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Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC)

# PLAINS CO<sub>2</sub> REDUCTION (PCOR) PARTNERSHIP

U.S. Department of Energy National Energy Technology Laboratory  
Addressing the Nation's Energy Needs Through Technology Innovation – 2019 Carbon Capture,  
Utilization, Storage, and Oil and Gas Technologies Integrated Review Meeting  
August 26–30, 2019

Charles Gorecki  
CEO and PCOR Partnership Program Manager

# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

*Five key messages from the PCOR Partnership relate to:*

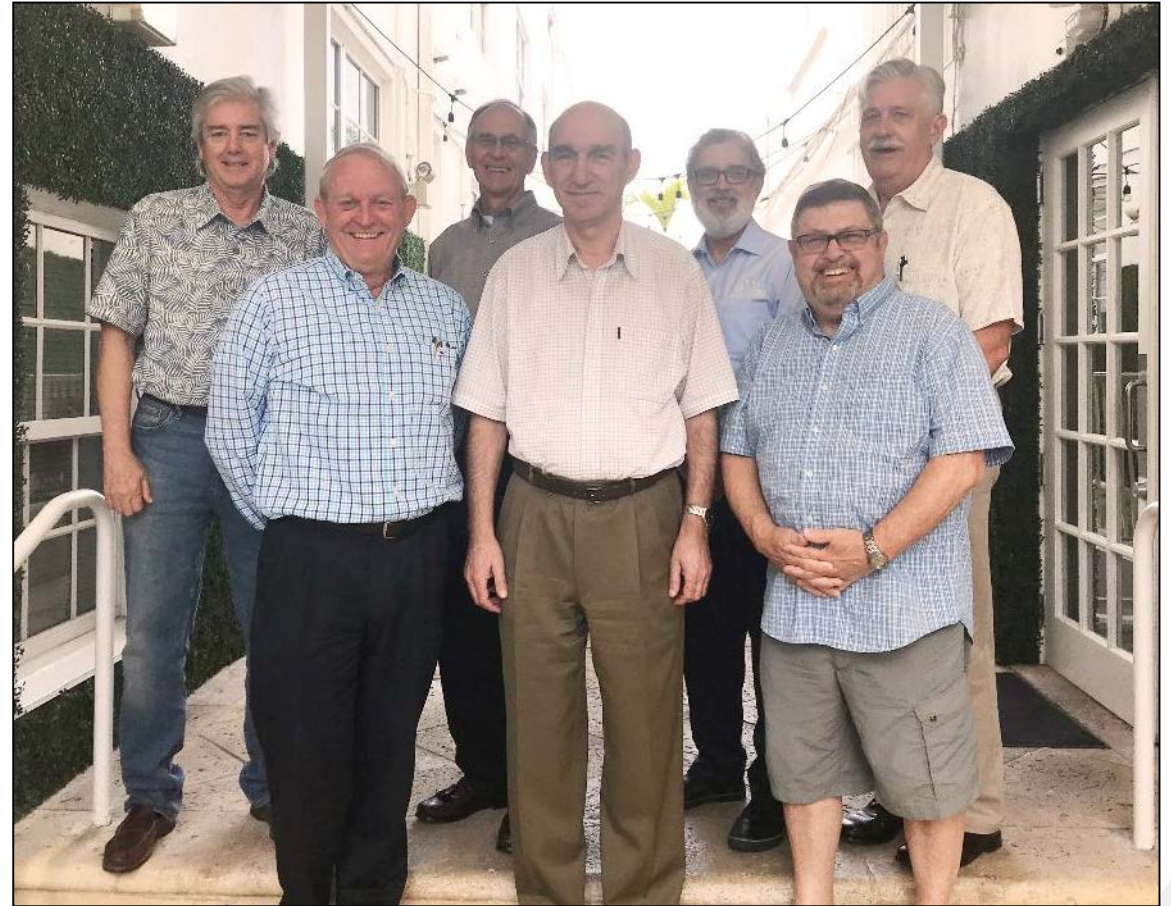
1. Our engaged membership.
2. Regional deployment potential.
3. ***CCUS (carbon capture, utilization, and storage) works!***
4. Economic and environmental benefits.
5. Our active public outreach.



# TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD

## PCOR Partnership Technical Advisory Board (TAB)

- Reviewed technical activities and consistency with program objectives
- ***Instrumental in shaping key messages from program activities***



Current PCOR Partnership TAB members (not pictured: Ms. Stacey Dahl and Mr. Mike Holmes).



# 1. ENGAGED MEMBERSHIP, SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION

**The PCOR Partnership:  
over 120 industry,  
government, and  
research organizations  
collaborate to encourage  
CCUS commercial  
deployment.**



# PCOR PARTNERSHIP: ENGAGED AND FORWARD-FOCUSED



8/18



# AN ENGAGED PARTNERSHIP



Images Credit – EERC



## 2. REGIONAL POTENTIAL FOR CCUS DEPLOYMENT

The PCOR Partnership region provides an ideal opportunity to deploy CCUS:

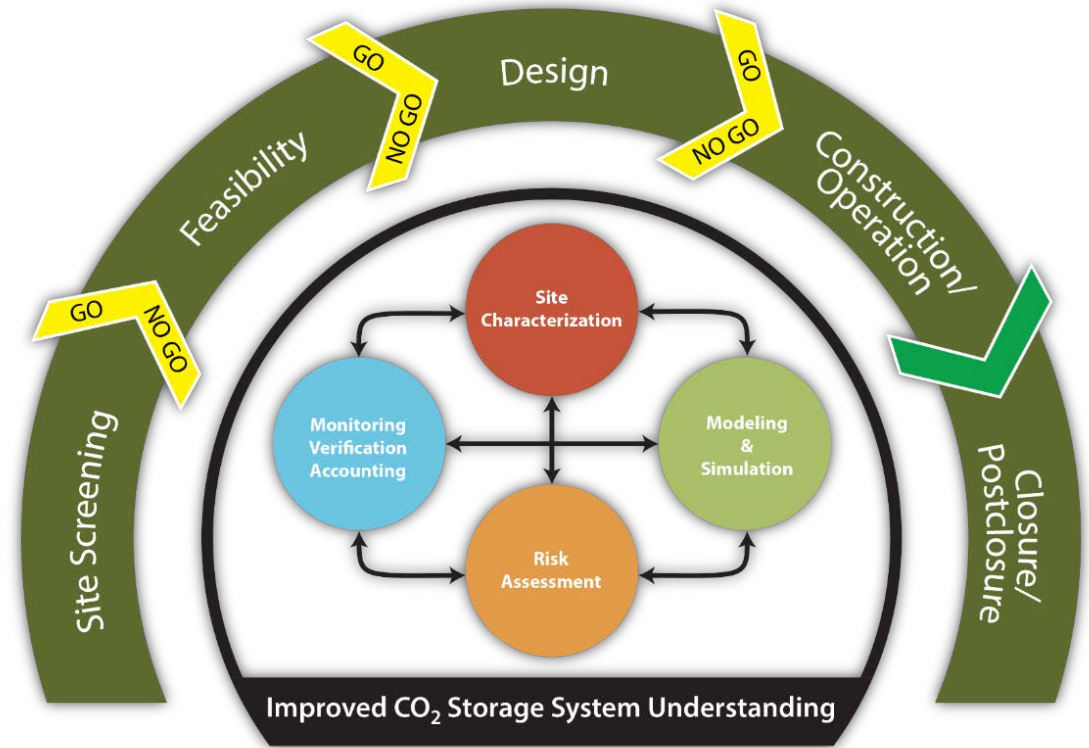
- Suitable geology
- Fossil fuel resources
- An industrial and energy development base





### 3. CCUS WORKS: ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT APPROACH

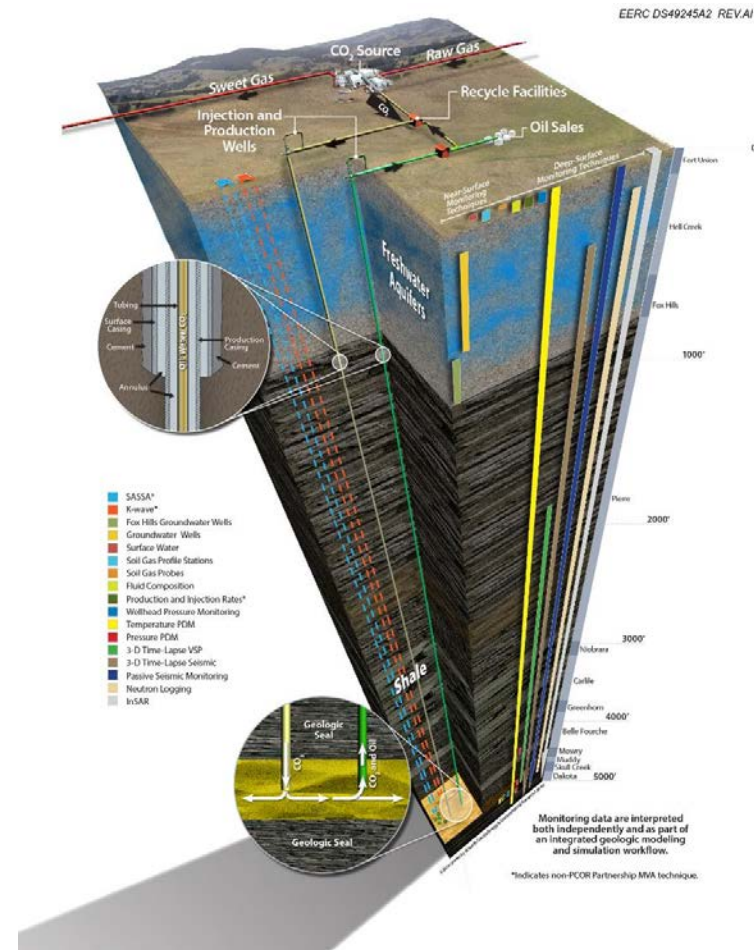
Carefully selected and monitored storage sites:  
*very low and manageable levels of risk to the environment.*



### 3. CCUS WORKS: SUCCESSFUL MONITORING OF STORAGE

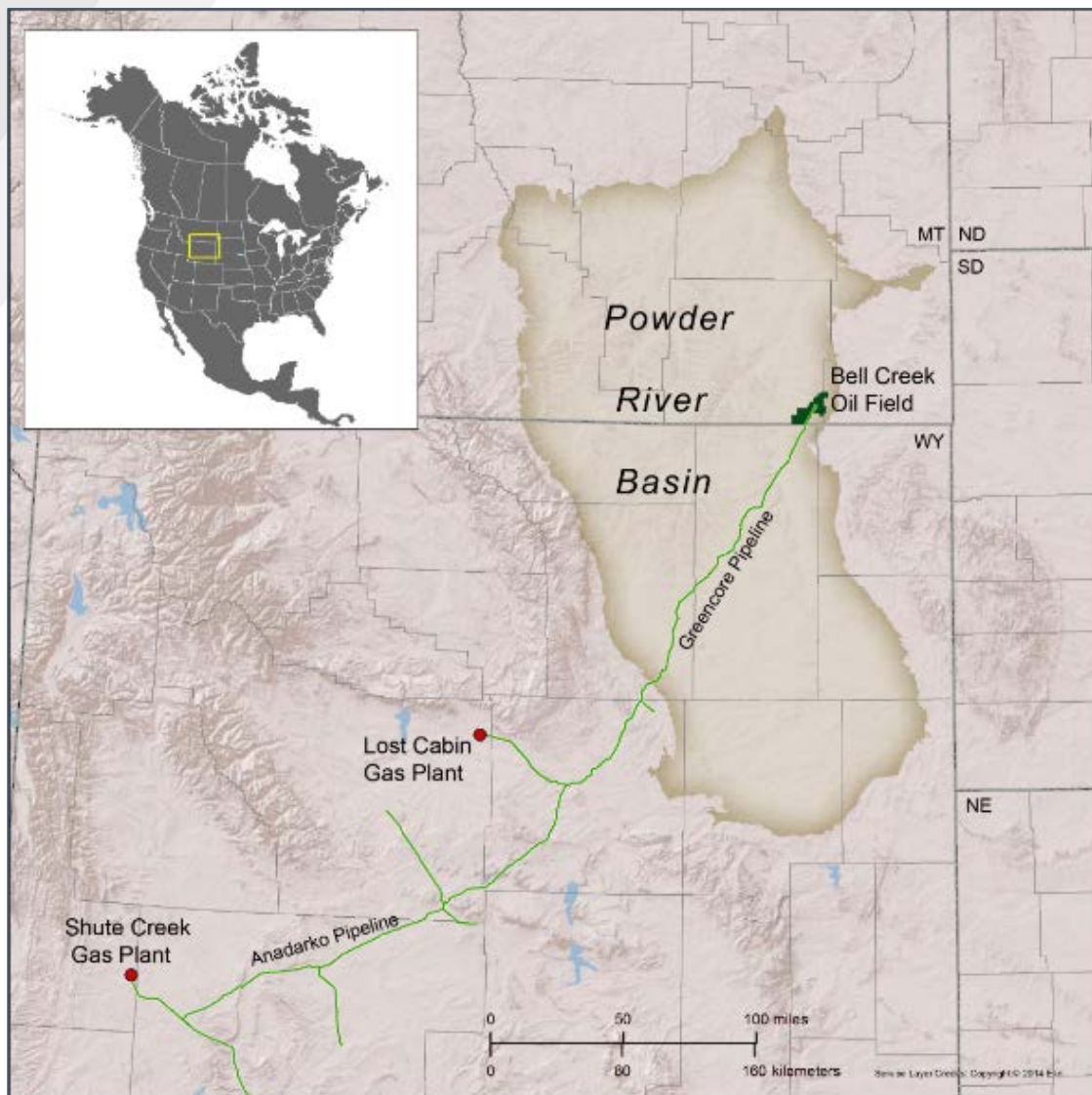
Established and innovative technology:

- Can be used to monitor injected CO<sub>2</sub> in the subsurface.
- Provides assurance that the environment is not being impacted.



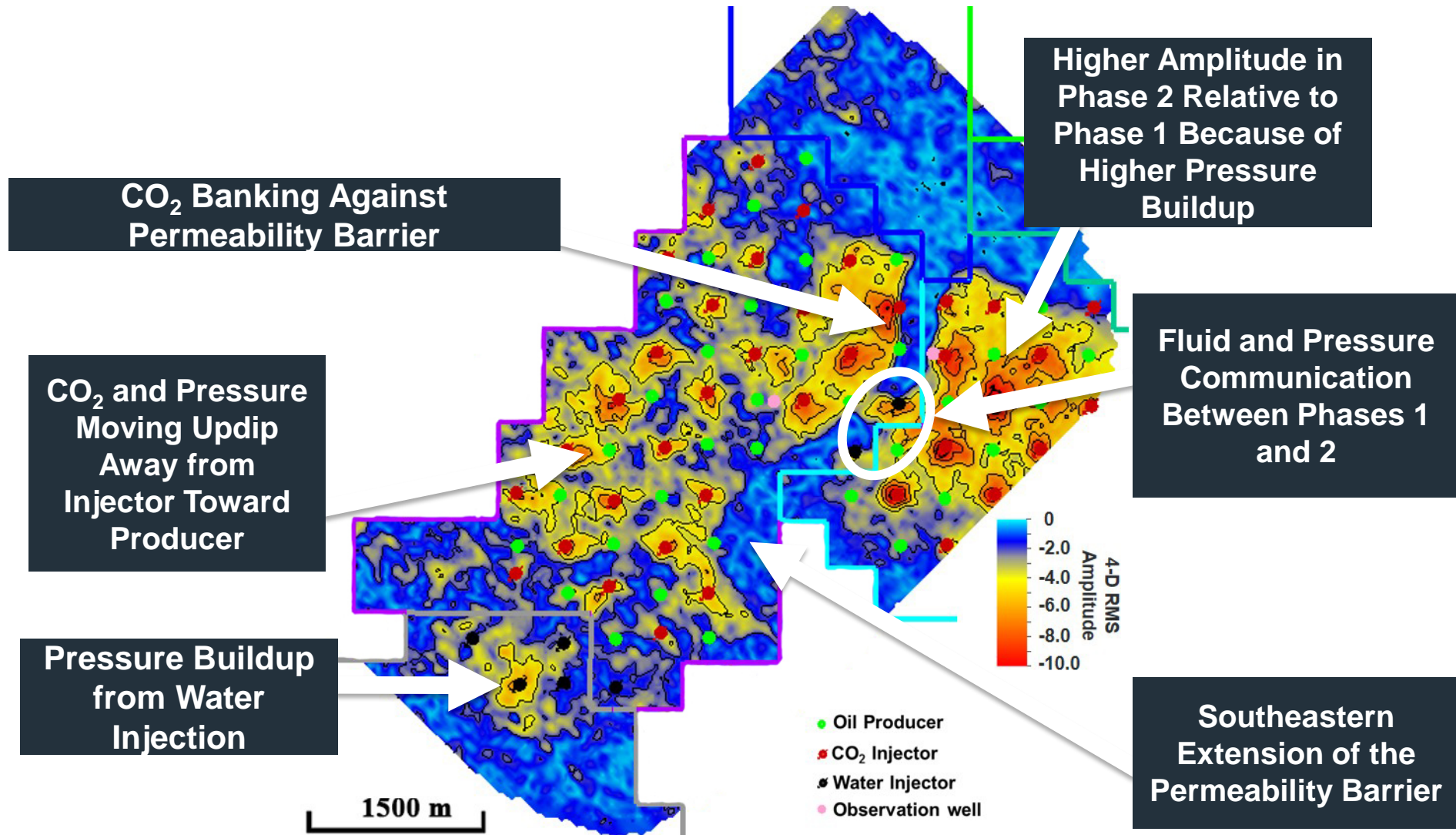


# BELL CREEK

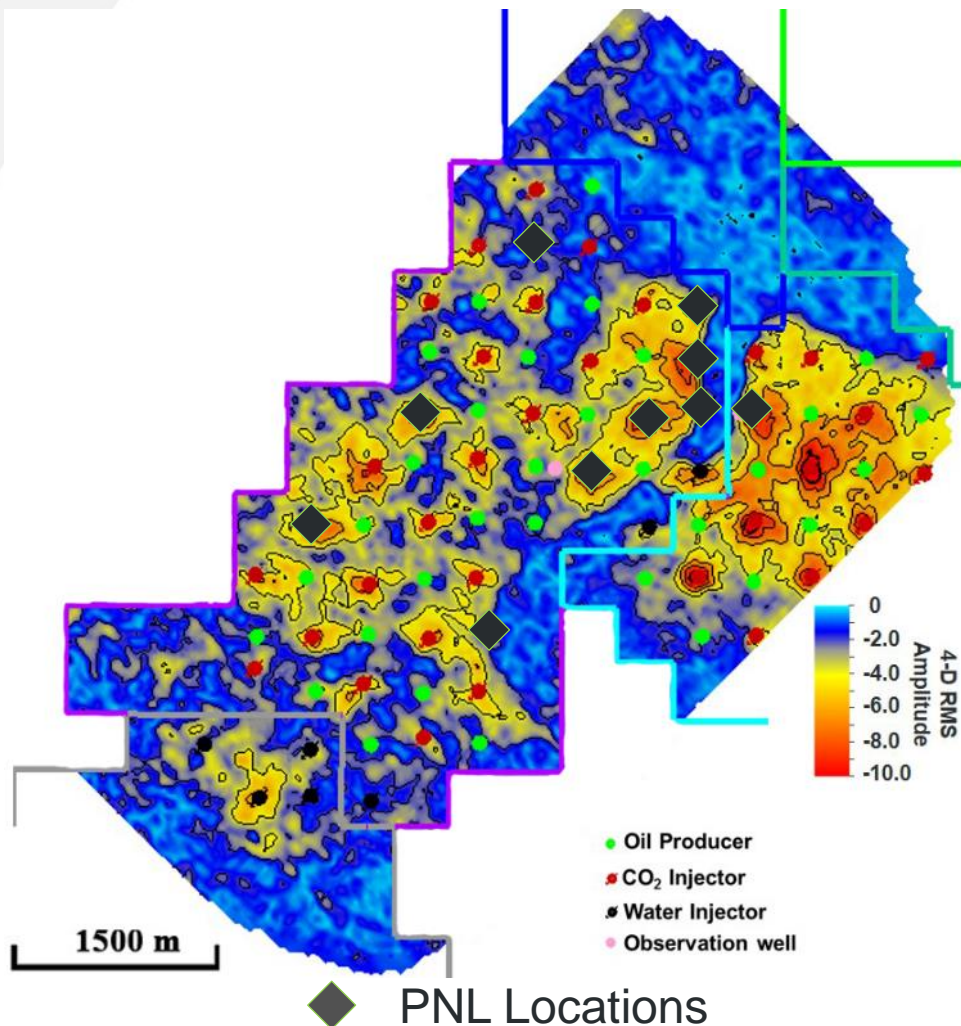




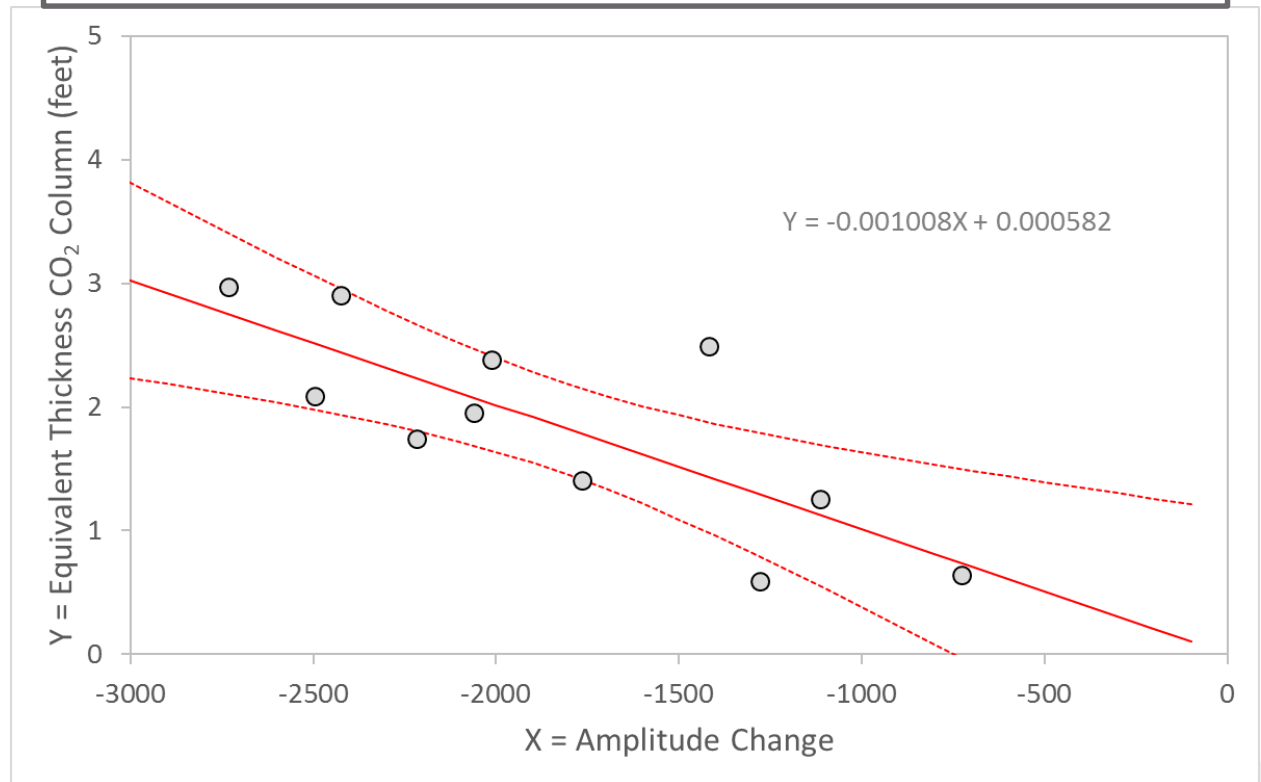
# 4-D SEISMIC AMPLITUDE DIFFERENCE MAP (1ST REPEAT)



# LINKING SEISMIC AND PULSED-NEUTRON LOGS (PNL)



Relationship Between Seismic Amplitude Change and CO<sub>2</sub> Column Thickness from PNLs at Wells Where We Expect MINIMAL Pressure Contribution





## 4. CCUS PROVIDES ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

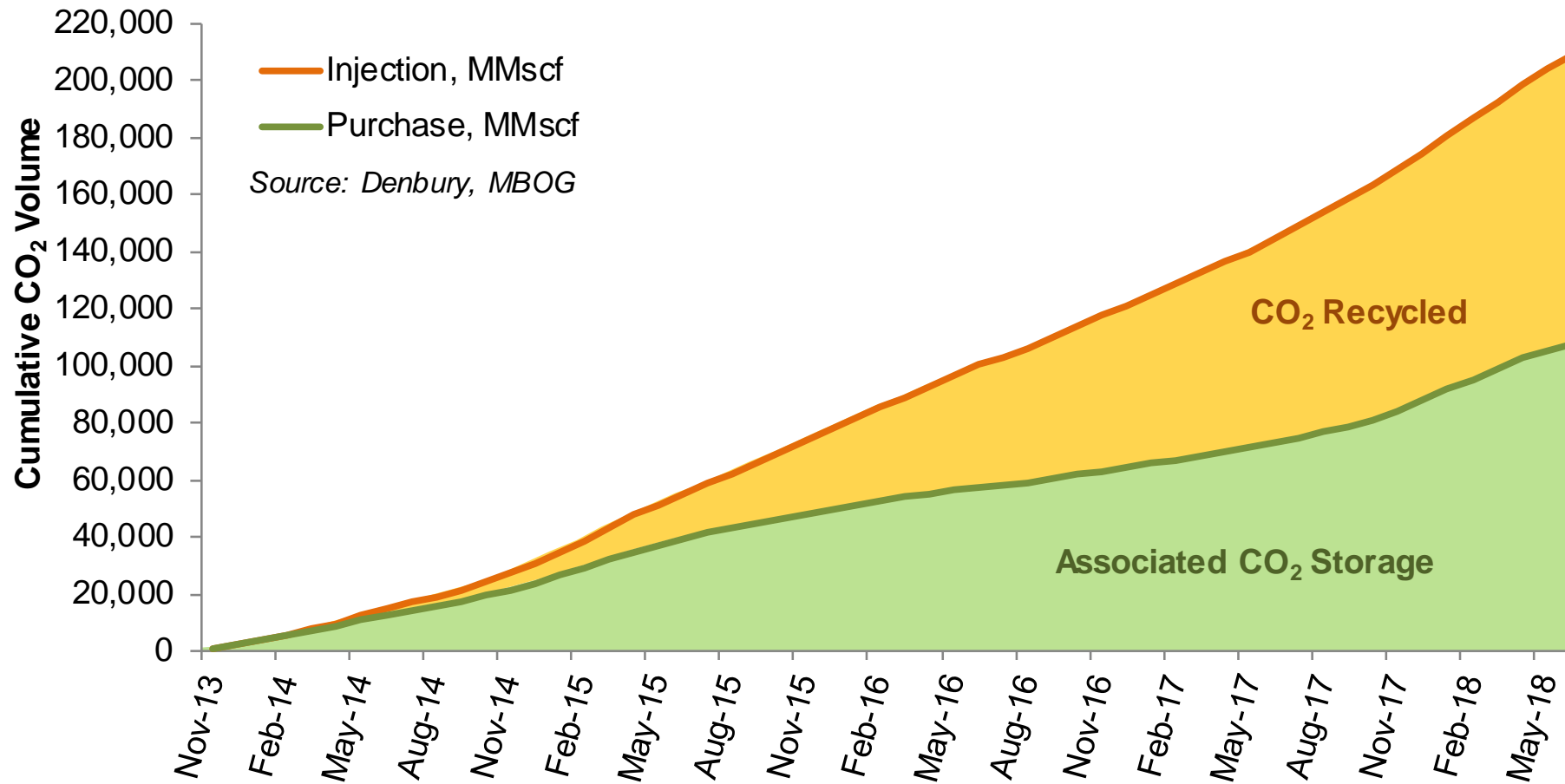
**Associated storage provides economic benefits:**

- Increased oil production
- Extended oilfield life
- Reduced emissions
- Jobs and revenue

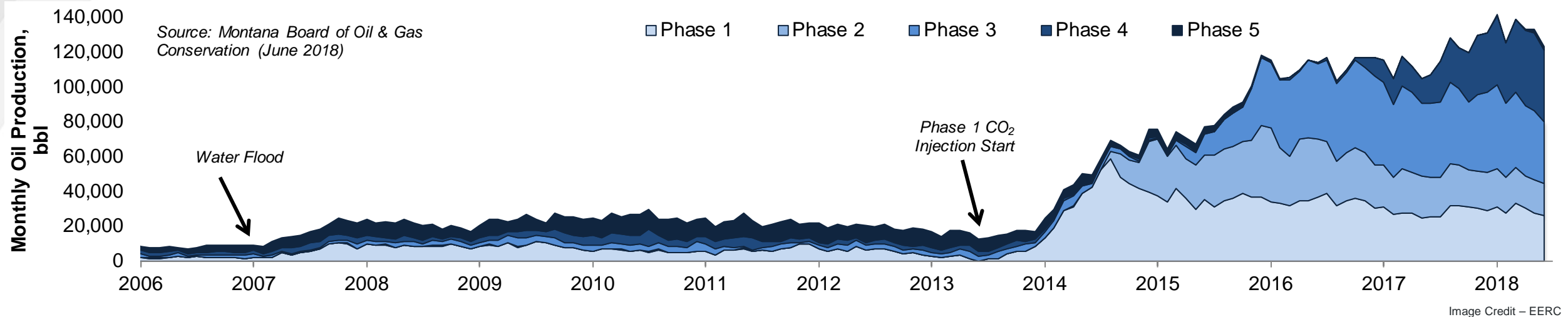




# ASSOCIATED CO<sub>2</sub> STORAGE, INCIDENTAL TO EOR



# ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF CO<sub>2</sub> EOR

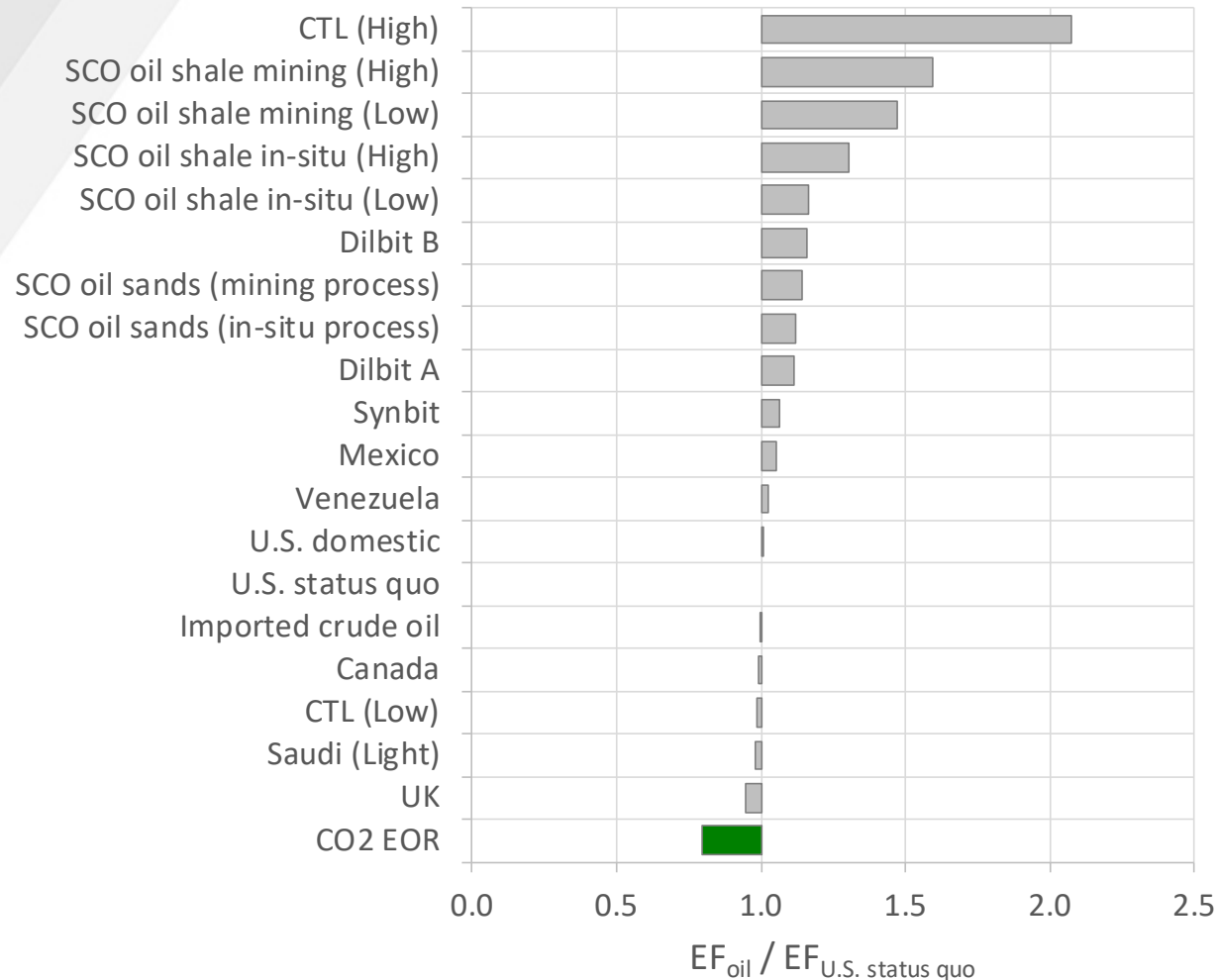


## At Bell Creek:

- Estimated 20–40 MMbbl of oil.<sup>(1)</sup>
- Nearly ~5.6 million bbl of oil has been produced since CO<sub>2</sub> enhanced oil recovery (EOR) commenced.

(1) Estimated proved plus potential tertiary reserves. Denbury, 2018, Presentation at the J.P. Morgan 2018 Global High Yield & Leveraged Finance Conference, February 26: [http://s1.q4cdn.com/594864049/files/doc\\_presentations/2018/J-P-Morgan-2017-Global-High-Yield-Leveraged-Finance-Conference-FINAL.pdf](http://s1.q4cdn.com/594864049/files/doc_presentations/2018/J-P-Morgan-2017-Global-High-Yield-Leveraged-Finance-Conference-FINAL.pdf)

# COMPARISON TO OTHER SOURCES OF CRUDE OIL



- Example of associated CO<sub>2</sub> storage.
- CO<sub>2</sub> captured from a lignite coal-fired power plant.
- Displace electricity from the MRO NERC region (Midwest Reliability Organization, North American Electric Reliability Corporation).
- **Oil via CO<sub>2</sub> EOR ~20% lower emission factor (EF).**
- Spreadsheet model available on PCOR Partnership website.

Adapted from:

Mangmeechai, A., 2009. *Life Cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Consumptive Water Use and Levelized Costs of Unconventional Oil in North America*. Dissertation. Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.

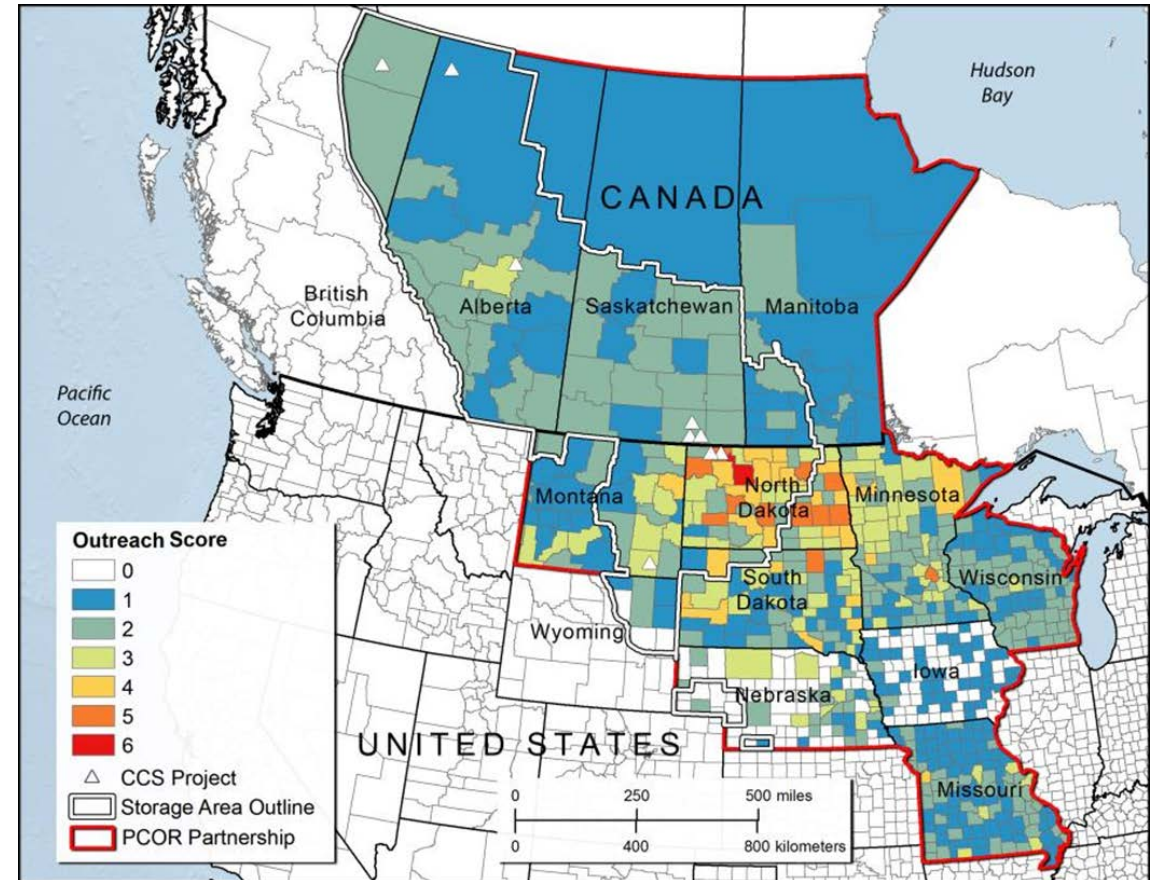
Azzolina, N.A.; Peck, W.D.; Hamling, J.A.; Gorecki, C.D.; Ayash, S.C.; Doll, T.E.; Nakles, D.V.; and Melzer, L.S. 2016. How green is my oil? A detailed look at greenhouse gas accounting for CO<sub>2</sub>-enhanced oil recovery (CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR) sites. *International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control*, 51:369–379.



# 5. CCUS REQUIRES ACTIVE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

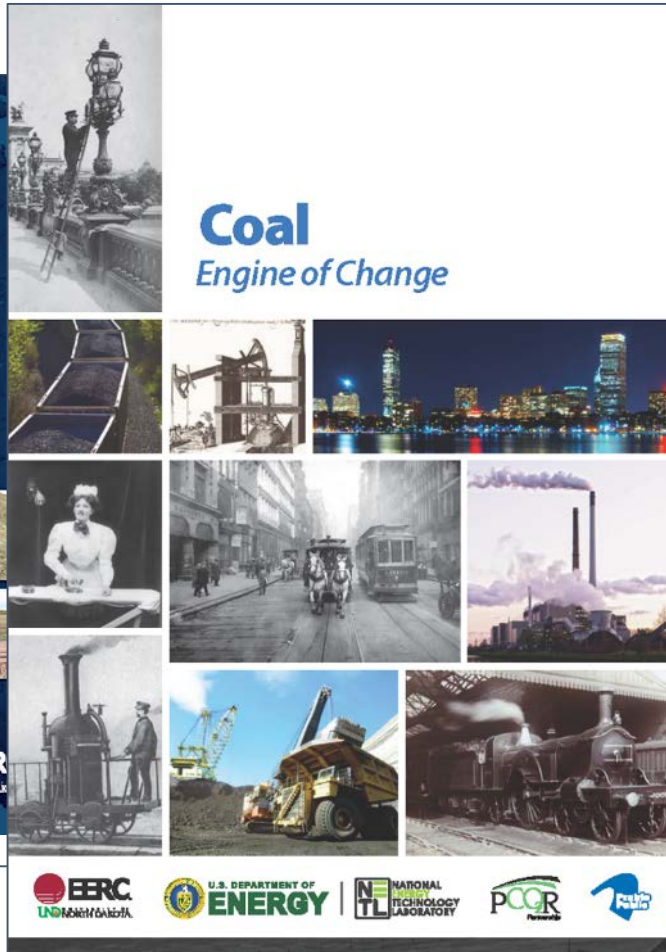
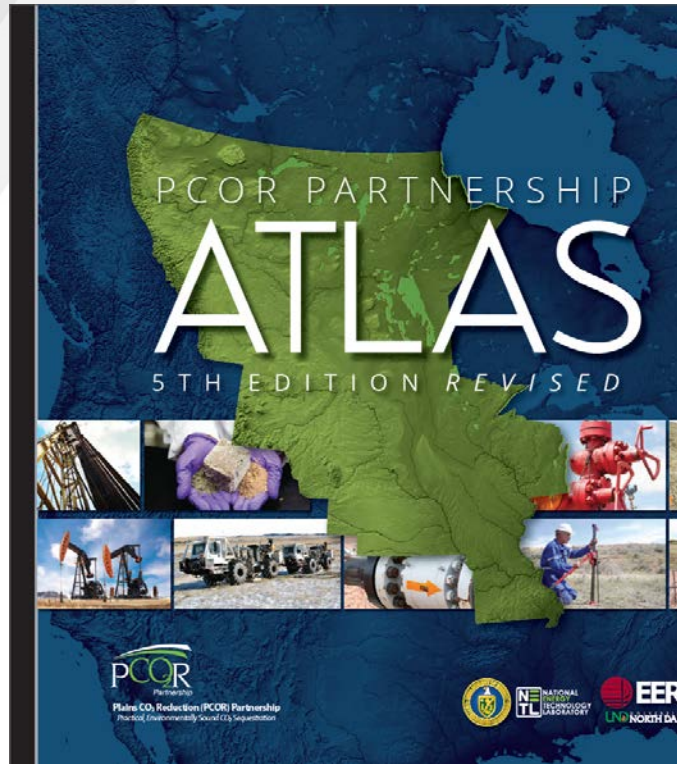
Increased public awareness of CCUS:

- Active, multifaceted regional outreach
- Adoption of best practices





# ONGOING OUTREACH



**Premiered 2018,  
available online**



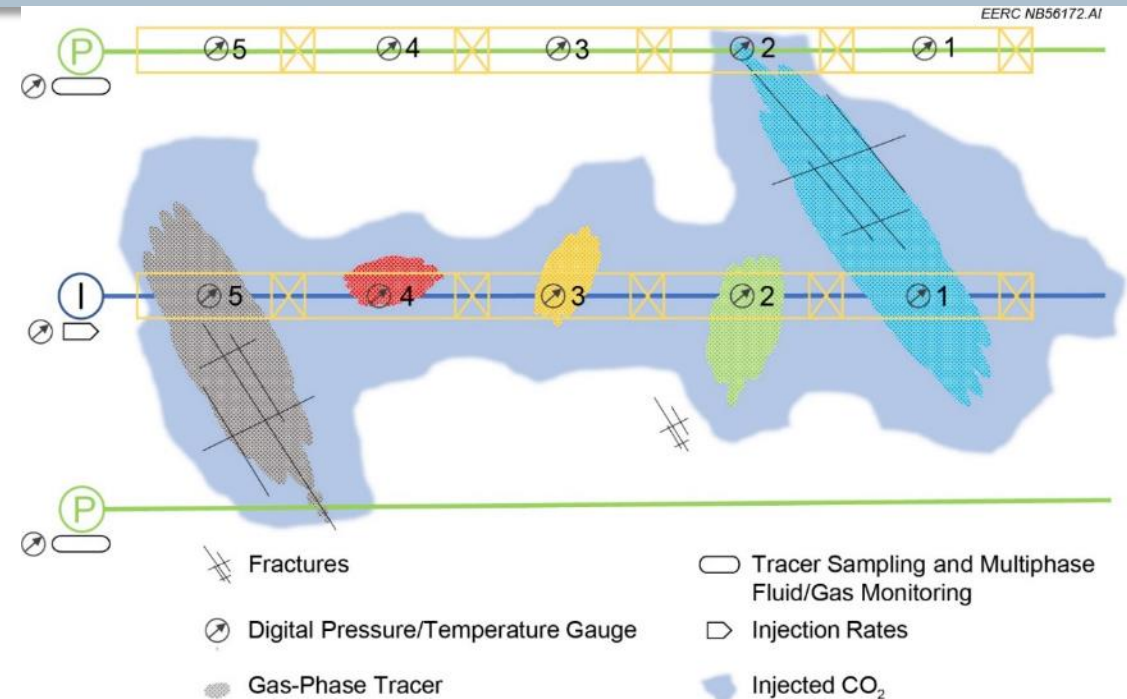
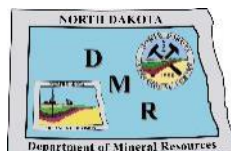
# SYNERGY OPPORTUNITIES: CCUS PORTFOLIO AT EERC

Project	Focus					
	Capture	Transport	CO <sub>2</sub> Storage		Techno-Economic	Regulatory
			Dedicated	Associated		
PCOR Partnership, <i>PCOR Initiative</i>						
CarbonSAFE North Dakota Phase II						
CarbonSAFE Wyoming Phase I/II						
CarbonSAFE Nebraska Phase I						
Red Trail Energy						
Williston Basin Field Lab						
ND Techno-Economic						
BEST						
SASSA						
IMS						
Bakken CO <sub>2</sub> Storage and EOR						
Advanced Characterization						
Tight Oil CO <sub>2</sub> Project						
Rich Gas for Conventional EOR						
EOR Controllable Completions						



# NEXT-GENERATION CONTROLLABLE COMPLETIONS

**Research Hypothesis:** Deploying controllable completions in horizontal wells and integrating real-time downhole measurements into a machine learning approach will enable the development of a semiautonomous control system to help EOR operators manage injection conformance and optimize EOR operations.



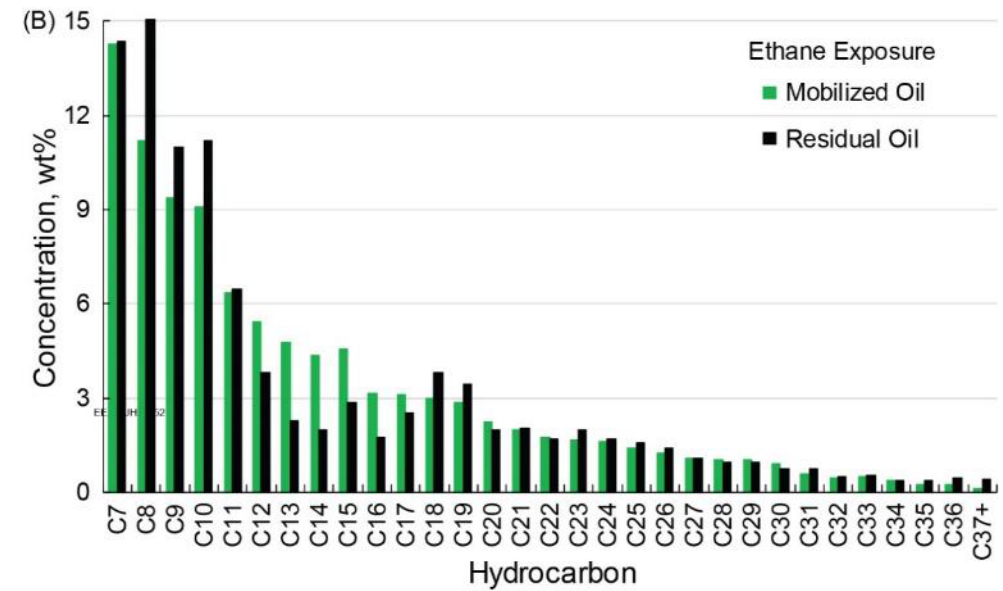
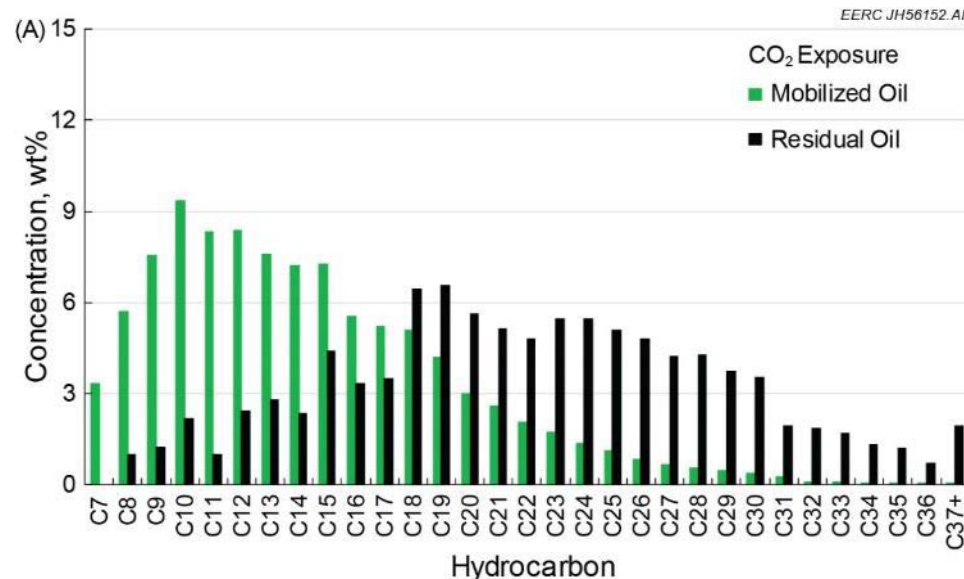
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# CO<sub>2</sub> BLENDED WITH RICH GAS

**Research Hypothesis:** The injection of a blend of rich hydrocarbon gas and CO<sub>2</sub> into an oil reservoir will reduce molecular weight selectivity, lower minimum miscibility pressure and viscosity of the oil, and improve gas solubility, resulting in an overall improvement in EOR performance.



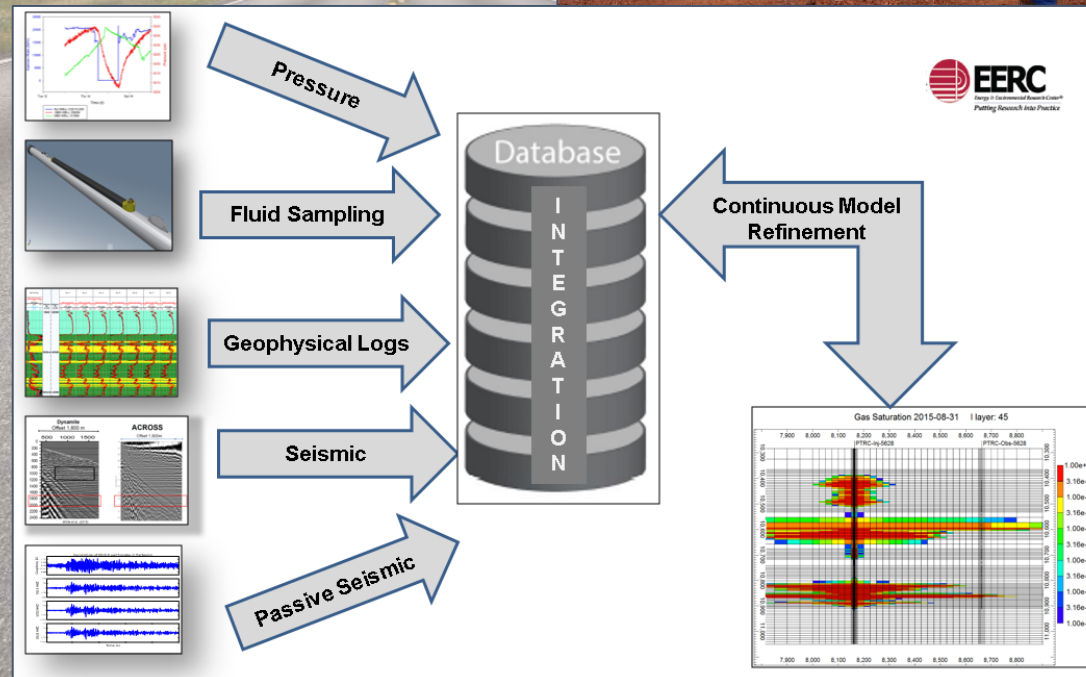
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**





# SYNERGY OPPORTUNITIES: MVA EVOLUTION

- Faster processing for quicker integration
  - Improve performance predictions
  - Inform operational decisions with actionable results
- Intelligent monitoring, machine learning
- Low environmental impact
- No impact on operations
- Semiautonomous and scalable
- Viable and cost-effective long term





# PROJECT SUMMARY: PCOR PARTNERSHIP KEY MESSAGES

## *Five key messages from the PCOR Partnership:*

1. Engaged membership and collaboration to deploy CCUS.
2. The PCOR Partnership region has outstanding CCUS potential.
3. CCUS works; through applied research we have demonstrated:
  - a) Low risks associated with storage.
  - b) Successful MVA to track injected CO<sub>2</sub>.
4. CCUS provides economic and environmental benefits.
5. CCUS requires active public engagement and outreach.



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A wide-angle photograph of a university campus. In the foreground, there are large trees with yellow and orange autumn leaves. The sun is low in the sky, creating a warm glow. In the background, there are several large, multi-story brick buildings, likely university halls or administrative buildings. A parking lot with many cars is visible in front of the buildings.

**THANK YOU**

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# BENEFIT TO THE PROGRAM: ADDRESSING RCSP PROGRAM GOALS

- Develop technologies that will support the industry's ability to predict CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity in geologic formations to within  $\pm 30\%$ :
  - *Conducting pilot tests and demonstration projects in hydrocarbon reservoirs, saline formations, and coal seams to improve understanding of sweep and storage efficiency.*
  - *Evaluating oil fields, saline formations, and coal seams to estimate volumetric and dynamic storage resource through characterization and simulation.*
  - *Conducting complementary projects that incorporate lessons learned from the PCOR Partnership to improve methods to estimate CO<sub>2</sub> storage resource.*
    - *DOE project – Optimizing and Quantifying CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Capacity/Resource in Saline Formations and Hydrocarbon Reservoirs (2012–2016)*
    - *Joint IEAGHG and DOE projects – CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Efficiency in Deep Saline Formations – Stages 1 and 2*
    - *Identification of Residual Oil Zones in the Williston and Powder River Basins*
    - *North Dakota Integrated Carbon Storage Complex Feasibility Study (CarbonSAFE)*



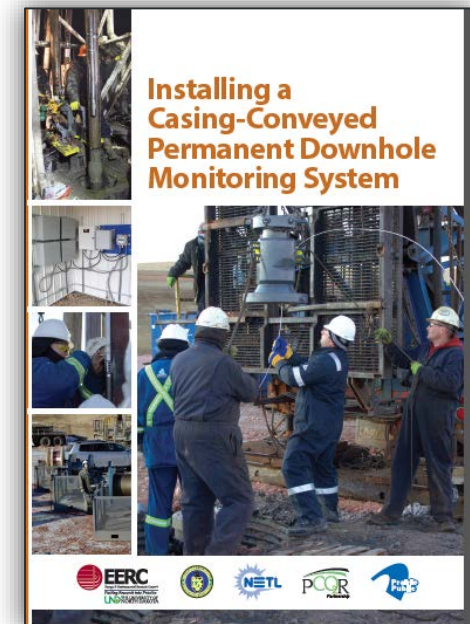


# BENEFIT TO THE PROGRAM: ADDRESSING RCSP PROGRAM GOALS, cont.

- Develop technologies to improve reservoir storage efficiency while ensuring containment effectiveness:
  - *Testing new techniques or combining techniques to better account for injected CO<sub>2</sub> in the demonstration tests.*
  - *Evaluating different injection strategies for improving both storage efficiency and hydrocarbon recovery in collaboration with commercial partner Denbury Onshore LLC (Denbury).*
- Develop and validate technologies to ensure 99% storage permanence:
  - *Evaluating the existing technologies used to monitor, verify, and account for the injected CO<sub>2</sub> to determine detection limits.*
  - *Multiple MVA techniques, including 4-D seismic and pulsed-neutron logs (PNLs), have been used at Bell Creek to successfully track the presence and movement of CO<sub>2</sub> in the reservoir and have shown no evidence of out-of-zone migration or negative environmental impact.*

# BENEFIT TO THE PROGRAM: ADDRESSING RCSP PROGRAM GOALS, cont.

- Develop best practice manuals (BPMs) for MVA and assessment; site screening, selection, and initial characterization; public outreach; well management activities; and risk analysis and simulation:
  - Participated in updating several DOE BPMs
    - ◆ Site characterization
    - ◆ Risk assessment/simulation
    - ◆ MVA
    - ◆ Operations
    - ◆ Outreach
  - PCOR Partnership BPMs
    - ◆ Fort Nelson Test Site – Feasibility Study
    - ◆ Adaptive management approach
    - ◆ Site characterization
    - ◆ Modeling and simulation
    - ◆ Risk assessment
    - ◆ MVA
  - Produced videographic BPM: “Installing a Casing-Conveyed Permanent Downhole Monitoring (PDM) System.”



# PCOR PARTNERSHIP BELL CREEK OBJECTIVES

- Safely and permanently achieve CO<sub>2</sub> storage associated with commercial-scale EOR.
- Demonstrate that oil-bearing formations are viable sinks with significant storage capacity to help meet near-term CO<sub>2</sub> storage objectives.
- Establish MVA methods to safely and effectively monitor CO<sub>2</sub> storage.
- Use commercial oil/gas practices as the backbone of the MVA strategy, and augment with additional cost-effective techniques.
- Share lessons learned for the benefit of similar projects across the region.
- Establish a relationship between the CO<sub>2</sub> EOR process and long-term associated CO<sub>2</sub> storage.



# LESSONS LEARNED

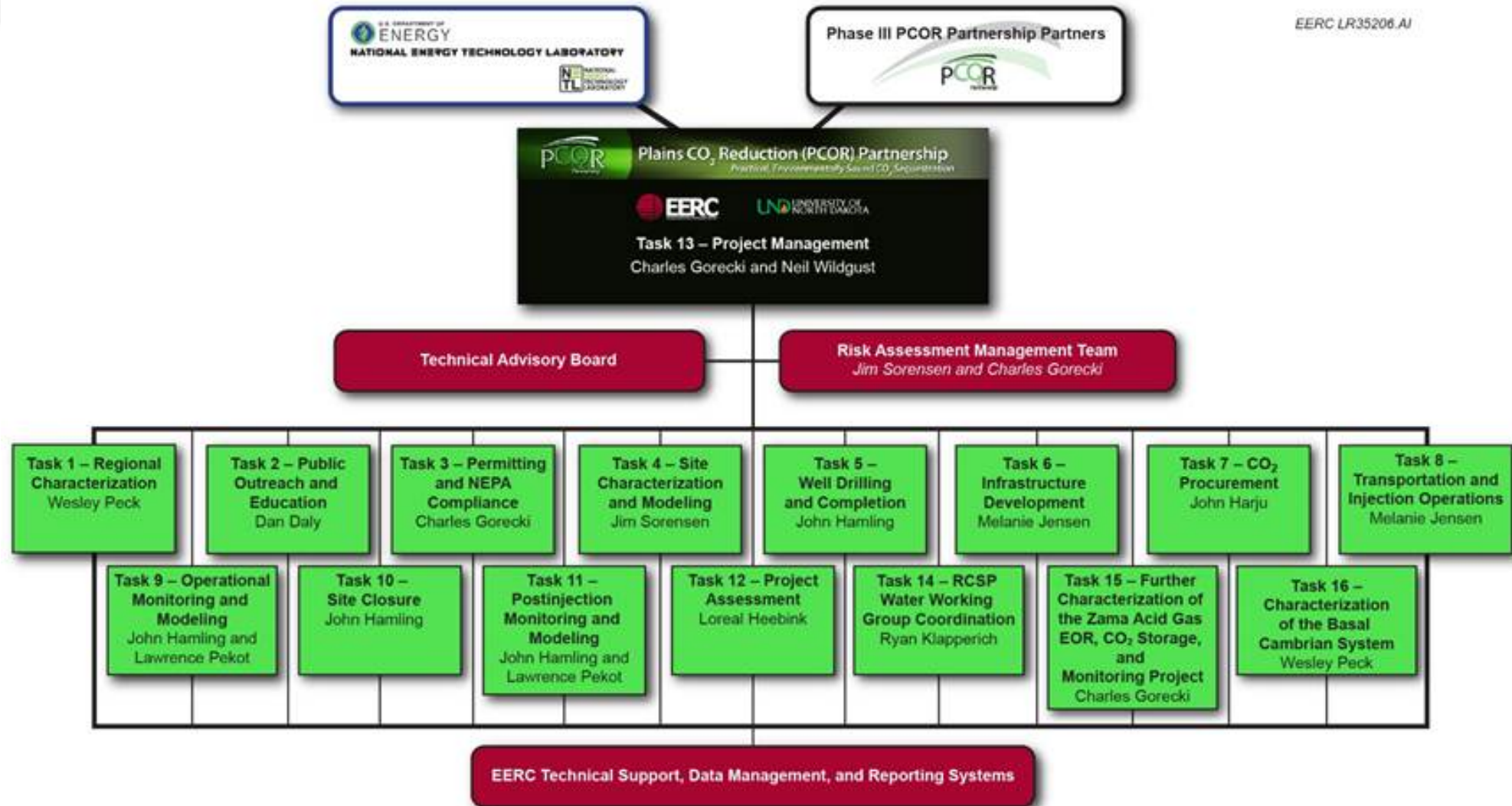
- Project advantages

- Full-scale CO<sub>2</sub> EOR project provides opportunity to deploy an MVA program on a commercial project with hundreds of wells.
- Integrate with established CO<sub>2</sub> operators and learn from their operational experiences.
- CO<sub>2</sub> EOR has the potential to increase domestic production, produce oil with reduced carbon intensity, store millions of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, develop the infrastructure for wide-scale CCS deployment, and help develop the techniques for monitoring and accounting for CO<sub>2</sub> in all storage project types.

- Project limitations

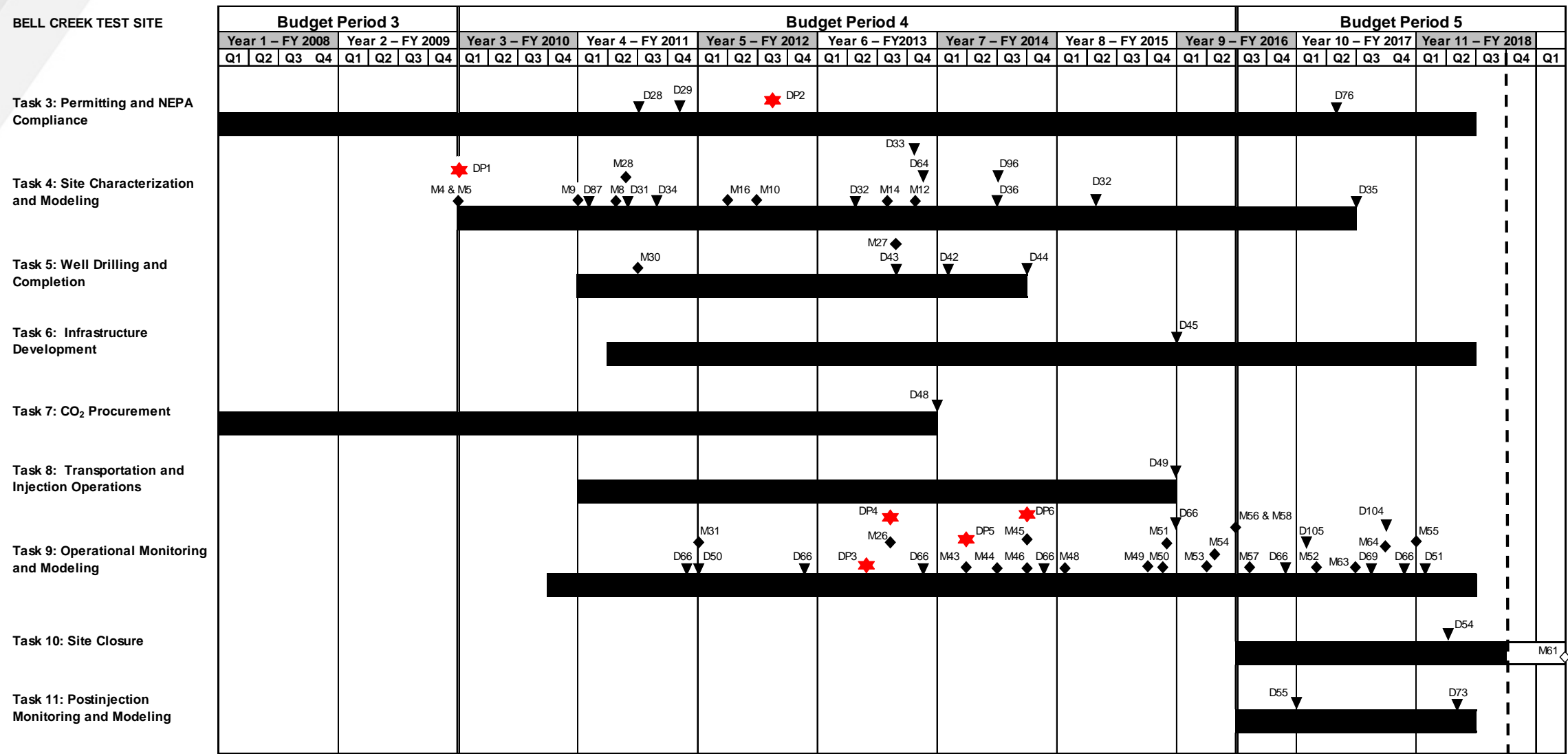
- Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership (RCSP) Program is scheduled to end in 2018, but the commercial CO<sub>2</sub> EOR project will continue. If the program were extended, this would offer the opportunity to further refine operational monitoring at a commercial project.
- No postinjection-monitoring period because of injection continuing beyond the time line of the PCOR Partnership Program; however, a conceptual postinjection-monitoring plan will be developed.
- Some data are confidential because of commercial aspect of CO<sub>2</sub> EOR project.

# ORGANIZATION CHART



EERC LR35206.AJ

# PROJECT SCHEDULE (note: project extended to end 2019 for reporting purposes)





# DELIVERABLES, MILESTONES, AND KEY DECISION POINTS

Key for Deliverables	Key for Milestones	Key for Decision Points
D28 Environmental Questionnaire D29 Permitting Action Plan D31 Geological Characterization Experimental Design Package D32 Geomechanical Report D33 Preinjection Geochemical Report D34 Baseline Hydrogeological Experimental Design Package D35 Best Practices Manual – Site Characterization D36 Wellbore Leakage Final Report D42 Injection Experimental Design Package D43 Monitoring Experimental Design Package D44 Drilling and Completion Activities Report D45 Infrastructure Development Report D48 Procurement Plan and Agreement Report D49 Transportation and Injection Operations Report D50 Site Characterization, Modeling, and Monitoring Plan D51 Best Practices Manual – Monitoring for CO <sub>2</sub> Storage and CO <sub>2</sub> EOR D54 Site Closure Procedures Report D55 Cost-Effective Long-Term Monitoring Strategies Report D64 Site Characterization Report D66 Simulation Report D69 Simulation Best Practices Manual D73 Monitoring and Modeling Fate of CO <sub>2</sub> Progress Report D76 Regional Regulatory Perspective D87 Geomechanical Experimental Design Package D96 3-D Seismic Acquisition and Characterization Report D104 Analysis of Expanded Seismic Campaign D105 Comparison of Non-EOR and EOR Life Cycle Assessment	M4 Test Site Selected M5 Data Collection Initiated M8 Wellbore Leakage Data Collection Initiated M9 Geological Model Development Initiated M10 Wellbore Leakage Data Collection Completed M12 Preinjection Geochemical Work Completed M14 Geological Characterization Data Collection Completed M16 Initiation of Production and Injection Simulations M26 CO <sub>2</sub> Injection Initiated M27 MVA Equipment Installation and Baseline MVA Activities Completed M28 Geological Characterization Experimental Design Package Completed M30 Baseline MVA Activities Initiated M31 Site Characterization, Modeling, and Monitoring Plan Completed M43 First Full-Repeat Sampling of the Groundwater- and Soil Gas- Monitoring Program Completed M44 First 3-D VSP Repeat Surveys Completed M45 First Full-Repeat of Pulsed-Neutron Logging Campaign Completed M46 First Year of Injection Completed M48 1 Million Metric Tons of CO <sub>2</sub> Injected M49 1.5 Million Metric Tons of CO <sub>2</sub> Injected M50 Two Years of Near-Surface Assurance Monitoring Completed M51 Initial Analysis for First Large-Scale Repeat Pulsed-Neutron Logging Campaign Post-Significant CO <sub>2</sub> Injection Completed M52 Initial Analysis of Extended Pulsed-Neutron Logging Campaign Data Completed M53 Expanded Baseline and Time-Lapse 3-D Surface Seismic Survey Completed M54 Initial Processing and Analysis of Historic InSAR Data Completed M55 Initial Investigation of Crude Oil Compositional Changes During CO <sub>2</sub> EOR Completed M56 Life Cycle Analysis for Primary and Secondary Recovery Oil Completed M57 Life Cycle Analysis for EOR Completed M58 Completion of 2.75 Million Metric Tons of CO <sub>2</sub> Stored M61 Site Closure for Bell Creek Test Completed M63 Initial Analysis of Processed InSAR Data Completed M64 Initial Analysis of Expanded Seismic Campaign Data Completed	DP1 Site Selected DP2 NEPA Requirements Met and Permitting Completed - Cleared for Injection DP3 Injection Date Scheduled DP4 Initiate Performance Monitoring DP5 Determination to Extend Program into Next Commercial Development Area of the Field DP6 Determination to Continue with Monitoring Program

# PUBLICATIONS

Azzolina, N.A., Peck, W.D., Hamling, J.A., Gorecki, C.D., Ayash, S.C., Doll, T.E., Nakles, D.V., and Melzer, L.S., 2016, How green is my oil? a detailed look at greenhouse gas accounting for CO<sub>2</sub>-enhanced oil recovery (CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR) sites: International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control, v. 51, p. 369–379.

Hawthorne, S.B., Miller, D.J., Jin, L., and Gorecki, C.D., 2016, Rapid and simple capillary-rise/vanishing interfacial tension method to determine crude oil minimum miscibility pressure—pure and mixed CO<sub>2</sub>, methane, and ethane: Energy & Fuels, <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.energyfuels.6b01151>.

Levine, J.S., Fukai, I., Soeder, D.J., Bromhal, G., Dillmore, R.M., Guthrie, G.D., Rodosta, T.D., Sanguinito, S., Frailey, S., Gorecki, C.D., Peck, W.D., and Goodman, A.L., 2016, U.S. DOE NETL methodology for estimating the prospective CO<sub>2</sub> storage resource of shales at the national and regional scale: International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control, v. 51, p. 81–94.

Jin, L., Hawthorne, S.B., Sorensen, J.A., Pekot, L.J., Kurz, B.A., Smith, S.A., Heebink, L.V., Herdegen, V., Bosshart, N.W., Torres, J., Dalkhaa, C., Peterson, K.J., Gorecki, C.D., Steadman, E.N., and Harju, J.A., 2017, Advancing CO<sub>2</sub> enhanced oil recovery and storage in unconventional oil play—experimental studies on Bakken shales: Applied Energy, v. 208, p. 171–183.

Peck, W.D., Azzolina, N.A., Ge, J., Bosshart, N.W., Burton-Kelly, M.E., Gorecki, C.D., Gorz, A.J., Ayash, S.C., Nakles, D.V., and Melzer, L.S., 2018, Quantifying CO<sub>2</sub> storage efficiency factors in hydrocarbon reservoirs—a detailed look at CO<sub>2</sub> enhanced oil recovery: International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control, v. 69, p. 41–51.

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Azzolina, N.A., Bosshart, N.W., Burton-Kelly, M.E., Hamling, J.A., and Peck, W.D., 2018, Statistical analysis of pulsed-neutron well logs in monitoring injected carbon dioxide: International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control, v. 75, p. 125–133.

Jin, L., Pekot, L.J., Smith, S.A., Salako, O., Peterson, K.J., Bosshart, N.W., Hamling, J.A., Mibeck, B.A.F., Hurley, J.P., Beddoe, C.J., and Gorecki, C.D., 2018, Effects of gas relative permeability hysteresis and solubility on associated CO<sub>2</sub> storage performance: International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control, v. 75, p. 140–150.

Jin, L., Pekot, L.J., Hawthorne, S.B., Salako, O., Peterson, K.J., Bosshart, N.W., Jiang, T., Hamling, J.A., Wildgust, N., and Gorecki, C.D., 2018, Evaluation of recycle gas injection on CO<sub>2</sub> enhanced oil recovery and associated storage performance: International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control, v. 75, p. 151–161.

Smith, S.A., Mibeck, B.A.F., Hurley, J.P., Beddoe, C.J., Jin, L., Hamling, J.A., and Gorecki, C.D., 2018, Laboratory determination of oil draining CO<sub>2</sub> hysteresis effects during multiple floods of a conventional clastic oil reservoir: International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control, v. 78, p. 1–6.



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