

# Carbon Sequestration Technology Roadmap and Program Plan 2006



*Developing the Technology Base and Infrastructure  
to Enable Carbon Sequestration as a  
Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Option*



## MESSAGE TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

Carbon sequestration, the idea of capturing carbon dioxide before it is emitted to the atmosphere and storing it in underground rock formations or otherwise sequestering it, has progressed steadily over the past ten years. It is now poised to become a key technology option for greenhouse gas emissions abatement.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has taken a leadership role in the development of carbon sequestration technology through its Carbon Sequestration Program. The Program is managed within DOE's Office of Fossil Energy and implemented through the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL). The goal of the DOE program is:

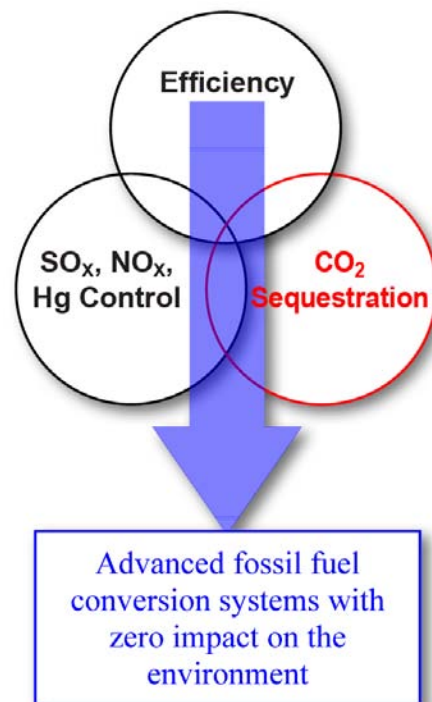
*“ To develop by 2012 fossil fuel conversion systems that offer 90% CO<sub>2</sub> capture with 99% storage permanence at less than a 10% increase in the cost of energy services.”*

DOE's Carbon Sequestration Program is coordinated with efforts aimed at improving power plant efficiency and criteria pollutant control. Through these combined efforts, DOE seeks to develop coal-fired power plants and other fossil fuel energy systems that emit no criteria pollutants and put negligible strain on the global climate system — at the same cost as today's technology.

This document (1) defines the current status of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) capture and sequestration technology, (2) identifies research pathways that lead to achievement of the Carbon Sequestration Program goal, and (3) describes efforts that the DOE program is pursuing along priority pathways.

The following are highlights from the Program activities over the past year:

- **Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships.** In 2005 the Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships progressed from an initial Characterization Phase to a Validation Phase. During the Validation Phase, the Regional Partnerships will conduct twenty-five field tests in which CO<sub>2</sub> will be injected into underground formations and its fate and transport monitored. The geologic settings span a range of geologic formations, and all tests include significant reservoir modeling components as well as testing of CO<sub>2</sub> detection and monitoring technologies. Together, these field tests will expand our understanding of the CO<sub>2</sub> storage option, facilitate more accurate estimates of CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity, and establish a national infrastructure that may support future carbon sequestration deployments.
- **Amine-based CO<sub>2</sub> Capture.** Pilot-scale tests and modeling efforts show that operating an amine stripper at a vacuum can provide a 5-10% reduction in energy use per unit of CO<sub>2</sub> captured. This reduction is below the current state of the art of 1,400 Btu/lb and takes into account the extra CO<sub>2</sub> compression cost associated with operating the stripper at a vacuum.



- **Novel CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Technologies.**

- Novel Metal Organic Frameworks (MOFs) show great promise as CO<sub>2</sub> sorbents. In particular, MOF 177 can adsorb 1.4 grams of CO<sub>2</sub> per gram of sorbent material (at 600 psi). As a comparison, one gram of commercially available zeolite adsorbent can hold approximately 0.3 grams of CO<sub>2</sub>. A higher storage capacity can lower the size and cost of a CO<sub>2</sub> capture system.
- A new type of organic salt, an ionic liquid, has shown a CO<sub>2</sub> dissolution capacity of 5 wt%. This is an improvement compared to 3 wt% for Selexol, and unlike Selexol, ionic liquids are stable at warm gas temperatures (450 °C) enabling more energy efficient CO<sub>2</sub> capture from an oxygen-fed gasification process.

- **Stacked Geologic Formations.** Researchers have pioneered the concept of a geologic sequestration field test using “stacked formations.” In this approach, a CO<sub>2</sub> injection test is conducted in a saline formation that underlies a depleting oil or gas formation. The oil or gas formation’s proven seal offers a second containment barrier against CO<sub>2</sub> migration beyond the saline formation cap rock. The stacked setting facilitates the use of a single injection well for two sets of experiments and expedites experimentation with saline formations, which are not as well understood as oil and gas bearing formations. Several of the field tests being conducted under the Regional Partnerships effort have adopted this approach to CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration.

Interaction with private and public sector stakeholders is critical to the success of the Carbon Sequestration Program. DOE engages stakeholders through cost-shared R&D projects and through the Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships. Stakeholders also interact with the Program via the Annual Conference on Carbon Sequestration, the Annual Project Review Meeting, and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. The Program seeks to proactively raise awareness and understanding of carbon sequestration via a variety of methods, including the participation of DOE/NETL managers in conferences and meetings, the DOE Fossil Energy (FE) and NETL web pages, the monthly Carbon Sequestration Newsletter, and the development of various informational materials including educational curricula designed for middle school and high school students.

This document is itself an important medium for engaging stakeholders. We invite interested readers to examine it carefully and provide feedback to the contact persons listed on the inside back cover.



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## GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

Emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from human activity have increased from an insignificant level two centuries ago to over twenty five billion tons worldwide today (Figure 1). Emissions of non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gases (methane, nitrous oxides, and fluorocarbon refrigerants) increased the total to over 30 billion tons CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent in 2004.

The greenhouse gas effect, the trapping of heat within the atmosphere by various greenhouse gases (GHGs), is a natural and important phenomenon for the earth's ecosystem. However, the additional GHGs in the atmosphere have significantly increased above the pre-industrial level. This increase of GHGs is considered by many to contribute to the phenomenon of global warming and could cause unwelcome shifts in regional climates.

The United States and 164 other countries are signatories to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), a treaty which calls for stabilization of atmospheric GHGs. Business-as-usual forecasts, however, predict a steady increase in GHG emissions from human activity over the next 100 years. Such projections are based fundamentally on a growing global economy and abundant fossil fuel resources (Figure 2 and Table 1). Many policy makers and energy industry professionals regard it as unlikely that accessible fossil fuel resources will be left unused, irrespective of the climate signal. This is especially true in developing nations with significant fossil fuel resources.

Conservation, renewable energy, and improvements in the efficiency of power plants, automobiles, appliances, etc. are important first steps in any GHG emissions mitigation effort. But those approaches cannot deliver the level of emissions reduction needed to stabilize the concentrations of GHGs in the atmosphere – especially against a growing global demand for energy. Needed are transformational energy technologies that decouple energy use, economic prosperity, and GHG emissions.

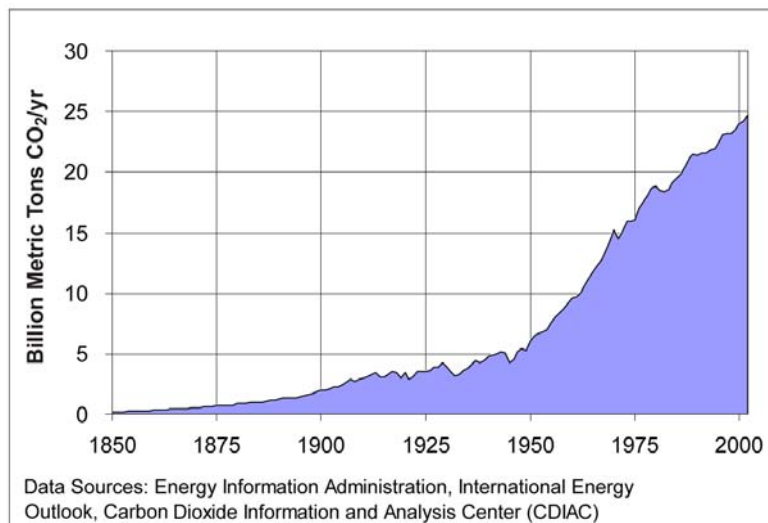


Figure 1. Worldwide CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion and Cement Manufacture

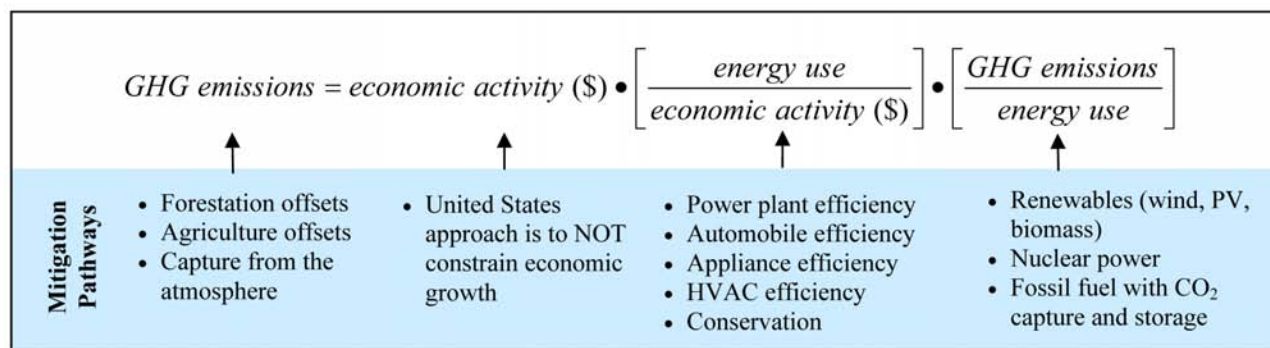


Figure 2. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Equation

Carbon sequestration, the capture and sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub> that would otherwise reach the atmosphere, offers the promise of a reasonable compromise – fossil fuel resources can be used but at a slightly higher processing cost in order to reduce net GHG emissions per unit of energy use by 80-100%. Carbon sequestration is a broad area encompassing many options. The CO<sub>2</sub> can be captured at the point of emissions or it can be removed from the air. The captured gas can be stored underground, absorbed by plants, or chemically converted to rock-like mineral carbonates or even back to hydrocarbon fuels.

There is a clear opportunity for carbon sequestration in the United States and the world under GHG emissions stabilization scenarios. Even in developed nations large numbers of new power plants and fuel processing facilities are expected to be built in the coming decades, creating ample opportunities for efficient and cost-effective CO<sub>2</sub> capture deployments. The United States in particular is underlain by large capacity geologic formations amenable to CO<sub>2</sub> storage. Figure 3 sets forth a robust portfolio of sequestration field tests being conducted in the United States and worldwide.

Table 1. Worldwide Fossil Fuel Resources and Equivalent CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

	Worldwide Resources	Equivalent CO <sub>2</sub>	
		(billion metric tons CO <sub>2</sub> )	Equivalent atmospheric ppm*
Coal	1,000 B tons <sup>A</sup>	2,332	301
Crude Oil	2,300 B bbls <sup>B</sup>	1,008	130
Natural Gas	13,650 T scf <sup>B</sup>	725	94
Total		4,065	525

<sup>A</sup> Recoverable coal reserves, Energy Information Administration – International Energy Outlook 2005  
<sup>B</sup> Includes remaining reserves, reserve growth, and undiscovered reserves, U.S. Geological Survey World Petroleum Assessment 2000; Proved reserves from EIA are 1,278 B bbls of oil and 6,436 T scf NG  
 Does not include oil-bearing shales, methane hydrates, and other non-conventional supplies  
 \* Additional to the current level of 379 ppm, and net of any absorption by natural sinks.

The benefits of protecting the climate will be realized globally and far in the future, but the costs of each GHG emissions reduction project is local and immediate. Thus, there is a strong role for government in near term GHG mitigation technology development to ensure that the investment is at an optimum level for society. Beyond early niche opportunities, CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage is strictly an added cost that relies solely on GHG mitigation benefits as a driver, further supporting a strong government role.

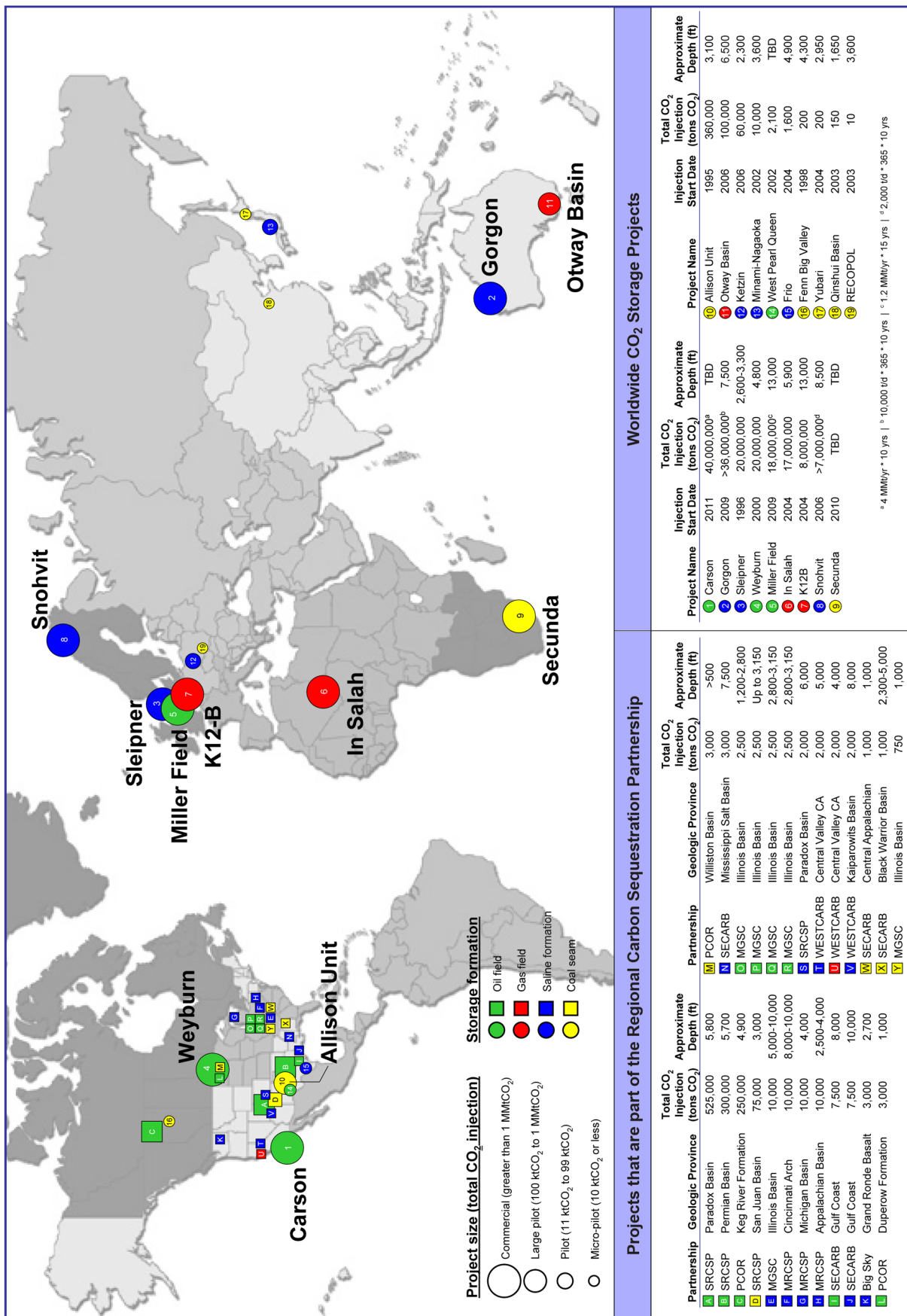


Figure 3. Worldwide CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Projects

## THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S CARBON SEQUESTRATION PROGRAM

Figure 4 shows the elements of DOE's carbon sequestration technology development effort.

- A. Core R&D** is the laboratory and pilot-scale research aimed at developing new technologies and new systems for GHG mitigation.
- B. Infrastructure** is the groundwork for future carbon sequestration deployments being developed through the Regional Partnerships.
- C. Integration** includes support for the FutureGen project, a DOE FE initiative to build the world's first integrated carbon sequestration and hydrogen production research power plant.

The Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF) is an international climate change initiative that is focused on the development of improved cost-effective technologies for the separation and capture of carbon dioxide for its transport and long-term safe storage. The purpose of the CSLF is to make these technologies broadly available internationally, and to identify and address wider issues relating to carbon capture and storage.

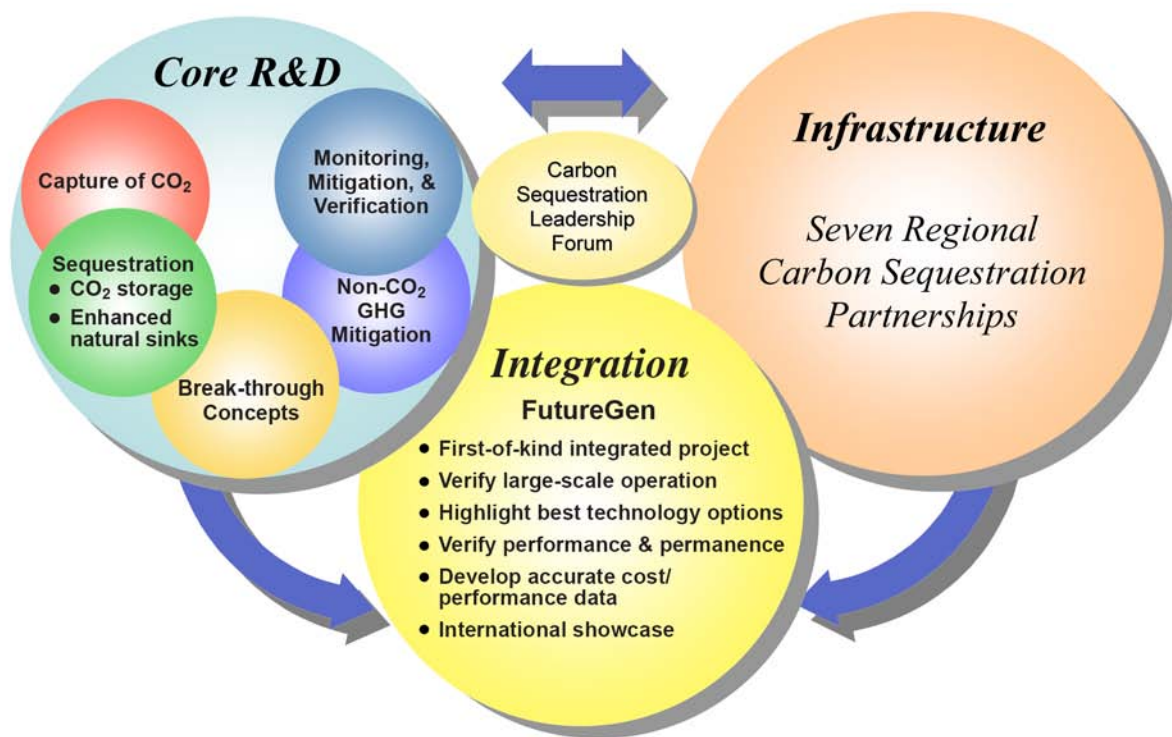


Figure 4. U.S. DOE's Carbon Sequestration Technology Development Efforts

This document describes in detail the Core R&D and Infrastructure elements, which are directly managed as a part of the NETL program. The Core R&D and Infrastructure efforts are aimed at achieving the program goal (Figures 5 and 6). Results from the core R&D program and the infrastructure development efforts will also contribute to the success of the CSLF and the FutureGen project.



*90% CO<sub>2</sub> capture* - the amount of captured CO<sub>2</sub> represents 90% of the carbon in the fuel fed to the power plant or other energy system.

Higher percent capture becomes incrementally more expensive as driving forces for separation decrease. 90% capture is deemed necessary to support “transformational” energy systems that can provide stabilization of GHG concentrations in the atmosphere. Development of options that offer less percent reduction, for example optimal-cost scrubbing (70-85%) or post-combustion adsorption (30-60%) is being led by industry and complements the DOE efforts.

*99% storage permanence* - after 100 years less than 1% of the injected CO<sub>2</sub> has leaked or is otherwise unaccounted for. Implied in this goal are advanced Monitoring, Mitigation, and Verification (MM&V) technologies and modeling capability that make it possible to prove 99% permanence. The goal is an average for all deployments. The test for success is whether projects can garner credits for 99% of injected CO<sub>2</sub>.

**90% CO<sub>2</sub> capture with 99% storage permanence at less than a 10% increase in the cost of energy services by 2012.**

*10% increase in cost* - this is a market-based goal. It is a level of cost increase that DOE deems will not adversely effect the economy or unduly effect U.S. competitiveness in international markets. It is also a level that is deemed necessary to enable fossil fuel systems with CO<sub>2</sub> capture and sequestration to compare favorably to nuclear power, wind, biomass, and other options to reduce the GHG intensity of energy supply. For the electricity supply sector the 10%-increase-in-cost target is based on plant gate cost from a newly constructed power plant with capital recovery. The cost of CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage accounts for parasitic losses and includes CO<sub>2</sub> compression, negligible pipeline transport onsite, and injection into a saline formation. Revenues from CO<sub>2</sub> sales for EOR and ECBM are not credited against the cost of CO<sub>2</sub> capture. Net reductions in the cost of criteria pollutant control are included. The example on the facing page provides more detail on pathways to meet the goal.

By 2012 the program seeks to have pilot-scale unit operation performance results from a combination of CO<sub>2</sub> capture, MM&V, and storage system components, such that, when integrated into a systems analysis framework, they would collectively meet the goal. Accounting for the lag associated with pre-commercial-scale validation and design and construction of commercial scale systems, projects that meet the program goal will result in commercial-scale units that come on line around 2020.

Figure 5. Anatomy of the Carbon Sequestration Program Goal

The Figure below shows an analysis of CO<sub>2</sub> capture technology performance applied to a coal fired power plant, and what is required to meet the program goal. The left column is a reference case no-capture power plant with technology that is projected to be online in 2020. This implies that the base power plant technology has been validated at the pre-commercial scale by 2015. The estimated efficiency and capital cost (47.4%, \$1,350 \$/kW) represent an improvement over current technology but do not include expected advancements from future government investments in base power plant research.

The right column is a power plant with 90% CO<sub>2</sub> capture. The estimated performance of both the base power plant and CO<sub>2</sub> capture system assume continued government investment in R&D. The lower cost and improved efficiency of the base power plant (52%, 1,100 \$/kW) lower its cost-of-electricity (COE) compared to the reference case scenario and “make room” for CO<sub>2</sub> capture; this base power plant improvement is due to government R&D investments. The box to the right presents one combination of capital and operating expenses for a CO<sub>2</sub> capture, transport, and injection system that provide a 10% increase in COE. Different capture technologies may offer trade-offs and provide different combinations of performance metrics that can achieve the goal.

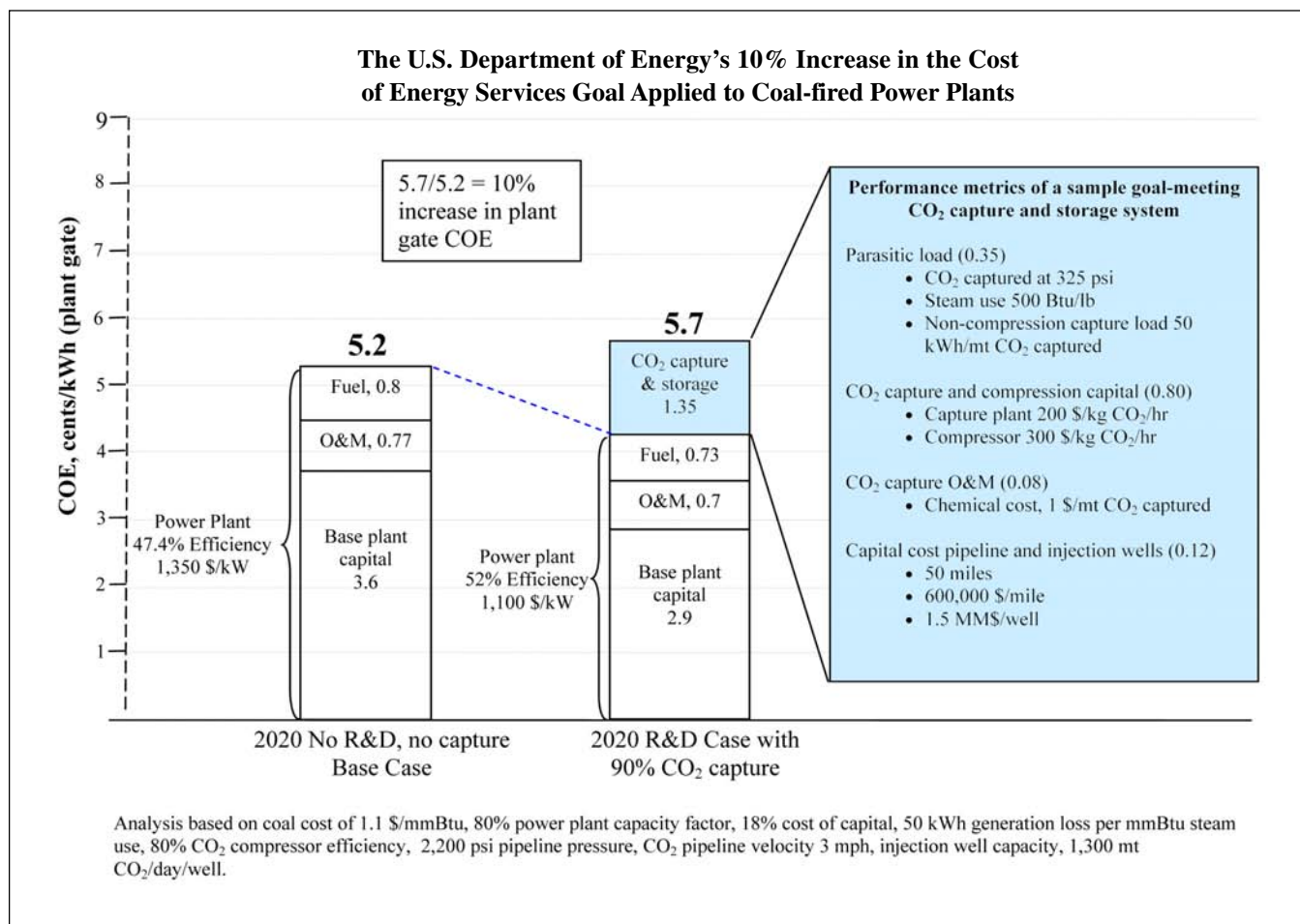


Figure 6. Meeting the Program Cost Goal

## A. Core R&D

The Core R&D effort is a portfolio of work including cost-shared, industry-led technology development projects, research grants, and research conducted in-house at NETL. This effort encompasses the following five areas:

1. **CO<sub>2</sub> Capture**
2. **Carbon Storage**
3. **Monitoring, Mitigation, and Verification (MM&V)**
4. **Non-CO<sub>2</sub> Greenhouse Gas Control**
5. **Breakthrough Concepts**

The first three Core R&D research areas track the life cycle of a carbon sequestration system. That is, first CO<sub>2</sub> is captured, then it is stored or converted to a benign or useful carbon-based product, and finally it is monitored to ensure it remains sequestered with appropriate mitigation actions to be taken if necessary. The fourth category, non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gas control, involves primarily the capture and reuse of methane emissions from energy production and conversion systems. The fifth area, breakthrough concepts, is a group of projects similar to the first four research areas, but with a higher technical uncertainty and the potential to expand the applicability of carbon sequestration beyond conventional point source emissions.

Table 2 is a top-level sequestration roadmap. It shows major pathways in each of the program areas, metrics for success that lead to the overall program goal, and highlights from 2006 in each area that show progress toward the metrics.

### I. CO<sub>2</sub> Capture

The DOE CO<sub>2</sub> capture effort seeks to transform the fossil-based portion of the United States energy system from its current configuration to one in which CO<sub>2</sub> can be captured safely and cost-effectively. Efforts to develop technologies to capture or separate CO<sub>2</sub> from a process stream are being undertaken in concert with efforts to develop advanced, highly-efficient fossil fuel conversion processes.

Figure 7 shows three fundamental fuel conversion platforms. From the perspective of CO<sub>2</sub> capture, the three platforms offer different CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressures, different operating temperatures, and different components in the CO<sub>2</sub>-rich stream. Capture technologies are being developed to fit into one or more fossil fuel conversion systems.

**Post-Combustion.** Fuel is burned with air in a boiler to produce steam; the steam drives a turbine to generate electricity. The boiler exhaust, flue gas, is a combination of mostly nitrogen and carbon dioxide. To capture CO<sub>2</sub> from flue gas is a technical challenge because CO<sub>2</sub> is dilute (3-15 vol %), at low-pressure (15-25 psi), and for coal-based systems contaminated with traces of sulfur and particulate matter. However, air combustion is an important application because over 98% of existing power plants use air combustion technology and, as such, there is a strong degree of comfort with it within the United States electricity supply industry.

All research being conducted by the Carbon Sequestration Program is highlighted in the Carbon Sequestration Project Portfolio. To access the Project Portfolio, visit the NETL website [www.netl.doe.gov](http://www.netl.doe.gov)

From the sidebar at left, select “Technologies,” and then “Carbon Sequestration.” In the right sidebar, under “Publications & Projects,” select “Carbon Sequestration Project Portfolio.”

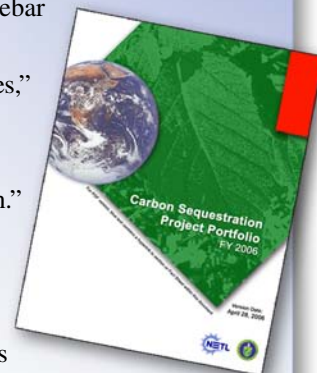


Table 2. Top-Level Carbon Sequestration Roadmap

	Pathways	Metrics for Success		2006 Status, Progress thus Far
		2007	2012	
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> Capture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-combustion</li> <li>• Pre-combustion</li> <li>• Oxy-fuel</li> </ul>	<p>Develop two capture technologies that result in an increase in cost of energy services equal to no more than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20% for pre-combustion</li> <li>• 45% for post-combustion</li> </ul>	<p>Develop two capture technologies that result in an increase in cost of energy services equal to no more than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10% for pre-combustion</li> <li>• 20% for post-combustion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operating an amine stripper at a vacuum can provide a 5-10% reduction in energy use per unit of CO<sub>2</sub> captured.</li> <li>• A regenerable sodium bicarbonate sorbent shows potential to achieve 20% increase in COE in post-combustion.</li> <li>• A ceramic membrane that feeds pure oxygen directly to a fuel combustion zone shows reliable operation and an oxygen flux equal to 40% of target to achieve 10% increase in COE.</li> </ul>
<b>Sequestration/Storage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oil and gas bearing geologic formations</li> <li>• Unmineable coal seams</li> <li>• Saline formations</li> <li>• Basalt formations</li> <li>• Organic-rich shale</li> <li>• Mineland closure/reclamation</li> <li>• Ocean sequestration</li> </ul>	<p>Field tests provide improved understanding of the factors affecting permanence and capacity in a broad range of CO<sub>2</sub> storage formations.</p>	<p>Demonstrate enhanced CO<sub>2</sub> trapping and storage capacity at pre-commercial scale.</p> <p>Demonstrate ability to predict CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity with +/-30% accuracy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4D seismic, vertical seismic profiles, and other MM&amp;V results from CO<sub>2</sub> injection sites have been used to improve models that estimate CO<sub>2</sub> capacity.</li> <li>• A fingering mechanism has been shown to increase brine mixing in CO<sub>2</sub> storage formation, thus enhancing CO<sub>2</sub> dissolution and storage permanence over long time frames.</li> <li>• Hybrid poplars have been shown to grow well in reclaimed mineland.</li> </ul>
<b>Monitoring, Mitigation, &amp; Verification (MM&amp;V)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detection and measurement of CO<sub>2</sub> in geologic formations</li> <li>• Fate and transport models for CO<sub>2</sub> in geologic formations</li> <li>• Remote sensing of above-ground CO<sub>2</sub> storage and leaks</li> <li>• Advanced soil carbon measurement</li> </ul>	<p>Demonstrate advanced CO<sub>2</sub> measurement and detection technologies at sequestration field tests and commercial deployments.</p>	<p>CO<sub>2</sub> material balance greater than 99%.</p> <p>MM&amp;V protocols enable 99% of stored CO<sub>2</sub> to be credited as net emissions reduction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross well seismic systems at Weyburn showed an ability to "see" CO<sub>2</sub> in an underground formation at a resolution of 2,500 tons CO<sub>2</sub>.</li> <li>• Sea floor gravity experiments conducted at Sleipner confirm seismic-based CO<sub>2</sub> plume tracking results.</li> <li>• A method for measuring carbon stored in forests using multiple cameras and lasers attached to an airplane shows 95% correlation with results from traditional bushwhacking and trunk diameter measurement.</li> </ul>
<b>Breakthrough Concepts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced CO<sub>2</sub> capture</li> <li>• Advanced subsurface technologies</li> <li>• Advanced geochemical sequestration</li> <li>• Novel niches</li> </ul>	<p>Laboratory scale results from 1-2 current projects show promise to reach the goal of a 10% or less increase in the cost of energy, and are advanced to the pilot scale.</p>	<p>Technology from the program's portfolio revolutionizes the possibilities for CO<sub>2</sub> capture, storage, or conversion.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A novel CO<sub>2</sub> sorbent material, MOF 177, can absorb 1.4 grams of CO<sub>2</sub> per gram of sorbent material (at 600 psi) – 4x the capacity of zeolite.</li> <li>• An ionic liquid, (CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>N, has shown a CO<sub>2</sub> dissolution capacity of 5 wt% and stability at warm gas temperatures, both improvements over Selexol.</li> </ul>
<b>Non-CO<sub>2</sub> GHGs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minemouth ventilation</li> <li>• Landfill gas recovery</li> </ul>	<p>Deployment of cost-effective methane capture systems.</p>	<p>Commercial deployment of at least two technologies from the R&amp;D program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A temperature-swing adsorption system based on advanced heat exchange technology shows the potential to separate nitrogen from methane cost-effectively.</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geologic field tests</li> <li>• Sequestration atlases</li> <li>• Regulatory compliance</li> <li>• Outreach and education</li> </ul>	<p>Priority sequestration opportunities are identified and field tests are initiated.</p>	<p>Results from the deployment phase projects enable and enhance commercial-scale carbon sequestration projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twenty-five field tests of CO<sub>2</sub> storage in geologic formations are planned or underway.</li> <li>• Ten field tests of terrestrial sequestration are planned or underway.</li> </ul>



**Pre-Combustion.** Fuel is converted into gaseous components by applying heat under pressure in the presence of steam. In a gasification reactor, the amount of air or oxygen available inside the gasifier is carefully controlled so that only a portion of the fuel burns completely. This “partial oxidation” process provides the heat necessary to chemically decompose the fuel, setting into motion chemical reactions that produce synthesis gas (syngas). Syngas is composed of hydrogen ( $H_2$ ), carbon monoxide (CO) and other gaseous constituents. The CO in the syngas can react with steam to form  $CO_2$  and additional hydrogen, leaving a stream of approximately 40%  $CO_2$  and 60%  $H_2$ . Gasifiers can produce syngas at pressures as high as 950 psi, which provides a strong thermodynamic force for  $CO_2$  separation. Syngas can be charged to a combined cycle power plant or used as a chemical feedstock.

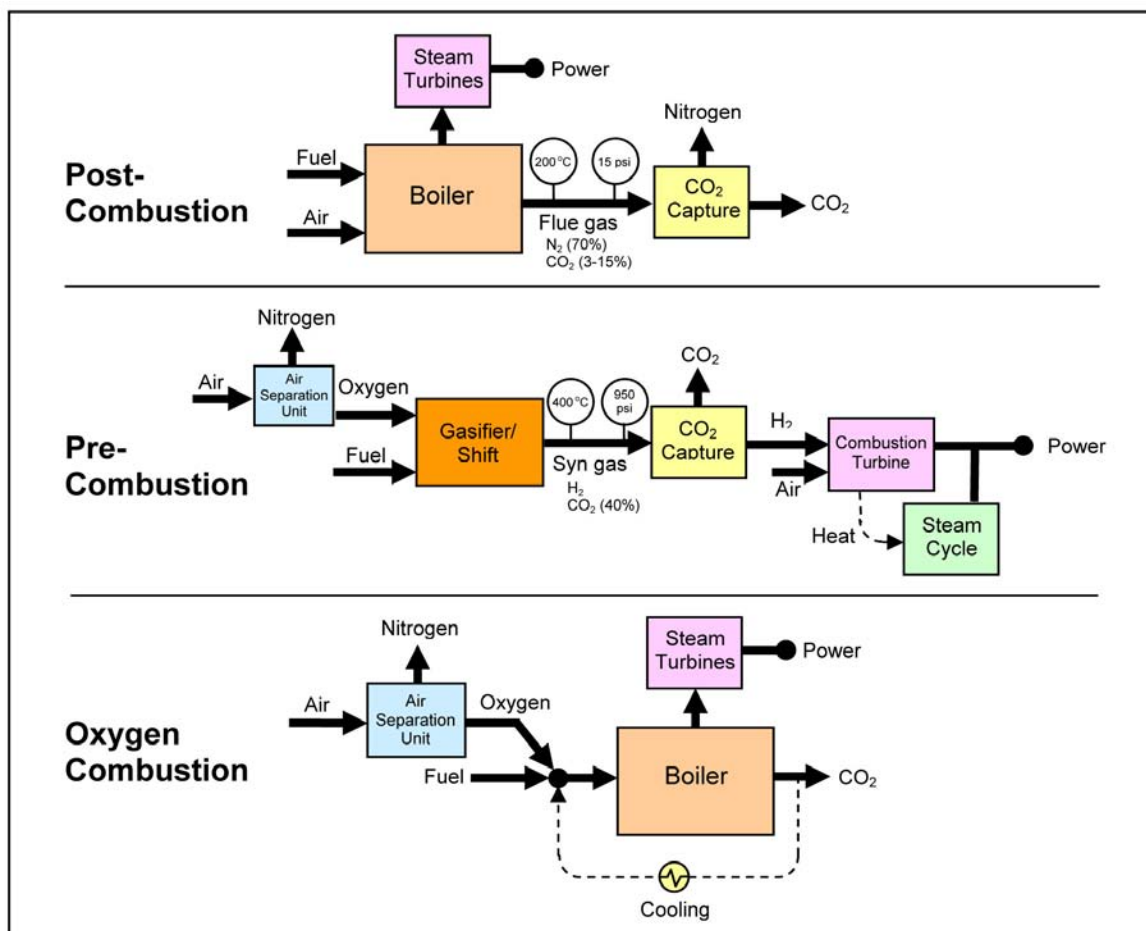


Figure 7. Fossil Fuel Conversion Platforms and  $CO_2$  Capture

**Oxygen Combustion (oxycombustion).** Fuel is burned in oxygen to produce steam to drive a turbine. This results in an exhaust of  $CO_2$  and water vapor. Without nitrogen as a diluent, a portion of the  $CO_2$  exhaust must be cooled and recycled to maintain the temperature in the combustion chamber within the limits of materials of construction. The economics of oxygen combustion are limited because it consumes roughly three times more oxygen per kilowatt-hour (kWh) than gasification.

There are a number of industrial processes that produce a highly pure stream of  $CO_2$  as a natural consequence of their operation. These “ $CO_2$  vents” include natural gas processing, ethanol production, and cement manufacturing.  $CO_2$  vents represent less than 2% of total anthropogenic  $CO_2$  emissions. NETL recognizes  $CO_2$  vents as a near-term opportunity for  $CO_2$  storage deployments, but seeks to develop technologies that can be broadly applied to fossil fuel based energy systems in the electricity supply and transportation sectors.

Figure 8 is a technology roadmap for CO<sub>2</sub> capture. It presents a range of technology development avenues that lead to the overarching program goal. The roadmap shows both advanced fossil fuel conversion and CO<sub>2</sub> capture technologies, recognizing the strong synergy between the two. Some of the pathways are being pursued in the private sector or by other entities within DOE. Those efforts complement the portfolio of capture research projects funded within the Carbon Sequestration Program.

Amines and Selexol (glycol) are two leading technologies in the area of CO<sub>2</sub> capture. Both are offered commercially, but have not yet been deployed at the scale being considered for CO<sub>2</sub> capture from power plants. Industry leads an effort to achieve incremental improvements in commercially offered amine and glycol technologies.

A range of other options for capturing and separating CO<sub>2</sub> offer the potential for a step change reduction in the cost and energy needed for CO<sub>2</sub> capture. DOE is funding a portfolio of cost-shared projects with industry, grants to research and academic institutions, and research conducted in-house at NETL, all aimed at developing these emerging options.

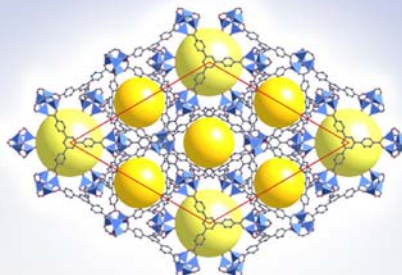
Table 3 presents more detailed information on selected CO<sub>2</sub> capture research pathways. In the left column is the pathway title, its level of maturity (commercially available, pilot scale, laboratory scale, or conceptual), and a list of key academic and private sector entities involved in the area. The next column presents advantages that the concept has demonstrated compared to established technologies, or ways in which it can enhance established technologies. The next column discusses trade-offs or disadvantages that the concept has compared to existing technologies. Finally, the right column lists priority research areas aimed at addressing the challenges and proving the advantages.

The portfolio of technologies being developed applies to both newly built systems and also retrofits of existing capital stock. Higher overall efficiencies and a lower cost of CO<sub>2</sub> capture can be achieved with new construction, but retrofits have the practical advantage of utilizing existing equipment.

Figure 8 sets forth a robust portfolio of research in the area of CO<sub>2</sub> capture. A number of different approaches, with different degrees of technology risk, are being actively pursued.

## Metal Organic Frameworks

Scientists have recently developed improved capabilities to synthesize a class of chemical compounds called metal organic frameworks (MOFs) and “tune” their macromolecular properties. In a project funded by the Program, a team of researchers at UOP LLC, the University of Michigan, and Northwestern University are studying MOFs and their potential for CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption. Researchers are measuring the CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms of a set of MOFs with the hope of developing a better understanding of what MOF characteristics affect CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption. In early work MOF 177 (Zn<sub>3</sub>O(BTB)<sub>2</sub>) exhibited a CO<sub>2</sub> sorption capacity of 1.4 grams CO<sub>2</sub> per gram of sorbent material. This is an improvement over commercially available zeolite sorbents. The increased storage capacity can lower the size and cost of a CO<sub>2</sub> capture system.



MOF 177, Yaghi et. al *Nature* 427, 523-527 (2004)

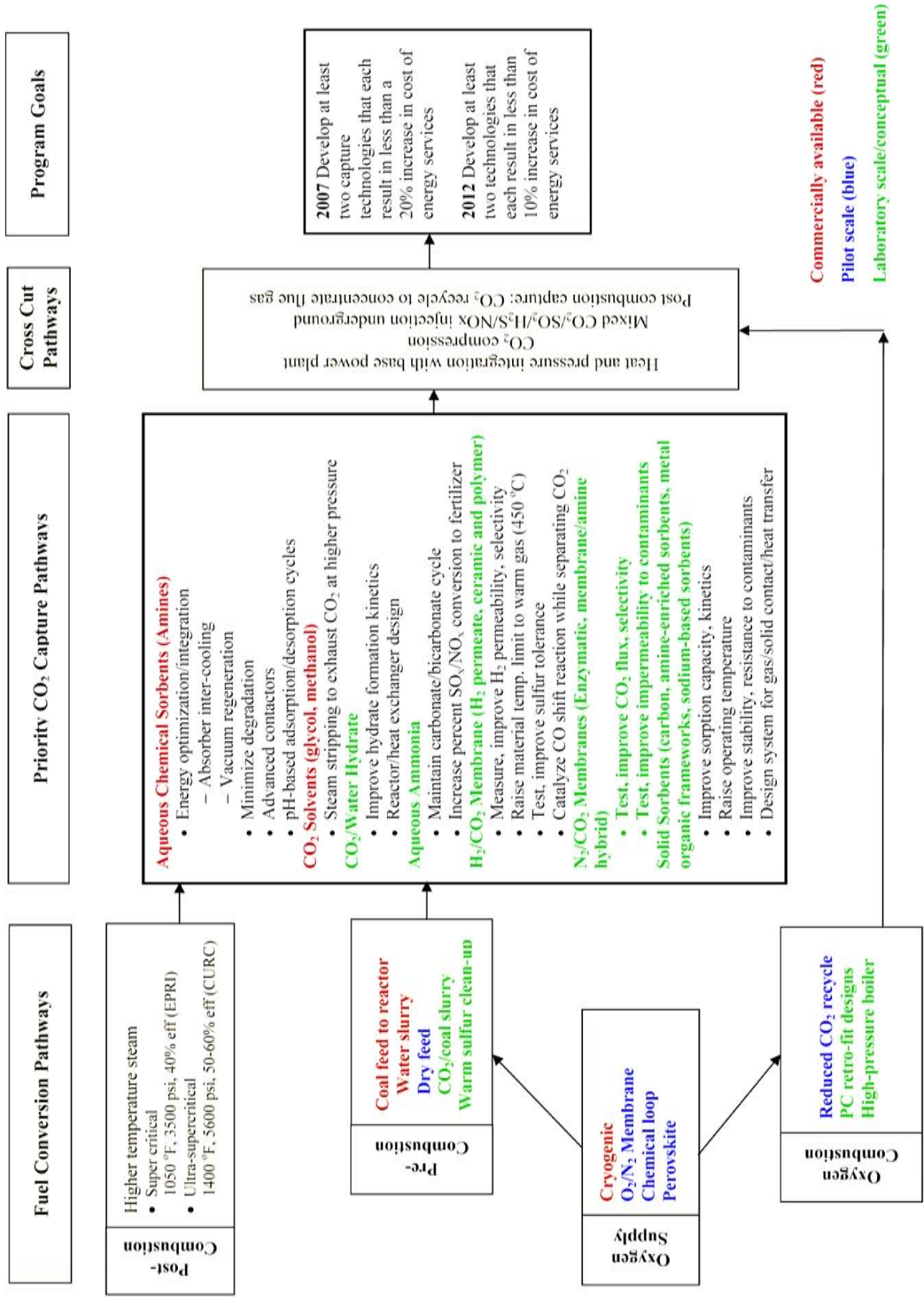


Figure 8. CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Supporting Roadmap

Table 3. CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Sequestration Technology Pathways

	Description	Advantages	Challenges	R&D pathways
<p><b>Amines</b></p> <p><i>Status:</i> Commercially available</p> <p><i>Major suppliers:</i> Fluor Mitsubishi Kerr/McGee</p>	<p>Amines undergo a chemical reaction with CO<sub>2</sub> forming water soluble salts. In a conventional amine process an aqueous solution containing 25-30 wt% amine is contacted with flue gas or other CO<sub>2</sub>-containing stream. CO<sub>2</sub> in the vapor phase dissolves in solution and reacts with the amine to form a salt. The "rich" solution from the contactor is heated, causing the salts to disassociate. Stripping steam is used to pull CO<sub>2</sub> from solution and recover it as a gas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The amine/CO<sub>2</sub> reaction is fast and enables aqueous amines to effectively scrub CO<sub>2</sub> from post combustion flue gas where CO<sub>2</sub> is dilute and at low pressure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Because amine sorption involves a chemical reaction, a significant amount of heat must be applied to recover the absorbed CO<sub>2</sub> (MEA, monoethanolamine, ΔH<sub>R</sub> 825 Btu/lb CO<sub>2</sub> captured).</li> <li>Amine solution that is too concentrated, too rich, or too lean is corrosive to carbon steel. This effect is exacerbated by oxygen in flue gas which degrades corrosion inhibitors. Typical conditions (30 wt% amine, 0.45 mole CO<sub>2</sub> per mole amine rich, 0.20 moles CO<sub>2</sub> per mole amine lean) require 20 kg of water heated and cooled per kg of CO<sub>2</sub> absorbed.</li> <li>SO<sub>x</sub> in the flue gas reacts with amines in solution to form heat stable salts. This causes amine attrition and also fouls heat transfer equipment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scrubbing tower designs to reduce pressure drop (contact materials, intercooling)</li> <li>Additives that enable greater loading differential between rich and lean amine</li> <li>Heat integration with compression and power islands to reduce net steam load</li> <li>Vacuum regeneration</li> </ul>
<p><b>Glycol</b></p> <p><i>Status:</i> Commercially available</p> <p><i>Major suppliers:</i> UOP</p>	<p>CO<sub>2</sub> dissolves in a glycol solution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CO<sub>2</sub> recovery does not require heat to reverse a chemical reaction.</li> <li>CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>S capture can be combined.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must cool down synthesis gas for glycol treatment and then heat back up again and re-humidify for firing to turbine.</li> <li>Low carrying capacity requires circulating 20+ kg glycol solution per kg CO<sub>2</sub> captured.</li> <li>CO<sub>2</sub> pressure is lost during flash recovery.</li> <li>Some H<sub>2</sub> is lost with the CO<sub>2</sub>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Systems concepts in which CO<sub>2</sub> is recovered with some steam stripping rather than flashed, and delivered at a higher pressure</li> <li>Systems concepts to reduce H<sub>2</sub> loss</li> </ul>
<p><b>Methanol</b></p> <p><i>Status:</i> Commercially available (Rectisol)</p> <p><i>Major suppliers:</i> Lurgi</p>	<p>CO<sub>2</sub>-rich stream is cooled and contacted with liquid methanol. The methanol readily dissolves the CO<sub>2</sub>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capable of CO<sub>2</sub> capture rate in excess of 90%; possible use as a polishing stage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refrigeration costs hurt the economics compared to glycol systems.</li> </ul>	



Table 3. CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Sequestration Technology Pathways (cont.)

	Description	Advantages	Challenges	R&D pathways
<b>Aqueous Ammonia</b> <i>Status:</i> Laboratory scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> Powerspan In-house NETL	Ammonia reacts with CO <sub>2</sub> to form ammonium carbonate. Upon heating the ammonium carbonate disassociates releasing a pure stream of CO <sub>2</sub> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced heat of reaction compared to amines.</li> <li>Potential for SO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> capture with fertilizer by-product (ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to cool down flue gas to 80 °F for ammonia carbonate to be stable.</li> <li>Reaction cycles involving ammonia reacting with CO<sub>2</sub> do not offer energy savings compared to amines.</li> <li>Degradation of carbonate in the CO<sub>2</sub> absorber causes ammonia slip in the flue gas exhaust.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process optimization to increase CO<sub>2</sub> loading</li> <li>Additives to raise process temperature above 70 °F</li> <li>Increase percent conversion of SO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> to fertilizer by-products</li> </ul>
<b>Membrane/liquid sorbent hybrids</b> <i>Status:</i> Laboratory scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> Kvaerner/MHI	Flue gas is contacted with a membrane, and a sorbent solution on the permeate side absorbs CO <sub>2</sub> and creates a partial pressure differential to draw CO <sub>2</sub> across the membrane.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The membrane shields the amine from the contaminants in flue gas – reducing attrition and allowing higher loading differentials between lean and rich amine.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital cost associated with the membrane.</li> <li>Membranes may not keep out all unwanted contaminants.</li> <li>Does not address CO<sub>2</sub> compression costs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot-scale tests</li> </ul>
<b>Hydrogen / CO<sub>2</sub> membranes</b> <i>Status:</i> Laboratory-scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> LANL Eltron ORNL NETL in-house	A membrane material selectively allows H <sub>2</sub> to permeate, leaving a concentrated stream of CO <sub>2</sub> in the retentate. Membrane materials can be made of ceramic or polymers and can transport hydrogen via diffusion or ion transport. (This technology is solely for gasification-based energy systems)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can deliver CO<sub>2</sub> at high-pressure, greatly reducing compression costs.</li> <li>No steam load or chemical attrition.</li> <li>H<sub>2</sub> permeation can drive the CO shift reaction toward completion – potentially achieving the shift at lower cost/higher temperatures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membrane separation of H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> is more challenging than the difference in molecular weights implies.</li> <li>Due to decreasing partial pressure differentials, some H<sub>2</sub> will be lost with the CO<sub>2</sub>.</li> <li>Hydrogen compression is required, which off-sets the gains from delivering CO<sub>2</sub> at pressure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measure, improve H<sub>2</sub> permeability, selectivity</li> <li>Operation temperature close to warm gas (450 °C)</li> <li>Sulfur tolerant materials</li> <li>Catalyze CO shift reaction at membrane surface</li> <li>Systems analysis to identify optimal places for membrane separation in an IGCC</li> </ul>
<b>Metal Organic Frameworks</b> <i>Status:</i> Laboratory scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> UOP; U of Mich; Northwestern U.	Large molecules with engineered macro-molecular cavities that can adsorb CO <sub>2</sub> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High storage density possible.</li> <li>Adsorption process, low heat required to recover CO<sub>2</sub>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unknown contaminant sensitivity.</li> <li>Unknown thermal, oxidative, and hydrolytic stability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a better understanding of the adsorption process</li> <li>Screen/design new MOFs</li> </ul>

Table 3. CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Sequestration Technology Pathways (cont.)

	Description	Advantages	Challenges	R&D Pathways
<b>Hydrates</b> <i>Status:</i> Laboratory scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> Simtech LANL	At high pressure and low temperature (200 psi, 4 °C) CO <sub>2</sub> and water form solid macromolecular structures called hydrates. The solids are separated from the liquid stream and then heated to break down the hydrates and recover CO <sub>2</sub> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has the potential to produce captured CO<sub>2</sub> at several hundred psi of pressure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires refrigeration energy to counteract heat of hydrate formation (<math>\Delta H_f</math>: 600-1,400 Btu/lb CO<sub>2</sub> captured).</li> <li>Cold spots in the hydrate formation reactor can cause ice formation and operational problems.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additives to speed up the hydrate formation reaction and enable 90% CO<sub>2</sub> capture</li> <li>Heat exchanger design to ensure uniform temperatures in the hydrate reactor</li> </ul>
<b>Enzymatic CO<sub>2</sub> Sorbents</b> <i>Status:</i> Laboratory scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> Carbozyme CO2Source	Enzyme-based system achieves CO <sub>2</sub> capture and release by mimicking mammalian respiratory mechanism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fast kinetics lower system size and cost.</li> <li>Resistance to SO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>.</li> <li>pH swing based operation offers potential to produce CO<sub>2</sub> above atmospheric pressure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 °F operating limit and exothermic CO<sub>2</sub> sorption reaction require cooling of flue gas.</li> <li>Entrained solids in flue gas from coal boilers may block membrane channels.</li> <li>Possible sensitivity to acid gases.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and test thermal management approaches.</li> <li>Demonstrate insensitivity to SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and acid gas.</li> </ul>
<b>Amine-enriched Sorbents</b> <i>Status:</i> Laboratory scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> NETL in-house	A carbon material with amine compounds fixed upon it exposed to a CO <sub>2</sub> -rich process stream. The amine sites absorb the CO <sub>2</sub> . The temperature of the material is raised to release the CO <sub>2</sub> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High storage capacity (4 moles CO<sub>2</sub> per kg solid sorbent) and use of tertiary amines allows potential for lower energy required per CO<sub>2</sub> captured.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relative to a liquid, it is difficult to lower and raise the temperature of a solid material – can cause slow de-sorption rates.</li> <li>Small diameter particles can cause high pressure drop across absorber.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve sorption capacity, kinetics.</li> <li>Improve stability, resistance to poisons.</li> <li>System design for gas/solid contact/heat transfer.</li> <li>Multi-pollutant capture.</li> </ul>
<b>Ionic Liquids</b> <i>Status:</i> Laboratory scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> U. of Notre Dame Sachem; Merck	Ionic liquids are a broad category of organic chemical compounds consisting of anionic and cationic components. They can dissolve gaseous CO <sub>2</sub> and are stable at temperatures up to several hundred degrees C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In a gasification application, can avoid cooling down syngas and heating it back up.</li> <li>Physical solvent requires little heat for CO<sub>2</sub> recovery.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Room temperature ionic liquids are not manufactured commercially and are expensive (\$350 - \$2,000/kg).</li> <li>High viscosity may hinder usefulness.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop better understanding of CO<sub>2</sub> dissolution mechanism.</li> <li>Screen materials for CO<sub>2</sub> solubility, viscosity, thermal stability.</li> <li>Conduct toxicity tests.</li> </ul>

Table 3. CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Sequestration Technology Pathways (cont.)

	Description	Advantages	Challenges	R&D Pathways
<b>Pulverized Coal Oxycombustion</b> <i>Status:</i> Pilot Scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> Foster Wheeler, B&W, Air Liquide, SRI, ANL	Cryogenic air separation is used to supply pure or nearly pure oxygen to the coal fired boiler. Recycled flue gas is used to control furnace temperatures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produces high purity CO<sub>2</sub> flue gas that may not require further purification</li> <li>• No use of steam for sorbent regeneration</li> <li>• Smaller boiler equipment than air-fired on new installations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cryogenic air separation costs hurt economics</li> <li>• Air leakage reduces purity of CO<sub>2</sub> in flue gas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot scale and demonstration tests</li> <li>• Heat integration between air separation and power plant</li> </ul>
<b>Circulating Fluidized Bed Oxycombustion</b> <i>Status:</i> Pilot Scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> Alstom	Cryogenic air separation is used to supply pure or nearly pure oxygen to the circulating fluidized bed boiler.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same advantages of pulverized coal oxycombustion</li> <li>• Allows for fuel flexibility with in-bed sulfur removal and the use of solids circulation for temperature control</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to those of pulverized coal oxycombustion, recarbonation of limestone with CO<sub>2</sub> may be an issue depending upon plant configuration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot scale and demonstration tests</li> <li>• Heat integration between air separation and power plant</li> </ul>
<b>Oxygen Membrane / Integrated Combustor</b> <i>Status:</i> Laboratory Scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> Praxair	Oxygen transport membranes allow for the production of oxygen with a lower energy penalty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated OTM furnaces create oxygen separation without pressure-based driving force or cryogenics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of durable membranes</li> <li>• Achievement of desired oxygen flux</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optimize membrane materials to achieve desired oxygen flux without sacrificing membrane robustness</li> <li>• Develop a coal-based combustion system</li> </ul>
<b>Perovskite bed / Integrated Combustor</b> <i>Status:</i> Pilot Scale <i>R&amp;D by:</i> BOC <i>R&amp;D by:</i> BOC	Perovskites beds (Ceramic Autothermal Recovery, CAR) are used to absorb oxygen from air and then are regenerated by a sweep or recycled flue gas and used in the combustor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allows for the production of oxygen for combustion at a lower cost than cryogenic</li> <li>• CAR units require only they replacement of lost heat for oxygen production</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perovskite material development</li> <li>• Process optimization</li> <li>• Integration with coal-fired power plants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small-scale pilot scale testing to optimize and integrate process with coal-fired combustion systems</li> <li>• Increased size pilot testing, if successful</li> </ul>

## Systems Analyses for CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Technologies

Systems analyses and economic modeling of potential new processes are crucial to providing sound guidance to R&D efforts. Analyses conducted under the auspices of the Program are focused on CO<sub>2</sub> capture technologies. Analyses are being performed on NETL in-house projects and also on processes being developed by universities and industry. Some of these studies, particularly on developed technologies, are performed by engineering firms and provide detailed, high-quality estimates. Other studies on emerging technologies that are being developed on a laboratory scale are less rigorous, because less information is available. Nevertheless, these less rigorous studies provide a vision of how a new technology might be applied to a full-scale power plant and identify potential issues with its integration. Figure 9 summarizes a recently completed analysis.

System analyses have multiple goals: (1) put emerging technologies into a systems context (e.g., commercial-scale power plant), (2) screen out unpromising projects before significant resources are spent on them, and (3) provide guidance to NETL technology managers and researchers working on more promising projects.

In 2005, a Phase I systems analysis was completed on a CO<sub>2</sub> capture sorbent being developed at NETL. The sorbent uses the same type of amine chemicals (primary, secondary and tertiary) as found in conventional wet scrubbers, however, they are attached to solid substrates (meso-porous silica) rather than dissolved in water. This offers two primary advantages:

### 1. Uses less energy

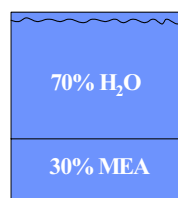
- ↓ Heat Capacity (Do not need to heat water)
- Use less stripping steam to regenerate CO<sub>2</sub>

	Amine Enhanced Sorbents	MEA
Heat Capacity (Btu/lb-°F)	0.3	0.9
ΔT Regeneration	80°F	105°F
Regeneration Energy (Btu/lb CO <sub>2</sub> )		
Sensible	40	941
Reaction	+ 580	703
Vaporization	+ 0	290
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 620</b>	<b>1,934</b>

### 2. Higher CO<sub>2</sub> carrying capacity per lb of sorbent

	30% MEA	Amine Sorbent
Density (lb/ft <sup>3</sup> )	22	44
Working Capacity (lb CO <sub>2</sub> /lb sorbent)	0.052	0.264
Mass sorbent per pound CO <sub>2</sub>	19 lbs solution	3.8 lbs sorbent
Volume per Pound CO <sub>2</sub> (ft <sup>3</sup> /lb CO <sub>2</sub> )	0.8	0.08

*10x decrease in volume to treat  
equivalent amount of CO<sub>2</sub>*



VS.



Conceptual designs of the solid sorbent in fixed and fluidized bed reactors were modeled by the NETL systems analysis group using ASPEN and EXCEL. The CO<sub>2</sub> capture systems were fully integrated into an air combustion power plant and sized to capture 90% of the CO<sub>2</sub> contained in boiler flue gas CO<sub>2</sub>. The systems analysis revealed challenges in pressure drop across a fixed bed reactor and also in heat management issues. Fluidized-bed reactor designs showed promise in overcoming the pressure drop and heat management issues; but, at the expense of increased sorbent attrition rate. The analysis is currently investigating novel reactor designs that may alleviate the pressure drop and heat management issues. NETL is collaborating with Calgon Carbon Corporation to assess the feasibility of using their Phoenix<sup>TM</sup> radial flow reactor design for the solid CO<sub>2</sub> sorbent application.

Figure 9. Example: CO<sub>2</sub> Capture System Using Amine-Enriched Sorbents



## 2. Carbon Storage.

Carbon storage is defined as the placement of CO<sub>2</sub> into a repository in such a way that it will remain stored (or sequestered) permanently. It includes three distinct sub-areas: geologic sequestration, terrestrial sequestration, and ocean sequestration.

**CO<sub>2</sub> Storage in Geologic Formations.** The storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in a geologic formation is the injection of CO<sub>2</sub> into an underground formation that has the capability to contain it securely over a long period of time. Five types of formations, each with different challenges and opportunities for CO<sub>2</sub> storage are:

- *Oil and Gas Bearing Formations.* An oil or gas formation is a formation of porous rock that has held crude oil or natural gas (both of which are buoyant underground like CO<sub>2</sub>) over geologic timeframes. It thus has a “demonstrated seal” and is fundamentally an ideal setting for CO<sub>2</sub> storage. The attractiveness of oil and gas formations is often enhanced by the fact that injected CO<sub>2</sub> can enable the production of oil and gas resources left behind by primary recovery and water flooding. The challenge is that well-known oil and gas fields have been drilled into extensively. Earlier wells were not sealed to today’s high standards when they were abandoned, and most abandoned wells, old and recent, are plugged with Portland cement which is susceptible to corrosion from saline water with dissolved CO<sub>2</sub>.
- *Saline Formations.* A saline formation is a formation of porous rock that is overlain by one or more impermeable rock formations and thus has the potential to trap injected CO<sub>2</sub>. Saline formations lack a demonstrated seal and do not offer the possibility for enhanced oil or gas production. The advantages of saline formations include a large aggregate CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity and the low number of existing well penetrations compared to oil and gas formations.
- *Basalts.* Basalts are formations of solidified lava. They generally have low porosity; the CO<sub>2</sub> storage mechanism of interest in a basalt formation is mineralization of CO<sub>2</sub> with silicates. Research is focused on enhancing and harnessing the mineralization reaction and increasing CO<sub>2</sub> flow within a basalt formation.
- *Deep Coal Seams.* CO<sub>2</sub> injected into a coal bed becomes absorbed onto the coal’s surface and is sequestered. Most coals contain absorbed methane, but will preferentially absorb CO<sub>2</sub>. CO<sub>2</sub> can be injected into an unmineable coal formation to enable recovery of residual methane not produced by de-pressuring. Research is focused on maintaining CO<sub>2</sub> injectivity as the coal absorbs CO<sub>2</sub> and swells.
- *Oil or Gas Rich Shales.* Shale, the most common type of sedimentary rock, is characterized by thin horizontal layers of rock with very low permeability in the vertical direction. Many shales contain 1-2% organic material, and the hydrocarbon material provides an adsorption mechanism for CO<sub>2</sub> storage, similar to CO<sub>2</sub> storage in coal seams. Research is focused on achieving economically viable CO<sub>2</sub> injection rates, given the shales’ low permeability.

Figure 10 presents a synopsis of carbon sequestration storage pathways and program goals for CO<sub>2</sub> storage in geologic formations.

The following is a discussion of four key topics on CO<sub>2</sub> storage in underground geologic formations.

- **CO<sub>2</sub> Fluid Properties Underground.** At the temperatures and pressures of most underground formations (100 to 150 °F, 2,000 to 3,000 psi) CO<sub>2</sub> exists as a supercritical fluid - it has a density near that of a liquid but a viscosity near that of a gas. Managing the state of CO<sub>2</sub>, specifically keeping it supercritical in the pipeline, down the injection well, and in the target formation, is an important part of system design.

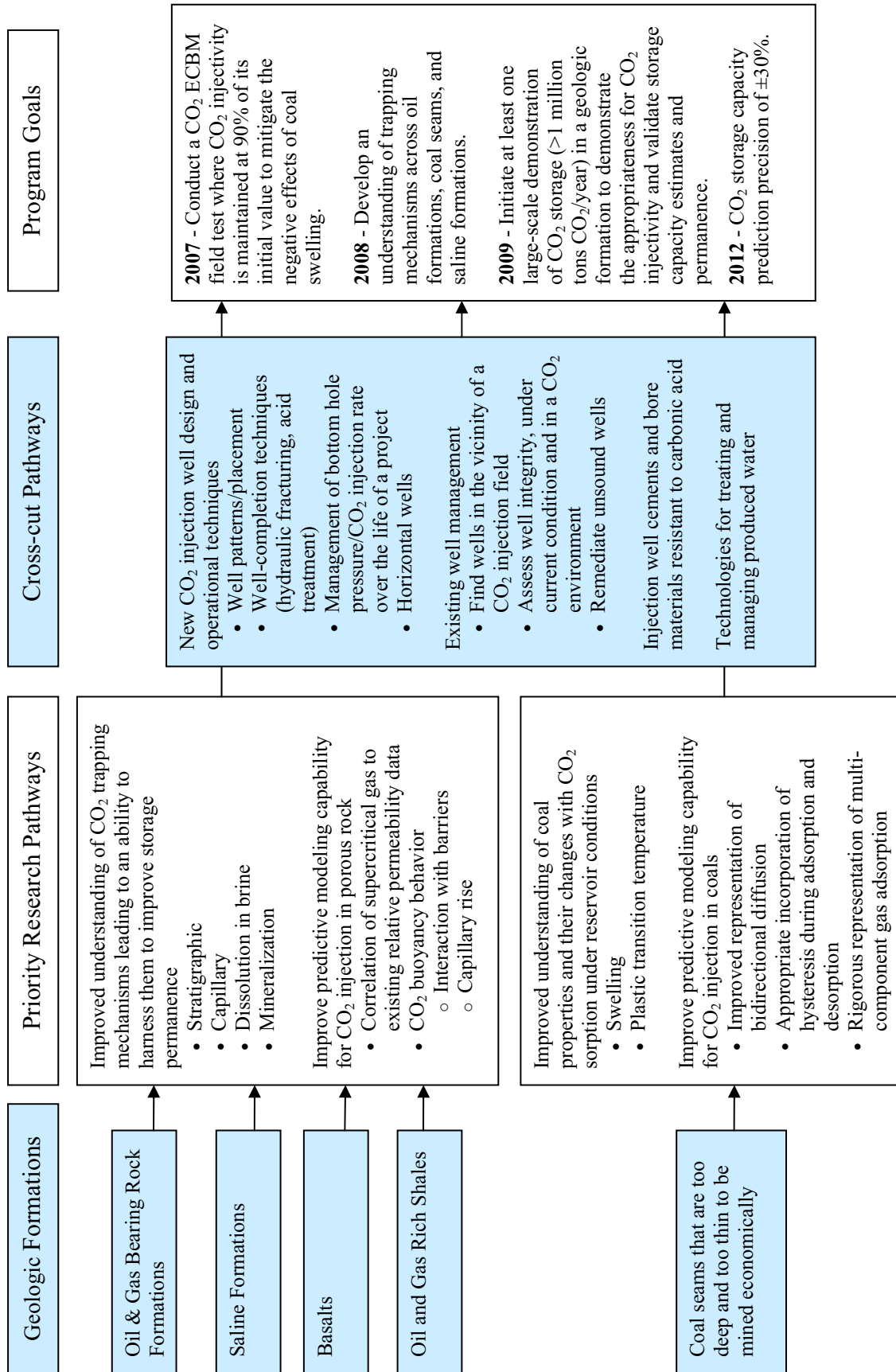


Figure 10. Carbon Storage Supporting Roadmap

- **CO<sub>2</sub> Trapping Within a Geologic Formation.** Of emerging importance in the field of geologic sequestration is the science of maximizing CO<sub>2</sub> trapping mechanisms (Figure 11). Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> is lighter than the saline water in the formation and exhibits a strong tendency to flow upward. The primary method for trapping CO<sub>2</sub> is by a layer or “cap” of impermeable rock that overlies the formation of porous rock into which the CO<sub>2</sub> is injected and prevents upward flow of CO<sub>2</sub>. This is called structural trapping and it is the mechanism that resulted in natural deposits of crude oil, natural gas and CO<sub>2</sub>. Four other mechanisms for CO<sub>2</sub> trapping, described below, can enhance the permanence of CO<sub>2</sub> stored within a geologic formation.
  1. **Capillary Trapping.** The surface of sandstone and other rocks preferentially adheres to saline water over CO<sub>2</sub>. If there is enough saline water within a pore (75-90% of the pore volume), it will form a capillary plug that traps the residual CO<sub>2</sub> within the pore space.
  2. **Dissolution in Saline Water.** CO<sub>2</sub> is soluble in saline water. As it comes in contact with the saline water it dissolves and forms a solution.
  3. **Mineralization.** Over longer periods of time (thousands of years), dissolved CO<sub>2</sub> reacts with minerals to form solid carbonates.
  4. **Absorption of CO<sub>2</sub>.** Coal and other organically-rich formations will preferentially absorb CO<sub>2</sub> onto carbon surfaces as a function of formation pressure.

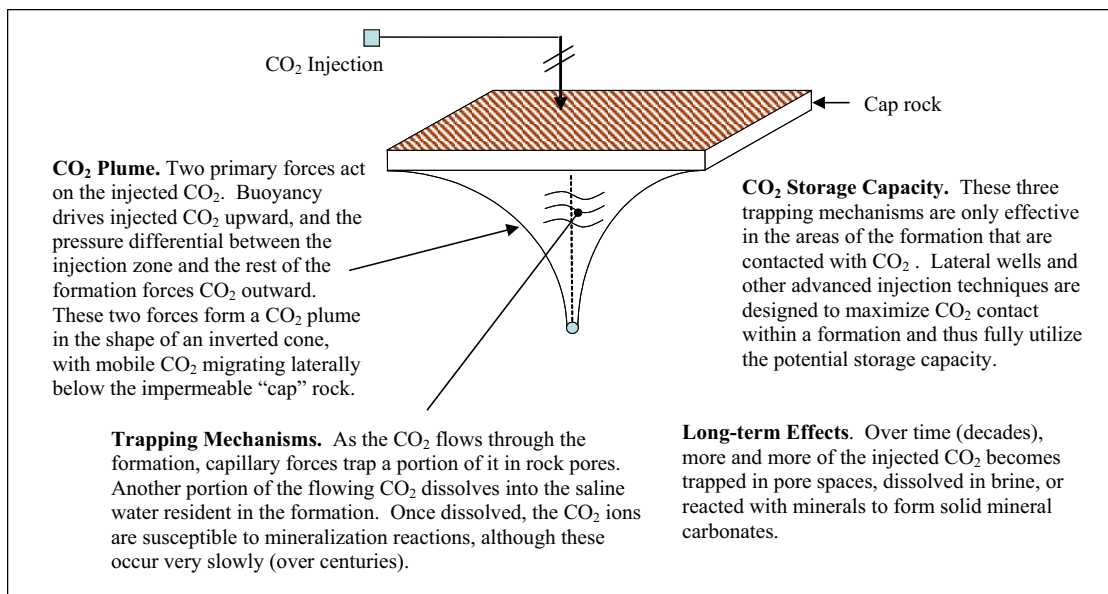


Figure 11. CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Mechanisms in Porous Rock Formation

- **Produced Water.** In many cases, storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in an underground formation will result in salty water (brine) being produced at the surface. Water is produced to control the pressure in the injection zone. Produced water can be pooled in shallow ponds and evaporated, or treated and utilized for irrigation. However, utilization of produced water requires cost prohibitive desalination and treatment technologies, resulting in limited use.
- **CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Wells.** Proper engineering of injection wells is vitally important for the success of CO<sub>2</sub> storage projects. An optimal well will provide a high CO<sub>2</sub> injection rate and thorough contact between the injected CO<sub>2</sub> and the target formation. A well must also be stable and be able to withstand carbonic acid corrosion and, thus, not pose a risk as a potential leakage pathway. Figure 12 is a short primer on injection wells.

## CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Wells – A Primer

The procedure for drilling a CO<sub>2</sub> injection well is as follows. A hole is drilled into the ground using a rotating bit. A drilling mud is circulated into the well bore to cool the drill bit and remove cuttings. A tubular metal casing is inserted into the well as the drilling proceeds.

After a certain distance a singular run of casing reaches its maximum length and drilling is paused. Wet cement or mud is pumped down into the well casing and pressured through the bottom of the well and up into the annulus between the casing and the well bore. When the mud sets, the casing is secured in place. If the target formation is deeper a smaller diameter hole is drilled below the first one with a new correspondingly smaller casing hung from the first one, and so on until the target formation is reached.

Diagnostics equipment is lowered into the well to verify the location and depth of the target formation. A shape charge is then lowered into the well and detonated at the target injection point. The charge perforates the liner and cement seal, allowing injected CO<sub>2</sub> to flow into the target formation.

A tube is lowered into the well. At the end of it is a cylindrical device called a plug. When the tube is in place, the plug expands forming a seal between itself and the outside of the tube and the inside of the casing. Injected CO<sub>2</sub> is pumped through the tube, and the tube wall provides another layer of protection against CO<sub>2</sub> leakage into a formation other than the target formation.

A pressure transient test is conducted. Water is pumped into the well to raise the bottom hole pressure. Then the flow of water is stopped, and the rate at which the bottom hole pressure dissipates is tracked. Too rapid a pressure dissipation indicates a fault in the seal between the liner and the well bore or a fault in the cap rock. Too slow a pressure dissipation indicates the permeability of the target formation may be insufficient.

CO<sub>2</sub> injection wells have some special considerations. For example, CO<sub>2</sub> must be dried thoroughly to minimize acid formation and the CO<sub>2</sub> injection pressure must be maintained to provide single-phase CO<sub>2</sub> in the well bore. Also, acid-resistant calcium phosphate-based cements may be used in place of the standard Portland cement which is susceptible to corrosion by brine with dissolved CO<sub>2</sub>.

These technologies and procedures provide a sturdy and robust method for injecting CO<sub>2</sub> into a target formation – without damaging the geologic seal. After injection is complete the wells are shut in by removing the tubing and filling the well bore with cement. The casing may also be pulled for its salvage value.

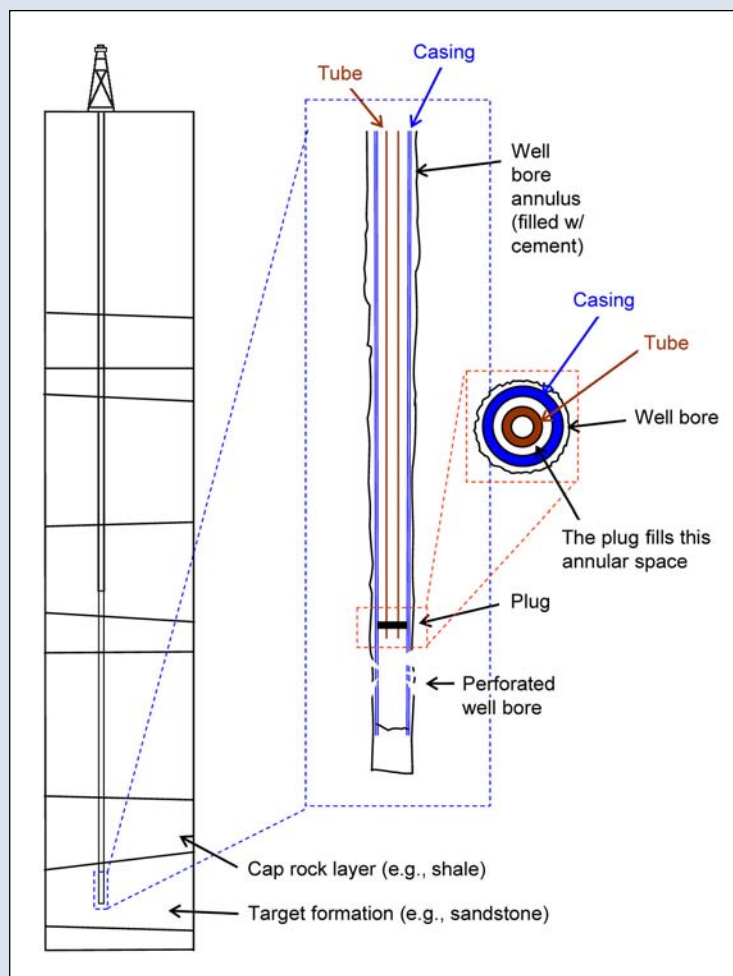


Figure 12. CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Wells – A Primer



Lateral wells are a relatively new development in well technology. Sedimentary formations are horizontal, and a lateral well can run along a formation, providing a much greater degree of contact compared to a conventional vertical well. For CO<sub>2</sub> storage, lateral wells create the opportunity of multiple injection points at the bottom of a formation, greatly increasing the lateral distribution of CO<sub>2</sub>. Lateral well capability, combined with advanced formation characterization can enable placement of injection points that force CO<sub>2</sub> flow through low permeability regions, further expanding CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity.

**CO<sub>2</sub> Storage in Terrestrial Ecosystems.** Terrestrial sequestration is the enhancement of CO<sub>2</sub> uptake by plants, both on land and in freshwater. It includes carbon storage in soils. Program efforts in the area of terrestrial sequestration are focused on increasing carbon uptake on mined lands. These activities complement research into forestation and agricultural practices that are being led by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The U.S. DOE’s Office of Science, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of the Interior are also involved in terrestrial sequestration in supporting and complementary roles. Table 4 presents a synopsis of the terrestrial sequestration pathways and program goals.

With the passage of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 coal mine operators have moved away from reforestation of minelands in favor of compaction and grass planting. Afforestation provides more carbon sequestration per acre of land compared to grass planting, and the Program funded several field tests of afforestation methods. Tilling and amendment approaches developed by the Program provide a 6-10 foot layer of loose earth that enables trees to take root. In some cases the tilled mineland is amended with coal combustion by-products to reduce its acidity. A layer of compacted earth is maintained under the loose earth to prevent rain water from draining through the mine slag. These approaches can be applied to both closure practices at currently operating mines and reclamation of the nearly 1.5 million acres of lands in the United States damaged by past mining practices.

Table 4. Terrestrial and Ocean Sequestration Pathways and Program Goals

Technology Roadmap			Supporting Program Activities	
Current State of the Art	Priority Research Pathways	Cross Cut Pathways	R&D Highlights	Program Goals <i>Ensure permanence and ecosystem protection</i>
<p><b>Terrestrial Sequestration</b></p> <p>There are currently over 20,000 acres of forestland in the United States dedicated specifically to sequestering CO<sub>2</sub>.</p> <p>The United States has 1.5 million acres of land damaged by past mining practices.</p>	<p>Planting trees instead of grass on mine land</p> <p>Soil reclamation using coal combustion by-products (CCBs) or other solid residuals</p> <p>No-till farming, afforestation, and other activities applied to a wide range of geographies to increase carbon uptake</p>	<p>Enhanced carbon transfer from plant to soil</p>	<p>Achieved 80% survival rate for tree plantings in both damaged land amended with flue gas desulfurization sludge (Paradise, KY) and in formerly compacted mineland (Hazard, KY).</p>	<p><b>2007</b> - Develop optimization strategies and best practice guidelines for maximizing carbon sequestration potential on unproductive mine lands.</p> <p><b>2008</b> - Develop to the point of commercial deployment systems for advanced indirect sequestration of greenhouse gases that protect human and ecosystem health and cost no more than \$10 per metric ton of carbon sequestered, net of any value-added benefits.</p>
<p><b>Ocean Sequestration</b></p> <p>No commercial deployments.</p> <p>Unknown ecosystem impacts.</p> <p>Enormous storage potential.</p>	<p>Ocean injection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deep injection technology</li> <li>- Use of hydrates to increase permanence</li> </ul>	<p>Developing equipment needed to conduct experiments in the deep ocean</p>	<p>An experiment conducted at a natural CO<sub>2</sub> vent in the ocean showed that fish can sense and avoid a plume of entrained CO<sub>2</sub>.</p> <p>Laboratory tests have shown that premixing CO<sub>2</sub> and water prior to injection creates hydrates that are denser than ocean water and sink upon injection.</p>	<p>Improved scientific understanding of this option.</p> <p>***This portion of the program is being phased-out.</p>

The results from field tests have been encouraging. Tree survival rates of greater than 80% have been achieved. Initial concerns about erosion before saplings become established have not been realized because the deep layer of loose soil soaks up the water.

**CO<sub>2</sub> Storage in the Ocean.** The purpose of R&D in ocean sequestration is to gain a better understanding of ecosystem dynamics at elevated CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations. Ocean sequestration is not deemed a viable option at this time. Ocean sequestration is the injection of CO<sub>2</sub> into the deep oceans for long-term storage. Key concerns about such an approach include the cost of delivering CO<sub>2</sub> 500 meters or deeper below the ocean surface, the permanence of injected CO<sub>2</sub>, and possible negative effects on the deep ocean ecosystem. The advantage of this approach is the enormous potential storage capacity of the deep oceans. Table 4 presents a synopsis of the ocean sequestration pathways and program goals.

In cooperation with U.S. DOE's Office of Science and the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Core R&D effort is funding research to assess the effects of injected CO<sub>2</sub> on aquatic organisms near the injection zone. A large part of the work has been devoted to prerequisite efforts of developing the instrumentation and remotely-operated-vehicles needed to conduct experiments in the deep ocean. Experiments have shown that some fish are able to detect and avoid a CO<sub>2</sub> plume. Other experiments have shown that sessile marine organisms contacted by a CO<sub>2</sub> plume experience high mortality rates. Further research efforts are focused on the boundary layer between the CO<sub>2</sub> plume and the surrounding ocean and in measuring the pH gradient from the injection point outward.

### 3. Monitoring, Mitigation, and Verification (MM&V)

Monitoring and Verification are defined as the capability to measure the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> stored at a specific sequestration site, monitor the site for leaks or other deterioration of storage integrity over time, and to verify that the CO<sub>2</sub> is stored in a way that is permanent and not harmful to the host ecosystem. Mitigation is the capability to respond to CO<sub>2</sub> leakage or ecological damage in the unlikely event that it should occur. MM&V is broken into two categories (1) geologic sequestration and (2) terrestrial sequestration. Research activities in both areas are closely coordinated with the associated work in carbon storage. In addition to ensuring effective and safe storage, MM&V provides information and feedback that is useful in improving and refining storage field practices.

Key topics in the areas of geologic and terrestrial sequestration MM&V are discussed below. Figure 13 shows goals and research pathways.

#### MM&V Technologies for CO<sub>2</sub> Storage in Geologic Formations

**Monitoring and Verification.** Monitoring and verification for geologic sequestration contains three components:

- *Modeling.* Modeling is simulating the forces that influence the behavior of CO<sub>2</sub> in a geologic formation. A model is an important tool needed to prove, with a high degree of confidence, that injected CO<sub>2</sub> will remain securely stored before injection is allowed to commence. The behavior of injected CO<sub>2</sub> is a complex phenomena. It involves the flow of CO<sub>2</sub> through heterogeneous rock; forces acting upon the flowing CO<sub>2</sub>, including buoyancy, dissolution, capillary trapping, and chemical reactions; and the impact of the CO<sub>2</sub> plume and increased pressure on the formation cap rock. A model serves as a nexus of understanding and captures the interaction of different forces. The boundary of a robust CO<sub>2</sub> storage model is not limited to the target formation, but also includes paths that fugitive CO<sub>2</sub> may travel up to the surface. The Program seeks to acquire data needed to support models (i.e., chemical reaction kinetics, and two and three phase vapor/liquid equilibrium data at super critical conditions) and to develop integrated models that support the needs of field tests.

- *Plume tracking.* Plume tracking is the ability to “see” the injected CO<sub>2</sub> and its behavior. Seismic is a key technology in this area. Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> is more compressible than saline water and sound waves travel through it at a different velocity. Thus free CO<sub>2</sub> in a saline formation leaves a bright seismic signature, as seen at the Weyburn and Frio field tests. Observation wells are another important source of information for plume tracking.
- *Leak detection.* CO<sub>2</sub> leak detection systems will serve as a backstop for modeling and plume tracking. The first challenge for leak detection is the need to cover large areas. The CO<sub>2</sub> plume from an injection of 1 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year in a deep saline formation for twenty years could be spread over a horizontal area of 15 square miles or more. The second challenge is to separate CO<sub>2</sub> leaks from varying fluxes of natural CO<sub>2</sub> respiration.

There are important interconnections among these three areas. For example, data from plume tracking enables validation of reservoir models. On the other hand, a robust reservoir model enables operators to better interpret data from plume tracking. Also, models and plume tracking help focus leak detection efforts on high-risk areas.

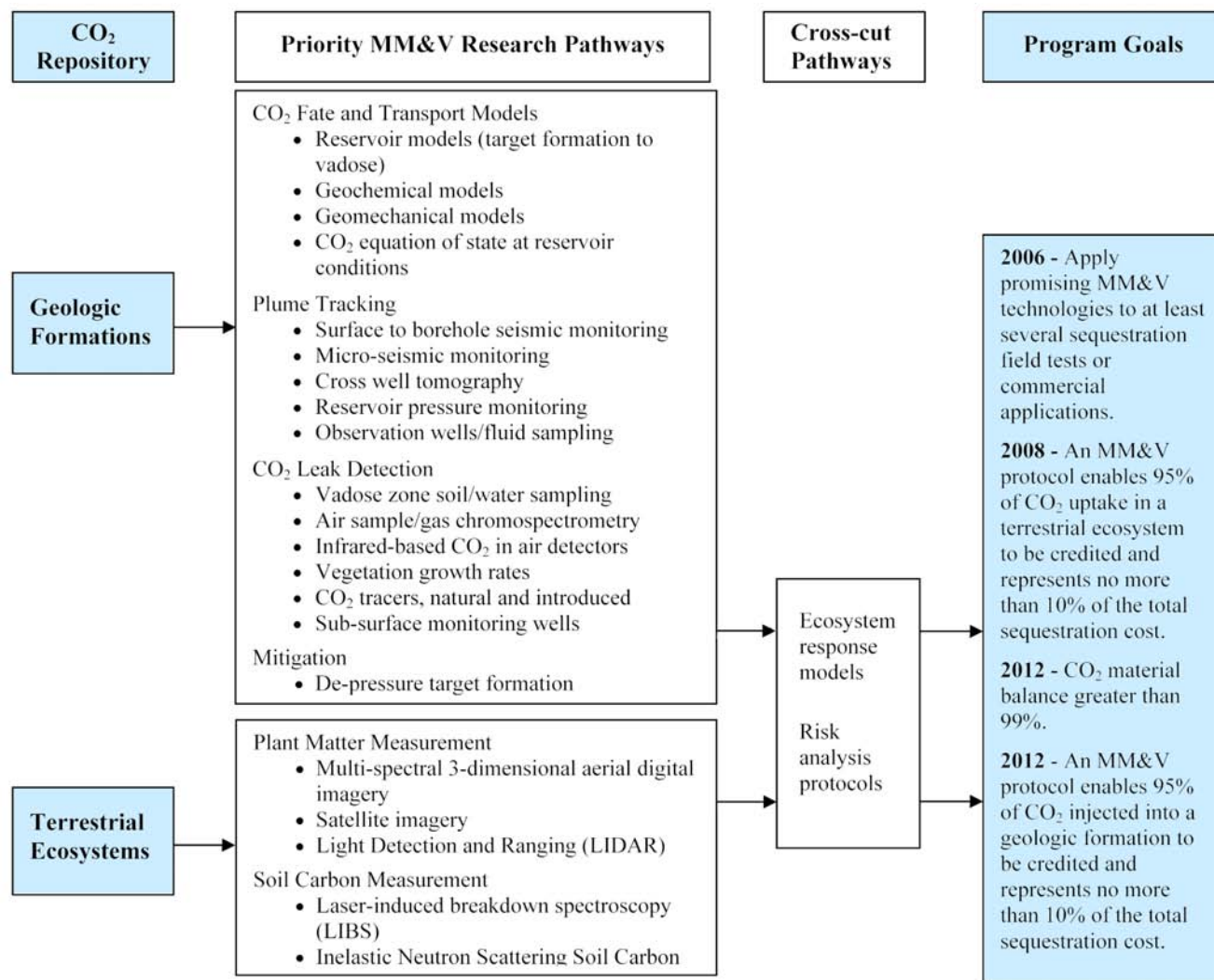


Figure 13. MM&V Supporting Roadmap

**Mitigation.** If CO<sub>2</sub> leakage occurs, steps can be taken to arrest the flow of CO<sub>2</sub> and mitigate the negative impacts. Examples include lowering the pressure within the CO<sub>2</sub> storage formation to reduce the driving force for CO<sub>2</sub> flow and possibly reverse faulting or fracturing; forming a “pressure plug” by increasing the pressure in the formation into which CO<sub>2</sub> is leaking; intercepting the CO<sub>2</sub> leakage path; or plugging the region where leakage is occurring with low permeability materials using, for example, “controlled mineral carbonation” or “controlled formation of biofilms.”

#### MM&V for Terrestrial Ecosystems

**Organic Matter Measurement.** Researchers are developing video and laser-based fly-over technologies for estimating the amount of carbon stored in forests or other terrestrial ecosystems. Recent field tests of a video/laser measurement system showed a 95% correlation with results from traditional field measurements. The purpose of the fly-over and satellite technologies is to provide a less labor-intensive method for measuring stored carbon. Also, the advanced technologies can provide more robust information, which can enable more proactive forest management resulting in additional stored carbon.

**Soil Carbon Measurement.** The storage of carbon in degraded soils offers a significant opportunity to offset GHG emissions. The program is focusing its research on the development of advanced technologies to reduce the uncertainty and costs with measuring carbon in soils.

**Modeling.** Detailed models are used to extrapolate the results from random samples to an entire plot and to estimate the net increase in carbon storage relative to a case without enhanced carbon uptake. Economic models show accumulations of emissions credits and revenues versus an initial investment.

### 4. Non-CO<sub>2</sub> Greenhouse Gas Control

Because non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gases (e.g., methane, nitrous oxide, and certain refrigerants) can have significant economic value, emissions can often be captured or avoided at relatively low net cost. The Carbon Sequestration Program is focused on fugitive methane emissions where non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gas abatement is integrated with energy production, conversion, and use. Landfill gas and coal mine methane are two priority opportunities. Both opportunities have a lower-technology-risk pathway that involves combusting the produced methane and, thus, reducing the carbon’s GHG effect by a factor of ten. Both also have a higher-technology-risk pathway that involves capturing the methane and utilizing it. Landfill gas is typically a 50/50 mixture of methane and CO<sub>2</sub>, with trace amounts of heavier hydrocarbons. Coal mine ventilation air methane (VAM) is much more dilute (0.3 – 1.5% methane in air) and represents a larger challenge. Table 5 presents a roadmap for non-CO<sub>2</sub> GHG control research and several supporting projects funded by the Program.

### 5. Breakthrough Concepts

Current technologies, commercially available and under development, hold the promise of lowering the cost of CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage and achieving the Carbon Sequestration Program goal. However, DOE is still committed to fostering the innovative potential of industry and academia. The “breakthrough concepts” effort is an incubator for CO<sub>2</sub> capture, storage, and conversion concepts with the potential to provide step change improvements in energy use, complexity, and cost. A guiding principle for the breakthrough concepts effort is to mimic and harness processes found in nature, for example, photosynthesis and mollusk shell formation.



Table 5. Non-CO<sub>2</sub> GHG Roadmap

	Technology Pathway	Supporting Research Projects	Program Goals
Landfill Gas	Methane oxidation Bacterial tarp	Methane recovery from landfills [Yolo County Planning and Public Works Department]	<p><b>2007</b> - Effective deployment of cost-effective methane capture systems</p> <p><b>2012</b> - Commercial deployment of at least two technologies from the R&amp;D program</p>
	Methane/CO <sub>2</sub> separation Use of landfill gas for ECBM	Methodologies to minimize microbial production of nitrous oxide and maximize microbial consumption of methane in landfill cover soils [University of Michigan]	
Coal Mine Methane	Methane generation control Water management Microbe management	Maximize biodegradation and minimize the formation of methane by controlled injection of air and liquids [University of Delaware]	
	Methane oxidation Catalytic oxidation	Design and test a landfill tarp impregnated with immobilized methane oxidizing bacteria [University of North Carolina]	
	N <sub>2</sub> /methane separation Thermal swing adsorption	Injection of landfill gas into un-mineable coal seams [Kansas Geological Survey]	
	Methane oxidation Catalytic oxidation	Catalytic combustion of minemouth methane [Consol Energy]	
	N <sub>2</sub> /methane separation Thermal swing adsorption	Nitrogen/methane separation via ultra-fast thermal swing adsorption [Velocys, Inc.]	

DOE has collaborated with the National Academies of Science (NAS) in the area of breakthrough concepts. A planning workshop identified priority areas of science and subsequent solicitation resulted in the eight awards shown in Table 6. The projects are showing progress and two, the metal organic frameworks (MOFs) and ionic liquids, are highlighted in the CO<sub>2</sub> capture section as promising pathways.

Table 6. Breakthrough Concepts Research Awards Through NAS/DOE Collaboration

Area	Title	Description
Advanced CO <sub>2</sub> Separation	<b>Hydrogen Selective Silica Membrane</b>	Develop a new method for making extremely thin, high-temperature, hydrogen-selective silica membranes. [University of Minnesota]
	<b>Dual Function Membrane</b>	Develop a membrane that will use both pore structure and an amine chemical adhered to the membrane to achieve higher CO <sub>2</sub> selectivity than is possible using pore size alone. [University of New Mexico, T3 Scientific]
	<b>Ionic Liquids</b>	Conduct basic research into the use of ionic liquids (organic salts that are liquid at room temperature and exhibit unusual properties) for CO <sub>2</sub> capture. [University of Notre Dame]
	<b>Microporous Metal Organic Frameworks (MOFs)</b>	Search for novel microporous metal organic frameworks (MOFs) suitable for CO <sub>2</sub> capture. MOFs are hybrid organic/inorganic structures at the nano scale to which CO <sub>2</sub> will stick. [UOP LLC, University of Michigan, Northwestern University]
Advanced Subsurface Technologies	<b>Carbonate Sediments Below the Sea Floor</b>	Using laboratory-scale simulations, study the potential of calcium carbonate sediments to absorb injected CO <sub>2</sub> at the elevated pressures and temperatures found in subsea formations. [Harvard University, Columbia University, Carnegie-Mellon University, University of California at Santa Cruz]
	<b>Mineral Dissolution Kinetics</b>	Develop a better understanding of factors affecting silicate and dawsonite dissolution and the rate of CO <sub>2</sub> mineralization in-situ. [University of Indiana, University of Minnesota]
	<b>Mineral Carbonation</b>	Study the chemistry and kinetics of the CO <sub>2</sub> carbonation reaction in olivine and other commonly occurring minerals. Investigate the use of sonic frequencies and other methods to enhance the reaction. [Arizona State University]
Novel Niches	<b>Microbial CO<sub>2</sub> Conversion</b>	Create strains of microbes that feed off CO <sub>2</sub> and produce by-products, such as succinic, malic, and fumaric acids which can be used as food preservatives. [University of Georgia]

## B. Infrastructure

The purpose of the Program's infrastructure effort is to promote the development, within the United States and Canada, the ability to accept and deploy the CO<sub>2</sub> capture and sequestration technologies being developed within the core R&D Program. Such an effort is deemed necessary by DOE so that organizations within the United States are prepared if future global climate change policies require large-scale deployments of sequestration technologies over a short period of time.

Different geographic regions of the country offer markedly different opportunities for carbon sequestration in underground formations. The range of possibilities include oil and gas formations, unmineable coal seams, saline formations, basalts, and hydrocarbon-rich shale. Among regions, formation types differ in their lithology, as well as in the locations of sinks relative to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions sources and pipelines. Some regions have an abundance of several different types of geologic sinks while in other regions opportunities are dominated by a specific sink. Opportunities for terrestrial sequestration are similarly varied. Given this diversity, DOE decided that a sequestration infrastructure development effort would need to be developed on a regional basis for sequestration opportunities.

DOE is pursuing infrastructure development via the Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships Program, which is funded and managed by NETL and implemented by entities located within various geographic regions. The Regional Partnerships approach is based on the belief that local organizations and people bring pertinent knowledge and experience to infrastructure development. In addition, local organizations function more effectively and efficiently than a centralized group. The Regional Partnerships' effort has three distinct phases:

- **Characterization (2003-2005)**
- **Validation (2005-2009)**
- **Deployment (2009-2017)**

### **Characterization Phase (2003-2005)**

The Characterization Phase began in 2003 with the selection of seven Regional Partnerships. Their efforts for this phase focused on characterizing regional opportunities for carbon capture and sequestration and identifying priority opportunities for field tests. Each of the Partnerships worked to develop decision support systems that housed the regional geologic data on sinks and information on sources to complete source-sink matching models. They also researched project tools that were necessary to model and measure the fate and transport of the CO<sub>2</sub> once it was injected. The Regional Partnerships participated in the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commissions working group to identify the necessary regulatory framework for implementing field validation tests, as well as the gaps in the current structure for implementing demonstration size sequestration tests. Finally, the partnerships worked to develop outreach and education programs to communicate the benefits and risks of carbon capture and storage to local communities.

As a result of the Characterization Phase, the seven Partnerships showed that carbon sequestration is a viable option to mitigate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. In summary, Characterization Phase activities included:

- Identifying over 1,000 years of potential CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity in the U.S. Coal seams, oil formations and gas formations hold a short-term opportunity that provides value added benefits spurring development. The long-

*By moving carbon sequestration technology from the laboratory to the field, we are another step closer to significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining the important role coal plays in America's energy mix.*

Samuel Bodman  
U.S. Secretary of Energy  
June 2005

term storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in saline formations will benefit from the fact that many of these very large formations underlie oil and gas resource recovery opportunity sinks.

- Identifying 63 trillion cubic feet of natural gas that could be recovered from coal seams and over 16 billion barrels of additional oil that could be recovered from depleting oil formations during sequestration operations. These benefits will help to offset the costs of developing the infrastructure necessary to transport CO<sub>2</sub> from sources to geologic sinks.
- Identifying terrestrial sequestration opportunities to offset CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through the reclamation of abandoned mine lands, modifying land management practices to increase soil carbon uptake, and reforestation of degraded lands, while applying the appropriate MM&V technologies to measure changes in carbon content. In addition, the Regional Partnerships developed project implementation guidelines, such as MM&V protocols and contracts, to take sequestration credits to future markets.

The Regional Partnerships have gathered and compiled information on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions point sources, geologic formations with sequestration potential, and terrestrial ecosystems with potential for enhanced carbon uptake – all referenced to their geographic location (longitude and latitude) for the purpose of matching sources and sinks.

Analytical tools were then developed through the Regional Partnerships in collaboration with the National Carbon Sequestration Database (NATCARB). These tools gave the Regional Partnerships the ability to evaluate the geology and terrestrial resources of the regions to identify potential sequestration opportunities. Tools have been developed to estimate storage capacity, estimate injectivity of CO<sub>2</sub> into geologic formations, match CO<sub>2</sub> sources with potential sinks, and estimate pipeline transportation costs for CO<sub>2</sub>. Layering the geologic information into a geographic information system (GIS) allowed the Regional Partnerships to assess the opportunity of CO<sub>2</sub> injection into stacked formations where oil, coal, and saline formations are at different depths.

Access to some of the analytical tools and all the data from the Characterization Phase is available through the NATCARB website ([www.natcarb.org](http://www.natcarb.org)). NATCARB is a relational database management system with spatial query capabilities to evaluate the geographic distribution, physical characteristics, and economic parameters of potential CO<sub>2</sub> sources and geologic sequestration sites. NATCARB's mapping software enables a user to select a source and investigate sink or pipeline opportunities in the vicinity, in addition to many other features. The user can then calculate the potential storage capacity using the "sequestration buffer" feature, or use the "pipeline cost" feature to estimate the cost of constructing a pipeline. These are examples of the many features available through NATCARB and the individual Regional Partnerships systems. The suite of tools offered by NATCARB effectively allows users to match CO<sub>2</sub> sources to sinks. Efforts during the Validation Phase are aimed at filling in gaps in the data, updating information, and refining the database tools.

### **Validation Phase (2005-2009)**

The Validation Phase began in 2005 and is focusing on the implementation of field tests to validate the efficacy of carbon sequestration technologies in a variety of geologic and terrestrial sinks throughout the U.S. The seven Regional Partnerships identified the most promising opportunities for carbon sequestration in their regions during the Characterization Phase, and proposed a series of geologic and terrestrial field tests for the validation phase. The geologic tests are shown in Figure 14 and the terrestrial tests in Figure 15.

The first four projects listed in Figure 14 are larger, commercial-scale injections. These are all opportunities where a commercial partner is injecting CO<sub>2</sub> into geologic formations for the purposes of enhanced oil recovery and/or coalbed methane recovery. The Regional Partnerships are collaborating with industrial partners to provide additional reservoir modeling and MM&V. In the remaining tests the Regional Partnerships will inject a relatively

small amount of CO<sub>2</sub> into coal seams, oil and gas formations, and saline formations. These tests will provide valuable insights into the suitability of these sinks as future sequestration sites. The major R&D issues these field projects will help to address are:

- Validate and refine the current CO<sub>2</sub> formation models for various sinks
- Collect physical data to confirm the capacity and injectivity estimates that were made during the Characterization Phase
- Demonstrate the effectiveness of MM&V technologies to measure CO<sub>2</sub> movement in the formations and the integrity of the seals
- Develop guidelines for well completion, operations, and abandonment to maximize storage potential and mitigate leakage
- Develop strategies for sequestration projects that can be used to optimize the storage capacity of the various sink types

As Figure 15 shows, the Regional Partnerships are pursuing a wide range of terrestrial projects consistent with varied ecosystems within the different regions. Several projects are focused on reclaiming damaged minelands and the use of produced water for irrigation and land remediation. Other projects are focusing on the reforestation of degraded lands and altering land management practices on rangelands and agricultural lands to increase soil carbon uptake. One project is looking to redevelop wetlands, which hold significant potential to store carbon and offset emissions of nitrous oxide. Some of the partnerships are working to develop the legal contracts and financial systems to aggregate a number of smaller projects to form an instrument that is large enough to trade in future CO<sub>2</sub> markets.

During the Validation Phase, the Regional Partnerships will continue their work on characterization of sequestration opportunities, maintenance of the regional GIS and decision support system (DSS); researching permitting requirements for field projects with the IOGCC; and finally, taking steps to implement public outreach and education in the local communities where the field projects will be occurring to ensure that the issues related to the deployment of these technologies are well understood. Some examples of the diversity of approaches taken to involve the public in these efforts are listed in Table 7.

The Regional Partnerships are faced with numerous practical issues as the field tests begin. The tests have also drawn the attention of local entities and brought to light new perspectives on the issues associated with sequestration projects. To date, the field tests have been a positive learning experience for all involved and will help to define carbon sequestration's potential role as a technology option to mitigate GHG emissions.

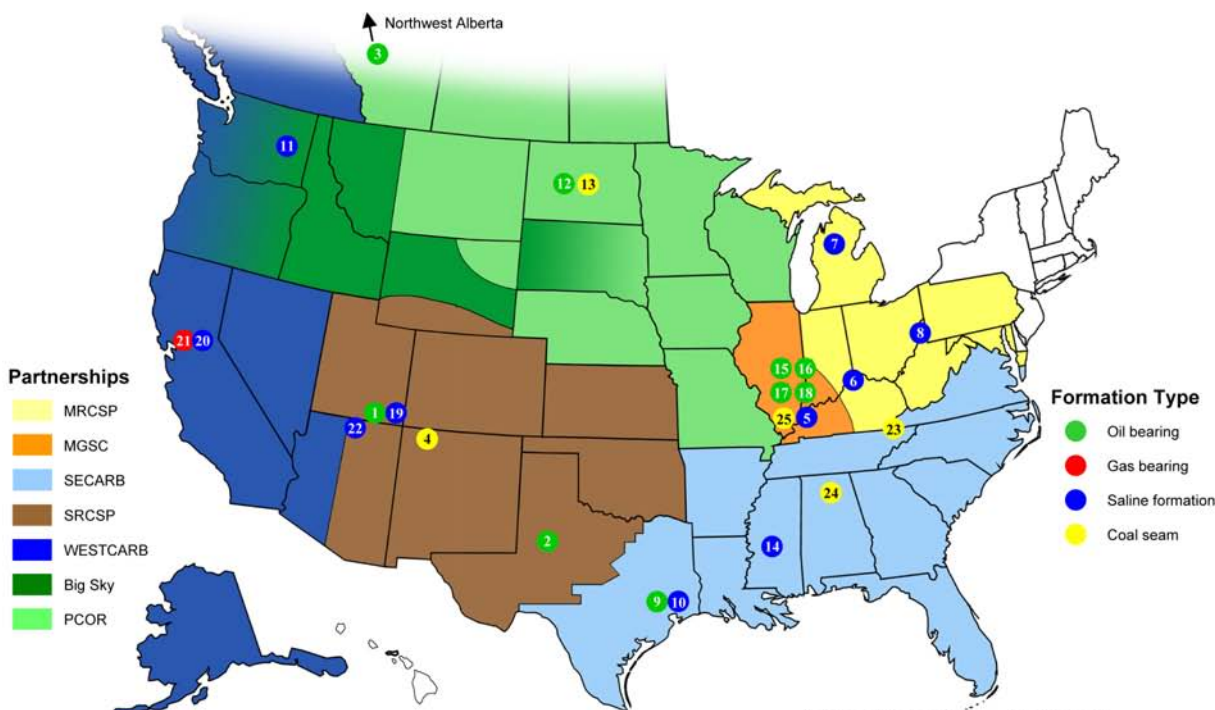
### **Deployment Phase (2009-2017)**

As part of the Deployment Phase of the Regional Partnerships, DOE plans to include a number of large volume sequestration tests. These tests will be designed to address R&D issues associated with three major steps, namely (1) site selection and characterization; (2) operations and well closure; and (3) post-closure monitoring.

The projects in the Validation Phase are designed to demonstrate that regional sinks have the potential to store thousands of years' of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the U.S.. The large volume sequestration tests in the Deployment Phase will be conducted to address issues such as sustainable injectivity, well design for both integrity and increased capacity, and formation behavior with respect to prolonged injection. Issues such as these can only be addressed by scaling up sequestration projects' size and duration. These large scale tests will be an order of magnitude larger in size (up to 1,000,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>) than tests conducted in the Validation Phase.



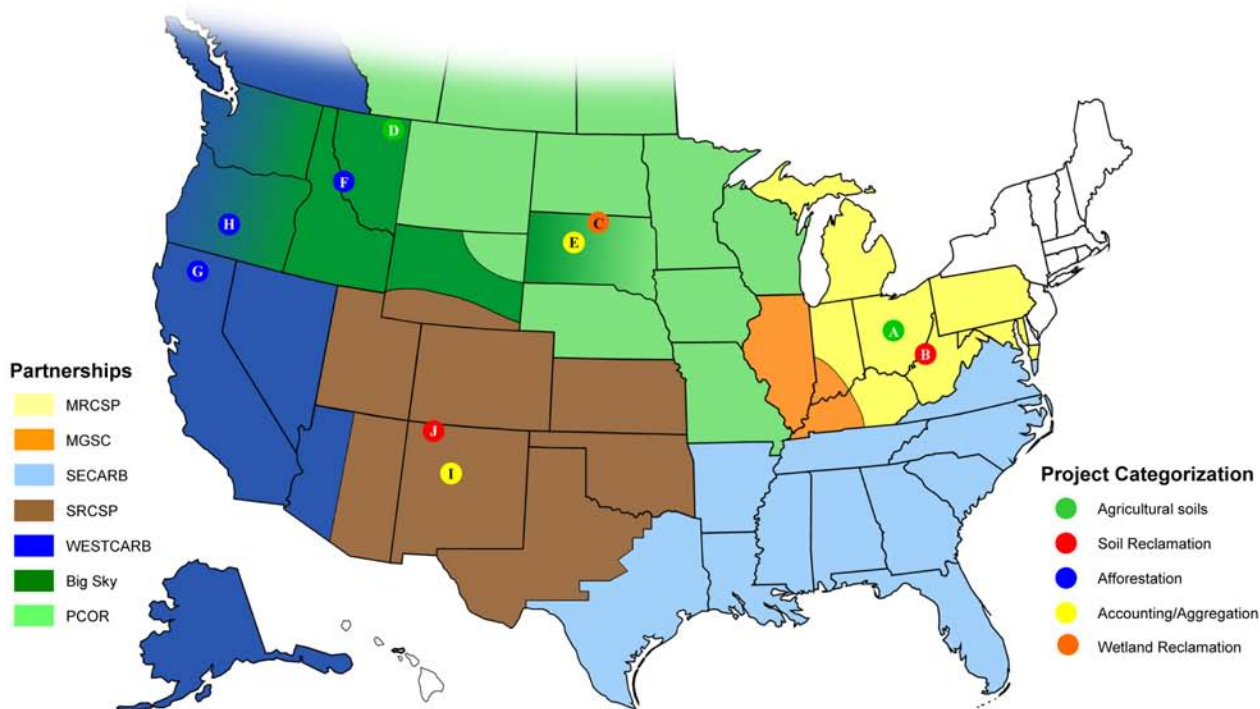
Validation Phase Geologic Field Tests



Partnership	Geologic Province	Formation Type	Total CO <sub>2</sub> injection (tons CO <sub>2</sub> )	Approximate Depth (feet)
1	Paradox Basin, Aneth Field	Oil-bearing	525,000	5,800
2	Permian Basin	Oil-bearing	300,000	5,700
3	Keg River Formation	Oil-bearing	250,000 tons CO <sub>2</sub> w/90,000 tons H <sub>2</sub> S	4,900
4	San Juan Basin	Coal seam	75,000	3,000
5	Illinois Basin	Saline formation	10,000	5,000 – 9,000
6	Cincinnati Arch	Saline formation	10,000	8,000 – 10,000
7	Michigan Basin	Saline formation	10,000	4,000
8	Appalachian Basin	Saline formation	10,000	2,500 – 4,000
9	Gulf Coast	Oil-bearing	7,500	8,000
10	Gulf Coast	Saline formation	7,500	10,000
11	Grand Ronde Basalt	Saline formation (basalt/mafic)	3,000	2,700
12	Duperow Formation	Oil-bearing	3,000	1,000
13	Williston Basin	Coal seam	3,000	>500
14	Mississippi Salt Basin	Saline formation	3,000	7,500
15	Illinois Basin	Oil-bearing – Heavy	2,500	1,200 – 2,800
16	Illinois Basin	Oil-bearing – Well Conversion	2,500	Up to 3,150
17	Illinois Basin	Oil-bearing – Pattern Flood I	2,500	2,800 – 3,150
18	Illinois Basin	Oil-bearing – Pattern Flood II	2,500	2,800 – 3,150
19	Paradox Basin, Aneth Field	Saline formation	2,000	6,000
20	Central Valley CA	Saline formation	2,000	5,000
21	Central Valley CA	Gas-bearing	2,000	4,000
22	Kaiparowits Basin	Saline formation	2,000	8,000
23	Central Appalachian	Coal seam	1,000	1,000
24	Black Warrior Basin	Coal seam	1,000	2,300 – 5,000
25	Illinois Basin	Coal seam	750	1,000

Figure 14. Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships

Validation Phase Terrestrial Field Tests



Partnership	Project Location	Land-Use Category	Project Summary	Estimated Regional Sink Capacity (CO <sub>2</sub> )
<b>A</b> MRCSP	Region-wide	Agricultural	Demonstrating carbon sequestration on existing farm lands. Determine rate of sequestration and potential for different tillage practices to increase storage.	250 Mt over 20 years
<b>B</b> MRCSP	Region-wide	Mineland	Demonstrating carbon sequestration in reclaimed mine soils. Determine reclamation and land management practices that increase storage.	100 Mt over 20 years
<b>C</b> PCOR	Great Plains wetlands complex (PPR)	Wetlands	Sequestration demonstration in wetlands/grasslands that will provide carbon offsets, develop protocols and standards, and provide a market-based carbon sequestration strategy.	14.4 Mt
<b>D</b> Big Sky	North Central MT, Eastern SD, parts of Canada	Agricultural	Sequestration in cropland soils to identify market potential for trading carbon credits. Includes: assessment of soil sequestration rates for audit procedures, comparison of measurement costs using advanced technologies, and verification of land management practices for auditing purposes via newly developed image analysis methods.	60 Mt over 20 years
<b>E</b> Big Sky	Region-wide	Rangeland	Characterize rangelands and develop Best Management Practices handbook that identifies, describes, and provides data for rangelands with the greatest potential to sequester carbon that could be used in future carbon trading protocols.	30 Mt over 10 years
<b>F</b> Big Sky	Region-wide	Forest	Identify strategies for maintaining or increasing sequestration in forests through understanding the effects of forest management on different carbon pools in forests.	640-1,040 Mt over 80 years
<b>G</b> WESTCARB	Shasta County, CA	Rangeland	Validation of forest growth potential for rangelands; Change in forest management; Fuels management to reduce risk of uncharacteristically severe wildfire and prevent emissions	4,500 Mt over 80 years
<b>H</b> WESTCARB	Lake County, OR	Rangeland	Validation of forest growth potential for rangelands; Fuels management to reduce risk of uncharacteristically severe wildfire and prevent emissions	800 Mt over 80 years
<b>I</b> SRCSP	Region-wide	Multiple	Develop a carbon reporting and monitoring system that functions consistently across hierarchical scales and is compatible with the existing technology underlying the 1605b reporting system. Project will develop improved technologies and systems for direct measurement.	TBD
<b>J</b> SRCSP	San Juan Basin Coal Fairway (Navajo City, NM)	Riparian	Desalinate produced water from the ECBM pilot and use the water for irrigating a riparian restoration project. Reintroducing woody plant species along riparian areas and reestablishing native grasses and shrubs in upland areas. Project represents a combined ECBM-terrestrial sequestration project.	TBD

Figure 15. Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships

Table 7. Regional Partnership Outreach and Education Efforts

Partnership	Core Outreach	Unique Approach
MRCSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interactive websites</li> <li>• Presentations/Posters</li> <li>• Fact sheets</li> <li>• Workshops/symposia</li> <li>• Stakeholder meetings</li> <li>• Outreach articles</li> <li>• Coordination with NATCARB</li> <li>• NEPA/regulatory permitting requirements for public involvement</li> </ul>	Intensified public outreach and education tailored to specific sites as field projects become visible (work closely with staff from host sites).
MGSC		Development of physical bench-scale models of CO <sub>2</sub> storage to improve demonstrations at meetings.
SECARB		Conducted opinion research to identify stakeholder concerns in order to develop effective message.
SRCSF		Host mediated modeling workshops to facilitate learning among constituents. Develop and disseminate a library of interactive CO <sub>2</sub> sequestration tutorials on CD.
WESTCARB		Support independent university research to obtain an objective assessment of public outreach activities.
Big Sky		Establish the Energy Future Coalition, Annual Energy Forum, and State Legislative Symposia.
PCOR		Plan to create four 30-minute videos produced by Prairie Public Television that describe in detail geologic sequestration, terrestrial sequestration, carbon trading markets, and sequestration and global warming.

## PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The DOE is dedicated to achieving the Carbon Sequestration Program goals and to utilizing the Program funds as effectively as possible (Figure 16). This is achieved through cooperative and collaborative relationships, both domestically and internationally, competitive solicitations, analysis and project evaluation, project merit reviews, and proactive public outreach and education. These activities support and enhance the R&D being conducted in the laboratory and the field. Following are management highlights.

**Public/Private Partnerships.** Public/private partnerships and cost-shared R&D are a critical part of technology development for carbon sequestration. These relationships draw on pertinent capabilities that the coal, electricity supply, oil and gas, refining, and chemical industries have built up over decades and the technical knowledge base shared with the National Laboratories, federal and state geological surveys, and academia. The program engages the research community through competitive solicitations, which bring forward the companies and researchers with the best ideas and strongest capabilities, and also challenges submitters to offer significant cost-share, leveraging Federal dollars.

### Stacked Formations

CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Well

Oil-bearing formation caprock

Saline formation caprock

Target formation

Researchers at the University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology have pioneered a novel “stacked” approach to CO<sub>2</sub> storage field tests in saline formations. CO<sub>2</sub> is injected into a target formation that underlies a proven oil-bearing seal.

The oil-bearing cap rock serves as a second barrier against CO<sub>2</sub> migration to the surface and affords scientists an opportunity to learn about the fate and transport of CO<sub>2</sub> injected into a saline formation with negligible risk of adverse environmental consequences.



**In-House R&D at NETL.** Three Focus Areas, including Energy System Dynamics, Geological and Environmental Sciences, and Computational and Basic Sciences at NETL conduct science-based research and analysis in areas related to carbon sequestration using in-house facilities and resources at NETL. The Focus Areas have been successful in fostering formal and information collaborative relationships with industry and academia in these high-risk research endeavors. The Focus Areas also provide FE/NETL with a scientific understanding of the underlying technologies and, thus, enhance its effectiveness in implementing the carbon sequestration R&D portfolio.

**Interagency Coordination.** In each sequestration area, the DOE program collaborates with other agencies with overlapping responsibilities. For example, during 2003 and 2004 the DOE Carbon Sequestration Program collaborated with the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in an effort to bolster R&D efforts in Breakthrough Concepts. A workshop hosted by DOE and the National Research Council (NRC) identified priorities for breakthrough research and a solicitation drawing from the research results produced a pool of over one hundred proposals. Eight awards were made in March 2004 and the work is proceeding. The information from the workshop was used in a funding opportunity announcement (FOA) on capture technology that was released in FY06.

**International Collaboration.** The international Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF) is a voluntary climate initiative of developed and developing nations. Members engage in cooperative technology development aimed at enabling the early reduction and steady elimination of carbon dioxide emissions from electric generation and other heavy industry activities. The CSLF has endorsed seventeen carbon sequestration projects around the world. Information on the CSLF and its activities can be found at <http://www.cslforum.org>

**Systems, Economic, and Benefits Analyses.** Systems analyses and economic modeling of potential new processes are crucial to providing sound guidance to R&D efforts, which are investigating a wide range of CO<sub>2</sub> capture options. Many of the technologies being developed by the program are investigated at the laboratory or pilot scale. Systems analyses offer the opportunity to visualize how these new technologies might fit in a full-scale power plant and identify potential issues with their integration. Results of the analyses help make decisions on what technologies the Program should continue funding and how the research can be modified to help the technology succeed at full scale.

Systems analysis efforts are aided through the use of modeling tools. To enable the modeling of sequestration systems, NETL funds the development of the Integrated Environmental Control Model (IECM) which is a publicly-available model that now includes options for CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage. <http://www.iecm-online.com/>

The Program conducts independent studies and participates in cross-cutting studies to model the future national energy situation. These activities include Program-specific analyses to consider how sequestration might help meet future CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reductions goals. They also include broader efforts that use large models like DOE's National Energy Modeling System (NEMS) or ICF's Integrated Planning Model (IPM) to address the benefits and

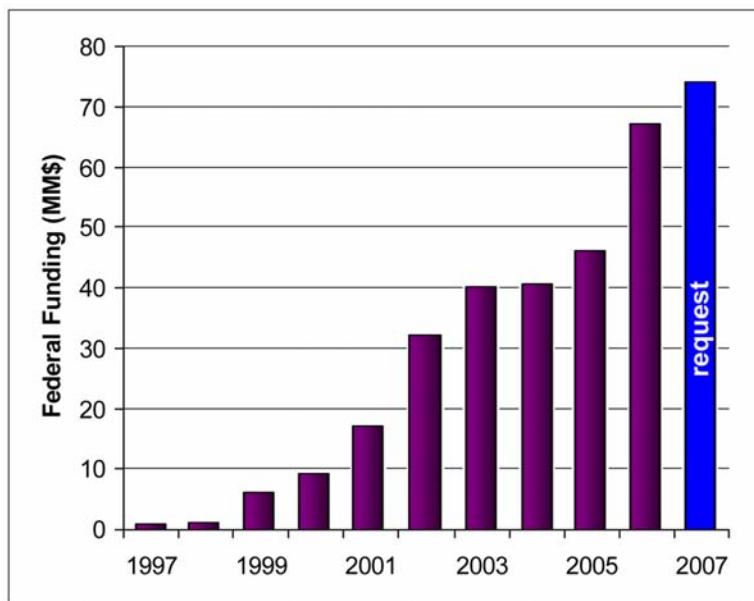


Figure 16. DOE Sequestration Program Budget



roles of the full suite of advanced fossil energy technologies. The most recent programmatic benefits analysis can be downloaded at: [http://www.netl.doe.gov/publications/carbon\\_seq/refsshelf.html](http://www.netl.doe.gov/publications/carbon_seq/refsshelf.html)

**Education and Outreach.** The notion of capturing and sequestering carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases is relatively new, and many people are unaware of its role as a greenhouse gas reduction strategy. Increased education and awareness are needed to achieve acceptance of carbon sequestration by the general public, regulatory agencies, policy makers, and industry. This will enable future commercial deployments of advanced carbon sequestration technology. The following activities highlight the Program's education and outreach efforts:

- Carbon Sequestration Webpage at the NETL site
- Carbon Sequestration Technology Roadmap and Program Plan – revised annually
- Carbon Sequestration Newsletter – distributed monthly
- Middle School and High School Educational Curriculums on GHG Mitigation Options – disseminated through workshops at the National Science Teacher Association Conferences
- Carbon Offsets Opportunity Program Website
- Carbon Sequestration Project Development Guide – scheduled for release in FY2007
- Carbon Sequestration Handbook – scheduled for release in FY2006
- The National Conference on Carbon Sequestration, held annually in the late spring in the Washington, DC, area.



In addition, the program management team participates in technical conferences through presentations, panel discussions, breakout groups, and other formal and informal venues. These efforts expose professionals working in other fields to the technology challenges of sequestration and also enable examination of some of the more detailed issues underlying the technology.

In concert with R&D, the Program seeks to engage non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and federal, state, and local environmental regulators to raise awareness of the priority the Program places on evaluating the potential environmental impacts of sequestration and ensuring that selected technologies preserve human and ecosystem health. Many of the Program's R&D projects have their own outreach component. For example, the Regional Partnerships will enhance technology development but also engage regulators, policy makers, and interested citizens at the state and local level through innovative outreach mechanisms. In addition, the Regional Partnerships will implement action plans for public education in the form of mailing lists, public meetings, media advertising, local interviews and education programs available at libraries, schools, and local businesses.

The Program works directly with NGOs and the environmental community through a variety of activities. Successful outreach entails two-way communication, and the Program will address concerns voiced at outreach venues and continually assess the adequacy and focus of the current R&D portfolio.

## Carbon Sequestration-Related Web Pages

	<p>National Energy Technology Laboratory  <a href="http://www.netl.doe.gov/sequestration">http://www.netl.doe.gov/sequestration</a></p>
	<p>U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy  <a href="http://www.doe.gov/sciencetech/carbonsequestration.htm">http://www.doe.gov/sciencetech/carbonsequestration.htm</a></p>
	<p>Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum  <a href="http://www.cslforum.org/">http://www.cslforum.org/</a></p>
	<p>West Coast Regional Partnership  <a href="http://www.westcarb.org/">http://www.westcarb.org/</a></p>
	<p>Southwest Regional Partnership  <a href="http://www.southwestcarbonpartnership.org/">http://www.southwestcarbonpartnership.org/</a></p>
	<p>Big Sky Partnership  <a href="http://www.bigskyco2.org/">http://www.bigskyco2.org/</a></p>
	<p>Plains CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction Partnership  <a href="http://www.undeerc.org/pcor/">http://www.undeerc.org/pcor/</a></p>
	<p>Midwest Geological sequestration Consortium  <a href="http://www.sequestration.org/">http://www.sequestration.org/</a></p>
	<p>Midwest Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership  <a href="http://198.87.0.58/default.aspx">http://198.87.0.58/default.aspx</a></p>
	<p>Southeast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership  <a href="http://www.secarbon.org/">http://www.secarbon.org/</a></p>

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