



Project Number:  
DE-FC26-05NT42593

Presented by Elizabeth Burton  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory  
On behalf of Mike Gravely, WESTCARB P.I.,  
California Energy Commission

U.S. Department of Energy  
National Energy Technology Laboratory  
Carbon Storage R&D Project Review Meeting  
Developing the Technologies and Building the  
Infrastructure for CO<sub>2</sub> Storage  
August 21-23, 2012

# Presentation Outline

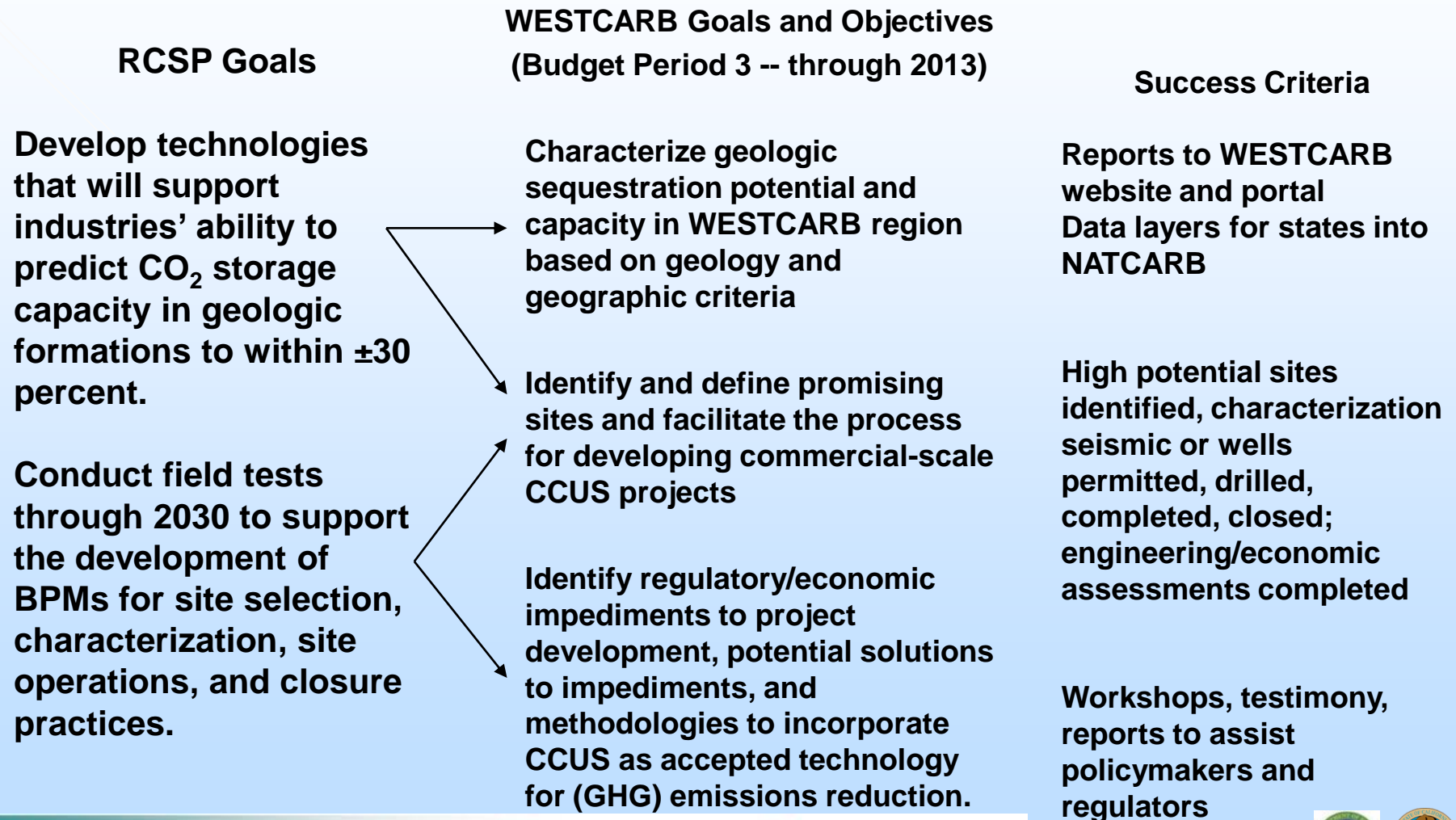
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- Project Overview—Goals
- Technical Status/Accomplishments
  - Northern California characterization well
  - CCUS-NGCC engineering-economic study
  - Policy/Regulatory outreach
- Highlights of Future Plans



# Project Overview:

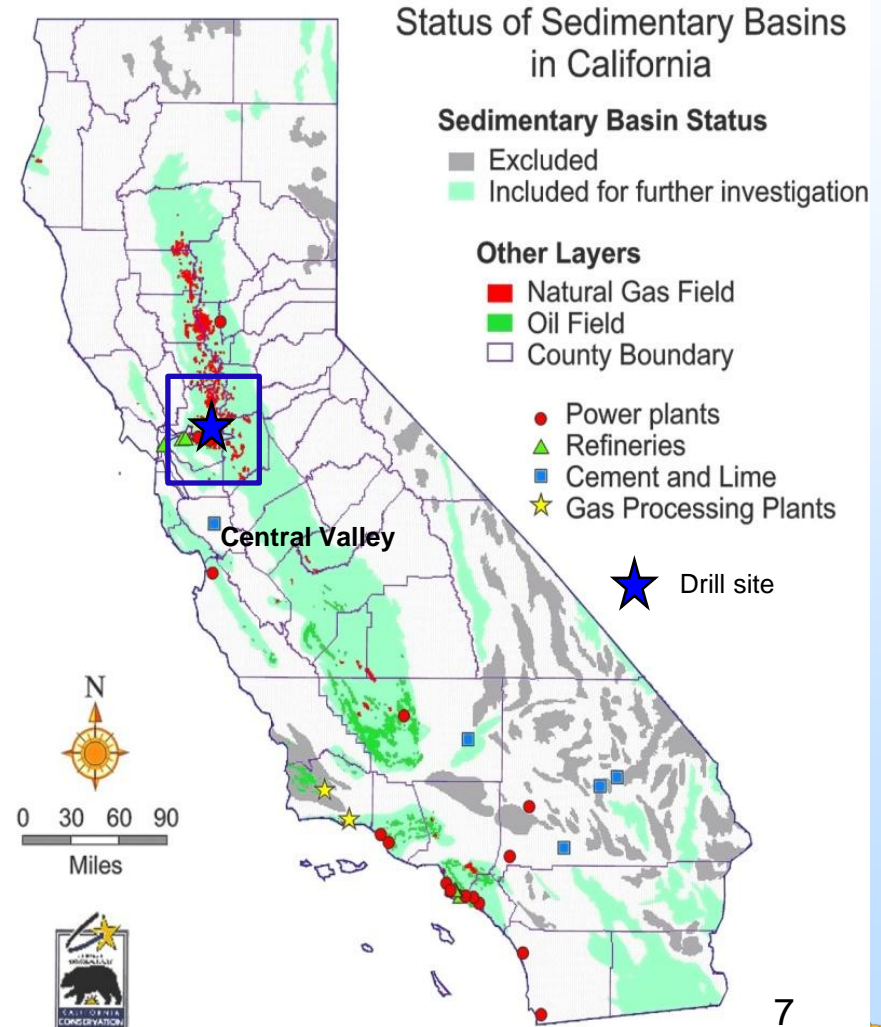
## WESTCARB Goals and Objectives Align with RCSP Program Goals



## Technical Status/Accomplishments:

# Characterizing CCUS Potential of Northern California's Central Valley

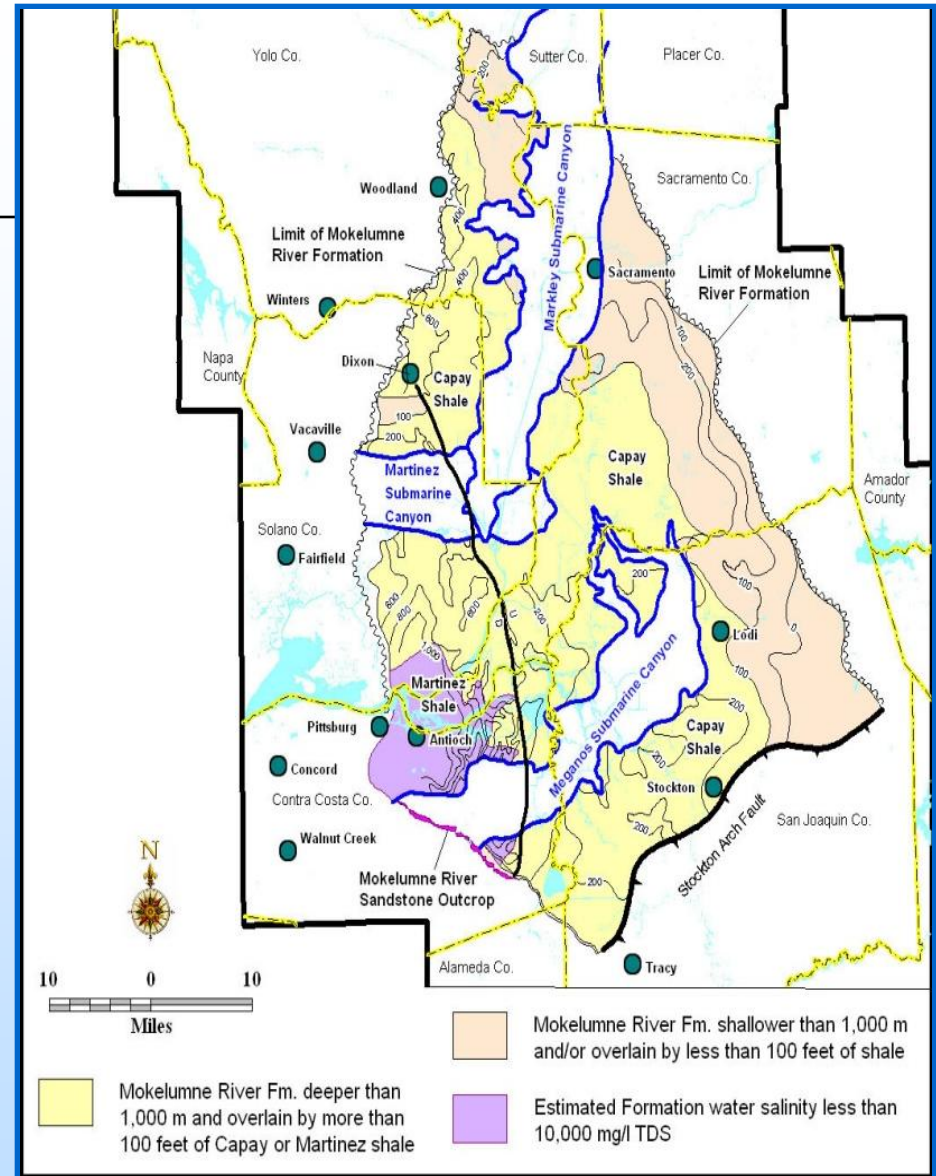
- California Geological Survey –
  - Central Valley is most promising on-shore CO<sub>2</sub> storage resource in WESTCARB territory with estimated resource of 75-300 Gt in saline formations and natural gas and oil-bearing formations.
- The Citizen Green #1 Well Technical Team
  - BKi
  - California Institute for Energy and Environment, University of California-Berkeley
  - Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
  - Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
  - Princeton Natural Gas, LLC
  - Schlumberger Carbon Services
  - Sandia Technologies
  - Service providers (Stratigraphic, Paul Graham Drilling, Tom Fazio and many others)
  - Collaborators from two FERCs, Sandia National Lab, TBEG, UC Berkeley, CSU Bakersfield, and other universities
- < Six months from permit to well completion
- ~ \$3 million dollars



## Technical Status/Accomplishments:

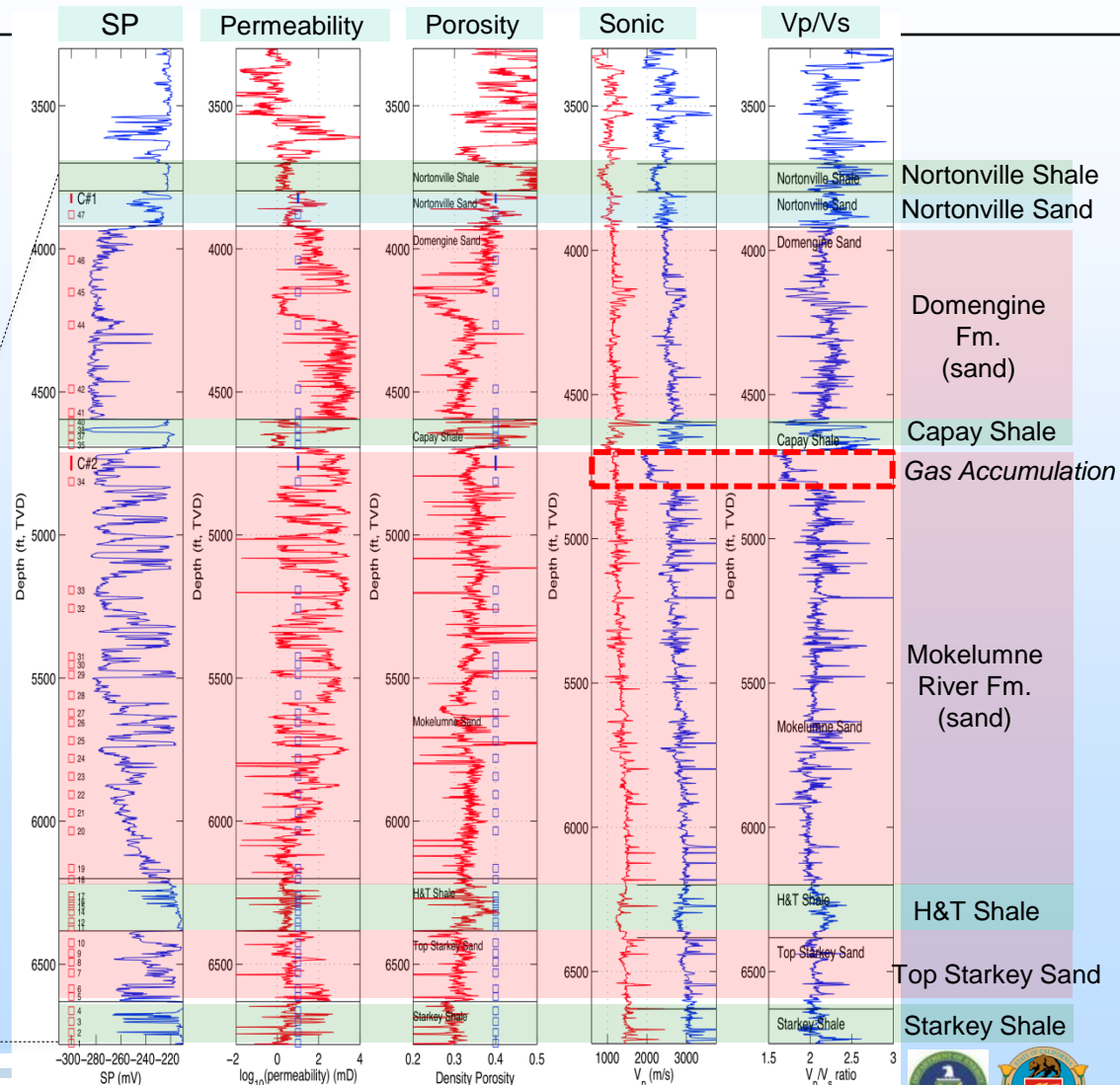
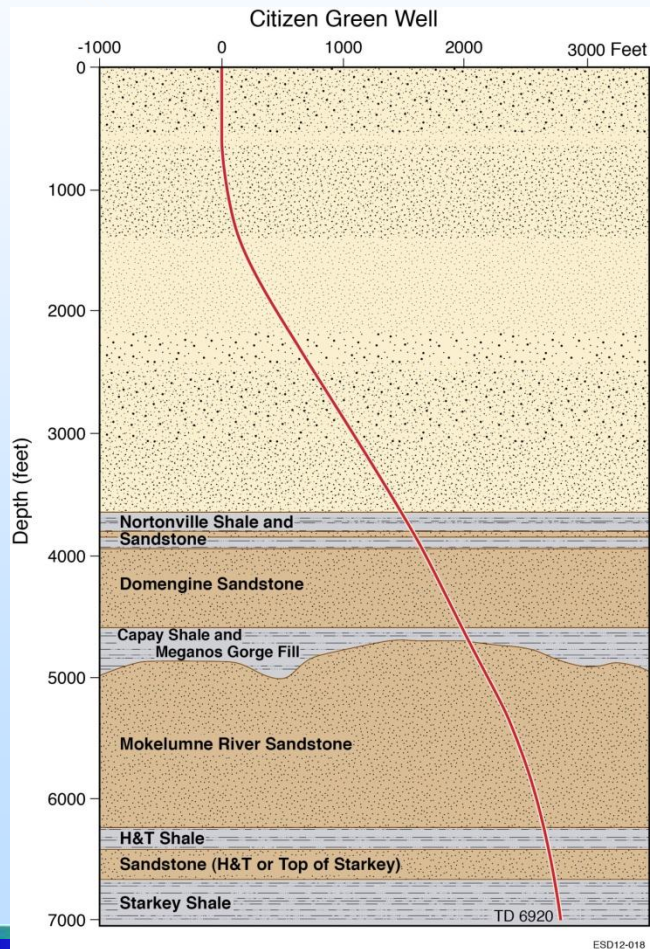
# Objectives of the Citizen Green well

- Assess storage capacity of major regional sandstone formations
- Assess seal integrity of major regional shale units
- Integrate lab and field data to understand regional resource
  - Geochemical and petrophysical lab testing and analysis of core and fluid samples
  - Well logs and seismic
  - Outcrop and log data from nearby locations
  - Simulations of commercial-scale injection, multiphase flow and trapping mechanisms

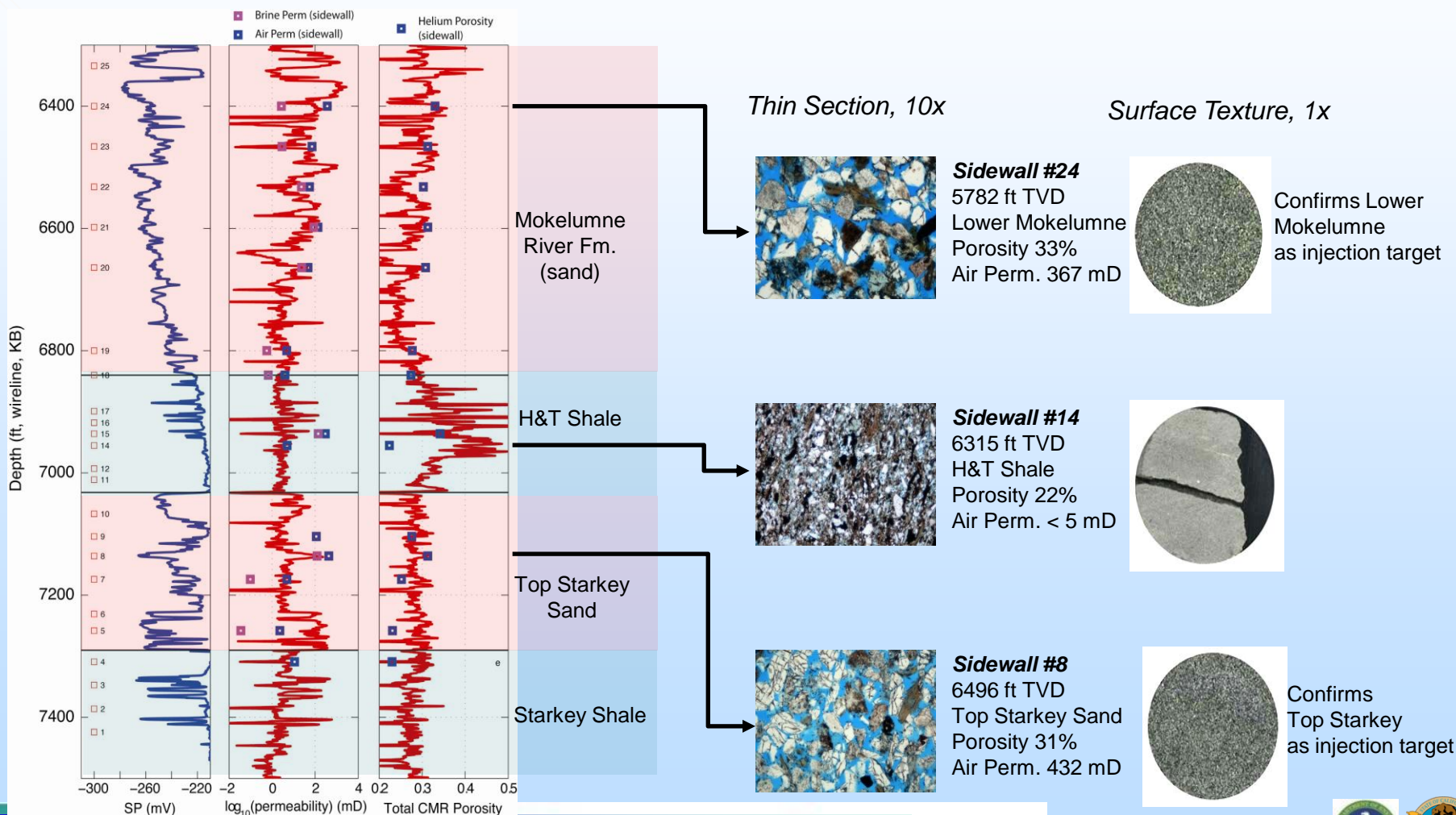


Technical Status/Accomplishments:

# Citizen Green #1 Well drilled to 6,920 ft TVD intersected 3 target sandstones and 4 shale units



# Petrophysics from Sidewall Core Analysis



# Characteristics of Storage and Sealing Formations, Citizen Green Well #1

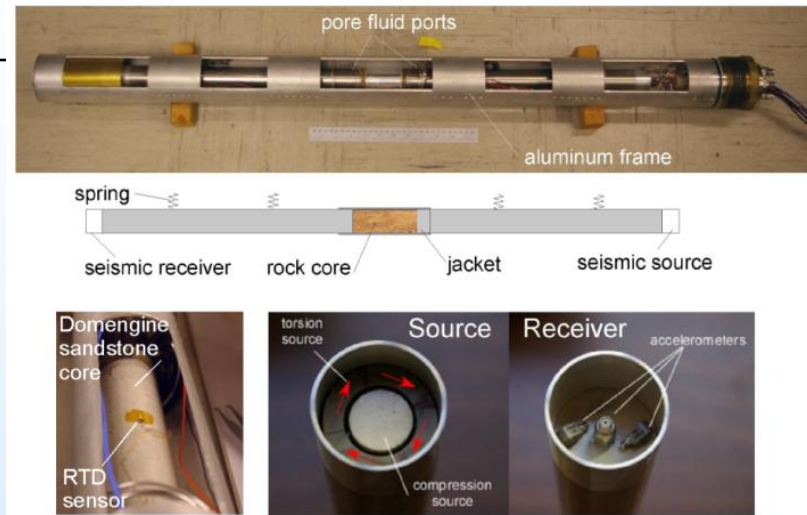
- **Domengine** – High permeabilities (3+ Darcies) observed on Combinable Magnetic Resonance (CMR) log. Unconsolidated sandstone, over 500 ft thick. Overlying Nortonville shale questionable seal--may impair regional storage utility of Dom.
- **Mokelumne River** – High permeabilities (1+ Darcy from CMR in upper section of unconsolidated sand. Thickness 1500 ft (460 m). Tighter with depth; consolidated below 5500 ft (1676 m). Capay Shale provides good seal, supported by natural gas common in Moke regionally
- **Top Starkey Sandstone** – Moderate to low permeabilities ( $\leq 100$  mD from CMR) Consolidated sand with shaly stringers; several sand lobes with higher permeability. H&T Shale provides good seal



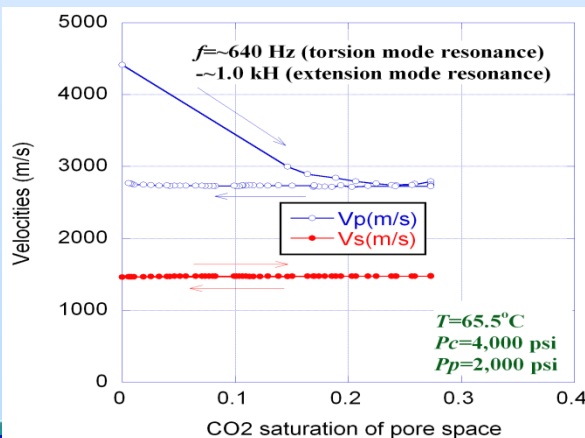
# Technical Status/Accomplishments:

## Petrophysical Analysis: Seismic Data from scCO<sub>2</sub> Injection in Brine-Saturated Core

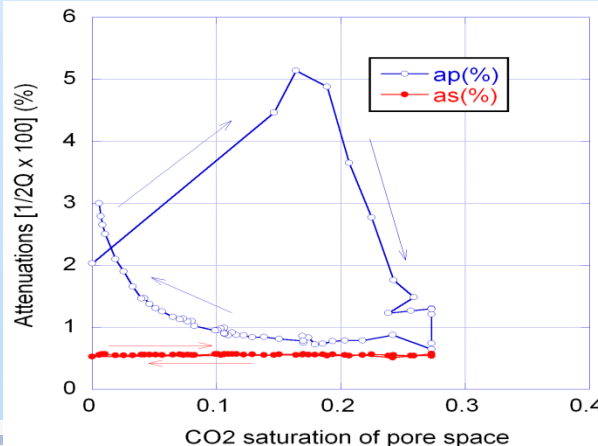
- **Sample:** Domengine sandstone core
  - 6" long, 1.5" diameter, from Black Diamond Mine
  - >2-3 Darcy permeability, ~30% porosity
- **Test conditions to mimic in-situ conditions at top of high perm section of Domengine:**
  - Confining pressure = 4,000 psi, pore pressure = 2,000 psi,
  - Temperature = 56.6°C,
  - 1% NaCl (10,000 mg/l) brine solution
- Flow scCO<sub>2</sub> into brine-saturated core until breakthrough, followed by flowing CO<sub>2</sub>-free brine



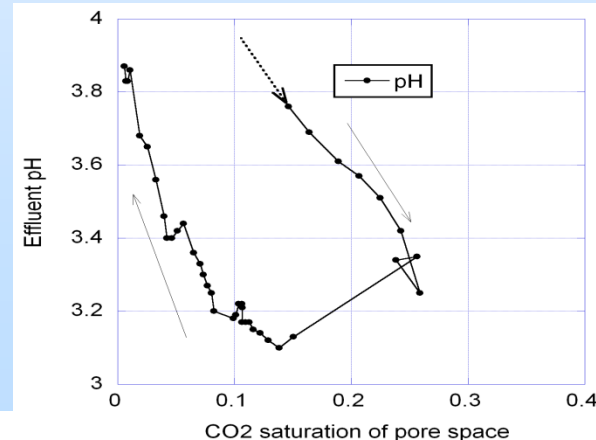
Sample in Split Hopkinson Resonance Bar apparatus for seismic experiment



Seismic velocities (Vp and Vs)



Seismic velocity attenuation

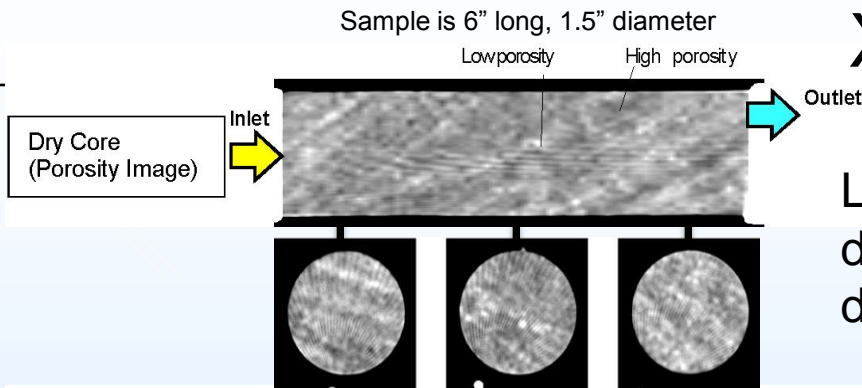


Effluent brine pH

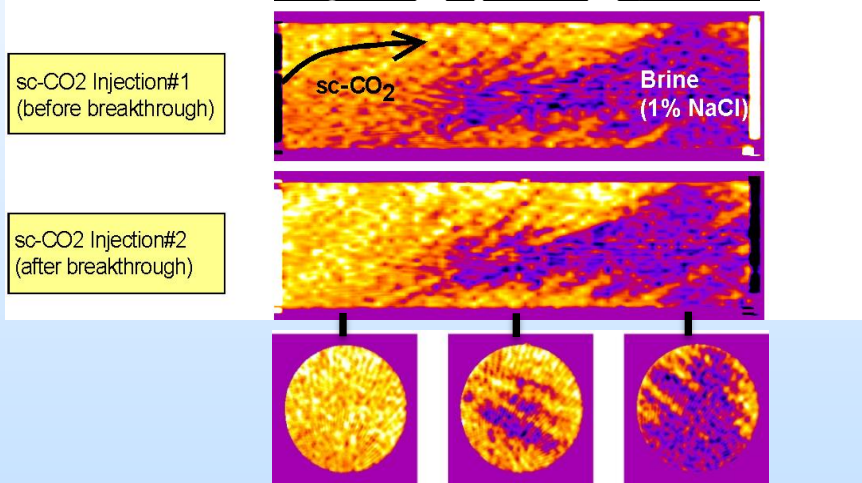


# Technical Status/Accomplishments:

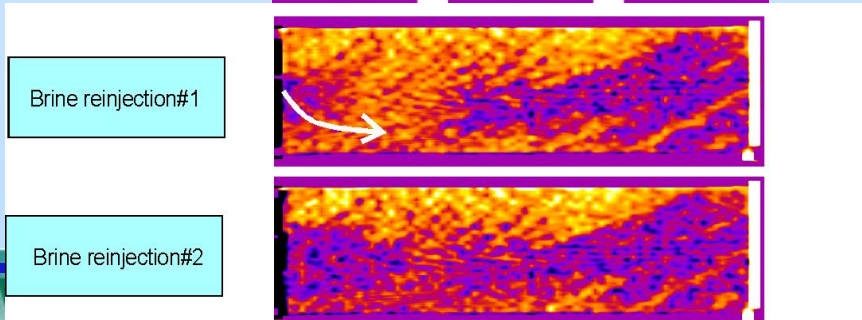
## scCO<sub>2</sub> Injection into Brine-Saturated Core: Concurrent X-ray CT Imaging



Lighter tones are lower porosity (higher density); darker tones are higher porosity (lower density). Layering is clearly visible.



CT scans showing the location in core of scCO<sub>2</sub> (yellow/orange) injected into the brine-filled (purple/blue) before and at breakthrough.

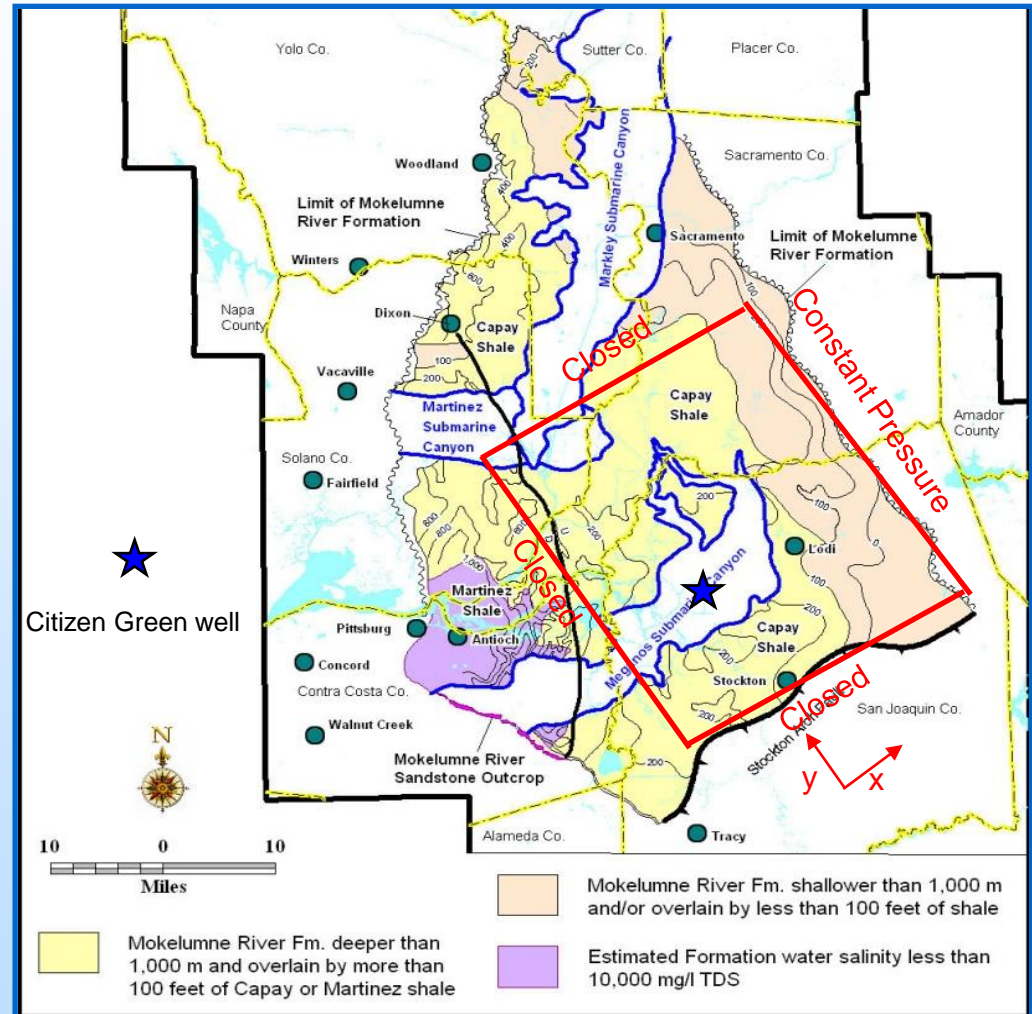


CT scans of brine re-injection following scCO<sub>2</sub> showing as brine is re-injected, it follows a path of lower CO<sub>2</sub> saturation. Difference in flow behavior due to density (buoyancy) differences between fluids

Technical Status/Accomplishments:

# CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Simulation Based on NMR Well Log Porosity/Permeability Data

- 19 model layers based on well log permeability;
- 1.6° dip upward to ENE.
- No-flow boundary at overlying Capay Shale
- Injection into lower half of Mokelumne Fm., partitioned into 8 layers.
- Stratigraphic complexity included

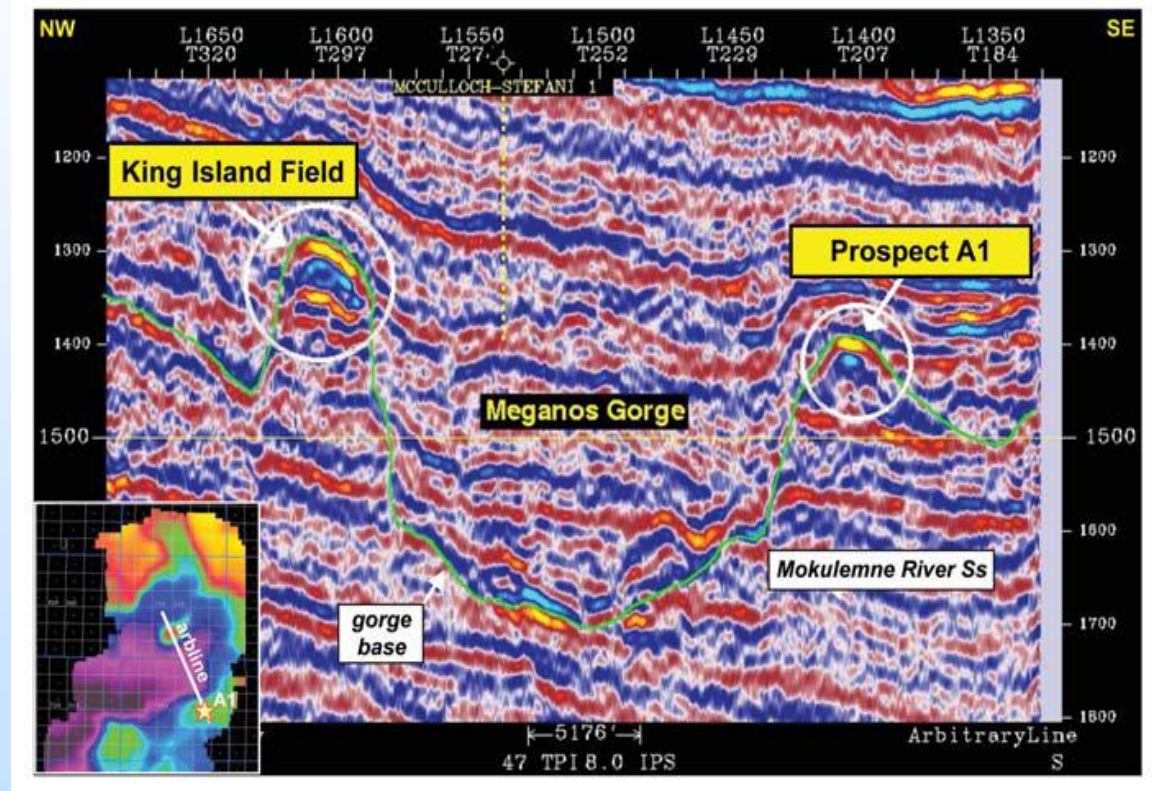


Modified after Downey, C., J. Clinkenbeard, 2011, *Studies Related to Geologic Carbon Sequestration Potential in California*, California Geological Survey, CEC



# Stratigraphic and structural complexity affects capacity estimates

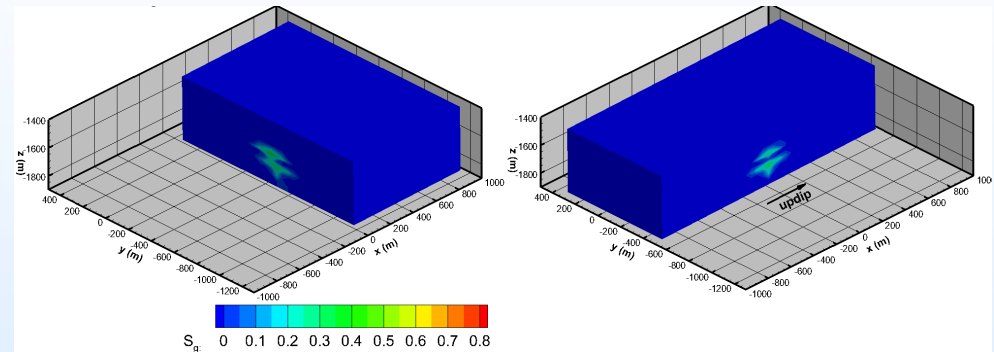
- Erosional gorge downcuts Mokelumne surrounding pinnacle at site
- Overlying and underlying formations are stratigraphically continuous
- Pervasive faulting
  - Has created gas traps
  - Spill points unknown



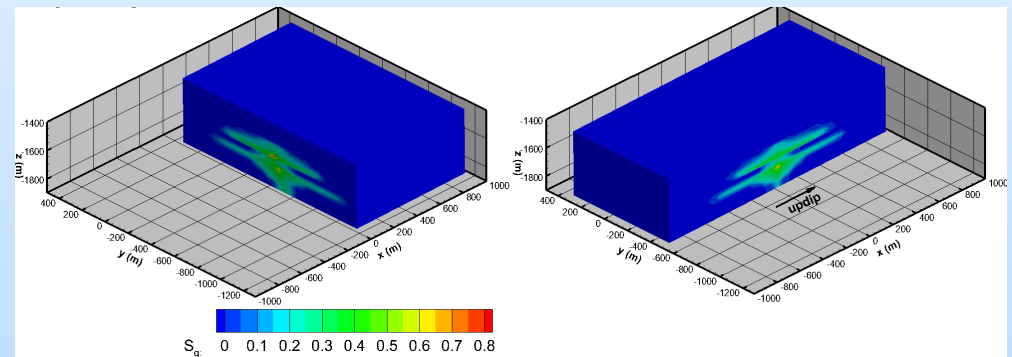
From May, J, et al, Amplitude anomalies in a sequence stratigraphic framework: Exploration successes and pitfalls in a subgorge play, Sacramento Basin, California. SEG Bulletin.

# Simulated CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Results to Date

- Strong lateral flow within high-permeability layers; slight up-dip migration
- Strong vertical buoyancy flow within high-permeability layers
- Low permeability baffles greatly reduce effective vertical permeability
- 4 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> plume diameter ~3900 ft (1200 m), height 1150 ft (350 m), still 360 ft (110 m) below top of reservoir

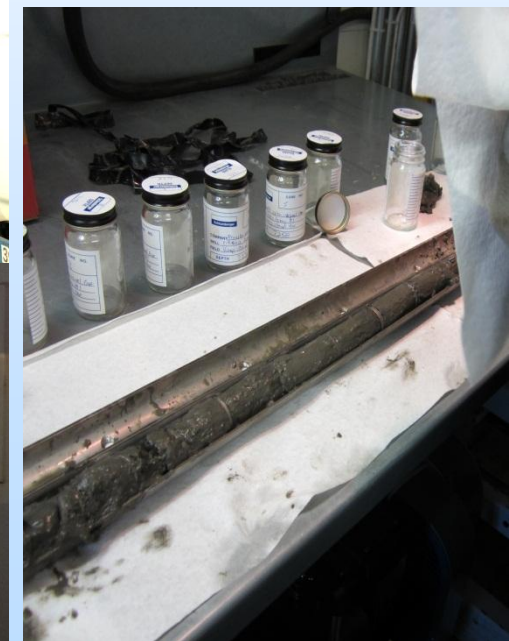


250,000 kt CO<sub>2</sub> injected over 3 months



4 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> injected over 4 years

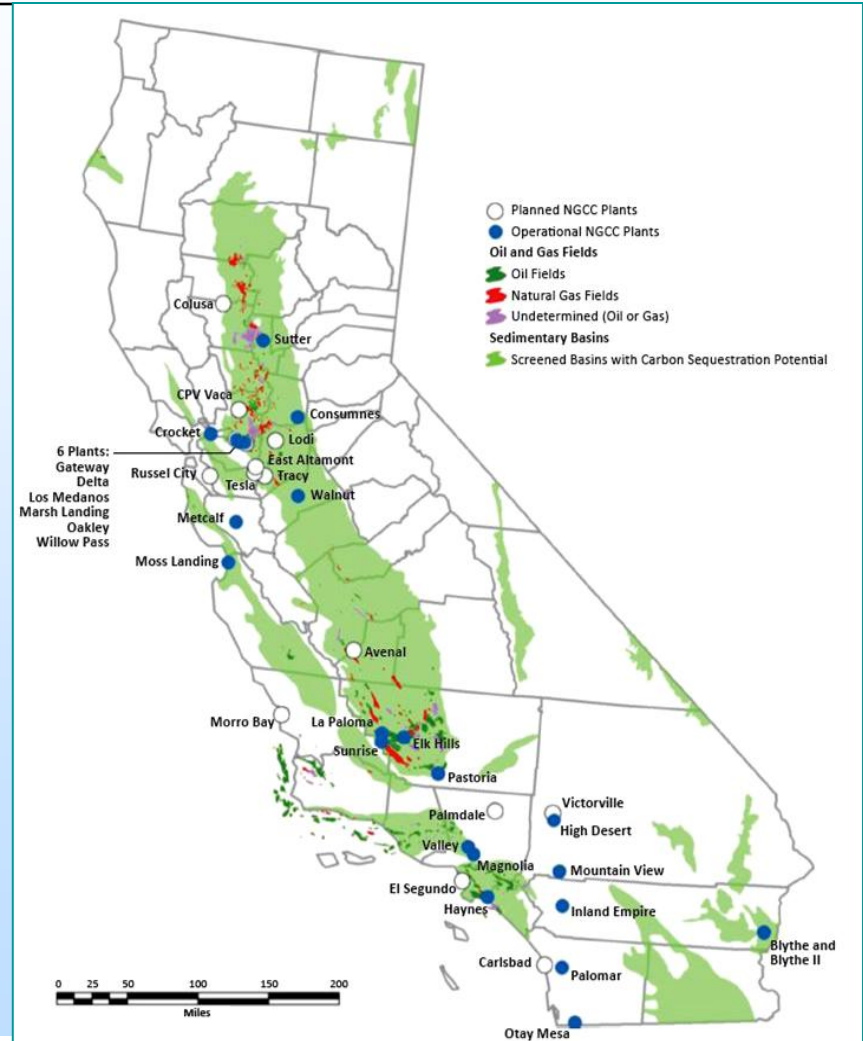
[www.westcarb.org](http://www.westcarb.org)



## Technical Status/Accomplishments:

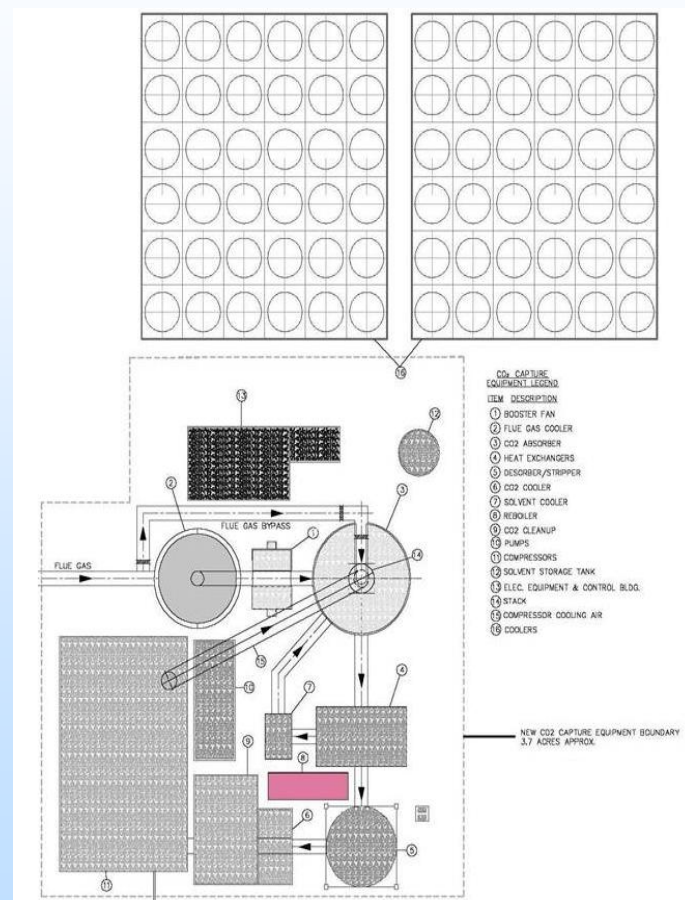
# Engineering-Economic Assessment of CCUS for Natural Gas Combined Cycle Power Plants

- Technical Team
  - Bki
  - Lawrence Livermore National Lab
  - Shaw Group
  - Industry Partners (PG&E, SoCal Gas, SCE, SMUD, Clean Energy Systems)
  - Visage Energy
- ~50% of state's electricity generated with natural gas from young plants that operate at high capacity factors.
- Many plants located above or near potential CO<sub>2</sub> resource, including oil fields suitable for CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR.



# Interim Findings: Capture & Compression

- For retrofit NGCC plants with dry cooling, conventional post-combustion capture leads to cost and energy penalties for solvent and compressor cooling.
  - Potential design solution saves >60MW: Relax solvent CO<sub>2</sub> absorber inlet temperature design point; Accept more hot days on which solvent cannot be cooled to design temperature
  - Potential technical solution: Find solvents effective at higher operating temperatures (without undue regeneration heating requirements)
- CCS more cost effective by about 30% (\$16/MWh) for “new build” than retrofit because:
  - CCS integrated into plant design optimizes thermal integration of capture plant and base plant processes
  - Equipment design selected to better accommodate capture operation, and optimize plant layout





# Interim Findings: Economics



- Sensitivity studies identified 4 main factors on CCS economics:
  - capacity factor
  - capital cost
  - price on CO<sub>2</sub>
  - discount rate.
- Plugging the higher variable O&M cost of an NGCC-CCS plant into a conventional grid dispatch model will lead to unacceptably low dispatch (capacity factor)
  - Potential solution: Regulatory or ISO support for early commercial projects, such as a “must run” designation or a “loading order” priority.

# Interim Findings: Storage and Transportation Costs

- There are trade-offs between well field site selection and pipeline costs.
  - Pipeline costs increase with urbanization (siting sensitivities, number of crossings of other infrastructure)
  - Pipeline costs depend on distance and capacity
  - Well field costs (well length, number of wells) vary with site characteristics (depth of storage fm, capacity and injectivity per well, drilling difficulty).
  - Well field costs tend to increase faster than pipeline costs as project size grows.



# Policy/Regulatory Outreach

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- California CCS Review Panel
- Seismic Hazards in West Coast Region
- California Senate Bill 1139
- USEA Workshop for Policymakers



# Highlights of Future Plans

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1. Characterization of high potential sites in Arizona
2. “Virtual Petrophysics” and other ways to reduce characterization costs/risks
3. Cross-cutting issues for site selection : tools for demographic issues, seismic, competing subsurface activities
4. Integration and issues for CCUS in future energy planning scenarios
5. Exploring pilot or demonstration project options with industry partners

**WESTCARB ANNUAL MEETING**  
**week of October 15, 2012**  
**in beautiful Bakersfield, CA**



# Acknowledgments, Disclaimers

- **Acknowledgments:**

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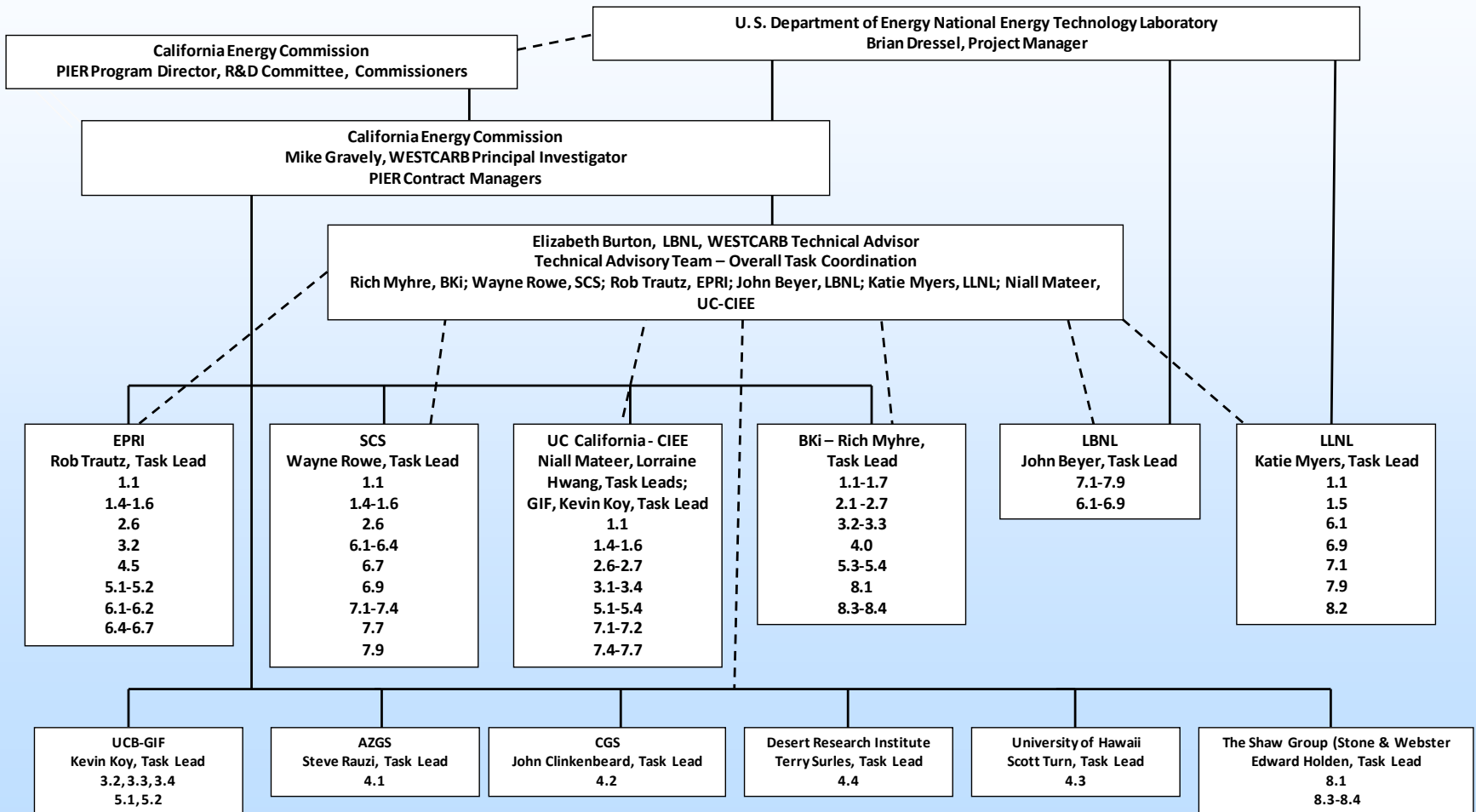
# Appendix

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- Organization Chart
- Gantt Chart
- Bibliography



# Organization Chart

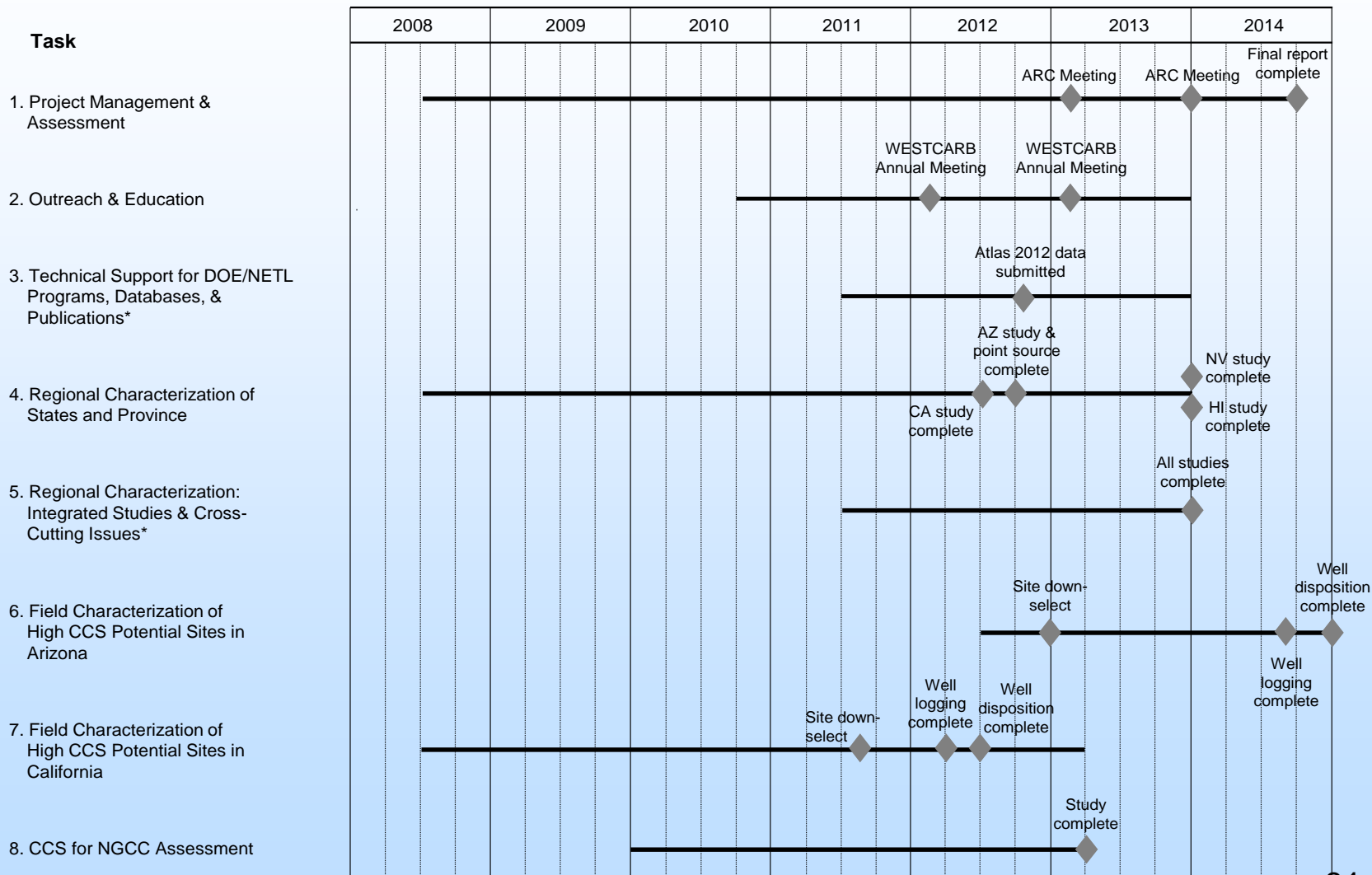


# Gantt Chart

Years are federal fiscal years, October through September

Key: ◆ Major Task Milestone

## Budget Period 3



\*Work prior to May 11, 2011 for these tasks was performed under Phase II  
 Work prior to July 28, 2010 for Subtasks 8.2-8.7 was performed under Phase II



# Bibliography

(under Phase III, 2012)

- Gootee, B.F., 2012, *Geologic Evaluation of the Safford Basin for Carbon Dioxide Sequestration Potential*. AZGS OFR-12-01, 71 p., 1 plate. Document download link: [http://repository.azgs.az.gov/uri\\_gin/azgs/dlio/1388](http://repository.azgs.az.gov/uri_gin/azgs/dlio/1388)
- Gootee, B.F., 2012, *Geologic Evaluation of the Willcox Basin for Carbon Dioxide Sequestration*. AZGS OFR-12-03, 7 p., 2 plates. Document download link: [http://repository.usgin.org/uri\\_gin/usgin/dlio/516](http://repository.usgin.org/uri_gin/usgin/dlio/516)
- Downey, C and J. Clinkenbeard, in press. Studies Impacting Geologic Carbon Sequestration Potential in California: Offshore Carbon Sequestration Potential, Sacramento Basin Salinity Investigation of Select Formations, Sacramento Basin Hydrocarbon Pool. California Geological Survey. California Energy Commission PIER Report, in press.

