



Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

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**Presented by Bill Childers,
Staff Geologist
Terralog Technologies USA, Inc**

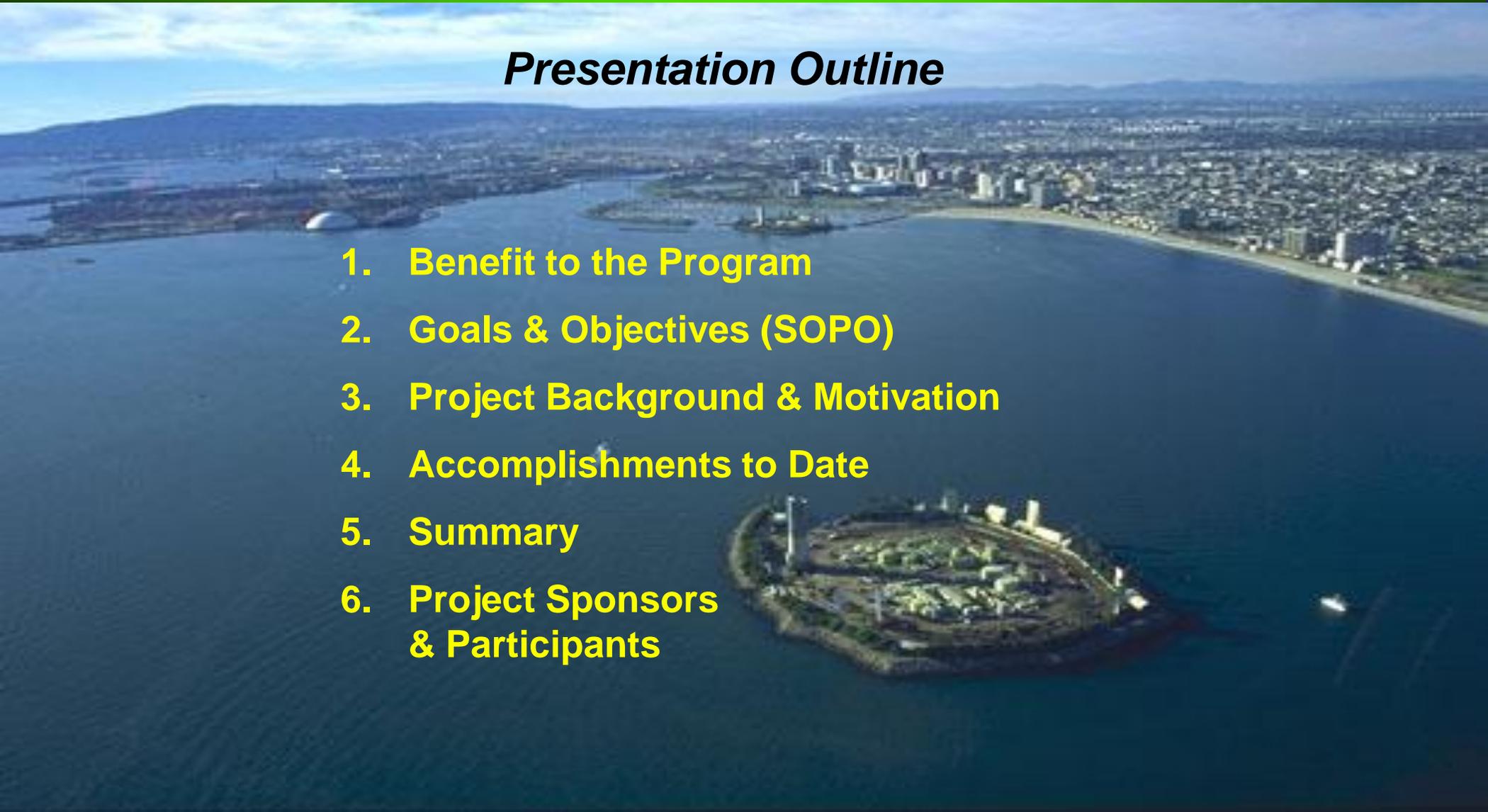
**U.S. Department of Energy
National Energy Technology Laboratory
Carbon Storage R&D Project Review Meeting
Developing the Technologies and Building the
Infrastructure for CO₂ Storage**

August 21-23, 2012



Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

Presentation Outline

- 1. Benefit to the Program**
 - 2. Goals & Objectives (SOPO)**
 - 3. Project Background & Motivation**
 - 4. Accomplishments to Date**
 - 5. Summary**
 - 6. Project Sponsors & Participants**
- 
- An aerial photograph of a coastal city, likely Los Angeles, showing a large harbor with a city skyline in the background and a large island in the foreground. The water is a deep blue, and the sky is a pale blue with some clouds. The city buildings are densely packed along the coast.



Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

1. Benefit to the Program

This project is contributing to the understanding of injectivity, containment mechanisms, rate of dissolution and mineralization, and storage capacity of the Wilmington Graben and associated analog basins. The benefit of this research is that it will broaden the experimental knowledge base of best practices for site characterization and approving storage site selection with the ultimate goal of developing practical guidelines for future commercially developed CO₂ storage sites. This effort contributes to the Carbon Storage Program's effort of conducting field tests to support the development of Best Practices for site selection, characterization, and operations.





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2. Goals & Objectives (a. SOPO Statement)

The overall objective of this collaborative research project led by Terralog Technologies is to fully characterize Pliocene and Miocene sediments in the Wilmington Graben, offshore Los Angeles, for high volume CO₂ storage.

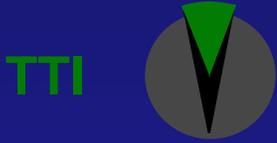
These sediments are suspected to span more than 5000 feet of vertical interval, with an estimated capacity to store more than 50 million tons of CO₂.





2. Goals & Objectives (b. SOPO Specifics)

- 1) Detailed log evaluation of existing exploration wells in the area**
- 2) Improved evaluation and interpretation of existing 2D and 3D seismic data**
- 3) Acquisition and interpretation of additional 2D seismic lines**
- 4) Drilling and coring three new evaluation wells into the Graben (Pliocene and Miocene) and/or on the landward side of the THUMS-HB fault**
- 5) Development of 3D geologic models, geomechanical models, and CO₂ injection and migration models for the region**
- 6) Analysis of industrial sources (top 20 in the LA Basin)**
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3. Project Background & Motivation

The Los Angeles Basin presents a unique combination of great need and great opportunity for large scale geologic storage of CO₂.

In part due to its significant population, and in part due to its historical and geologic setting as one of the most prolific oil and gas producing basins in the United States, the region is home to more than a dozen major power plants and oil refineries which produce more than 5 million metric tons of fossil fuel related CO₂ emissions each year.





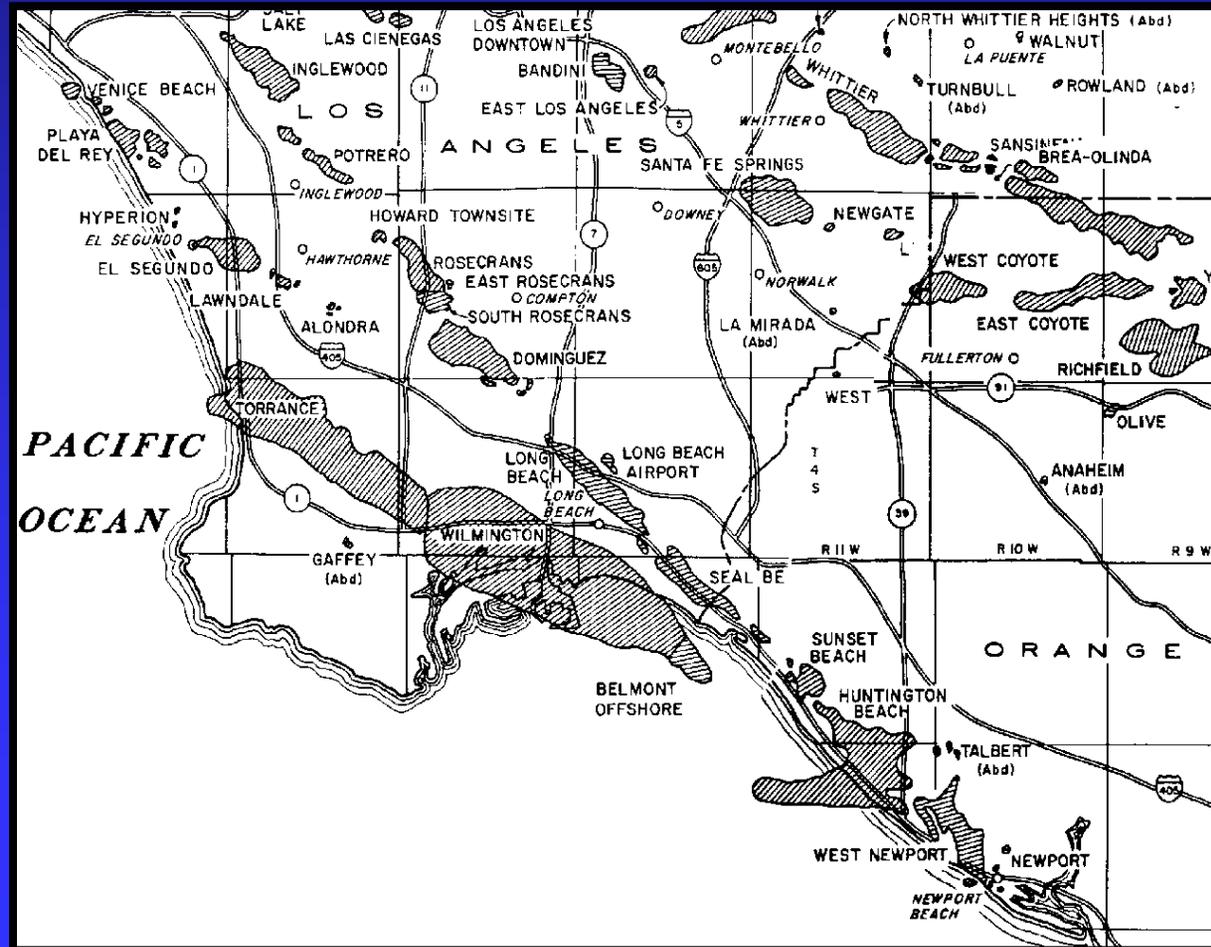
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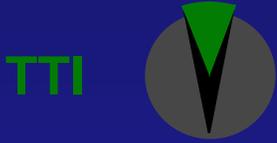
3. Project Background & Motivation

Pliocene and Miocene sediments in the Los Angeles Basin (massive interbedded sand and shale sequences) are known to provide excellent and secure traps for oil and gas.

The area contains several billion-barrel oil and gas fields, including the giant Wilmington Field in Long Beach (more than two billion barrels produced to date).

These formations have been used by Southern California Gas Company for very large scale underground storage of natural gas at half a dozen locations throughout the Los Angeles basin for more than fifty years, demonstrating both the storage potential and security of these formations for CO₂ sequestration if properly characterized and selected.





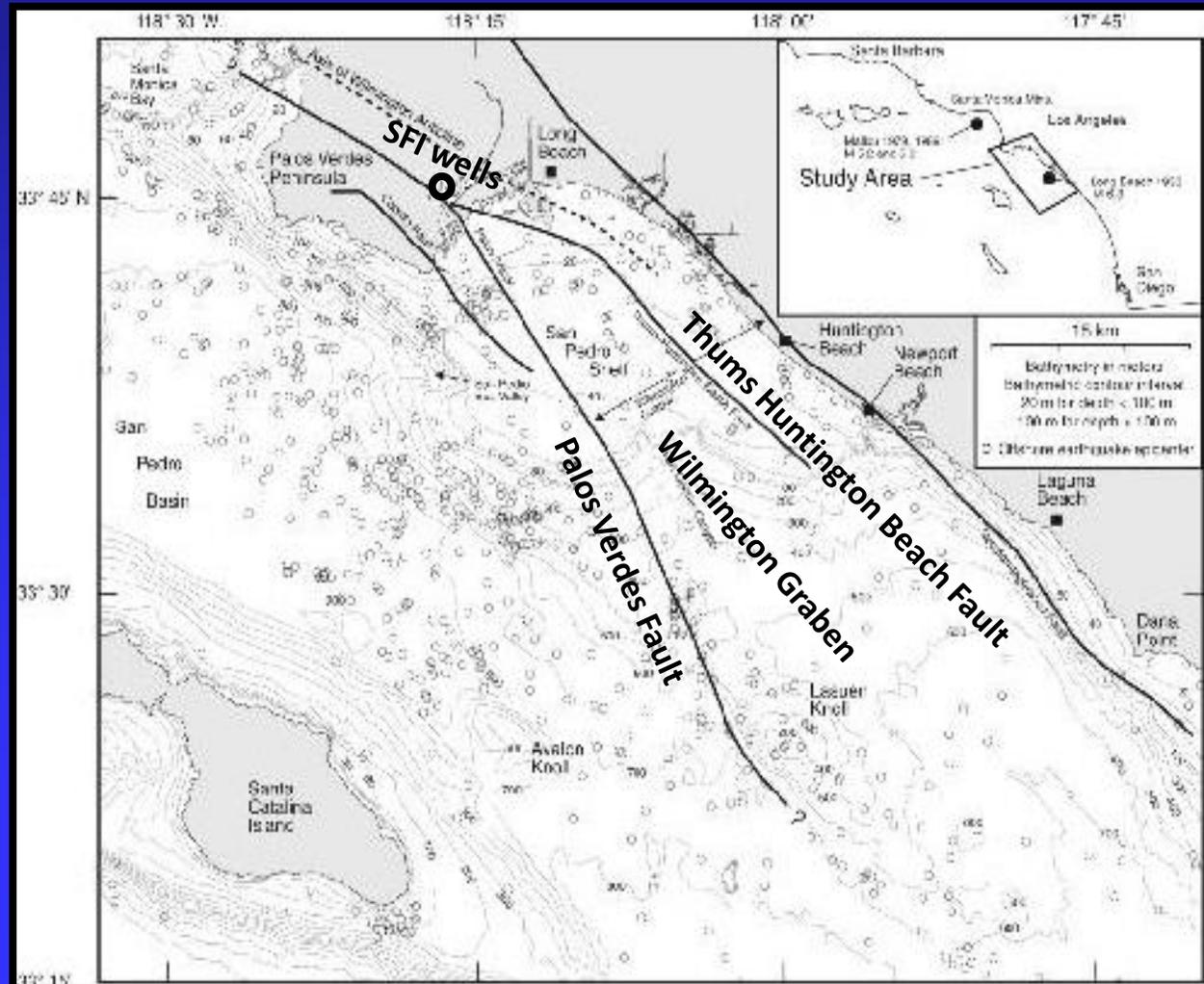
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3. Project Background & Motivation

Given the current population density (and complex land ownership), it is impractical to site a large scale CO₂ storage project onshore beneath the City.

More than 3000 feet thickness of these same Pliocene and Miocene formations are present in the large Wilmington Graben directly offshore the Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor area, at appropriate depth for [^]c sequestration (about 3000 to 7000 ft).

This zone is easily accessible yet geologically isolated from the nearby Wilmington Oilfield and onshore area, reducing communication risk and public risk.





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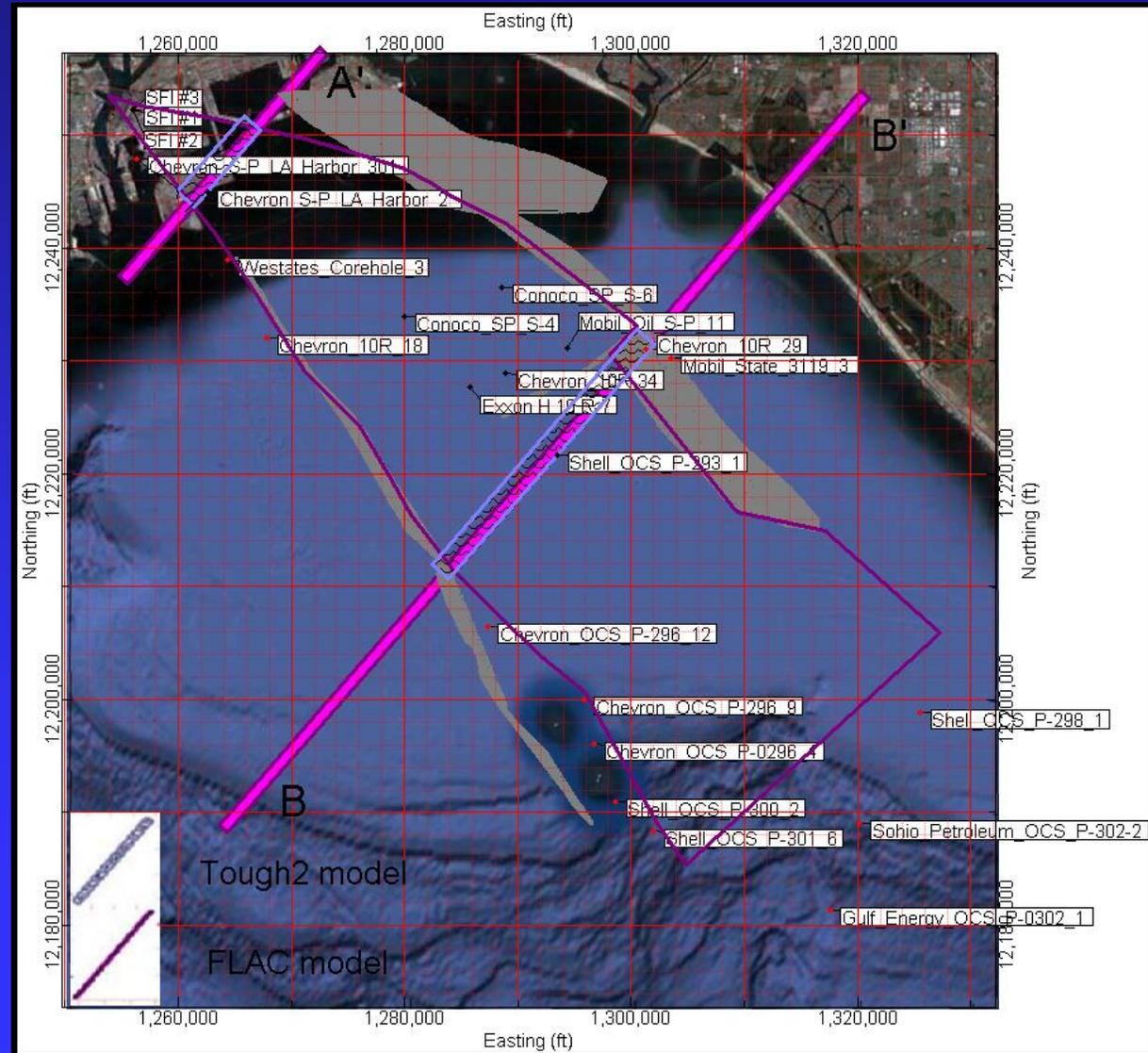
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- 1) **Detailed log evaluation of existing exploration wells in the area**
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Exploration Wells in Wilmington Graben





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Wells Reviewed for Lithology and Stratigraphy

API_no	Operator	Lease	Well_no	Td	Latitude	Longitude
State						
23700493	Exxon Mobil Corp		H 10 R-7	6643	33.67754	-118.16522
23720208	Conoco Inc.		SP S-4	4775	33.69454	-118.18442
23720211	Conoco Inc.		SP S-6	5025	33.70187	-118.1562
25920074	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.		10R-34	6976	33.68089	-118.15494
23705997	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.	S-P La Harbor	2	9936	33.72407	-118.24223
25900361	Mobil Oil Corp.		SP-11	8423	33.68704	-118.13692
Federal						
4312200100000	GULF OIL CORP	OCS P-0302	1	6660	33.5512	-118.0601
4312200240000	SOHIO PETROLEUM CO	OCS-P-0302	2	7100	33.5724	-118.0516
4312200110000	SHELL OIL CO	OCS-P-0298	1	7200	33.5995	-118.0345
4312200080000	SHELL OIL CO	OCS-P-0293	1	6805	33.6611	-118.1405
4312200190000	CHEVRON U S A INC	OCS-P-0296	12	10973	33.6192	-118.1603
4312200180100	CHEVRON U S A INC	OCS P-0296	9	8400	33.6018	-118.1322
4312200060200	CHEVRON U S A INC	OCS-P-0296	4	5336	33.5908	-118.1289
4312200130100	SHELL OIL CO	OCS-P-0300	2	4988	33.577	-118.1225
4312200160000	SHELL OIL CO	OCS P-0301	6	5244	33.5698	-118.1114
SFI						
n/a (EPA Permit)	City of LA		SFI#1	5499	33.74388	-118.26497
n/a (EPA Permit)	City of LA		SFI#2	5426	33.74385	-118.26502
n/a (EPA Permit)	City of LA		SFI#3	5448	33.74399	-118.26466



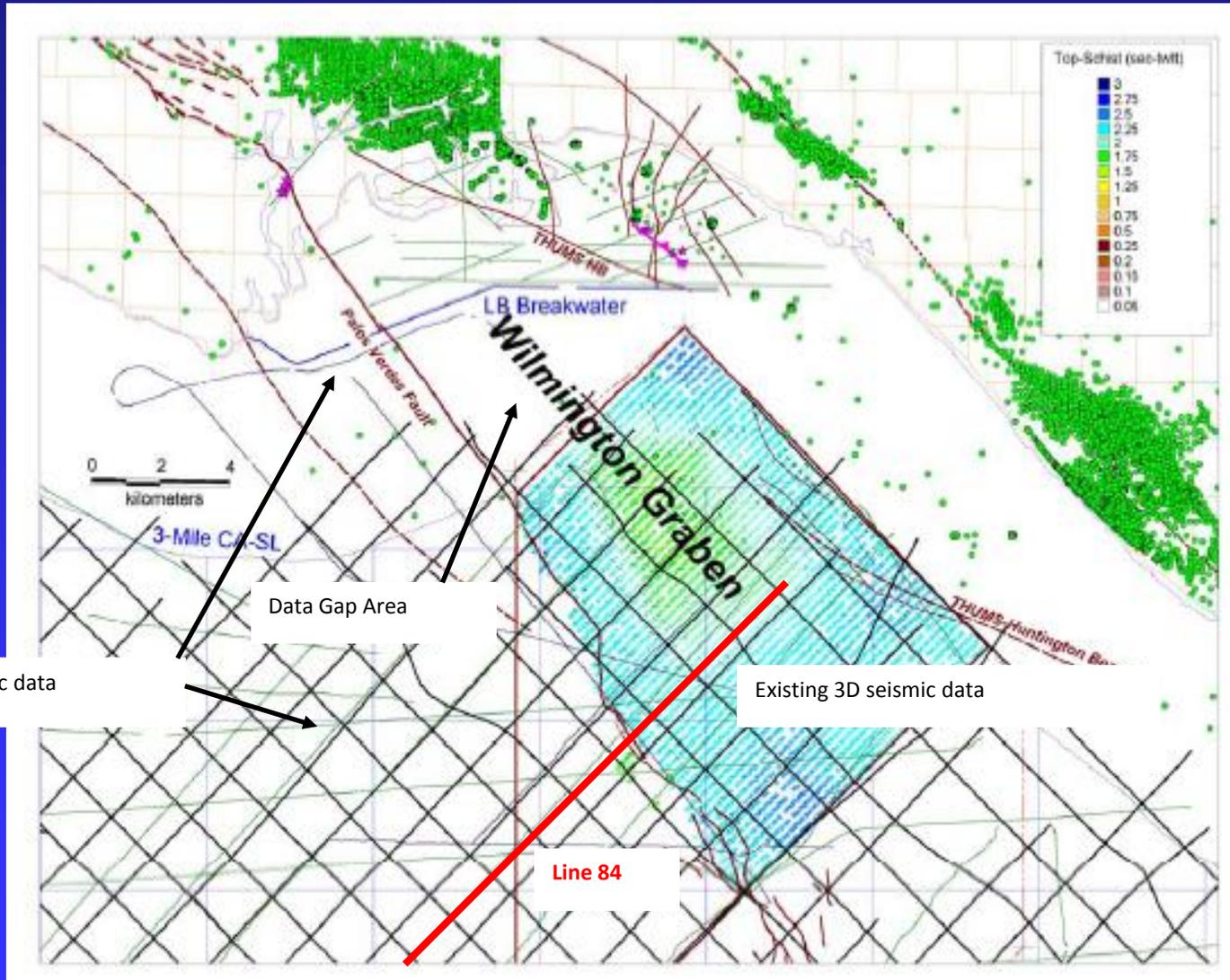
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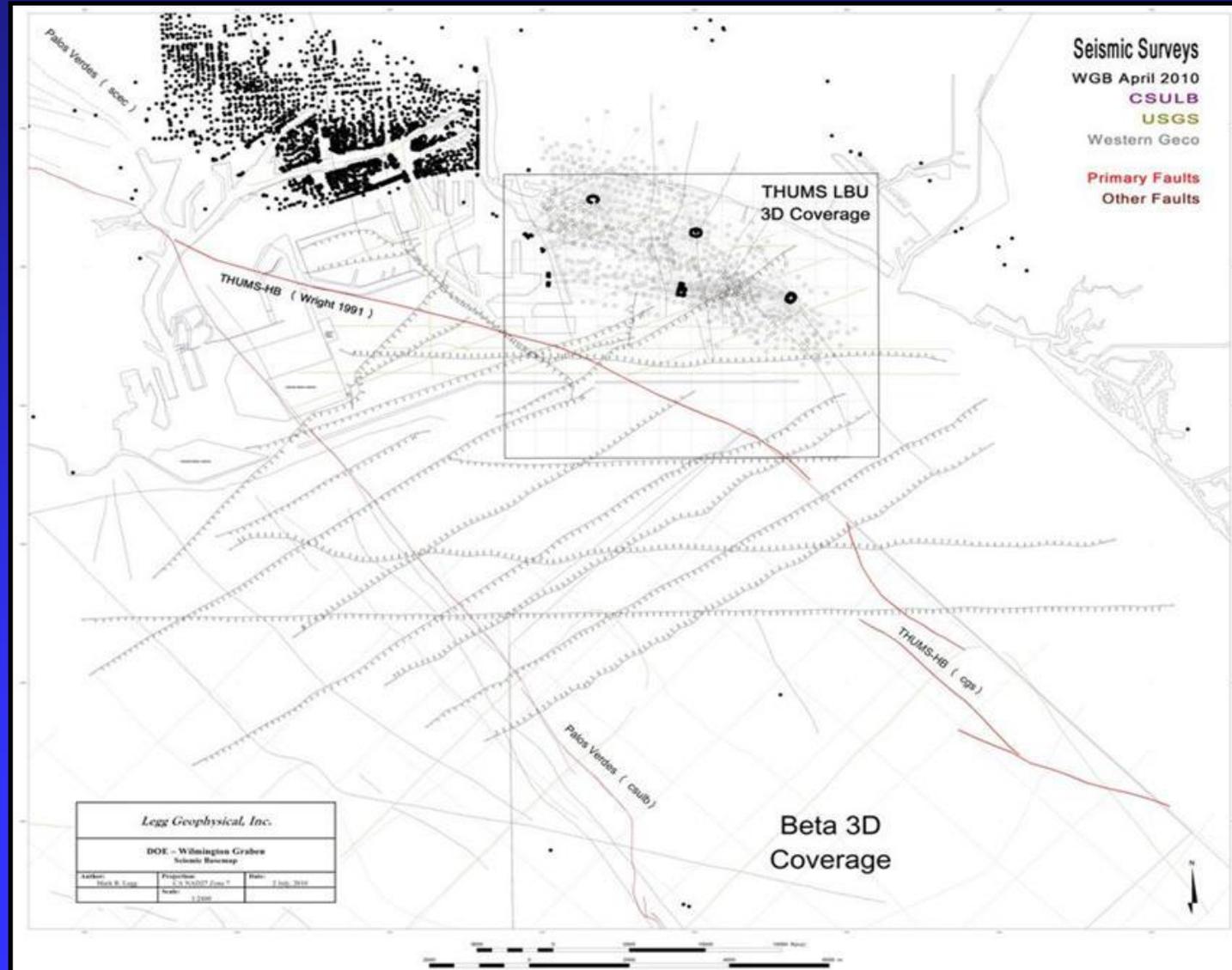
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Shot Point Map for
175km of new
seismic lines





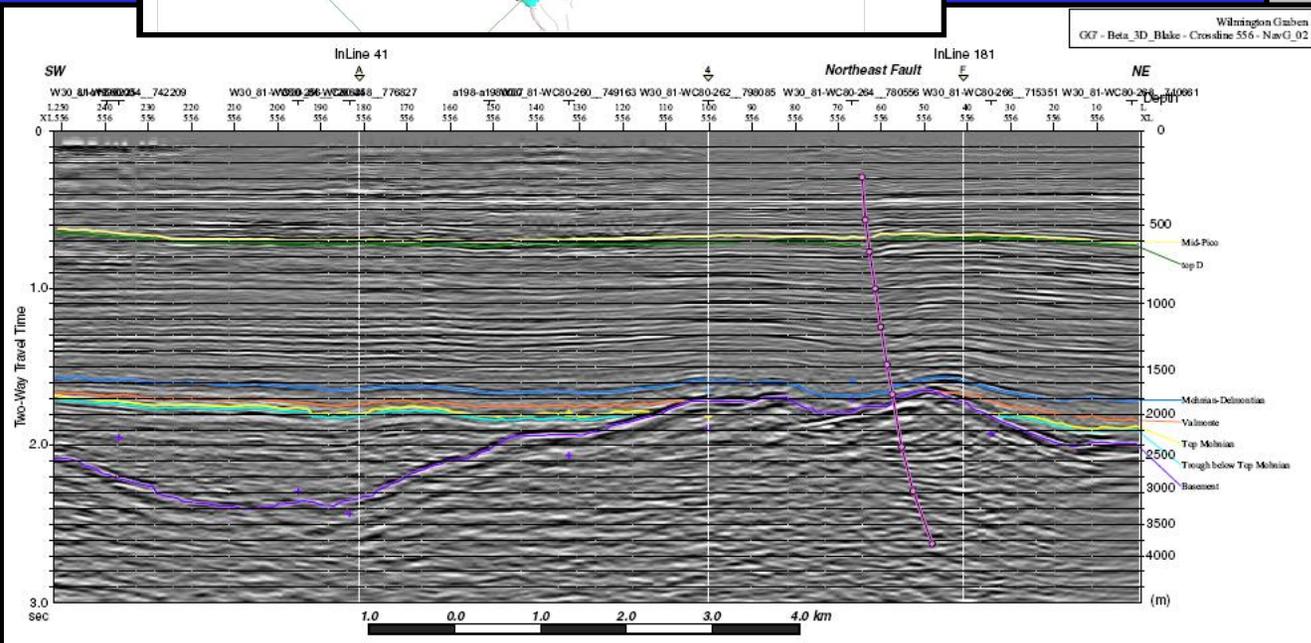
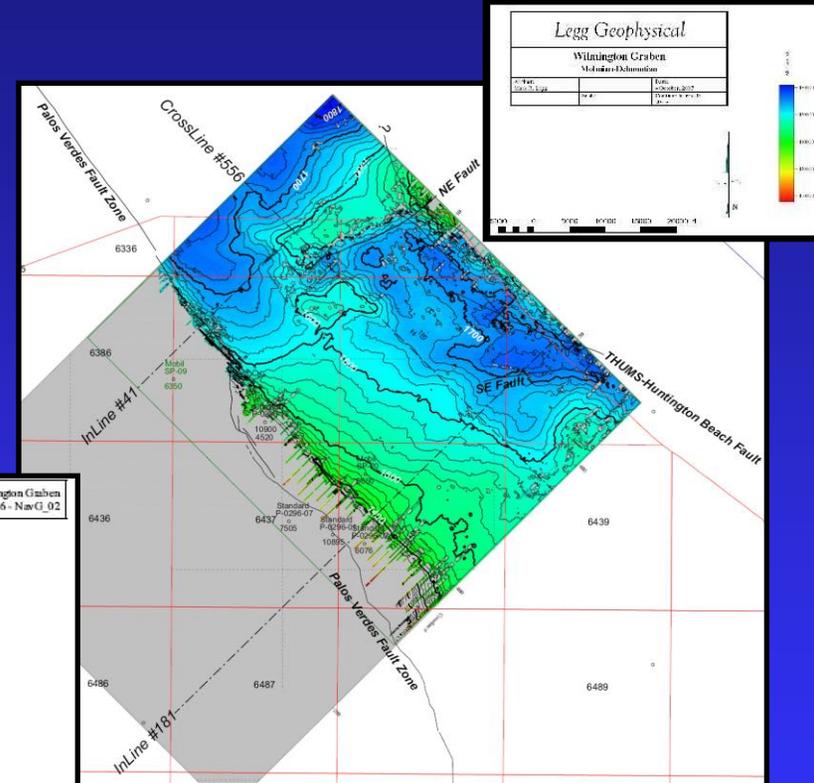
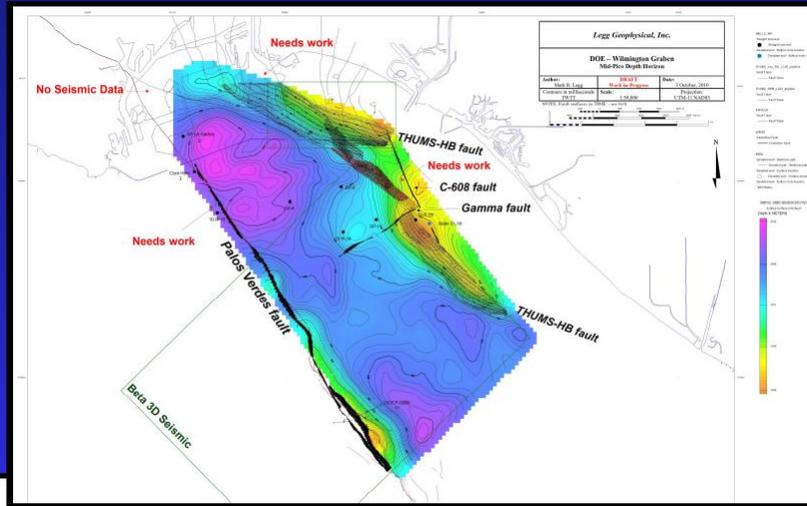
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California State University, Long Beach Provided the Boat and Seismic Equipment





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Structural & Stratigraphic Seismic Interpretations



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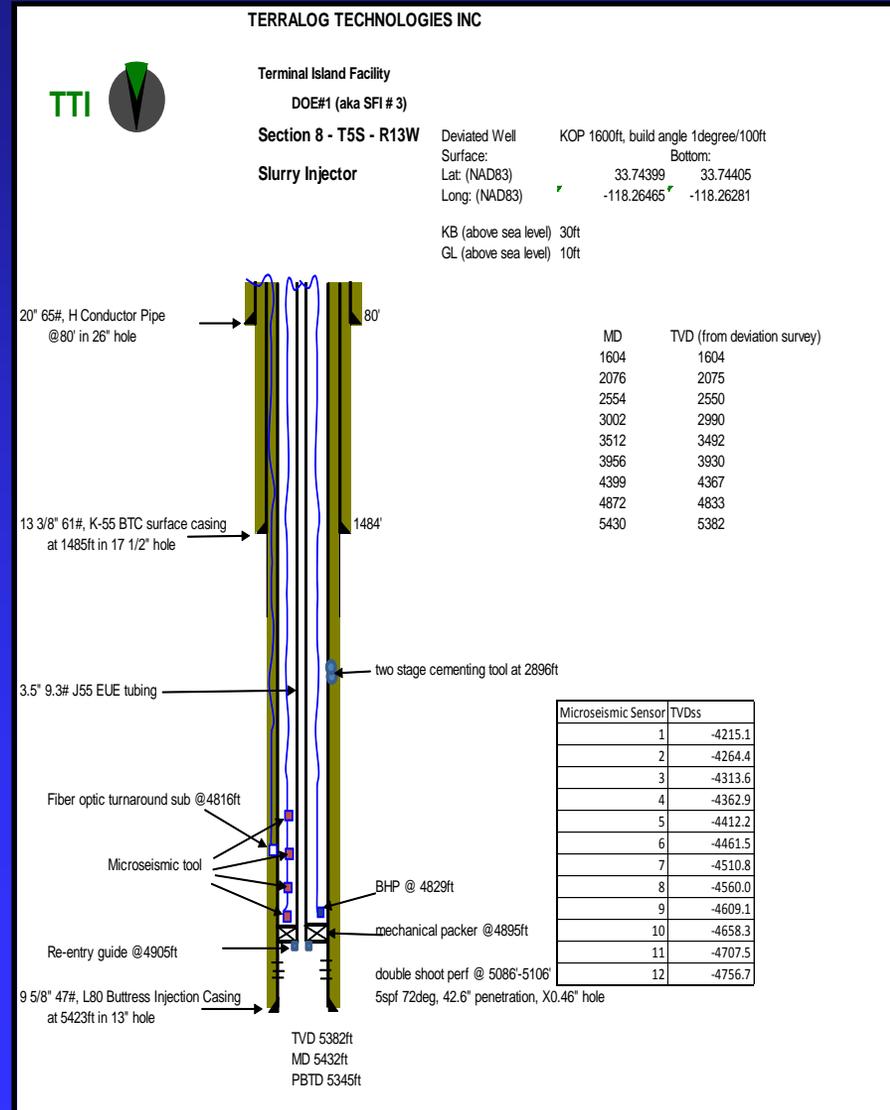
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DOE#1 Well Schematic





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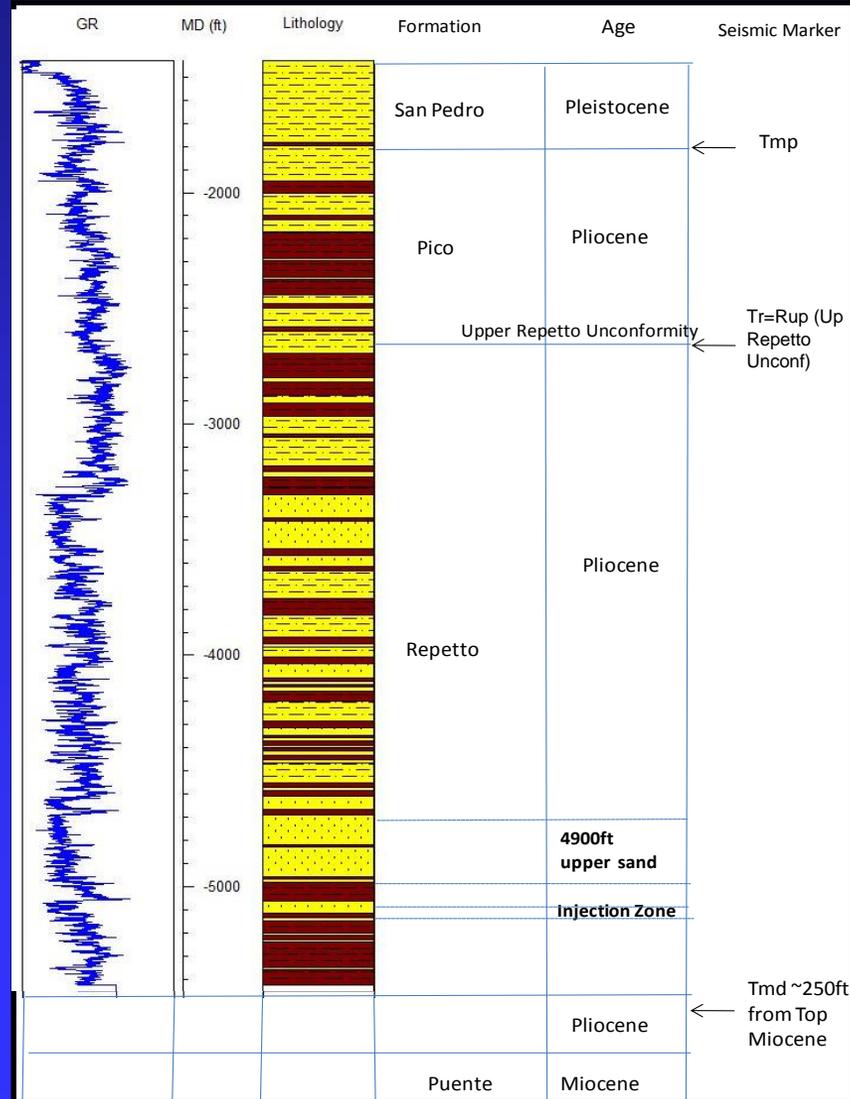
DOE#1 Well Sidewall Cores

	4420ft sand		4575ft sand		4605ft mudstone		4731ft sand
	4452ft sand		4585ft mudstone		4640ft sand		4805ft sand
	4505ft silt		4593ft mudstone		4673ft mudstone		4835ft sand
	4543ft mudstone		4597ft sand		4695ft sand		4867ft sand



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DOE#1 Well Stratigraphic Column



- Correlated with SFI#1 and SFI#2 wells
- Well TD in Pliocene based on micropaleontology correlation from SFI#2 well
- Pliocene gross sand thickness – 3000-3500ft



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Reservoir Properties from 29 SWC's and 9.5' of Conventional Core

Zones	Porosity (%)	Permeability (md)
Shale between 4465-4570ft	28 to 29	2 to 4
Sand at 4640ft	32	371
Shale above 4900ft sand	27	<1
4900ft sand @ 4690-4975ft	24 to 30	51 to 187
Shale above Injection Zone	28 to 29	<1 to 2
Injection Zone (5055-5115ft)	26 to 31	50 to 353
Sand at 5351ft	29	135
Conventional Core shale (5431-5439.5ft)	23 to 24	<1



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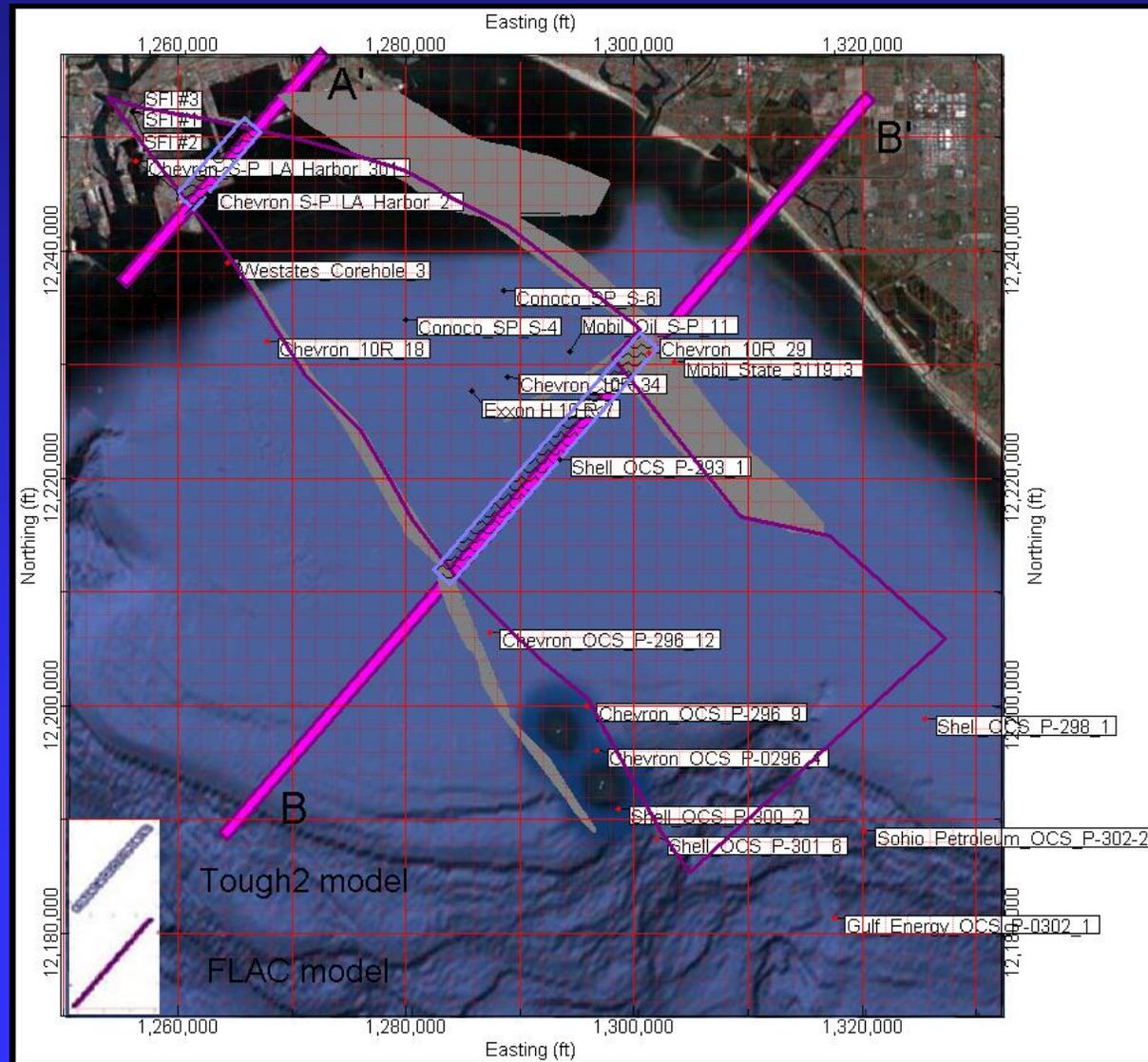
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-
- An aerial photograph of the Los Angeles coastline, showing the city, the harbor, and the Pacific Ocean. The image is used as a background for the slide content.



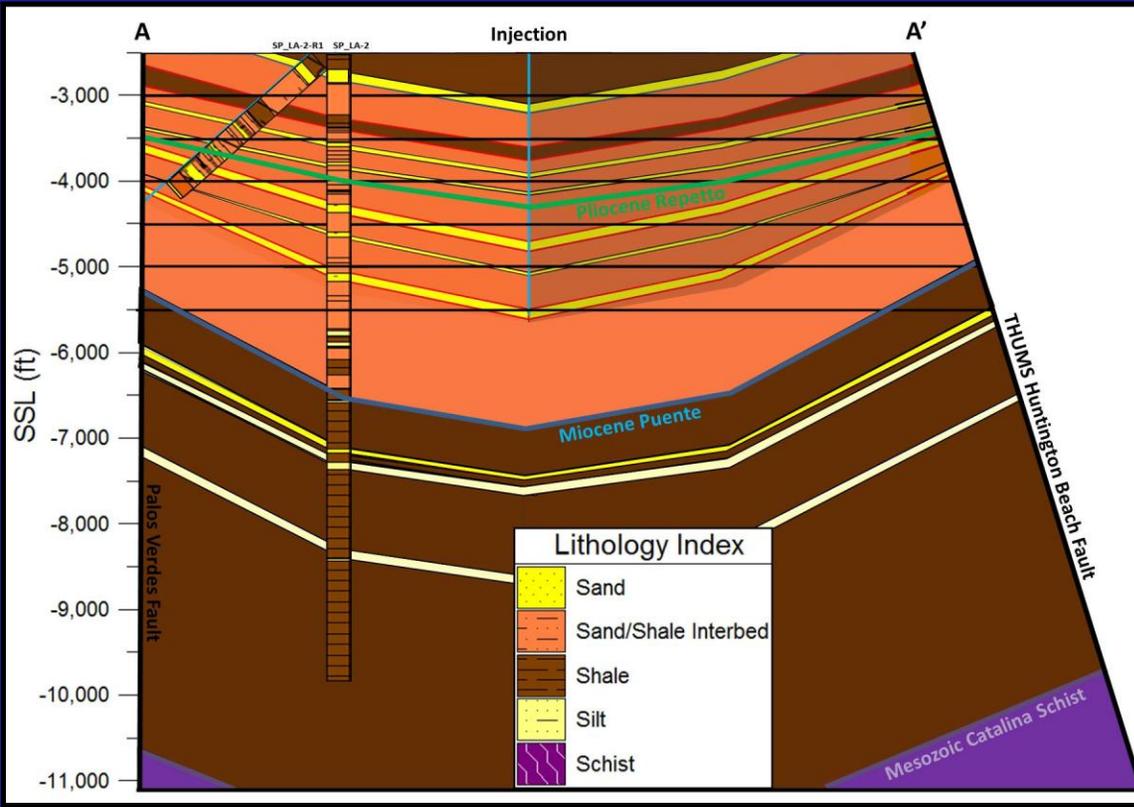
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Location Map for Models

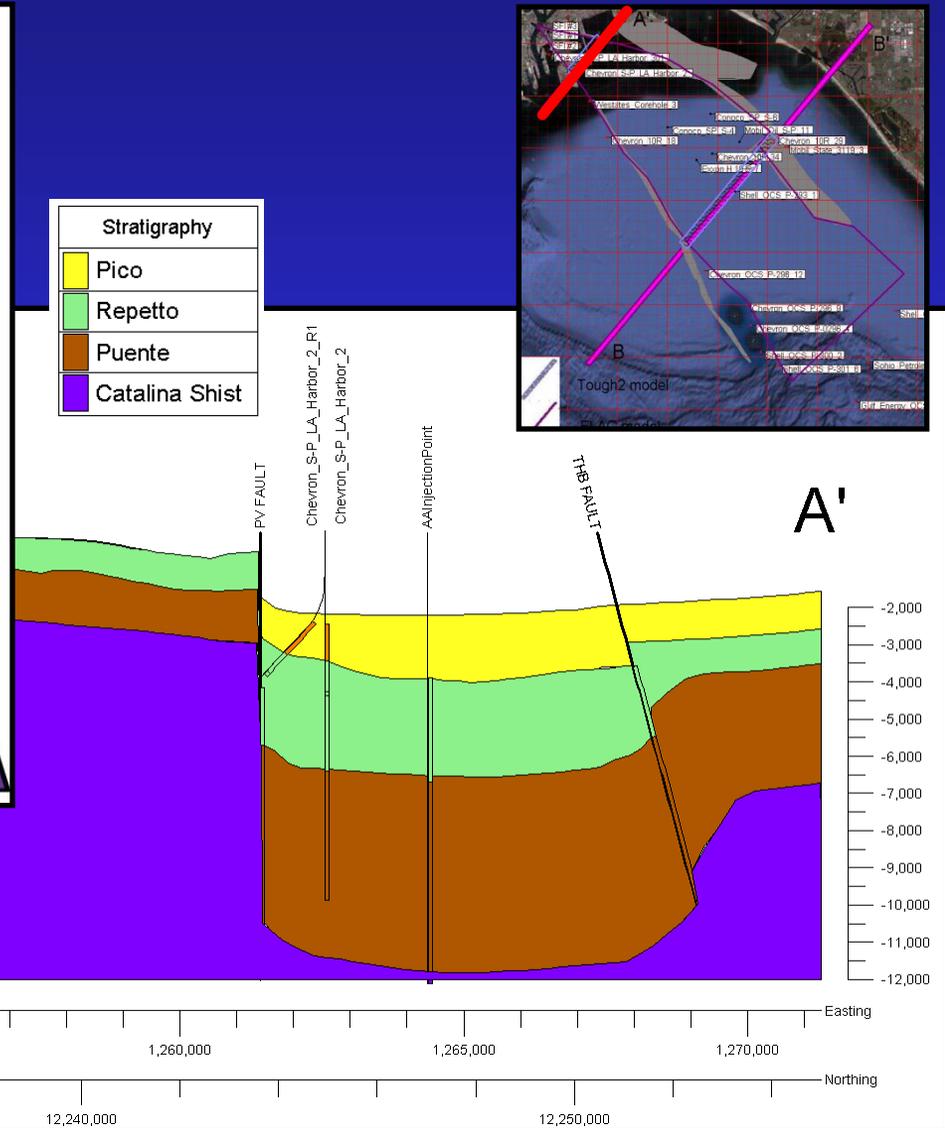




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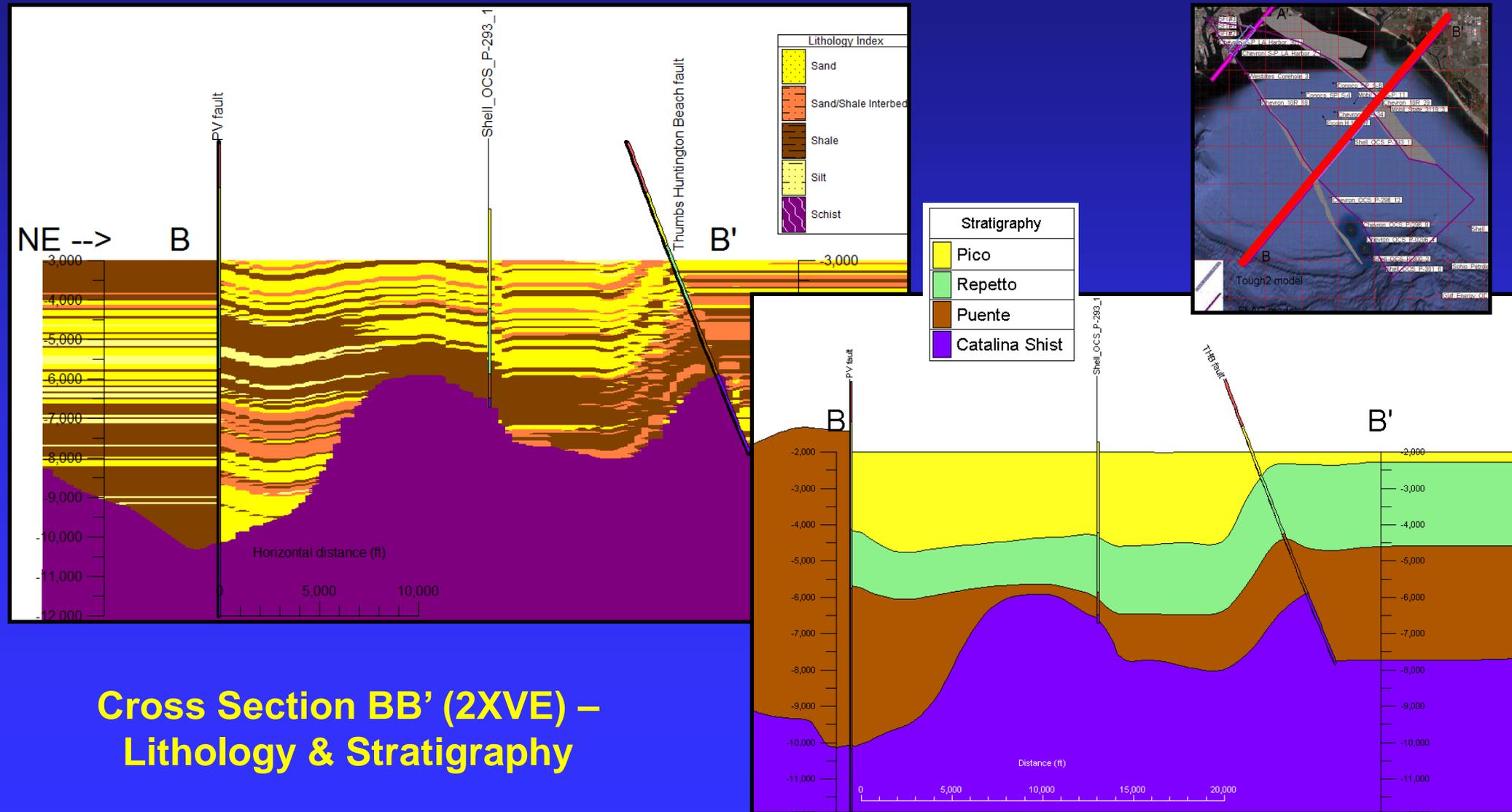


Cross Section AA' – Lithology & Stratigraphy



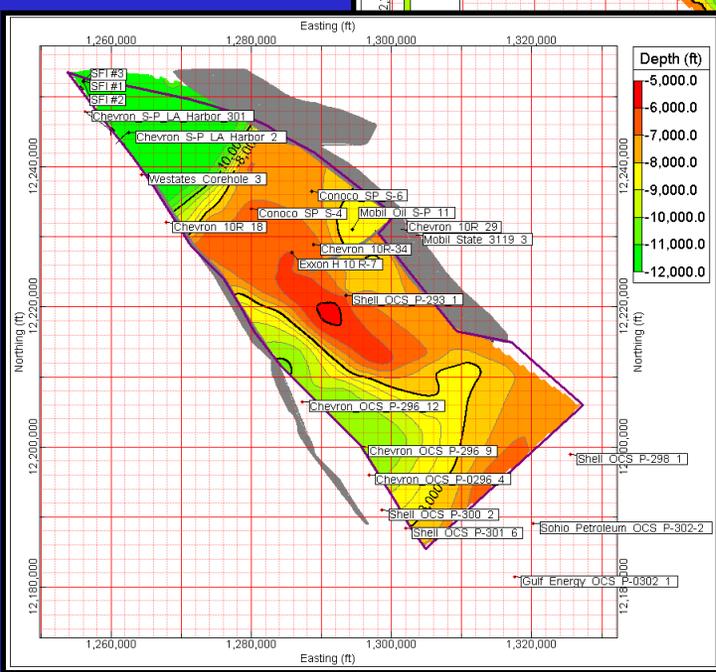
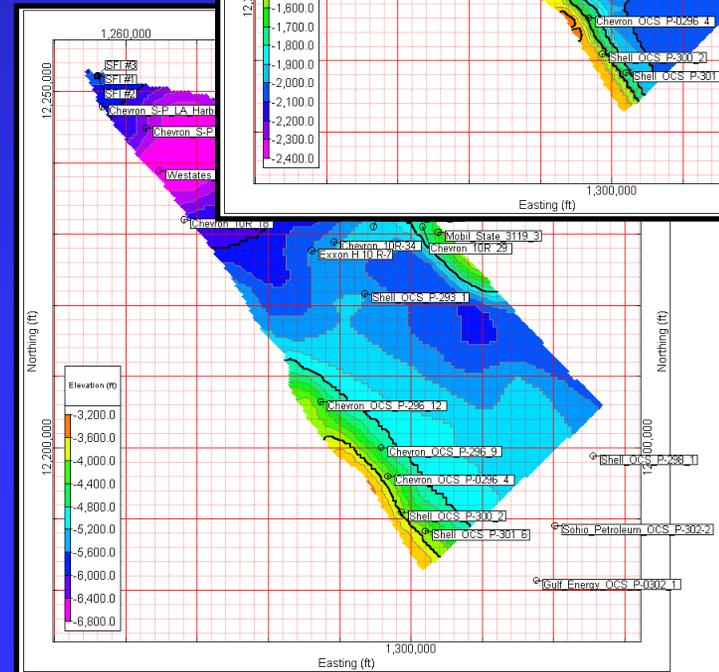
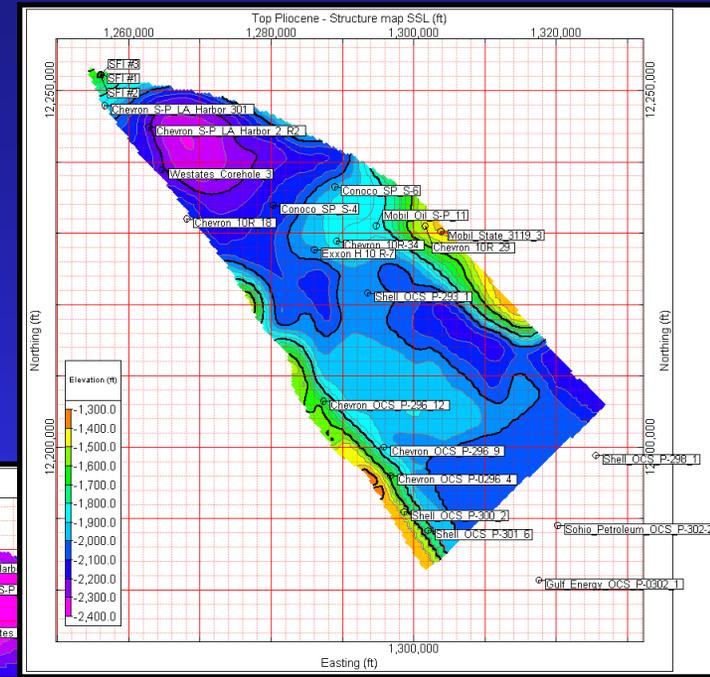
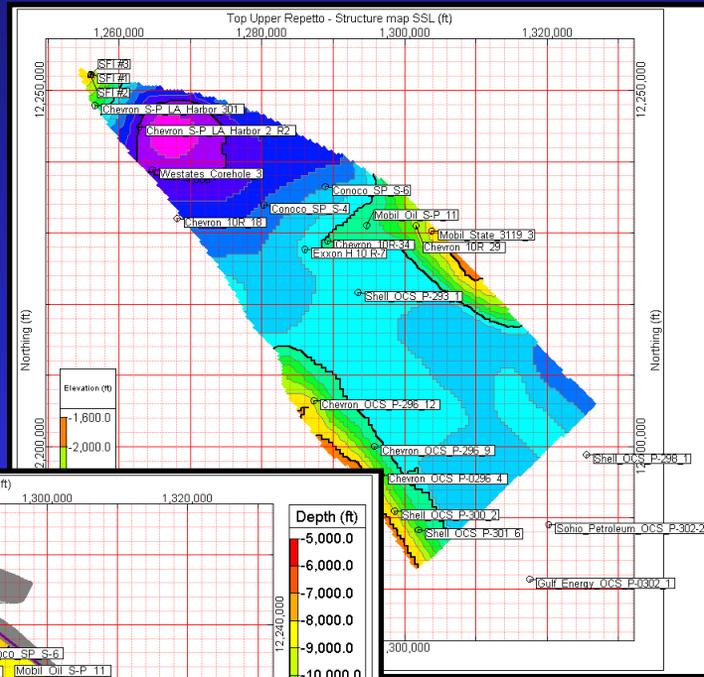


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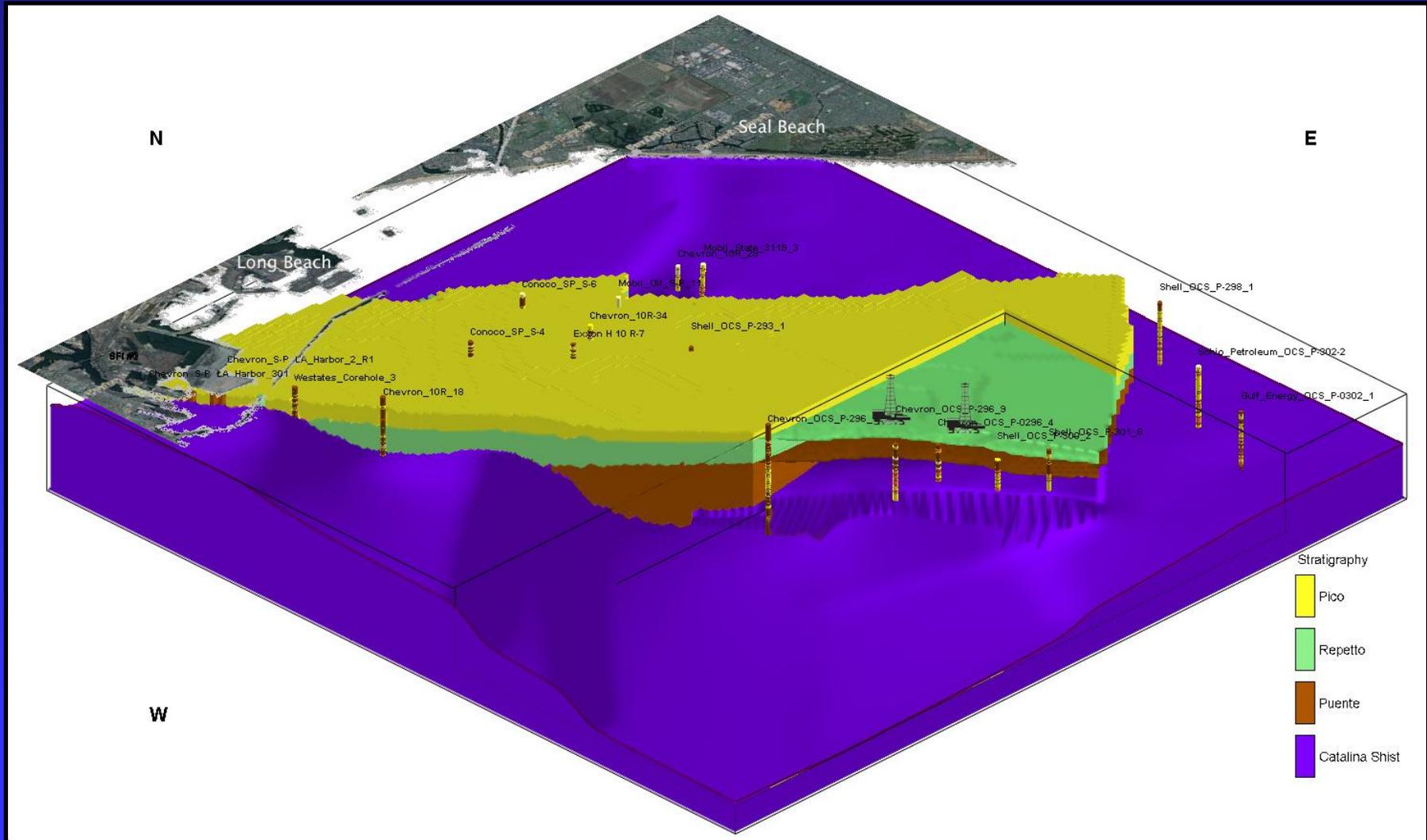


Structure
Maps for 4
Stratigraphic
Units Below
2000' SSL



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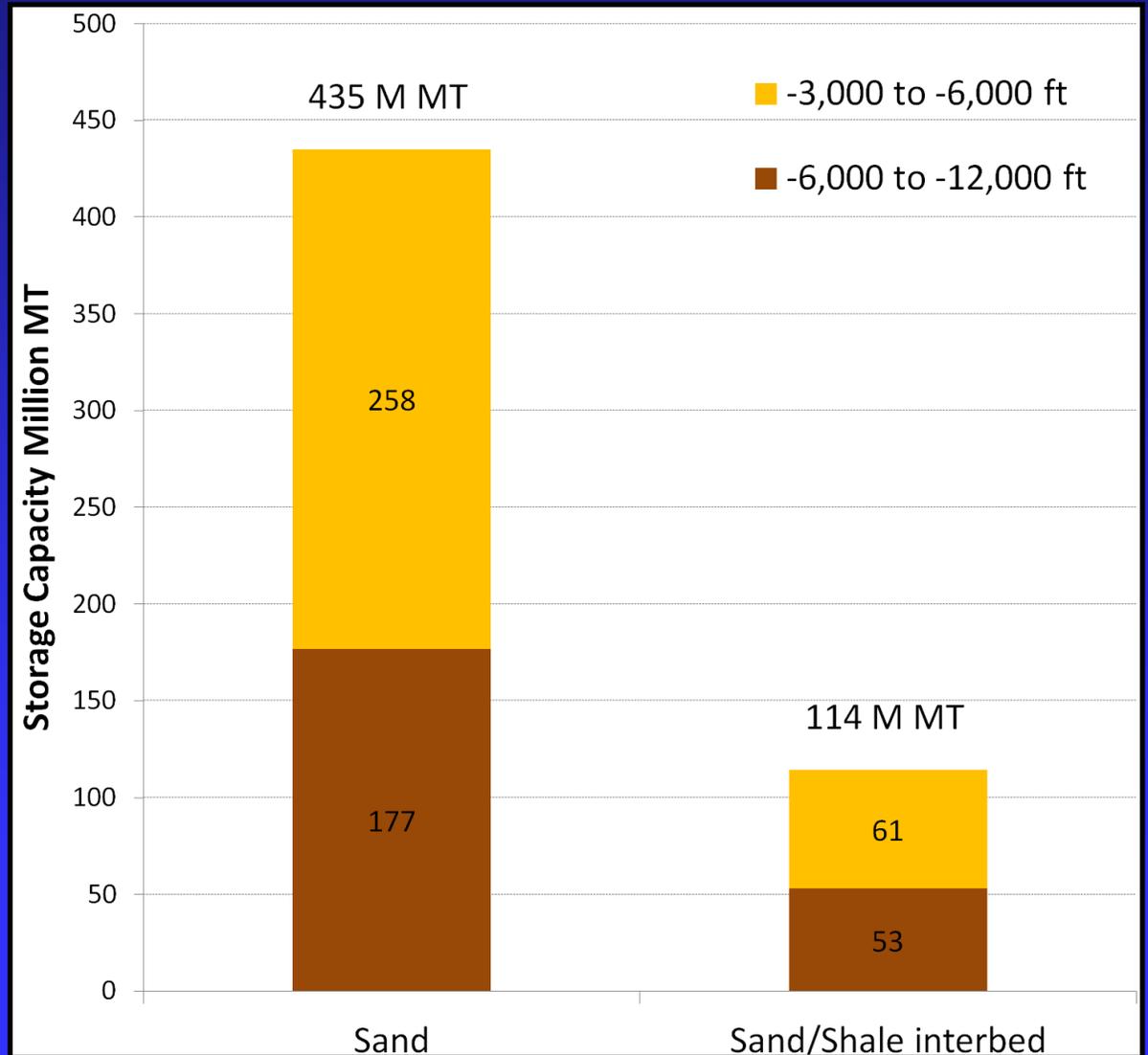
3D Stratigraphic Representation of Wilmington Graben Project Area Below 2000' SSL





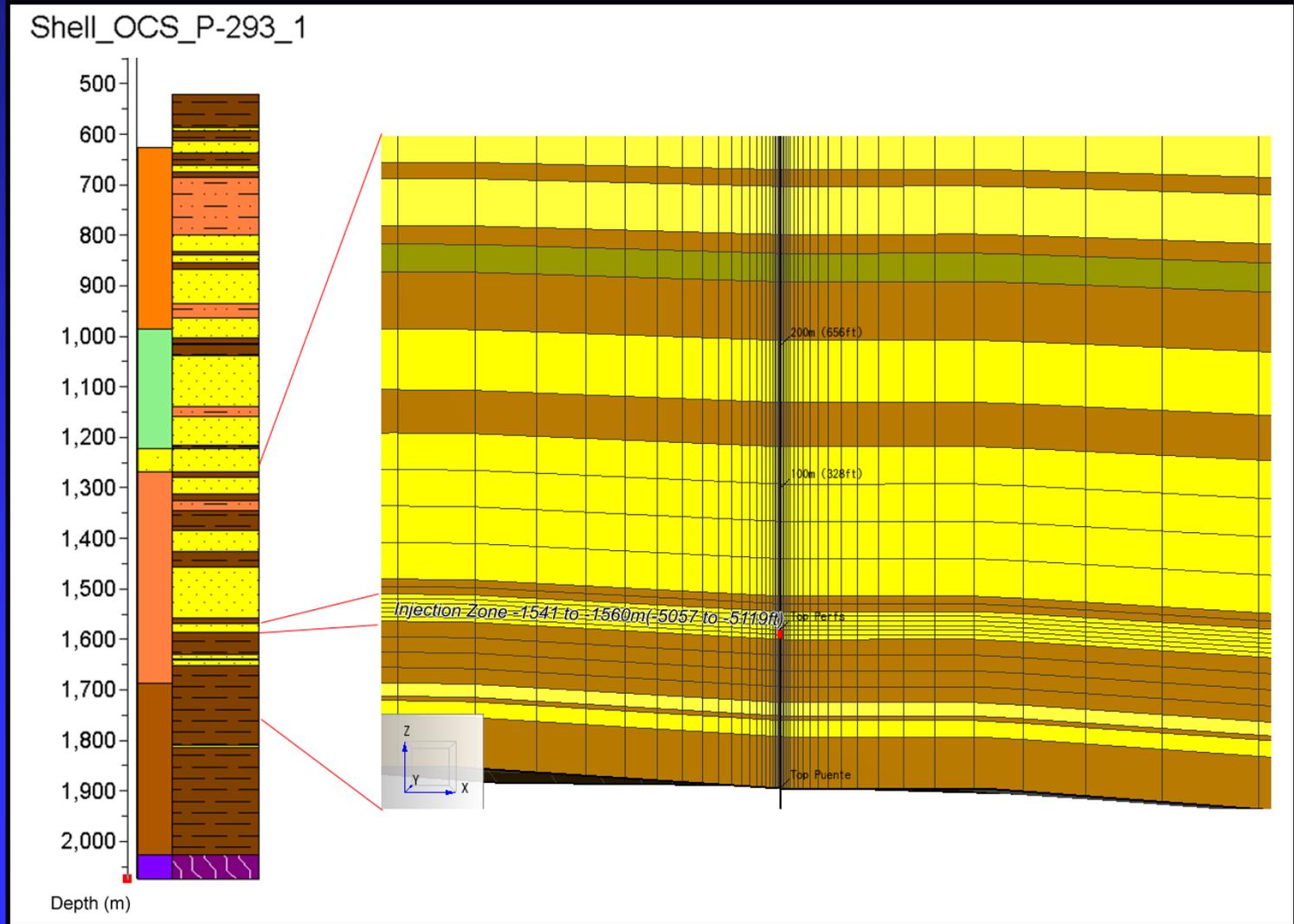
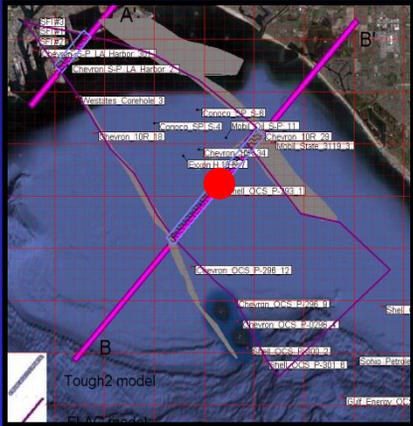
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Estimated Storage Capacity





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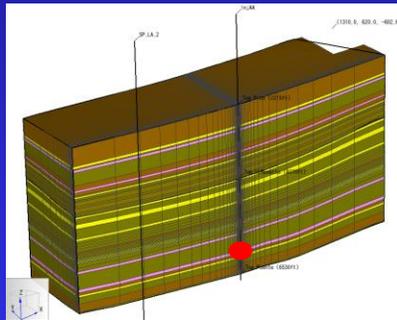
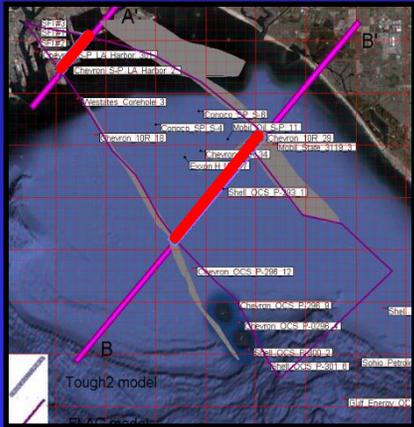


TOUGH2 Injection Well Grid based on Lithology from Shell_OCS_P-293_1

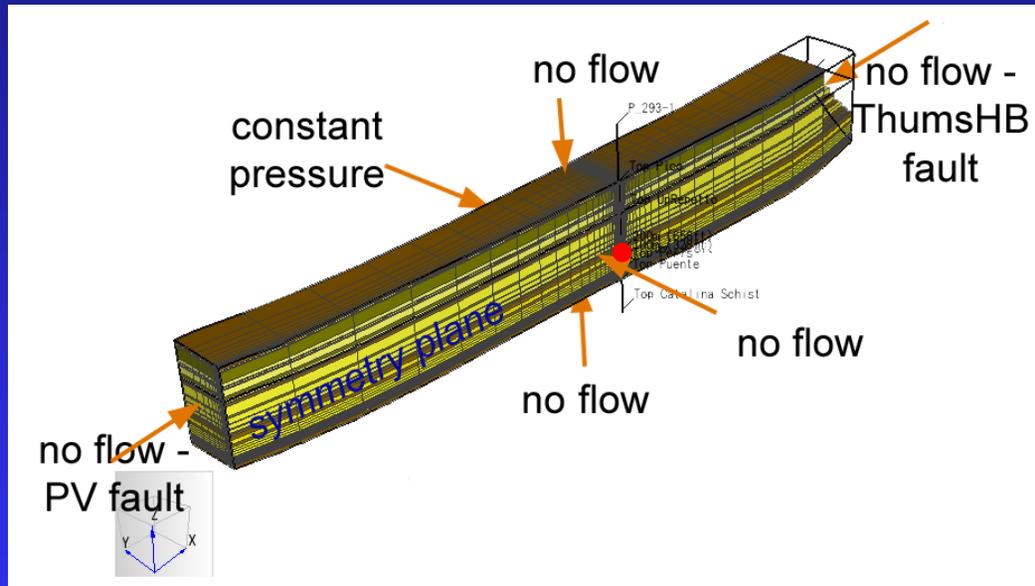


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Gas Migration Models – Concept (not to scale)



AA



BB

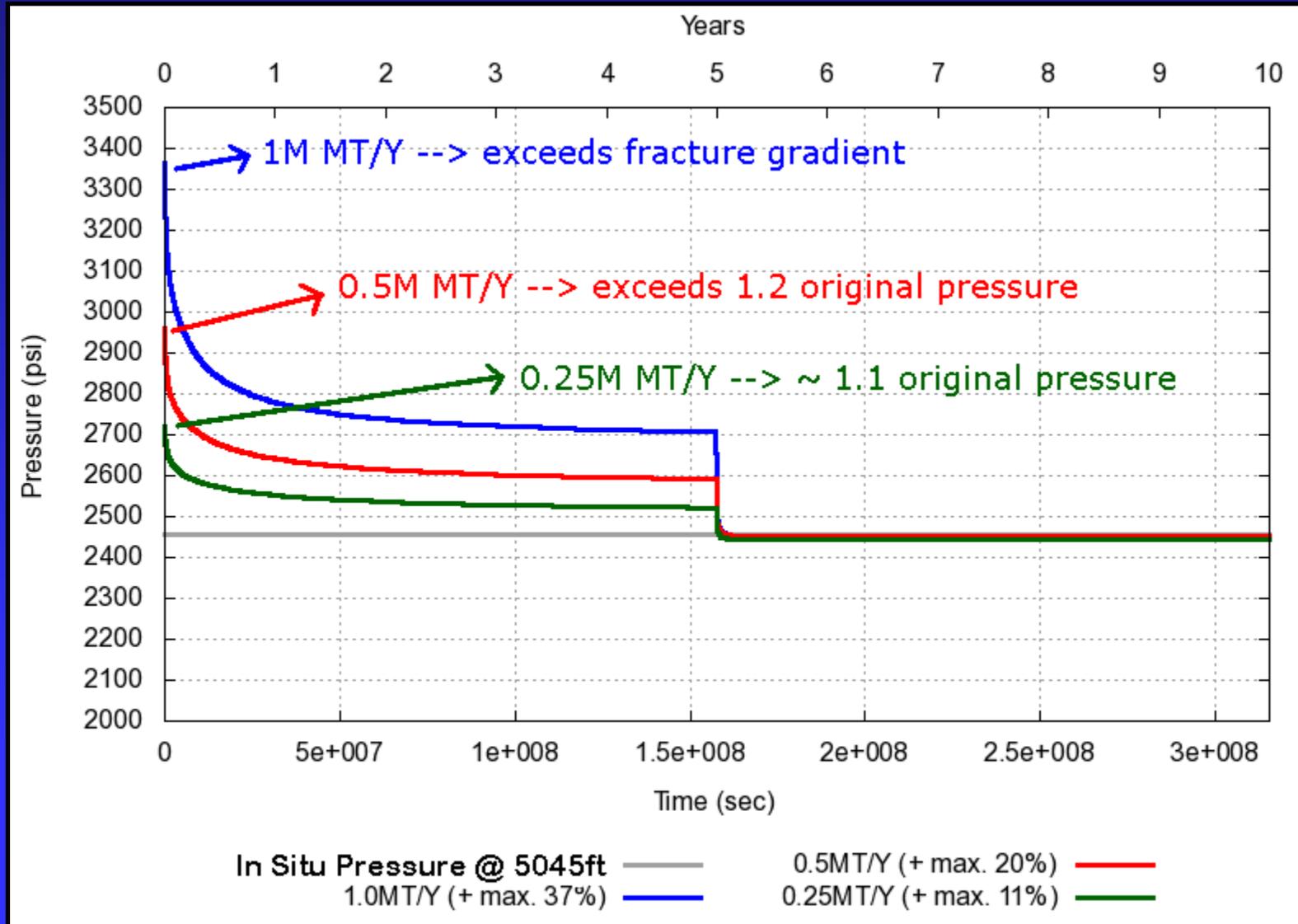
# of cells	60,000	68,000
SW-NE x SE-NW	2,600 x 620 m (8,500 x 2,000 ft)	7,830 x 620 m (26,000 x 2,000 ft)
Model interval	-600 to -2,000 m (-1970 to -6560 ft)	-465 to -1720 m (-1525 to -5643 ft)
Injection interval	-1570 to -1600 m (-5150 to 5250 ft)	-1535 to -1555 m (-5036 to -5100 ft)



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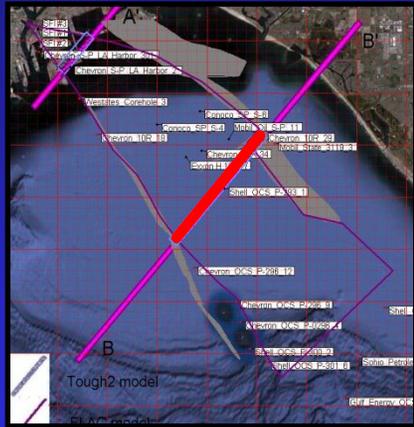
Injection for 5 years at BB' -

Pressure at Injection Cell for 1M MT/Yr, 0.5M MT/Yr & 0.25M MT/Yr



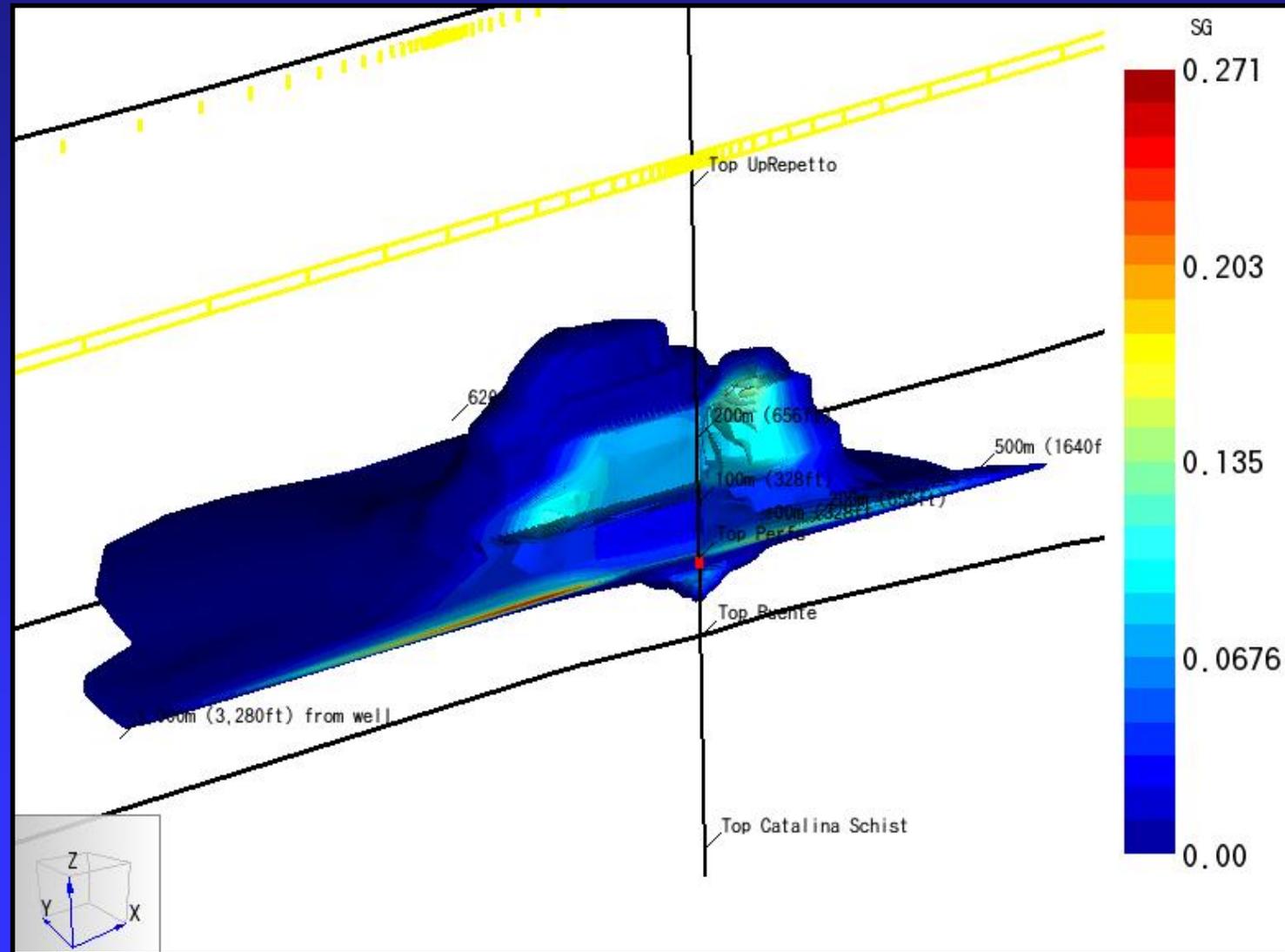


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Gas plume after 55 years –

B-B', looking due North

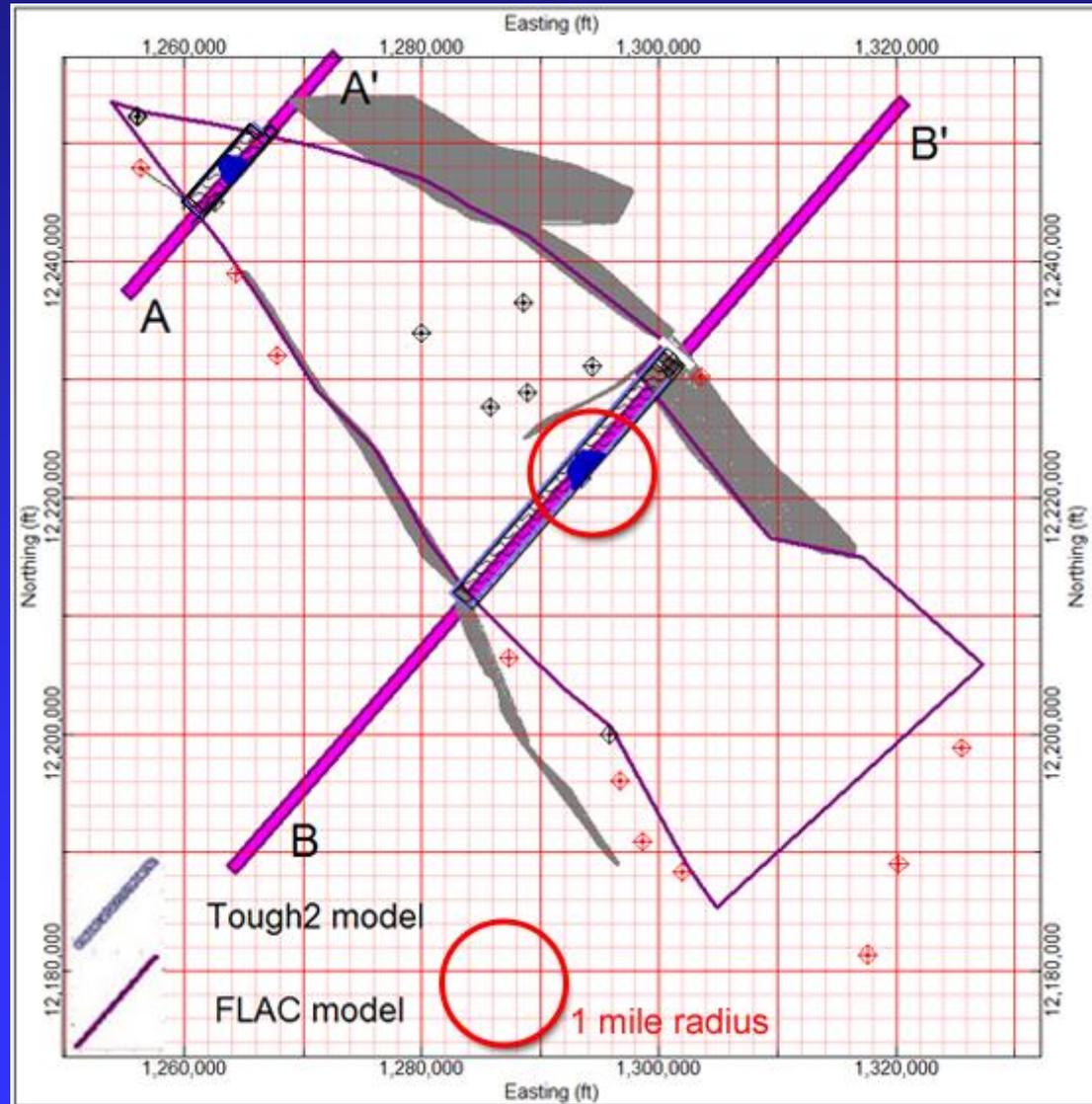




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Gas Migration Modeling Conclusions Thus Far:

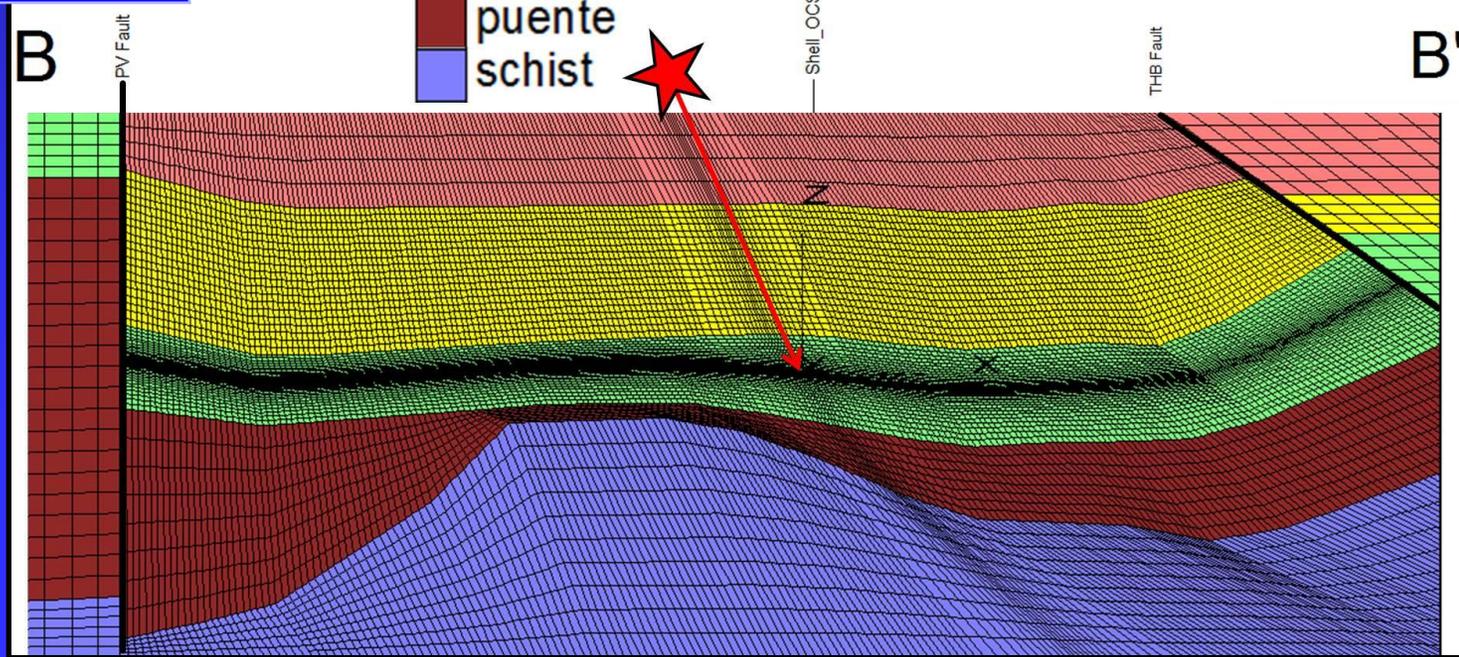
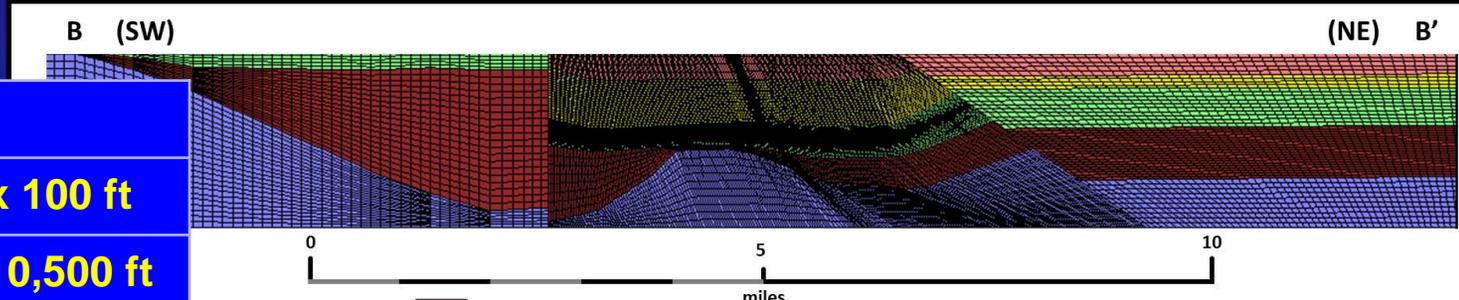
- max. 250,000 MT/Y per well
- min. distance between wells: 1 mile





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# of cells	30,000
SW-NE x SE-NW	86,000 x 100 ft
Model interval	-75 to -10,500 ft
Injection interval	-5036 to -5100 ft
Max Cell Size	600 ft X 400 ft



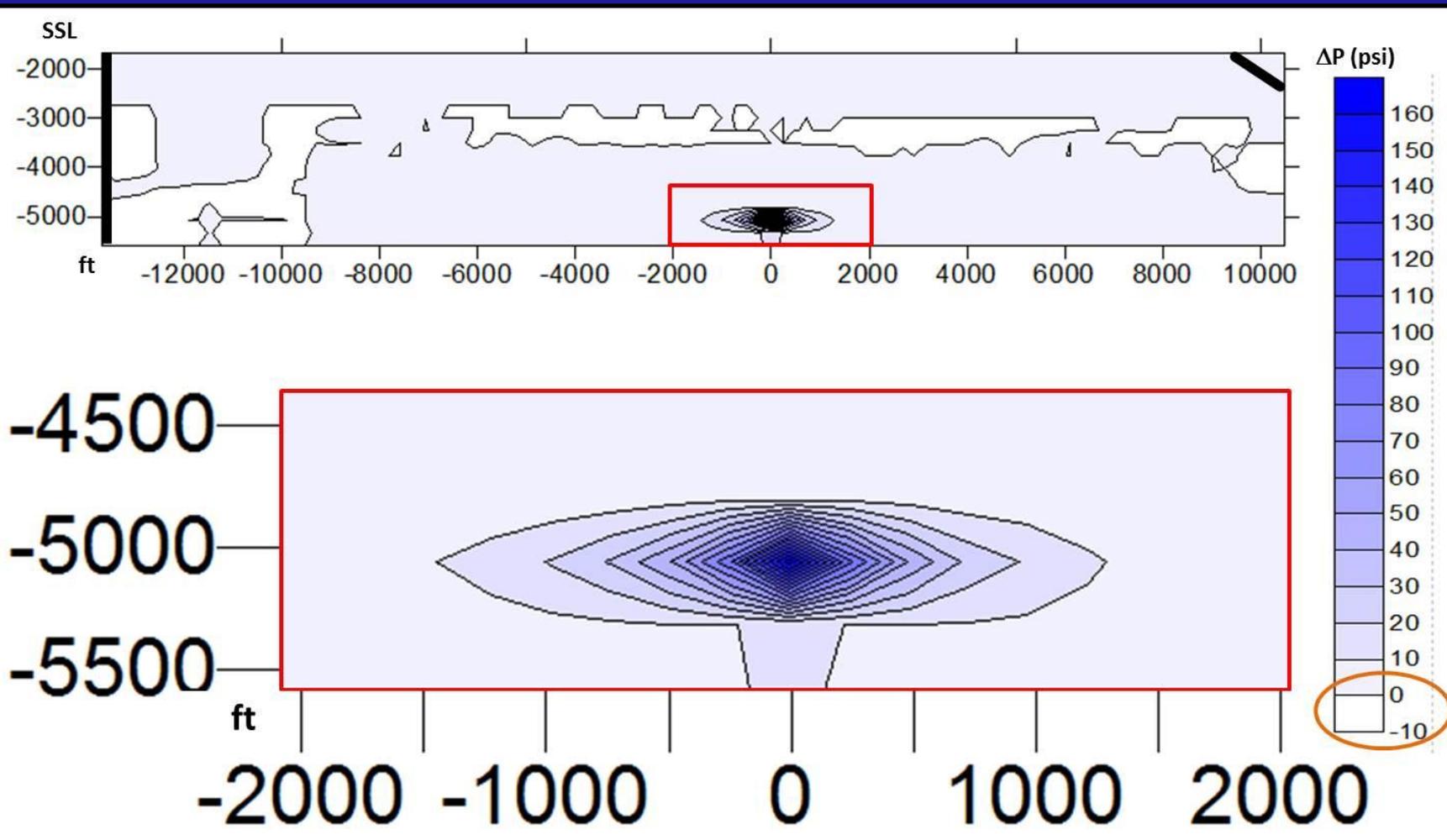
Cross Section BB'
FLAC3D Model





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Input Pressures Based on TOUGH2 Output



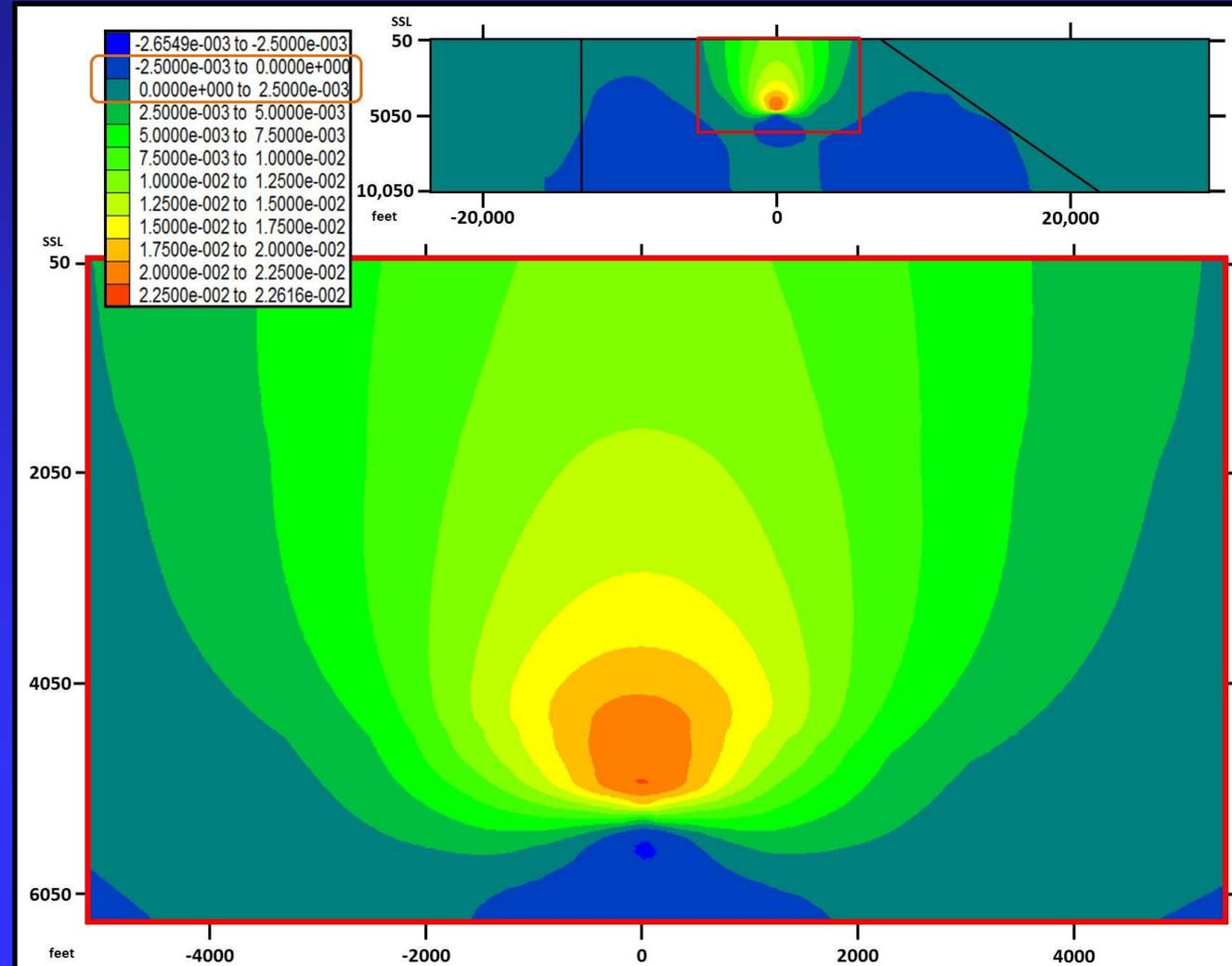


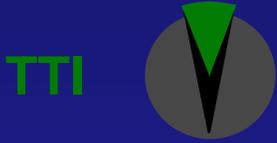
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Contour Plot of Induced Vertical Displacement



- Virtually 0 Throughout Most of Graben
- 0.025" Below Injection
- Greatest About 0.27" Just Above Injection
- Maybe As Much As 0.18" Uplift at the Seafloor

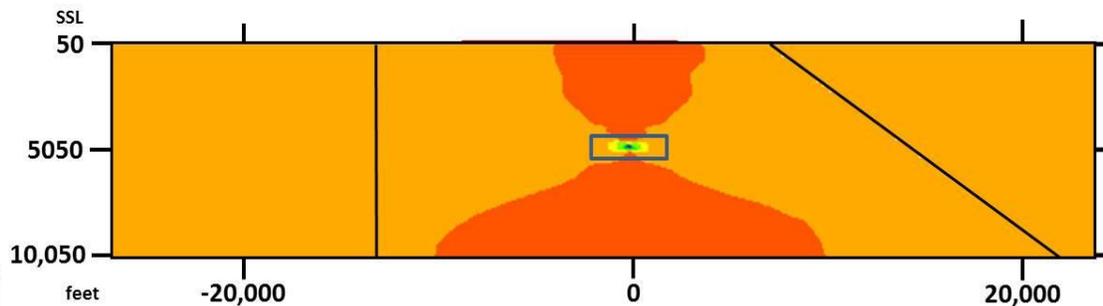
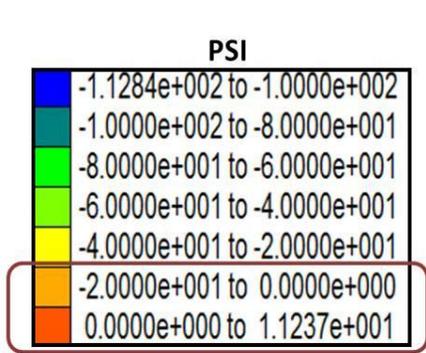




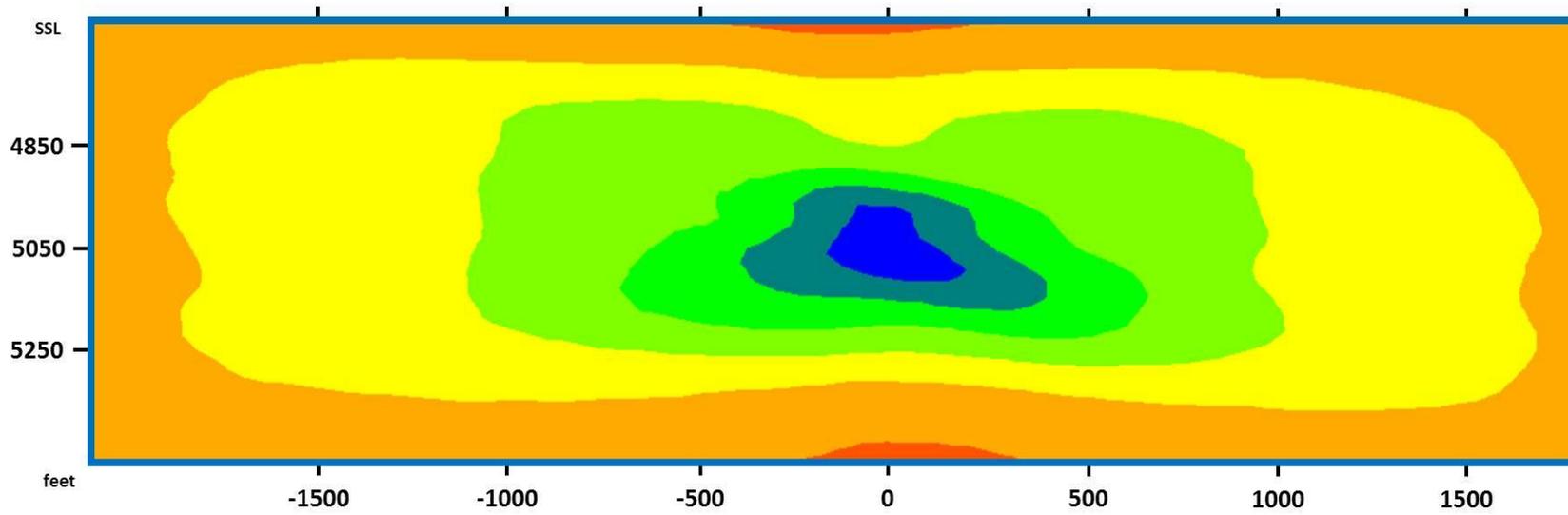
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Contour Plot of Induced Horizontal Stress (sxx)

- Virtually 0 Throughout Graben



- Except In Few Thousand of Feet Around Injection
- Greatest About 112 psi Of Compression At Injection
- Less Than 60 psi a Few Hundred of Feet From Injection



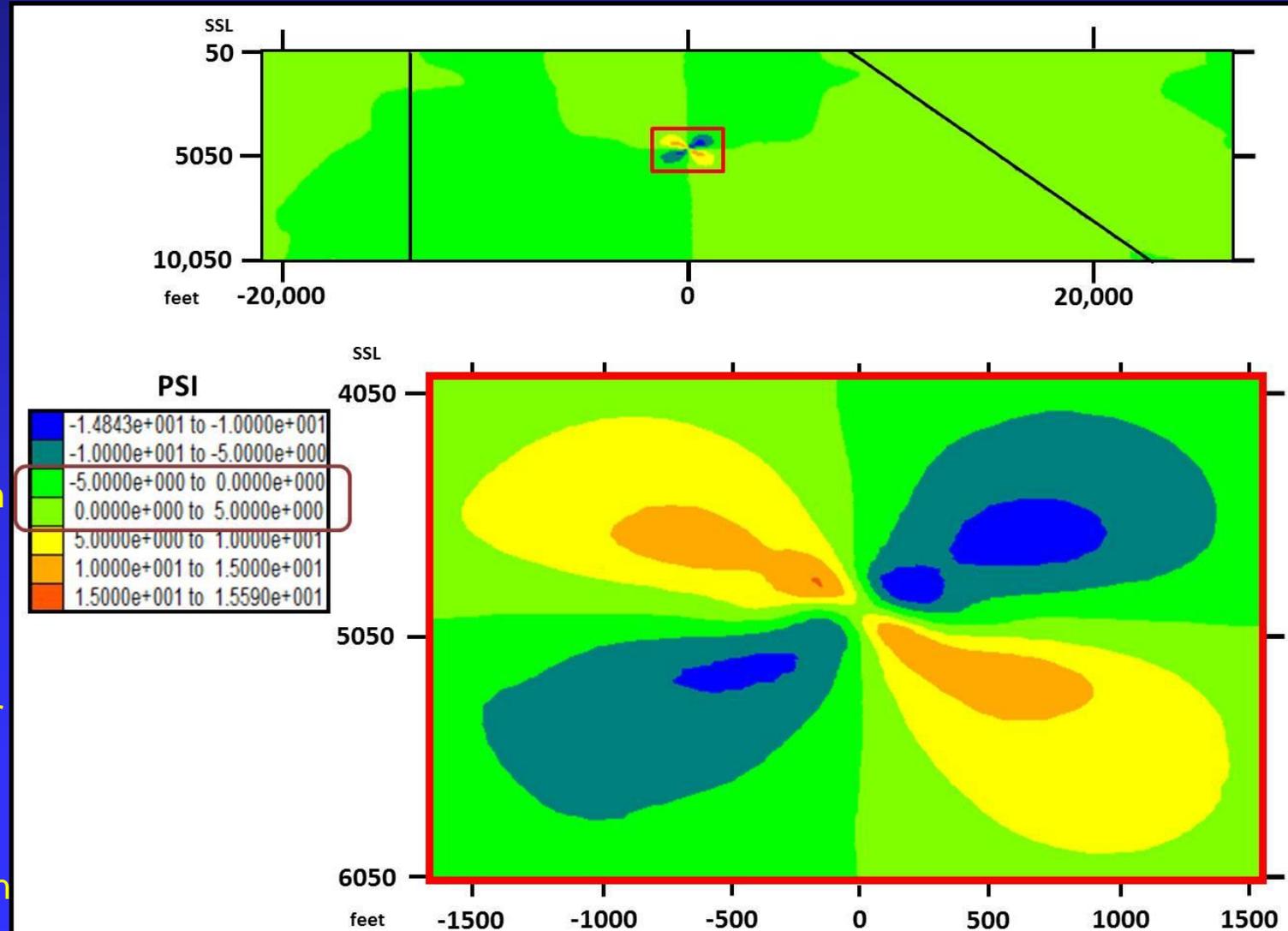


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Contour Plot of Induced Shear Stress (sxz)



- Virtually 0 Throughout Graben
- Except In Few Thousand of Feet Around Injection
- Greatest Is Under 20 psi Near Injection
- Less Than 10 psi a Few Hundred of Feet From Injection





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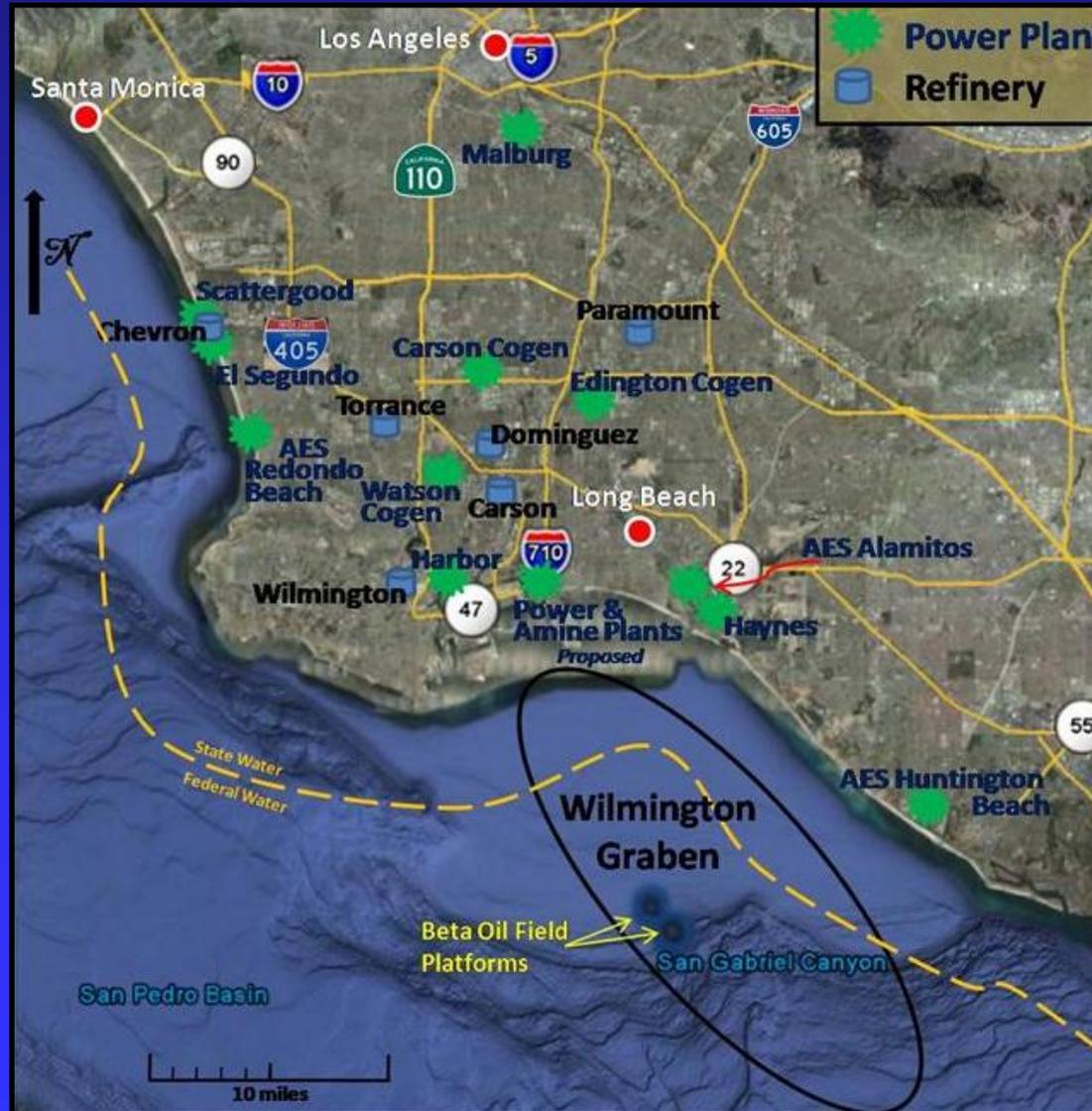
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- 4) Drilling and coring three new evaluation wells into the Graben (Pliocene and Miocene) and/or on the landward side of the THUMS-HB fault
- 5) Development of 3D geologic models, geomechanical models, and CO₂ injection and migration models for the region
- 6) **Analysis of industrial sources (top 20 in the LA Basin)**
- 7) Transport Infrastructure Study: engineering study of existing and new pipeline systems to transport CO₂ from significant local sources to sequestration sites
- 8) Risk analysis



Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

Industrial CO₂ Sources in LA Basin





Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

www.socalcarb.org

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SoCalCarb
Southern California Carbon Sequestration Research Consortium

Home Sponsors & Participants What is CO₂ Sequestration SoCal Carbon Atlas Wilmington Graben Project Other California Sequestration Projects

Sponsors & Participants



Home



Southern California Map (NASA JPL Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM))

The Southern California Carbon Sequestration Research Consortium (SoCalCarb) is a collaborative research group bringing together scientists and engineers from more than 10 public agencies, private companies, and universities to identify and validate the best regional opportunities for keeping CO₂ out of the atmosphere, thereby reducing our anthropogenic impact on the climate.

Led by Terralog Technologies USA, with funding support by the US Department of Energy and the California Energy Commission, SoCalCarb is pursuing characterization studies for large scale CO₂ sequestration both onshore and offshore Southern California.

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Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

SoCalCarb Atlas Page for Industrial CO₂ Sources in LA Basin





Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

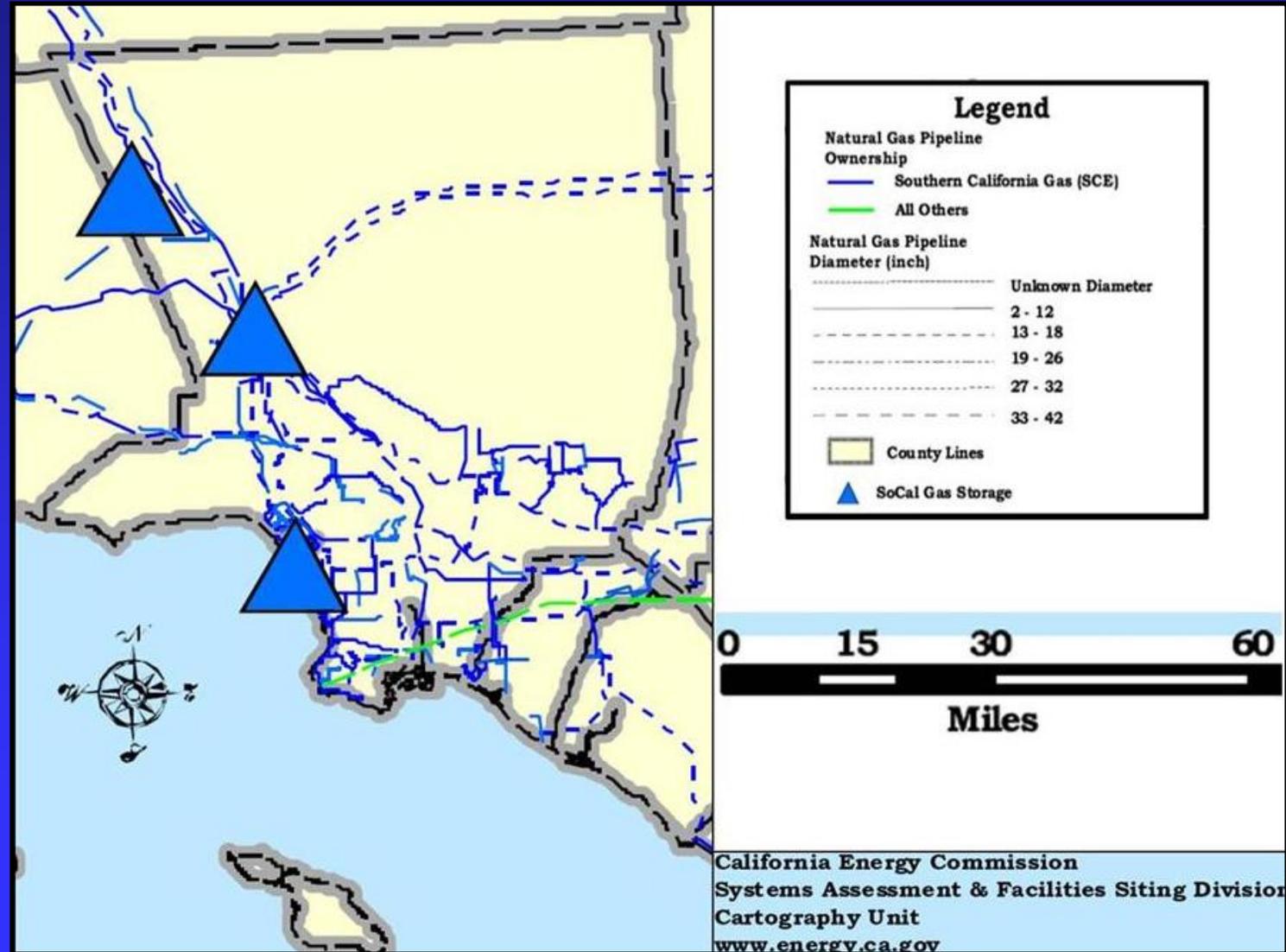
4. Accomplishments to Date

- 1) Detailed log evaluation of existing exploration wells in the area
- 2) Improved evaluation and interpretation of existing 2D and 3D seismic data
- 3) Acquisition and interpretation of additional 2D seismic lines
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- 8) Risk analysis



Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

Existing Oil & Gas Pipelines and Active Storage





Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

SoCalCarb Atlas Page for Potential Pipelines for CO₂ Transport





Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

4. Accomplishments to Date

- 1) Detailed log evaluation of existing exploration wells in the area
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- 6) Analysis of industrial sources (top 20 in the LA Basin)
- 7) Transport Infrastructure Study: engineering study of existing and new pipeline systems to transport CO₂ from significant local sources to sequestration sites
- 8) **Risk analysis**



Risk Assessment and Documentation Includes:

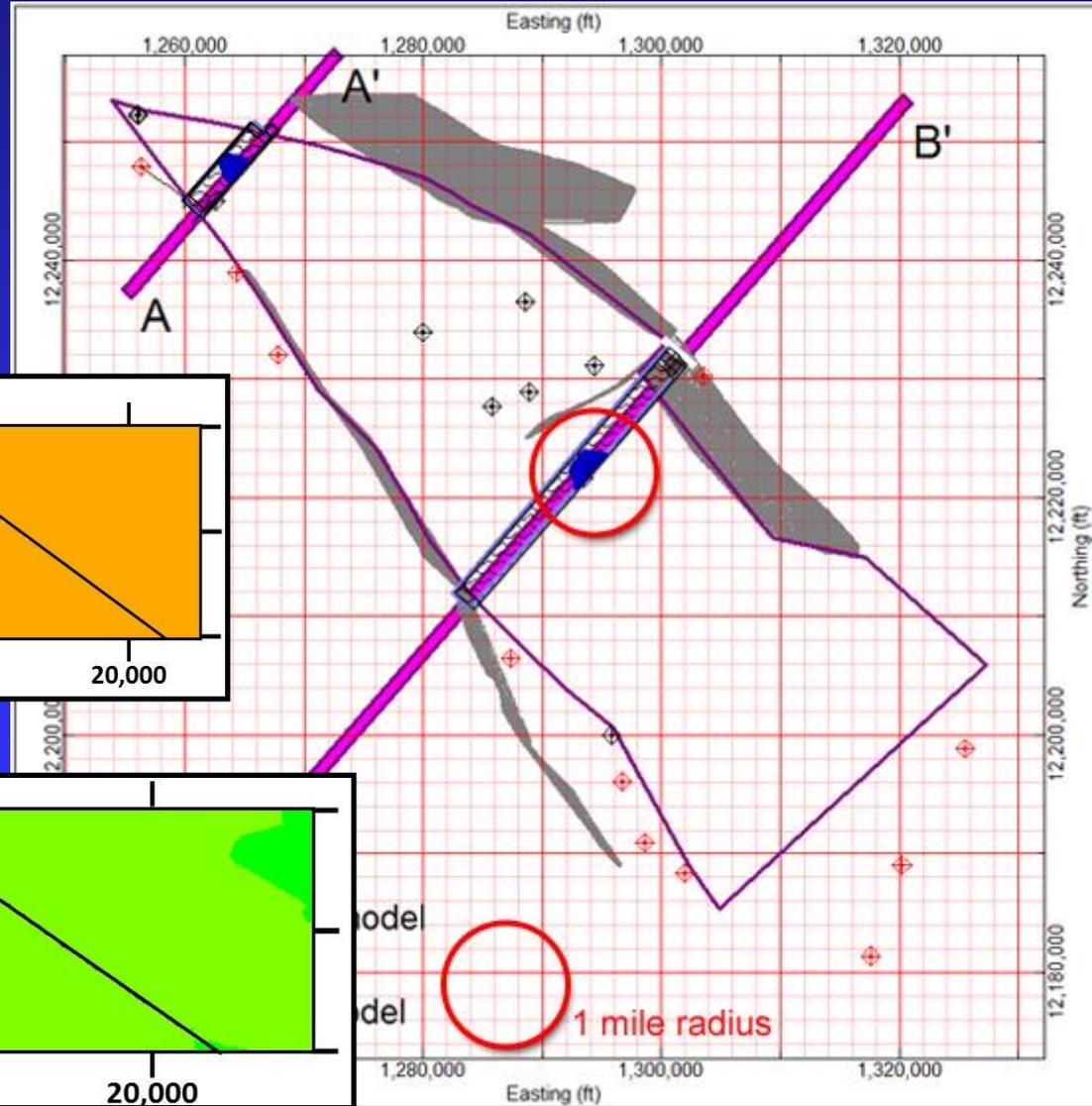
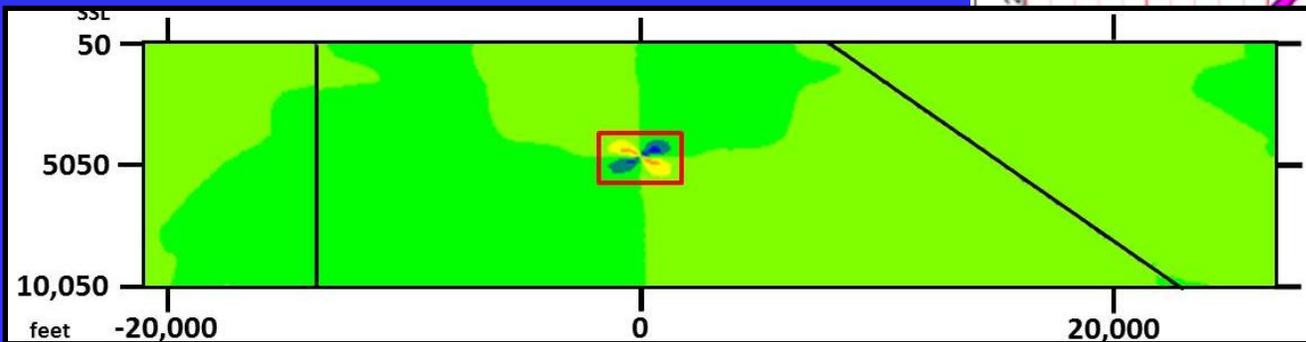
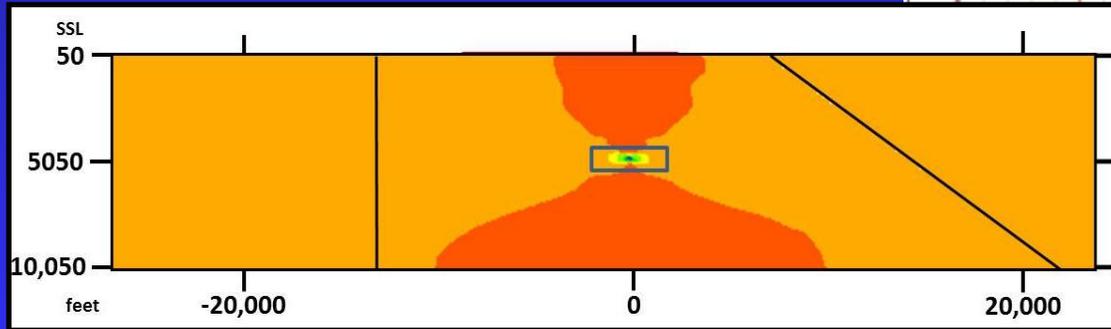
- Lateral Migration to Offset Wells
- Injection Well Failure and Transmission (e.g., corrupted cement)
- CO₂ Migration to Sea Floor
- Induced Seismicity
- Natural seismicity (historical impact on O&G and gas storage operations in LA Basin);
- Caprock Integrity



Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

Low Risks:

- Lateral Migration to Offset Wells
- Induced Seismicity





5. Summary – Key Accomplishments & Findings

- **Acquired 175km of new seismic lines...Interpreted all, old & new**
- **Drilled 1st characterization well into Pliocene**
- **Rock properties collected for Pliocene formation**
- **Reviewed all exploratory wells and built 3D Geologic Model**
- **Preliminary storage estimates >100MT**
- **Completed CO₂ migration modeling (TOUGH2) and geomechanical modeling (FLAC3D)**
- **Source, sink and pipeline interactive maps available online**
- **Offset wells and Induced Seismicity may pose little risk for unintended CO₂ escape**



5. Summary – Future Plans

- **Explore all options to obtain drilling well permits for 2 characterization wells (especially for Miocene characterization)**
 - **Update all models w/ this new well data**
 - **Complete engineering study of LA Basin transportation systems**
 - **Complete Risk characterization and documentation**
- 



Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

6. Project Sponsors and Participants:



DOE NETL



California Energy Commission



City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works

Southern California Gas Company (transport infrastructure)



Cal State Long Beach, Dr. Dan Francis (seismic acquisition)

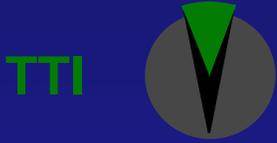
Legg Geophysics (seismic interpretation)



USGS, Dr. Dan Ponti (cores and samples repository)

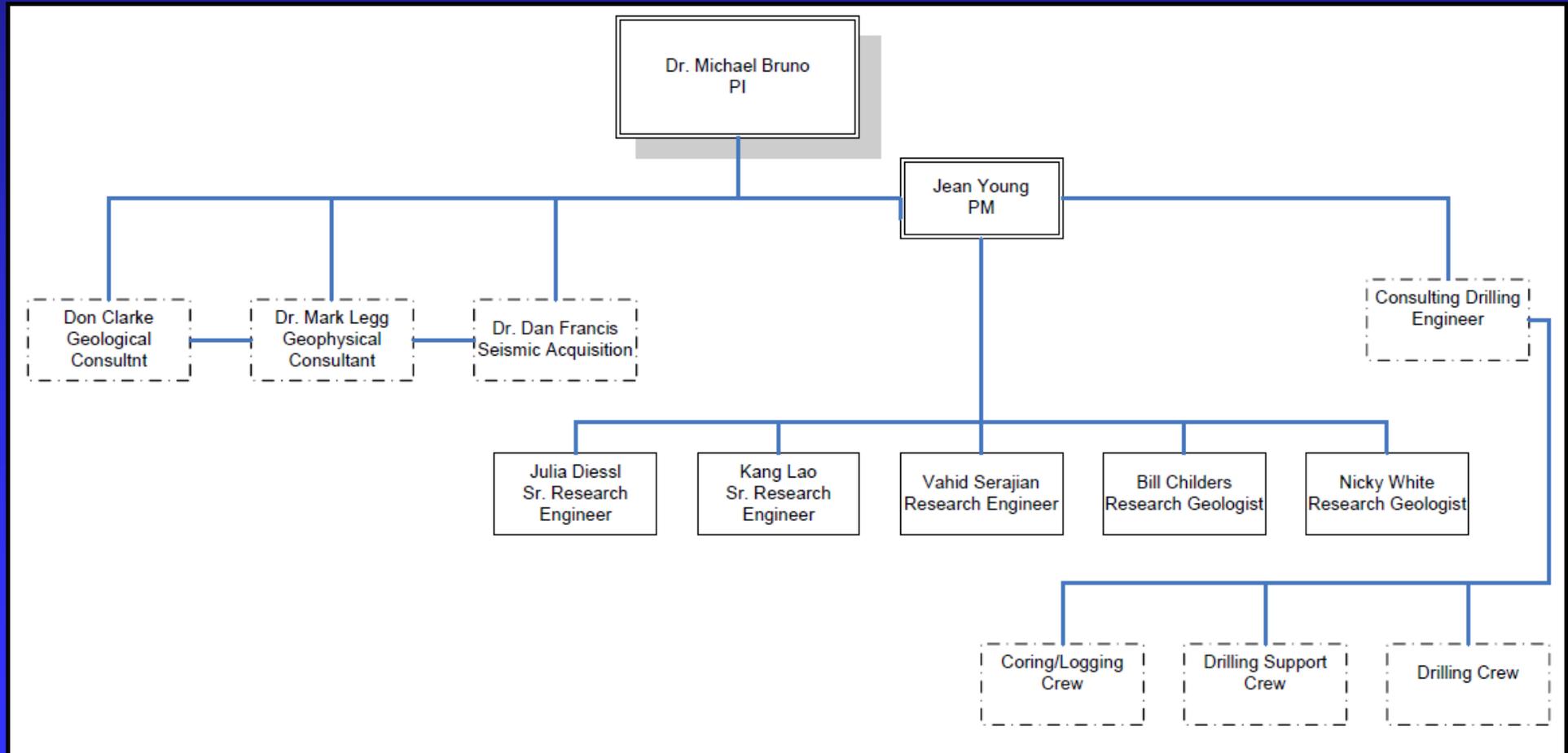
Terralog Technologies USA (geology, geomechanics, reservoir eng)





Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

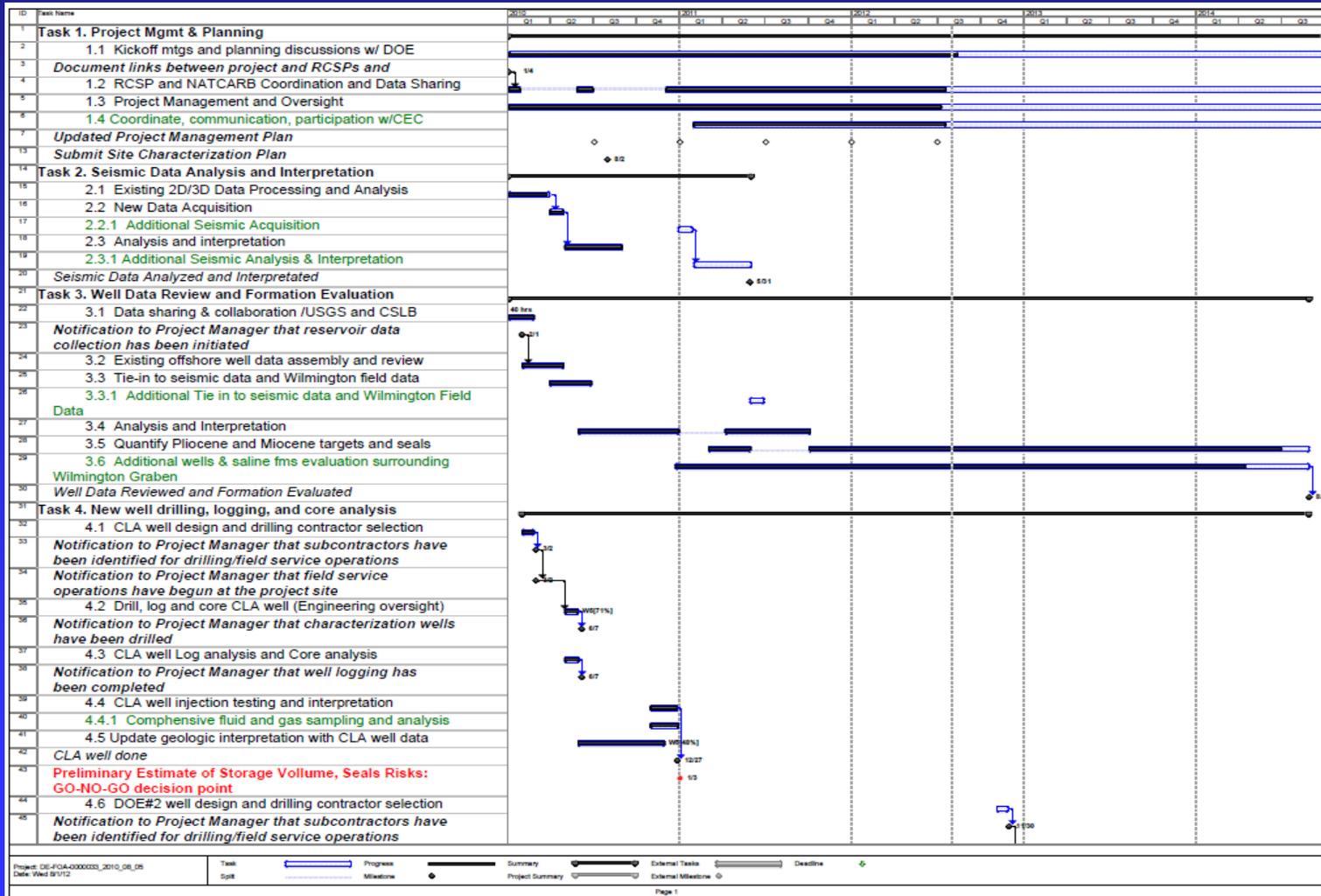
Appendix A: Project Organization Chart





Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

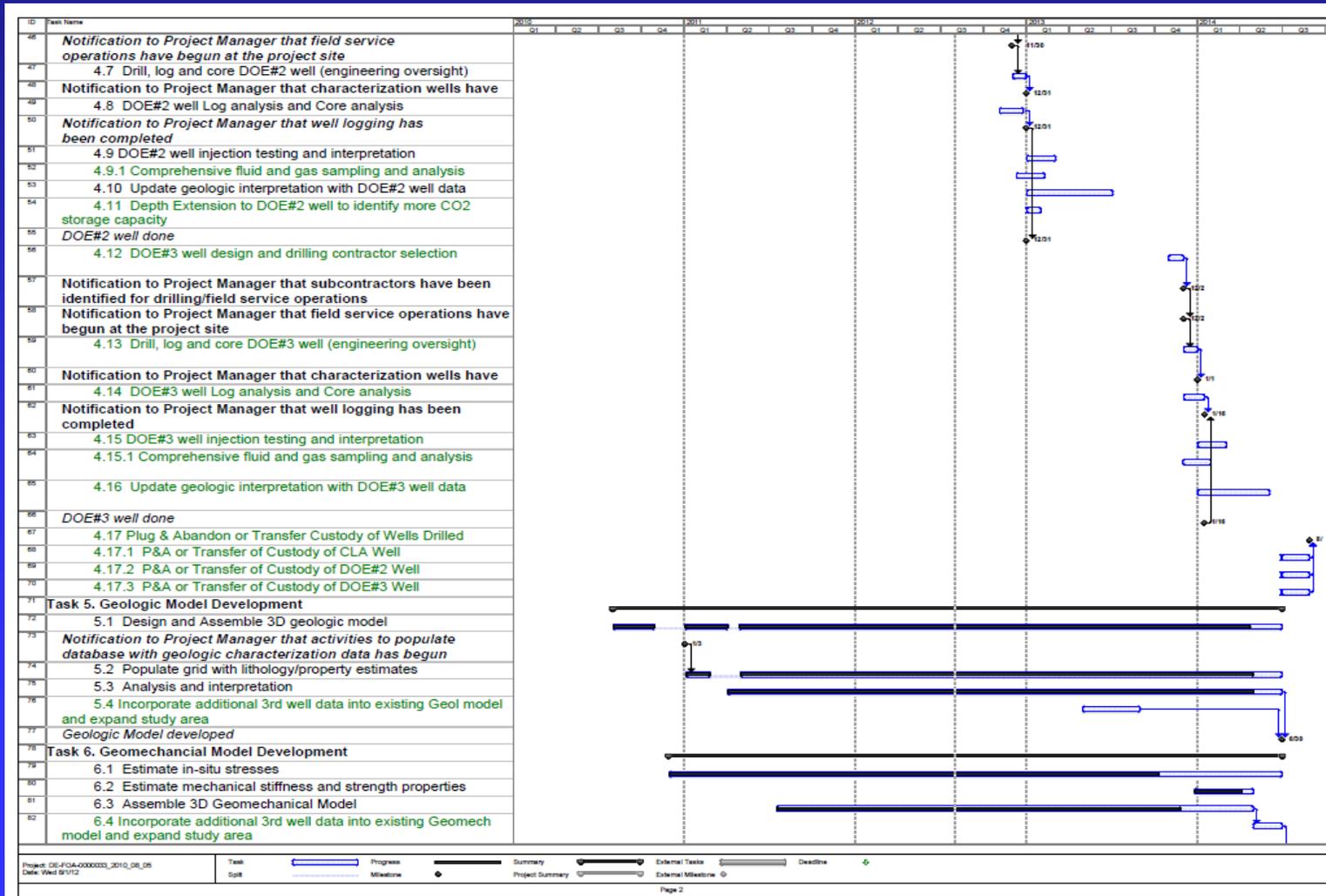
Appendix B1: Gantt Chart





Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

Appendix B2: Gantt Chart





Characterization of Wilmington Graben, Offshore Los Angeles, for Large Scale Geologic Storage of CO₂

Appendix B3: Gantt Chart

