Advanced Technology Testing at the National Carbon Capture Center (FE0022596)

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National Carbon Capture Center (NCCC)

- Location: Wilsonville, Alabama
- **Sponsors:** U.S. Department of Energy and its National Energy Technology Laboratory
- **Partners:** Electric Power Research Institute, power and coal industry leaders
- Managed by: Southern Company

















Our Mission and Values

Offering a **world-class neutral** test facility and highly specialized staff to **accelerate the commercialization** of advanced technologies and enable coalbased power plants to achieve **near-zero emissions (low-cost CO₂)**.



Safety First Unquestionable Trust Superior Performance Total Commitment

What the Project Provides

- **Cost-efficient test site** with **infrastructure** for numerous technology developers
- Real-world conditions with coal-derived flue gas
- Flexible capability for testing at **multiple scales** and **on-site scale-ups**
- Expert **technical staff for** design, installation and testing support
- High-quality data acquisition and gas/liquid sampling and analysis





- Over **98,000 test hours** since founding in 2008
- Technology developers from the U.S. and six other countries
- First coal-derived gas testing of solid oxide fuel cells and certain solvents, membranes and enzymes
- On-site scale-ups and process enhancements for 10 technologies
 - Scale-ups for testing at larger sites for five solvents
 - Scale-up to commercial operation for one solvent
- Full compliance with all regulations, including on-time submittal and publication of technical reports

Technology Development Process



Test Sites



Gasification and Pre-Combustion Accomplishments

- Gasifier operation supported over 50,000 hours of technology testing
 - Biomass gasification in air- and oxygen-blown operation
 - Sensors: Tunable Diode Laser, particulate monitor, thermowells, coal feeder instrumentation
 - Catalysts: Fischer-Tropsch, water-gas shift, and COS hydrolysis
 - Sorbents: trace metals, CO₂, ammonia
 - Membranes: hydrogen and CO₂
 - Advanced processes: ammonium carbonate/bicarbonate solvent, syngas chemical looping, pressure-swing adsorption, pressure-swing Claus
 - Fuel cells
- Additional operation with CO₂ solvents on-line and off-line
- · Achieved scale-ups and process intensification for several technologies



G5 Test Campaign

- 900 hours of PRB coal feed
- 3,981 hours of technology testing

Developer	Technology	Testing Hours
	Chemical Looping	33
MTTR Membrane Technology & Research	Hydrogen Membranes	275
Process Technology	Hydrogen Membranes	174
SR	Coal-To-Liquids	320
	Syngas Reformer	316
SRI	PBI Membrane	573
TDA Research	0.1 MWe Sorbent System	740
WGS & COS Developer	WGS	774
	COS	776







Post-Combustion Carbon Capture Center (PC4) Process Flow Diagram



PC4 Bench-Scale

- Simultaneous operation of up to five developers' test units
- Slipstream Solvent Test Unit (SSTU) for solvents in early development
- SSTU also used for solvent emissions studies and emission mitigation processes
- Flue gas/utilities and gas analysis systems operating independently of PC4 pilot-scale area



PC4 Pilot-Scale

- Simultaneous operation of developer test units and Pilot Solvent Test Unit (PSTU)
- PSTU offers flexible operation to match developers' planned commercial configuration
- PSTU also supports solvent emissions and degradation studies



Post-Combustion Accomplishments

PC4 operation supported over 49,000 hours of technology testing

- Over 6,000 hours under natural gas conditions
- More than 20 developer projects completed
- Tested enzymes, membranes, sorbents, solvents, and associated systems
- Continued relationship with technology developers to achieve scale-ups and process enhancements

PSTU operation for over 15,000 hours

- Demonstrated near 100% mass and energy balance closures
- Supported commercial developers and DOE Carbon Capture Simulation Initiative
- Several solvents progressed to further testing at other facilities
- Facility construction and upgrades
 - Plant capacity more than doubled from 12,000 to 30,000 lb/hr flue gas
 - Added systems (SSTU, air dilution, etc.) and enhanced instrumentation, sampling methods, and analysis systems



Recent Post Combustion Tests

Pilot-scale

- MEA for CCSI2 @ PSTU
- GTI @ PB2
- Trimeric NO2 Scrubbing @ PB3

Bench-scale

• SSTU – MEA baseline





Upcoming Post-Combustion Tests

Pilot-scale

- AECOM/UT-Austin Advanced Flash Stripper w/PSTU
- GTI Membrane Contactor @PB2
- TDA Alkalized Alumina Sorbent @PB2
- Air Liquide Cold Membrane @PB3

Bench-scale

DOE Membrane



International Test Center Network

Share Carbon Capture Knowledge to advance technology development and improve organizational efficiency

- Look for international projects while giving core DOE projects full support
- Support advanced simulations and model development with a focus on reducing capital and operating cost and minimizing scale-up risks
- Priority on China and India, but extensive effort in Middle East, Korea, Japan, EU, Australia, Canada



International Test Center Network Members



Successful Testing and Partnerships

















CLEARPATH

More information

www.nationalcarboncapturecenter.com

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