

Permitting the Illinois Basin – Decatur Site



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Engaging State and Federal EPA

- Building knowledge of UIC program and process
 - Early engagement with State and Federal EPA and other government agencies
 - Regional regulatory conference hosted by U.S. EPA Region 5 at Angola, Indiana (March 2007)
 - Regular meetings throughout FutureGen and Phase III planning stages
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Regulatory Context

- Illinois IEPA has primacy:
 - UIC Class I, III, IV, V
 - Illinois Department of Natural Resources – Mines and Minerals Oil and Gas Division
 - UIC Class II
 - Most recent new permit for a Class I non-hazardous well was issued in 1970s
 - Common goal: Projects not slowed down by permitting process
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Permitting Efforts

- NEPA – submitted
 - Groundwater wells – Health Department compliance
 - Environmental Assessment (EA) – completed by DOE contractor
 - UIC permit – permit to drill well and inject CO₂
 - Drilling permit – IDNR for observation well (pending)
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Illinois Basin – Decatur Site

Large-scale demonstration project (Phase III)

- Illinois Basin – Decatur deep saline reservoir sequestration demonstration project
- Inject 1 million metric tonnes over three years (1,000 metric tonnes/day)
- Drill new injection well into granite bedrock beneath Mt. Simon Sandstone (~8,000 feet)



Project Location and Details

- Corn processing plant
- CO₂ source is ethanol production facility
- Two injection zone monitoring wells
- Four regulatory shallow groundwater wells
- Area of review 2.5 miles



Stage One of the Permit Process

Feasibility Report

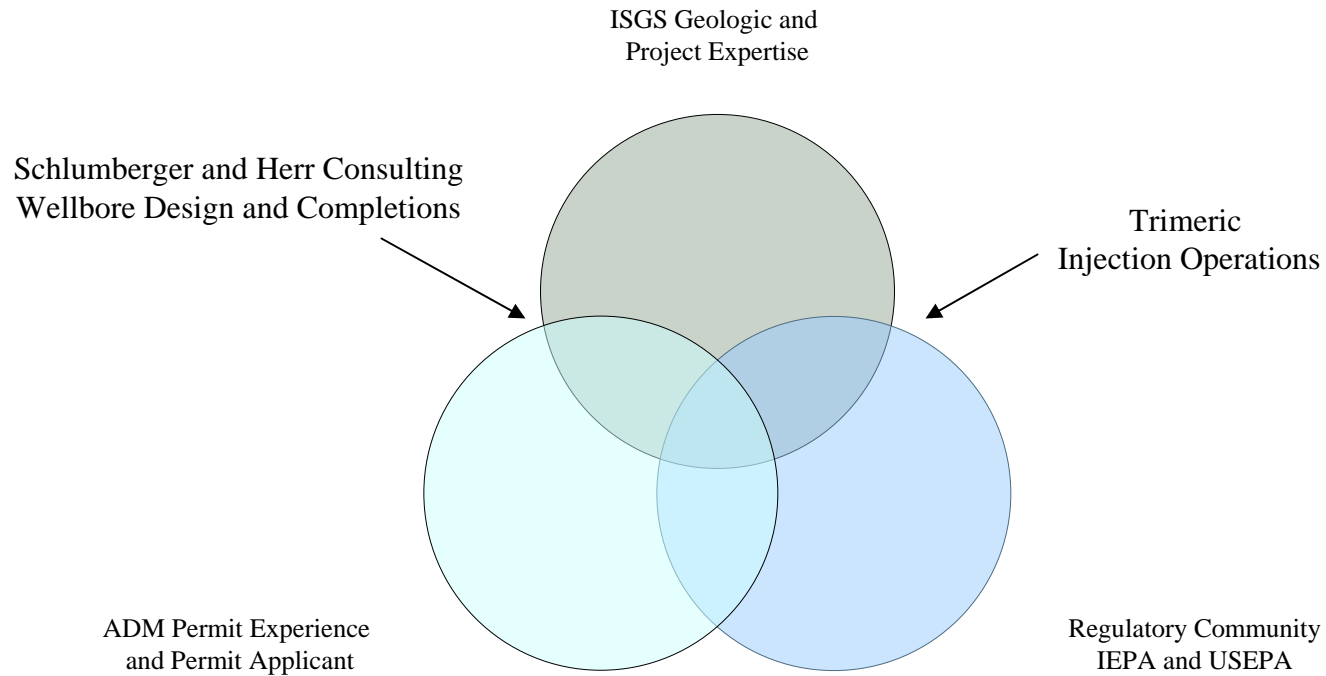
- Preparing the permit application
 - Iterative addressing of technical concerns
 - Resubmitting the permit application
 - Review of draft permit
 - Initiation of draft permit public comment period (30 days)
 - Announcement of public hearing (45 days)
 - Initiation of second public comment period (30 days)
 - Initiation of appeal period (35 days)
 - Issuance of permit
 - Drilling
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Stage Two of the Permit Process

Completion Report

- Compiling data for Completion Report
 - Submission of Completion Report
 - Addressing regulator concerns
 - Issuance of final approval to begin injection
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Permit Application Contributors



Areas of Expertise: The Permit Team

- Project lead (Rob Finley)
 - Communications, planning, finalization (Sallie Greenberg)
 - Plant coordinator and applicant representative (ADM, Dean Frommelt)
 - Environmental manager
 - Experience with plant permits
 - Reservoir engineer, modeling (Scott Frailey)
 - Hydrogeologist (Ed Mehnert)
 - Basin geologist (Hannes Leetaru)
 - Geochemists (William Roy, Ivan Krapac, Sallie Greenberg)
 - Well design (Schlumberger, Herr Consulting, PE requirement)
 - Operations design (Trimeric)
 - GIS expert (Chris Korose)
 - Graphics and layout support (Daniel Byers, ADM)
 - Administrative support (ADM)
 - Regulators (Kevin Lesko, Kelly Huser, Melinda Shaw, Bur Filson)
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Illinois Basin – Decatur Site Timeline

UIC Class I Non-Hazardous

- August 2007 - permit application started
 - January 31, 2008 – permit application submitted
 - February 2008 – first round technical clarifications
 - April 2008 – second round technical clarifications
 - July 15, 2008 – USEPA Class VI proposed rule available
 - July 17, 2008 – draft permit received for review
 - August 1, 2008 – notice of public comment period and notice of public hearing
 - September 11, 2008 – public information meeting and invited briefing
 - September 16, 2008 – public hearing
 - October 2008 – final technical clarifications
 - October 17, 2008 – public comment period closes
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Progress on UIC Permit

- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
 - Class I Non-Hazardous
 - Draft permit out for public comment
 - Feasibility report complete
 - Drilling – pending permit
 - Completion report – pending drilling, logging, and data analysis
 - Permission to drill – pending successful completion report
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Technical Clarifications

- Round 1
 - Details (abbreviations, larger figures)
 - Cementing plan and specifications
 - Modification of verification well to injection well
 - Packer placement
 - Groundwater sampling and monitoring parameters
- Round 2
 - More detailed groundwater sample analysis plan
 - Annulus pressure maintenance
 - Multiple perforations
 - MIT of monitoring wells

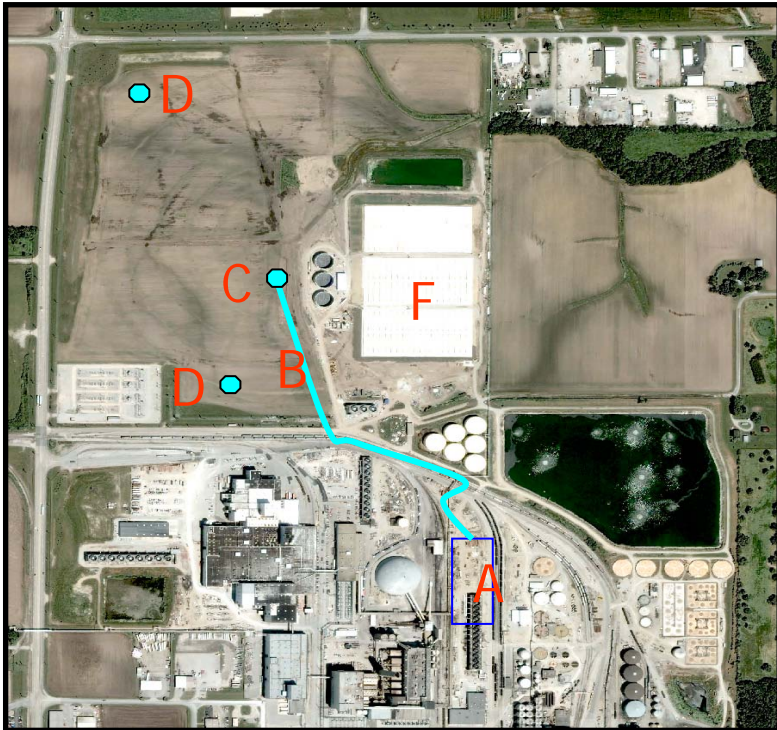


Balancing Research Goals and Regulatory Requirements

- MMV Program
 - Research monitoring wells
 - EPA required monitoring wells
 - Sampling
 - Frequency of reporting
 - Well Design (minimum requirements for regulations and injection)
 - Cementing
 - Casing size and length
 - Completion design
 - Perforated zones
 - Packer placement
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Plume Monitoring Strategies

- Drill two verification wells (D) based on surface seismic and VSP data, generally one updip and one downdip, or placed based on VSP plume boundary imaging



- Open-hole logging and flexible (Westbay) fluid sampling strategy
- Pressure/temp. monitoring
- Cased-hole logging

packer

P port

sampling port



Permit Requirements

- Permit for 1 million metric tones CO₂ injection
- Permit for project duration
- Reapplication if use as commercial well, under new regulatory conditions
- Well Construction
 - Casing – steel grades in application or better
 - Cement – CO₂ resistant cement
 - Surface, intermediate, and long-string cemented to surface
 - Operations – continuous recording of injection pressure, injection rate, temperature, annular space pressure
 - Closure – cement to surface
- CO₂ Composition
 - As stated in permit application – 99.98%
 - Grab samples required annually

Permit Requirements (cont.)

■ Monitoring

- 4 regulatory shallow groundwater monitoring wells
- Determine lowermost USDW
- Injection pressure to be determined (submitted in completion report)
- Injection rate 1,200 tons/day
- Corrosion plan (completion report)
- Injection zone – demonstrate no cross contamination

■ Mechanical Integrity

- MIT every 5 years
- Annual annulus pressure test
- Temperature survey every two years
- Well annulus pressure – 400 psi minimum
- Pressure differential – 100 psi differential between tubing and annulus during injection

Public Engagement

- Hosted Congressional Briefing
- Hosted Media Briefing
- Hosted Invited Briefing
- Hosted Public Information Meeting
- Working with Decatur Public Schools
- Public comment period closes October 17, 2008



The Public Hearing Experience

- Hearing opened
 - Brief summary of permit by IEPA
 - 12-15 members of the general public present
 - 1 local business owner concerned about groundwater
 - 1 NGO representative from Chicago regional office
 - Several curious parties
 - One satisfied customer... “I came here with questions, you answered my questions. I am satisfied.”
 - Opportunity to hear questions concerns
 - Few surprises
 - NGOs may employ delay tactics on projects
 - “We will be submitting several technical questions.”
 - No comments received by IEPA to date
 - Opportunity to help write technical responses to comments
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Questions/Comments

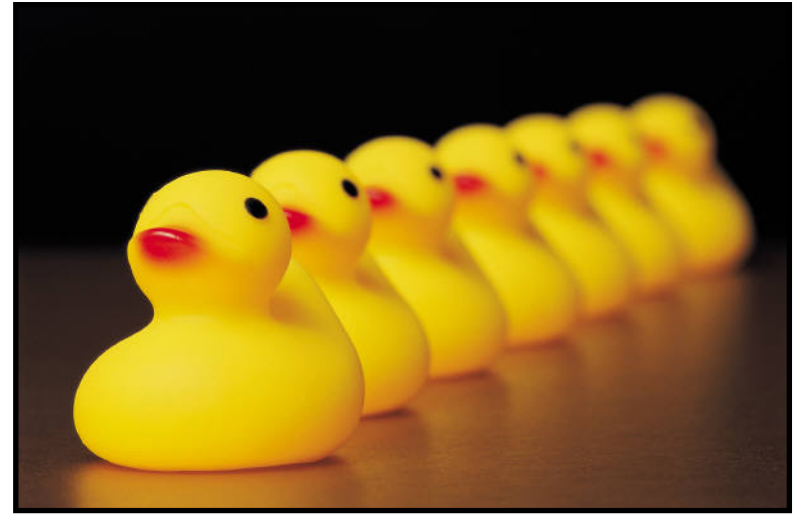
- Open for public comments/questions
 - What happens in the event of earthquakes?
 - How does this permit fit within new Class VI proposed rule?
 - How long is post-monitoring period for this well?
 - How long is permit issued for?
 - Who is liable if something goes wrong with the project?
 - Will the well materials be corrosion resistant?
 - Will the seismic data collected be available to the public?
 - Will Union rules be upheld?
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Benefits of Internal Application Development

- Permitting process impacted and drove aspects of:
 - Partnership Development
 - Well design
 - MMV program design
 - Injection operations design
 - Communications program
 - Technical outreach
 - General outreach
 - Government outreach
 - Familiarized staff with UIC program and regulatory process
 - Prepared ISGS for role as provider of information for future permits
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Lessons Learned

- Start early, start earlier
- Ask a lot of questions
- Understand the timetable
- Build a good team
- Establish good relations with regulators
- Hire a consultant if it makes sense for your organization
- Have an internal point person
- Plan for the unexpected



Future Opportunities

- What role do regional partnerships, geological surveys, and carbon service providers have in the permit process?
 - Information providers
 - ISGS, IGS, KGS primary sources of geologic information
 - Existing permit application/permit as examples
 - Support for IEPA with other permits
 - Provide figures, rock samples
 - Provide review, consultation
 - Permit consultation for developing projects
 - Permit application and permit likely to set standards
 - Data reconnaissance
 - Data source
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Questions ?
