# Membrane-Sorbent Hybrid System for Post-Combustion CO<sub>2</sub> Capture (Contract No. DE-FE-0031603)



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> Pittsburgh, PA August 28, 2018

### **Project Objective**

- Project objective is to design and construct a 1 MW scale membranesorbent hybrid post-combustion carbon capture system and evaluate its operation in a long duration field test using flue gas
- Hybrid process consists of a polymeric membrane and a low temperature physical adsorbent to remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the flue gas
  - Membrane is being developed by MTR
  - Adsorbent has been developed by TDA for post-combustion capture
  - Early proof-of-concept demonstrations in an SBIR Phase II/IIB project (DE-SC0011885) proved the feasibility of the hybrid system

#### **Main Project Tasks**

BY1	✓ Completed the design of the 1 MW scale test unit
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- ✓ Completed the Initial Design Review (Final Review in 09/19)
- ✓ Completed Preliminary Techno-economic analysis

BY2 - Fabrication of the test unit

- Site Preparation, Installation and Shakedown Tests

**BY3** - Field Tests (6-12 months duration)

- High Fidelity Techno-economic analysis



### **Project Team**











#### **Project Duration**

- Start Date = August 17, 2018
- End Date = August 16, 2021

#### **Budget**

University of California - Irvine

- Project Cost = \$10,000,025
- DOE Share = \$8,000,000
- TDA and its partners = \$2,000,025



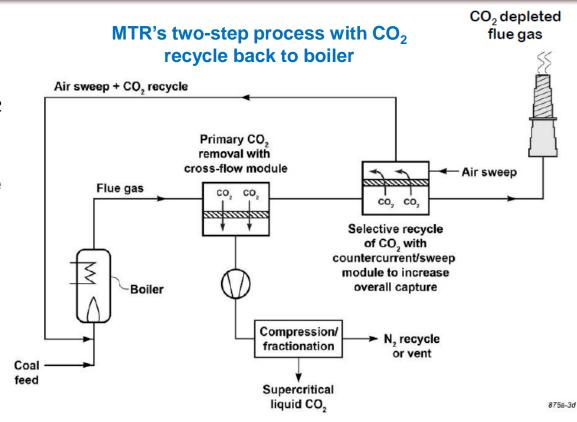
### **Two-Stage Membrane Approach**

#### Two membranes in series

- Primary membrane to remove ~50% of the CO<sub>2</sub> in the flue gas
- Secondary membrane uses air sweep to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> released

#### Advantages

- Avoids high vacuum needed to achieve high CO<sub>2</sub> removal efficiency
- Allows boiler to generate a high CO<sub>2</sub> flue gas



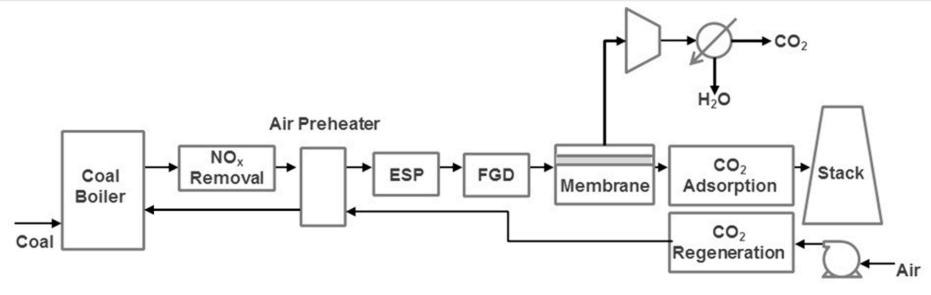
U.S. Patents 7,964,020 and 8,025,715

#### Challenges

- The need to pressurize the flue gas to ~2-3 atm for reasonable performance in secondary membrane
- High pressure drop in secondary membrane
- Oxygen transfer from boiler air intake into the flue gas



### **Hybrid Membrane Sorbent Process**



Primary Air Fan

- Membrane operates at ~50°C under mild vacuum, (~0.3 atm) removes ~50% of CO<sub>2</sub> and almost all water
  - TDA's sorbent removes remaining CO<sub>2</sub> in the membrane effluent (retentate) ensuring 90% carbon capture
  - The boiler feed air is used as a sweep gas to facilitate sorbent regeneration
- Advantages
  - Low pressure drop and high performance at the low P<sub>CO2</sub> in the second stage
  - Greatly reduced oxygen transfer (from the air side to flue gas side)



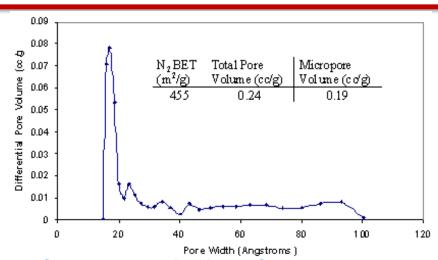
### **TDA Sorbent**

- TDA developed a mesoporous carbon sorbent modified with surface functional groups that remove CO<sub>2</sub> via strong physical adsorption
  - CO<sub>2</sub>-surface interaction is strong enough to allow operation at low partial pressures
  - Because CO<sub>2</sub> is not bonded, the energy input for regeneration is low
- Heat of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption is 4-5 kcal/mol



US Patent 9,120,079, Dietz, Alptekin, Jayaraman "High Capacity Carbon Dioxide Sorbent", US 6,297,293; 6,737,445; 7,167,354

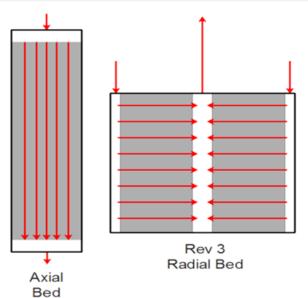
Sorbent optimization and production scale-up was completed in a separate DOE project (DE-0013105)



Sorbent operation in a VSA system was successfully demonstrated with actual flue gas (DE-0013105)

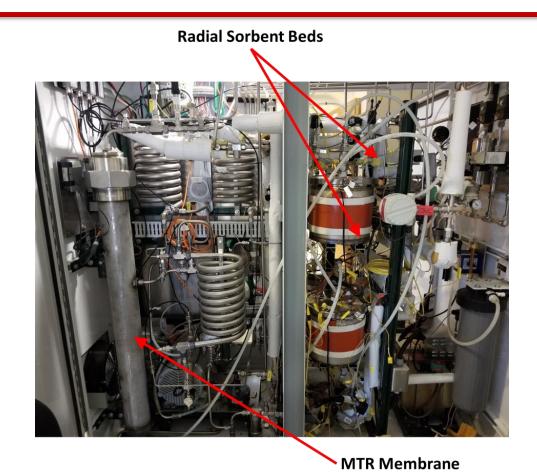


### **Early Work for Hybrid Systems**





TDA's Radial Flow Sorbent Reactors



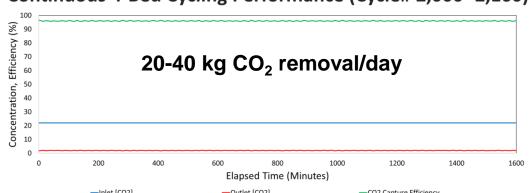
Lab/field tests were successful at 2-4 scfm (20-40 kg/day CO<sub>2</sub>) scale hybrid-membrane sorbent system using simulated and actual coal-derived flue gas



### **Testing at Western Research Institute**



Continuous 4-Bed Cycling Performance (Cycle# 2,000 -2,160)

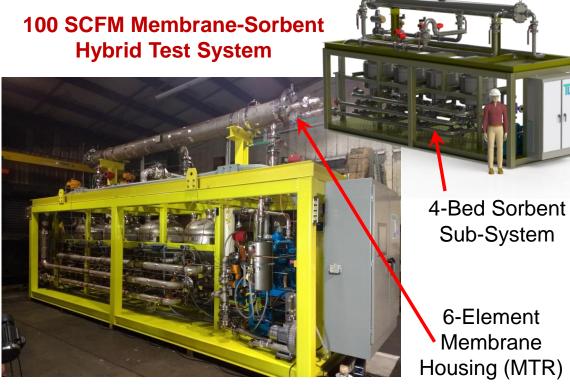


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### **Development Under SBIR Phase IIB**



Wyoming Integrated Test Center (WITC) near Basin Electric's Dry Fork Station in Gillette, WY

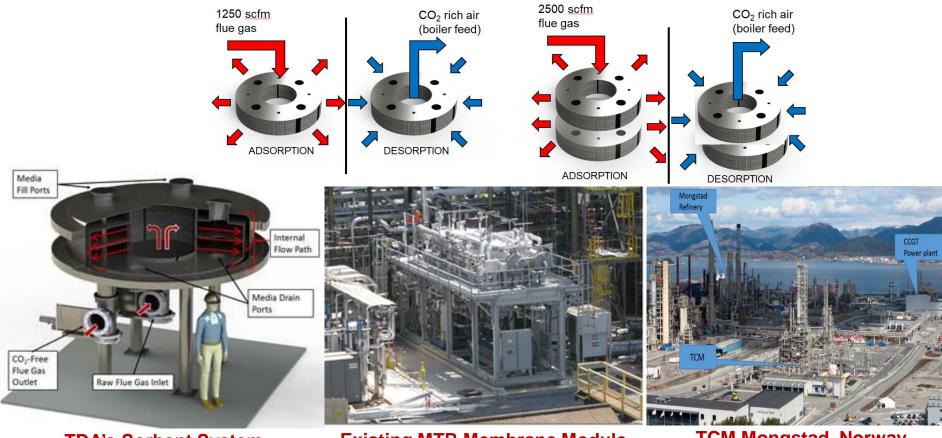


- Completed fabrication of the 100 cfm membrane sorbent hybrid system capable of removing 1 ton per day CO<sub>2</sub>
- Field tests scheduled at WITC in Fall 2019



### **Current Project Focus**

- TDA will develop its modular sorbent bed concept
- MTR will modify an existing unit (20 tpd) previously evaluated at the NCCC
- TCM will host the evaluation of the integrated test unit



**TDA's Sorbent System** 

Existing MTR Membrane Module (20 TPD evaluated at NCCC)

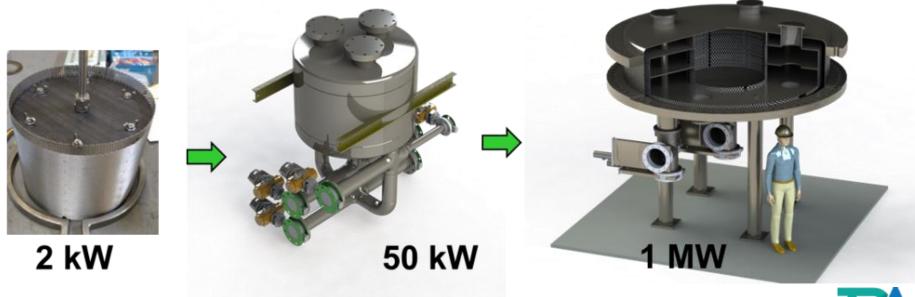
### **Budget Year 1 Activities**

- System Design
  - Design of the TDA Sorbent Vessels
  - Integration of the Sorbent System with MTR System
  - Installation of the Hybrid System to the Host Site
- Preliminary Techno-economic analysis



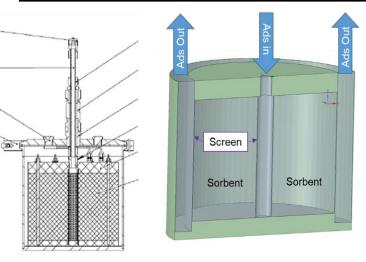
### Design of the Sorbent Vessels

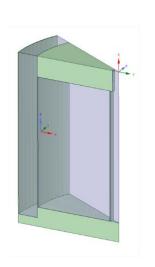
- Design work is supported with CFD simulations to determine the intra-modular flow, concentration and temperature distributions
  - The key design objective is to enhance sorbent utilization
  - Understanding flow distribution is critical to design an effective gassolid contactor
- Data validation from the smallest test module is now complete
- Further validation from 50 kW module will be available in late 2019

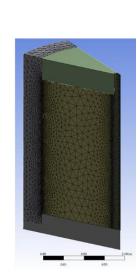


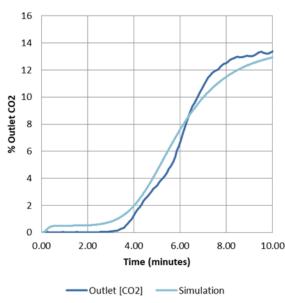
### **CFD Modeling**

#### **CFD Simulation of the 2 kW Module**





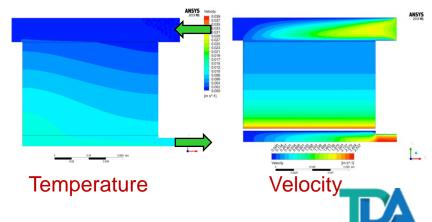




#### end of adsorption

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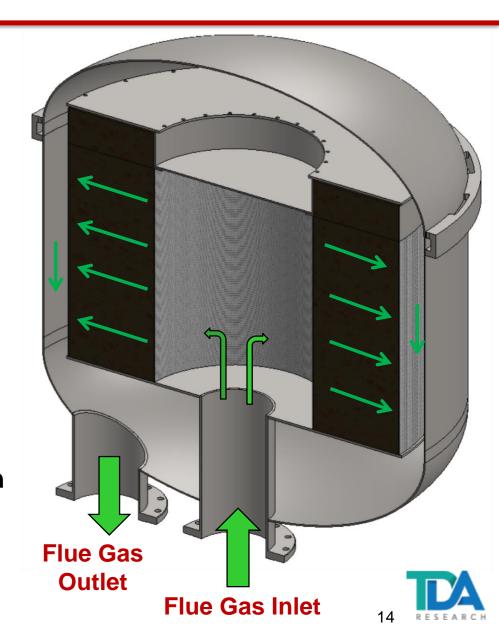
#### end of desorption



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### Design of the 1 MW Reactor

- Bed volume = 1.33 m³ (with additional room for contingencies)
- Inner screen dia. = 30"
- Outer screen dia. = 62"
- Vessel OD = 72"
- Piping = 12" SCH40S
- Locking ring flange for access
- Vessel weight (w/o sorbent) = 3,000 lb
- Est. dP = 44 mbar (8x16 mesh sorbent)
- Est. dP = 106 mbar (12x40 mesh sorbent)

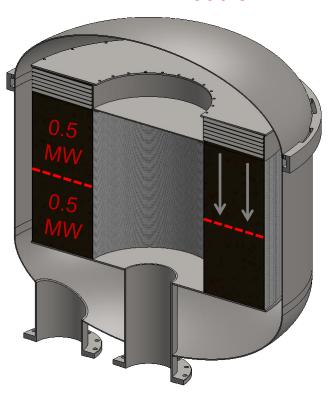


### **Access to the Module**

Reactor head design with pneumatics to lift it open



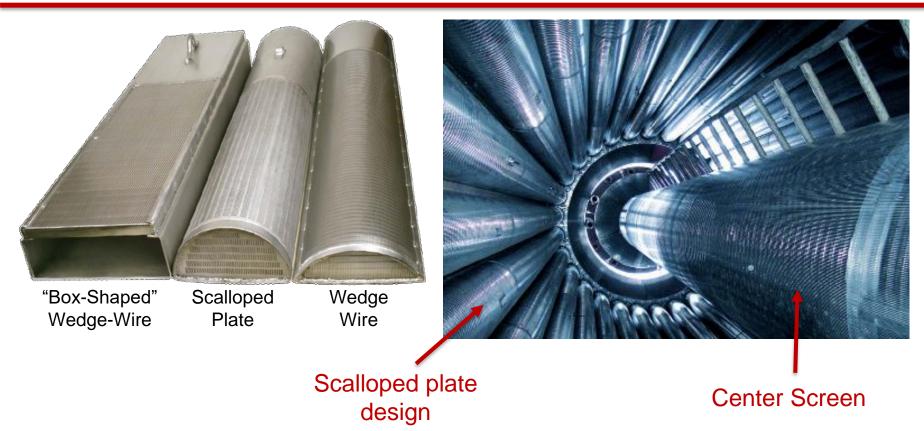
1 MW Module



- Reactor end cap/head opens up pneumatically to allow sorbent fill
- Sorbent bed is a donut shaped basket that can be loaded from the top
- Blanked off section will prevent channeling due to bed shrinkage
- Minimal media handling is required to test modular reactor concept



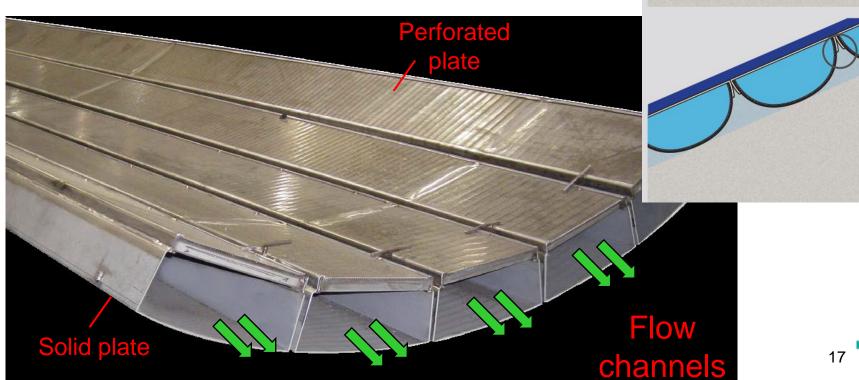
### **Sorbent Bed Screens**



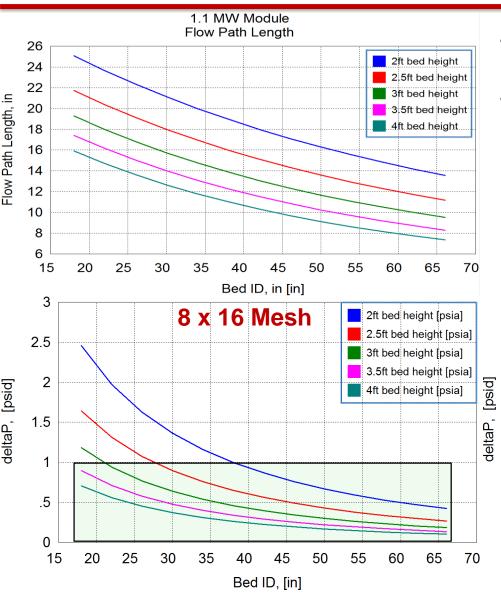
- Johnson Screens wedge-wire design will be used to hold the sorbent bed in place (i.e., the donut-shaped basket)
- The sorbent will be loaded/emptied from the top
- Mesh size/design is optimized to provide the desired structural properties and gas distribution with minimum pressure drop

### **Box-Shaped Screens**

- Box-shaped wedge-wire configuration was selected for the final design
- The design will prevent sorbent being wedged in between two screen modules
- The box-size is optimized to shape the structure to fit well into the selected vessel



### Particle Size vs Pressure Drop



- Trade-off between particle size and the minimum Bed ID was examined
- Design basis is a pressure drop of less than 1 psid (~ 70 mbar)
  - Minimum Bed ID for 12 x 40 mesh particles is about 16"
  - Minimum Bed ID for 8 x 16 mesh particles is about 28"

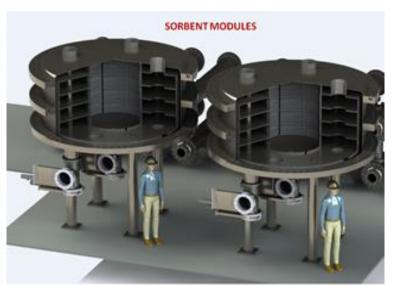
1.1 MW Module 12x40 Mesh, 0.28 Void Fraction 12 x 40 Mesh 2ft bed height [psia] 2.5ft bed height [psia] 2.5 3ft bed height [psia] 3.5ft bed height [psia] 2 4ft bed height [psia] 1.5 1 .5 0 15 20 25 30 35 45 50 55 60 70 Bed ID, [in]

### Integration of MTR and TDA Systems

- MTR has identified the modifications needed to their existing 20 TPD CO<sub>2</sub> removal membrane skid
- All major process equipment has been designed and selected
  - Engineering drawings and 3-dimensional layouts for all critical equipment is complete
  - Process flow diagram and process instrumentation diagrams are complete
- HAZOP review between TDA, MTR and TCM is scheduled on September 3-4, 2019



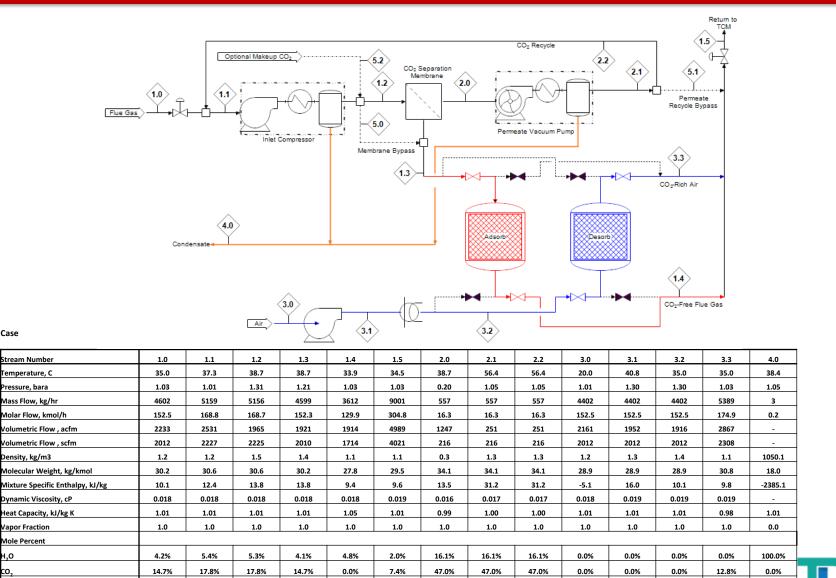
Existing MTR Membrane Module (20 TPD evaluated at NCCC)



TDA's Sorbent Module (20 TPD to be built)



### PFD and Stream Data - TCM 1MW



Case

3.2%

0.9%

77.0%

0.9%

72.9%

0.9%

72.9%

3.2%

0.9%

77.1%

3.8%

1.1%

12.3%

0.5%

77.8%

2.2%

0.5%

34.1%

2.2%

0.5%

34.2%

0.5%

34.2%

21.4%

0.0%

21.4%

0.0%

21.4%

0.0%

78.6%

18.7%

0.0%

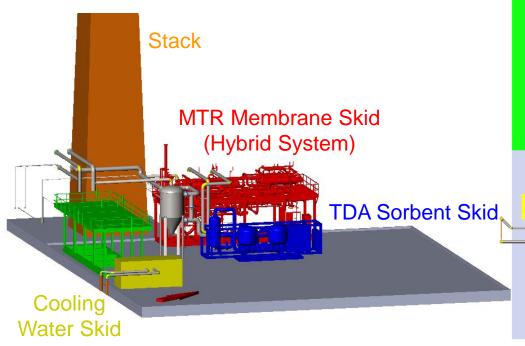
68.5%

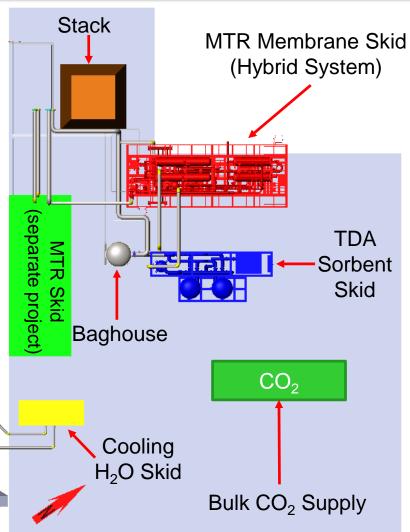
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### **Site Connections**

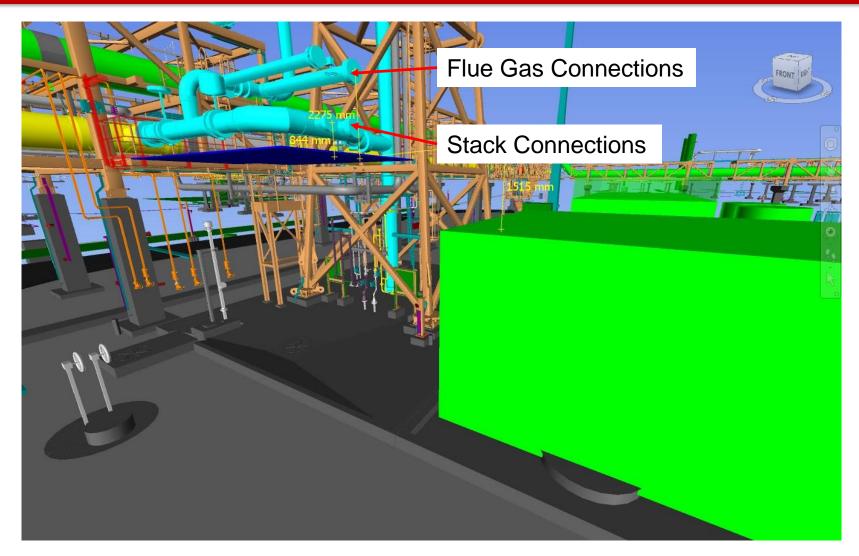
- General arrangement drawings for the skids are completed
- The utility and site requirements for the field test unit has been finalized
- Site modifications are expected to be completed in Spring 2020



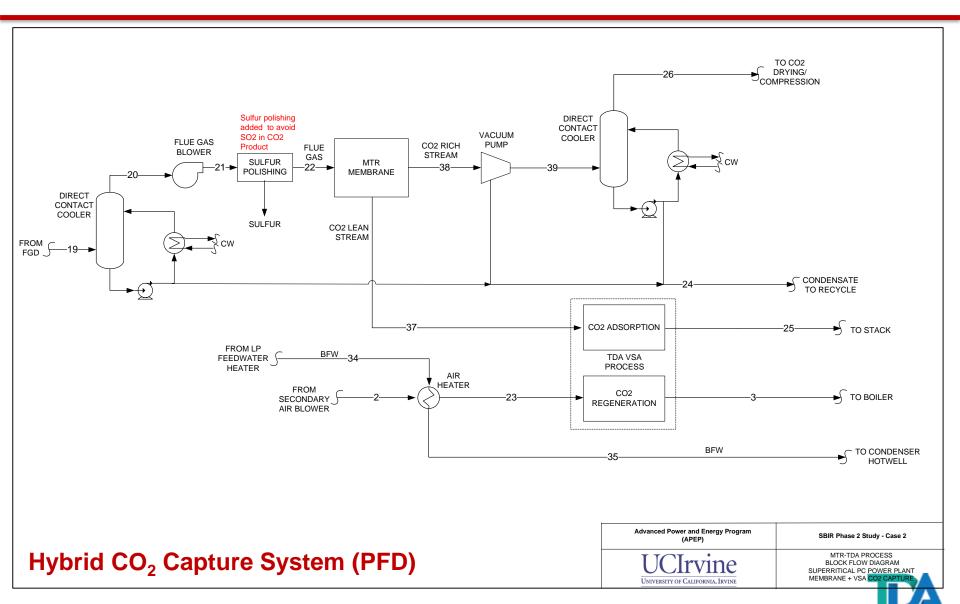




### Interconnections to TCM



### **Aspen Process Modeling (UCI)**



### **Preliminary TEA**

 TEA for supercritical power plants suggest substantial improvement in cycle efficiency and cost of CO<sub>2</sub> capture for the hybrid technology

Power plant Type	Supercritical PC Plant		
CO <sub>2</sub> Capture Technology	No Capture	Amines	Hybrid
Case ID	Case 11 DOE	Case 12 DOE	TDA Case 1
Gross Power Generated, kWe	580,400	662,800	698,793
Auxiliary Load, kWe	112,830	112,830	148,793
Net Power, kWe	549,970	549,970	550,000
Net Plant Efficiency, % HHV	39.30	28.40	31.48
Coal Feed Rate, kg/h	185,759	256,652	231,832
Total Plant Cost, \$/kWe	1,981	3,563	2,882
COE without CO <sub>2</sub> TS&M, \$/MWh	82.27	137.45	116.55
COE with CO <sub>2</sub> TS&M, \$/MWh	-	147.44	125.43
Cost of CO <sub>2</sub> Captured, \$/tonne	-	55.24	38.59

- 1st year levelized CO<sub>2</sub> capture cost (excluding TS&M) for hybrid system at \$38.59/tonne is lower than that for Case 12 by \$16.65/tonne (30.14% lower)
- Additional efficiency penalties may be introduced due to purification needs on the CO<sub>2</sub> product stream and deviations in vacuum pump efficiency

### **Next Steps for Budget Period 2**

#### Budget Period 2 (BP2: 8/15/2019- 8/14/2020)

- TDA and MTR complete the fabrication/integration of the 1 MW membrane-sorbent hybrid test unit
- TCM to carry out all the site modifications needed to host field tests
- Prepare and submit a test plan to DOE
- UCI will update the Aspen® process simulation model
- Ship and install the 1 MW pilot unit at TCM facilities in Mongstad, Norway



### Acknowledgements

- DOE/NETL funding provided the DE-FE-0031603 project is greatly acknowledged
- Project Manager, Andrew B. O'Palko