

# Carbon Capture R&D: DOE/NETL R&D Program

## *7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Carbon Capture and Sequestration*

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Pittsburgh, PA*

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# Technological Carbon Management Options

## Reduce Carbon Intensity

- Renewables
- Nuclear
- Fuel Switching

## Improve Efficiency

- Demand Side
- Supply Side

## Sequester Carbon

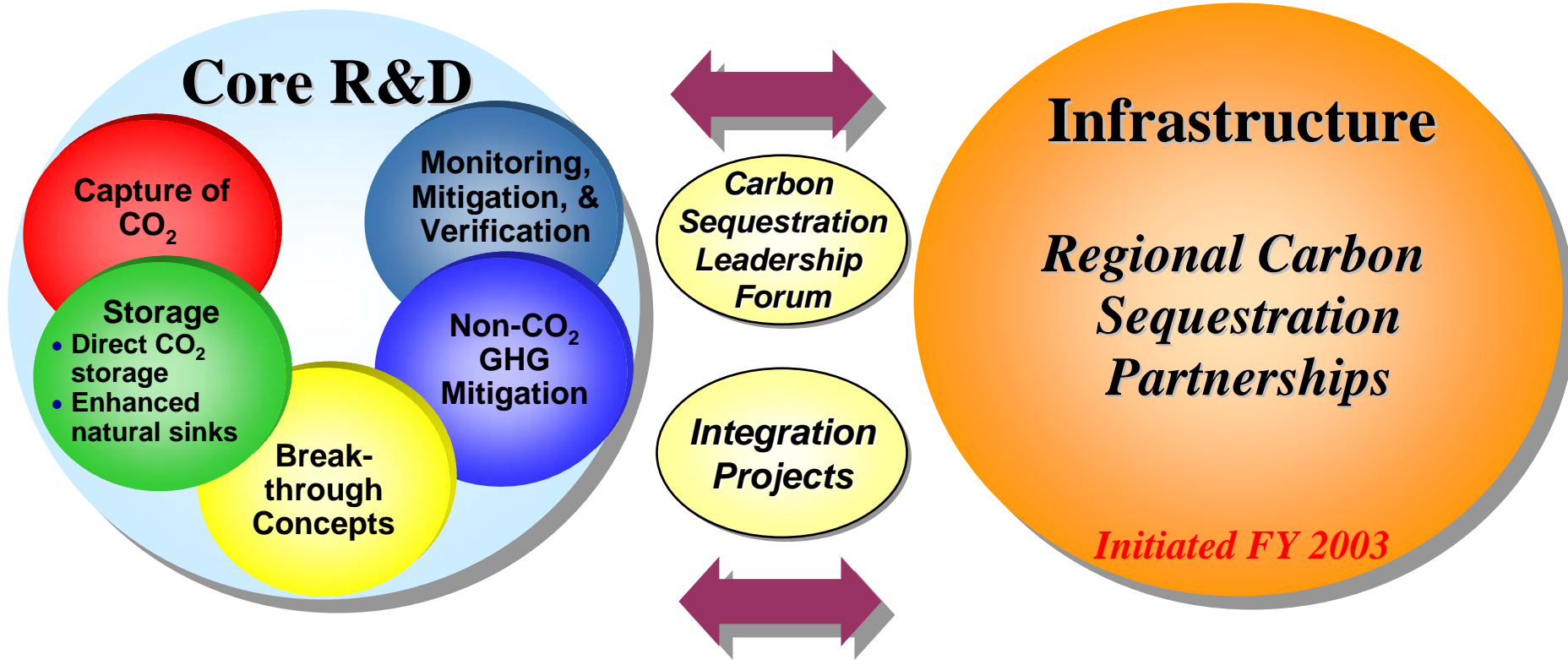
- Capture & Store
- Enhance Natural Sinks

### All options needed to:

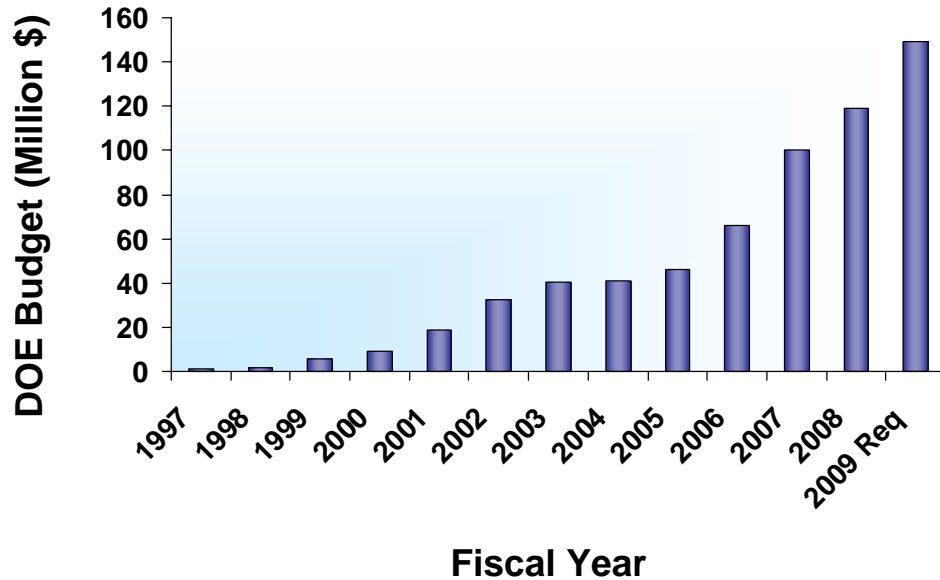
- Affordably meet energy demand
- Address environmental objectives



# DOE's Sequestration Program Structure



# Sequestration Program Statistics FY2008

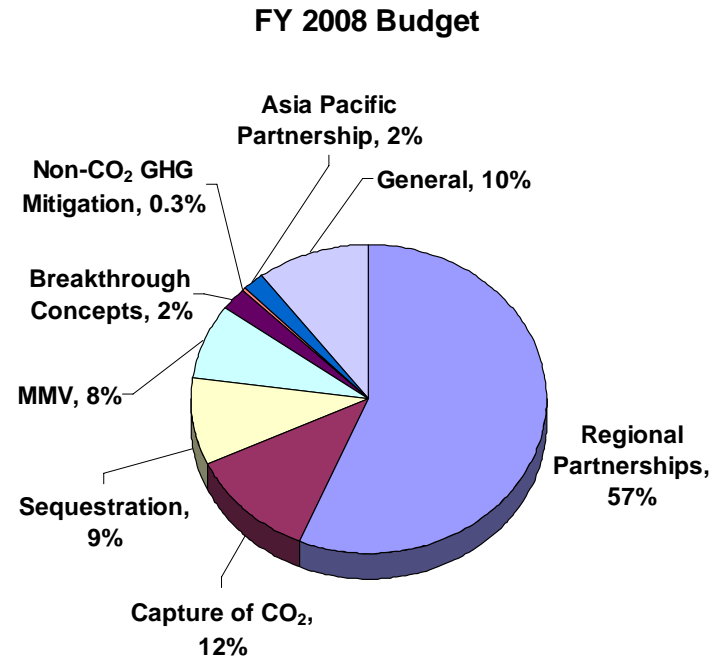


**Strong industry support**  
 ~ 39% cost share on projects

**Federal Investment to Date**  
 ~ \$481 Million

**Diverse research portfolio**

~ 70 Active R&D Projects



# Separation & Capture of CO<sub>2</sub> from Coal-Based Power Plants

## Issues

- Demonstrated technology is costly & energy-intensive
- Scale-up
- Market Considerations/Readiness
- Reliance on Enabling Technologies
- Integration
- Regulatory Framework

## Research Areas

- Pre-Combustion
- Post-Combustion
- Oxy-Combustion



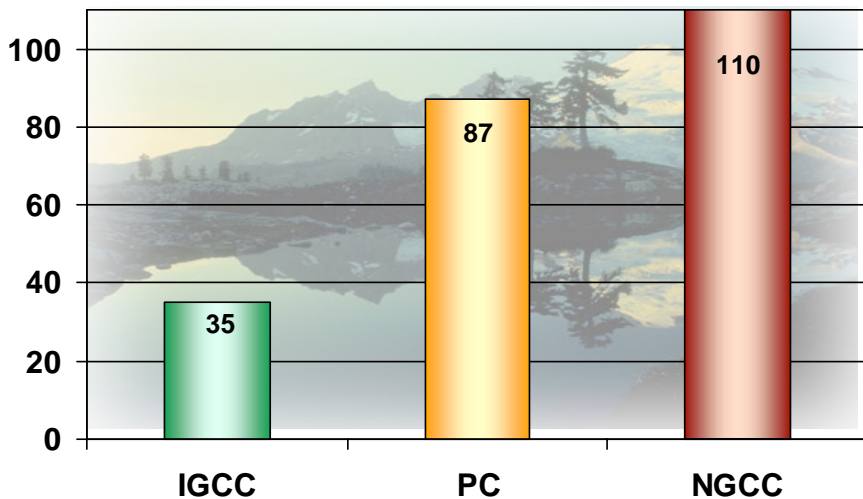
# CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Is Expensive !

- 5–30% parasitic energy loss
- 35–110% increase in capital cost
- 30–80% increase in cost of electricity

Currently refining cost target for PC plants considering potential improvements in:

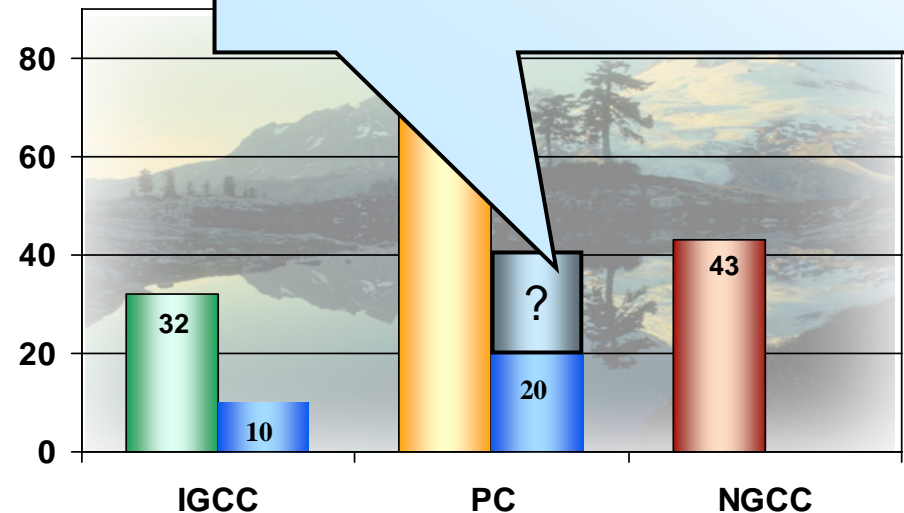
- Capital cost
- Fixed operating cost
- Variable operating cost
- Energy cost
- Transport, storage & monitoring costs

**Effect of CO<sub>2</sub> Capture on Capital Cost**  
(% Increase Resulting From CO<sub>2</sub> Capture)



Note: CO<sub>2</sub> capture costs based on use of Selexol process for IGCC and MEA for PC and NGCC.

**Effect of CO<sub>2</sub> Capture on Electricity Cost**  
(% Increase in Electricity Cost)



Source: *Cost and Performance Baseline for Fossil Energy Power Plants study, Volume 1: Bituminous Coal and Natural Gas to Electricity*; NETL, May 2007.

# Carbon Capture RD&D Challenges

## Pre-combustion (Synthesis Gas)



- Loss of CO<sub>2</sub> pressure due to flash regeneration
- Cooling / refrigeration of syngas to accommodate low operating temperatures; reheating prior to combustion
- H<sub>2</sub> losses, particularly in membranes
- Sulfur-tolerant materials / membranes

## Post-combustion (Flue Gas)



- Low-pressure flue gas dilute in CO<sub>2</sub>
- Steam requirement for thermal regeneration (amines)
- High compression costs and large loads due to CO<sub>2</sub> produced at low pressure
- Flue gas contaminants

## Oxy-Combustion (OxyFuel)

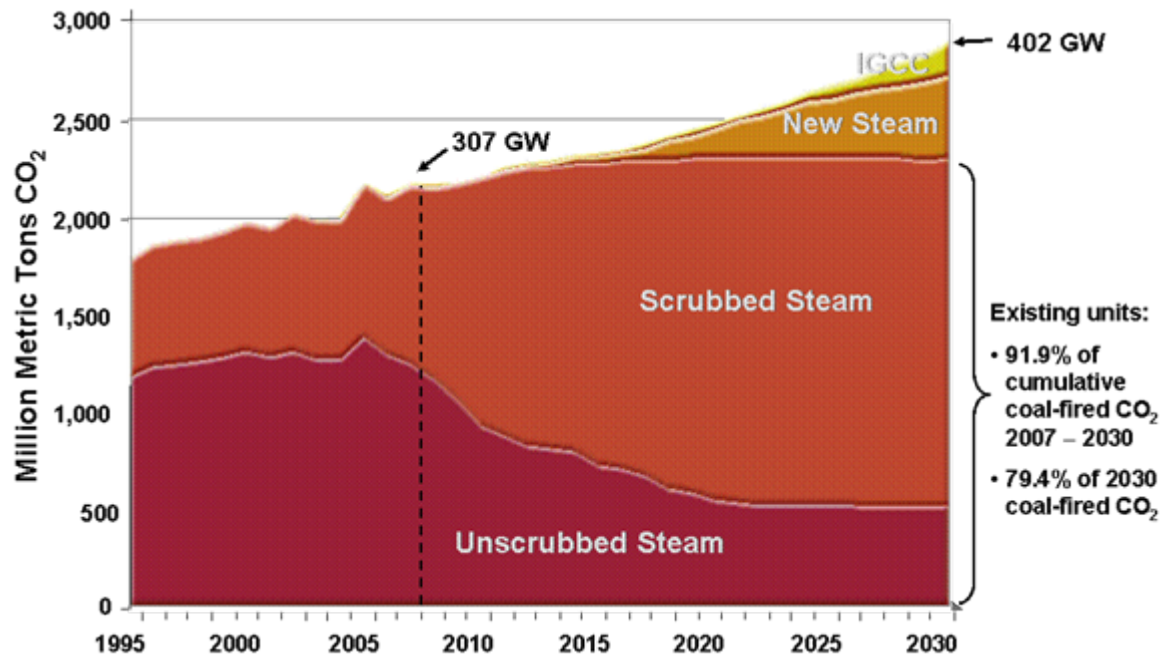


- Cost of O<sub>2</sub> production and materials
- Cooled CO<sub>2</sub> recycled to control combustion temperatures

# CO<sub>2</sub> Capture for Existing Plants

- Coal-fired power plants will continue to dominate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel power generation

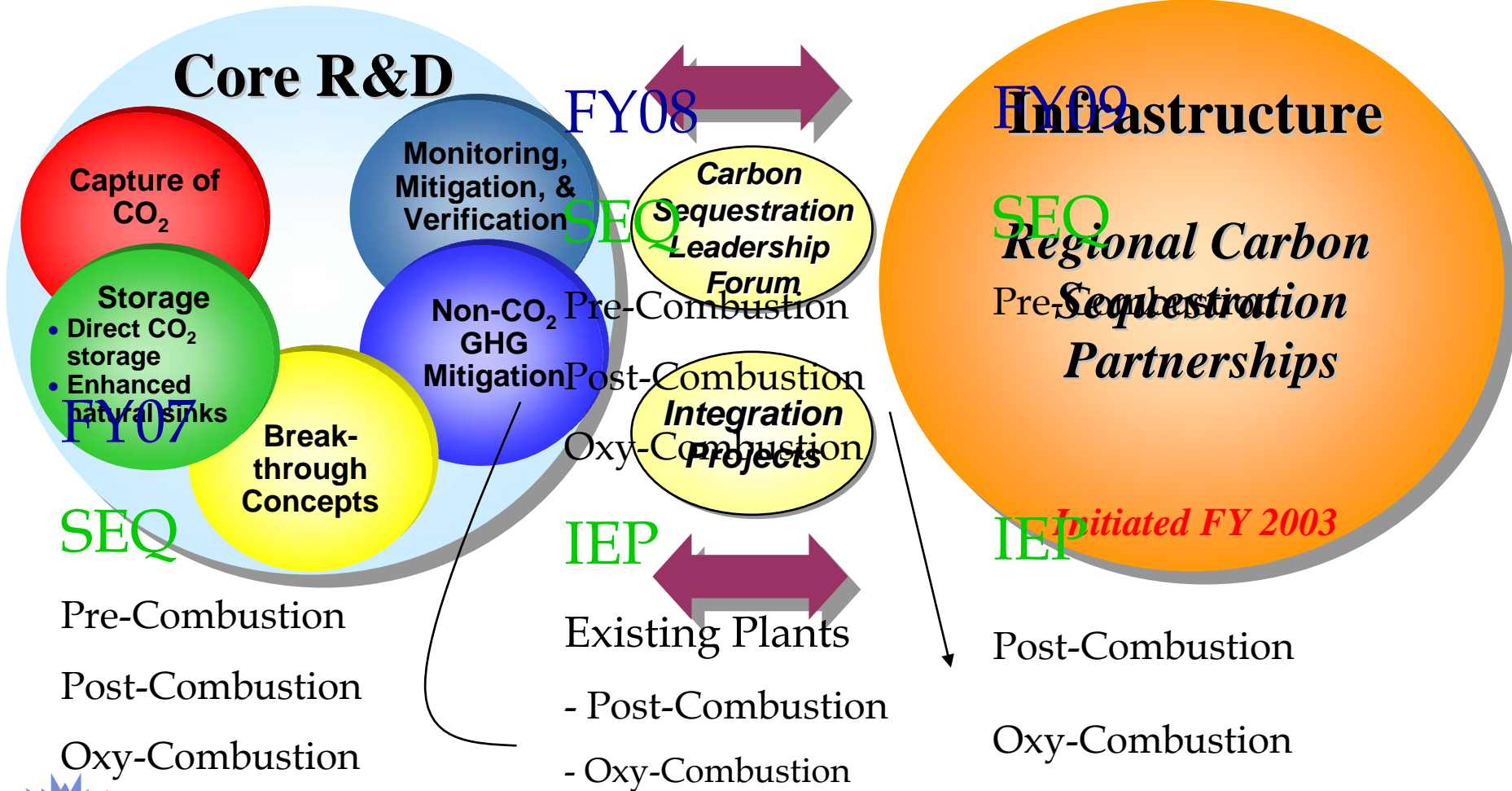
*Projected CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions from Fossil Fuel Power Generation*



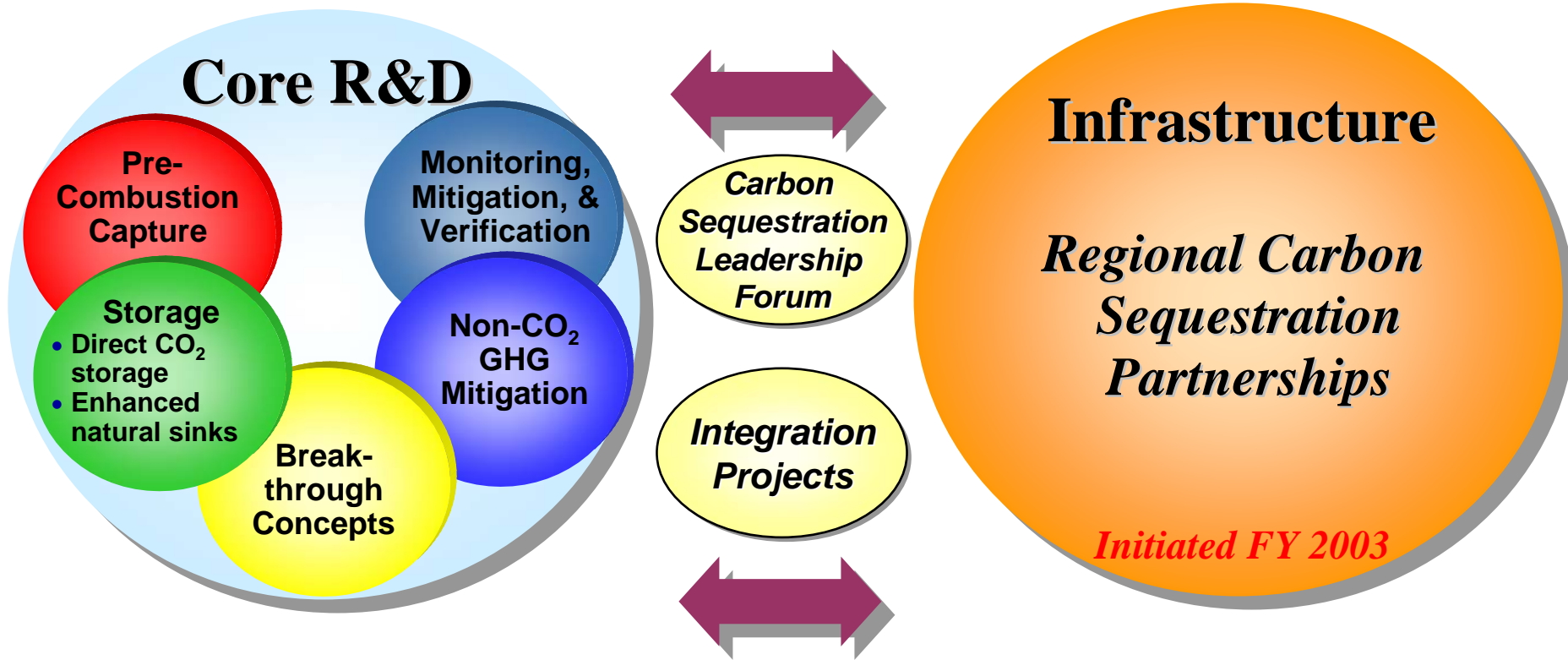
Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2008 Revised Early Release, March 2008



# Capture Transition



# DOE's Sequestration Program Structure



# FY08 CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Funding Opportunity

- Funding Opportunity Announcement [DE-PS26-08NT00134](#)
- "Carbon Dioxide Capture and Separation Technology Development For Application To Existing Pulverized Coal-Fired Power Plants"
- Technical areas:
  - Post-Combustion Capture
  - Oxy-Combustion
  - Chemical Looping
- ~ \$30 million total funding available
  - 5 to 15 projects @ \$150k to \$5M each
- Applications were due April 10, 2008
- Project selections by end of July 2008
- Project awards by end of September 2008



# Carbon Capture Research Pathways

## Chemical Solvents

### Process Description

- Reversible chemical reaction(s) between CO<sub>2</sub> and aqueous absorbent solution
- Mature technology (MEA) at smaller scale

### Research Focus

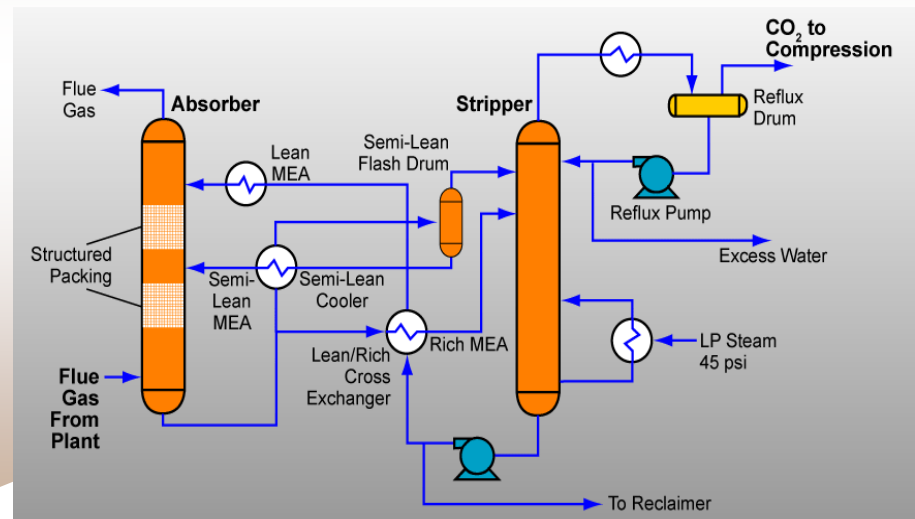
- ✓ Low solvent cost
- ✓ High CO<sub>2</sub> loading capacity
- ✓ Improved reaction kinetics
- ✓ Non-corrosive
- ✓ No solvent degradation
- ✓ Low regeneration energy

### Primary Research Partners



### Potential Technology Solutions

- ❖ Improved solvents (carbonates, hindered amines, ammonia, etc.)
- ❖ Blended and promoted solvents



Source: DOE/NETL

# Carbon Capture Research Pathways

## *Physical Solvents*

### Process Description

- Bulk phenomenon where liquids absorb a gaseous species from a gas mixture
- Most effective with high CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure (IGCC systems)
- Mature technology (Selexol™ & Rectisol®) at smaller scale

### Research Focus

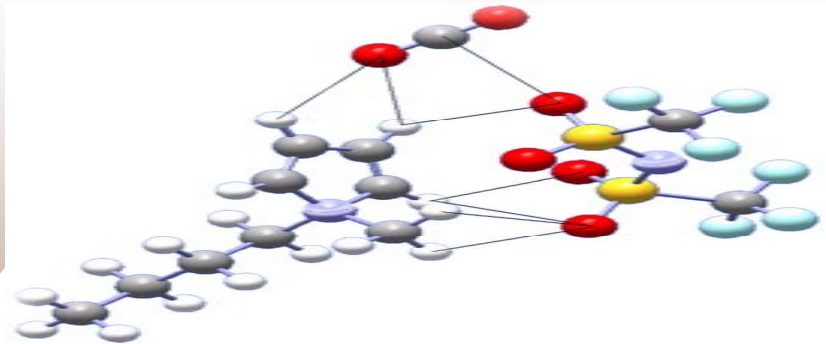
- ❖ Ionic Liquids (ILs)
  - ✓ High thermal stability
  - ✓ Low volatility
  - ✓ High CO<sub>2</sub> solubility
  - ✓ Separation media for H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>
  - ✓ High unit cost

### Primary Research Partners



### R&D Progress

*Over 19x increase in CO<sub>2</sub> solubility for physical ILs and 40x increase in CO<sub>2</sub> solubility for ILs with chemical complexation when compared to ILs available at the beginning of the project*



# Carbon Capture Research Pathways

## *Chemical Sorbents*

### Process Description

- Chemical adsorption involves bonding with a solid sorbent
- Low moisture content reduces regeneration steam requirements

### Research Focus

- ❖ Solid regenerable CO<sub>2</sub> sorbents
  - ✓ Durable
  - ✓ High selectivity
  - ✓ Multiple regeneration cycles
  - ✓ High CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption capacity
  - ✓ Low cost

### Potential Technology Solutions

- ❖ Sodium & potassium oxides
- ❖ Carbonates
- ❖ Amine-enriched sorbents (Zeolites)

### Primary Research Partners



# Carbon Capture Research Pathways

## *Physical Sorbents*

### Process Description

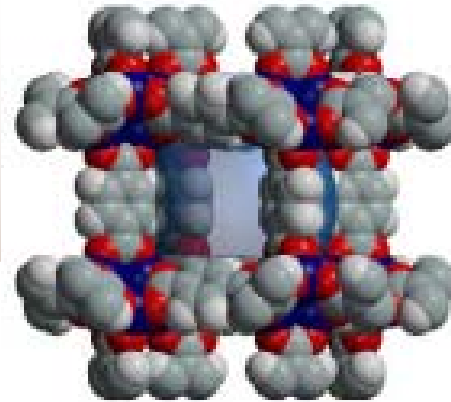
- Physical adsorption of CO<sub>2</sub> on solid adsorbents by weak surface forces
- Adsorption capacity increases with CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure
- Regeneration via TSA or PSA

### Research Focus

- ❖ Metal organic frameworks (MOFs)
  - ✓ Hybrid organic/inorganic ordered structures w/ high porosity
  - ✓ High thermal stability
  - ✓ High adsorption capacity
  - ✓ High selectivity
  - ✓ Customized sorption properties
  - ✓ Good adsorption/desorption rates

### Future Work

- ❖ Evaluate hydrothermal stability
- ❖ Synthesis, forming, and scale-up
- ❖ Process design and economics



Primary Research Partner

**Uop**

A Honeywell Company



# Carbon Capture Research Pathways

## *Membranes*

### Process Description

- Diffusion via a physical or chemical interaction between the membrane and CO<sub>2</sub>
- Selectivity and permeability are key
- Most effective with high CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure (IGCC systems)

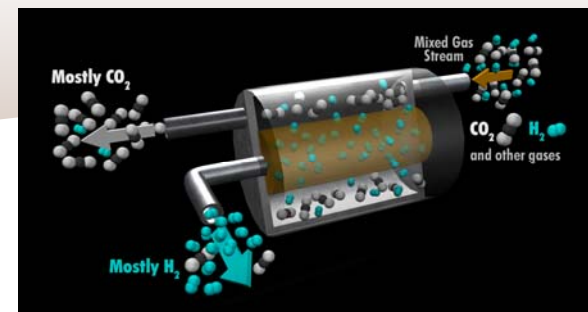
### Research Focus

- ❖ More efficient CO<sub>2</sub> membranes
  - ✓ Durable
  - ✓ Improved selectivity
  - ✓ Thermal and physical stability
  - ✓ Sulfur tolerance

### Potential Technology Solutions

- ❖ Polymers (PBI)
- ❖ Metals (palladium)
- ❖ Facilitated transport
- ❖ Molecular sieves
- ❖ Gas absorption membranes
- ❖ Carbonic anhydrase enzyme
- ❖ Ionic liquids

### Primary Research Partners





# Carbon Capture Research Pathways

## *Advanced Oxycombustion Technologies*

### Process Description

- Combustion in pure O<sub>2</sub> to produce flue gas that is comprised of H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub>
- CO<sub>2</sub> separation via H<sub>2</sub>O condensation

### Research Focus

- ❖ Reduce O<sub>2</sub> production costs
- ❖ Improved oxyfuel boilers
  - ✓ Compact design
  - ✓ Advanced materials and burners
- ❖ Retrofit options
- ❖ Reduce flue gas recycle
- ❖ Co-sequestration

### Primary Research Partners

**SOUTHERN RESEARCH**  
Legendary Discoveries. Leading Innovation.

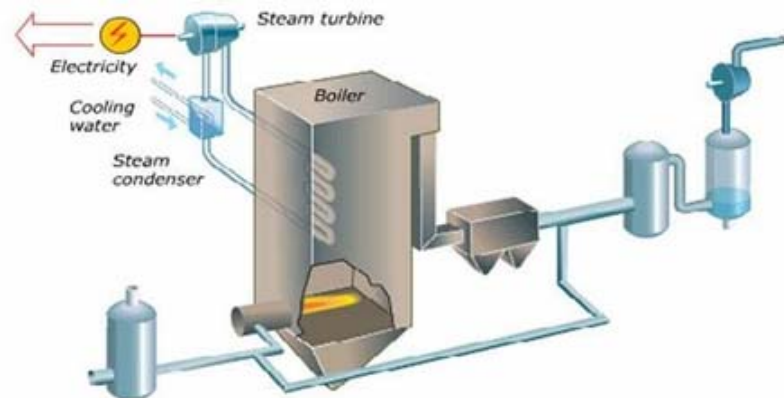


**Argonne**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

**THE LINDE GROUP**

### Potential Technology Solutions

- ❖ Oxygen Transport Membranes (OTM)
- ❖ Ceramic Autothermal Recovery (CAR)
- ❖ Integrated Pollutant Removal
- ❖ Chemical Looping




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NETL's Bauer Named 'Laboratory Director of the Year' // Carl Bauer, Director of the Office of Fossil Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory, has been named a Laboratory Director of the Year by the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer. [Read More!](#)



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