



Center for Applied Energy Research

Application of a Heat Integrated Post-Combustion Carbon Dioxide Capture System with Hitachi Advanced Solvent into Existing Coal-Fired Power Plant (DE-FE0007395)

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University of Kentucky - Center for Applied Energy Research

<https://caer.uky.edu/power-generation/>

Current Accomplishments

- Additional advanced solvent campaign complete
- Intensified process modification design and construction complete
- Commissioning and startup complete
- Initial evaluation on modified process complete

Funding

Federal – \$16,291,967

Cost Share – \$5,932,902

Team Members

0.7 MWe Pilot-Scale CO₂ Capture Project

KU E.W. Brown Generating Station

Sponsored by:

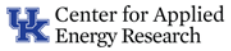
U.S. Department of Energy Office of Fossil Energy
 National Energy Technology Laboratory
 Kentucky Department of Energy Development and Independence
 Carbon Management Research Group
 University of Kentucky



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Fossil Energy



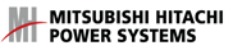
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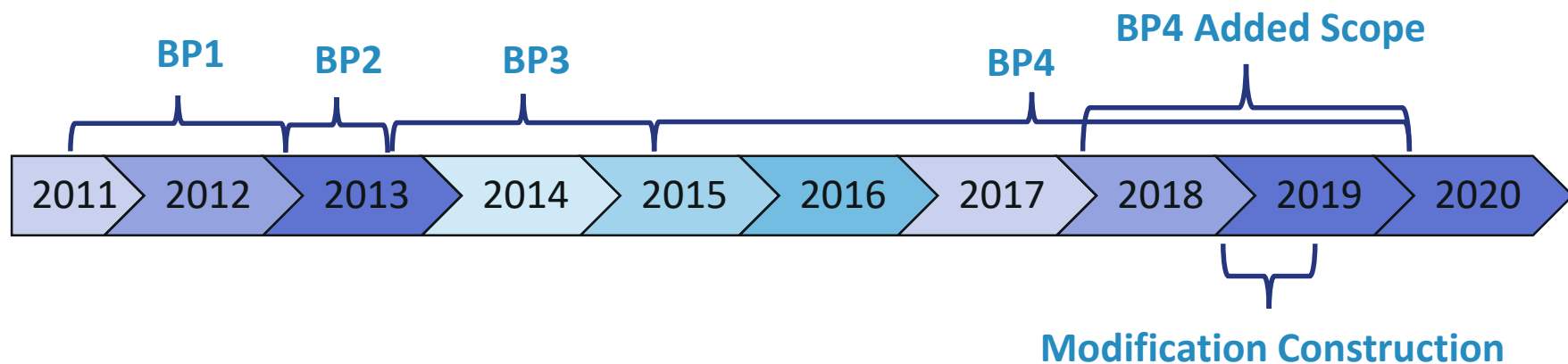
Project Performance Dates

BP1: October 1, 2011 to January 31, 2013 (16 months)

BP2: February 1, 2013 to August 31, 2013 (7 months)

BP3: September 1, 2013 to March 31, 2015 (19 months)

BP4: April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2020 (60 months)



Added Scope:

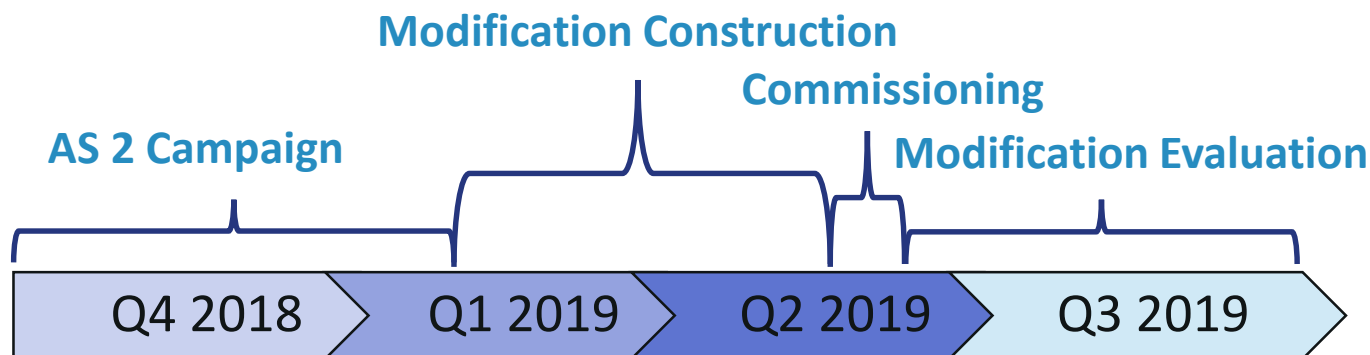
- Testing of additional advanced solvents
- Process modification to include pre-concentrating membrane and solid-assisted water washing

BP4 Milestones

- ✓ Advanced solvent campaign and degradation study – 12/31/2018
- ✓ Fabrication of process modification equipment complete – 1/4/2019
- ✓ Modified pilot unit commissioning complete – 7/16/2019

BP4 Success Criteria

- ✓ Documented delivery of equipment onto plant site according to design and construction specifications – 4/30/2019
- ✓ Certification that the completed process modification system meets the design performance specifications – 7/16/2019



UK Blend Solvent Campaign: June to November 2018

Construction: February 2018 to May 2019

Commissioning: June 2019

Membrane and Water Wash Preliminary Evaluation: Since July 2019

Project Overview

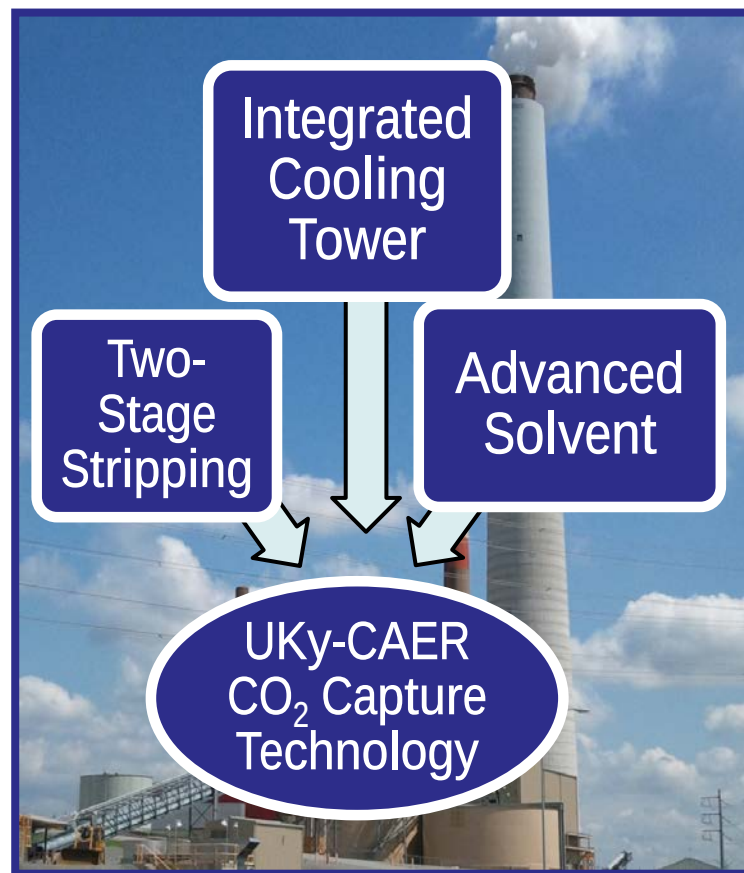
- 0.7 MWe advanced post-combustion CO₂ capture small pilot
- Modular design
- Installed at Kentucky Utilities E.W. Brown Generating Station in Harrodsburg, KY, approximately 30 miles from UKy-CAER
- Includes several UKy-CAER developed technologies
- Over 4500 hours of operation
- Five solvents tested: 30 wt% MEA baseline, H3-1, AS 1, 6M MEA, AS 2
- Installation of process modification including a CO₂ preconcentrating membrane and water wash system



UKy-CAER Advanced CO₂ Capture Technology

Motivation

- Reduced energy penalty and costs
- Utilization of low grade heat via internal heat pump
 - Secondary air stripper
 - Liquid desiccant for cooling tower
- Near-zero makeup water for amine loop to save operation costs
- Advanced Solvents



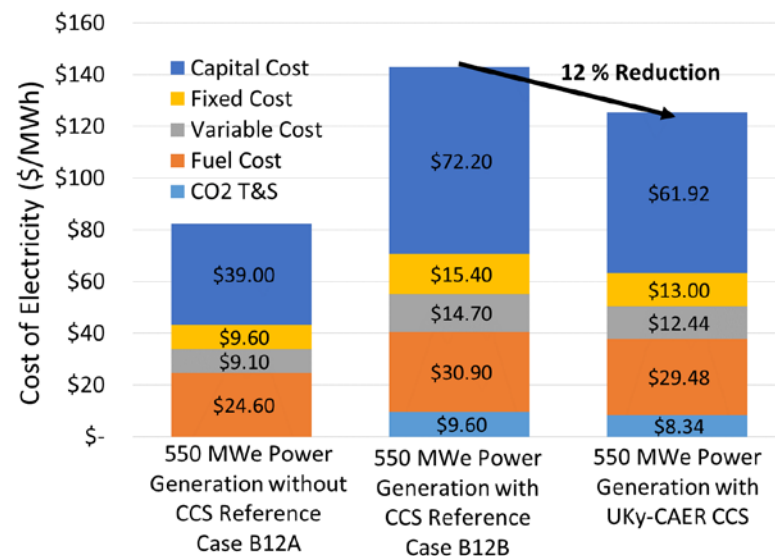
Performance Metrics Obtained

- ✓ Mass Transfer Intensification: increase in absorption rate, 5-11% increase in rich loading, absorber with 40 ft packing with near equilibrium loading achievable
- ✓ Two-Stage Solvent Regeneration: leading to 8% less energy compared to conventional with >10% of regeneration in secondary air stripper demonstrated, 15-17% vol% CO₂ at absorber inlet due to recycling
- ✓ Robust Process Performance proven for various solvents: ≥80% trouble free startups, capable of both daily startups and shutdowns and 24/7 operations
- ✓ Process Stability: Generally ≤5% variation of key process parameters
- ✓ Solvent Quality: Low makeup rate required due to low primary stripper bottom T <245 °F and negligible effect of secondary stripper on solvent degradation
- ✓ Amine Loop Water Makeup: No DI water system needed with the application of water evaporator for air stripper

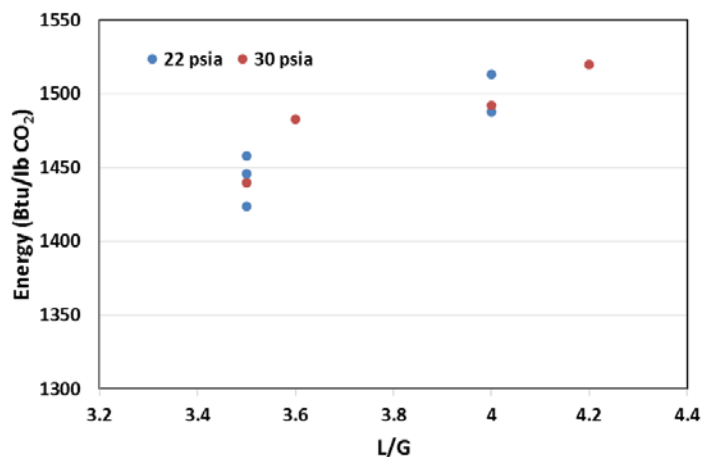
Costs of UKy-CAER CCS

- ✓ Plant Efficiency (HHV basis) of 34.0%, a 5% increase compared to RC B12B
- ✓ Capital Cost of \$61.90/MWh, a 14% reduction compared to RC B12B
- ✓ Cost of Electricity of \$117/MWh, a 12% reduction compared to RC B12B
- ✓ CO₂ Capture Cost of \$41.40/tonne CO₂, excluding T&S, a 29% reduction compared to RC B12B

	RC B12B	UKy-CAER CCS	Percent Difference
Net Power, Mwe	550	550	0%
Total Plant Cost (2011 \$/kW)	3524	2977	-16%
Total Overnight Cost (2011\$/kW)	4333	3660	-16%
Total As-Spent Cost (2011\$/kW)	4940	4173	-16%
Cost of Electricity (\$/MWh, 2011\$)	133.2	116.9	-12%
CO ₂ T&S Costs	9.6	8.3	-13%
Fuel Costs	30.9	29.5	-5%
Variable Costs	12.3	12.4	1%
Fixed Costs	15.4	13.0	-16%
Capital Costs	72.2	61.9	-14%
Cost of CO ₂ Captured (\$/tonne CO ₂)	58.2	41.4	-29%



Advanced Solvent 2 Campaign – Regeneration Energy

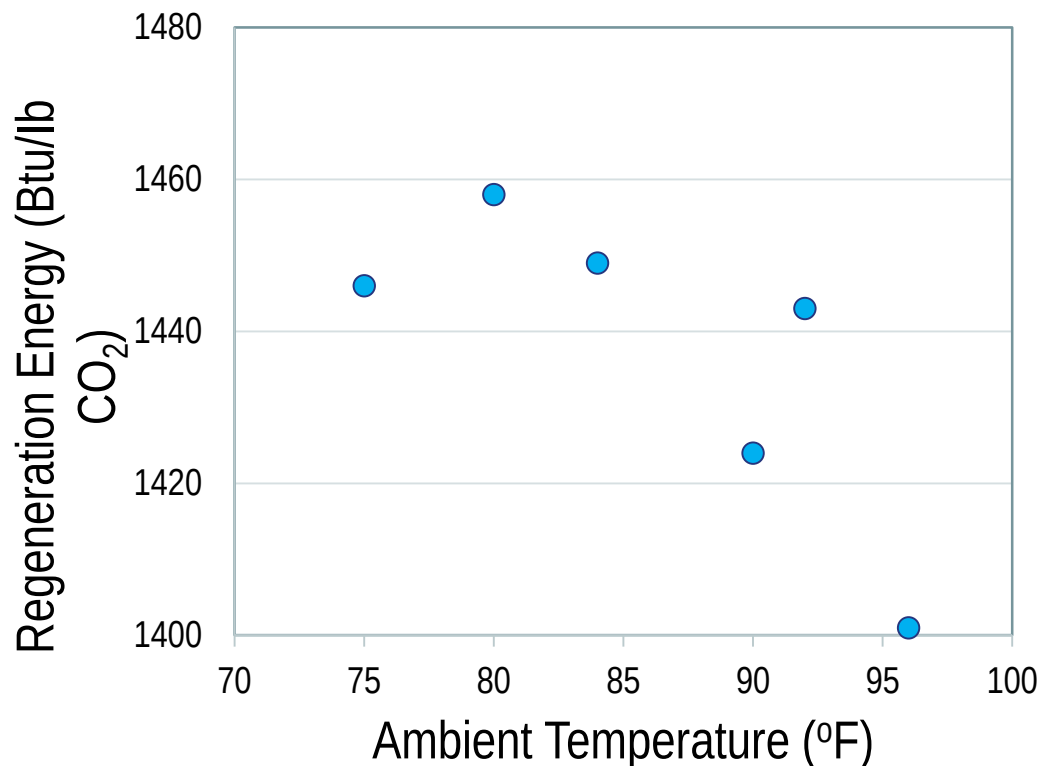


Performance Compared to 30 wt% MEA	Hitachi H3-1	Advanced Solvent 1	Advanced Solvent 2
Energy Penalty	33% savings	30% savings	14% savings
Solvent Circulation Rate	~35-45% reduction	~30% reduction	~same
Cyclic Capacity	~1.5X	~1.5X	~1.0X
Viscosity	2.5 – 3X	~1.5X	~1.0X
Surface Tension	~0.6X	~1.0X	~0.8X
Degradation Products	Low	Low	Low
Solvent Regeneration Energy Measured at UKy-CAER 0.7 MWe CCS	1022 Btu/lb CO ₂	1070 BTU/lb CO ₂	1315 BTU/lb CO ₂

Despite differences in chemistry and physical properties, advanced solvents tested perform similarly.

Advanced Solvent 2 Campaign – Effect of Ambient T

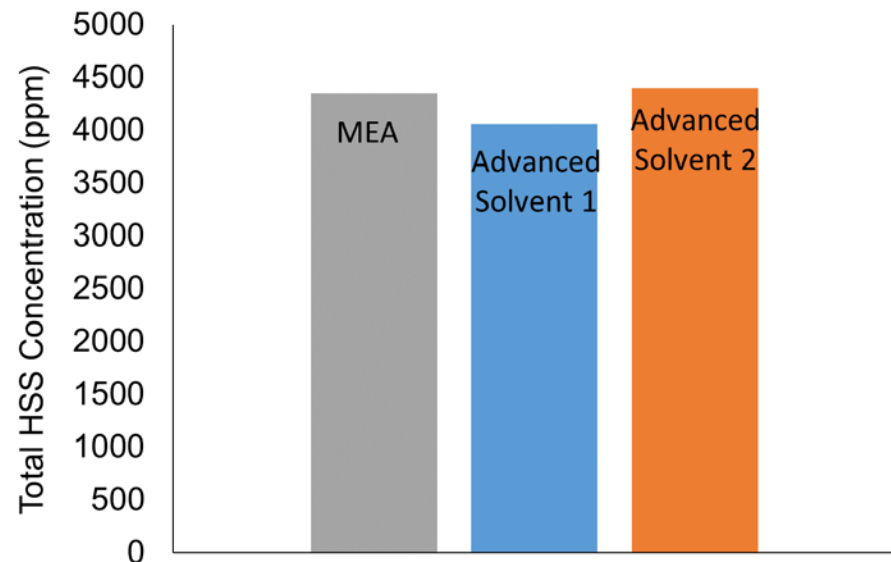
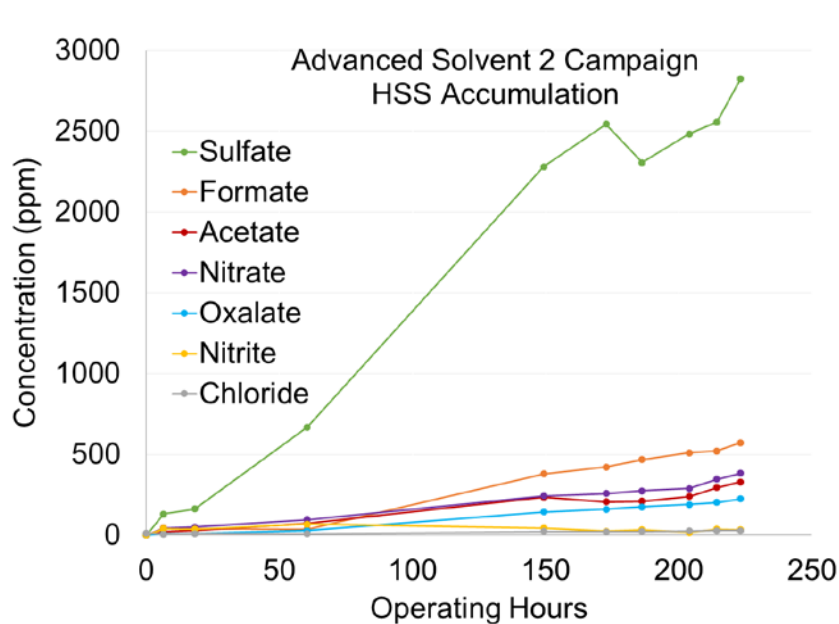
~50 BTU/lb CO₂ captured decrease in regeneration energy with 20 °F increase in ambient temperature



Same L/G = 3.5, Stripper pressure = 22 psia

Advanced Solvent 2 Campaign – Solvent Stability

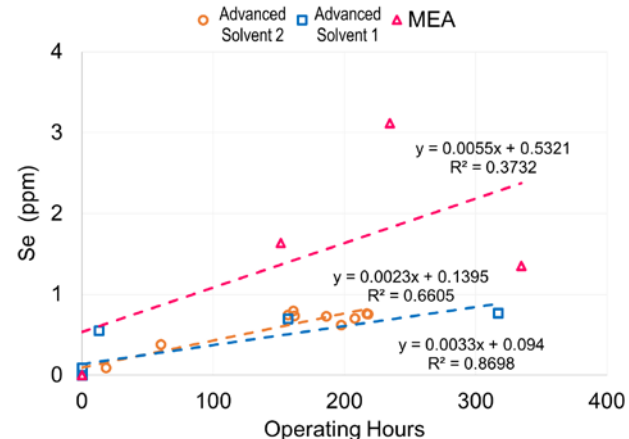
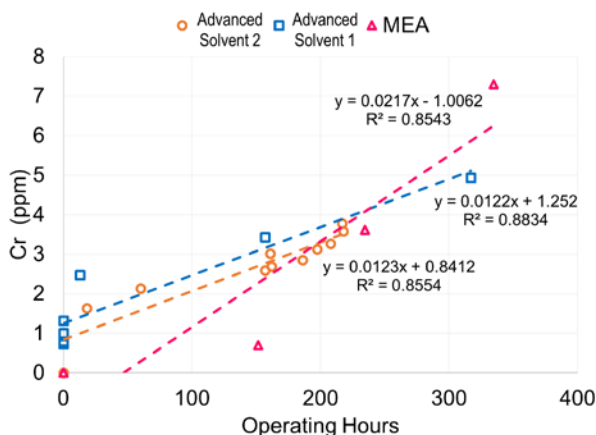
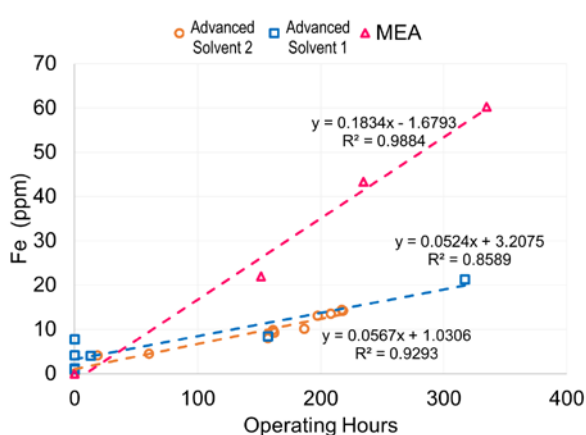
Total HSS levels are similar for the three campaigns conducted at similar run hours.



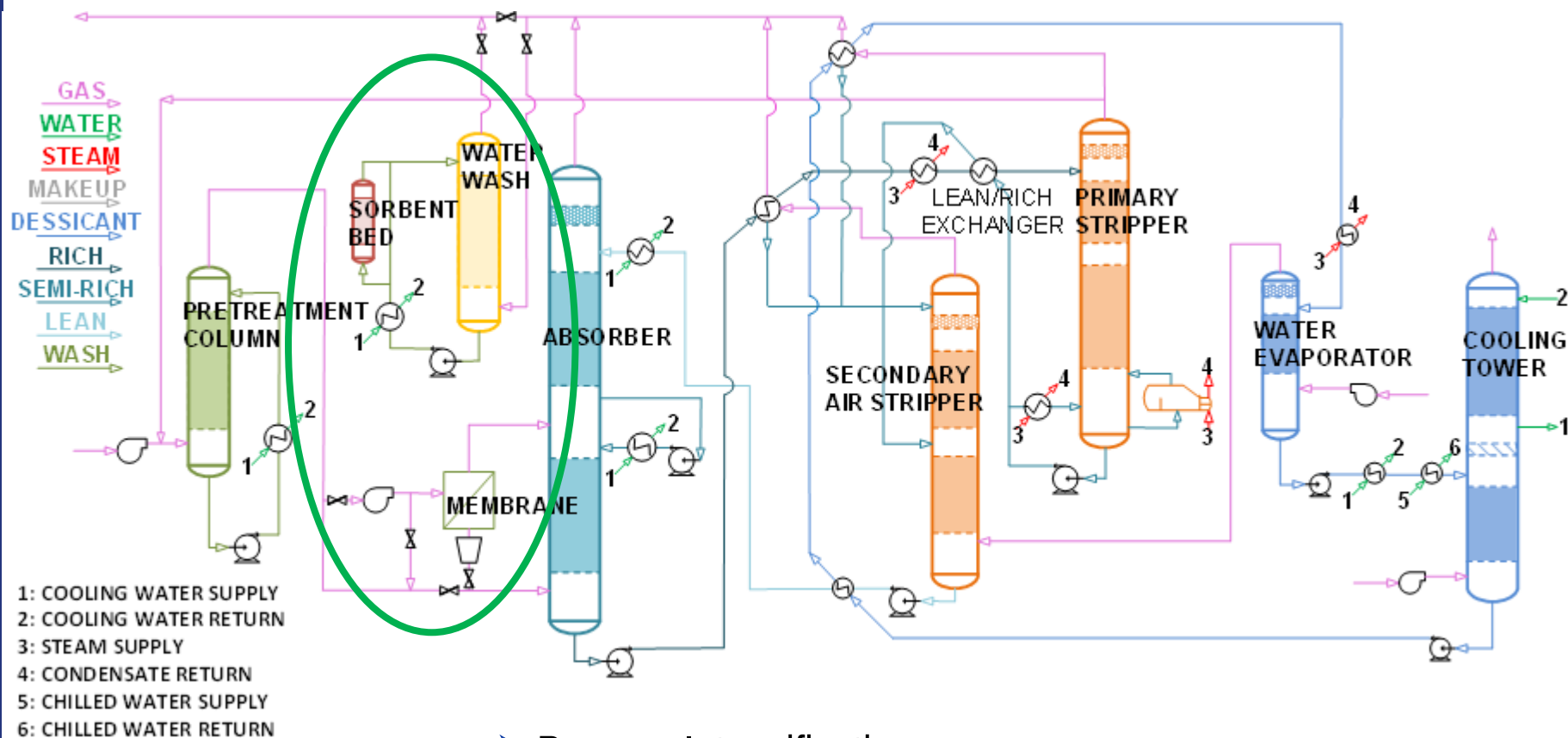
Advanced Solvent 2 Campaign – RCRA Elements

RCRA regulated metals
all under limits.

Similar Fe, Cr and Se
accumulation rates for
advanced solvents.



Modification of UKy-CAER 0.7 MWe CCS



- Process Intensification
- Two-Stage Solvent Regeneration
- System Integration and Heat Recovery
- Advanced Solvent

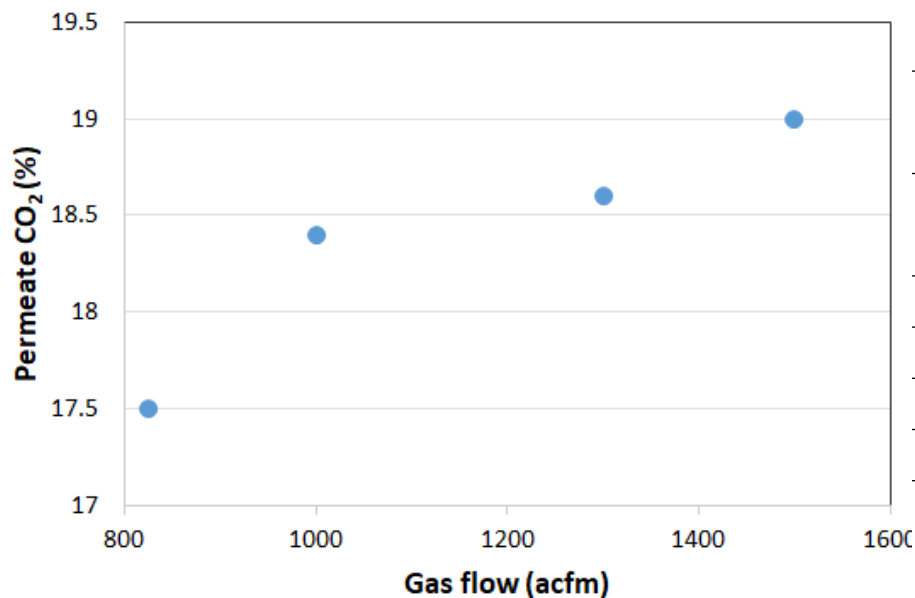
Process Modification Construction

- Blau Mechanical contracted for the installation of new equipment
- New level/grating added at top of module for membrane skid
- Structural modifications made
- Water wash column and circulation pump
- Membrane, vacuum pump and blower
- Piping modifications
- Electrical modifications
- Control system modifications



Preliminary Membrane Results with Fixed Vacuum Pump Intake

Permeate concentration of 19 vol% CO₂ achievable with inlet feed CO₂ concentration of 12 vol%.



	Pressure		Temperature
Gas flow (acfm)	Membrane Inlet (psia)	Vacuum (psia)	Membrane Inlet (°F)
825	14.8	4.6	101
1000	15.1	4.7	107.5
1300	15.7	5	120
1500	16.2	5.4	134

New Knowledge Gained

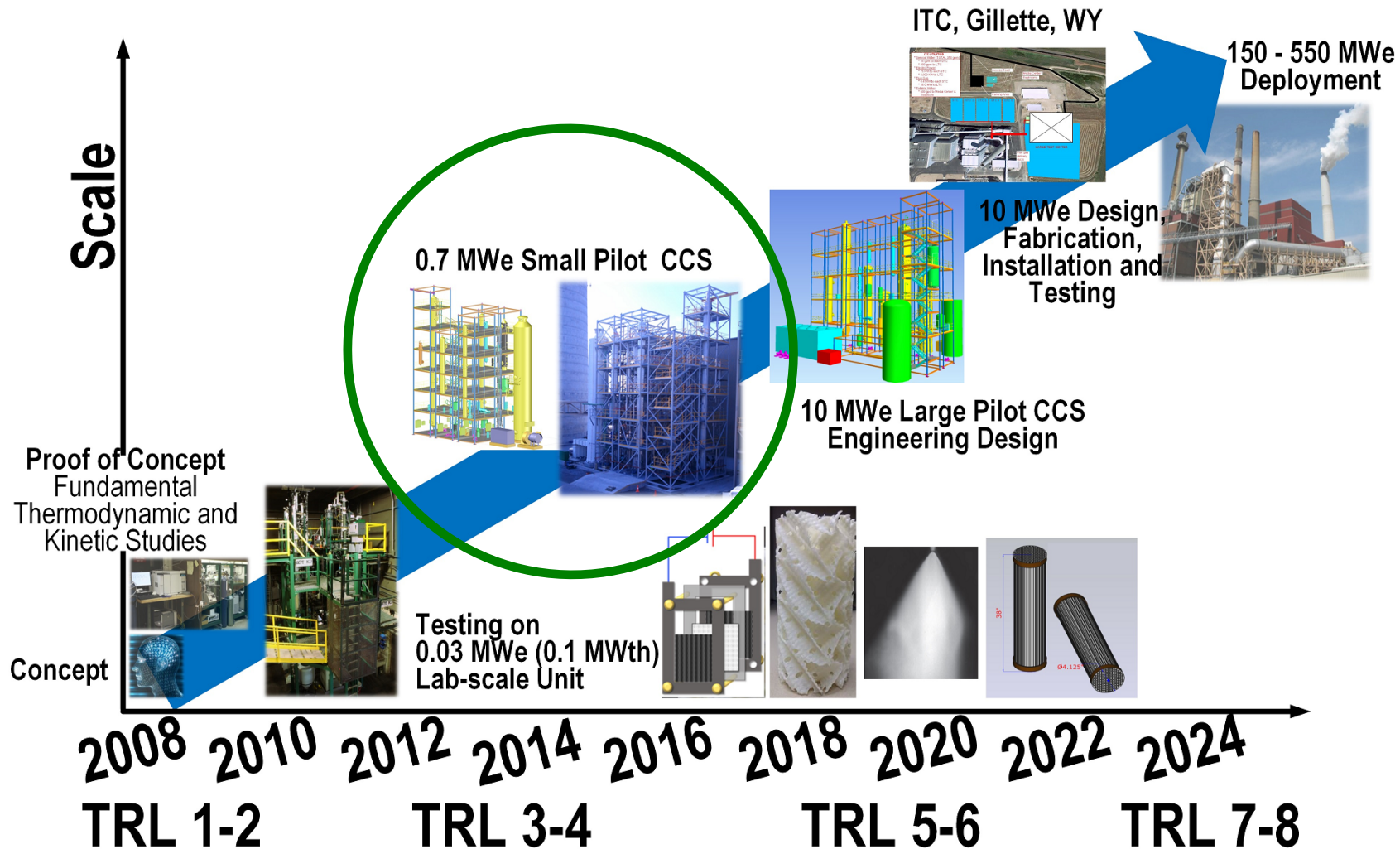
- Despite differences in chemistry and physical properties, 2nd generation advanced solvents have similar performance
- Decrease in regeneration energy with increase in ambient temperature
- 19% CO₂ in permeate achievable with preconcentrating membrane



Remaining Tasks

- 1) Complete pre-concentrating membrane performance evaluation
- 2) Complete water wash system evaluation
- 3) Update TEA and EH&S assessment

Technology Development Plan



Acknowledgements

- Andy Aurelio, José Figueroa and Lynn Brickett, U.S. DOE NETL
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- UKy-CAER Small Pilot CCS Team

