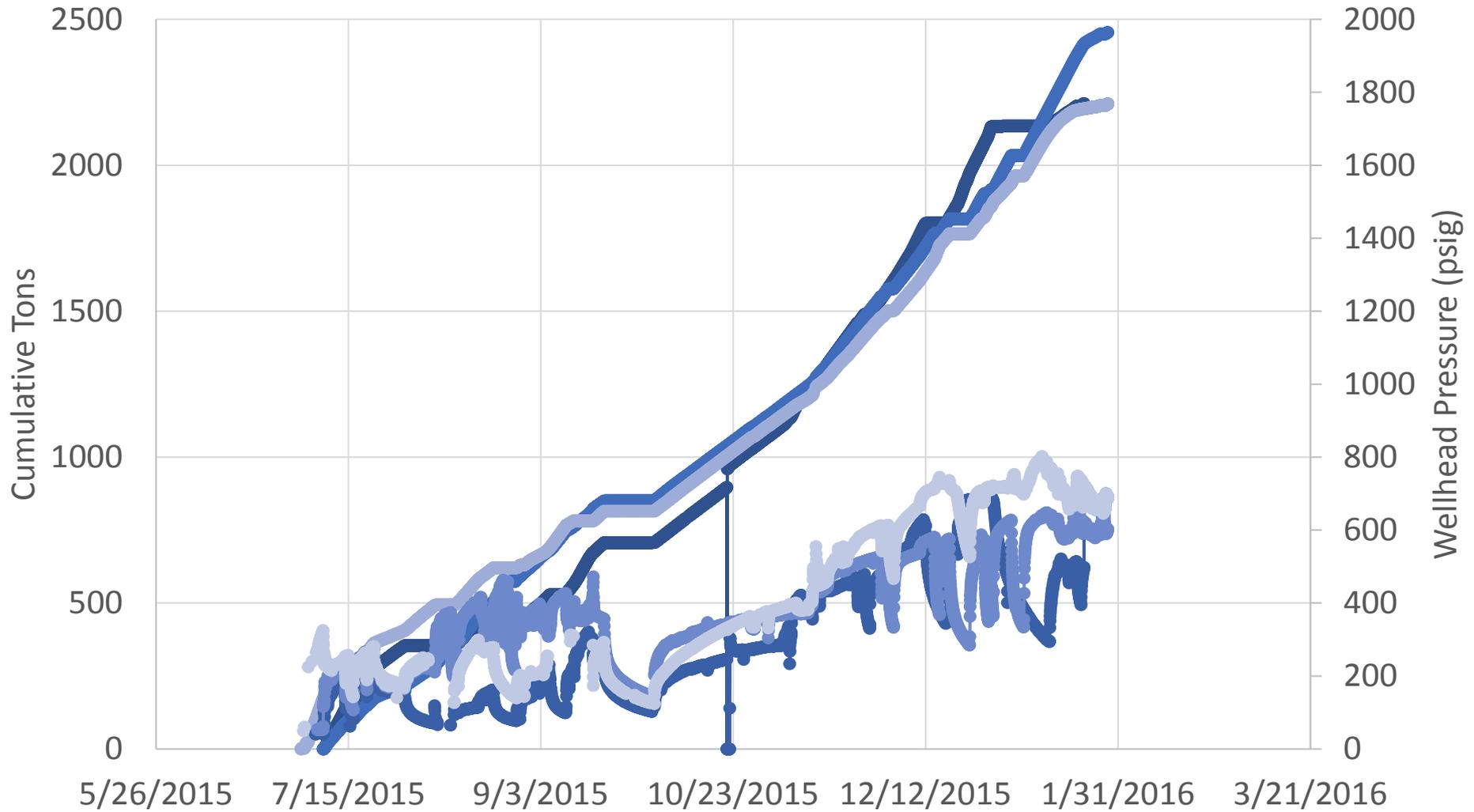
STATION LIST

ADMIN

<u>SITE ID</u>	<u>STATION NAME</u>	<u>LAST UPDATE TIME</u>	<u>STATION NUMBER</u>	<u>RTU TYPE</u>	<u>UNIT TYPE</u>	<u>CURRENT DAY VOLUME</u>	<u>PREV DAY VOLUME</u>	<u>DIFF PRESSURE</u>	<u>PRESSURE</u>	<u>GAS TEMP</u>
3078	● DD-7 Front Unit	Dataset #1	8/11/15 11:45 PM		XARTU	60776	4.88	2.58	104.28	68.98
		Dataset #2					4.88	2.58		
3079	● DD-7A Middle Unit	Dataset #1	8/11/15 11:46 PM		XARTU	60776	4.3	0	175.27	65.13
		Dataset #2					4.3	0		
3080	● Back Unit DD-8 CO2 Truck	Dataset #1	8/11/15 11:45 PM		XARTU	60776	6.63	12.64	260.27	64.61
		Dataset #2					6.63	12.64		

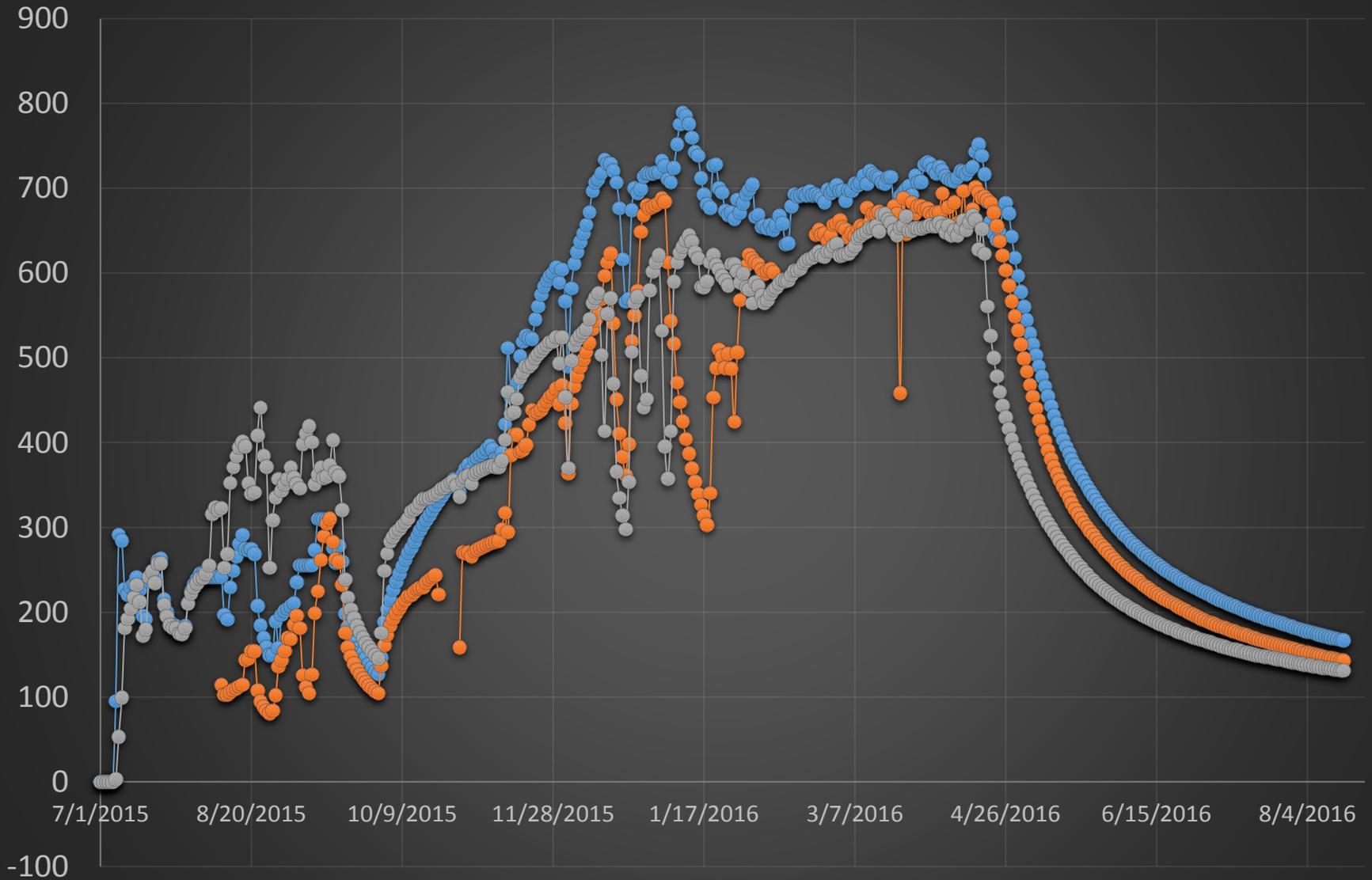
- Real-time graphing
- Alarms and Valve control:
 - flowrate, injection pressure, casing pressure
 - 30 second communication via radio

Cumulative Tons vs. Wellhead Pressure



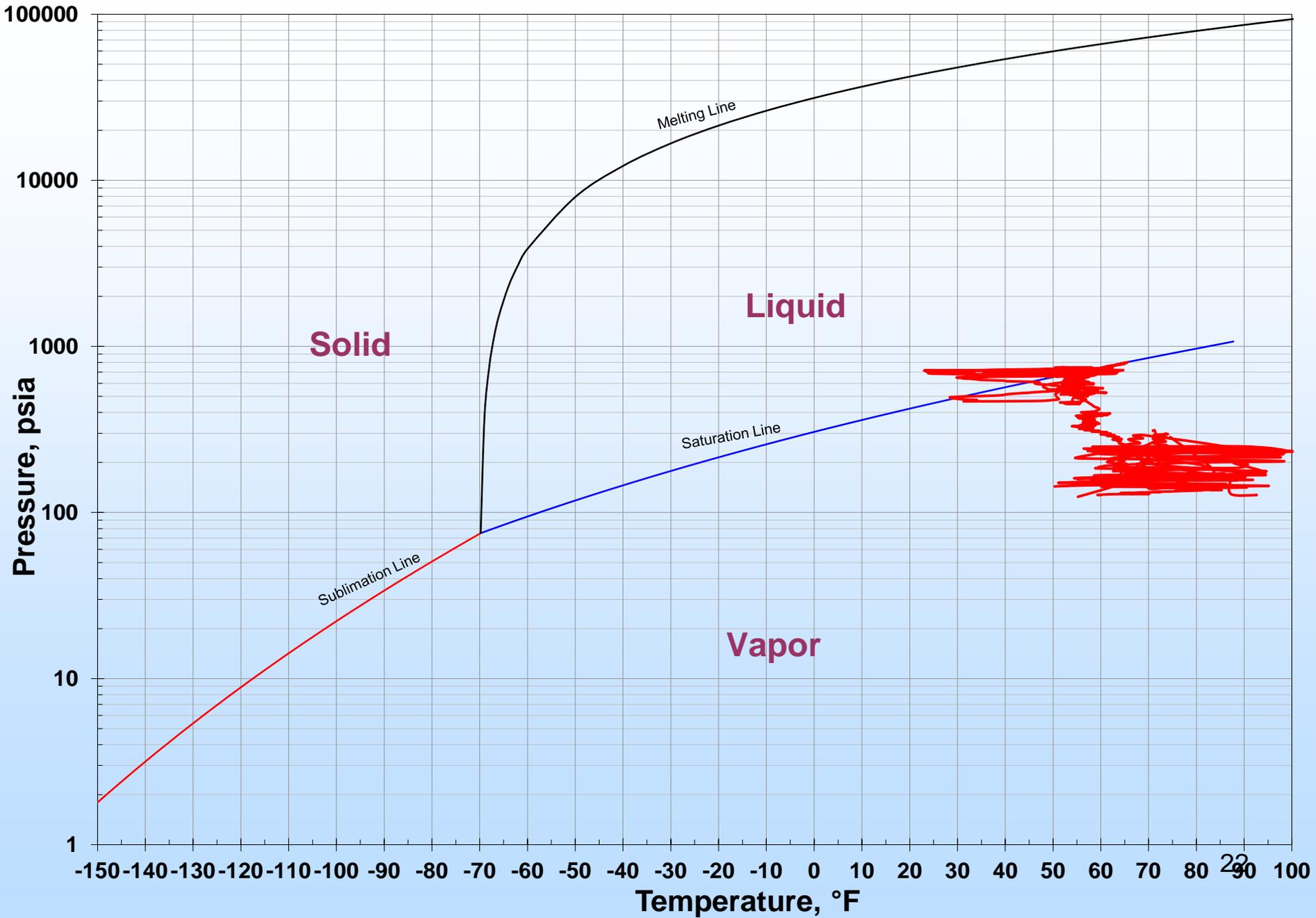
- DD7 (metric tons)
- DD8 (metric tons)
- DD7A (metric tons)
- DD7 Injection Pressure (psig)
- DD8 Injection Pressure (psig)
- DD7A Injection Pressure (psig)

Well Head Pressure (psi)

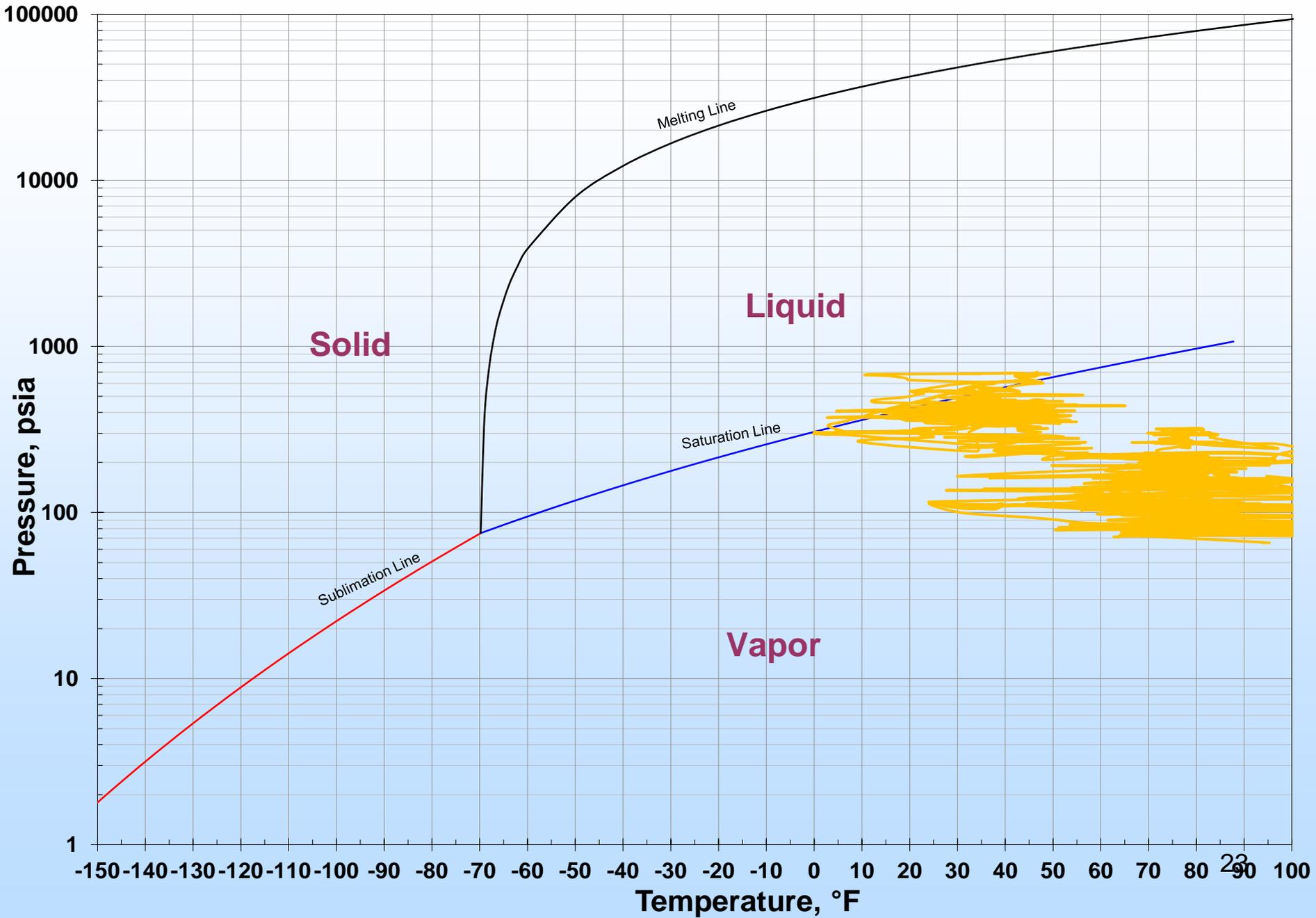


—●— DD7A —●— DD7 —●— DD8

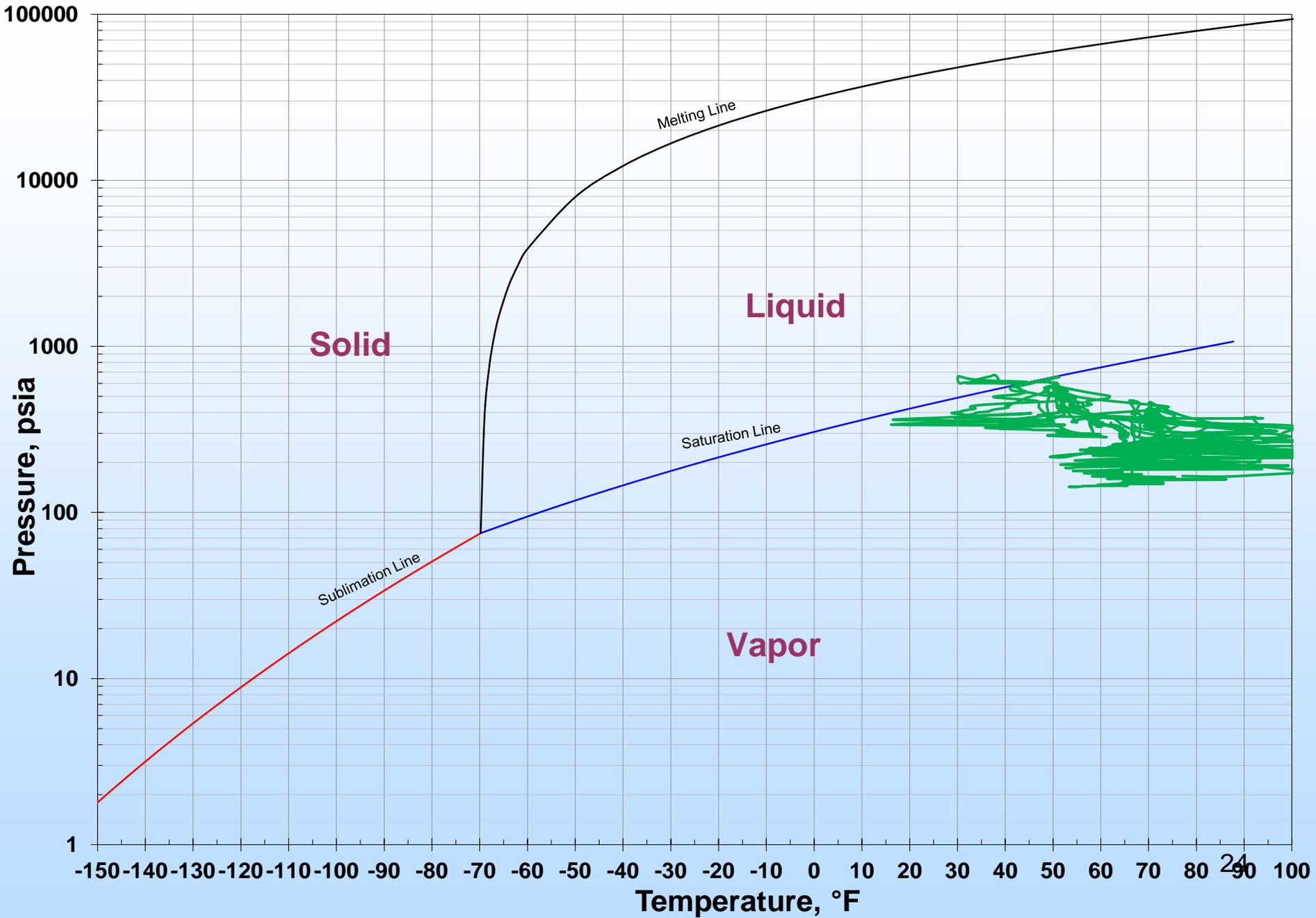
CO2 Phase Diagram: DD7A (Red)



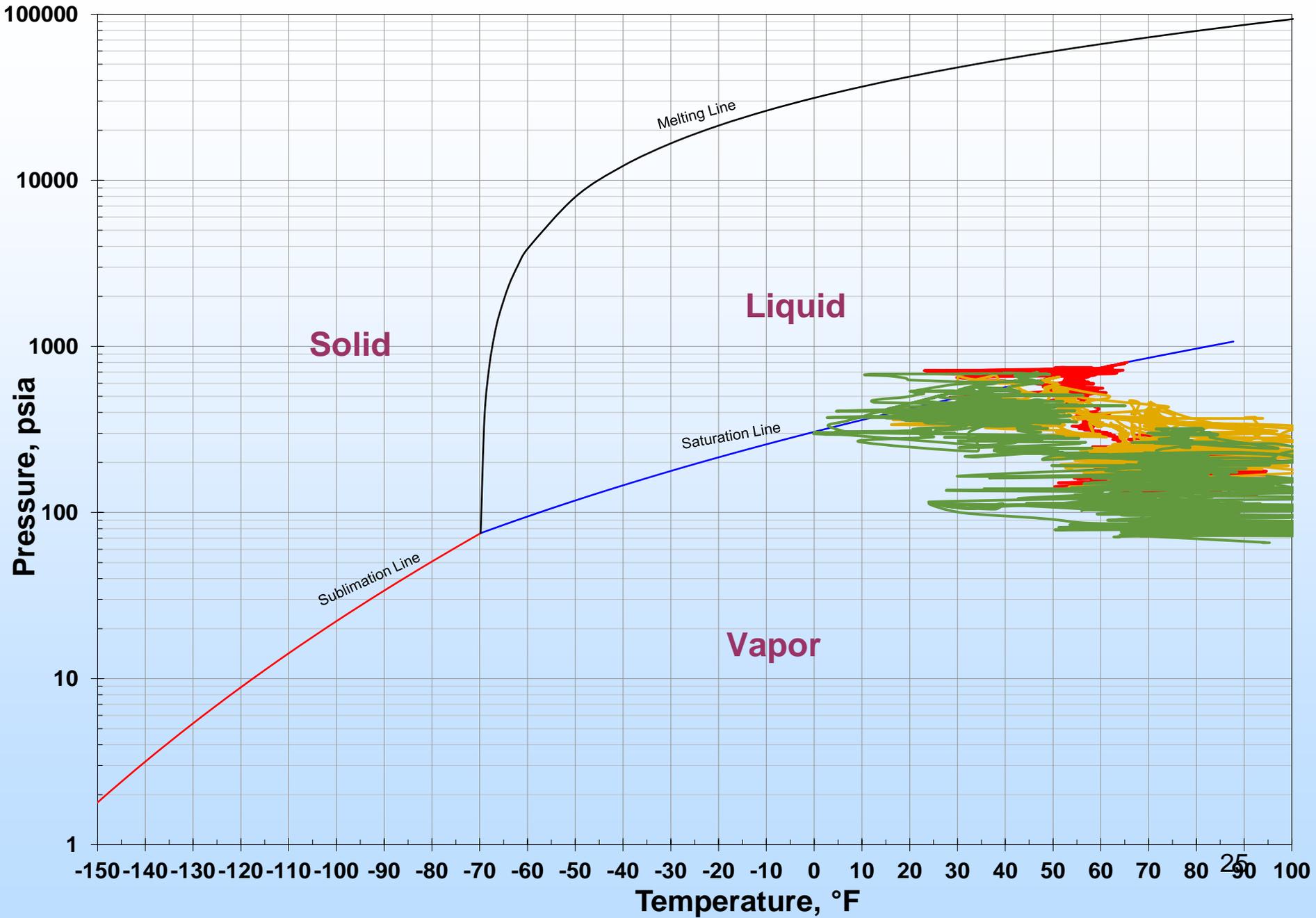
CO2 Phase Diagram: DD7 (Yellow)



CO2 Phase Diagram: DD8 (Green)



CO2 Phase Diagram: DD7A (Red), DD8 (Green), DD7 (Yellow)



CBM CO₂ Injection Test in Buchanan County, Virginia

Tracer Results to Date

Tracer Plan:

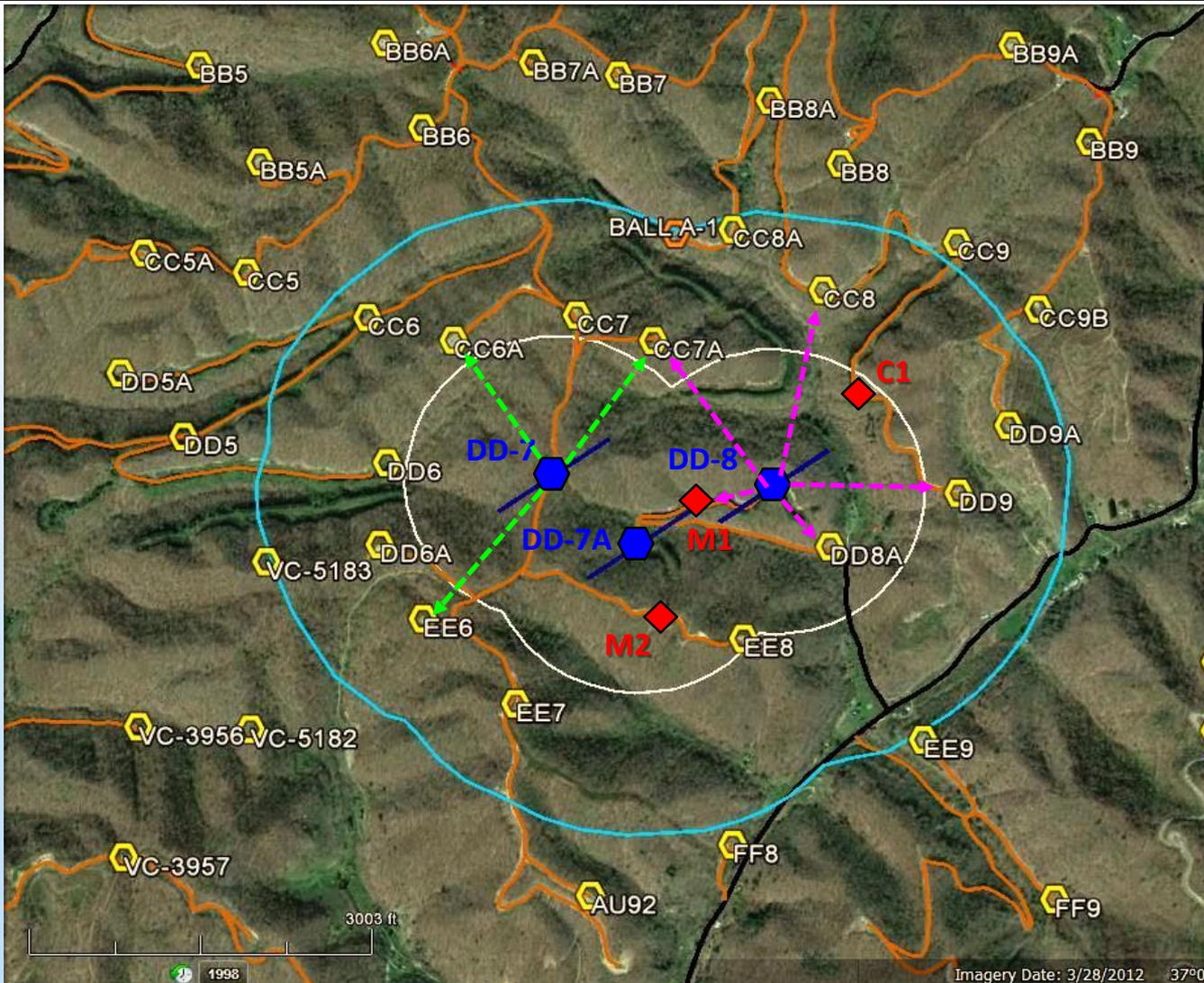
- 3 PFTs in water prior to injection (7/2,7/8)
- SF6 in gas stream (7/17) before water is pushed out of well
- 3 Refrigerants at 15%
- 3 PFTs at 40%

SF6 in DD8

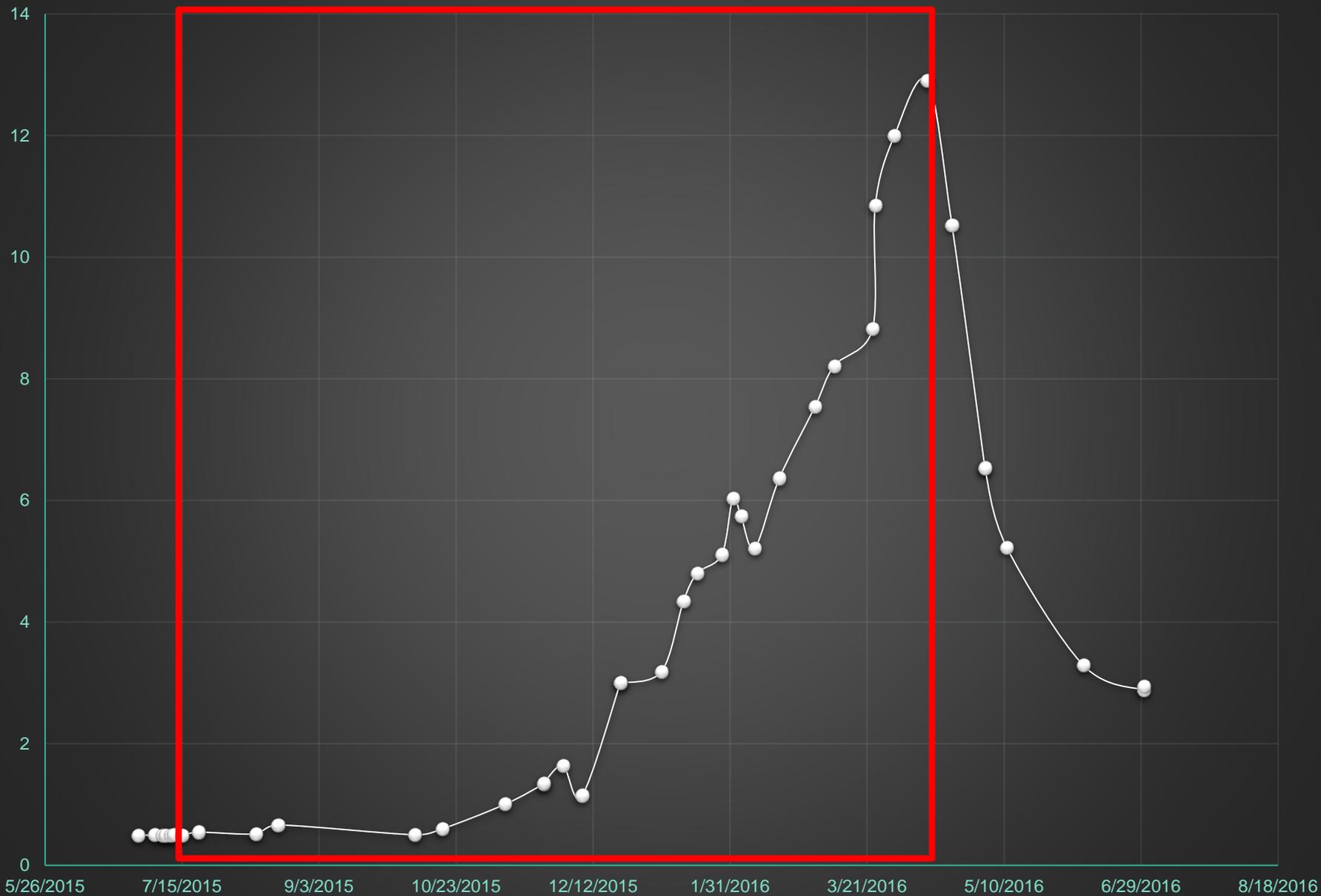
- M1 A – 6 days
- DD8A – 18 days
- CC8 – 26 days
- CC7A – 40 days
- DD9 – 55 days

PFT in H₂O in DD7

- CC7A – 35 days
- EE6, CC6A – 104 days

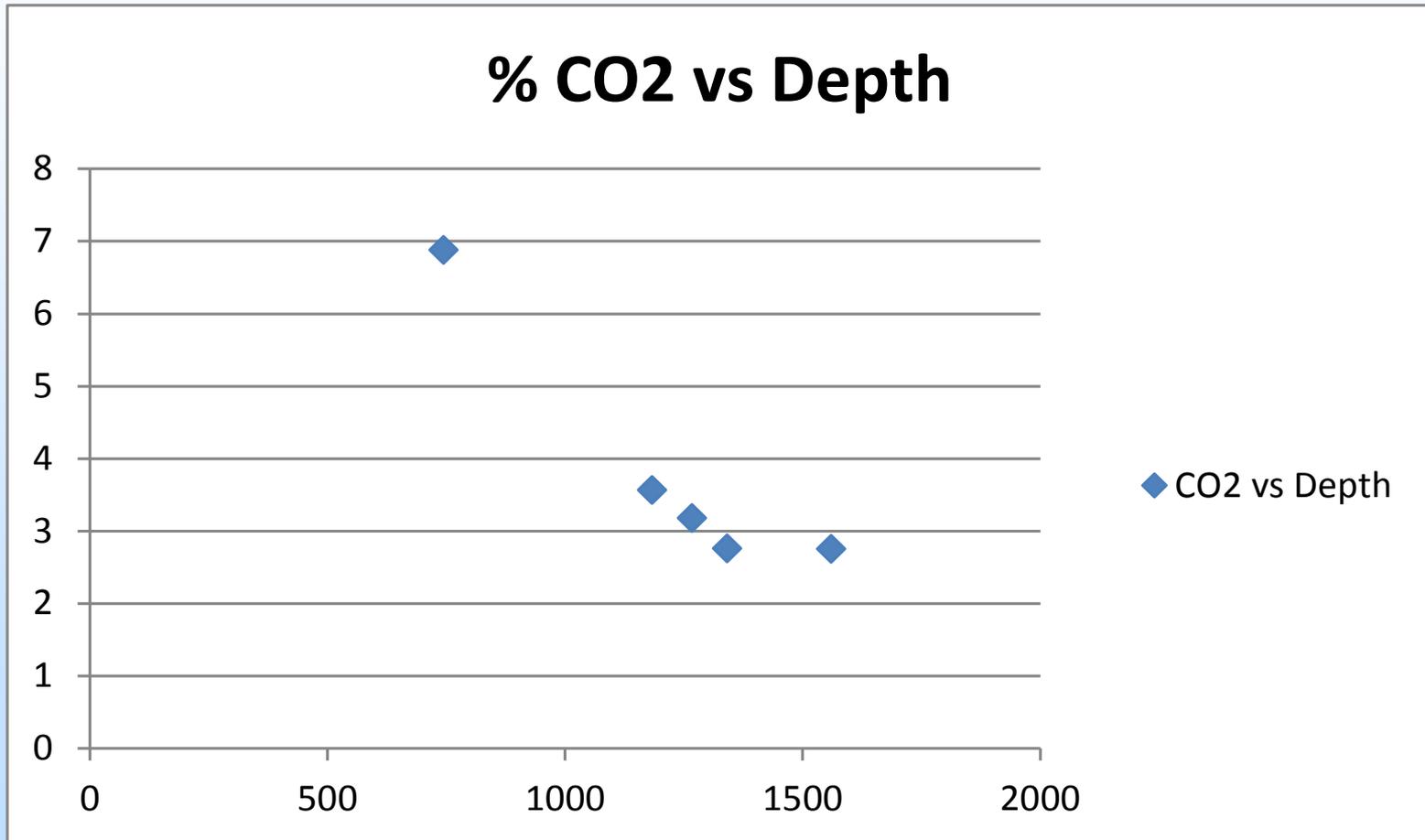


DD8A: % Carbon Dioxide



DD8A – Well Killing Test

CO2 is most present in the shallow coals



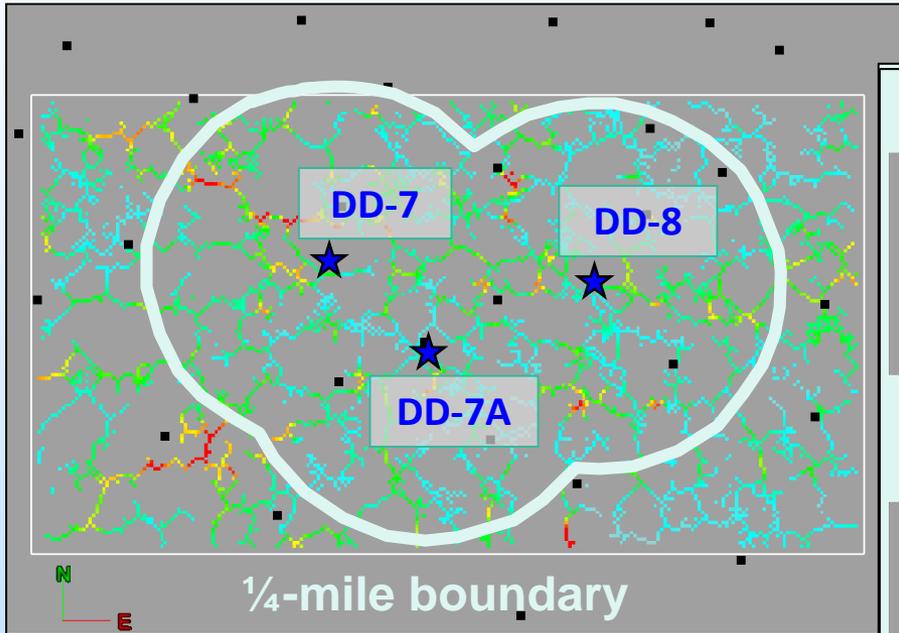
Passive Microseismic Monitoring: Ambient Analysis

Global Geophysical Services, Inc.

***No microseismic events recorded**

CO₂ plume evolution

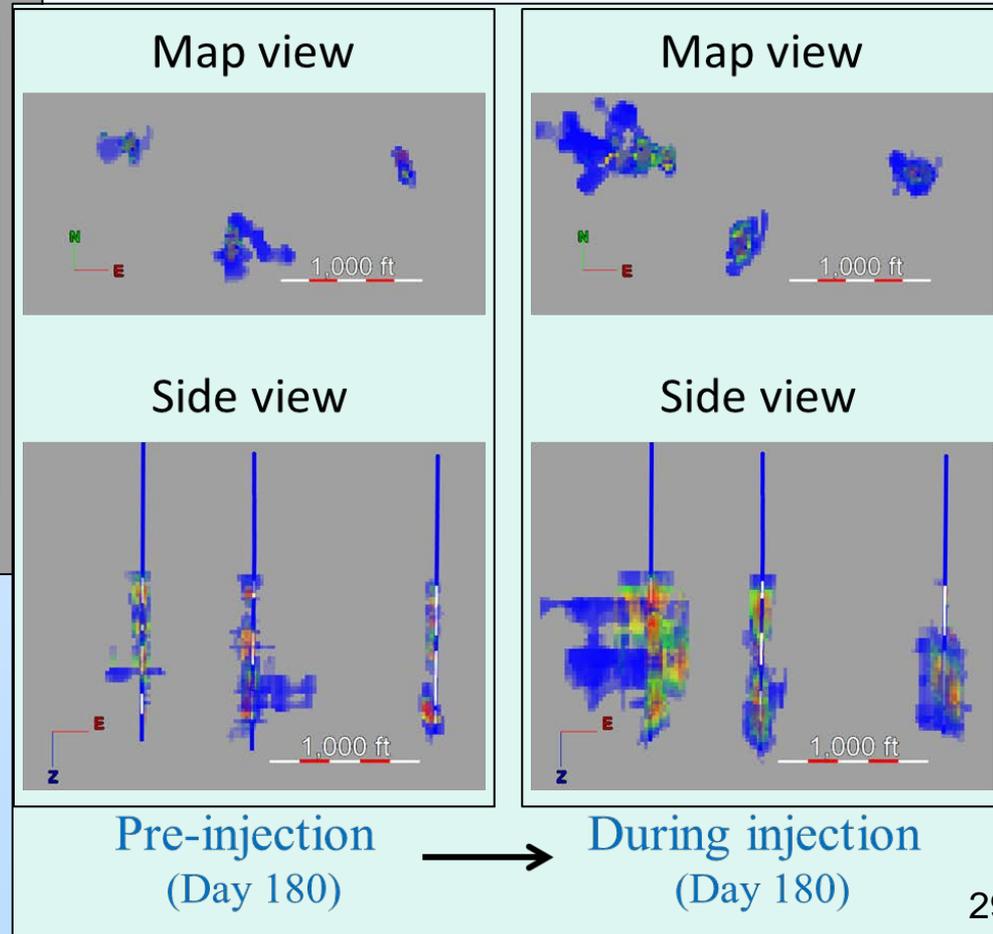
Inferred from Wellbore Activated Volumes



Active fracture network

Inferred from Tomographic Fracture

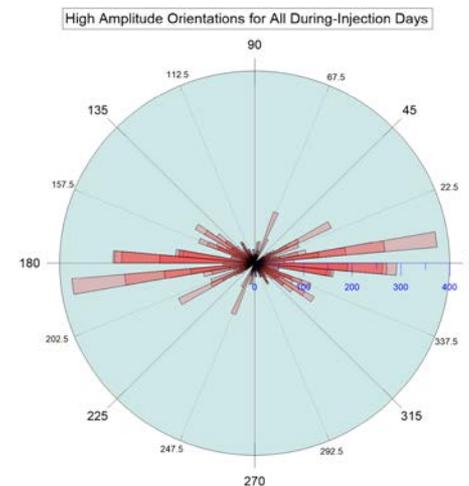
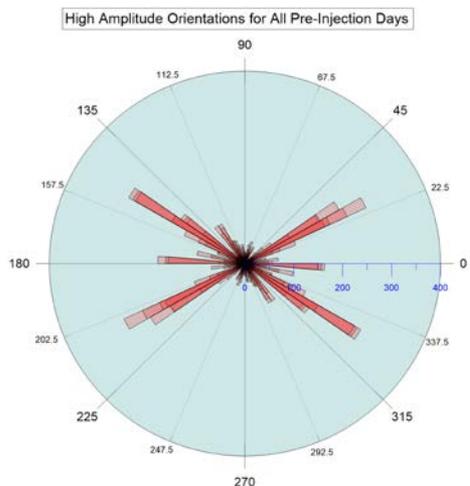
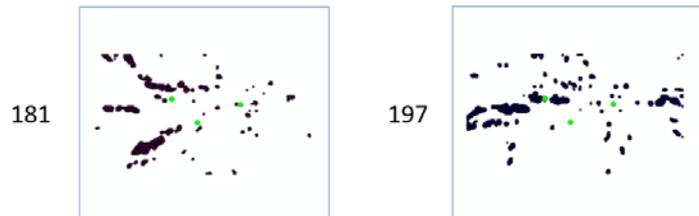
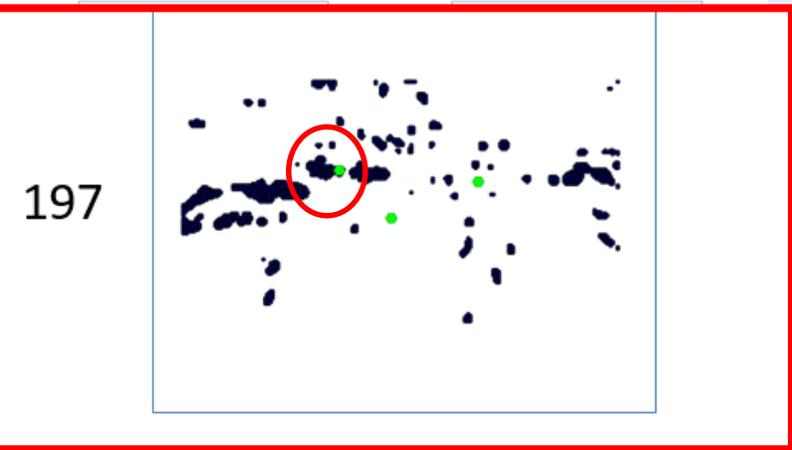
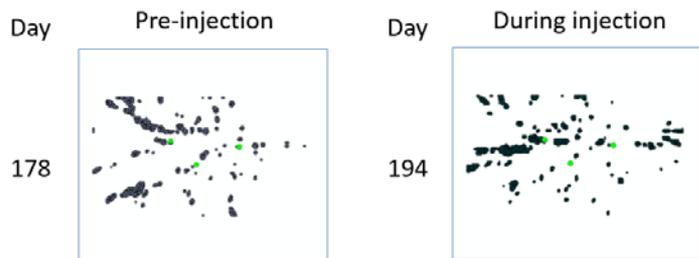
Imaging™



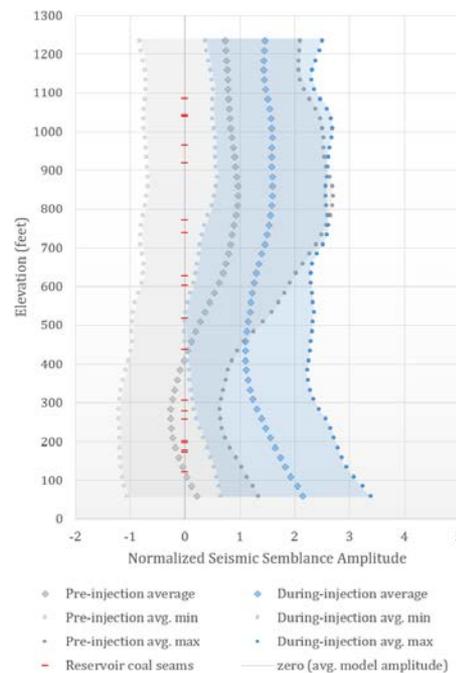
Passive Microseismic Monitoring

Consistent reorganization of acoustic energy during injection

Top One Percent of Semblance Amplitude Values: x/y



Average Seismic Semblance Amplitude Variation at DD-7



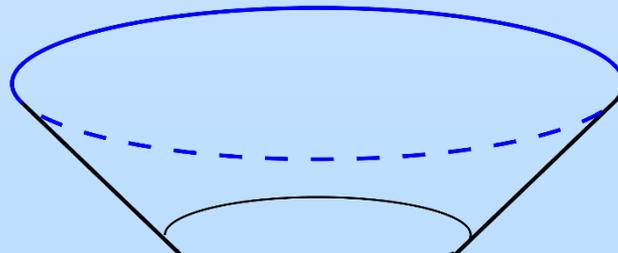
Simulated time-lapse “acoustic log” of DD7

Injection Overview

- 11,700 tons injected to date
 - DD7: 3,837 tons
 - DD7A: 3,640 tons
 - DD8: 4,223 tons
- Tracer breakthrough confirmed at 7 off-set wells and 1 monitoring well
- Tracer breakthrough precedes CO₂ in DD8A by months
 - Tracer breakthrough in less than 3 weeks
 - CO₂ breakthrough at DD8A (4.5 months)
- Transitioned from Gas to Liquid injection based on pressure/temperature
- Monitoring Wells showing a slow increase in bottom-hole pressure, but more importantly have shown water levels increasing than decreasing (likely the CO₂ is pushing a water front past the monitoring wells)

Injection Overview

- All tests have shown CO₂ injection has been primarily in the shallower coals (likely due to higher permeability and more depletion of methane from production)
 - Well Flooding Test on CC7A prior to injection showed the deeper coals producing 60+% of the gas (higher pressure and less depleted)
 - Well Flooding Test: upper seams contributing majority of CO₂ to breakthrough at DD8A
 - Spinner Survey shows upper seams taking majority of the CO₂: 60% in upper ¼ of the stacked coals, 30% in 2nd quarter, 10% in 3rd quarter, 0% (spinner not turning, so not quantifiable) in deepest quarter
 - Microseismic survey showed more activity in the shallower formations
- **Plume: an inverted frustum (cone)**
 - Reservoir Models being updated based on spinner and production surveys



Summary

- Shale Test Injection successful
 - Flowback showed EGR and specifically NGLs
- CBM Test Injection
 - Continuous injection for 10 months
 - Multiple wells allow for varied injection rates and pressures as well as fall-off testing
 - Breakthrough of CO₂ at 1 offset well
 - Expect to continue injection for 3+ months

Synergistic Activities

- Reservoir Modeling
- Core Analysis
- Other Field Projects
- Tracer Studies
- Gas and Water Analysis

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.

Appendix

Accomplishments to Date

- Completed Geologic Characterization for CBM Test Site and Shale Test Site
- Site Selection of 3 CBM Wells in VA for Injection
- Site Selection of 1 Horizontal Shale Well in TN for Injection
- Access Agreements for CBM Test completed
- Access Agreements for Shale Test completed
- Conducted Risk Workshop and developed Risk Register
- Performed detailed reservoir modeling analysis and assessment for CBM and Shale Tests
- Developed Drilling, Monitoring and Injection Plans
- Initiated Public Outreach Plan
- Shale Test Injection Complete – Flowback Underway
- Coring/Drilling at CBM Test Site complete
- CBM Test Injection On-Going

Research Partners

- **Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research (Virginia Tech)** ^{1,2,3,4,5}
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