

Sixth Annual Conference on Carbon Capture & Sequestration

Session: Capacity Building

Implementing A Pilot Project – Experience and Lessons From The Validation Phase Of The Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships

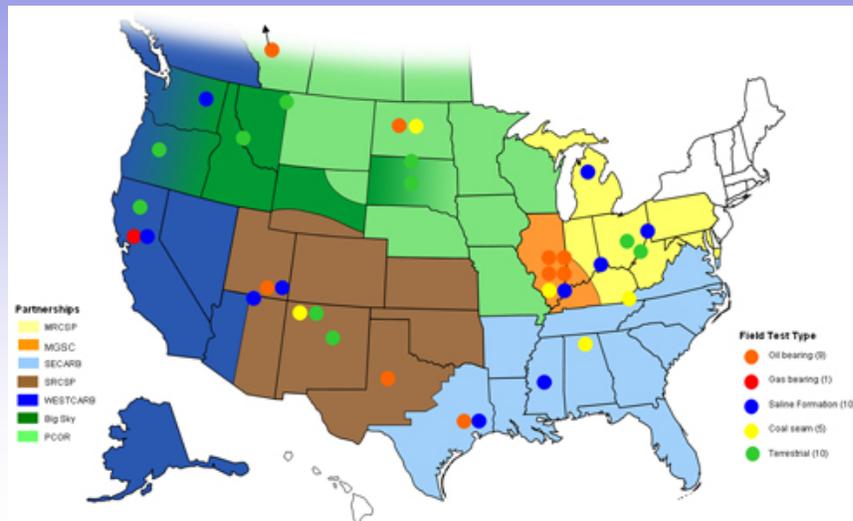
Sarah Wade – on behalf of the Outreach Working Group

May 7-10, 2007 • Sheraton Station Square • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Overview

- Profile of the Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership program field validation tests
- The importance of field tests in capacity building
- The role of outreach in the field tests
- Field validation projects -- building capacity in the regions:
 - Partners
 - Regulators and other officials
 - Media
 - The general public

Profile of RCSP Field Validation Tests



DOE's Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership Program – Building Capacity From the Ground Up

- Seven partnerships initiated in 2003 to develop best approaches to carbon sequestration in each region
- More than 240 universities, state agencies, private companies and NGOs - 40 states, two Indian Nations and four Canadian provinces
- Phase I – Characterization Phase assessed sources, sinks and infrastructure
- Phase II – Validation Phase involves small-scale field tests for 25 geologic and 10 terrestrial sequestration projects
- Phase III – plans for at least 5 larger scale geologic sequestration projects

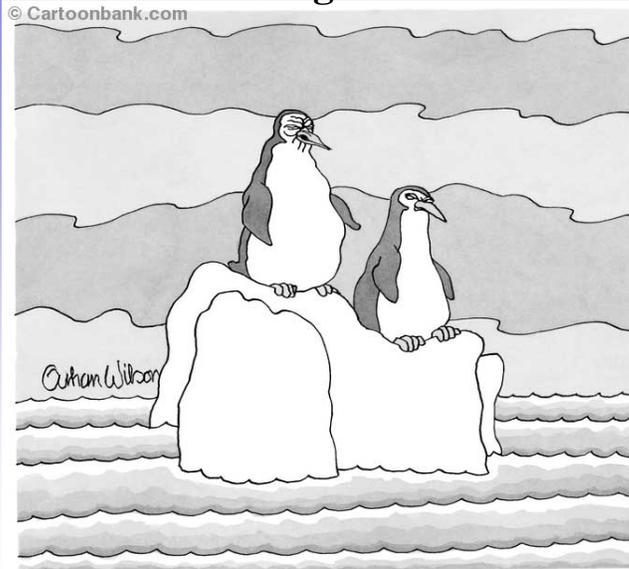
It Takes More Than A Scientist To Implement A Validation Project

- The field tests are providing a rich body of experience
- Field conditions, by definition, are not like the controlled conditions of a lab
- Field projects embody a set of technical actions and a set of stakeholder relationships
- Project stakeholders have their own motivations, constituents, and responsibilities

Outreach: Important in Building Capacity

- The RCSP perspective on role of outreach
- The Outreach Working Group (OWG):
 - Sallie Greenberg – Midwest Geologic Sequestration Consortium
 - Judith Bradbury – Midwest Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership
 - Lindsey Waggoner – Big Sky Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership
 - Gary Garrett - Southeastern Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership
 - Rich Myhre – West Coast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership
 - Dan Daly - Plains CO2 Reduction Partnership
 - Tarla Peterson - Southwestern Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership
- The OWG Phase II project review – the basis for this presentation

Outreach in the Age of Climate Change



"Call this an iceberg? When I was a kid we wouldn't have called this an iceberg!"

Focus: Partners

- Anticipate real world considerations
 - “Do no harm” to existing business operations including oil, gas, utility operations
 - Work out accounting frameworks up front
 - Look for practical as well as innovative techniques for MMV and sequestration
- Plan for broad outreach within the partnering organizations
- Partners that host field tests will have strong views on communication with all stakeholders; close coordination important to avoid “left hand – right hand” issues

Focus: Regulators

- 20 states and 1 Canadian Province, 7 EPA regions involved in regulatory oversight
- Permit requirements range from no permits deemed necessary for some actions to UIC II and UIC V to acid gas injection permit required in Canada
- Significant discussion between regulators and researchers –providing researchers with insights into the regulatory (in addition to research) approach to sequestration
- There is no such thing as a regional sink - detailed knowledge of geologic and hydrodynamic characteristics before injection

Focus: Media

- Not possible to control timing of media coverage
- This is a new and complex topic, expect media errors
- Stories often strive for balance – both support and skepticism.
- Headlines aren't written by reporters; they may end up more or less favorable than the story
- Broadcast media lives for sound bites
- Media interest is on the upswing
- This is a cost-effective forum for outreach

Focus: General Public

- Flexibility is essential—be prepared for unexpected questions, reactions
- Keep it simple and straightforward -- Open, transparent communication is crucial to public acceptability, but too much information can increase anxiety
- Design outreach materials around the information needs and perceptions of the recipients, (not the proponents)
- You must build affinity/trust with your audience
- Many pilots are in rural areas; history with particular industries, regulatory agencies, or natural events may evoke strong opinions
- At a public meeting, your “audience” may be many audiences
- Make sure multiple partners are prepared to provide information
- Expect a lot of interest in site visits, drop-ins

Conclusion

- RCSP program an important opportunity to:
 - Identify broad challenges associated with projects
 - Provide experience and familiarity with storage to partners, regulators, media, general public and others

∴ This is the definition of Capacity Building

Additional Information

- Information and Contacts at each Partnership:
http://www.netl.doe.gov/technologies/carbon_seq/partnerships/partnerships.html
- Characterization Phase reports:
http://www.netl.doe.gov/technologies/carbon_seq/partnerships/phase1/workproducts_table.html