DOE-NETL's Mercury R&D Program



Mercury Control Technology R&D Program Review Meeting

> August 12-13, 2003 Pittsburgh, PA

Carl O. Bauer National Energy Technology Laboratory





Mercury Control Technology Meeting Attendees

• Electric Utilities

- Allegheny Energy
- Alliant Energy
- American Electric Power
- Basin Electric
- Cinergy
- Detroit Edison
- Dominion
- Duke Energy
- Edisons Electric Institute
- EPRI
- FirstEnergy
- Great River Energy
- Reliant Energy
- Southern Company
- Tennessee Valley Authority
- We Energy

- Coal/Related Industries
 - Air Products
 - American Coal Ash Association
 - CONSOL Energy
 - Drummond
 - Lignite Research Council
 - KFX Inc.
 - Norit Americas
 - Peabody Energy
 - US Gypsum
- Federal/State Environmental Agencies
 - U.S. EPA
 - PA Dept of Environmental Protection
 - Allegheny County Health Department



National Energy Technology Laboratory



- One of DOE's 17 national labs
- Government owned / operated
- Sites in:
 - -Pennsylvania
 - -West Virginia
 - -Oklahoma
 - -Alaska
- More than 1,100 federal and support contractor employees



NETL Plays Key Role in Fossil Energy Supply, Delivery, and Use Technologies

Electric Power Using Coal

Clean Liquid Fuels

Natural Gas



Environmental



Exploration & Production

Exploration & Production



Pipelines & Storage



V21 Next Generation

Control



Alternative Fuels

Refining &

Delivery

Carbon Sequestration



Future Fuels

Fuel Cells



Combustion Turbines

Photo of hydrogen fueled car: Warren Gretz, NREL



What We Do

- Shape, fund, and manage extramural R&D
- Conduct onsite research
- Support energy policy development





Global Mercury Emissions



It is estimated that U.S. coal-fired power plants emit approximately 1% of annual global mercury emissions

Source: UNEP Global Mercury Assessment, December 2002



Estimated U.S. Anthropogenic Mercury Emissions



Source: Personal communication with U.S. EPA 7/16/03 1999 NEI Version 3.0



"Plausible Link"

• "...<u>evidence for a plausible link</u> between emissions of mercury from utilities and the methylmercury found in soil, water, air, and fish."



 "Consequently, mercury emissions from coal-fired utilities may contribute to the potential exposures to mercury through consumption of contaminated fish."



Source: EPA Fact Sheet for Utility Air Toxics Report to Congress, 2/24/98



Will Reductions in Power Plant Mercury Emissions Solve The Problem?

• ... "There remain uncertainties, however, about the extent of impacts directly attributable to mercury emissions from utilities."

Source: EPA Fact Sheet for Utility Air Toxics Report to Congress, 2/24/1998

- ... "40% of mercury deposition in the continental United States is attributable to foreign sources."
- …"even if all feasible controls for Hg are implemented in the U.S., external sources will prevent attainment of water quality standards."

Source: Terry Keating, U.S. EPA, Clean Air Report, 6/19/2003



Potential Mercury Regulations

EPA MACT Standards

- Likely high levels of Hg reduction
- Compliance: Dec. 2007

Alternative Multi-Pollutant Legislation in 2003

- Clean Power Act of 2003
 S. 366 Jeffords
- Clean Air Planning Act of 2003
 S. 843 Carper

President Bush Announcing Clear Skies Initiative February 14, 2002

Clear Skies Act of 2003

- Re-introduced in House (HR. 999) and Senate (S. 485) on February 27, 2003
- 3-contaminant control
- 46% Hg reduction by 2010
- 69% Hg reduction by 2018
- Hg emission trading

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration





DOE-NETL Mercury R&D Program

- Driven by pending mercury regulations and policy decisions
- Develop advanced costeffective control technologies
- Provide sound science and technical knowledge



Skating to where the puck is going...



Mercury Technology R&D Pathway





Capturing Mercury Is Difficult!



Houston Astrodome

Astrodome filled with 30 billion ping-pong balls

- 30 "mercury" balls
- Find and remove 27 "mercury" balls for 90% capture



Program Success Built on Partnerships



 NETL works closely with industry, EPRI, EPA, and other stakeholders in planning and implementing its mercury control technology research program

Jim Kilgroe (EPA), Scott Renninger (NETL), and George Offen (EPRI) discussing strategy

