

# US DOE's Carbon Sequestration Program



*New Initiatives for U.S.  
Climate Change*

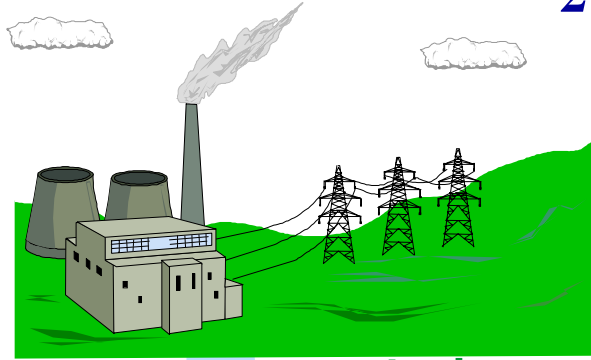
*Geological Sequestration*

*North American Coalbed  
Methane Forum*

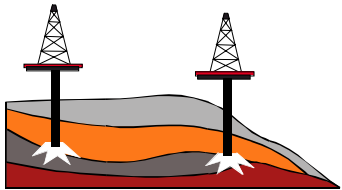
Charles W. Byrer  
National Energy Technology Laboratory



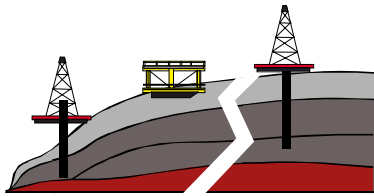
# Sequestration Sinks for CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions



## Geological Sinks



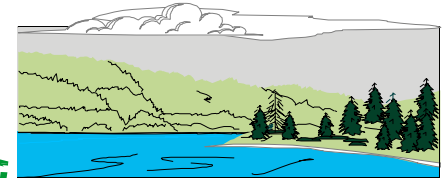
Unminable Coal Seams



Depleted Oil / Gas Wells;  
Saline Reservoirs

CO<sub>2</sub>  
Emissions  
Separation  
and Capture

Enhanced  
Natural  
Sinks



Forestation



Enhanced Photosynthesis;  
Biomimetics



Ocean Storage

? Novel  
Concept ?



# CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration in Geologic Formations

- Related industrial experience
- Potential capacity ?
- Beneficial use of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Natural analogues for sequestration
- Safety and cost analysis
- Performance assessment and prediction
- Monitoring



# Range of Estimates for CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration in U.S. Geologic Formations

Geologic Formation	Capacity Estimate (GtC)	Source
Deep saline reservoirs	1-130	Bergman and Winter 1995
Natural gas reservoirs in the United States	25 <sup>a</sup> 10 <sup>b</sup>	R.C. Burruss 1977
Active gas fields in the United States	0.3 / year <sup>c</sup>	Baes et al. 1980
Enhanced coal-bed methane production in the United States	10	Stevens, Kuuskraa, and Spector 1998

a. Assuming all gas capacity in the United States is used for sequestration

b. Assuming cumulative production of natural gas is replaced by CO<sub>2</sub>

c. Assuming that produced natural gas is replaced by CO<sub>2</sub> at the original reservoir pressure



# Sequestration in Geologic Formations Builds on a Strong Industry Experience Base

- Active and depleted oil and gas reservoirs
- Deep brine formations (saline reservoirs)
- Deep coal seams and coalbed methane formations
- Devonian shale and other formations



# What the Gas Industry Knows Now

- **Dynamic flow properties of oil, gas, and coal formations**
- **Storage capacity of oil and gas formations**
- **Monitoring technologies for pressure, volume, water saturation**
- **Fairly complete geologic characterization of formations**



# Drivers for Geologic Sequestration R&D

- **Monitoring** - developing reliable and cost-effective systems for monitoring / tracking CO<sub>2</sub> in subsurface
- **Stability** - assessing and ensuring long-term stability of sequestered CO<sub>2</sub> (>100 years)
- **Cost-** reducing the cost and energy requirements of CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration in geologic formations
- **Public perception** - gaining public acceptance for geologic sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub>



# Ongoing Natural Gas Storage and Natural CO<sub>2</sub> Analogs in Geologic Formations

- Provides experience and demonstrates the feasibility of the geologic trapping mechanisms for use in sequestering CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Reservoir *Examples:*
  - *Mt. Simon Sandstone reservoir*
  - *Natural CO<sub>2</sub> reservoirs in the western and gulf coast regions of U.S.*





# CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration in Geological Formations Can Have Auxiliary Benefits

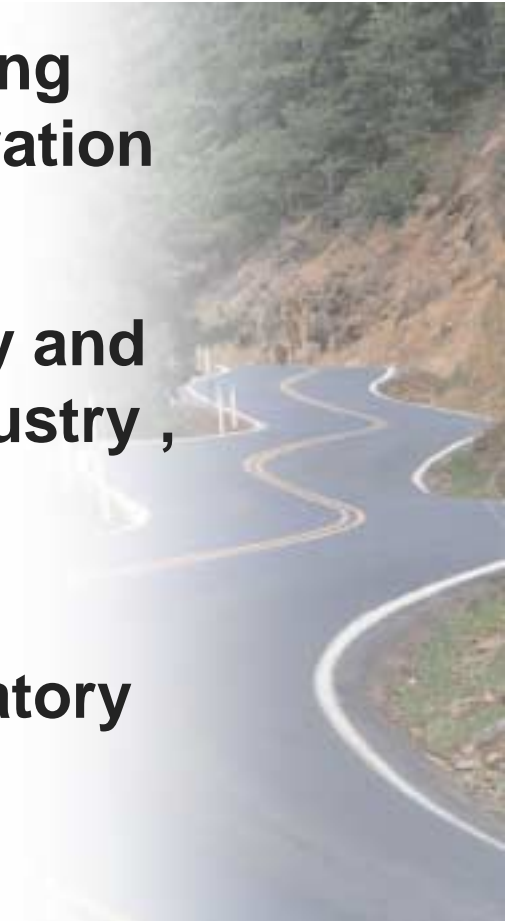
- **Injection of CO<sub>2</sub> into oil reservoirs can recover residual oil by two primary mechanisms:**
  - CO<sub>2</sub> displaces oil and brine
  - CO<sub>2</sub> dissolves in oil and reduces viscosity and swelling of oil
- **Injection of CO<sub>2</sub> into coalbeds could enhance coalbed methane (CBM) production:**
  - Pilot program of CO<sub>2</sub>-assisted CBM in San Juan Basin has been underway since 1996:
    - Injects 4 million cubic feet / day of CO<sub>2</sub> in nine injection wells
    - Preliminary results: CBM recovery could be boosted to 75-90%
    - Over 2.5 Bcf of CO<sub>2</sub> injected - CO<sub>2</sub> breakthrough very slight



# Geologic Sequestration

## *Coordination of Efforts with a Strategy*

- DOE facilitated a 9-month roadmapping exercise focused on Carbon Sequestration R&D
- Collaborating on-going R & D strategy and priority efforts with stakeholders (industry, government agencies, academia, and environmental organizations (NGOs))
- DOE-NETL is the lead National Laboratory for geologic CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration



# Geological Sequestration

## *FY 2002 Participants and Activities*

- Oklahoma State - Penn State
  - Adsorption assessments of CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub> on targeted coal samples
- Univ. Texas -Bureau of Economic Geology
  - Coal characterization of coal samples
- Battelle Columbus
  - Assessment of characteristics of saline reservoirs in U.S.
- Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
  - Lawrence Livermore N.L.
  - Oak Ridge N.L.
  - ARC, academia partners
  - Industry partners
- ORNL -
  - Measuring kinetics, equilibrium densities, and sorption relations for CO<sub>2</sub> -CH modeling validation



# **Geological Sequestration:**

## *FY 2002 Participants and Activities (Cont'd)*

- **Texas Tech** – **CO<sub>2</sub> injectivity and capacity studies / modeling**
- **Ala. Geological Survey** – **Geologic screening for coalbeds in Alabama**
- **ARI** – **Natural CO<sub>2</sub> Analogs for Geologic CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration**
- **Sandia National Lab** – **Field demo for EOR-CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring/storage; Los Alamos and Industry partner**
- **ARI / BP** – **Field Demonstration: Enhanced coalbed methane recovery - CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration**
- **CONSOL** – **CO<sub>2</sub>-CBM field demo associated with mining operations**
- **Battelle - AEP** – **Pilot field demonstration in Mt. Simon saline reservoir**
- **UT - BEG** – **Pilot field demonstration of CO<sub>2</sub> into Frio Formation**



# CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration in R&D Priorities

2000-2005

Understand Adsorption/  
Desorption Processes

Assess Porosity/  
Permeability & Expansion/  
Contraction Effects

Increased Gas Production  
Pilot Test

Develop Reservoir  
Screening Criteria

Develop Injection  
Engineering & Design  
Techniques

Understand Seismic Wave  
Propagation Responses

2005-2010

Develop Modeling Tools

Assess Flue Gas-Coal  
Interactions

Flue Gas Injection  
Pilot Tests

Test Drilling Technologies  
versus  
Injection/Production Dynamics

Develop Methods for  
Monitoring CO<sub>2</sub> Migration

Understand  
Microorganism-CO<sub>2</sub>-Matrix  
Interactions

2010-2015

Obtain Full-Scale Demo  
Cost & Performance Data

Develop Low-Permeability  
& Deep Formation  
Injection Technologies

Evaluate Water-Saturated  
versus  
Dewatered CO<sub>2</sub> Injections

Test/Monitor Long-Term  
CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration on  
Various Coal Seams



# Summary

- **Storage / disposal of fluids in deep formations is a widely accepted industry practice**
- **There is enormous potential capacity on a regional basis for CO<sub>2</sub> storage in coal deposits**
- **The key issues are local capacity, long-term fate, engineering, cost, safety, public acceptance, and industry's level of interest in concept**
- **These issues are presently being explored using computer simulations and laboratory experiments - then validate with pilot-scale demonstrations**

