

# Field Laboratory for Emerging Stacked Unconventional Plays (ESUP)

**VIRGINIA TECH**

PI: NINO RIPEPI

CO-PIs: MICHAEL KARMIS, CHENG CHEN,  
BEN GILL, CHARLES SCHLOSSER,  
CIGDEM KELES

**ENERVEST:** JAMES AYERS & KEVIN  
MILLER



ENERVEST



**VIRGINIA CENTER FOR COAL  
AND ENERGY RESEARCH**  
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# Acknowledgments

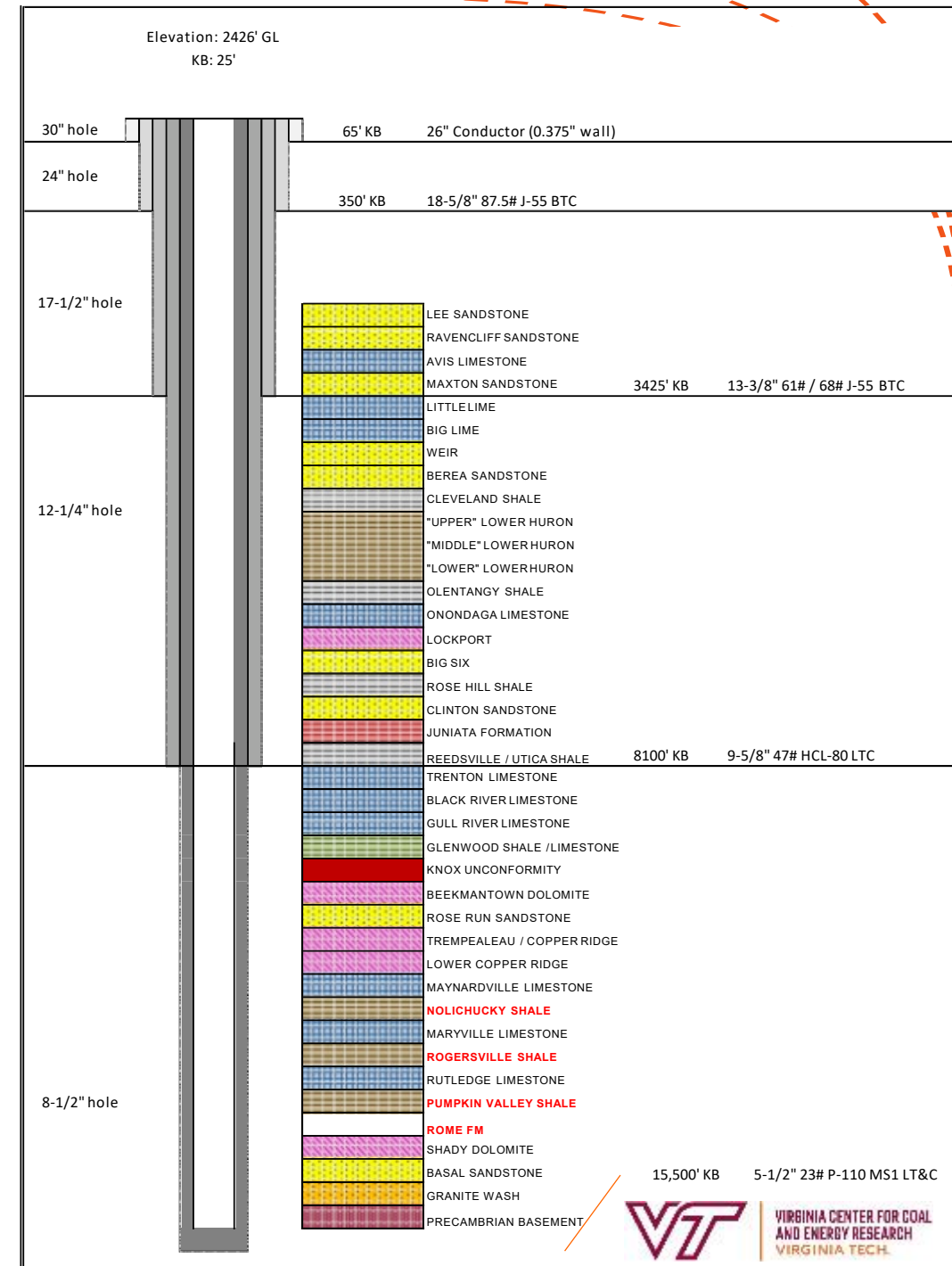
- Financial assistance for this work was provided by the U.S. Department of Energy through the National Energy Technology Laboratory's Program under Contract No. DE-FE0031576.
- Robert Vagnetti, U.S. DOE/NETL Project Officer
- Kevin Miller, James Ayers and the rest of the EnerVest team
- Advisory Stakeholder Group (ASG)



# Objectives

Investigate and characterize the resource potential for multi-play production of emerging unconventional reservoirs in Central Appalachia.

- **Drill and selectively core a vertical Basement Test well**, drilled to approximately 15,000 ft., through the Conasauga-Rome Petroleum System
- **Well logging, core analysis, reservoir testing** and production information will be integrated with **reservoir simulations** to develop an assessment of the multi-play resource potential
- An assessment will be made of the multi-play resource potential and a recommended strategy advanced for prudent development that considers regional **environmental** and **socioeconomic impacts**.



# Deep Activity / Production in the Vicinity of the Nora Field

14 total wells drilled deeper than the Devonian in Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell, and Wise Counties

## Buchanan (3)

- Clinton Sandstone: 2
- Beekmantown Dol: 1

## Dickenson (3)

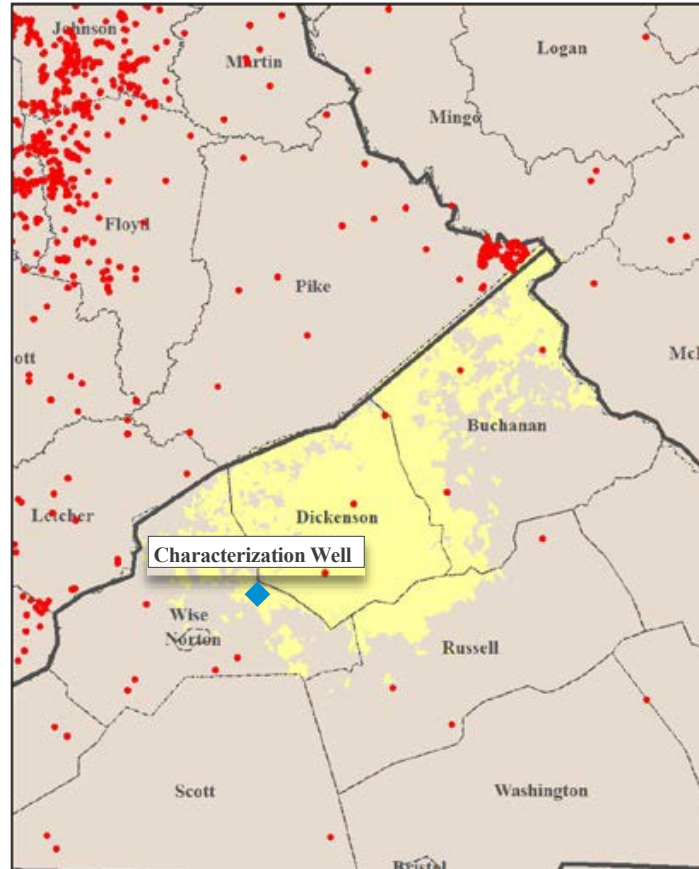
- Clinton Sandstone: 2
- Beekmantown Dol: 1

## Russell (3)

- Trenton/ Black River: 1
- Rome Fm: 1
- Basement: 1

## Wise (5)

- Clinton Sandstone: 2
- Reedsville Shale: 1
- Trenton/ Black River: 1
- Knox (?): 1



Devonian Base

Conasauga Top

Rome Top

Age	Formation	Depth	
Pa	Coalbed Methane (CBM)		★
Mississippian	Ravencliff Ss	3,125	★
	Maxton Ss	3,325	★
	Big Lime Ls	4,260	★
	Weir Fm	4,667	★
	Berea Ss	5,184	★
Devonia	Cleveland Shale	5,223	★
	Lower Huron Shale	5,805	★
	Rhinestreet Shale	6,165	★
Silurian	Lockport Dol / Newburg / McKenzie Fm	6,600	★
	Keefer Ss / Big Six Ss	6,647	★
	Clinton Ss / Rose Hill Fm / Tuscarora Ss / Clinch Ss	7,000	★
Ordovician	Trenton Ls	7,900	★
	Black River Ls	8,550	★
	Beekmantown Dol	9,851	★
	Rose Run Ss	10,637	★
Cambrian	Trempealeau Dol / Copper Ridge Dol	10,817	★
	Maynardville Ls	11,737	★
	Nolichucky Shale	11,812	★
	Maryville Ls	12,144	★
	Rogersville Shale	12,886	★
	Rutledge Ls	12,983	★
	Pumpkin Valley Shale	13,224	★
	Rome Fm	13,314	★
	Shady Dol	14,372	★
	Granite Wash	15,019	★
	PreCambrian Basement	15,144	★

- ★ Virginia Producing Formation Target
- ★ Non-production Formation Target

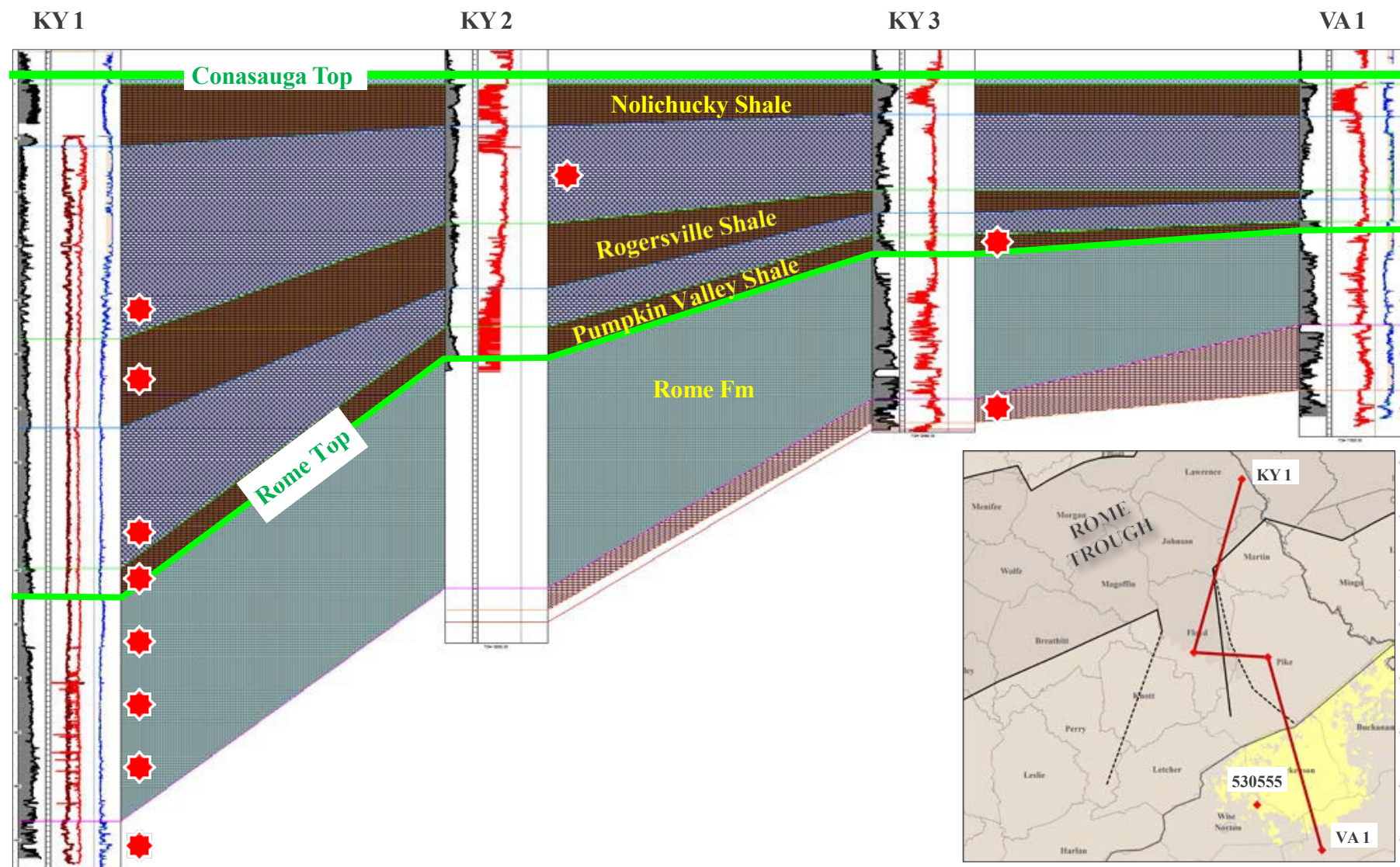
\* 6 wells drilled to Clinton Ss. (~7,000 ft.)

\* 8 wells drilled to Trenton Ls. Or deeper (~8,000 ft.)



# Conasauga and Rome Formation Oil and Gas Shows

- **KY1: Northrup #Law1 (2015)**
  - Rogersville Test Well
  - Drilled through Rome Fm
  - Gas shows and fluorescence / milky cut (oil) recorded from Maryville Ls through Rome Fm
- **KY2: Hall #1 (1974)**
  - Basement Test
  - Gas show in Maryville Ls (8,550')
- **KY3: Stratton #1 (1971)**
  - Basement Test
  - Rome Trough Consortium data indicates gas shows in the Pumpkin Valley Shale and Shady Dolomite
- **VA1: Price #1 (1977)**
  - Gas shows reported in the Trenton Ls
  - No shows reported in the Conasauga or Rome



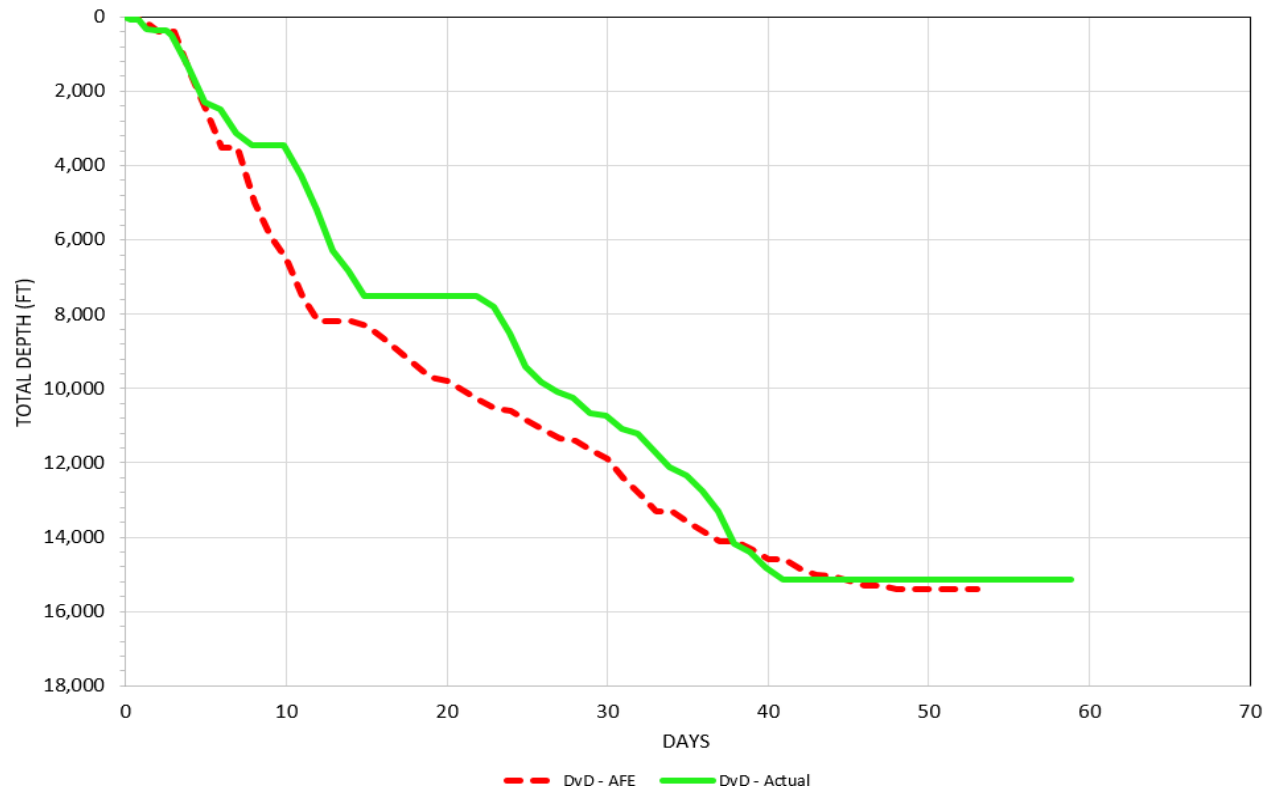
# *ESUP Field Site and Drilling Operations*





# V-530555 Drilling Time Curve

DRILLING PERFORMANCE vs AFE ASSUMPTIONS



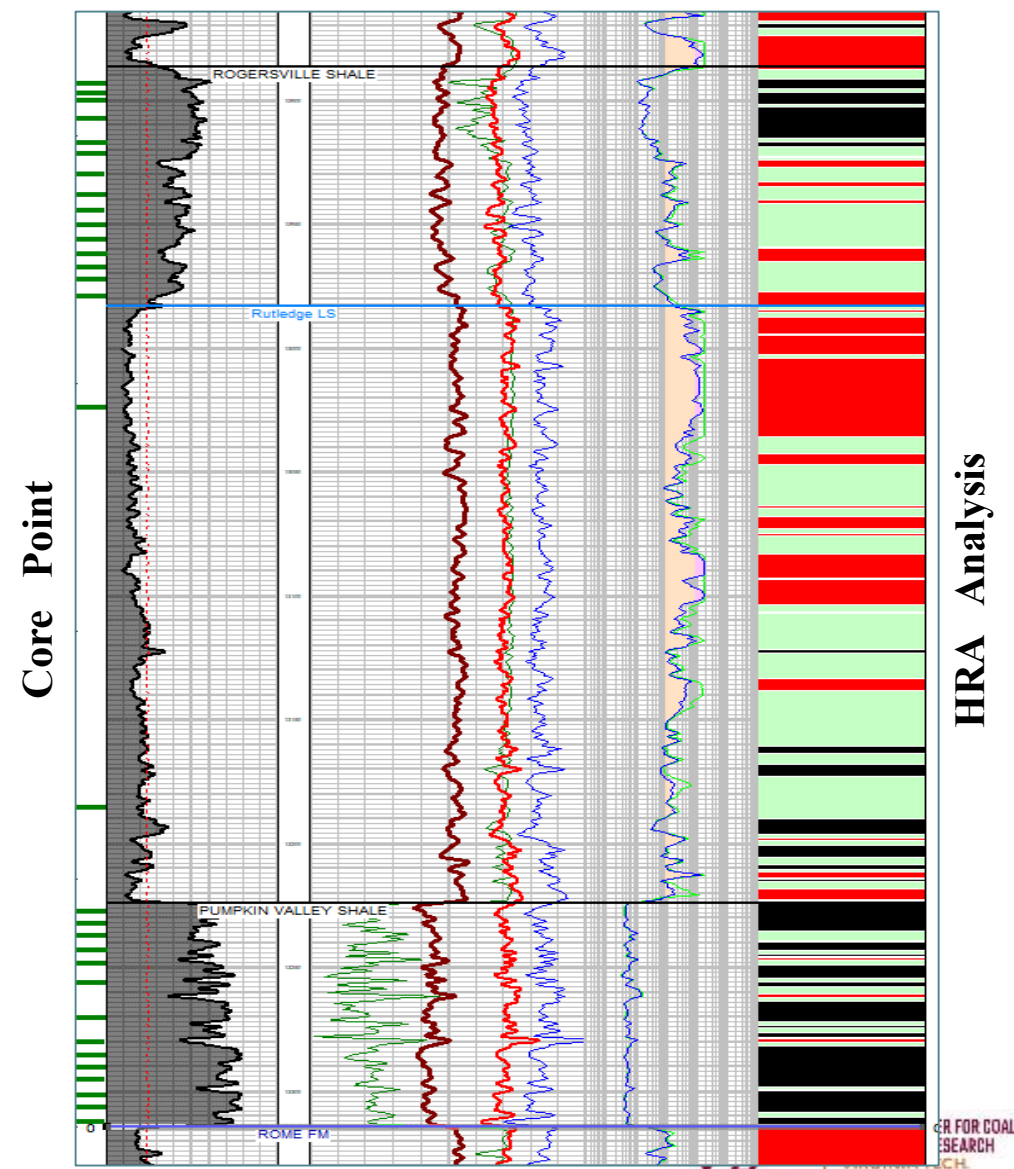
- Target of Pre-Cambrian basement for full section characterization successfully reached.
- Time required to reach target formation was less than forecasted.
  - AFE'd @ 48 days, but completed in 42 days. (Inclusive of NPT time in previous slide).
- Accurately identified and predicted geo-hazards, though some still gave us trouble
- Successfully completed operations without any injury, illness, or environmental issues.
  - Over 30,000 man hours worked

# Wireline and Mud Logging Data Gathered from the 530555

					Openhole Logs								Evaluation Logs				
Formation	Lithology	Top (MD)	Mud Log		Gamma	Neutron	Density	PE	Induction	Dipole Sonic	LithoScanner	Spectral Gamma	QuantaGeo	LithoScanner Analysis	Shear Anisotropy Analysis	Geomechanical Properties Advisor	Petrophysical Analysis (QELAN)
RAVENCLIFF SANDSTONE																	
AVIS LIMESTONE																	
MAXTON SANDSTONE																	
LITTLE LIME		4,043	CASED HOLE														
BIG LIME		4,260															
WEIR		4,667															
BEREA SANDSTONE		5,184															
CLEVELAND SHALE		5,223															
LOWER HURON		5,805															
OLENTANGY SHALE		6,000															
RHINESTREET SHALE		6,165															
ONONDAGA LIMESTONE		6,260															
LOCKPORT		6,600															
BIG SIX		6,647															
ROSE HILL SHALE		6,678															
CLINTON SANDSTONE		7,000															
JUNIATA FORMATION		7,212															
REEDSVILLE SHALE		7,400	OPEN HOLE														
TRENTON LIMESTONE		7,900															
BLACK RIVER LIMESTONE		8,550															
GULL RIVER LIMESTONE		9,358															
GLENWOOD LIMESTONE		9,425															
BEEKMANTOWN DOLOMITE		9,851															
ROSE RUN SANDSTONE		10,637															
TREMPEALEAU / COPPER RIDGE		10,817															
LOWER COPPER RIDGE		11,395															
MAYNARDVILLE LIMESTONE		11,737															
NOLICHUCKY SHALE		11,812															
MARYVILLE LIMESTONE		12,144															
ROGERSVILLE SHALE		12,886															
RUTLEDGE LIMESTONE		12,983															
PUMPKIN VALLEY SHALE		13,224															
ROME FM		13,314															
SHADY DOLOMITE		14,372															
GRANITE WASH		15,019															
PRECAMBRIAN BASEMENT		15,144															

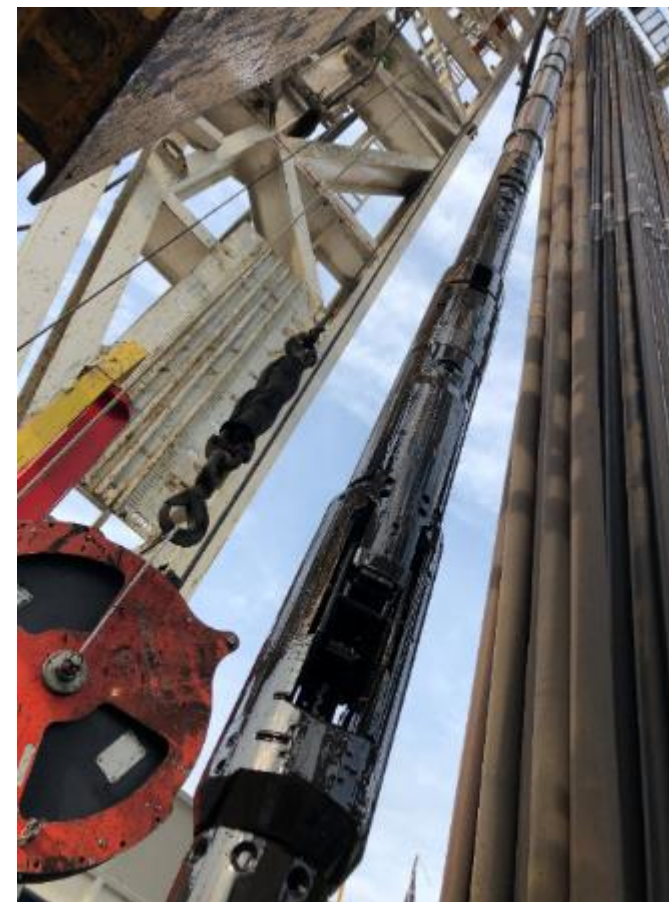
# Core Point Determination

- A Heterogeneous Rock Analysis (HRA) was conducted to evaluate the variability of log responses based on Triple Combo data and identify packages (Facies) of like rock and ensure optimal distribution of the Rotary Sidewall Cores (RSWC).
- The HRA was performed on 10 individual formations of interest:
  - Trenton / Black River Ls
  - Glenwood through Rose Run
  - Nolichucky Shale
  - Maryville Limestone
  - Rogersville Shale
  - Rutledge Limestone
  - Pumpkin Valley Shale
  - Rome Fm
  - Shady Dolomite
  - Granite Wash





# Core Recovery



# Coring Summary

FORMATION	UNIQUE CORE POINT ATTEMPTED	UNIQUE CORE POINT RECOVERED	# OF RSWC RECOVERED	COMMENTS
REEDSVILLE	1	0	0	
TRENTON	7	4	4	
BLACK RIVER	2	1	1	
GLENWOOD / WELLS CREEK	4	4	4	
BEEKMANTOWN	4	3	3	
ROSE RUN	3	3	4	Duplicate core recovered at 10,708'
MAYNARDVILLE	1	1	1	
NOLICHUCKY	7	4	4	
MARYVILLE	17	15	15	
ROGERSVILLE	16	16	16	
RUTLEDGE	2	2	2	
PUMPKIN VALLEY	16	15	17	Duplicate core recovered at 13,306' & 13,312'
ROME	9	7	7	
SHADY DOLOMITE	9	8	8	
GRANITE WASH	4	4	4	

TOTAL	102	87	90	
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RECOVERY RATE:	85%
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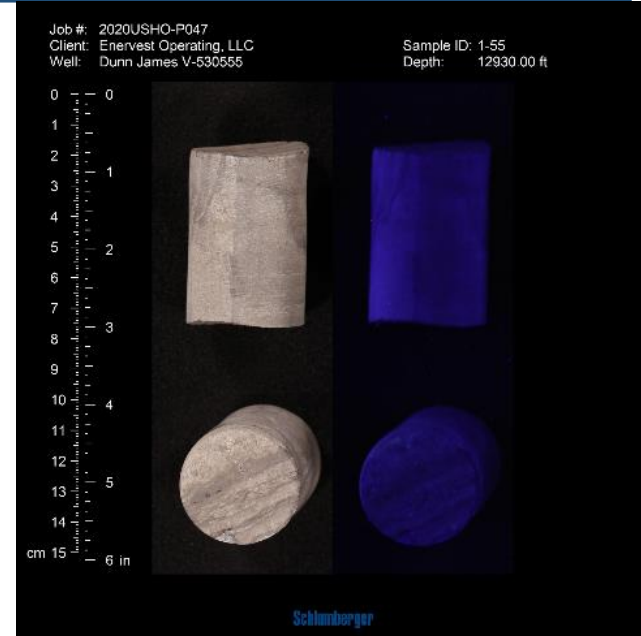
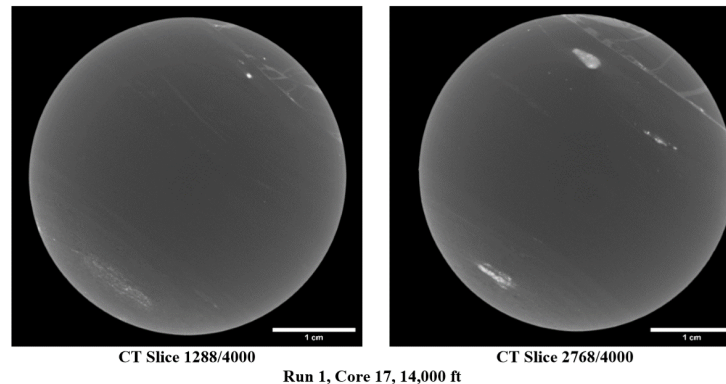
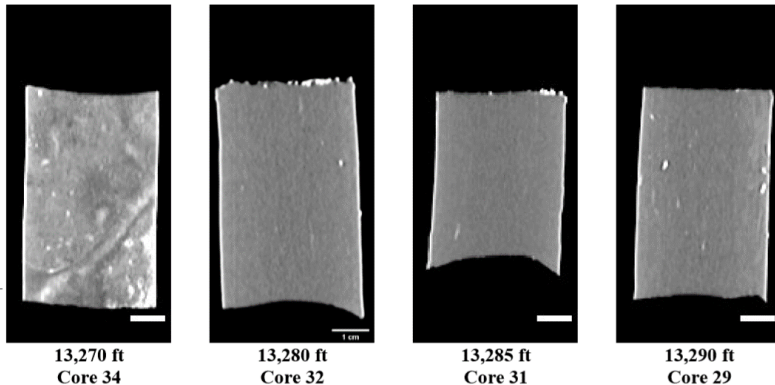
# RSWC Data Summary

ANALYSIS DESCRIPTION	STATUS	# PROPOSED	# RECEIVED
Bulk Density	COMPLETE	90	90
Photagraphy (W/UV)	COMPLETE	90	90
Thin Section / SEM Analysis	COMPLETE	26	26
XRD	COMPLETE	45	45
TOC (LECO)	COMPLETE	45	45
Rock Eval	COMPLETE	85	85
TRA Porosity	COMPLETE	45	45
TRA Pulse Decay Perm	COMPLETE	45	41
TRA Pressure Decay Perm	COMPLETE	45	45

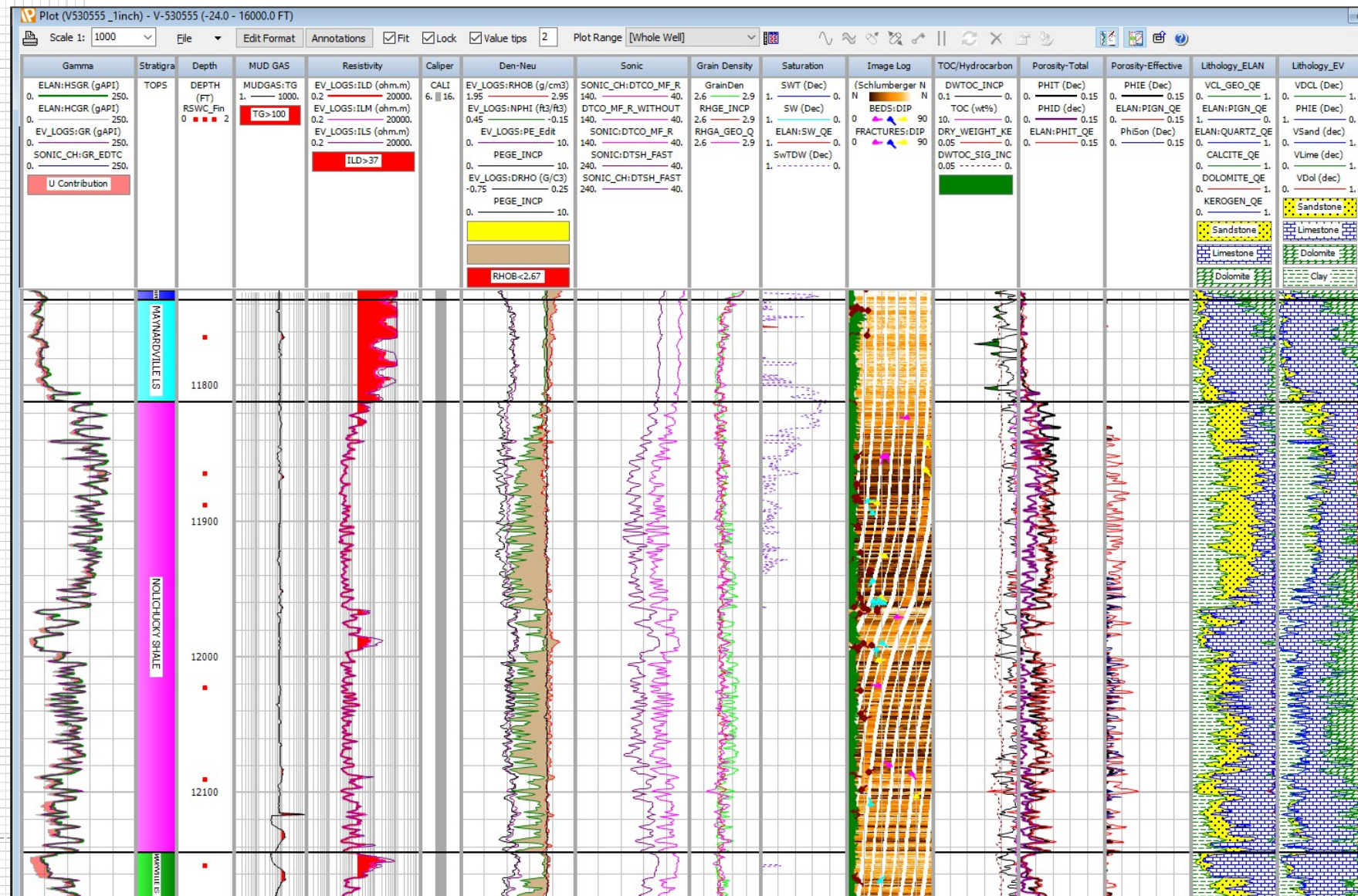
## CT Scanning National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL)

work led by Dustin Crandall, NETL

- 90 cores in Medical CT and 11 high-res Industrial CT scanner



# Nolichucky Shale



## Observations:

- Moderate to high clay content, but low U content
- Low Res and low mud gas
- High Res corresponds to some cleaner tight carbonate

**Avg. Clay Volume:** 28 - 35%

**Average Porosity:** ~4%

- Dominantly clay derived

**Water Saturation:** 100%

**TOC:** No indication of elevated TOC from U, RES, RHOB or Lithoscanner

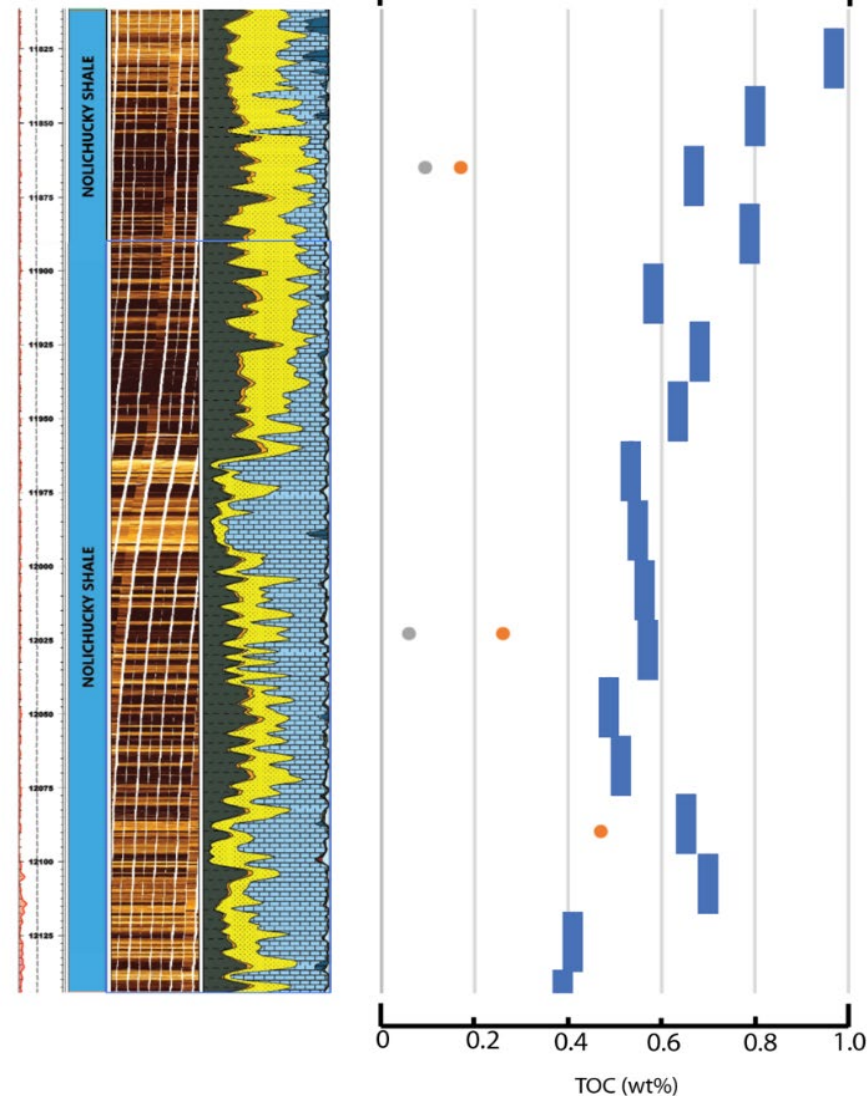
**Fractures:** Few open and healed, some micro-faults in tight carbonate streaks

## Key Interpretive Differences:

- Lithoscanner indicates more quartz and less clay/dolomite than 3 mineral model  
→ higher matrix density for 3min model
- SLB uses Den-Neu porosity whereas EV model using density porosity



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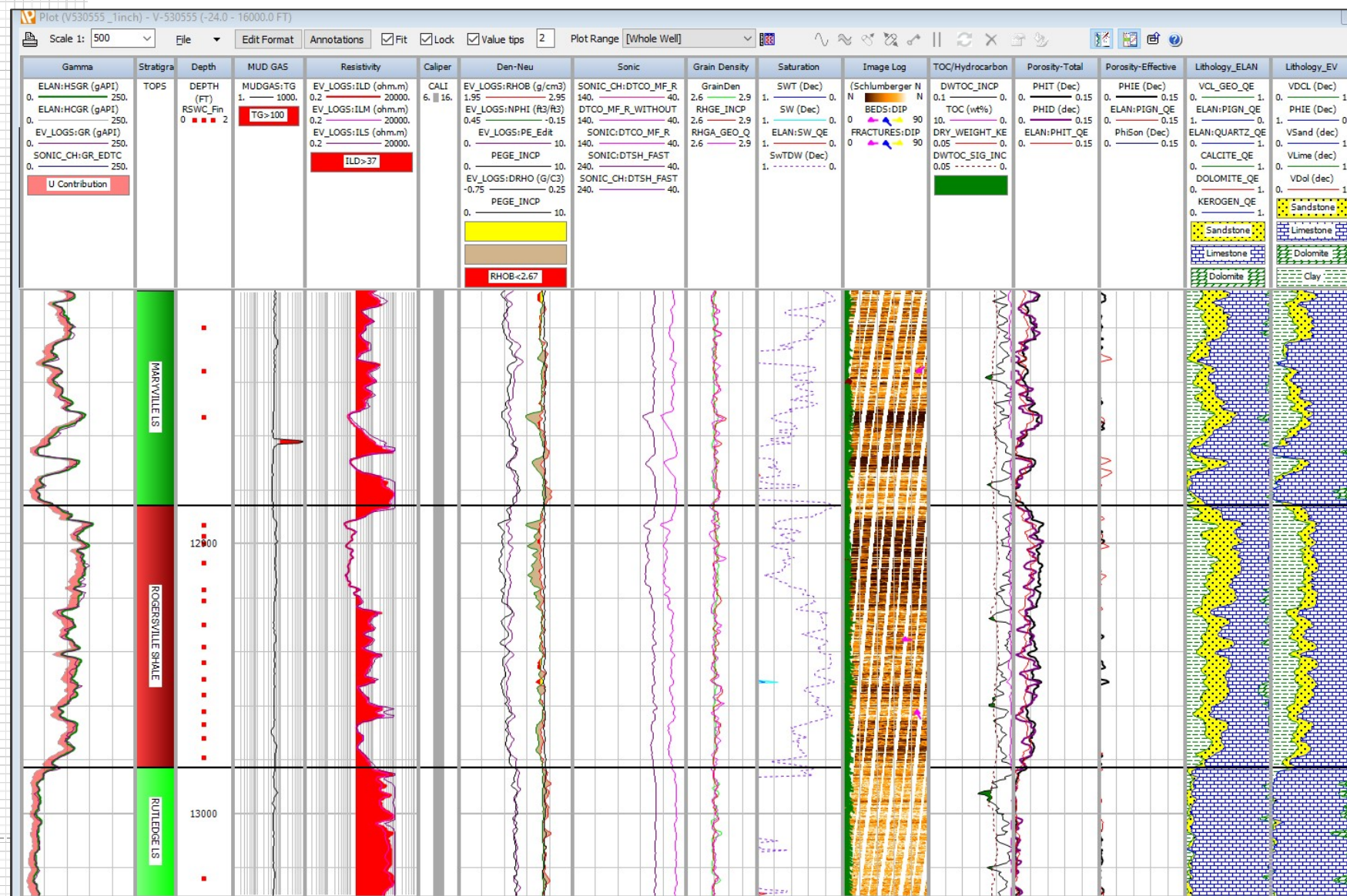
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→ higher matrix density for 3min model
- SLB uses Den-Neu porosity whereas EV model using density porosity

# Rogersville Shale



## Observations:

- Moderate clay content, but low U content
- Moderate to High Res, but low mud gas

**Clay Volume:** 22 - 34%

**Average Porosity:** 2.5 - 3.5%

- All clay derived

**Water Saturation:** 100%

- DW lower saturation is unrealistic given PHIT and clay content

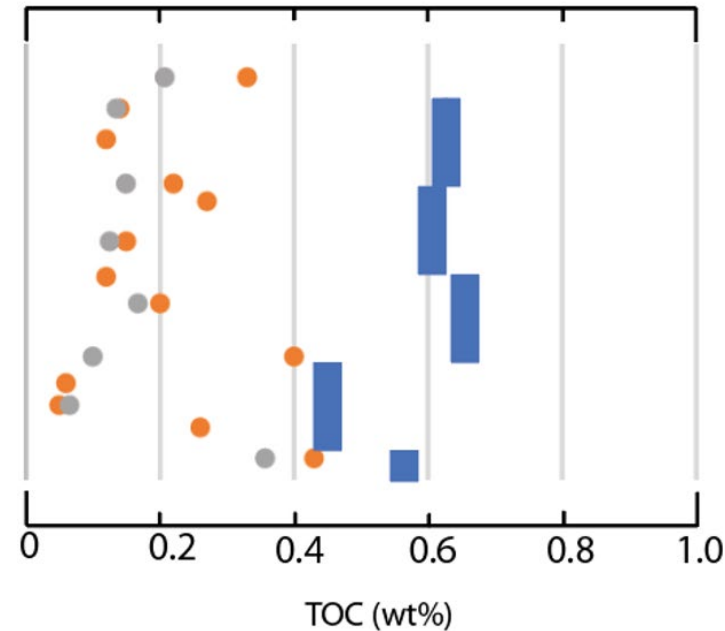
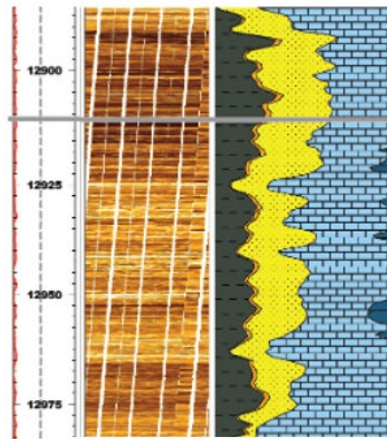
**TOC:** No indication of elevated TOC from U, RES, RHOB or Lithoscanner

**Fractures:** Sparse (2 open)

## Key Interpretive Differences:

- EV interpretation predicts slightly more clay, so slightly higher PHIT

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- Moderate clay content, but low U content
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**Clay Volume:** 22 - 34%

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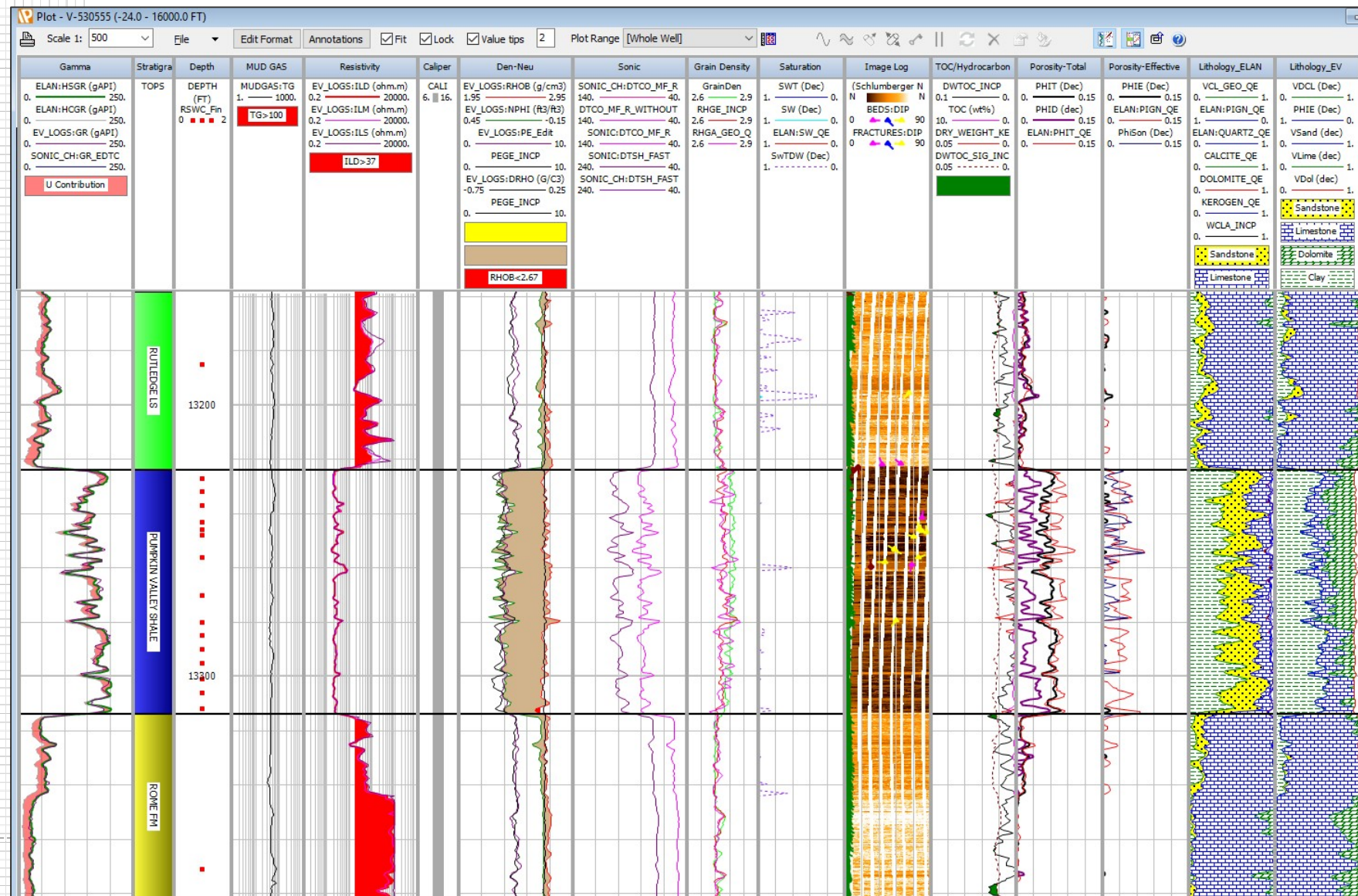
**TOC:** No indication of elevated TOC from U, RES, RHOB or Lithoscanner

**Fractures:** Sparse (2 open)

## Key Interpretive Differences:

- EV interpretation predicts slightly more clay, so slightly higher PHIT

# Pumpkin Valley Shale



## Observations:

- High clay content, but low U content
- Low Res and low mud gas

**Clay Volume:** 42 - 54%

**Average Porosity:** 5.5 - 6.5%

- All clay derived

**Water Saturation:** 100%

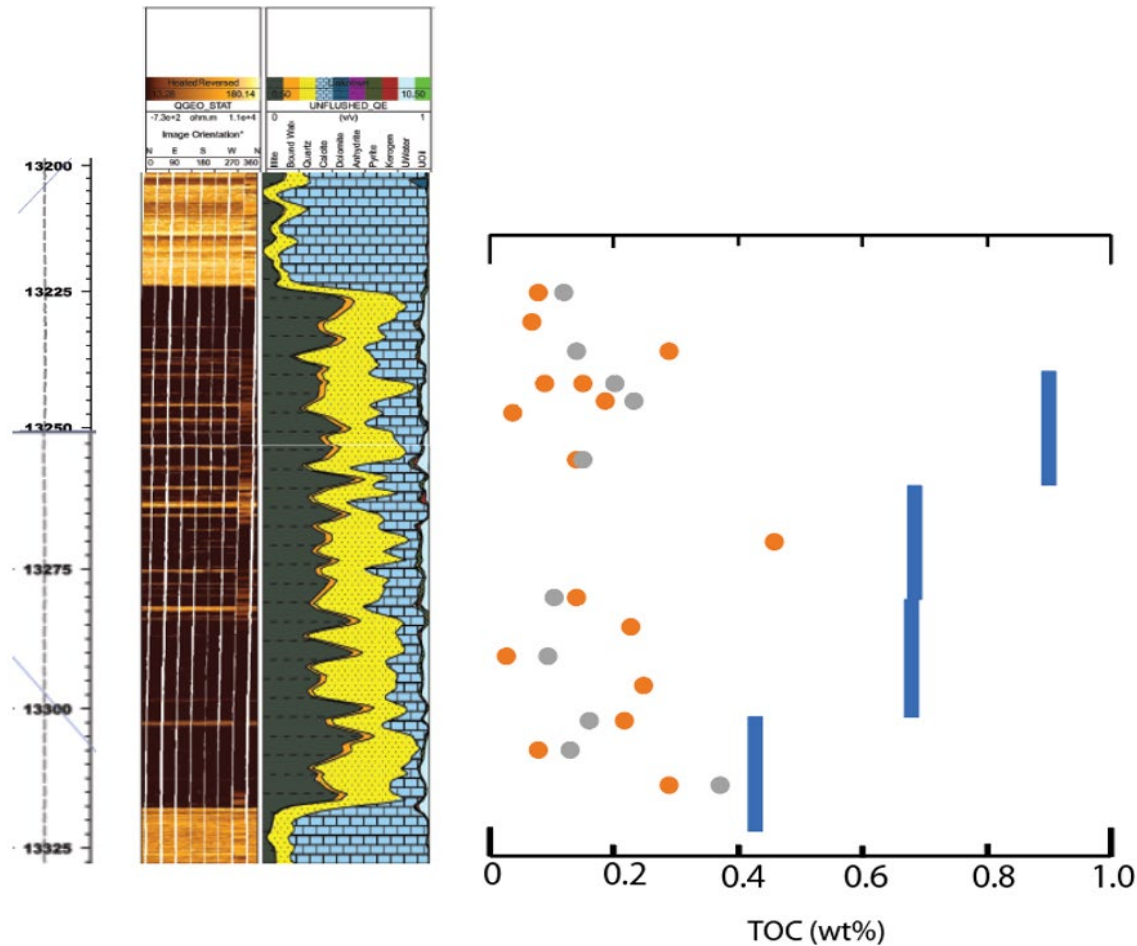
**TOC:** No indication of elevated TOC from U, RES, RHOB or Lithoscanner

**Fractures:** Few open and healed

## Key Interpretive Differences:

- Lithoscanner indicates more quartz and less dolomite than 3 mineral model → higher matrix density for 3min model
- SLB uses Den-Neu porosity whereas EV model using density porosity

# Pumpkin Valley Shale



## Observations:

- High clay content, but low U content
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**Clay Volume:** 42 - 54%

**Average Porosity:** 5.5 - 6.5%

- All clay derived

**Water Saturation:** 100%

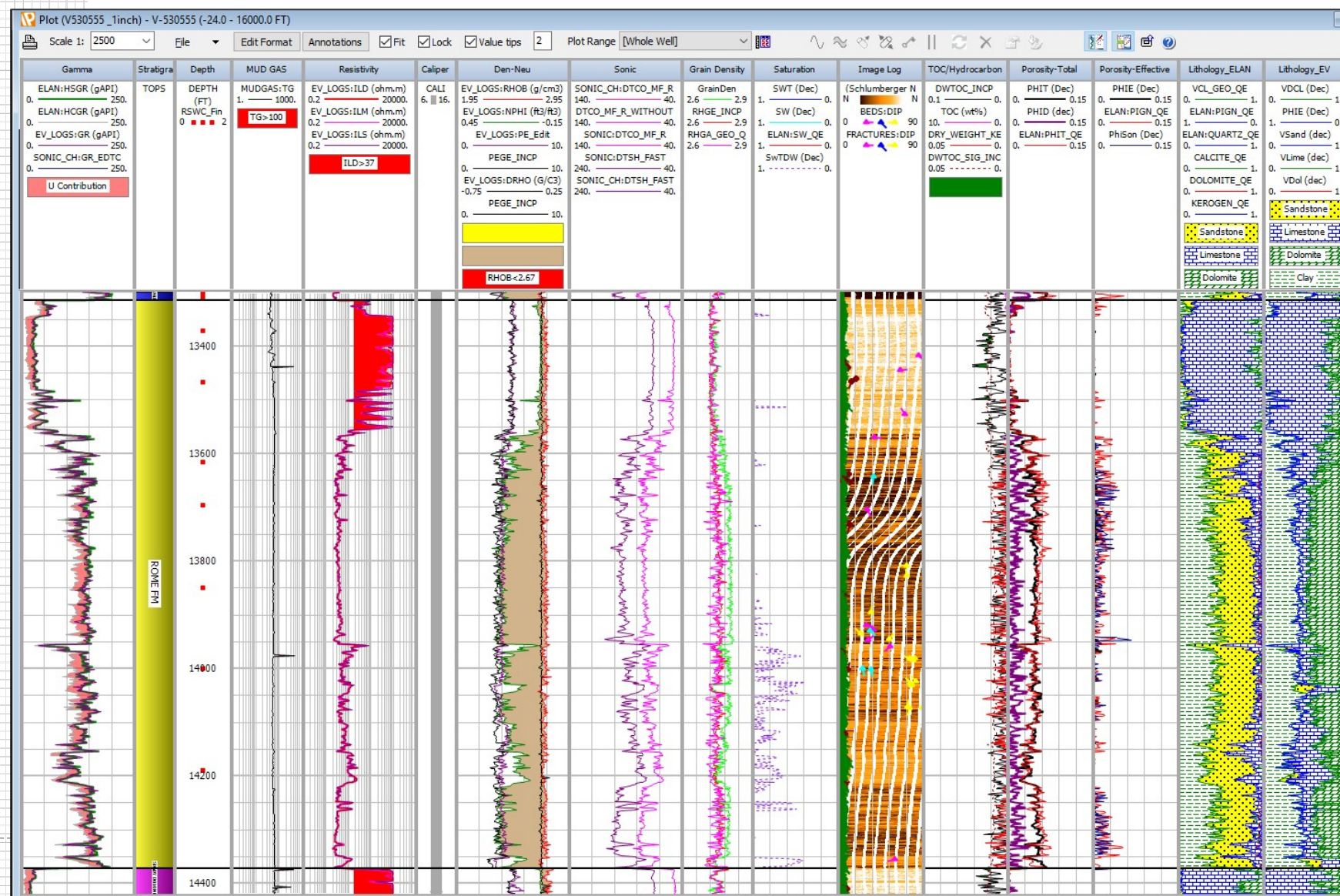
**TOC:** No indication of elevated TOC from U, RES, RHOB or Lithoscanner

**Fractures:** Few open and healed

## Key Interpretive Differences:

- Lithoscanner indicates more quartz and less dolomite than 3 mineral model → higher matrix density for 3min model
- SLB uses Den-Neu porosity whereas EV model using density porosity

# Rome Formation



## Observations:

- Moderate clay content, but low U content
- High Res in tight upper carbonate, low in shale

**Clay Volume:** 32 - 34%

**Average Porosity:** 0% in clean carb and 4 -6% in shale

- Dominantly clay derived

**Water Saturation:** 100%

- DW lower saturation (60-80%) could be possible given PHIT and VCL

**TOC:** No indication of elevated TOC from U, RES, RHOB or Lithoscanner

**Fractures:** Cluster of open, healed and a few microfaults

## Key Interpretive Differences:

- Good agreement on clay but EV model again predicts more dolomite instead of quartz → EV model has higher grain density but porosity interpretation is nearly identical due to higher neutron porosity

# Results to Date - Wireline Interpretation

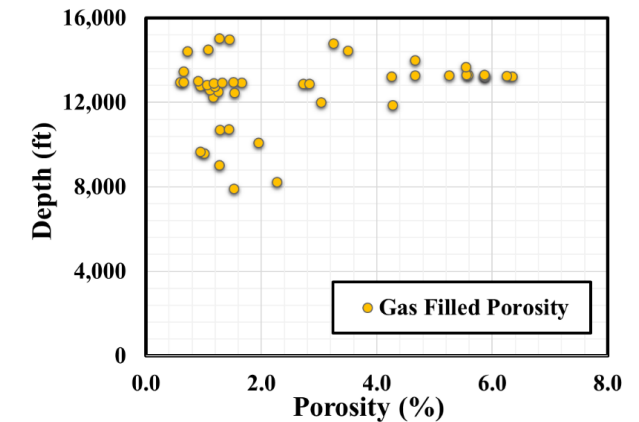
FORMATION	MUD GAS (units)		CLAY VOLUME (%)	POROSITY (%)	WATER SATURATION	TOC
	BACKGROUND	MAX				
NOLICHUCKY SHALE	75	112	28 - 35	4	100	No indication of elevated TOC from U, RES, RHOB or Lithoscanner
ROGERSVILLE SHALE	50	73	22 - 34	2.5 - 3.5	100	No indication of elevated TOC from U, RES, RHOB or Lithoscanner
PUMPKIN VALLEY SHALE	45	68	42 - 54	5.5 - 6.5	100	No indication of elevated TOC from U, RES, RHOB or Lithoscanner
ROME FORMATION	55	74	32 - 34	4 - 6	100	No indication of elevated TOC from U, RES, RHOB or Lithoscanner

## Gas / Oil Shows:

- Gas shows were unimpressive with the largest gas shows in Knox section (~350 unit Max)
- Oil shows were limited to the basal Shady Dolomite and Granite Wash where the greatest fluorescence and milky cut was experienced in the upper 50 feet of the GW

## Porosity:

- Porosity within the Target Interval was low (see detail above), ranging from 2.5 – 6.5% throughout the Conasauga and Rome Shales



## Water Saturation:

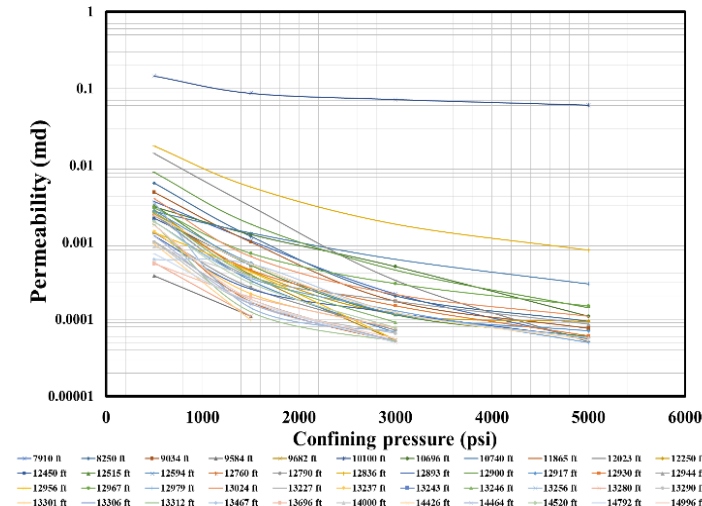
- Water saturation within the Target Interval was high (see detail above), at or approaching 100%

## TOC:

- Wireline data provides no indication of elevated TOC within the Target Interval

## Fractures:

- Relatively low intensity fractured interval. 419 natural fractures were identified (without preferred strike trend)



# On-going Research

- Sedimentology and Geochemistry
- Core Analysis (Fracture Conductivity & Permeability)



a) before experiment

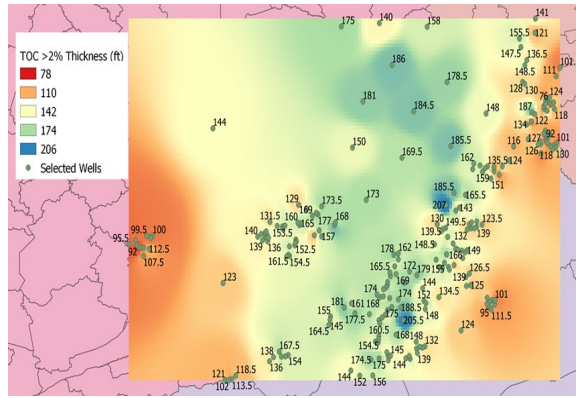
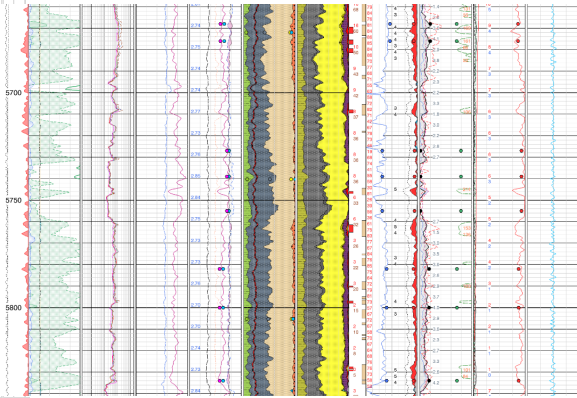


b) after experiment with monolayer proppant

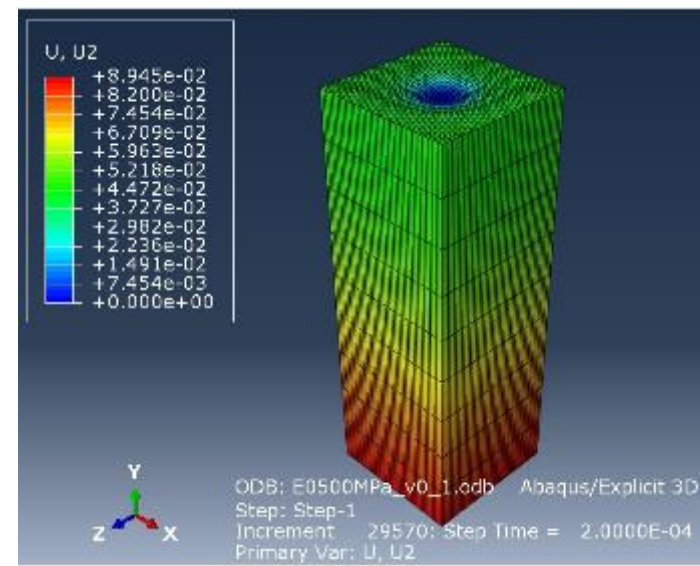
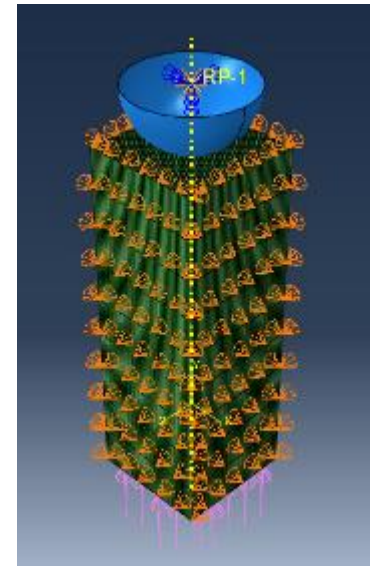
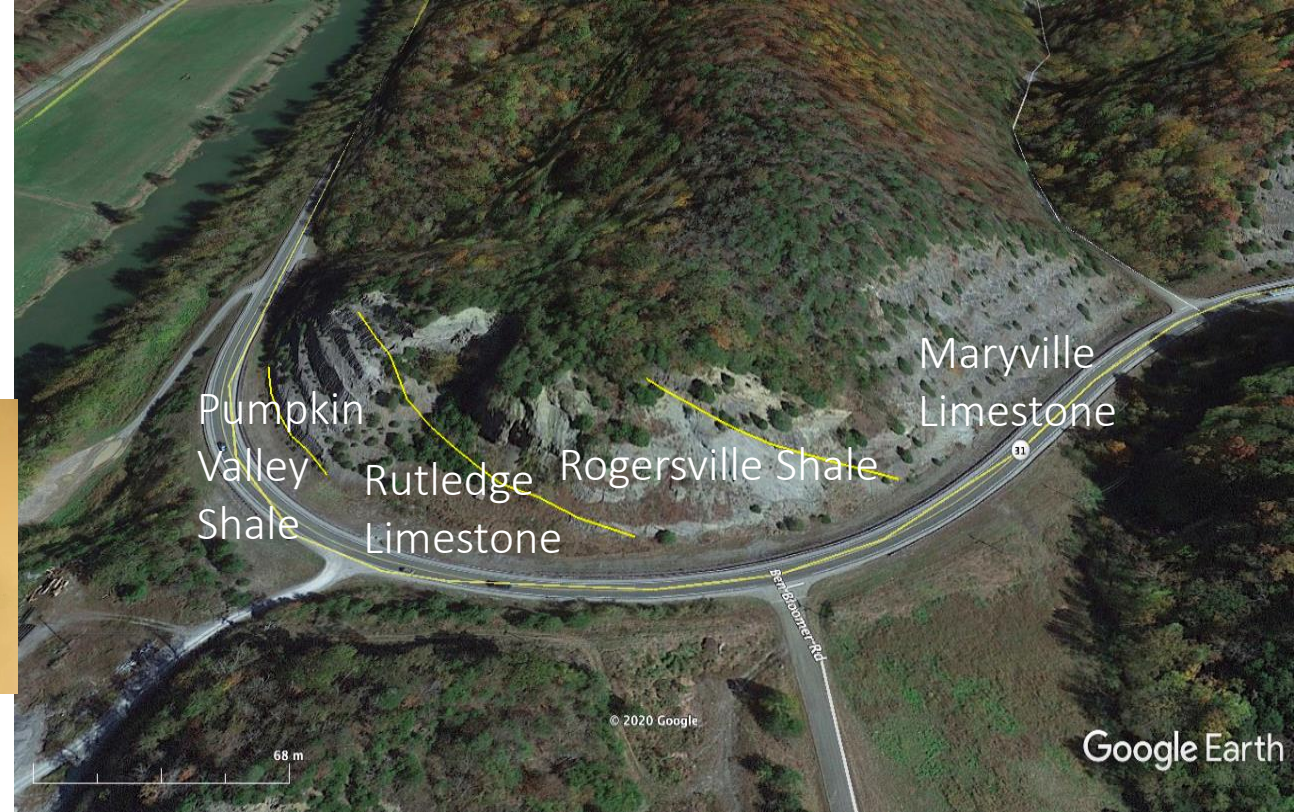


c) after experiment with 10-layer proppant

- Log Analysis and Sweet Spot Identification



- Reservoir Modeling and Proppant Compaction



# *Dissemination of Results*

- Advisory Stakeholder Group includes community leaders
- Local outreach events completed, and future ones planned
- Multiple press releases by DOE and VT
- Project Website: [www.esup.energy.vt.edu](http://www.esup.energy.vt.edu)
- 2 MS and 2 PhD Degrees completed
- 1 MS and 1 PhD Degrees in progress
- Multiple journal and conference publications

**Nino Ripepi, Virginia Tech**  
[nino@vt.edu](mailto:nino@vt.edu)  
540-231-5458