



# **Large Pilot Testing of the MTR Membrane Post-Combustion CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Process (DE-FE0031587; FOA 1788)**

---

**Richard W. Baker, Tim Merkel, Brice C. Freeman  
Membrane Technology and Research, Inc.  
NETL Project Manager: Sai Gollakota**

---

Project Kickoff Meeting  
May 22, 2018

# Project Overview

- **Award name:** Large Pilot Testing of the MTR Membrane Post-Combustion CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Process (DE-FE0031587; FOA 1788)
- **Project period:** 4/1/18 to 7/31/19
- **Funding:** \$957k DOE + \$239k cost share = \$1.196M total
- **DOE-NETL Project Manager:** Sai Gollakota
- **Participants:** MTR (prime), Trimeric, WorleyParsons, EPRI, NRG (host)
- **Overall goal:** Design, build, and operate a 200 TPD large pilot capture system using partial capture to achieve the lowest cost-of-capture possible (\$/tonne CO<sub>2</sub>).
- **Project plan: (Phase I)**
  - selection of the host power plant
  - conduct environmental information volume
  - secure of financial commitments
  - update pilot design and budget, and finalizing team commitments and organization for Phase II / III

# Topics

---

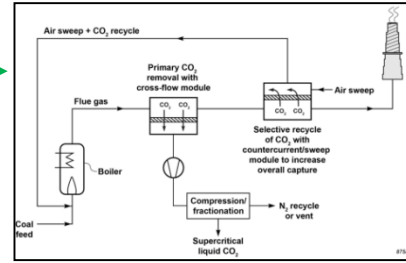
- Background
- Technical Approach
- Project Objectives
- Project Structure
- Project Schedule
- Project Budget
- Project Management Plan and Risk Management

# MTR CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Development Timeline



## Feasibility study (DE-NT43085)

- Sweep concept proposed
- Polaris membrane conceived



## APS Red Hawk NGCC Demo

- First Polaris flue gas test
- 250 lb/d CO<sub>2</sub> used for algae farm



## APS Cholla Demo (DE-FE5312)

- First Polaris coal flue gas test
- 1 TPD CO<sub>2</sub> captured (50 kW<sub>e</sub>)



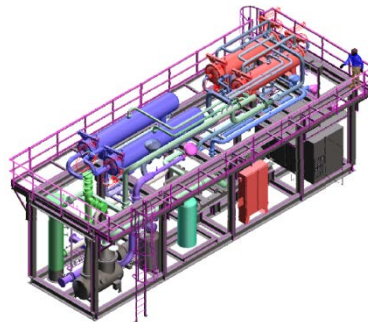
## NCCC 1 MW<sub>e</sub> Demo (DE-FE5795)

- 11,000 hours of 1 TPD system operation
- 1 MW<sub>e</sub> (20 TPD) system operation



## Low Pressure Mega Module (DE-FE7553)

- Design and build a 500 m<sup>2</sup> optimized module



## Hybrid Capture (DE-FE13118)

- Membrane-solvent hybrids with UT, Austin



## B&W Integrated Test



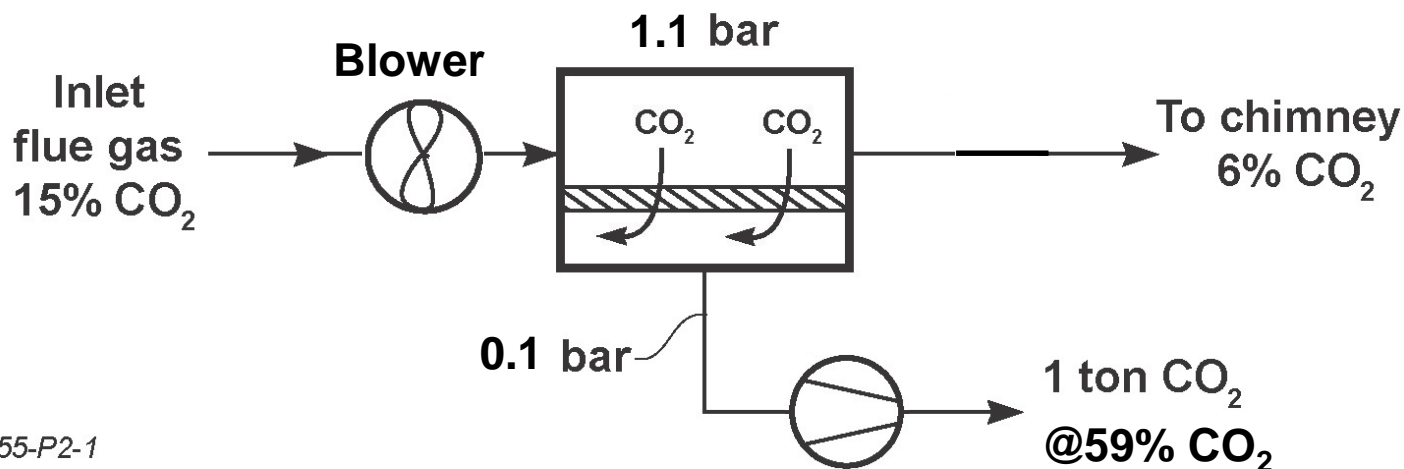
## 10+ MW<sub>e</sub> Large Pilot



# Membrane Separation Basics

## Power Consumption is Key

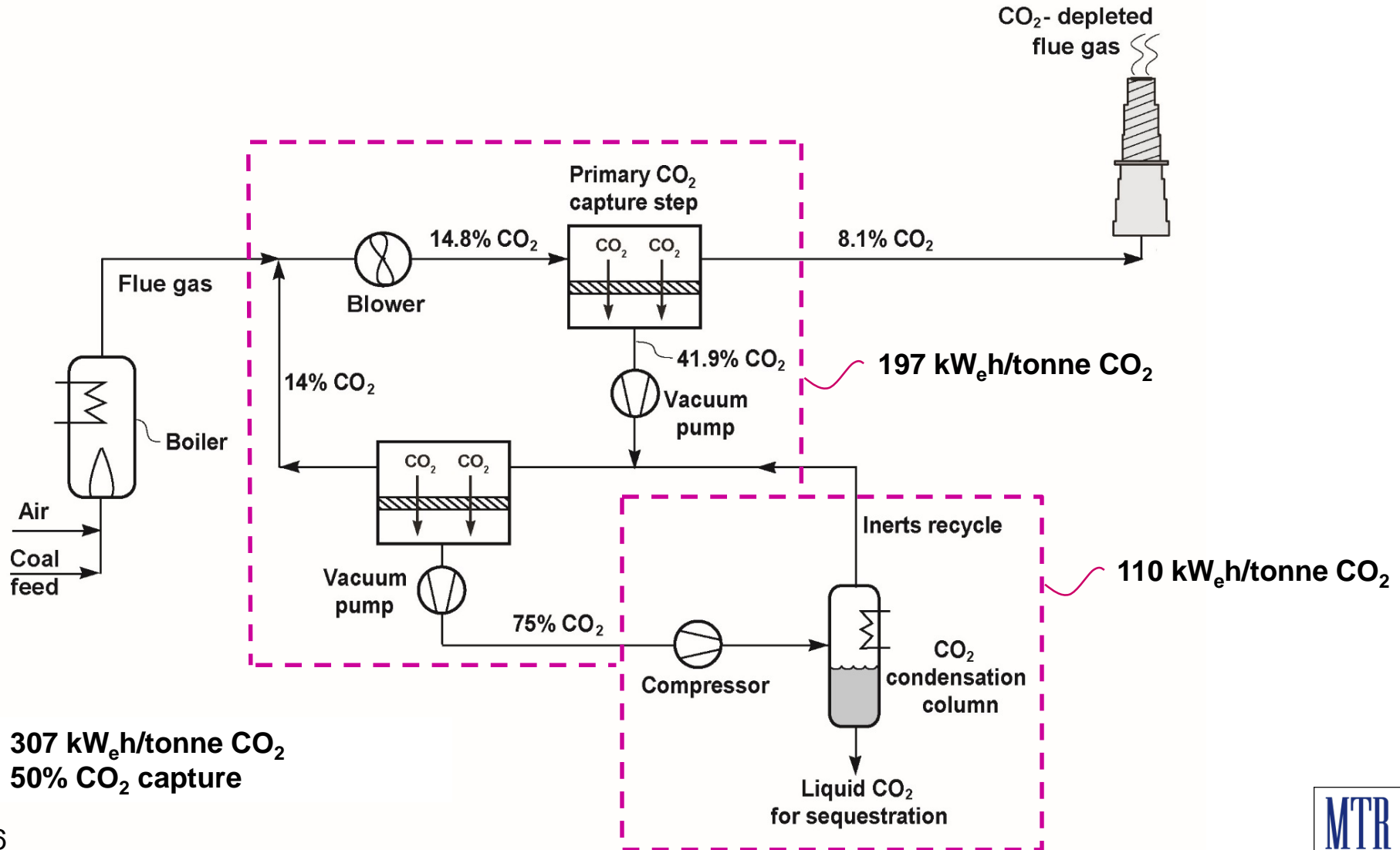
Permeate vacuum to 0.1 bar, 70% CO<sub>2</sub> capture



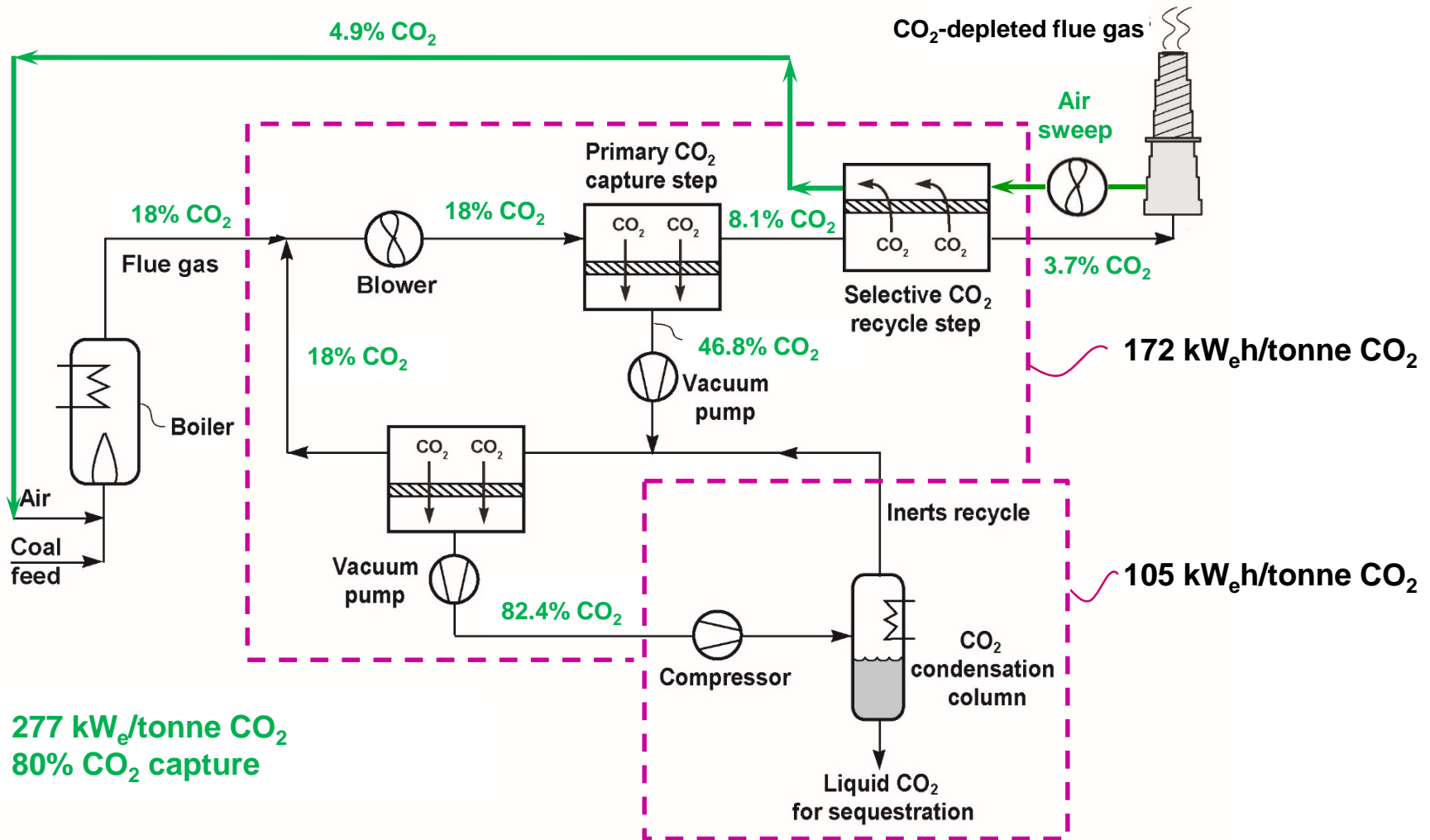
755-P2-1

Feed / Permeate Pressure (bara)	Power	Membrane Area	Permeate Concentration
5.5 / 1.0	330 kW <sub>e</sub> /tonne CO <sub>2</sub>	X	43.5% CO <sub>2</sub>
1.1 / 0.2	91 kW <sub>e</sub> /tonne CO <sub>2</sub>	5X	43.5% CO <sub>2</sub>
1.1 / 0.1	99 kW <sub>e</sub> /tonne CO <sub>2</sub>	2.5X	59% CO <sub>2</sub>

# Partial CO<sub>2</sub> Capture with a Two-Stage Membrane Process



# Using a Contactor Helps a Lot



Using a contactor reduces power by 10% and increase CO<sub>2</sub> capture from 50 to 80%.

# 20 TPD System at NCCC

- Membranes are simple and compact compared to competing technologies, such as amines (see columns in photo).



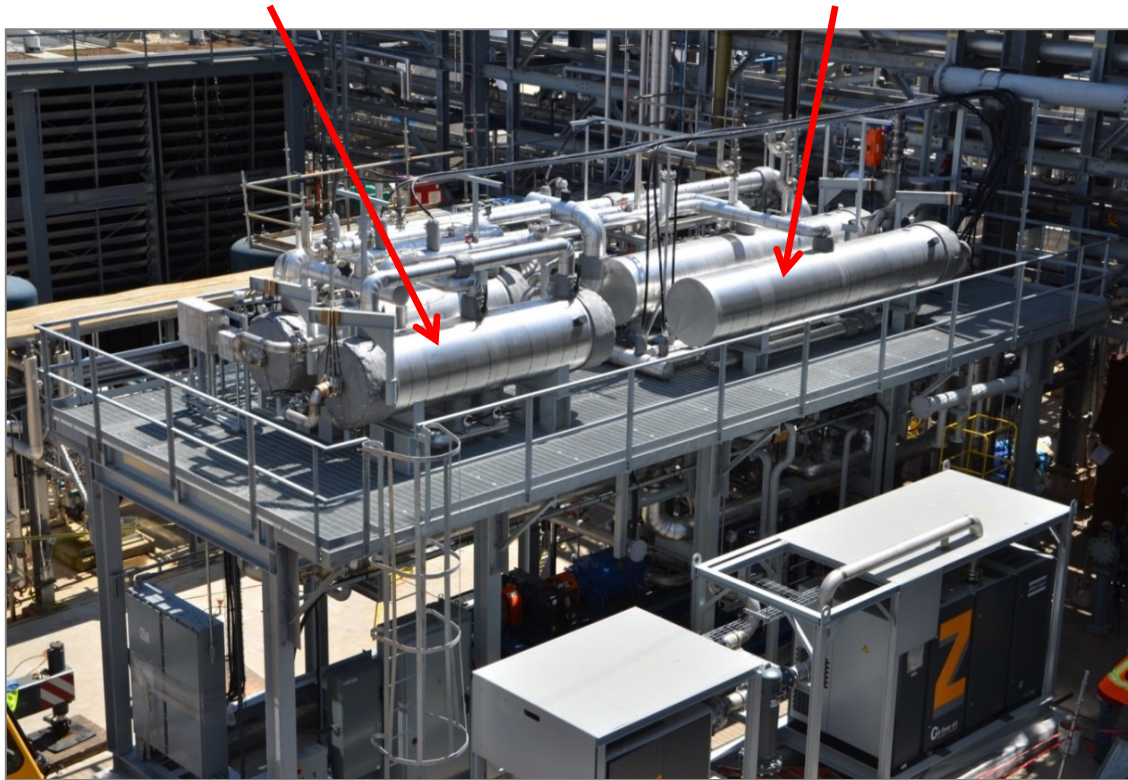
- MTR pilot system completed successful six months of operation.



# The NCCC 1 MW<sub>e</sub> System Used Nested Module Tubes in a Single Large Vessel

Bundled spiral  
sweep modules

Bundled  
Polaris spirals



# We Also Tested Large Area Plate-and-Frame Modules at NCCC



# Topics

---

- Background
- **Technical Approach**
- Project Objectives
- Project Structure
- Project Schedule
- Project Budget
- Project Management Plan and Risk Management

# The Current State of Development

## The “2017 Base Case”

- Membrane
  - $P/\ell$ , 1,500 gpu,  $\alpha$  25, 3-year lifetime
- Module
  - Plate-and-frame
  - 0.1 bar feed-side pressure-drop
  - 0.05 bar permeate-side pressure-drop
  - Module and skid: \$100/m<sup>2</sup> each
- Rotating equipment
  - 0.2 bar, efficiency 80%, \$1,000/kW
- Installation factor: 100% of equipment cost
- Capital expenditure depreciation/amortization change: 12%/annual

# How do we Estimate Cost and Performance

- A CHEMCAD computer simulation package with MTR Membrane Unit Ops calculate system performance.
- A linked Excel program uses cost assumptions to calculate \$/tonne CO<sub>2</sub> captured.
- The membrane simulation package is reliable.
- The Excel costing program depends on harder-to-know assumptions.

# Ongoing Programs will Change the “2020 Base Case”

- Mongstad test program – ongoing.
- Advanced Polaris™ research program – ongoing.
- The 200 tonne CO<sub>2</sub>/day pilot system will be 10x bigger than the NCCC system – economies of scale.

# Base Case Changes 2017 – 2020

## The Membrane

2017	2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <math>P/\ell</math> 1,500</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <math>P/\ell</math> 2,000</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <math>\alpha</math> 25</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <math>\alpha</math> 30</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lifetime tested for 11,000 hrs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No change</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3-year lifetime assumed</li></ul>	

# Base Case Changes 2017 – 2020

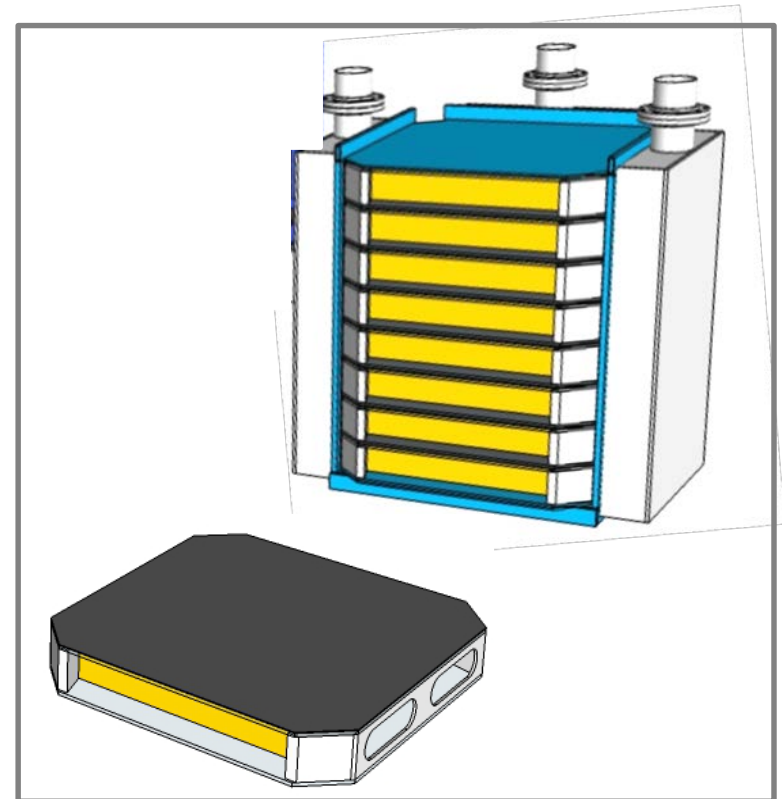
## Plate-and-Frame Skid Costs

### Skid 2017



\$40,000/400 m<sup>2</sup>  
\$100/m<sup>2</sup>

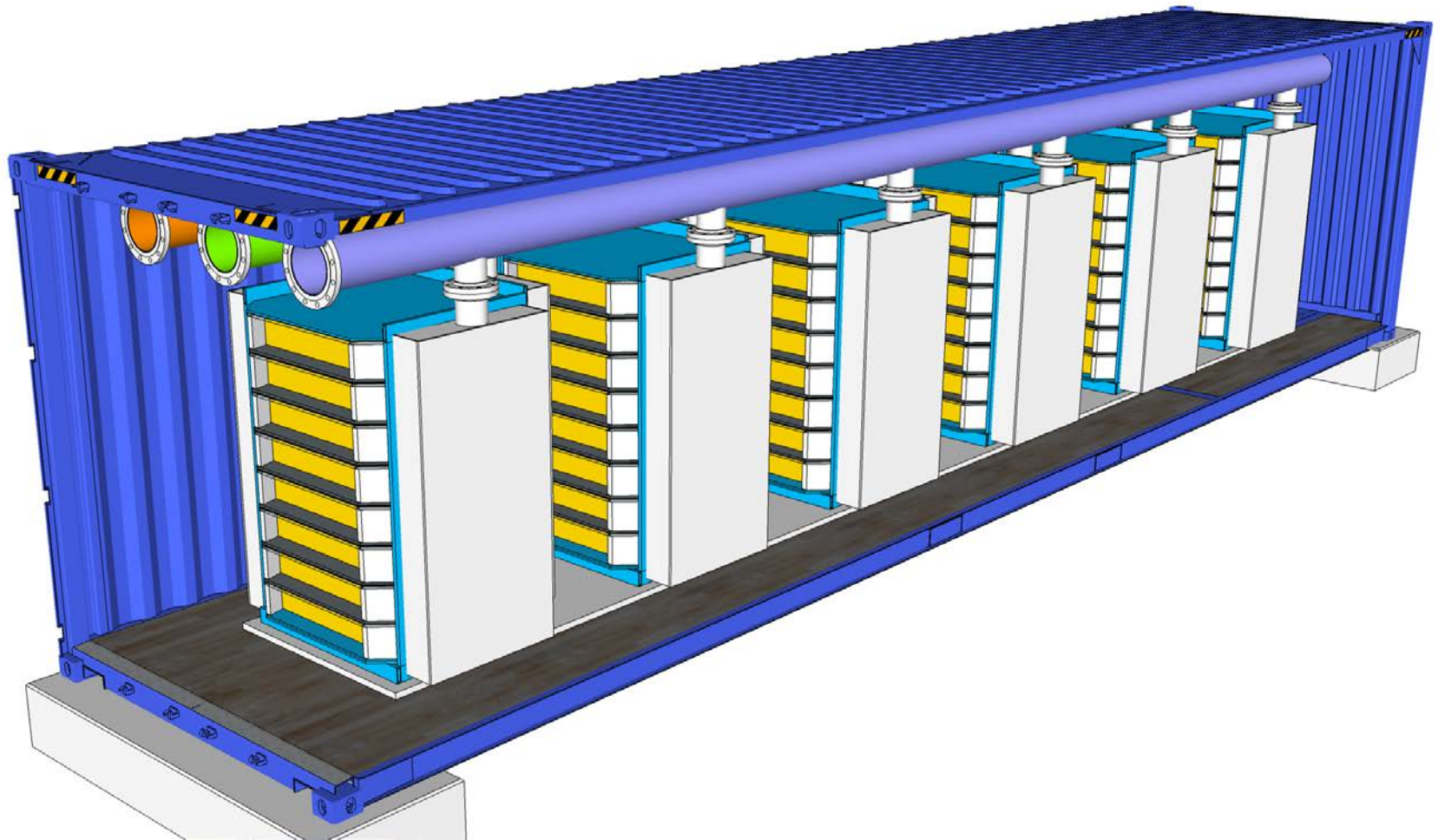
### Skid 2020



~ \$15,000/600 m<sup>2</sup>  
\$25/m<sup>2</sup>



# The Future: Low-Pressure Containerized Plate-and-Frame Modules



# The Current State of Development

## The 2017 Base Case

- Membrane
  - $P/\ell$ , 1,500 gpu,  $\alpha$  25, 3-year lifetime
- Module
  - Plate-and-frame
  - 0.1 bar feed-side pressure-drop
  - 0.05 bar permeate-side pressure-drop
  - Module and skid: \$100/m<sup>2</sup> each
- Rotating equipment
  - 0.2 bar, efficiency 80%, \$1,000/kW
- Installation factor: 100% of equipment cost
- Capital expenditure depreciation/amortization change: 12% per annual

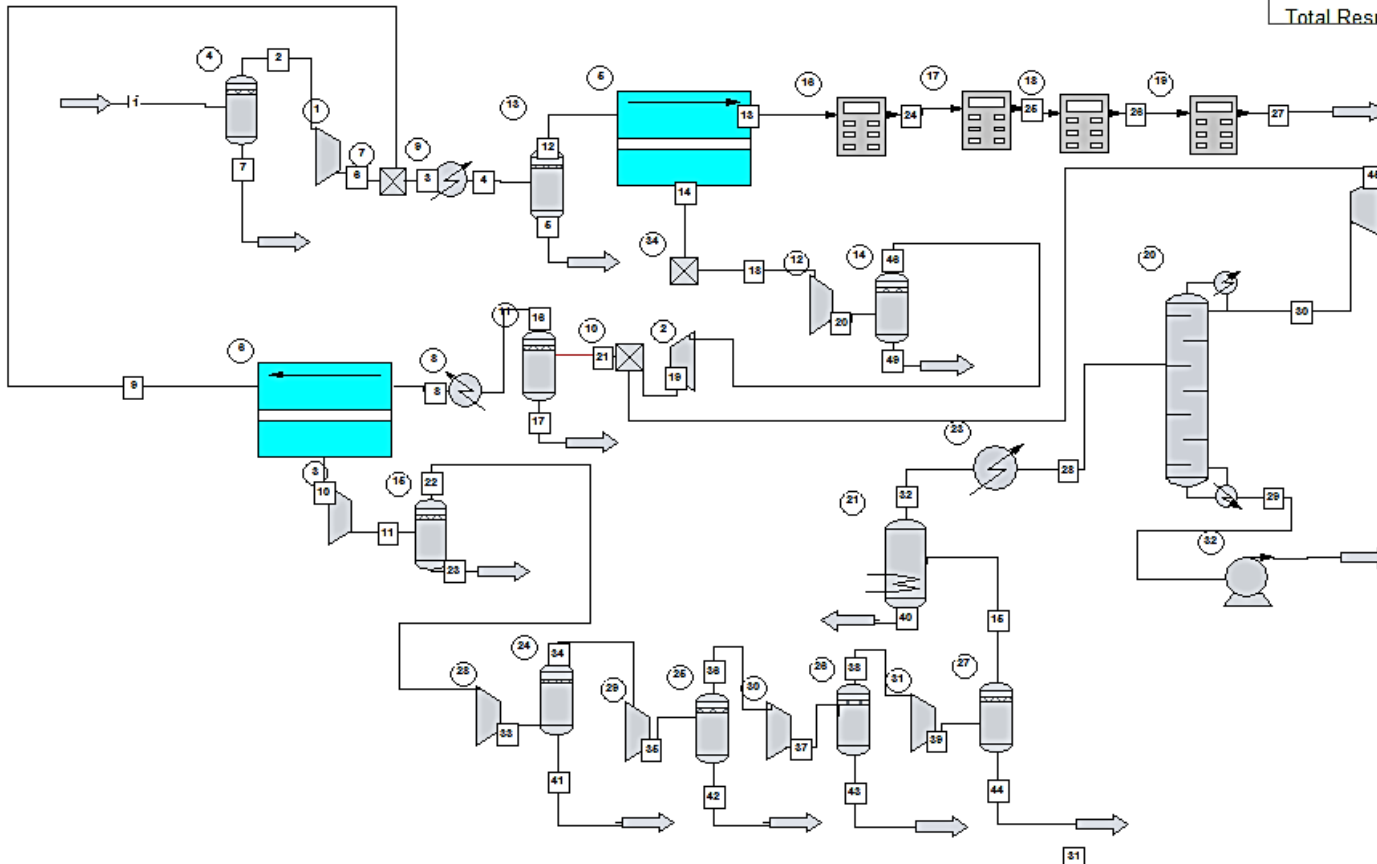
# The System We Propose to Build

Equip. No.	17
Name	Kw/ton CO2
A	2520.8635
B	21241.4609
Total Result	280.2556

Equip. No.	18
Name	tons CO2/day
A	18194.1758
Total Result	198.0691

Equip. No.	19
Name	capture %
A	198.0691
B	36589.0117
Total Result	49.7261

Equip. No.	16
Name	total power
A	714070.5625
B	378974.0938
C	1.5520e+006
D	3.1072e+006
E	791896.4375
F	559717.6250
G	745430.5625
H	530889.3750
I	-226417.0625
Total Result	2520.8635



Equip. No.	5
Name	
Calculation type	4
Membrane area	m2 33562.8711
Stagecut %	19.2485
Key Comp. No.	1
Key Comp. Conc.	8.3000
Feed Pressure Drop (bar)	0.0500
Permeate Pressure Drop (bar)	0.0250
Permeate Pressure bar	0.2000
P/I comp. 1	2000.0000
P/I comp. 2	66.7000

Equip. No.	6
Name	
Calculation type	4
Membrane area	m2 4830.6025
Stagecut %	50.4650
Key Comp. No.	1
Key Comp. Conc.	14.0000
Feed Pressure Drop (bar)	0.0500
Permeate Pressure Drop (bar)	0.0250
Permeate Pressure bar	0.2000
P/I comp. 1	2000.0000
P/I comp. 2	66.7000

# Site #1 NRG's WA Parish (Houston)



**Connect to Unit #7 or Unit #8 (Petra Nova)**

# Site #2 NRG's Limestone Generating Station



# Topics

---

- Background
- Technical Approach
- **Project Objectives**
- Project Structure
- Project Schedule
- Project Budget
- Project Management Plan and Risk Management

# Project Objectives

- Bring MTR's membrane-based, post-combustion CO<sub>2</sub> capture process to the final pre-commercial/demonstration stage of development.
- Design, build, and operate a 200 TPD large pilot capture system using partial capture to achieve the lowest cost-of-capture possible (\$/tonne CO<sub>2</sub>).
- Phase I:
  - selection of the host power plant
  - conduct environmental information volume
  - secure of financial commitments
  - update pilot design and budget, and finalizing team commitments and organization for Phase II / III

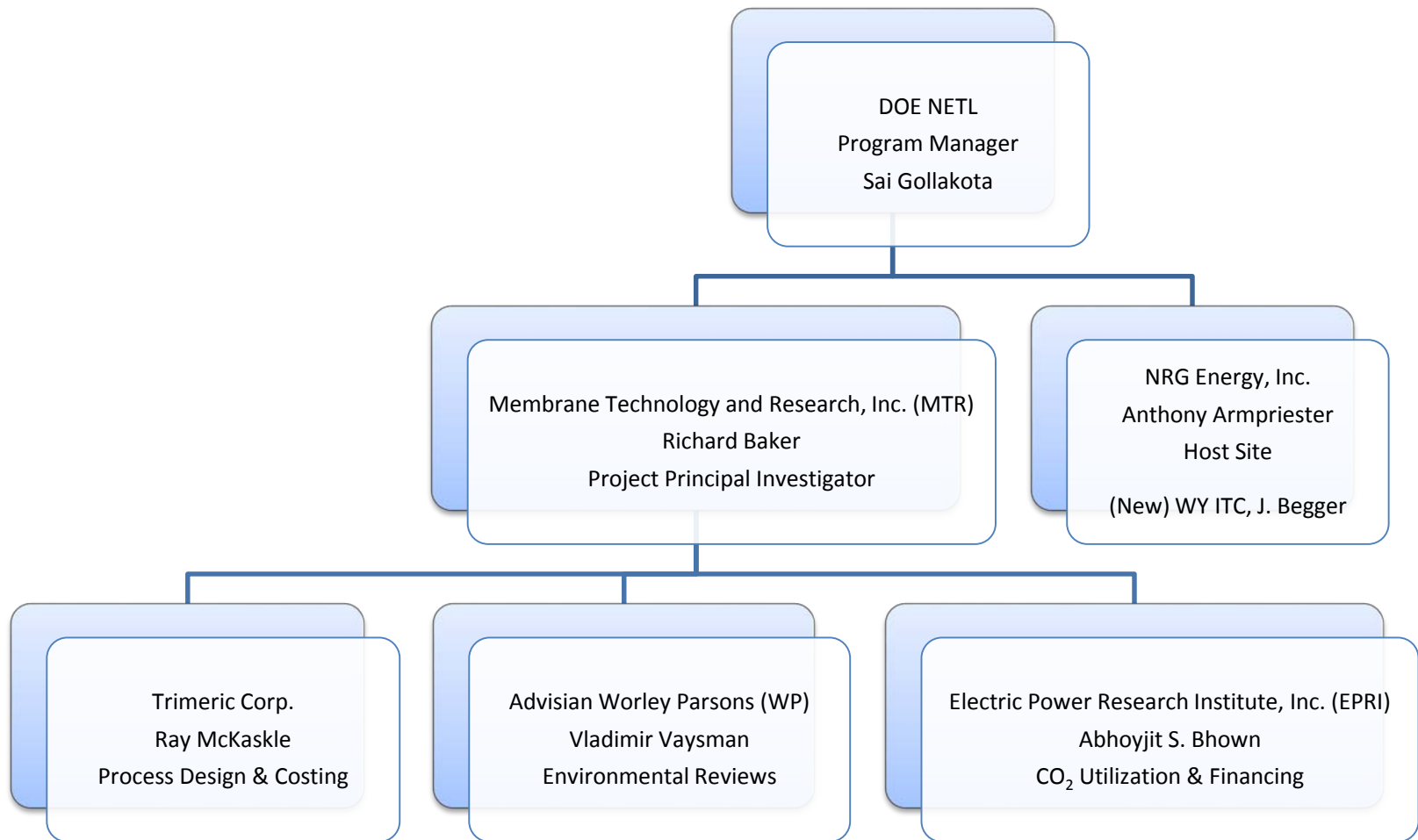
# Topics

---

- Background
- Technical Approach
- Project Objectives
- **Project Structure**
- Project Schedule
- Project Budget
- Project Management Plan and Risk Management



# Project Team



# Roles and Responsibilities

## Large Pilot Testing of the MTR Membrane Post-Combustion CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Process (DE-FE0031587)

- Phase I award: \$1,000,000 / April 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019.
  - **MTR** (prime): Design process design for partial capture system sized at 200 tonnes/day using partial capture.
  - **Trimeric**: Update design for carbon purification unit.
  - **EPRI**: Evaluate opportunities for CO<sub>2</sub> utilization and Phases II and III cost-sharing.
  - **WorleyParsons**: Perform Environmental Information Volume.
  - **NRG**: Provide site information for candidate host site.

# Topics

---

- Background
- Technical Approach
- Project Objectives
- Project Structure
- **Project Schedule**
- Project Budget
- Project Management Plan and Risk Management

# Project Schedule

Project Tasks	Start Date	End Date	2018												2019					
			Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun			
<b>Task 1. Project Management and Planning</b>	4/1/2018	6/30/2019	[Gantt bar spanning from April 2018 to June 2019]																	
<b>Task 2. Select Project Host Site</b>																				
Task 2.1. Visit Host Site for Evaluation	4/1/2018	9/31/2018	[Gantt bar from Apr to Sep 2018]																	
Task 2.2. Obtain Host Site Commitment	4/1/2018	9/31/2018	[Gantt bar from Apr to Sep 2018 with a blue triangle milestone at the end]																	
<b>Task 3. Prepare an Environmental Information Volume (EIV)</b>	10/1/2018	12/31/2018	[Gantt bar from Oct to Dec 2018 with a blue triangle milestone at the end]																	
<b>Task 4. Update System Design, Budget and Schedule</b>	7/1/2018	3/31/2019	[Gantt bar from Jul 2018 to Mar 2019]																	
Task 4.1 Update Process Design	7/1/2018	12/31/2018	[Gantt bar from Jul 2018 to Dec 2018 with a blue triangle milestone at the end]																	
Task 4.2. Update Budget and Schedule	7/1/2018	3/31/2019	[Gantt bar from Jul 2018 to Mar 2019 with a blue triangle milestone at the end]																	
<b>Task 5. Obtain Commitments for the Phase II/ Phase III Program</b>	10/1/2018	3/31/2019	[Gantt bar from Oct 2018 to Mar 2019 with a blue triangle milestone at the end]																	

**NOTES:**

See Milestone Log for description of milestone sets for each budget period.

▲ = Milestone

# Topics

---

- Background
- Technical Approach
- Project Objectives
- Project Structure
- Project Schedule
- **Project Budget**
- Project Management Plan and Risk Management

# Project Budget

## Phase I - Budget Period I

	02/01/2018- 4/30/2018	05/01/2018- 07/31/2018	8/1/2018- 10/31/2018	11/1/2018- 3/31/2019	4/1/2019- 6/30/19	Total BPI
	Q1 Total	Q2 Total	Q3 Total	Q4 Total	Q5 Total	
Federal Share	\$182,187	\$246,746	\$301,864	\$226,314	\$0	\$957,111
Non-Fed Share	45,547	61,686	75,466	56,579	\$0	239,277
Total Planned	\$227,734	\$308,432	\$377,330	\$282,892	\$0	\$1,196,388

# Topics

---

- Background
- Technical Approach
- Project Objectives
- Project Structure
- Project Schedule
- Project Budget
- **Project Management Plan and Risk Management**

# Phase I – Project Tasks

- Task 1. Project Management and Planning
- Task 2. Select Project Host Site
  - *Subtask 2.1. Visit Host Sites for Evaluation*
  - *Subtask 2.2. Obtain Host Site Commitment*
- Task 3. Prepare an Environmental Information Volume (EIV)
- Task 4. Updated System Design, Budget and Schedule
  - *Subtask 4.1. Update Process Design*
  - *Subtask 4.2. Update Budget and Schedule*
- Task 5. Obtain Commitments for the Phase II/Phase III Project



# Project Milestones

Milestone Number	Task/ Subtask No.	Milestone Description	Planned Completion Date (*)	Verification Method
Phase I Milestones				
1	2.2	Host site selected and commitment received.	9/31/18	Letter of intent written
2	3	Completion of EIV.	12/31/18	EIV report
3	4.1	Updated system design based on host site completed	12/31/18	Quarterly report
4	4.2	Revised Phase II/III budget and schedule completed.	3/31/19	Final report
5	5	Team commitments with cost share contributions signed.	3/31/19	Agreement signed

# Phase I – Success Criteria

- Signed host-site agreement for Phase II/III activities.
- Completion of Environmental Information Volume and NEPA review.
- Completion of updated budgetary estimate ( $\pm 30\%$ ) and schedule for Phases II/III.
- Letters of commitment from project team with necessary capabilities to execute Phases II and III.
- Signed cost-sharing agreement for Phase II/III effort.

# Risk Management

Description of Risks	Probability (Low, moderate, high)	Impact (Low, moderate, high)	Risk Management Mitigation and Response Strategies
<b>Management/Resource Risks</b>			
Difficulty finding a host site	Low	High	We have 3 candidate host sites that meet all of MTR's criteria. A key Phase I task will be to evaluate the pros and cons of these sites, select the preferred location, and finalize commitments to proceed with the large pilot project.
Timing uncertainty related to NEPA documentation and any other required environmental permits	Low	High	NRG completed environmental reviews at the possible host sites. WP has experienced environmental impact assessment personnel who will conduct an EIV study in Phase I.
Long-lead time procurement creates project delays	Low	Moderate	Long lead time items and equipment will be identified in Phase I Task 4. These items can be prioritized for procurement after the Phase II FEED is completed.
MTR's financial, manufacturing and engineering capability to bring this technology to the large pilot scale	Low	High	MTR is a commercial producer of gas separations systems for the petrochemical, refinery and natural gas processing industries. The largest commercial systems we have installed are ~\$20 million projects to treat >100 MMscfd of gas. These systems are bigger than the large pilot to be built in this project. MTR has the engineering, membrane manufacturing, and management capability to execute the proposed project. We are collaborating with a large end user (NRG), engineering companies (WP and Trimeric), as well as an energy industry non-profit (EPRI) to help insure the success of this project. We have cost share commitments for Phase I secured and are actively working on Phase II/III funding.

# Risk Management, Cont.

Description of Risks	Probability (Low, moderate, high)	Impact (Low, moderate, high)	Risk Management Mitigation and Response Strategies
<b>Technical Risks</b>			
Membrane stability is less than expected	Low	Moderate	Prior projects at NCCC have demonstrated a Polaris membrane lifetime of greater than one year treating coal flue gas, so we are confident the large pilot will perform well. However, each system is different, so careful performance monitoring will be conducted during operation in Phase III.
Uncertainty in vacuum pumps and compression equipment	Low	Moderate	In previous test systems, robust but inefficient vacuum pumps and compressors were used to ensure the system would operate consistently. This experience gives us a low risk option for the large pilot. However, we also plan to work with Trimeric and major OEM suppliers in Phase I on selection of more efficient equipment that will be more appropriate for larger scales.
<b>Market Risks</b>			
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions are not regulated.	High	Low	Regulations on CO <sub>2</sub> emissions are in flux in the U.S. and worldwide. Changes in the regulations during the term of the project are likely, but their effect on the project's execution is expected to be low. Ultimately, efficient, low-carbon technologies will find use in power and industrial settings.

# Questions?

---