

**Characterization of Pliocene and Miocene
Formations in the Wilmington Graben,
Offshore Los Angeles, for Large-Scale
Geologic Storage of CO₂
Project Number (FE0001922)**

Michael Bruno, PhD, PE
GeoMechanics Technologies

U.S. Department of Energy
National Energy Technology Laboratory
Carbon Storage R&D Project Review Meeting
Developing the Technologies and
Infrastructure for CCS
August 12-14, 2014



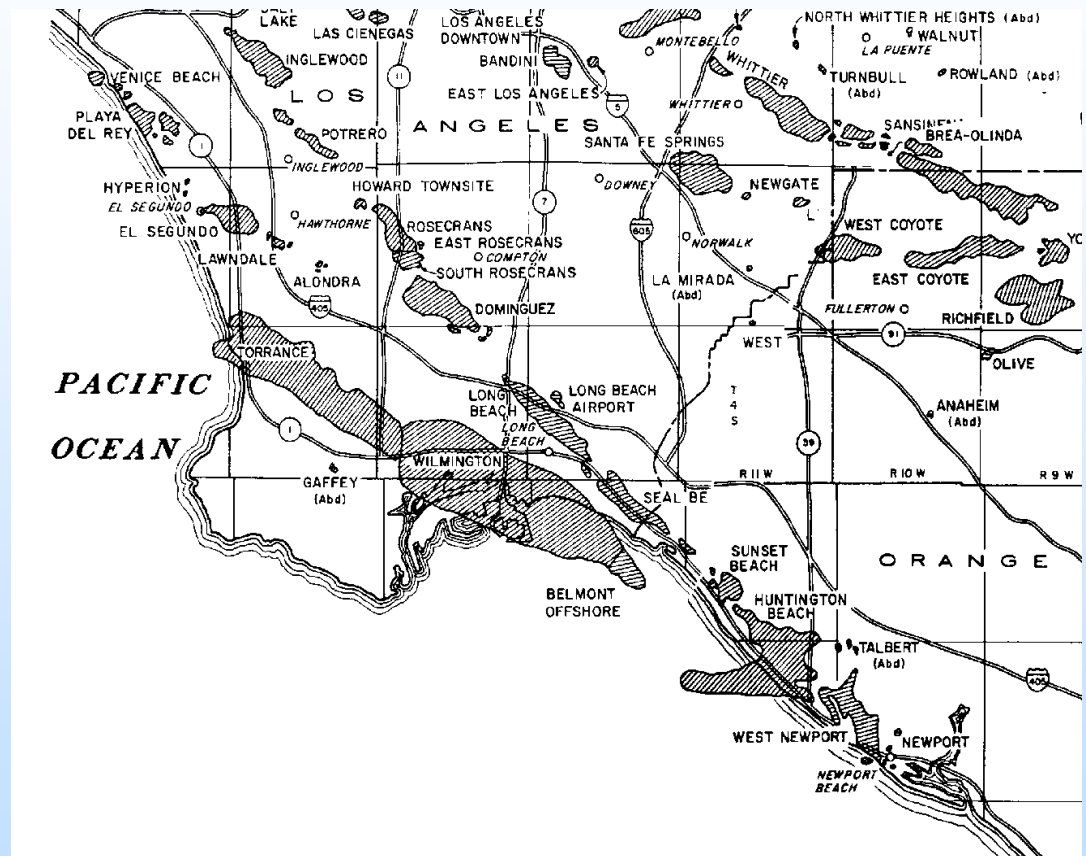
Background and Motivation

- The Los Angeles Basin provides a unique combination of significant need and significant opportunity for large scale CO2 sequestration
- Has numerous large power plants & oil refineries which produce more than 5 million MT of fossil fuel related CO2 emissions each year
- Prolific oil & gas producing basin with thick sediments (several billion barrel fields)



Background and Motivation

- Precedent and history for large scale injection (>3000 injection wells)
- Precedent and history for large scale gas storage (5 fields)
- But, siting large scale CO₂ storage beneath a highly populated area is technically and politically impractical



Oil Fields in LA Basin

Background and Motivation

The offshore Wilmington Graben presents significant advantages, including:

- Geologically isolated, yet accessible from onshore with existing oil and gas infrastructure;
- Very thick sediments nearly identical to those located onshore;
- Fewer existing wells to reduce leakage risk (11 wells).



Goals and Objectives

The objectives of this research project are to fully characterize Pliocene and Miocene sediments in the Wilmington Graben, offshore Los Angeles, for high volume CO₂ storage, to evaluate risks, and to evaluate logistics for transport from local sources

- The effort contributes to the Carbon Storage Program's goal to develop technologies to predict CO₂ storage capacity in geologic formations to within 30%.
- The effort also contributes to the Program's goal to develop technologies to demonstrate 99% of injected CO₂ remains within the injection zones.

Goals and Objectives

A key goal is to confirm that more than 100 million metric tons can be safely stored in the Wilmington.

- Contributes to the understanding of injectivity, containment mechanisms, and storage capacity of the Wilmington Graben for large scale CO₂ sequestration.
- One of only two projects focused on offshore storage formations. Only project focused on turbidite geologic settings (common in Western US).

Benefits to the Program

- This project is contributing to the understanding of injectivity, containment mechanisms, and storage capacity of the Wilmington Graben basin.
- Broadens 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.
- Unique evaluation of offshore storage in a turbidite geologic setting

Project Team 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)

Don Clarke (geologic evaluation and modeling)



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



GeoMechanics Technologies (geology, geomechanics, reservoir engineering and drilling contract management)



Contributors

- Principal Investigator
 - Dr. Mike Bruno
- Project Manager & Sr Geologist
 - Jean Young
- Sr Research Engineer
 - Julia Diessl
 - Kang Lao
 - Juan Ramos
- Research Engineer
 - Jing Xiang
- Research Geologist
 - Nicky White
 - Bill Childers
- Contractors
 - Dr. Mark Legg
 - Dr. Dan Francis
 - Don Clarke
 - Drilling crew
 - Logging crew
- Partners
 - City of Los Angeles
 - California Energy Commission
 - CA State University, Long Beach
 - USGS

Technical Approach/Tasks

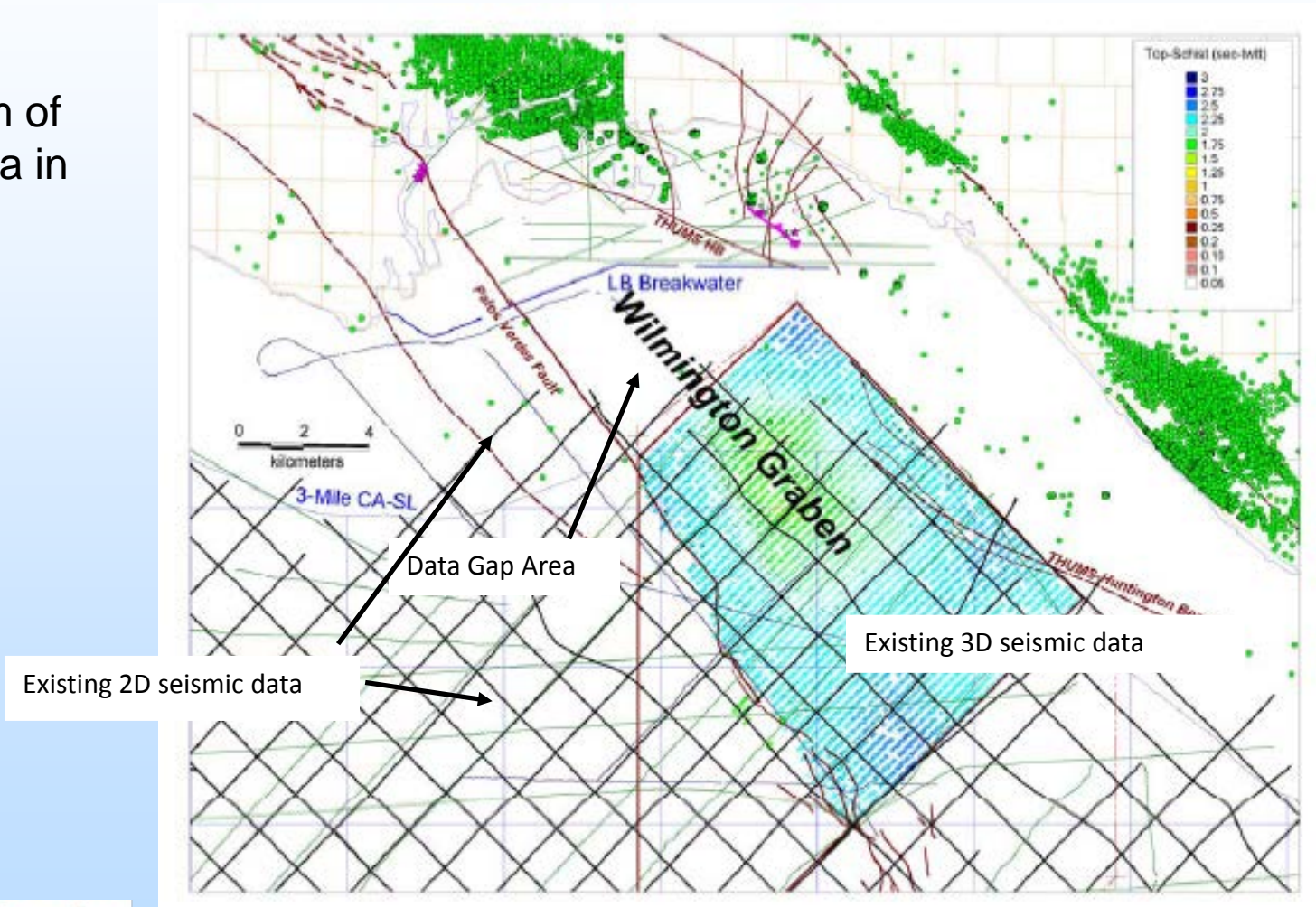
1. Seismic Data Analysis and Acquisition
1. Well Data Review and Formation Evaluation
2. New well drilling, logging, core analysis
3. 3D Geological Model Development
4. 3D Geomechanical Model Development
5. 3D Gas Migration Modeling
6. Risk Analysis

Seismic Data Analysis and Acquisition

Collected 175km of new seismic data in “gap area”

Combined and reinterpreted existing data

Established horizons for 3D geologic model



Long Beach



Well Data Review and Formation Evaluation

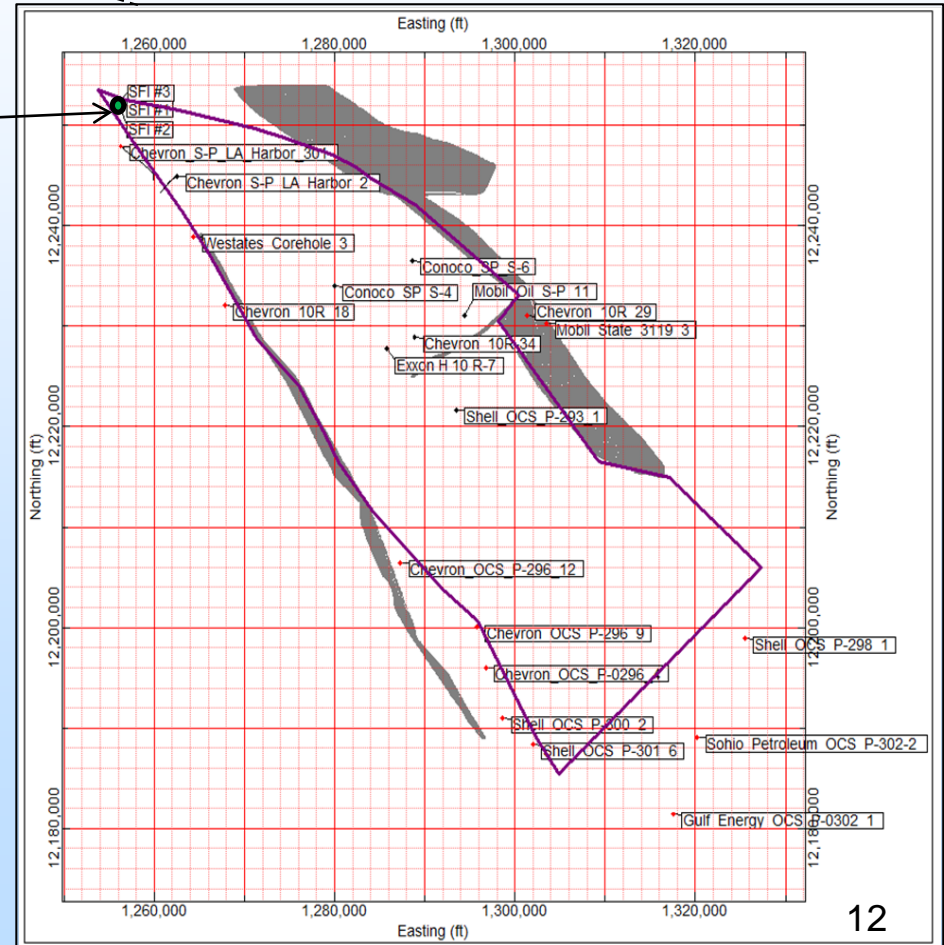
DOE#1 and DOE#2 wells

Collected log data from 12 exploration wells located in State and Federal waters

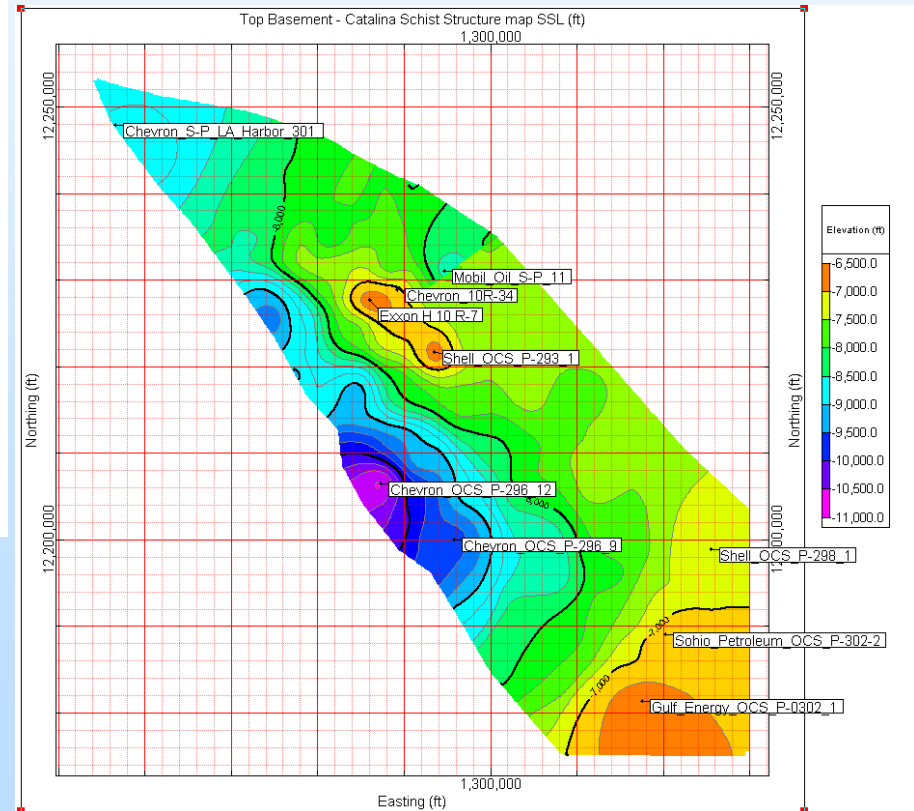
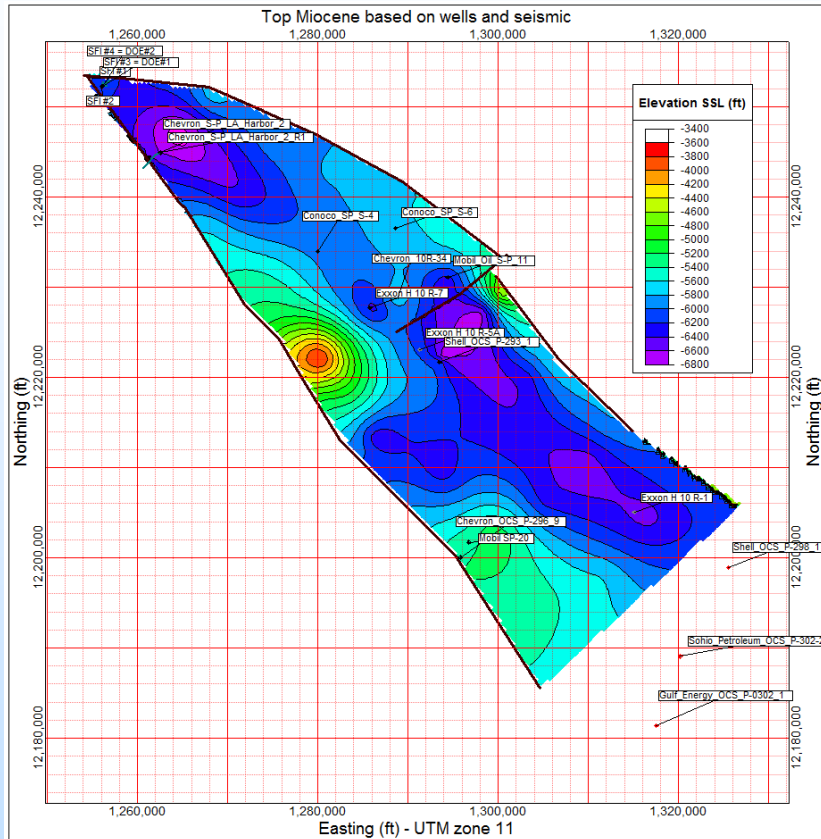
Evaluated sand, silty-sand, and shale sequences

Combined into common database

Supplemented with 2 new wells, and planned deepening of 1 existing well



Established Multiple Structure Horizons using Well and Seismic Data



New well drilling, logging, core analysis

- DOE#1 well TD at 5400ft, penetrating to near base of Pliocene
- DOE#2 well TD at 7647ft; penetrate Miocene at 6600ft
- Deepening SFI#1 to verify continuity of Miocene sands



DOE#1 well spud May 1st, 2010

New well drilling, logging, core analysis

Formation evaluation data from new wells used to update geologic, geomechanical and gas migration models.

Results for well 1:

- 200 ft of viable Pliocene age storage formation and 500 ft of caprock identified

- Sand porosity 24-31%, permeability 50-353 md.

- Shale porosity 23-29%, permeability <2 md



	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

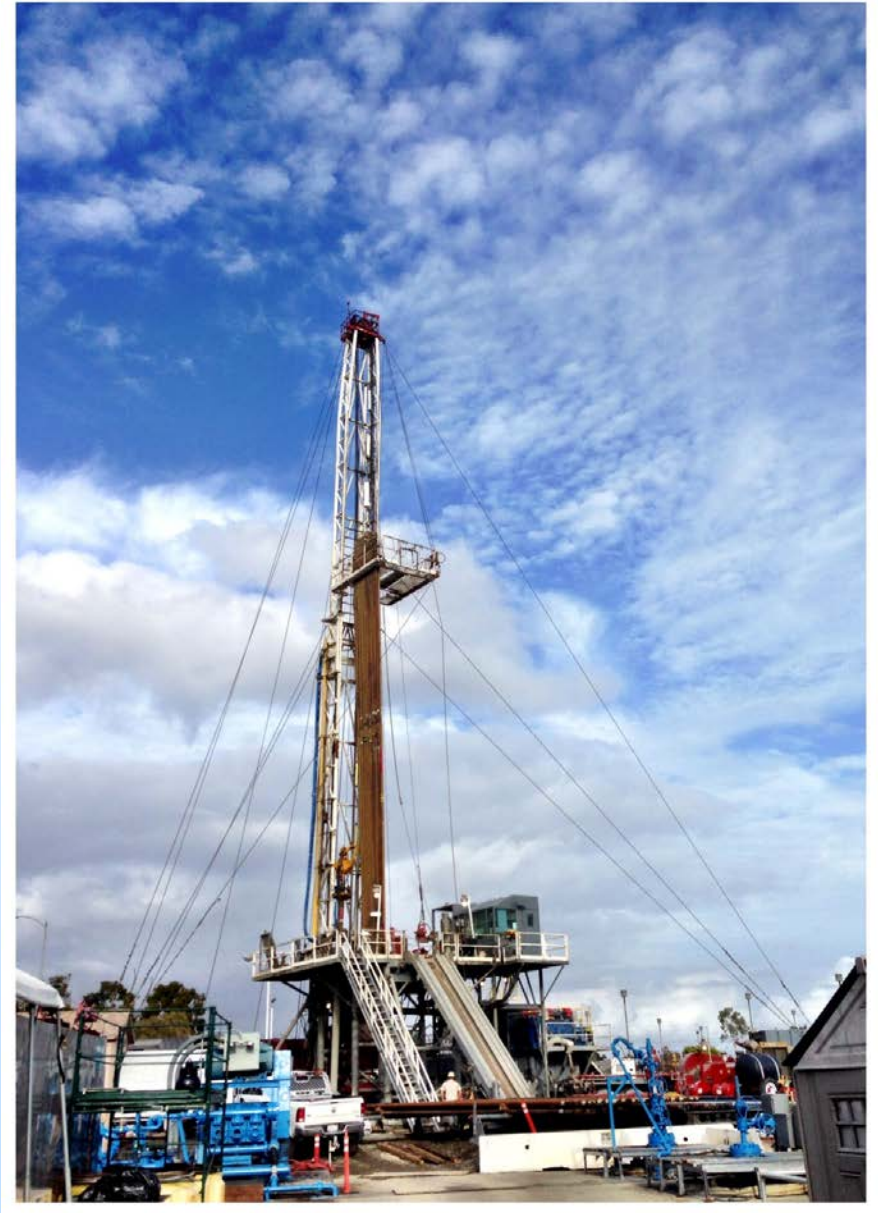
Core Analysis from DOE #1 and DOE#2

	Pliocene		Miocene
	DOE#1	DOE#2	DOE#2
Sand Porosity (%)	24-31	28-37	26-29
Sand Permability (md)	50-353	29-300	4-<100
Shale Porosity (%)	23-29	29	29
Shale Permeability (md)	<2	<2	<5

Found:

>400ft Pliocene sand

>150ft of Miocene sands



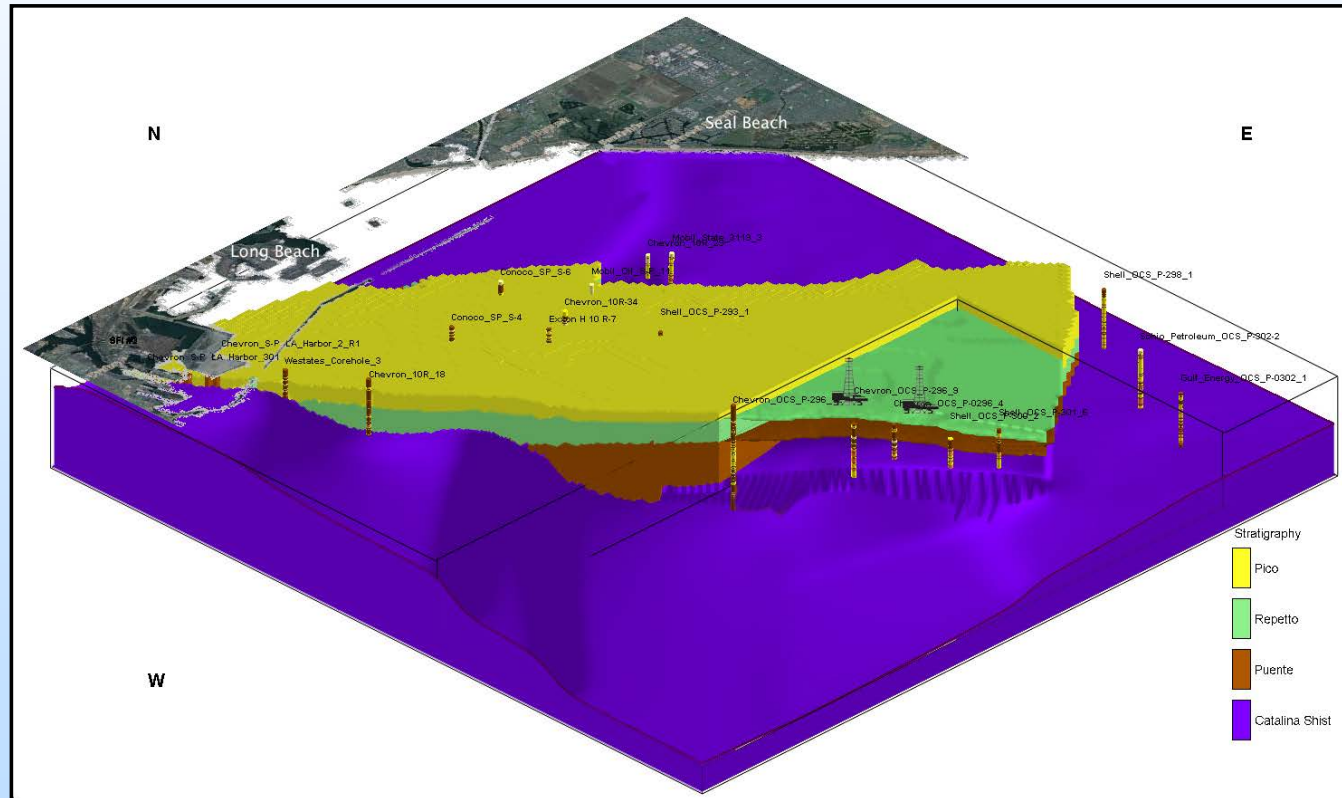
DOE# 2 well completed March, 2014 16

3D Geologic Model Development

Using acquired seismic data, and well log data, assembled a 3D geologic earth model. Four lithology types: sand, sand-shale, silt, shale identified

Apply geologic model to:

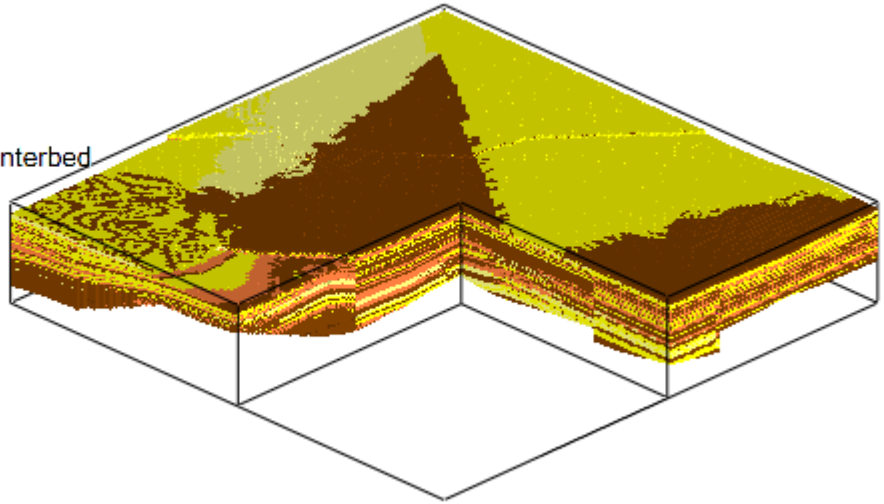
1. Estimate storage capacity
2. Develop geomechanical model and simulation
3. Develop CO₂ injection and migration model and simulation



Geologic Model of Wilmington-Graben

Lithology

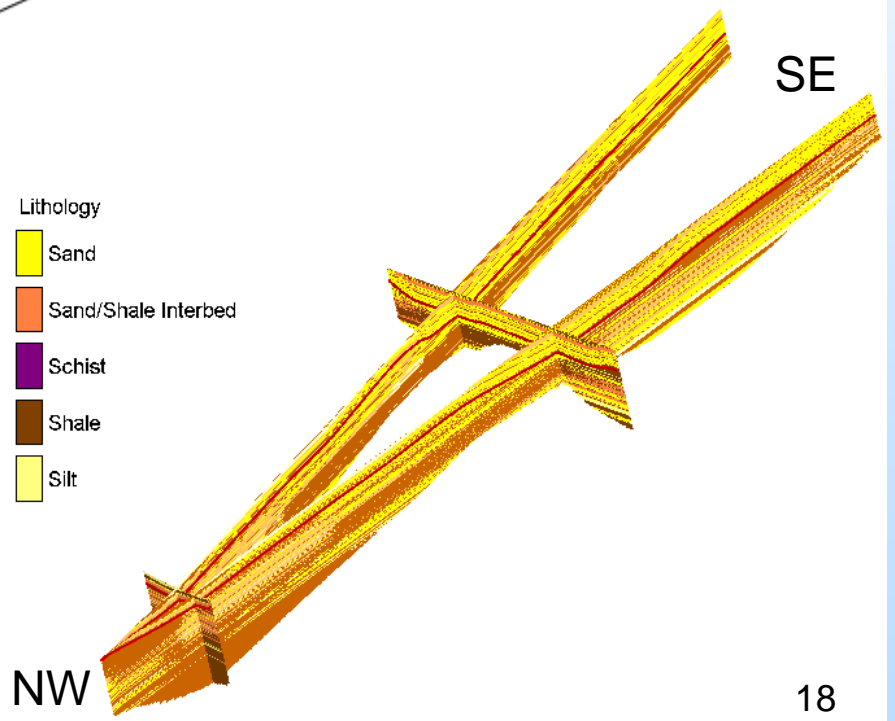
- Sand
- Sand/Shale Interbed
- Shale
- Silt



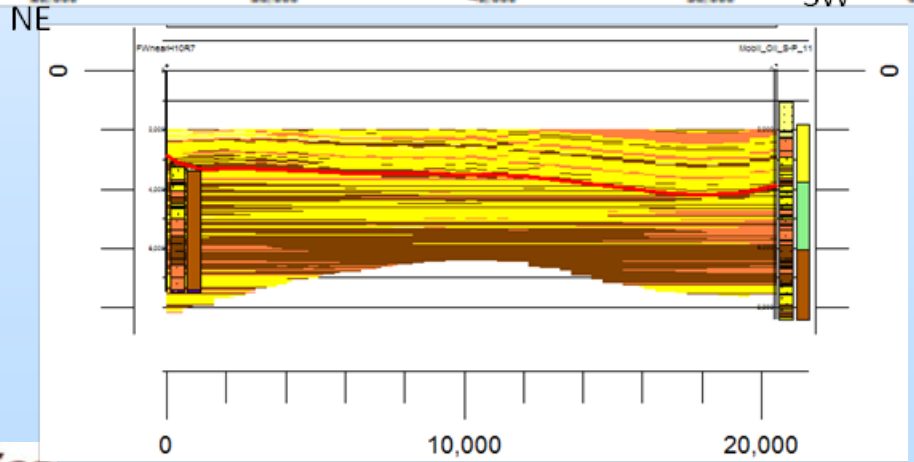
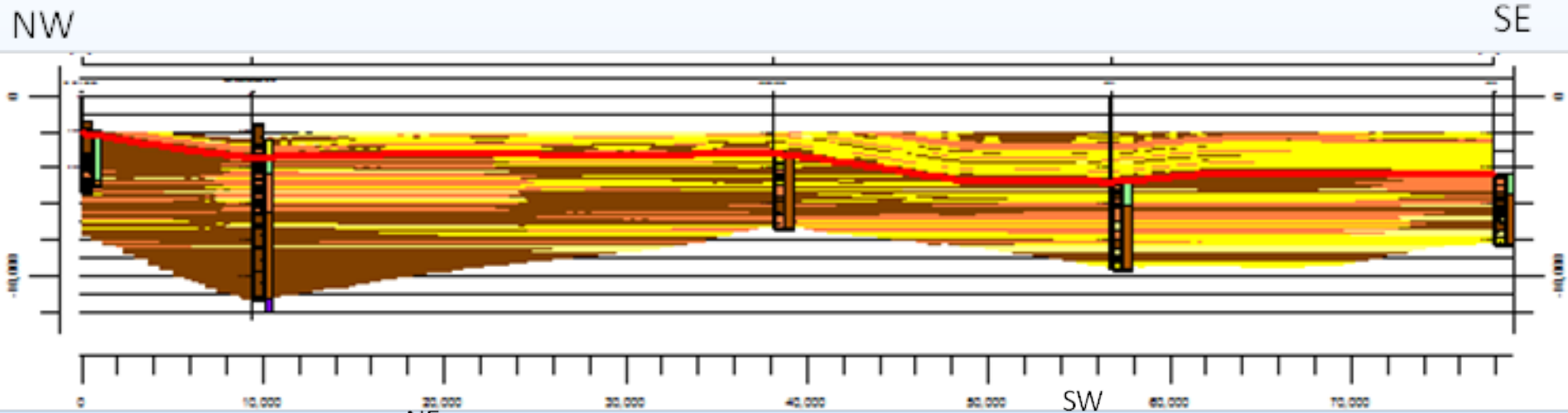
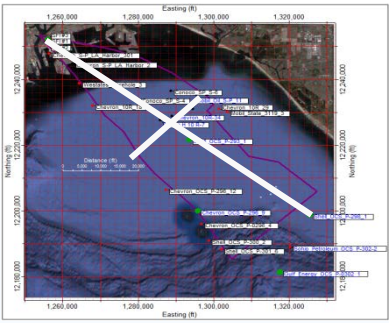
(Top Left) Lithology Model with cut-away view . (Bottom Right) Fence-Diagram.

Lithology

- Sand
- Sand/Shale Interbed
- Schist
- Shale
- Silt



NW-SE and NE-SW Cross Sections



Estimated Storage Capacity

Apply geologic model to:

1. Estimate storage capacity
2. Develop geomechanical model and simulation
3. Develop CO2 injection and migration model and simulation

Storage capacity estimates:

Pliocene P10= 2.92E7

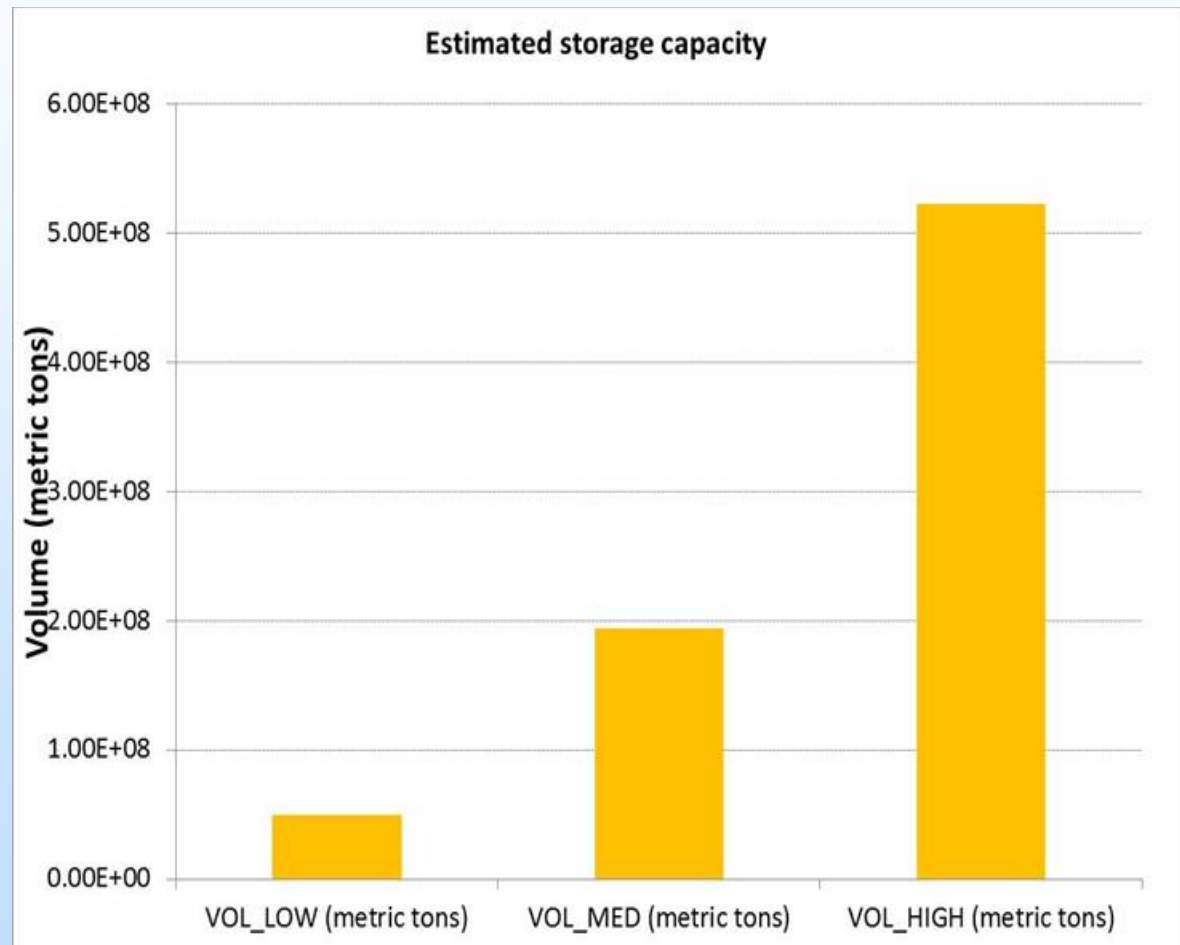
P50=1.15E8

P90=3.09E8

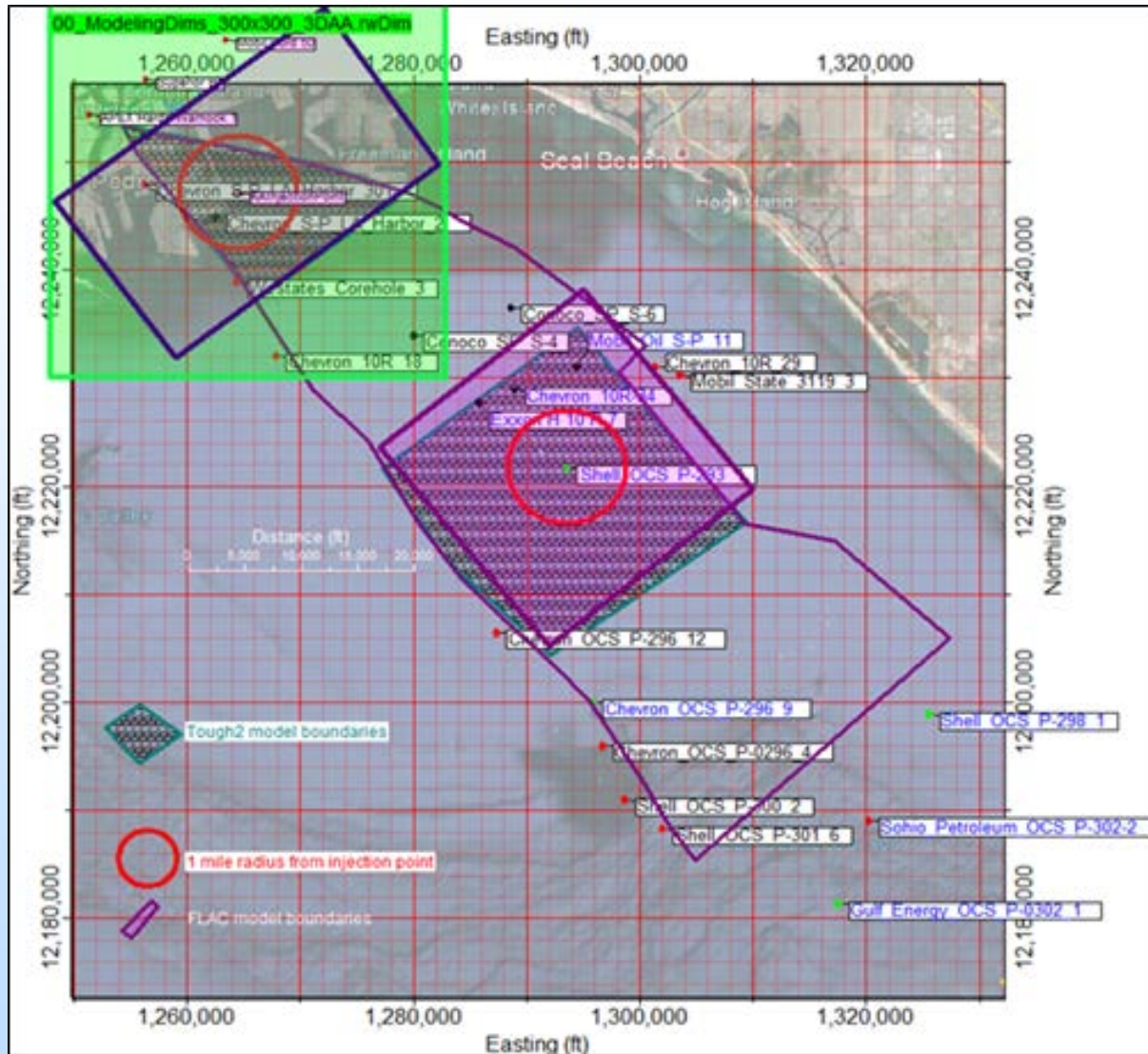
Miocene P10=2.02E7

P50=7.93E7

P90=2.14E8



Boundaries for Flow and Geomechanics Models



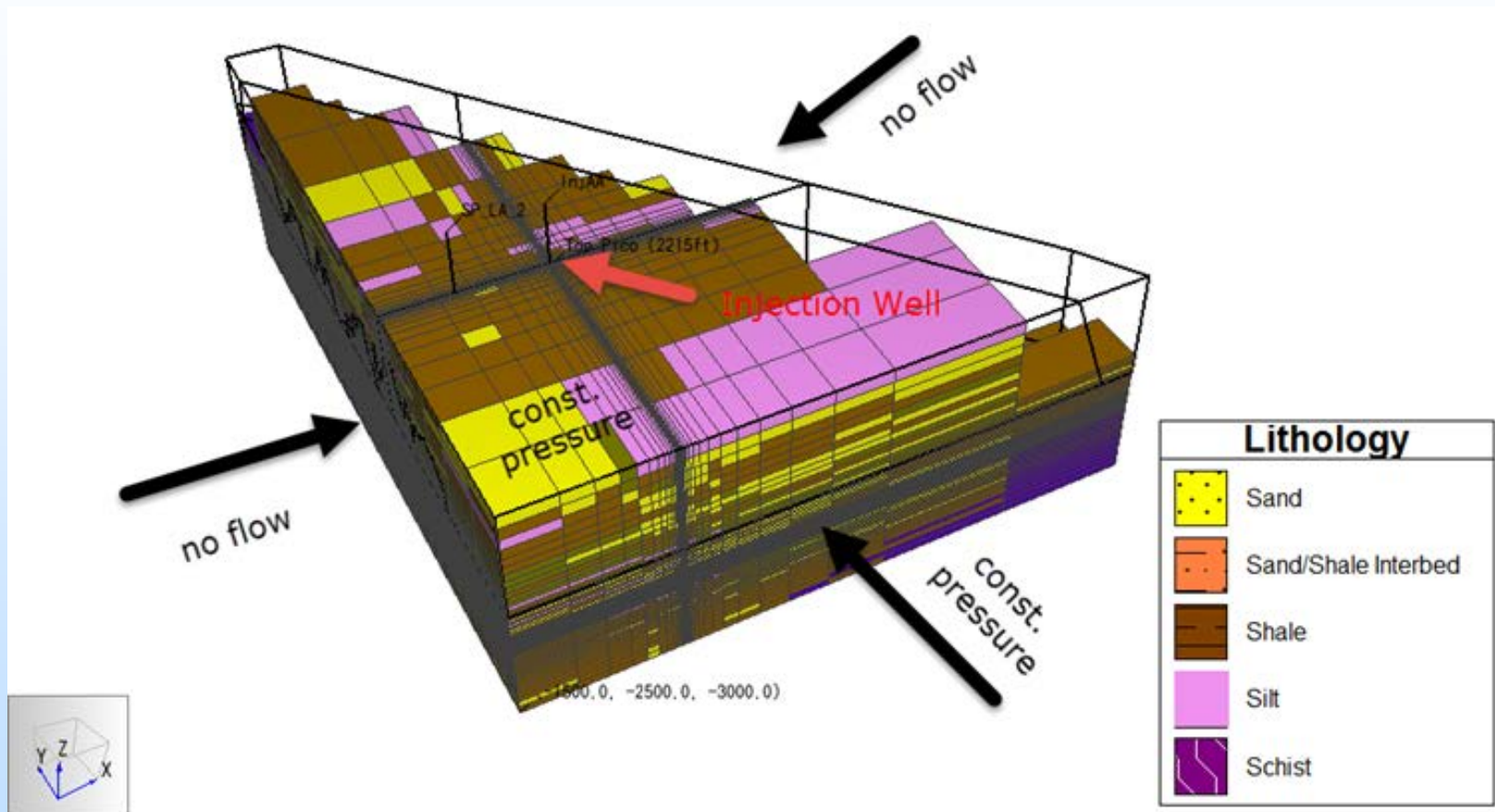
Develop Flow Models to Assess:

1. Injectivity per well
2. Gas migration vs time
3. Pressure change distribution for geomechanical analysis

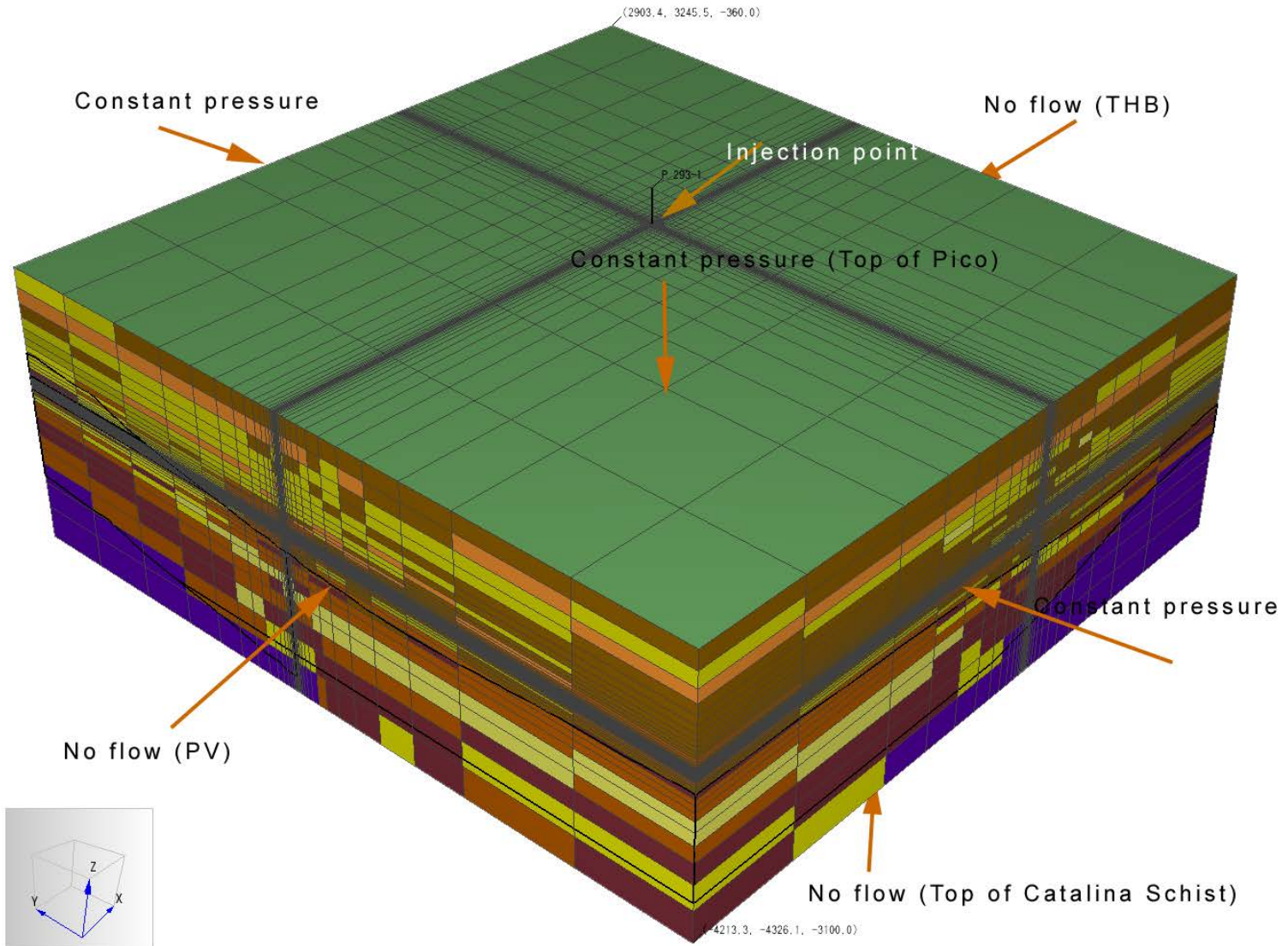
Develop Geomechanical Models to Assess:

1. Induced seafloor deformations
2. Induced stresses
3. Fault activation risks

Conceptual fluid flow model NW Graben

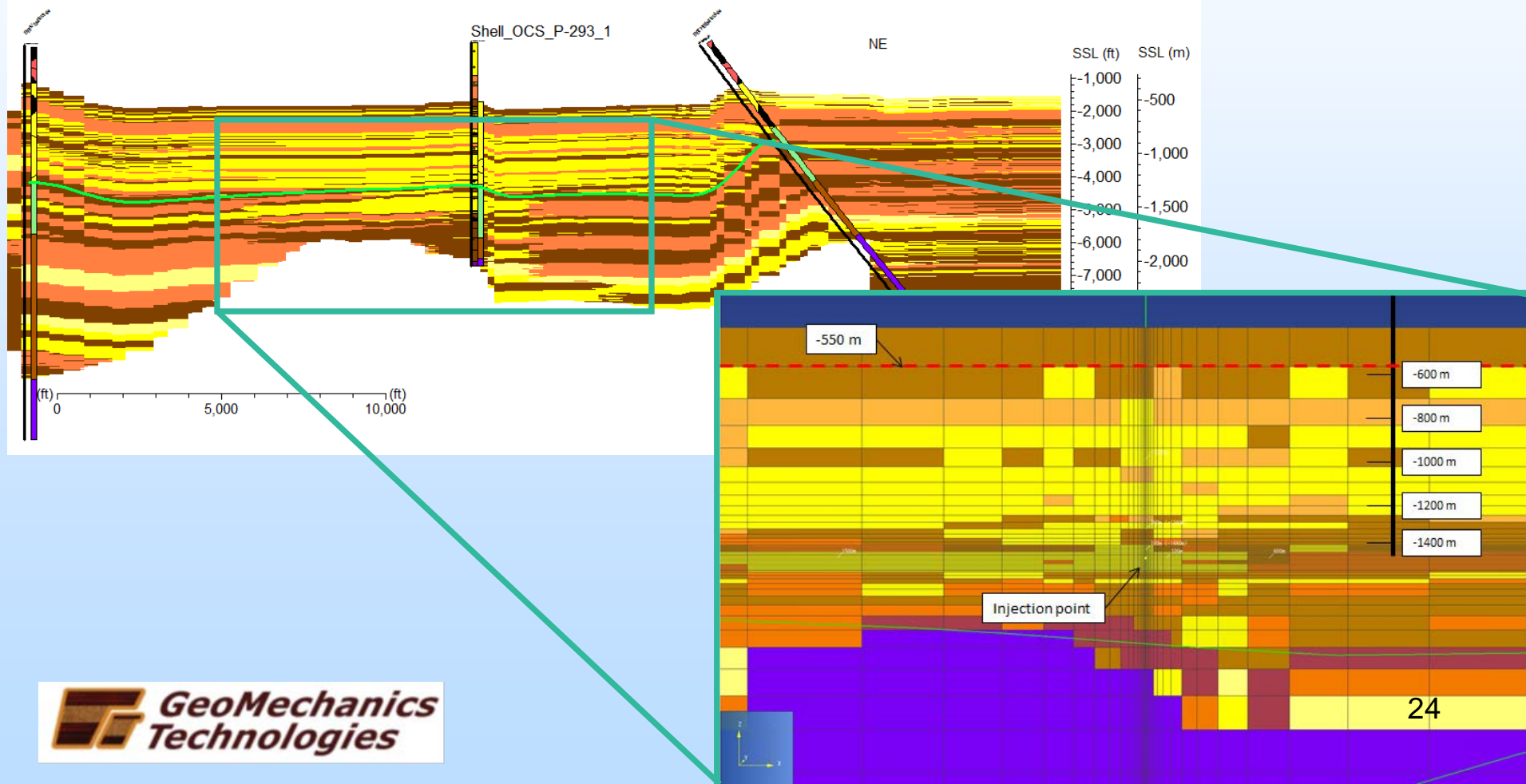


Conceptual Fluid Flow Model mid Graben area



Mapping of lithology from RW to Tough2

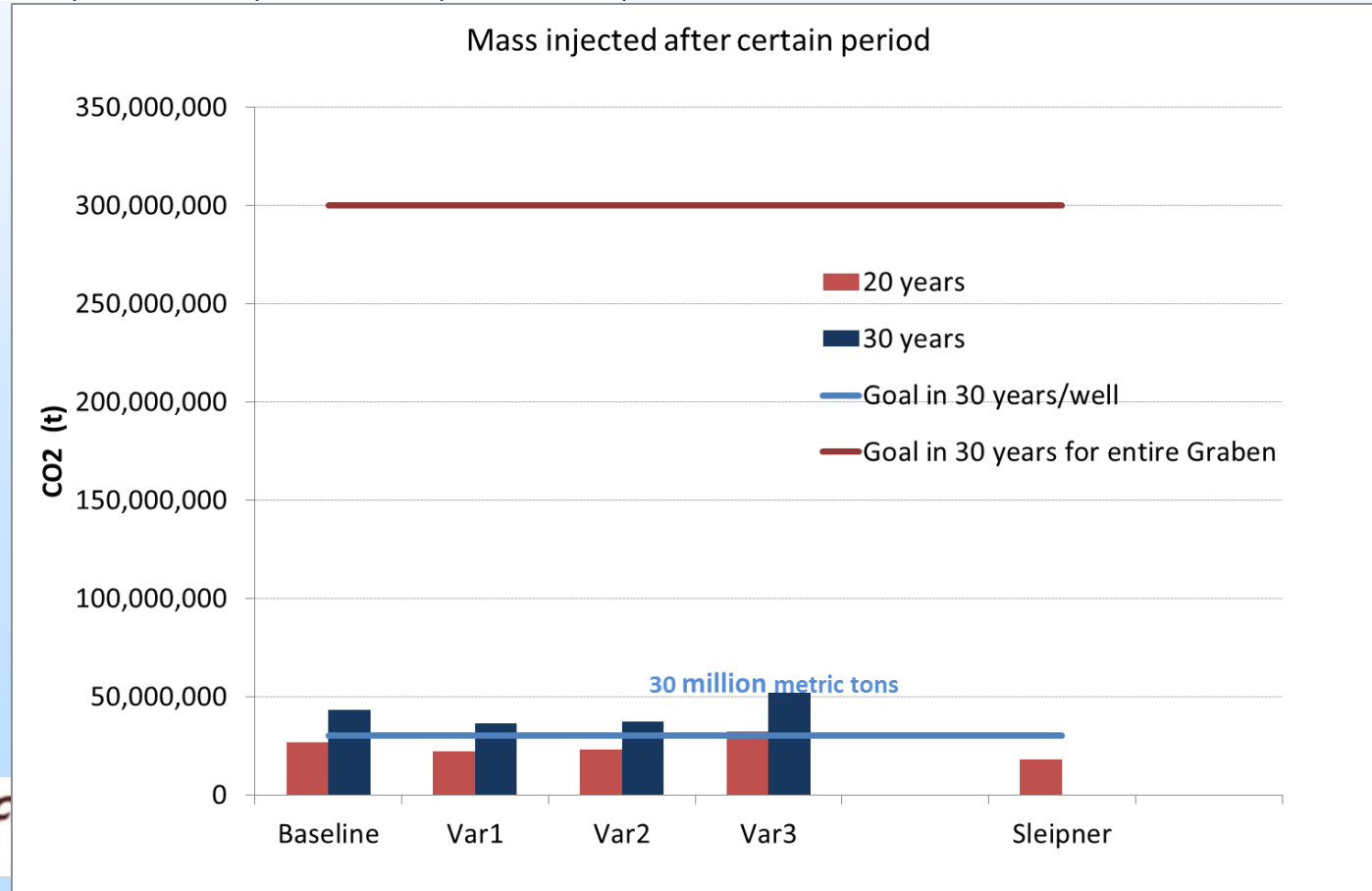
cross section BB



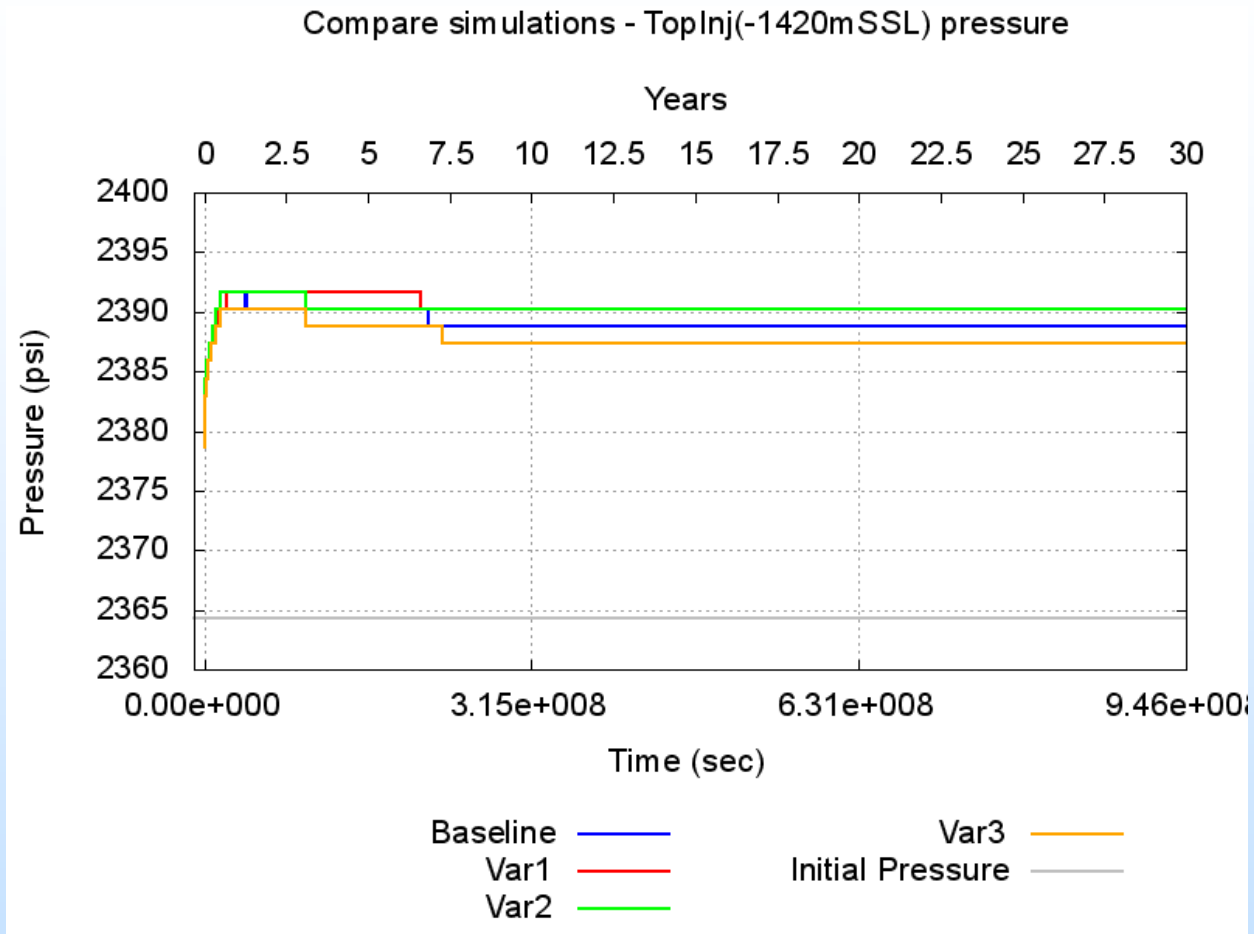
Different Injection Scenarios

Scenarios to be compared, showing volumes after 30 years continuous injection:

	Baseline	Var1	Var2	Var3
Interbed lithology type	sand/shale	shale		
shale z permeability (mD)	6/4		6x10-4/4x10-4	
# of cells	60,690			78,540



Comparing pressure at different monitoring points

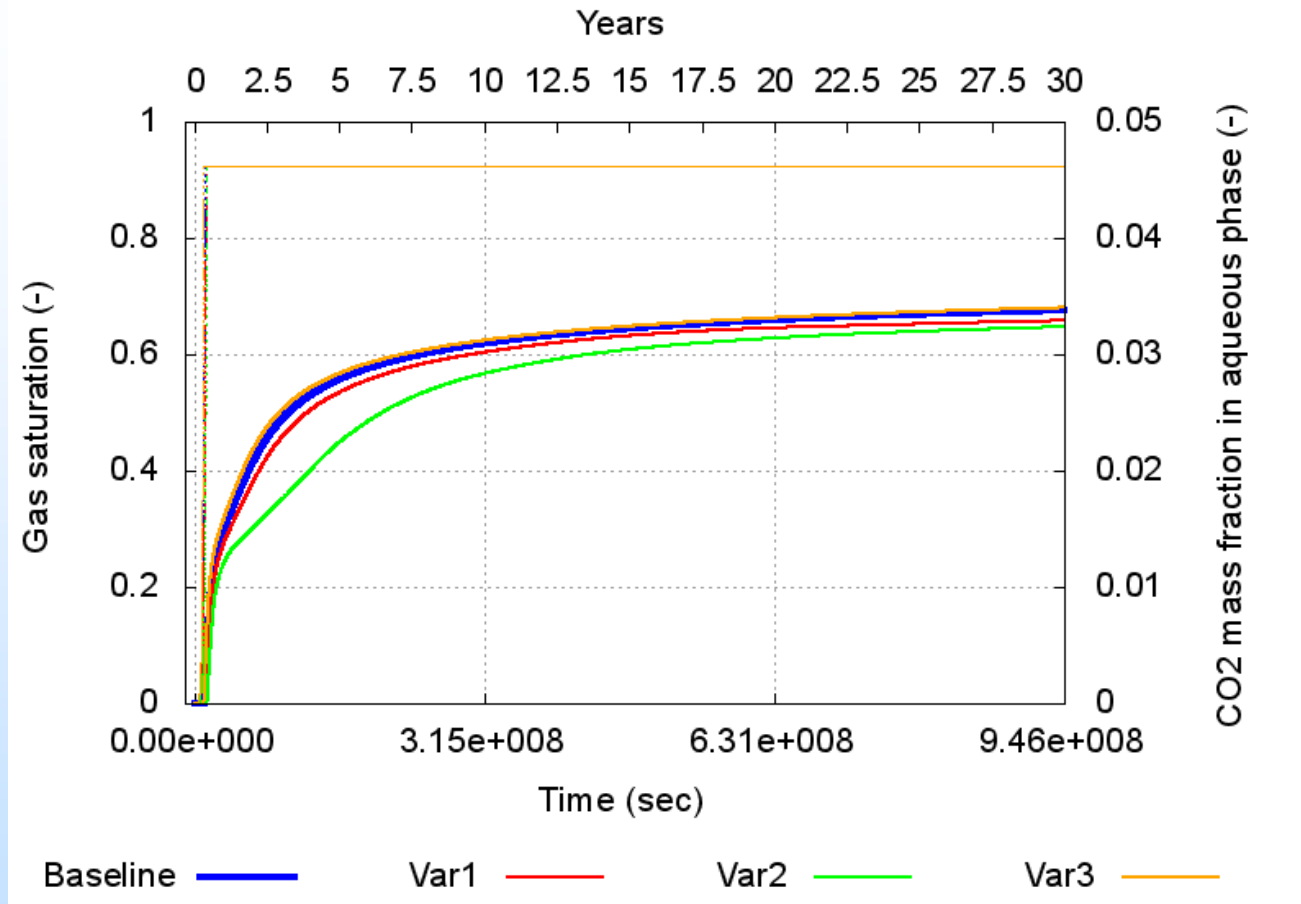


ΔP at injection about 1.3% (30PSI), similar for all variations

	Baseline	Var1	Var2	Var3
Interbed lithology type	sand/shale	shale		
shale z permeability (mD)	6/4		6x10-4/4x10-4	26
# of cells	60,690			78,540

Comparing gas saturation & CO2 mass fraction at different points

Compare simulations - 100mH

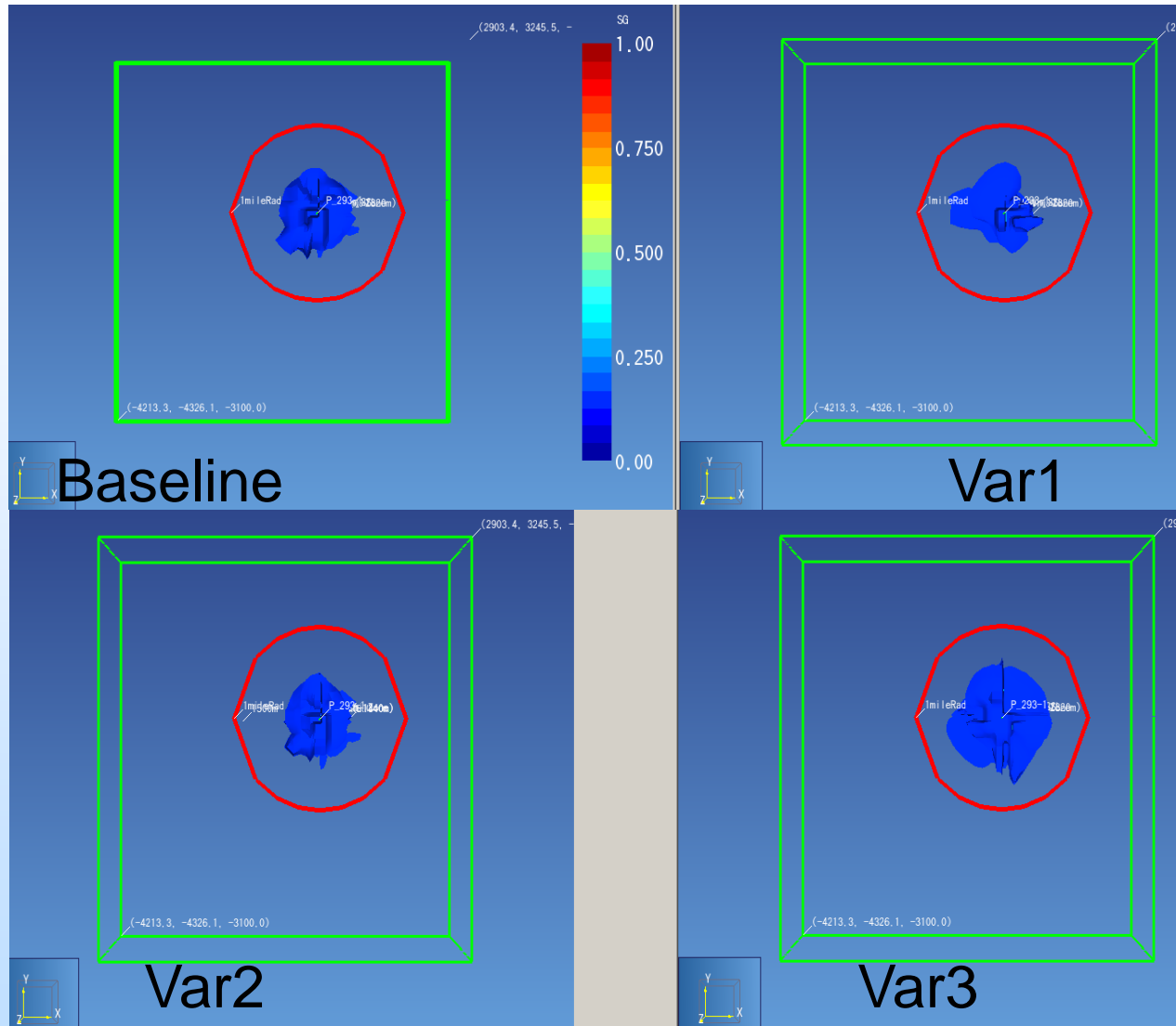


SC gas phase reaches 100m horizontal from well within 1 year



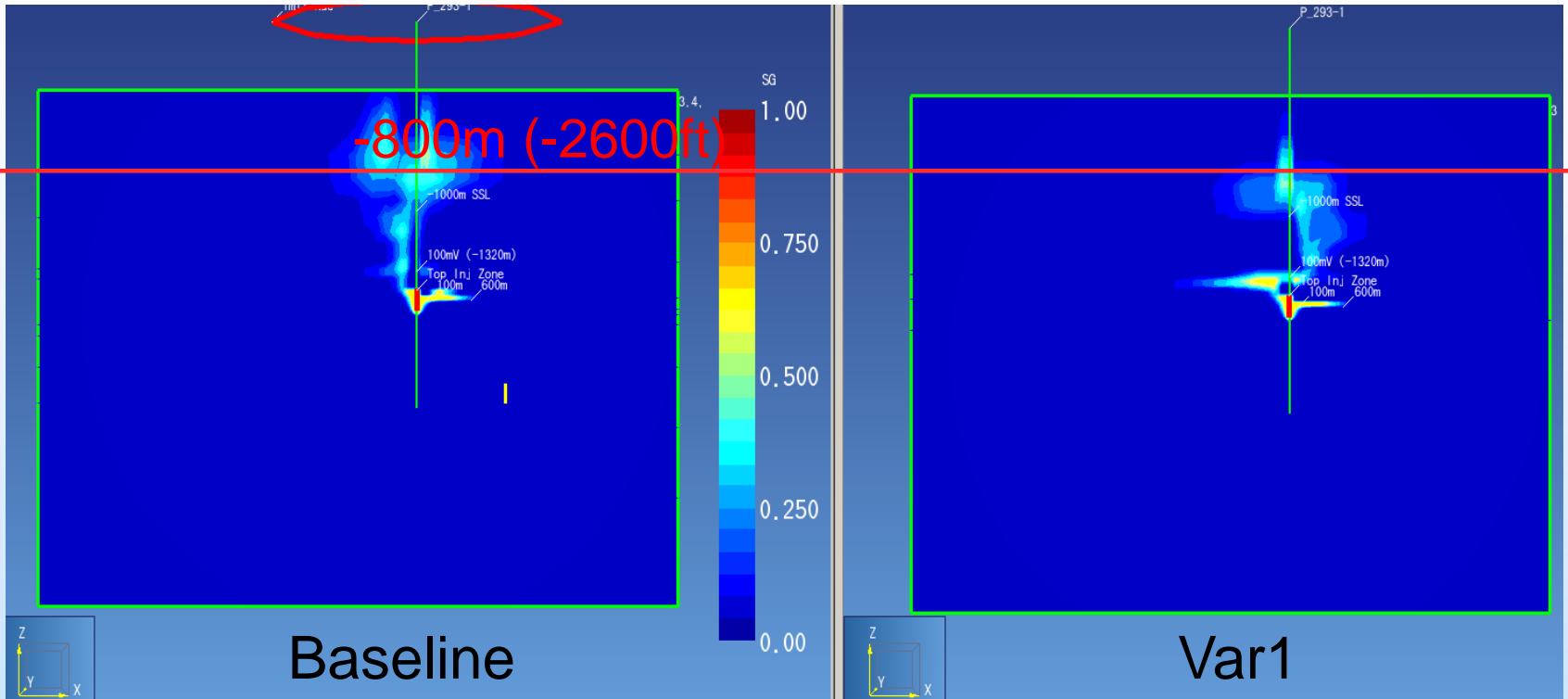
	Baseline	Var1	Var2	Var3
Interbed lithology type	sand/shale	shale		
shale z permeability (mD)	6/4		6x10-4/4x10-4	27
# of cells	60,690			78,540

SC Gas saturation after 30 years – top view plume extent



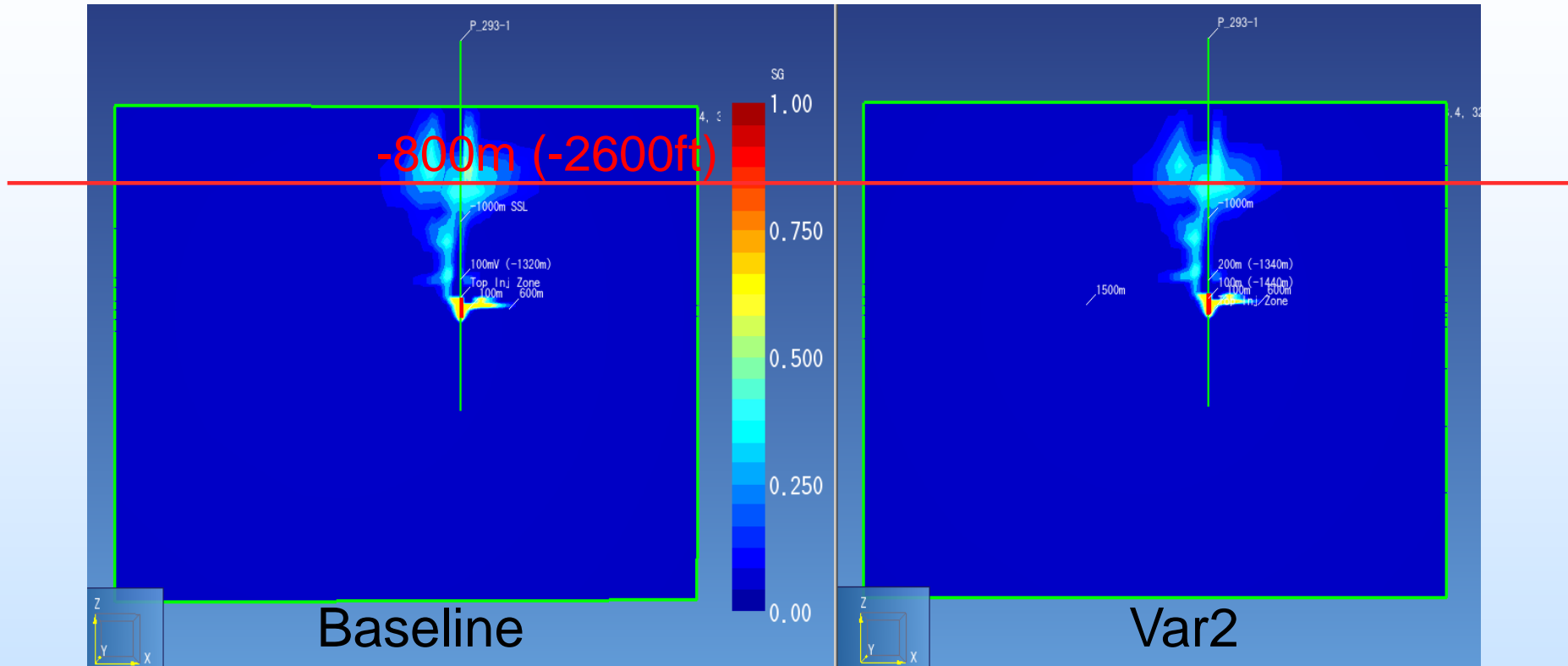
→ Containment within 1 mile radius

Gas saturation after 30 years –SW-NE cross section



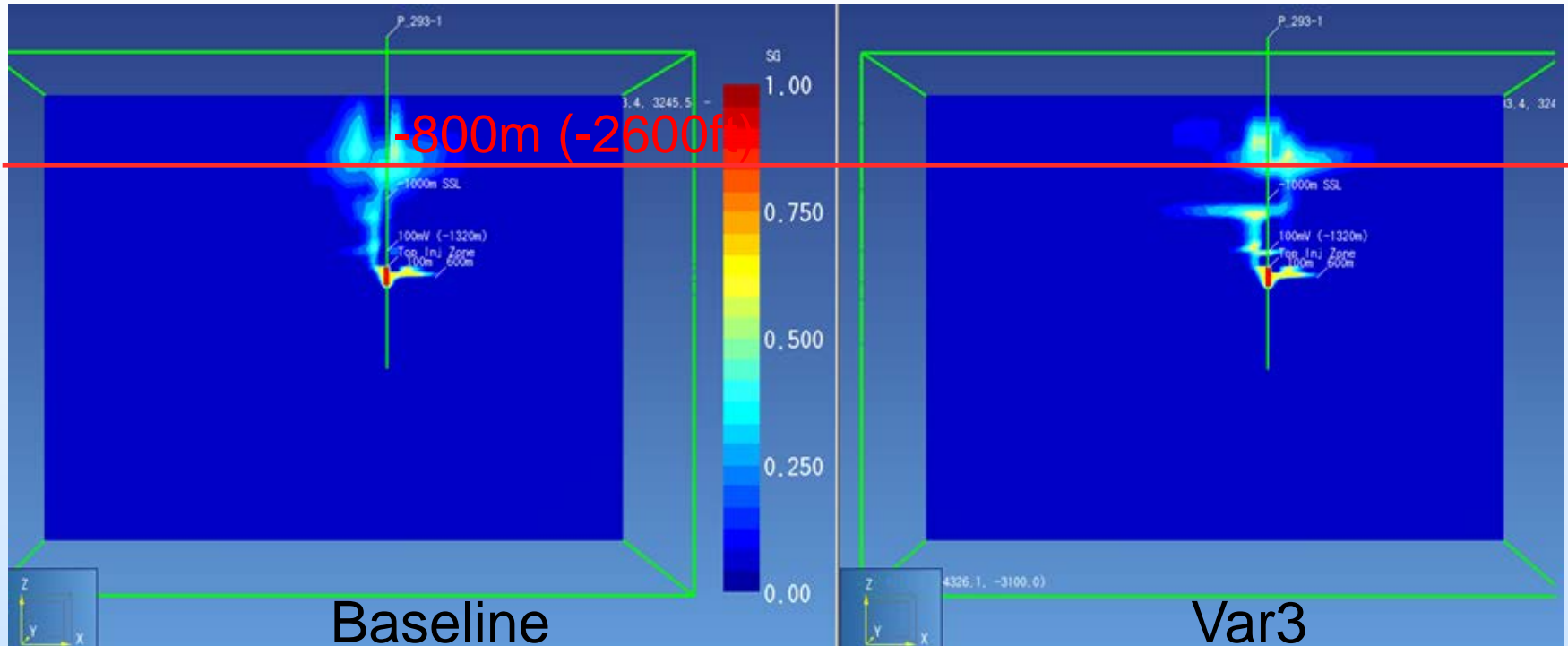
→ Assuming more shale than anticipated does not ensure containment.

Gas saturation after 30 years –SW-NE cross section



→ Assuming lower shale perm. than anticipated does not ensure containment.

Gas saturation after 30 years –SW-NE cross section



→ Refinement in vertical grid to catch various layers better does not ensure containment.

Initial Simulation Implications

1. Sufficient volumes (100 million tons) can be injected into 3 or 4 wells while avoiding lateral migration to poorly cemented existing wells, by maintaining ½ mile offset distance.
2. Pressure change and stress changes are very modest.
3. For injection at depths shallower than about 6000 ft, however, vertical containment can not be assured for a range of geologic scenarios consistent with available data. Injection volumes would need to be restricted.
4. In summary, we do not recommend the relatively shallow Pliocene be considered further for large scale CO₂ injection.

Appropriate Next step is to characterize the deeper Miocene Formation.

DOE# 2 spudded Feb 27, 2014

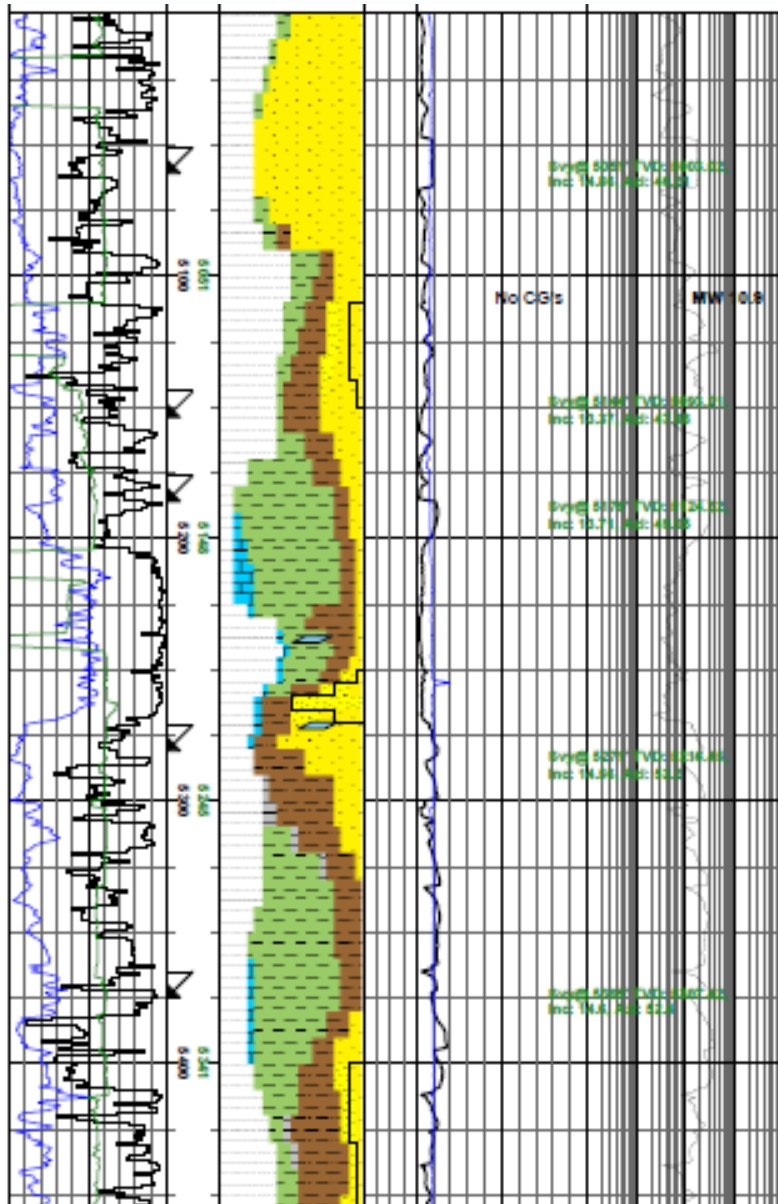


DOE# 2 well completed Mar 18, 2014



Key Findings From Drilling DOE #2

LITHOLOGY					
LITH MODIFIERS					



Claystone: bmsh gry; soft; mid irreg shaped ctgs; no cir internal struc; grades to completely sol clay; approx 50% of spl washes away as sol clay; sticky; smooth text; dull lstr; sil calc; no spl fl or oil indic.

Claystone: @ 5190', bmsh blk, sil dkf hues; overall firmed up w/ decr amnt of sol clay; soft w/ occ sil frm, sil brittle tab shaped ctgs; dull lstr; smooth to sil silty text; scattered loose qtz sand gm's; mod-v calc; sil riny odor; no spl fl or vis oil indic.

Sandstone: overall lt gry to wht; indiv gm's frost wht, cir, occ gry, tr blk, gm; firm friable w/ occ hard calc cmt; upp to lwr med; fair to well sort; sbang to sbmd; gm supp; qtz, tr biotite, chlor; no spl fl or oil indic.

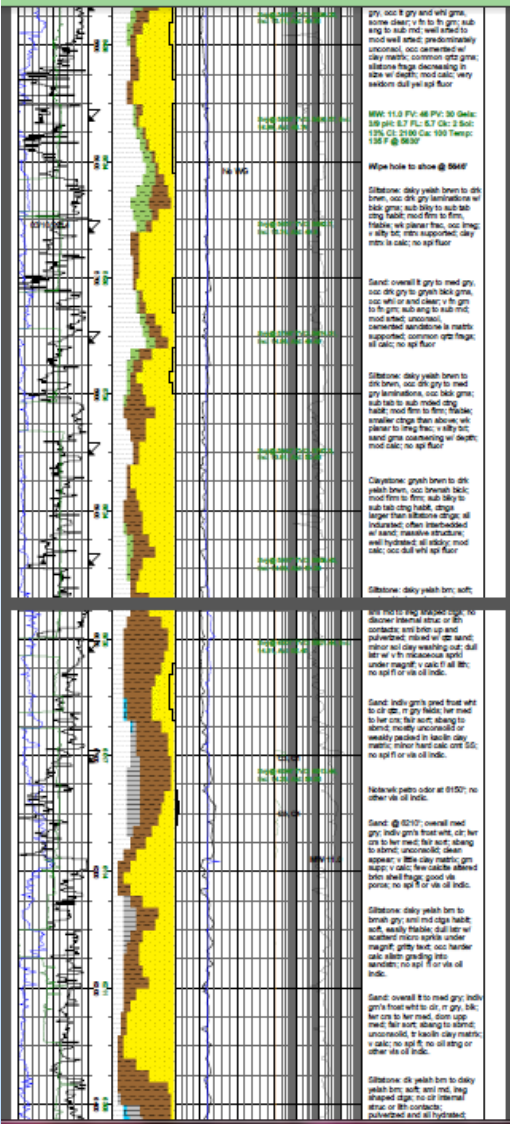
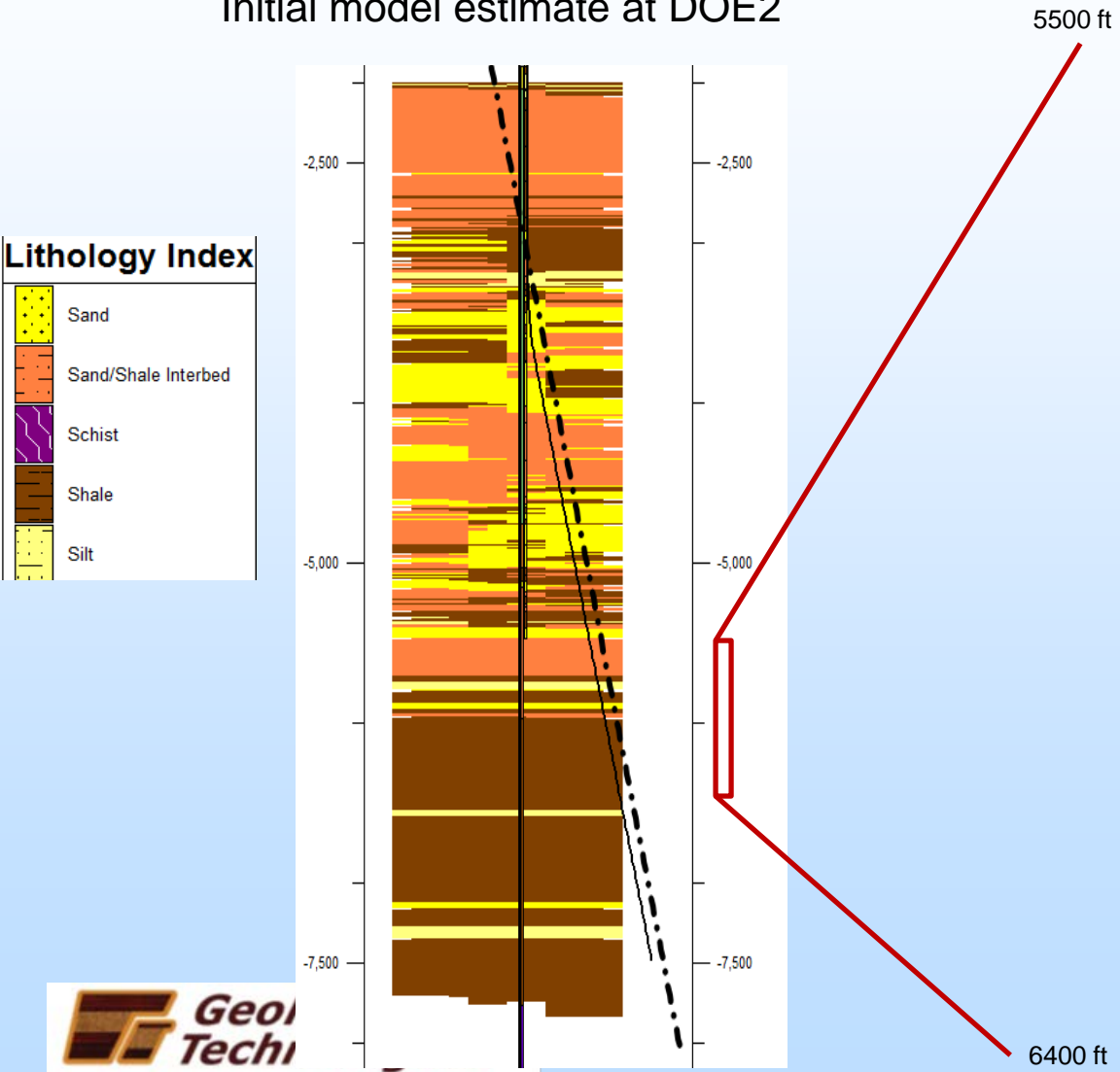
Siltstone: dsky yelsh bm; soft to sil firm; sml irreg shaped ctgs; no cir bed or lith contacts; decr amnt of sol clay; v calc overall w/ occ soft carbonate; no petro odor; no spl fl or vis oil indic.

Shale: tr amnts; similar dsky yelsh bm hues but v firm to sil hard; brittle; breaks under hard press; tab ctgs; sil silty text.

Siltstone: dsky yelsh bm; sml irreg shaped ctgs; sol; clay rich, grading into claystn; tr amnts calc cmt 88; spl v calc overall; no oil indic f/ any lith.

Key Findings From Drilling DOE #2

Initial model estimate at DOE2



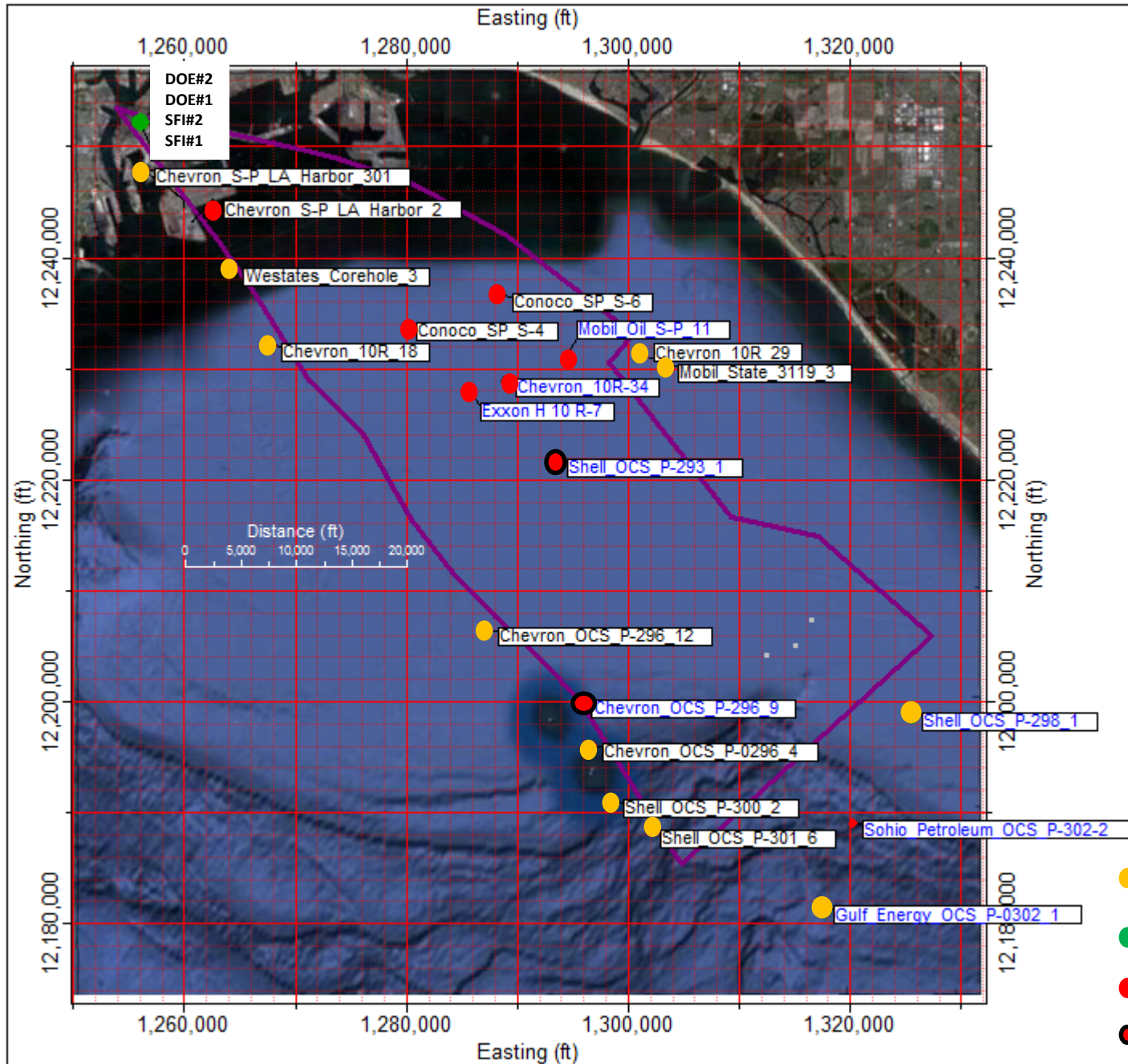
Key Findings From Drilling DOE #2

- More sand within Lower Pliocene and Upper Miocene than previously anticipated
- Several good injection intervals, with one strong (200ft) shale cap
- Good correlation in sand intervals from Offset well SFI1 to DOE2
- Validation and good correlation for assumed faults and dip reversals, confirming updated geologic model for upper section
- Revisions required to Northern Graben geologic model for Miocene
- Motivation and justification for project to complete additional deep characterization in Northern Graben

Risk Assessment Includes:

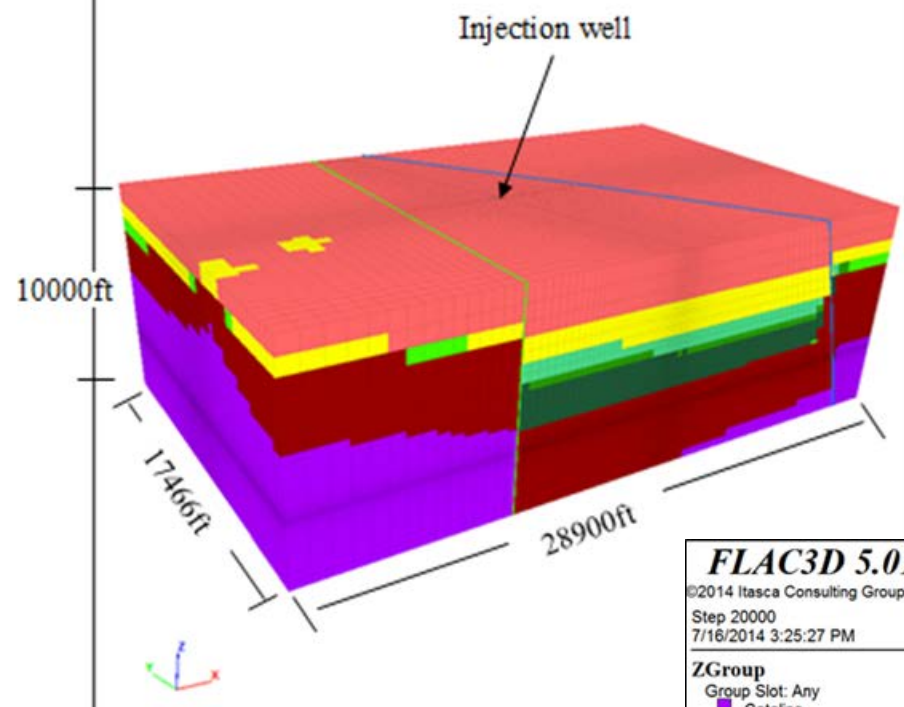
- Lateral Migration to Poorly Cemented Offset Wells
 - Detailed well record review
 - Reservoir scale fluid and migration modeling
- Injection Well Failure and Transmission
 - Stress analysis, near-well migration modeling
- Caprock Integrity Study
 - Geomechanical analysis of fracture and fault activation risk
- Natural Seismicity Risks
 - Historical review of impacts on O&G and Gas Storage operations
- Induced Seismicity Risks
 - Analog review, geomechanical analysis, microseismic monitoring
- CO2 Migration to Sea Floor
 - Analog review, rate assessment, and biologic impact estimate

Casing and Cement Evaluation



- Outside studied area
- Cased & cemented
- Open hole
- No well history, Presumed open hole

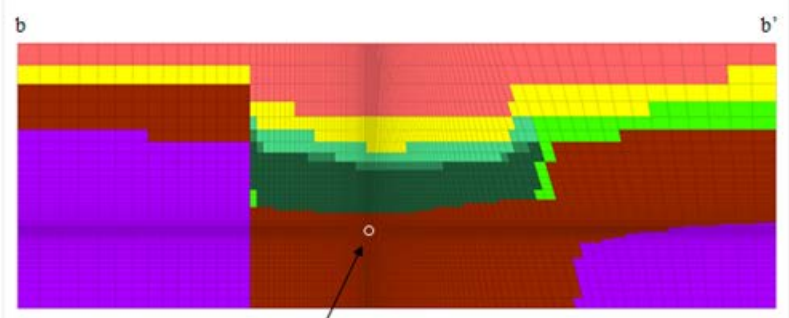
- Interface**
 Colorby: Id
 PV Fault
 THB Fault
- ZGroup**
 Group Slot: Any
 Catalina
 Pico
 Puente
 Repetto
 Repetto1
 Repetto2
 Repetto3
 San Pedro



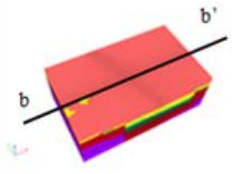
Geomechanical Model --- Northern Graben

Dimension:
 28900ft in x-direction
 17466ft in y-direction
 10000ft in z-direction
 Total: 572,000 elements

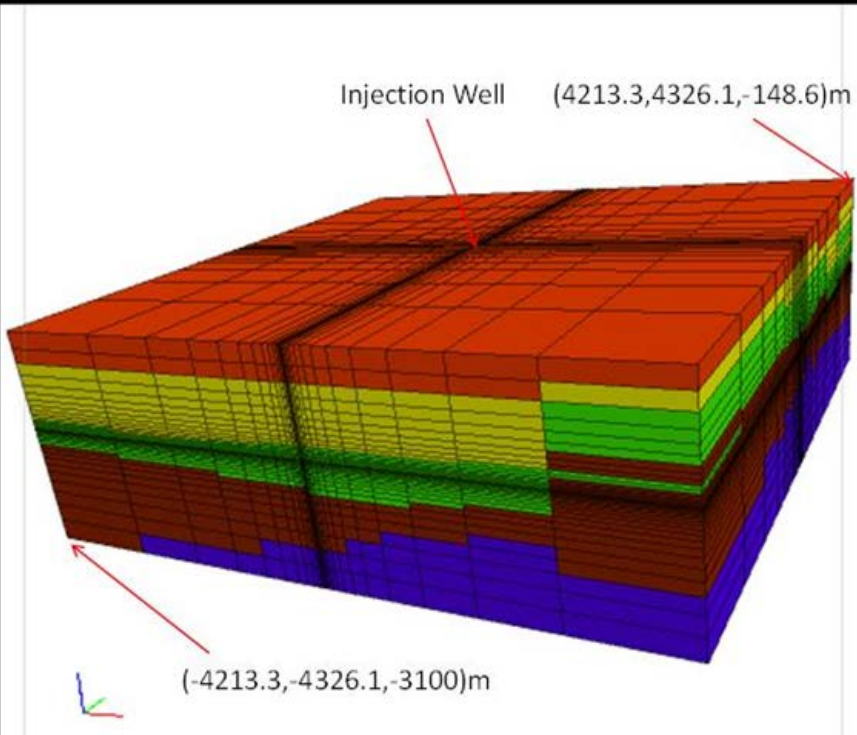
- ZGroup**
 Group Slot: Any
 Catalina
 Pico
 Puente
 Repetto
 Repetto1
 Repetto2
 Repetto3
 San Pedro



Injection depth



- Zone**
- Colorby: Group Any
- layer1: San Pedro
 - layer2: Pico
 - layer3: Repetto
 - layer4: Puente
 - layer5: Catalina Shist

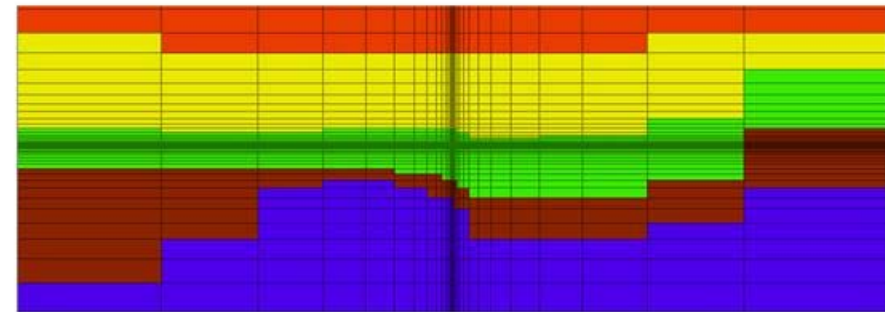


Geomechanical Model

--- Central Graben

Dimension:
 ~ 28000ft in x & y direction
 9678ft in z-direction
 Total: 35,100 elements

- Zone**
- Plane: active on
- Colorby: Group Any
- layer1: San Pedro
 - layer2: Pico
 - layer3: Repetto
 - layer4: Puente
 - layer5: Catalina Shist



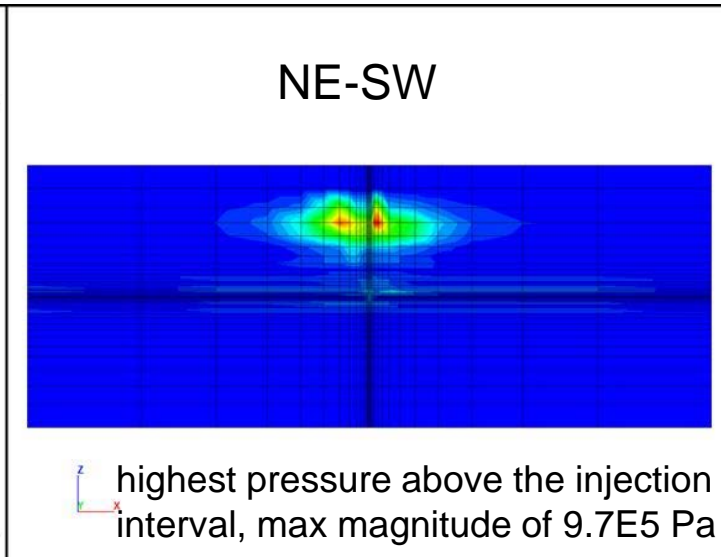
30 years delta pressure distribution – baseline (Pa)

FLAC3D 5.01
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 Step 0
 7/1/2014 3:38:47 PM

Contour Of Pressure
 Plane: active on

9.6860E+05
 9.5000E+05
 9.0000E+05
 8.5000E+05
 8.0000E+05
 7.5000E+05
 7.0000E+05
 6.5000E+05
 6.0000E+05
 5.5000E+05
 5.0000E+05
 4.5000E+05
 4.0000E+05
 3.5000E+05
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 2.5000E+05
 2.0000E+05
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 1.0000E+05
 5.0000E+04
 0.0000E+00

Geomechanics Technologies

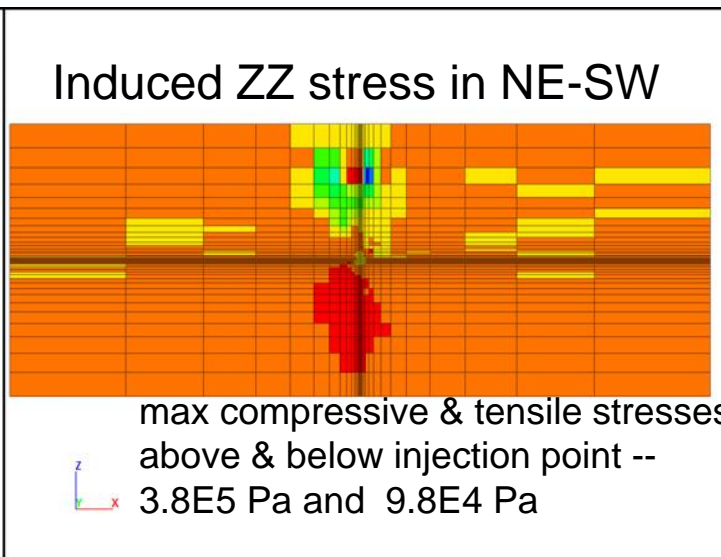


FLAC3D 5.01
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 Step 20000
 7/7/2014 10:25:21 AM

ColorScale of ZZ-Stress
 Plane: active on

9.8187E+04
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 0.0000E+00
 -5.0000E+04
 -1.0000E+05
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Geomechanics Technologies

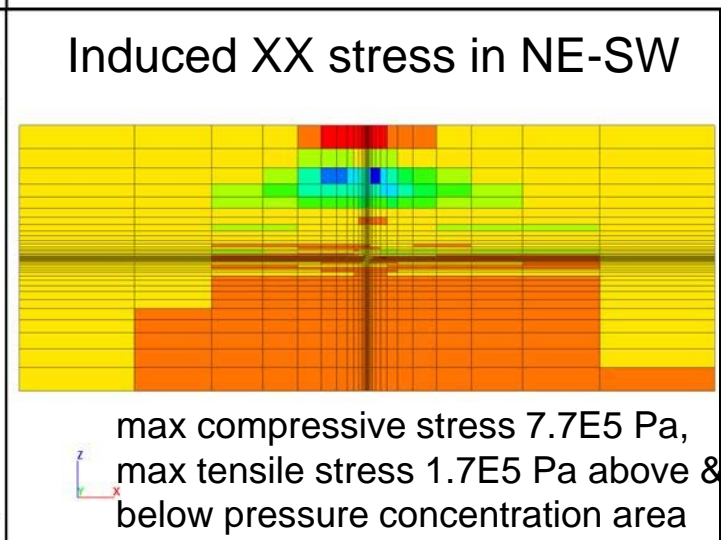


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ColorScale of XX-Stress
 Plane: active on

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 0.0000E+00
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 -2.0000E+05
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Geomechanics Technologies

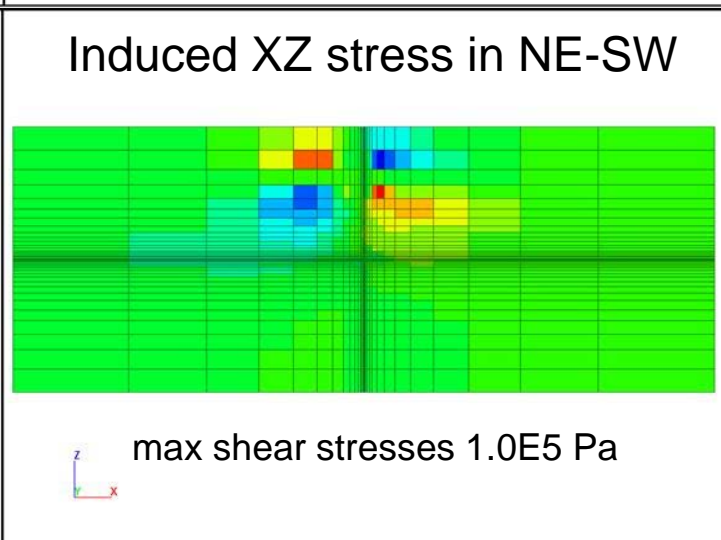


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ColorScale of XZ-Stress
 Plane: active on

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 8.0000E+04
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 -6.0000E+04
 -8.0000E+04
 -1.0000E+05
 -1.0055E+05

Geomechanics Technologies



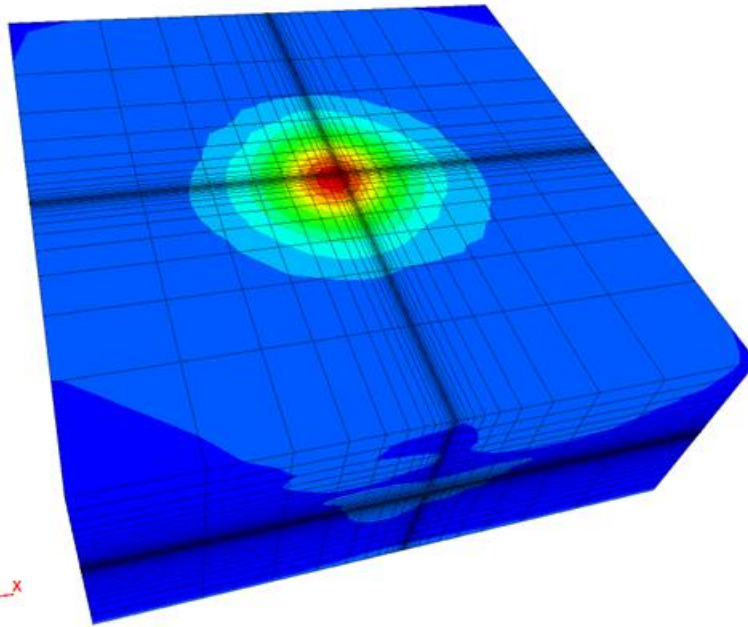
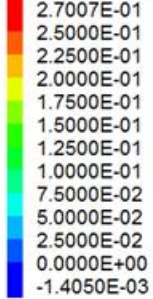
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Contour Of Z-Displacement



Geomechanics Technologies

Induced seafloor deformation: 3D view & NE-SW direction across injection well

FLAC3D 5.01

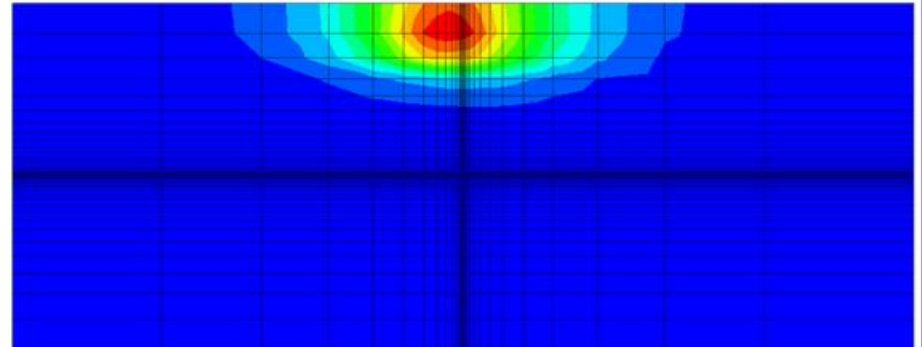
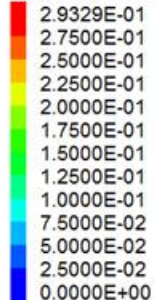
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Step 20000

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Contour Of Z-Displacement

Plane: active on



Geomechanics Technologies

Risk Matrix Evaluation Tool

CO2 injection Risk Analysis Tool Wilmington Graben

MECHANICAL STATE				CAPROCK-STORAGE ZONE SYSTEM				OPERATIONS						
tens frac	fault reac	well fail		tens frac	fault reac	well fail		tens frac	fault reac	well fail				
1. STRESS				4. STORAGE ZONE SPECIFIC				6. OPERATIONS						
Max P/min princ stress				Lateral extent/storage zone depth				Well density						
a. ≥ 0.75	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	1	0	1	0	100
b. 0.5-0.75	1	10	1	10	1	10	0	10	0	1	0	1	0	10
c. ≤ 0.5	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Stress regime				Storage zone thickness/storage zone depth				No. of uncased wells/total no. of wells						
a. Compressional	1	100	1	100	1	100	0	100	0	1	0	1	0	100
b. Transform	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	1	0	1	0	10
c. Extensional	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Shmin/Sv				5. CAPROCK SPECIFIC				ΔT between CO2 and storage zone						
a. < 0.55	0	1	0	100	0	100	Caprock heterogeneity							
b. 0.55-0.65	0	1	0	10	0	10	Caprock strength							
c. > 0.65	1	1	1	1	1	1	Caprock thickness							
2. PRESSURE				Caprock lateral extent/caprock thickness				Caprock permeability						
Desired Max P/Discovery P				Caprock permeability				Number of caprocks						
a. ≥ 1.5	0	100	0	100	0	100	Caprock dip							
b. 1.25-1.5	0	10	0	10	0	10	Number of caprocks							
c. ≤ 1.25	1	1	1	1	1	1	Caprock dip							
Max P/formation depth				Caprock permeability				Number of caprocks						
a. ≥ 0.75	0	100	0	100	0	100	Caprock dip							
b. 0.625-0.75	0	10	0	10	0	10	Number of caprocks							
c. ≤ 0.625	1	1	1	1	1	1	Caprock dip							
3. FAULTS				Caprock permeability				Number of caprocks						
Fault boundaries				Caprock permeability				Number of caprocks						
a. Multiple bounding faults	1	1	1	100	1	100	Caprock dip							
b. One bounding fault	0	1	0	10	0	10	Number of caprocks							
c. None	0	1	0	1	0	1	Caprock dip							
Natural seismicity				Caprock permeability				Number of caprocks						
a. High	1	100	1	100	1	100	Caprock dip							
b. Moderate	0	10	0	10	0	10	Number of caprocks							
c. Low	0	1	0	1	0	1	Caprock dip							
Category Score				Category Score				Category Score						
214				333				12						
Category Total Score				Category Total Score				Category Total Score						
840 1902				972 2007				27 405						
TOTAL SCORE				TOTAL SCORE				TOTAL SCORE						
1839 4314														

Absolute risk scores for the different example cases

Category	Range of risk scores	Kevin Dome	Loudon	Wilmington Graben	Sleipner	In Salah
Mechanical state	21-1902	345	660	840	102	390
Caprock-Storage Zone system	27-2007	27	45	972	342	27
Operations	9-405	9	27	27	9	27
TOTAL	57-4314	381	732	1839	453	444

The relative risk ranking based on three types of risk factors

Category	Range of risk scores	Kevin Dome	Loudon	Wilmington Graben	Sleipner	In Salah
Tensile fracturing	19-1405	127	235	559	154	145
Fault (re)activation	19-1603	127	244	748	154	154
Wellbore failure	19-1306	127	253	532	145	145
TOTAL	57-4314	381	732	1839	453	444

The relative risk ranking based on failure type

Risk Analysis and Practical Logistics

Logistics Evaluation Includes:

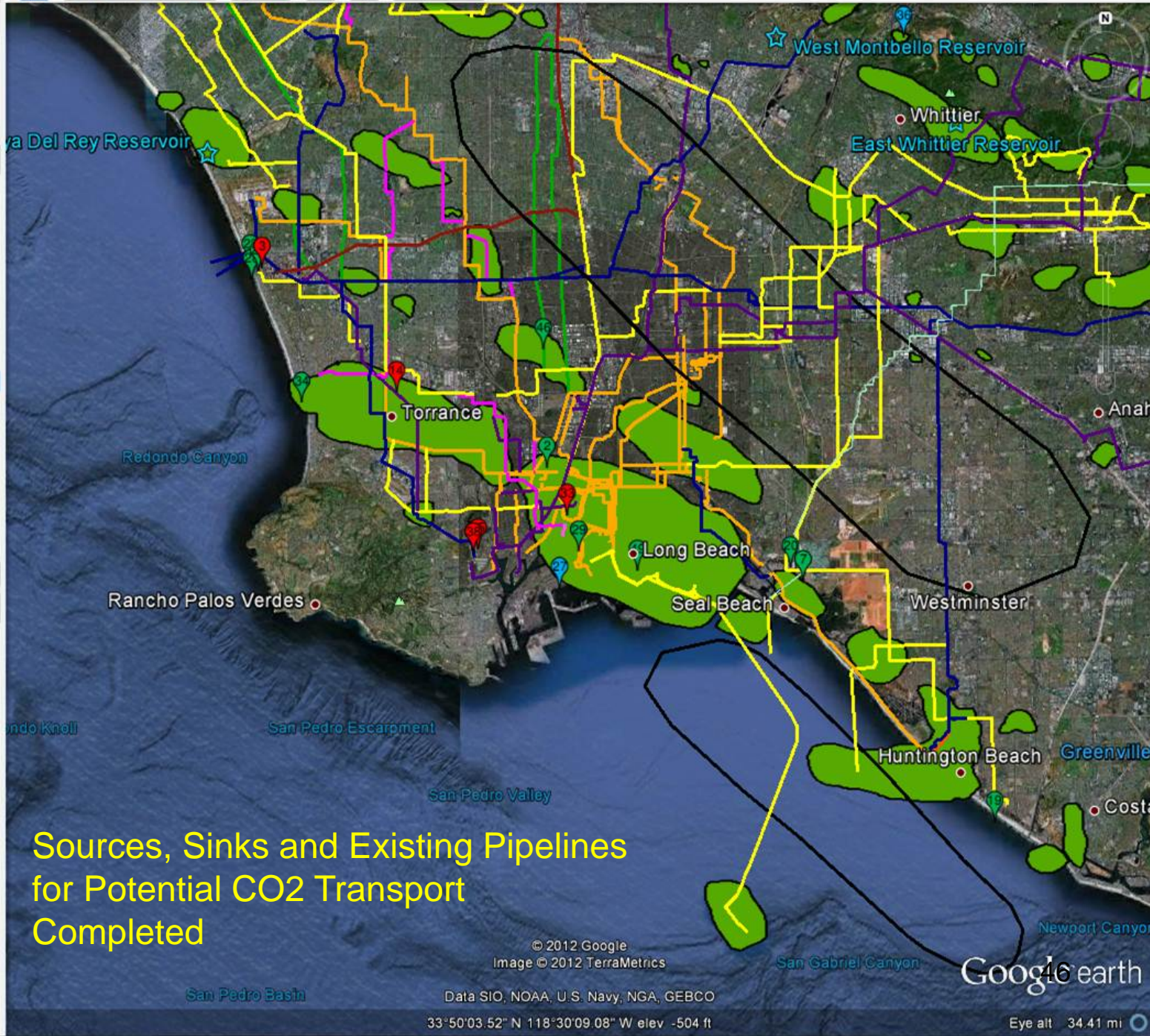
1. Identify and characterize top 20 sources in LA Basin
 - Include on Interactive Google Earth Map
 - Contribute to NATCARB Atlas and Database
2. Evaluate pipeline and storage field infrastructure in LA Basin
 - Location and design of existing oil and gas lines
 - Location of existing storage fields
 - Requirements for transport from major sources to Graben area
 - Typical design and cost for CO₂ transmission lines

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 - faults.kmz
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 - Pipelines.kmz
 - Sinks With Pore Volume.kmz

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 - Weather
 - Gallery
 - Global Awareness
 - More



Sources, Sinks and Existing Pipelines for Potential CO2 Transport Completed

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Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
33°50'03.52" N 118°30'09.08" W elev -504 ft

Google earth

Eye alt 34.41 mi

Accomplishments to Date

- Detailed log evaluation of existing exploration wells in the area
- Improved evaluation and interpretation of existing 2D and 3D seismic data
- Acquisition and interpretation of additional 175 km of 2D seismic lines
- DOE#1 (onshore Pliocene) well drilled and analyzed
- DOE#2 well drilled March, 2014. Core data being analyzed
- Completed development of 3D geologic models, geomechanical and CO₂ injection and migration models. Re-running models based on new data obtained from DOE#2 well.
- Completed analysis of top 20 industrial sources in the LA Basin and transportation infrastructure. Developed interactive map/atlas (www.socalcarb.org)
- Completed quantitative risk analysis for Wilmington Graben

Summary

- Identified >400ft of Pliocene and >150ft of Miocene sands
- Interactive map of sources, sinks, pipeline completed
- Simulation models indicate that for long-term injection into relative shallow Pliocene Formation (about 5000ft), vertical containment can not be assured. Deeper characterization required.
- Additional simulations are being completed to evaluate deeper injection options within the Miocene Formation (6500 to 7500 ft depth).
- Geomechanical analysis indicates little risk for surface deformation, induced stresses, and induced seismicity
- Qualitative risk analysis and ranking indicates Wilmington Graben storage relatively higher risk than other potential storage sites within the US.

Next Steps:

- Perform microseismic monitoring to better assess induced seismicity risks
- Deepen offset well to 7500 ft, updating storage and viability recommendations
- Complete and submit technical report to DOE

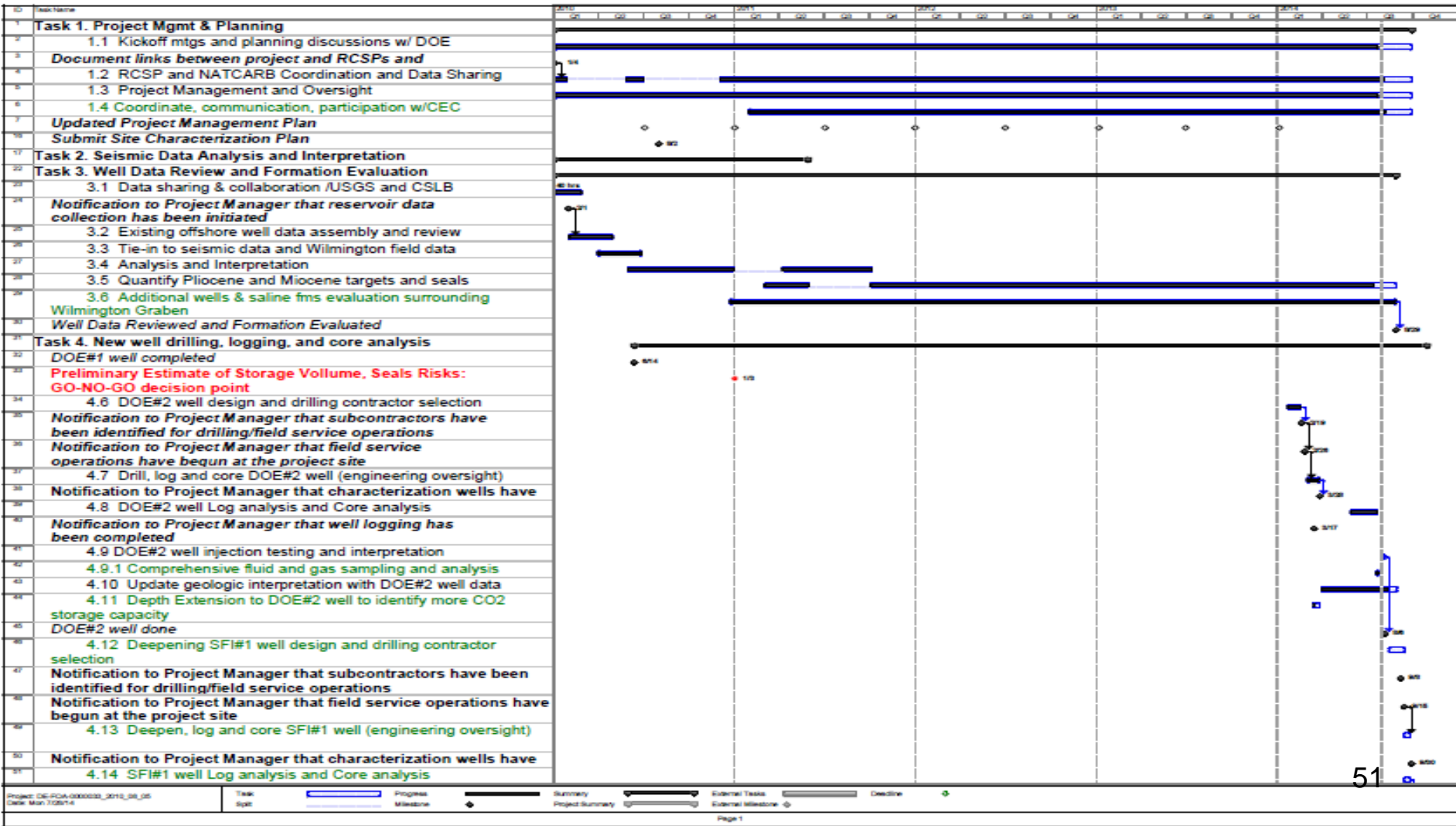
Appendix

- These slides will not be discussed during the presentation, **but are mandatory**

Organization Chart

- Principal Investigator
 - Dr. Mike Bruno
- Project Manager & Sr Geologist
 - Jean Young
- Sr Research Engineer
 - Julia Diessl
 - Kang Lao
 - Juan Ramos
- Research Engineer
 - Jing Xiang
- Research Geologist
 - Nicky White
 - Bill Childers
- Contractors
 - Dr. Mark Legg
 - Dr. Dan Francis
 - Don Clarke
 - Drilling crew
 - Logging crew
- Partners
 - City of Los Angeles
 - California Energy Commission
 - CA State University, Long Beach
 - USGS

Gantt Chart



Gantt Chart

