



# Unconventional Natural Gas: Industry or Bridge

## *Unconventional Gas Technology Issues*

**> EIA Energy Outlook and Modeling  
Conference**

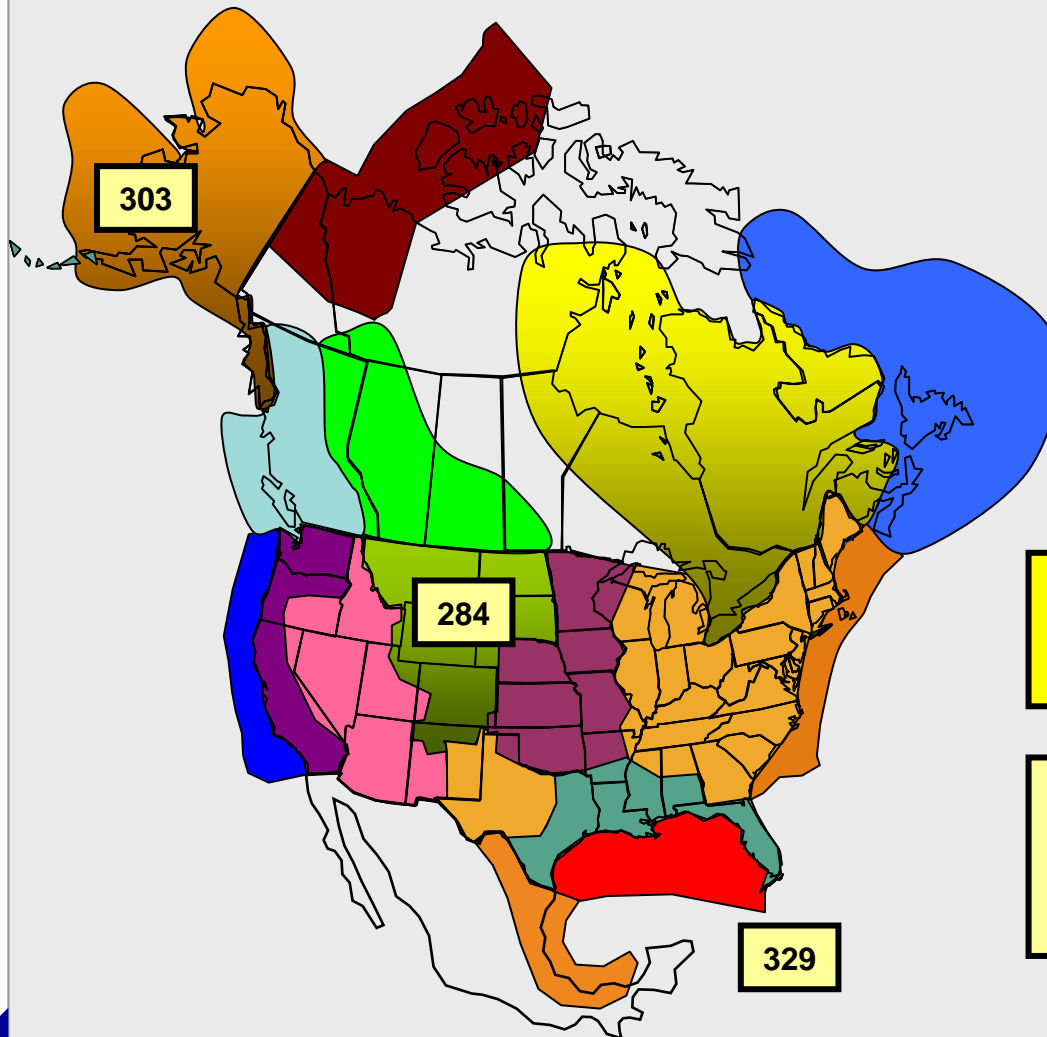
**March 27, 2006  
Washington, DC**

**Kent Perry  
Gas Technology Institute**

# Unconventional Gas Issues and Trends

- > **Large Resource**
- > **Resource is of Extreme Complexity**
- > **Technical Approach - Precision is Replacing Horsepower**
- > **Lower Reserves Per Well Over Time**
- > **Many Wells Required**
- > **Significant Drilling Cost Reductions**
- > **New Strategies Need/Being Developed**
- > **Environmental Issues Ongoing**

# Large Gas Resource



## But:

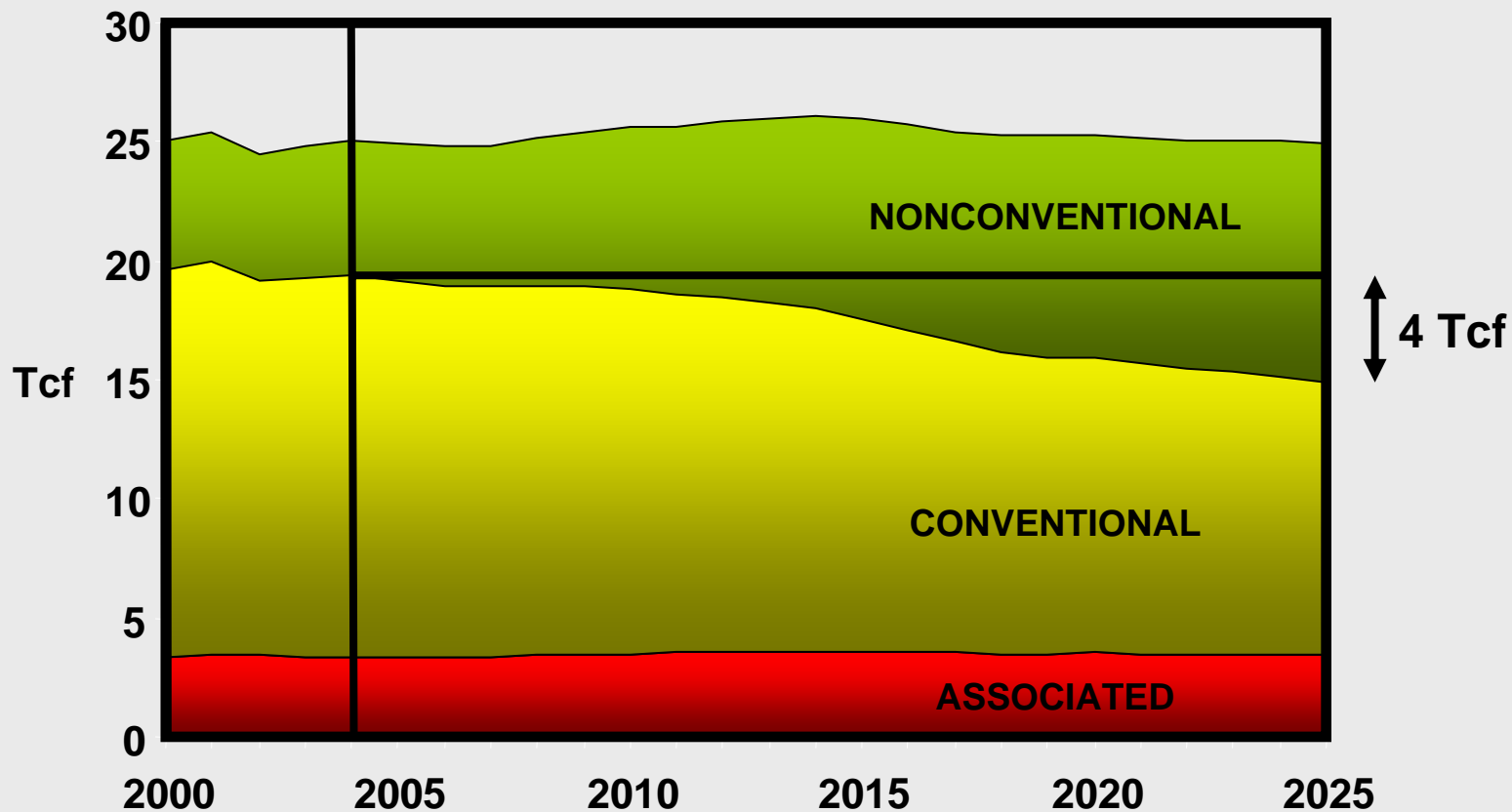
- Deeper on Land
- Tighter Rocks
- Unconventional
- Deeper in Water
- Less Accessible
- Heavily Explored

Therefore Technically Challenging

Technically Recoverable Resource Base  
1,969 Tcf

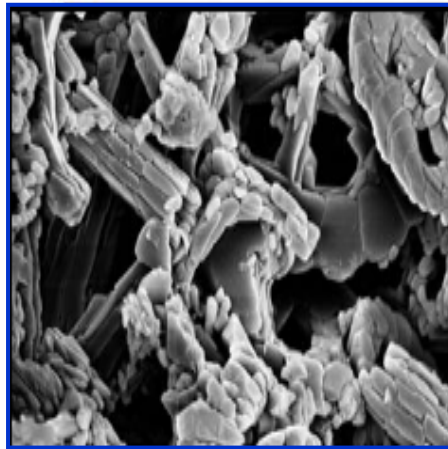
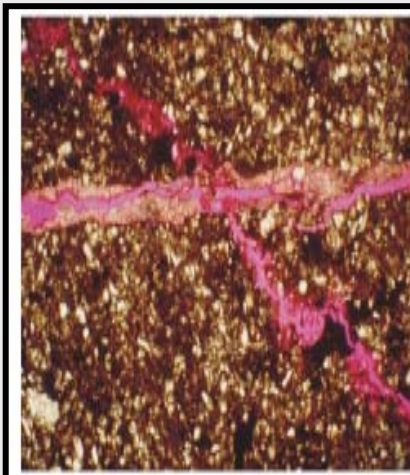
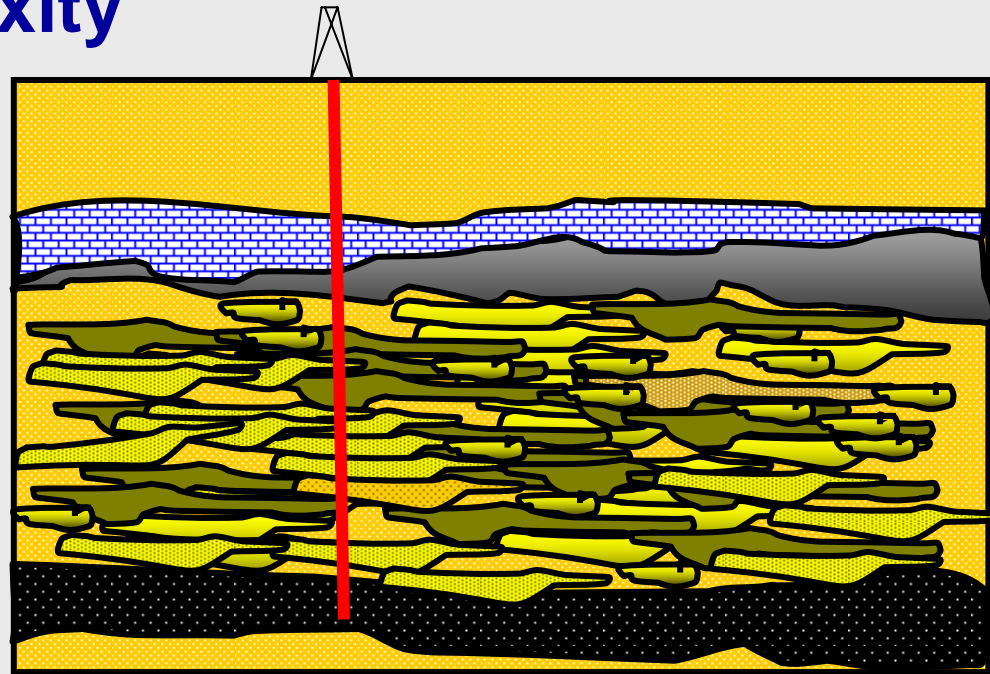
# Nonconventional Gas Growth

## Non-Arctic U.S. and Canadian Production Outlook



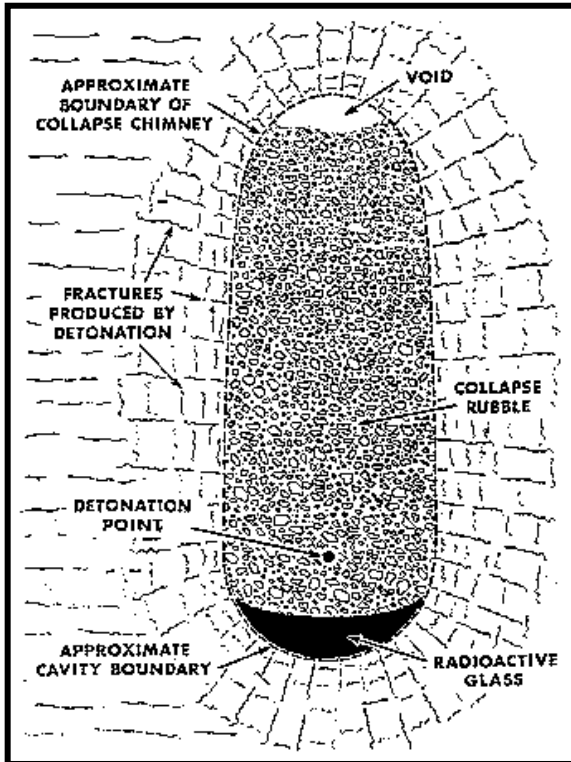
# Extreme Complexity

Small Compartments  
Low k  
Natural Fractures  
Lenticular  
Produced Water  
Gas Content  
Stimulation Challenges  
Depth  
Over/Under Pressured



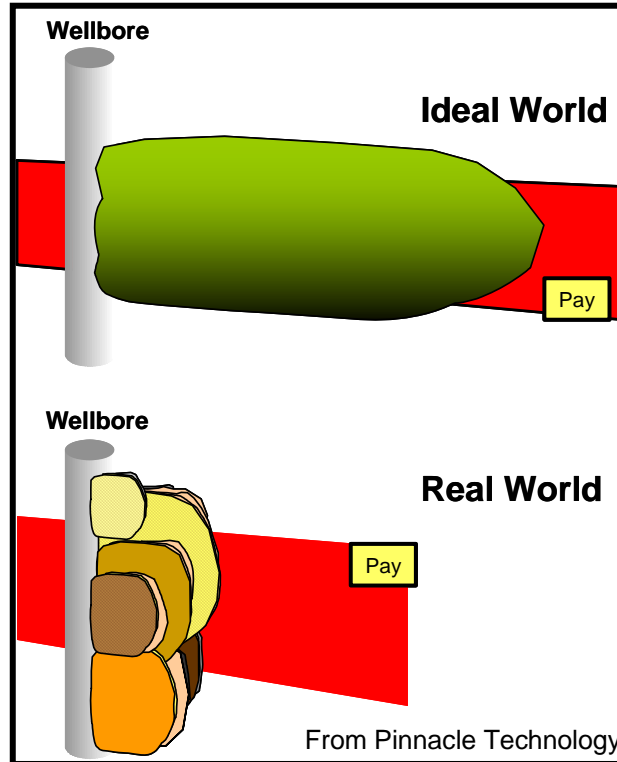
# Precision Replaces Horsepower

1960's



**Nuclear Stimulation**

1980's



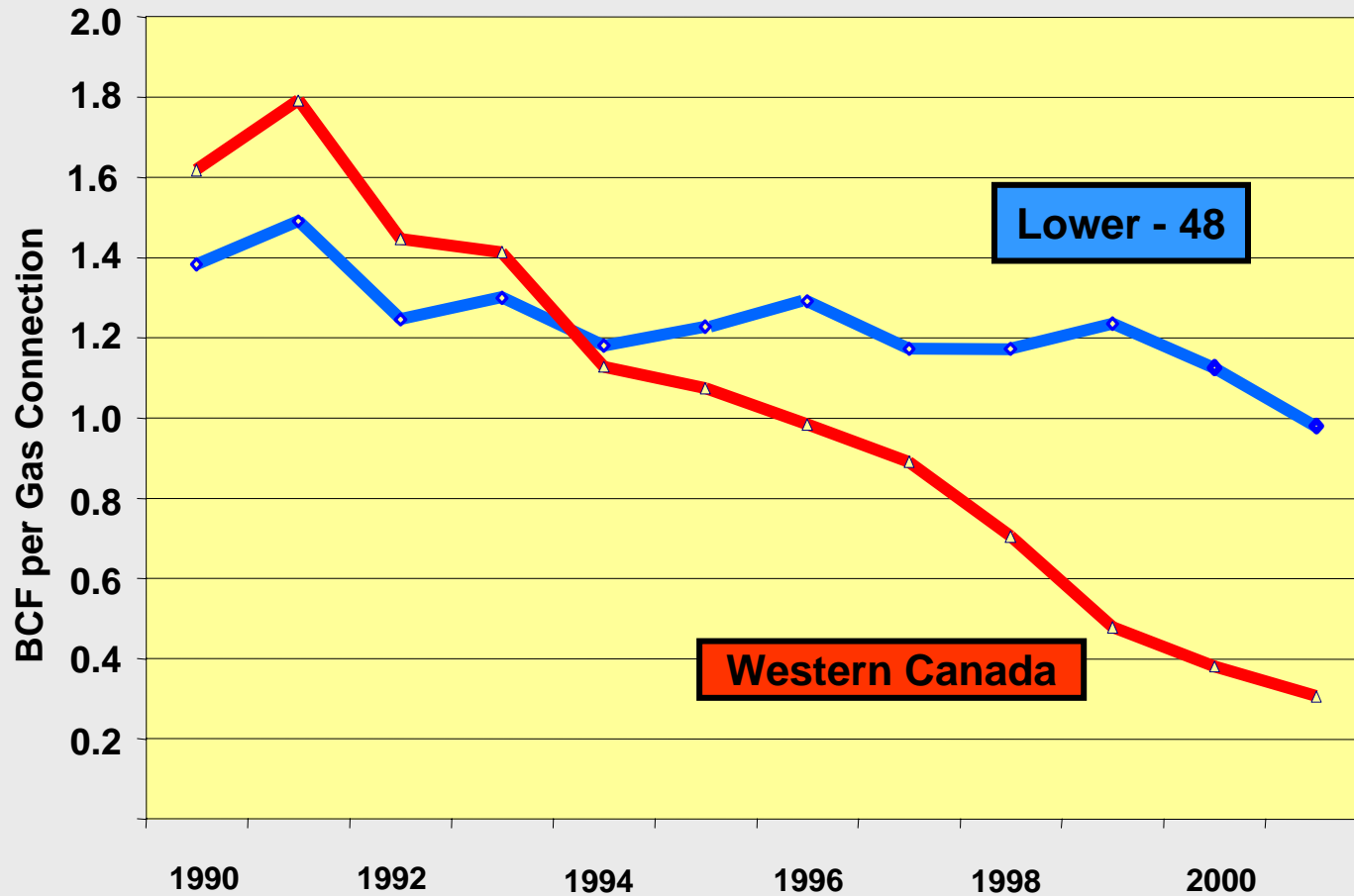
**Massive Hydraulic Fractures**

2000's

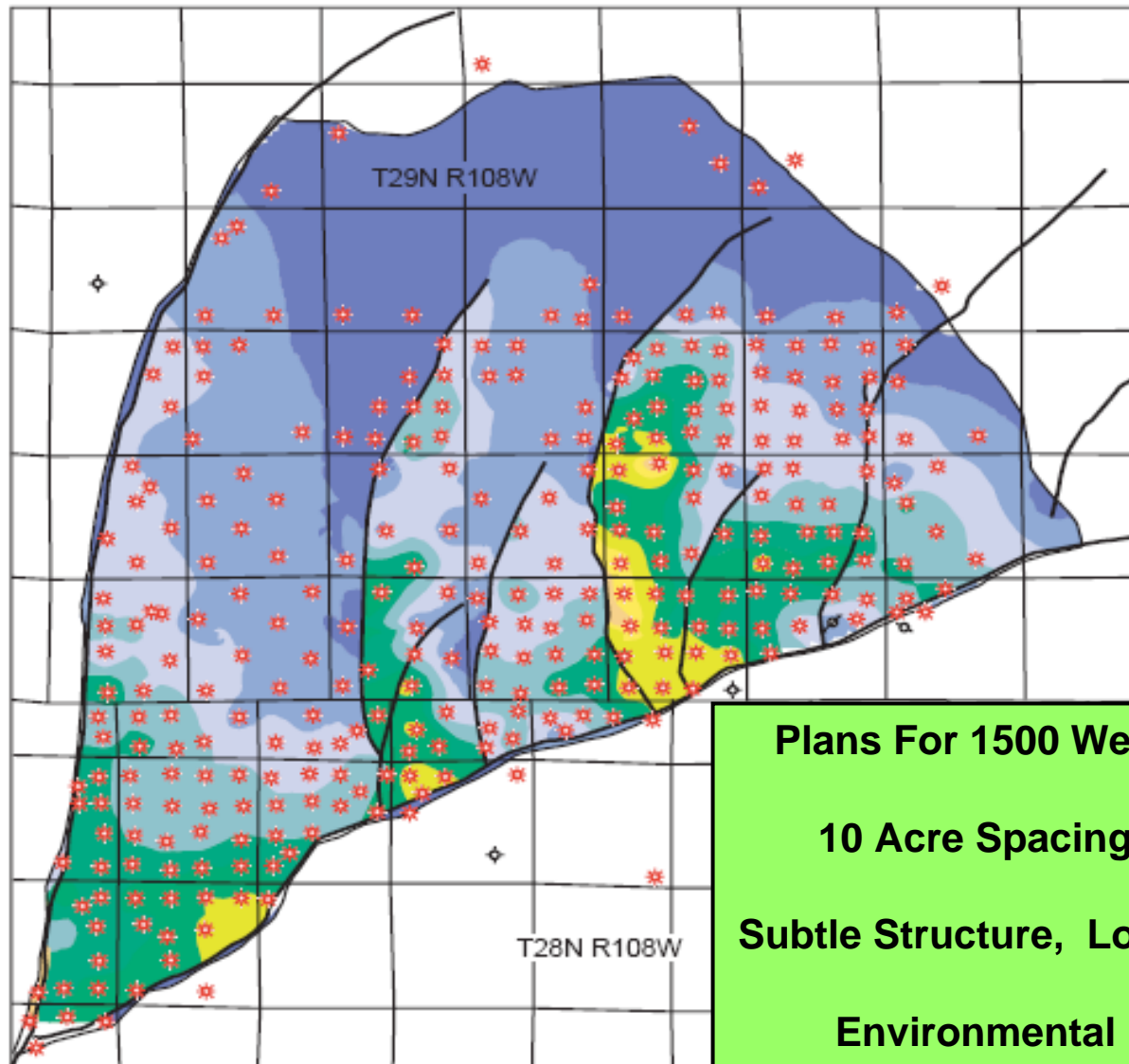


**Microhole Wellbore Placement**

# Lower Gas Reserves Per Well



# Jonah Field



**Plans For 1500 Wells**

**10 Acre Spacing**

**Subtle Structure, Low k,**

**Environmental  
Sensitivity**

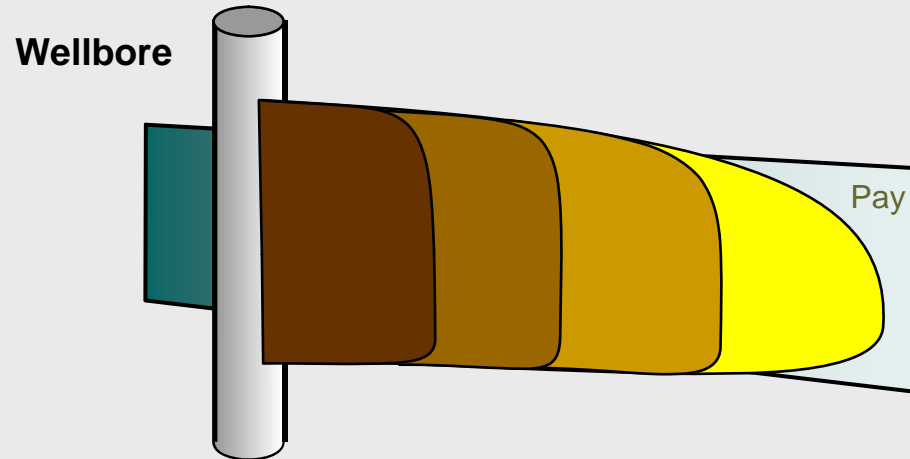


# Hydraulic Fracturing and Fracture Diagnostics

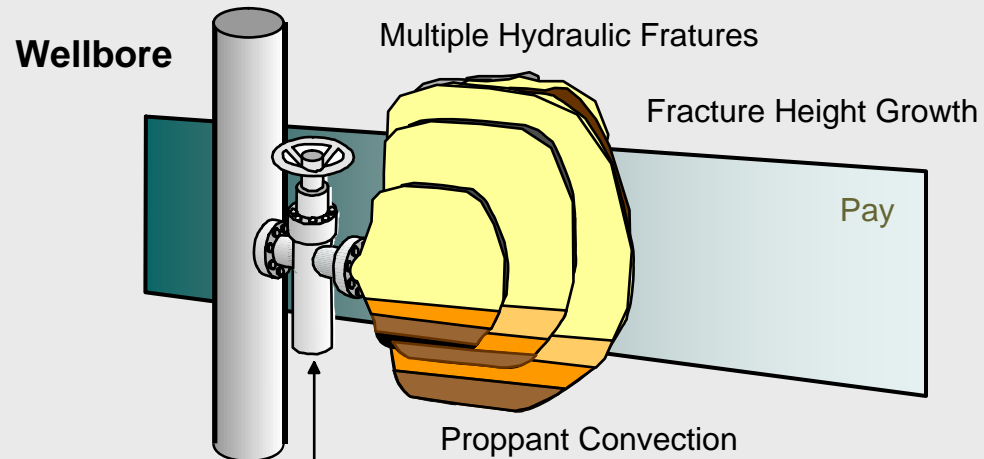


# Hydraulic Fracturing – More Complicated Than Once Thought

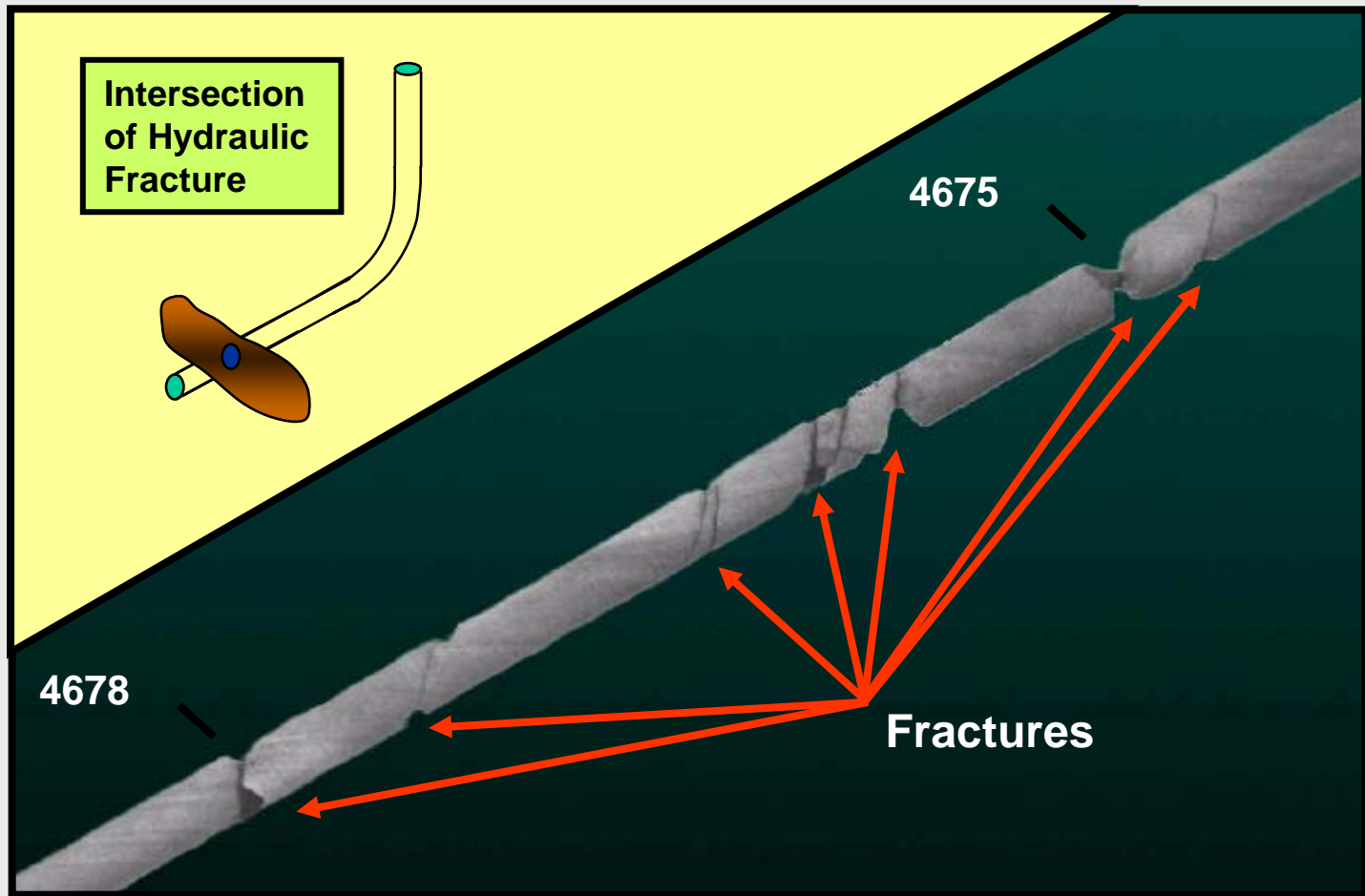
Ideal World



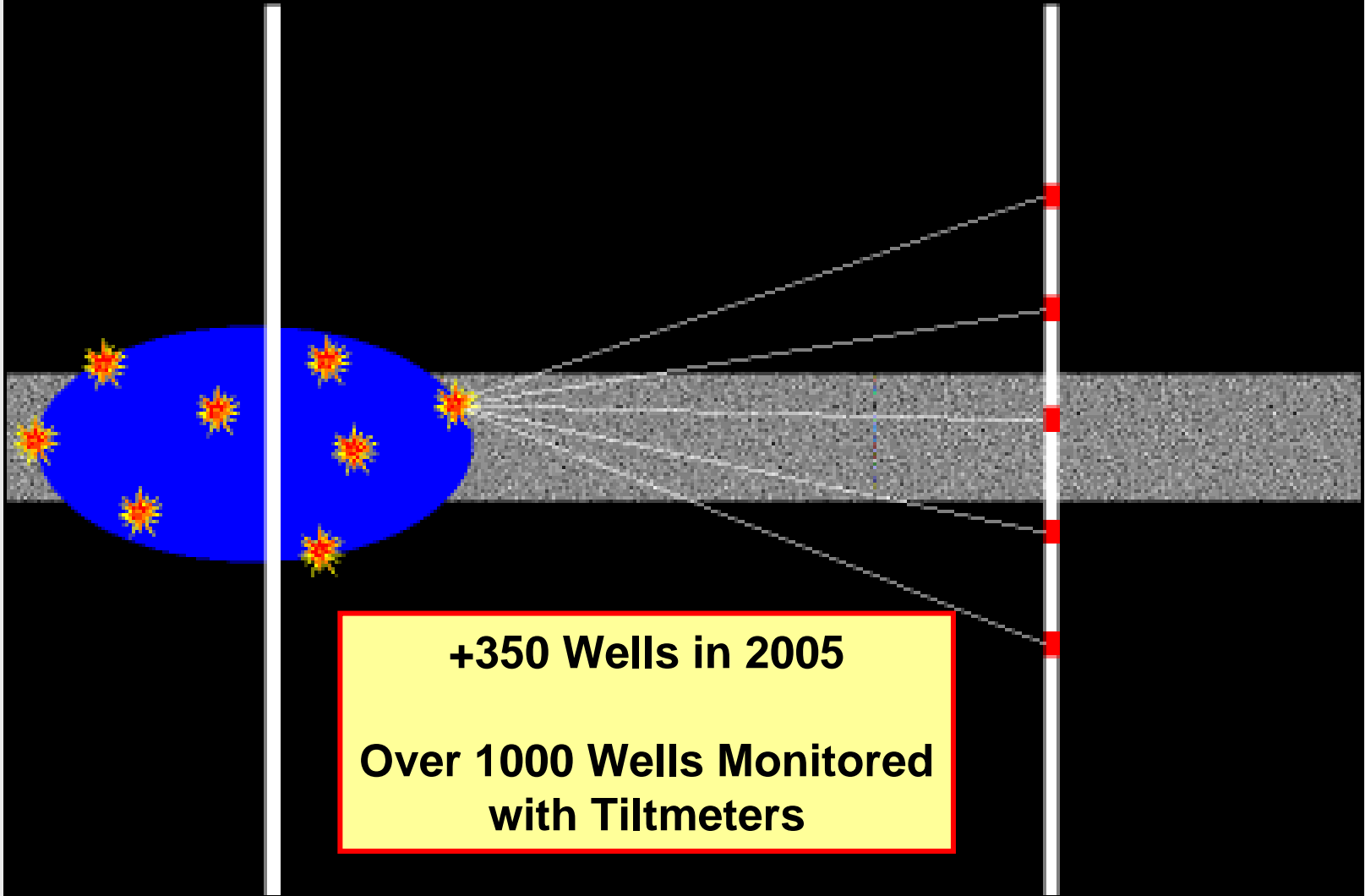
Real World



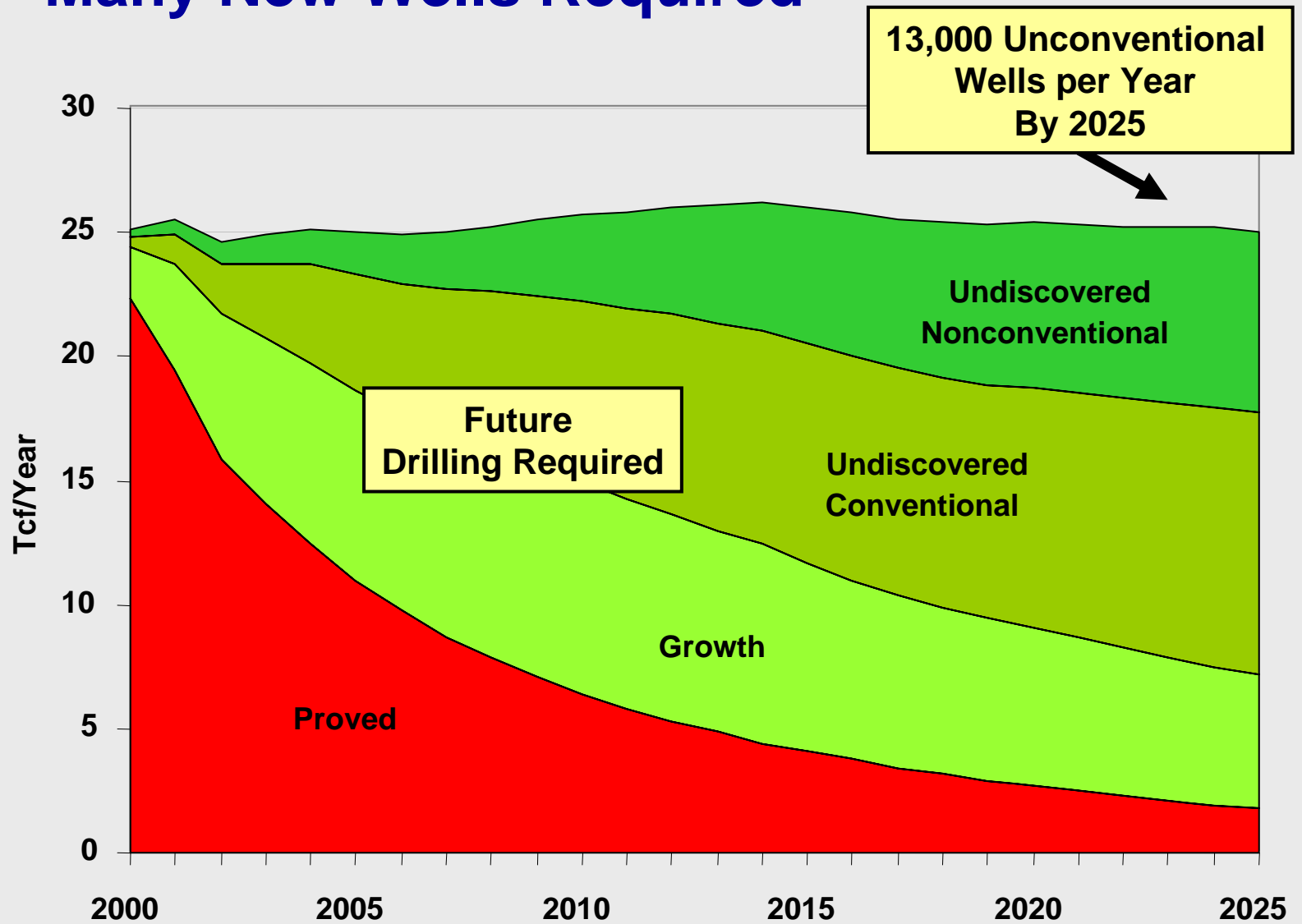
# Piceance Basin Fracture Diagnostics Experiment



# FRACTURE DIAGNOSTICS



# Many New Wells Required



# Fit For Purpose Drilling Rigs



## Rig Features

Handles 1" thru 2 5/8" Coiled Tubing

5000' Depth Capability

Zero Discharge Mud System

Handles 7 5/8" R3 Casing

# Benefits of Rig Utilization

- > Efficient Rig Mobilization
- > Small Environmental Footprint
- > Rapid Drilling
- > Good Hole Quality and Cement
- > Rig Capable of Drilling, Running Casing, Tool Handling, Logging
- > Benefits of Continuous Tubing
- > Low Noise, Emissions
- > Mud Reuse and Minimum Cuttings and Zero Discharge if Required
- > Improved Safety

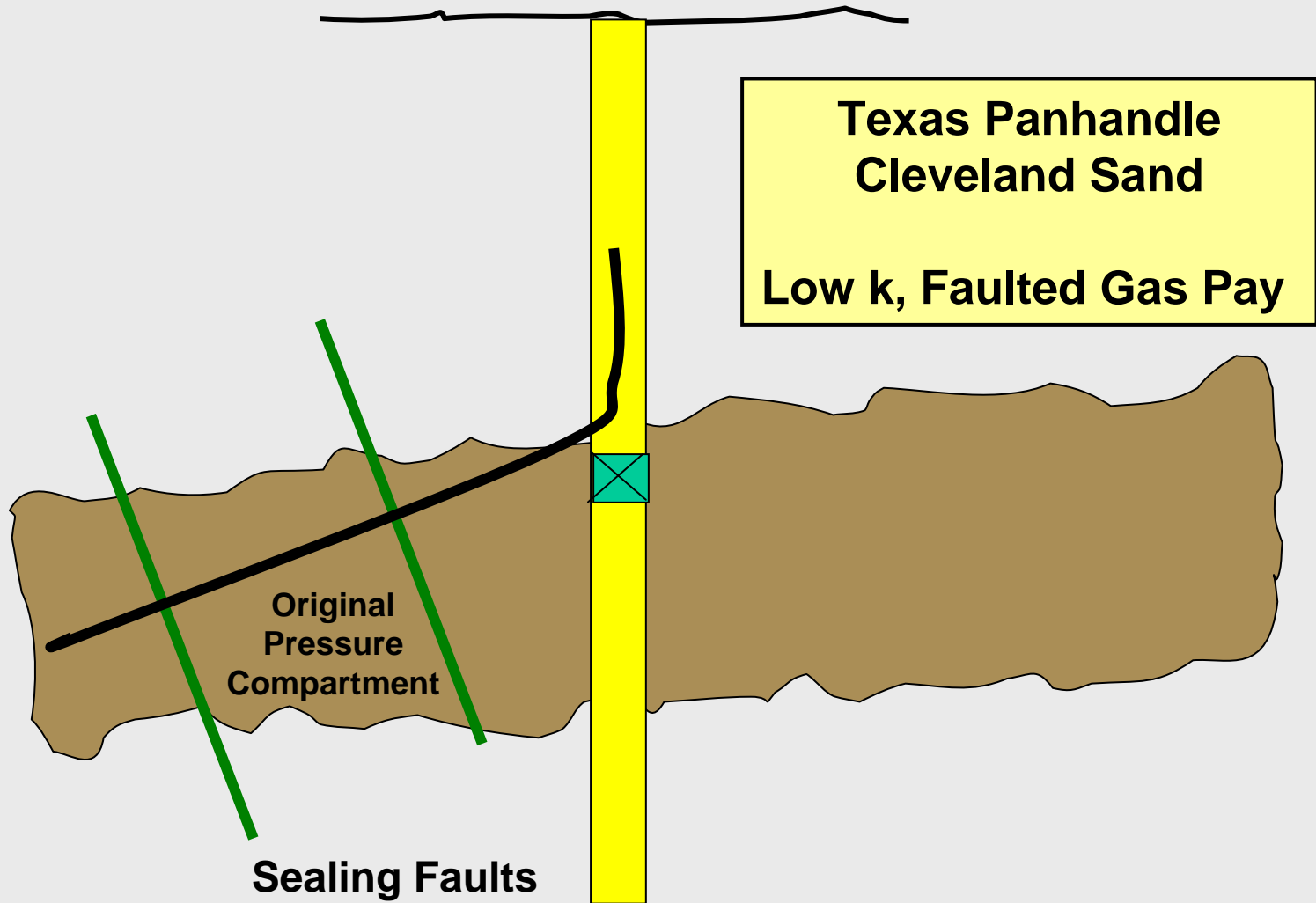
**Saves Money,  
Environment and  
Enables Marginal  
Resources**

# Activity Trend

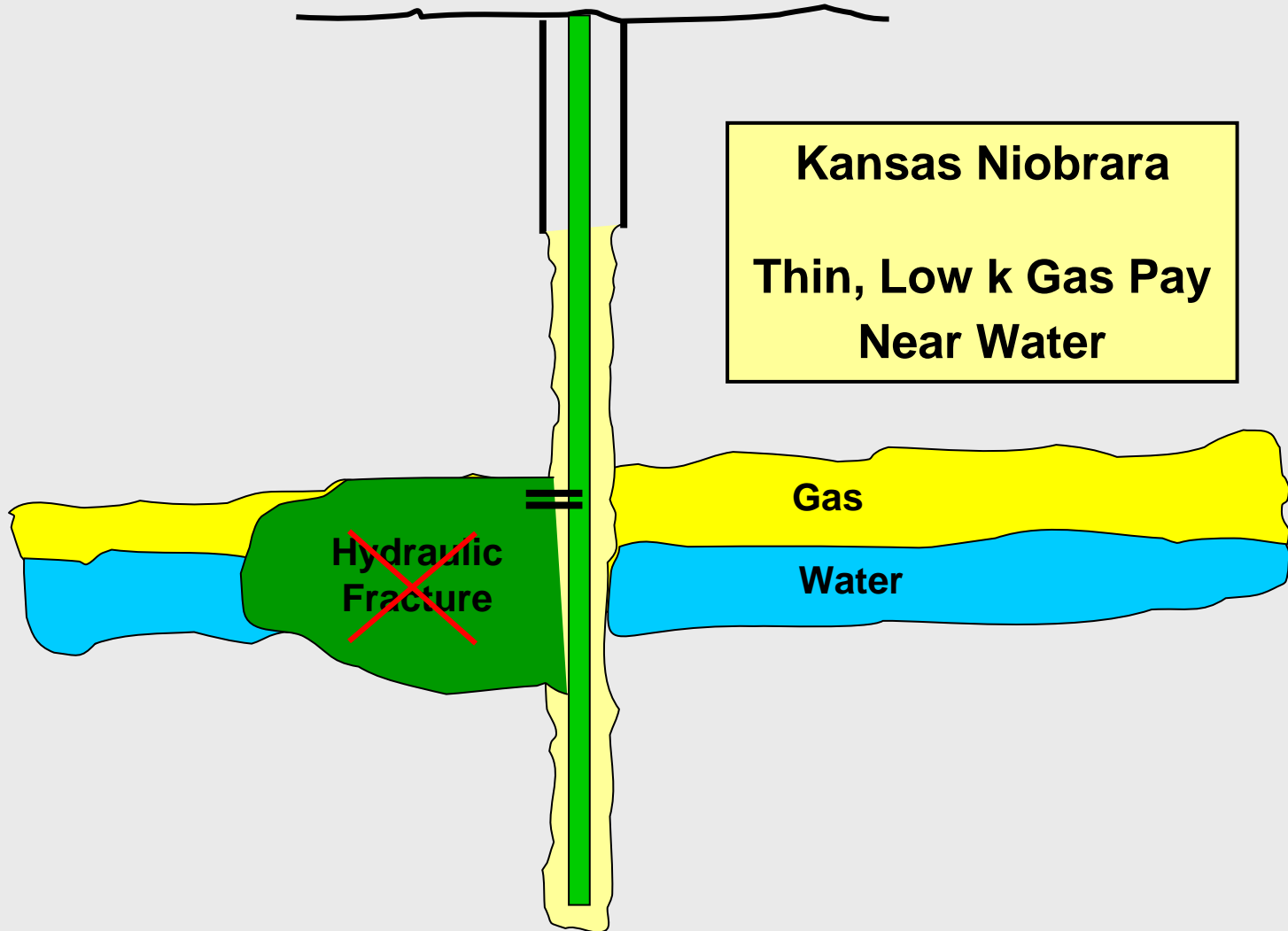




# New Strategies - New High Angle/Horizontal Wellbore From Existing Well



# New Strategies - No-Frac Completion



## The Wind River Mountain Range and some of the Upper Green's pronghorn antelope population



# Environmental Concerns

**Roads, Compressors, Pipelines  
Produced Water Impact  
Land Access**

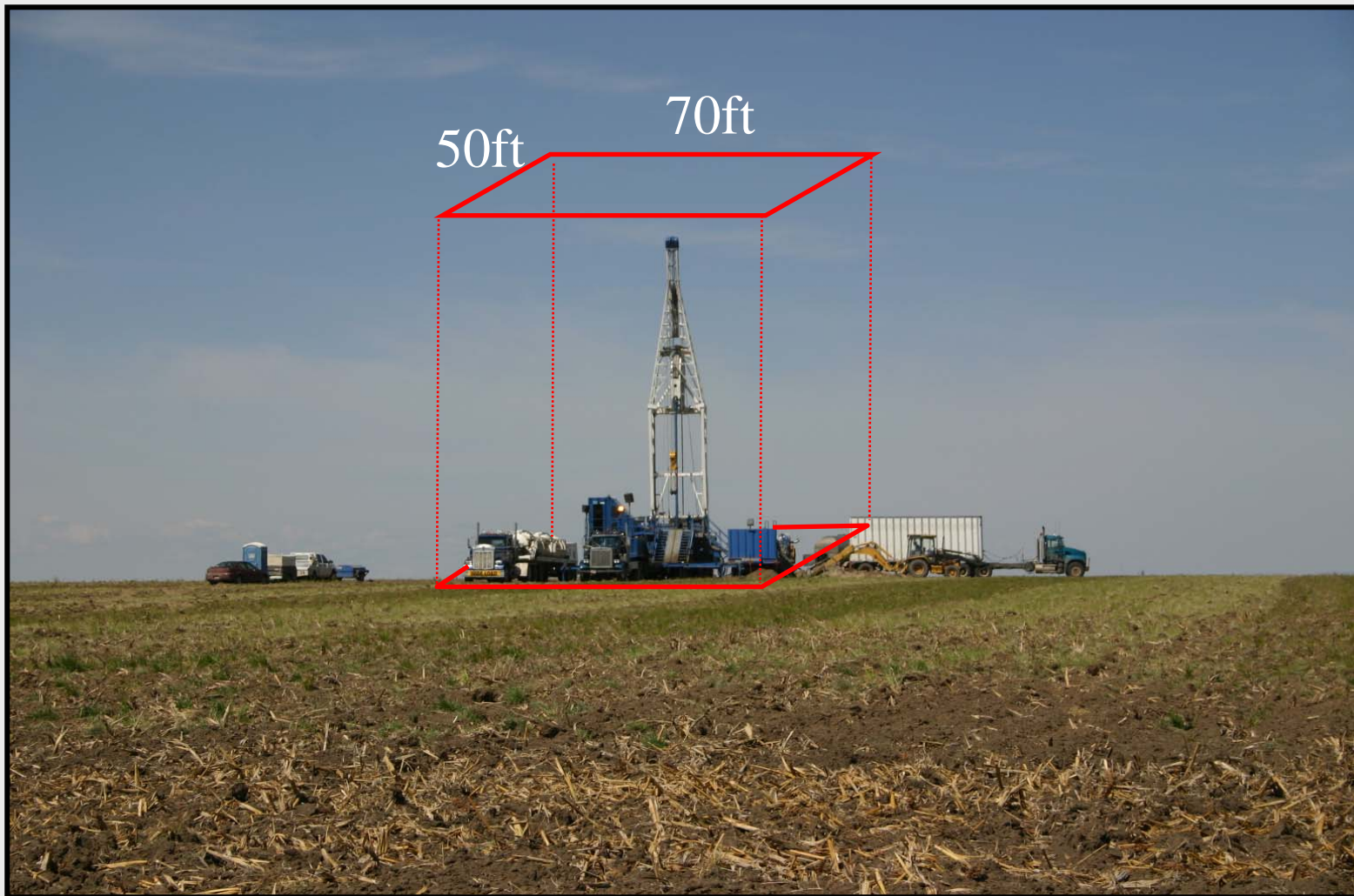
**Endangered Species**

***Research Need:*  
Environmental Research  
Air, Water, Land**





# Reduce Environmental Footprint



# Top Ten Texas Gas Fields



<u>Field</u>	<u>Cum. year 2002 (BCF)</u>
<b>1. Newark East (Barnett Shale)</b>	<b>220</b>
2. Carthage (Cotton Valley)	151
3. Panhandle West (Permian)	99
4. Tom East (13,800')	97
5. Giddings (Austin Chalk)	80
6. Oak Hill (Cotton Valley)	70
7. La Perla (Lobo)	65
8. Dew (Cotton Valley)	53
9. Vaquillas Ranch (Lobo)	51
10. Sawyer (Canyon)	49

# Unconventional Gas - Top Ten Technology Needs

## Shale



## Low-k Sands



## Coal Seams



**San Juan**

**Permian**

**Mid-Continent**

**Appalachian**

**Rocky Mountains**

**Reservoir Characterization,  
Imaging**

**Stimulation**

**Resource Assessment**

**Data Mining**

**Producibility Models**

**Produced Water Handling**

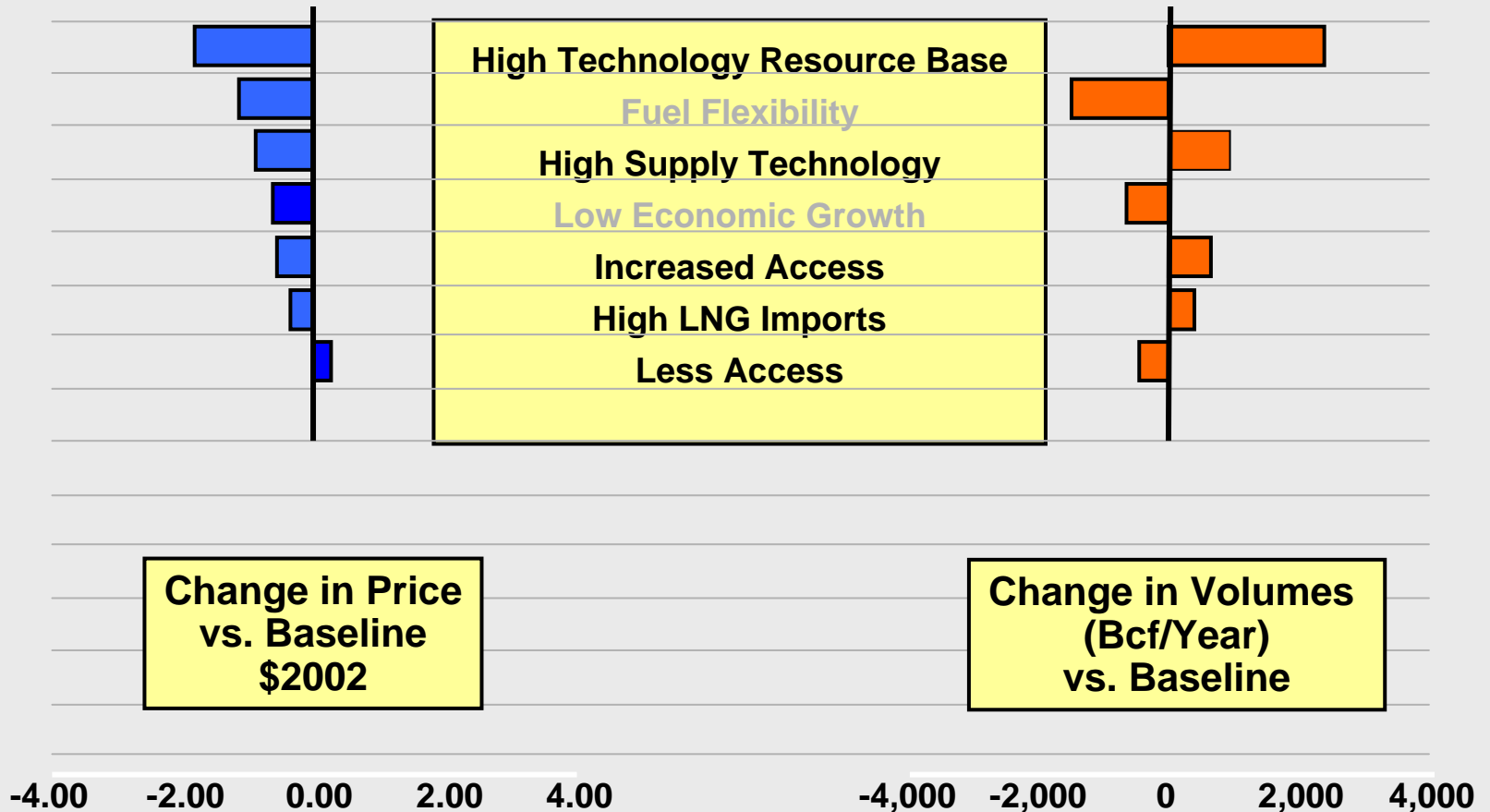
**Extending Well Life**

**Drilling Cost Reduction**

**Horizontal Well Completion**

**Expert Systems**

# Technology Can Have a Significant Impact



Change in Price  
vs. Baseline  
\$2002

Change in Volumes  
(Bcf/Year)  
vs. Baseline



# Unconventional Gas Research

- > **The Energy Policy Act of 2005**
  - **Research, Development and Demonstration Program for Unconventional Gas**
  
- > **As Enacted: \$50 Million/Year for 10 Years**
  - **\$12.5 Million DOE In-House Research**
  - **\$16.2 Million for Unconventional**
  - **\$17.5 Million for Ultra-deep Water**
  - **\$ 3.8 Million for Small Producer Program**
  
- > **Program to Be Industry Advised/Managed Through Research Consortium**

# Summary

- > **Unconventional Gas Growing in Importance**
- > **Large Resource**
  - **Technically Challenging**
- > **New Approaches Require Innovative Thinking**
- > **Integration of Technology Will Continue to be Important**
  - **Engineers, Geologists, Land Use**
- > **Environmental Technology Response to Environmental Challenges Will Continue To Be Important**
- > **Less Gas/Well... *Therefore...* More Wells... *Therefore...* Need for Well Cost and Environmental Footprint Control**