



Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage: Meeting global GHG targets with a Saskatchewan-made solution

Erik Nickel, Director of Operations
Petroleum Technology Research Centre

Outline

1. What is CCUS?
2. Why is it important?
3. Why Saskatchewan?
4. Weyburn CO₂- EOR - the early days
5. Aquistore – taking it to the next level
 - a) Measurement, Monitoring and Verification Program
 - b) Public Assurance Monitoring



What is CCUS?

- CCUS is a suite of technologies applied to reduction of CO₂ emissions from a specific point source
- Capture is often a chemical process dependent upon the specific source conditions
- Storage is the measured, monitored and verified injection of CO₂, usually in a supercritical state, deep underground.
- The 'U' is utilization. Currently that mostly means EOR work, but can mean creation of new products (i.e. cement additive)

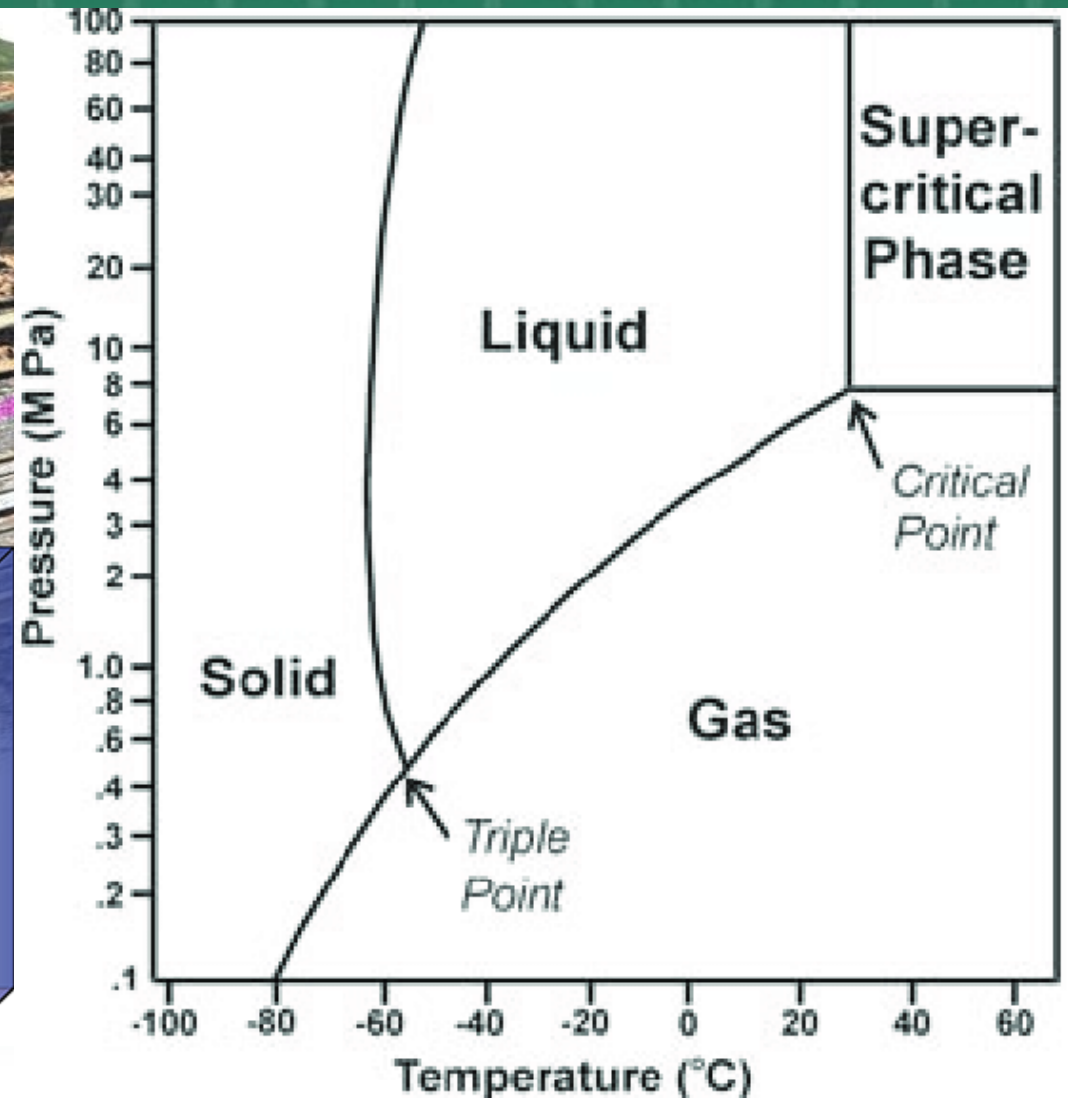
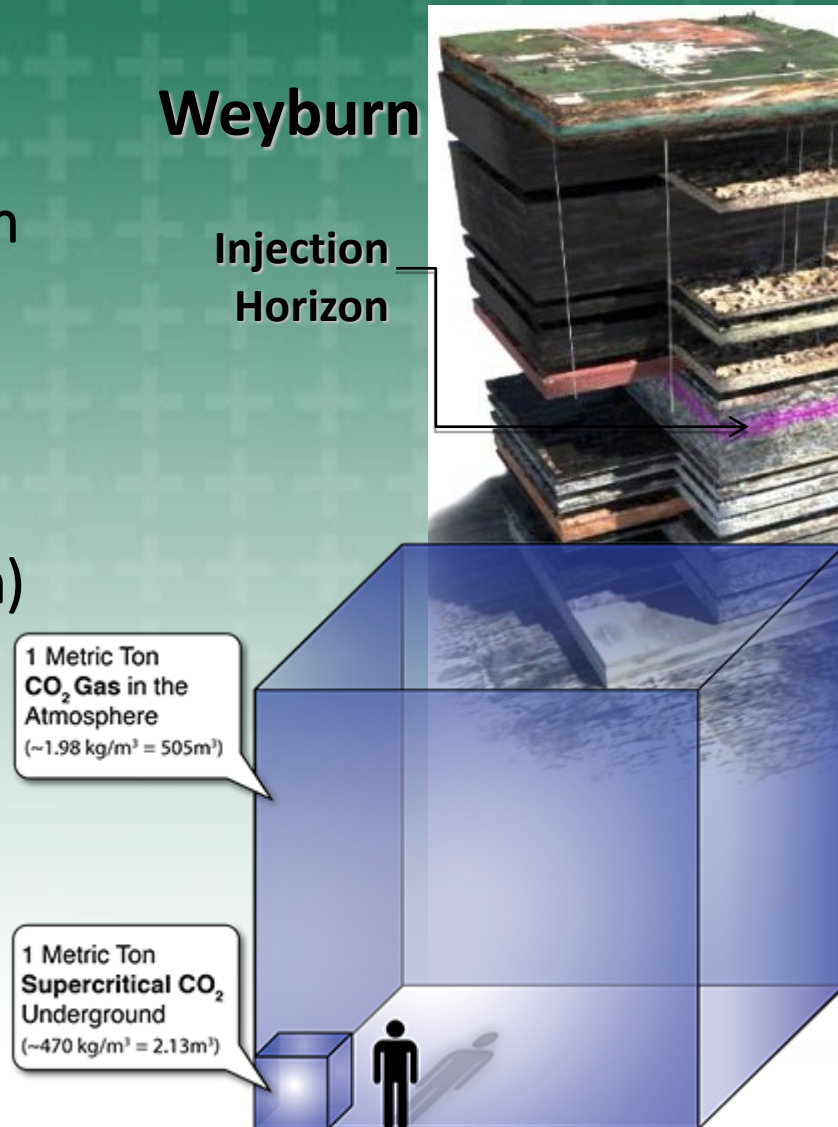
One Tonne of CO₂ ...

We each contribute about 16 of these a year.



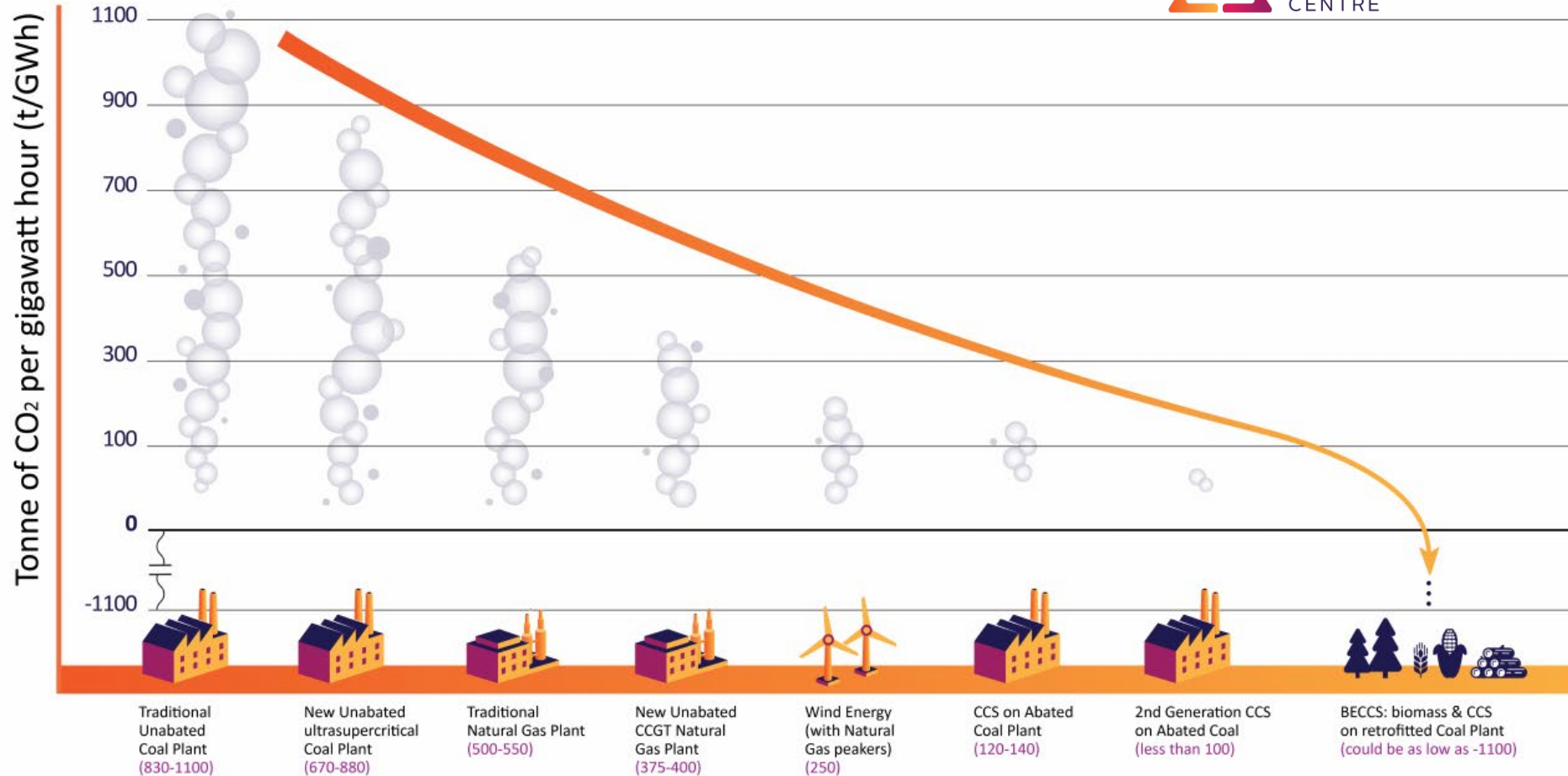
CO₂ Storage and EOR

- EOR in shallower zones (1500m for Weyburn, 400m in Lloydminster)
- Aquifer storage much deeper (Aquistore 3000m)
- “Supercritical” zone becomes important

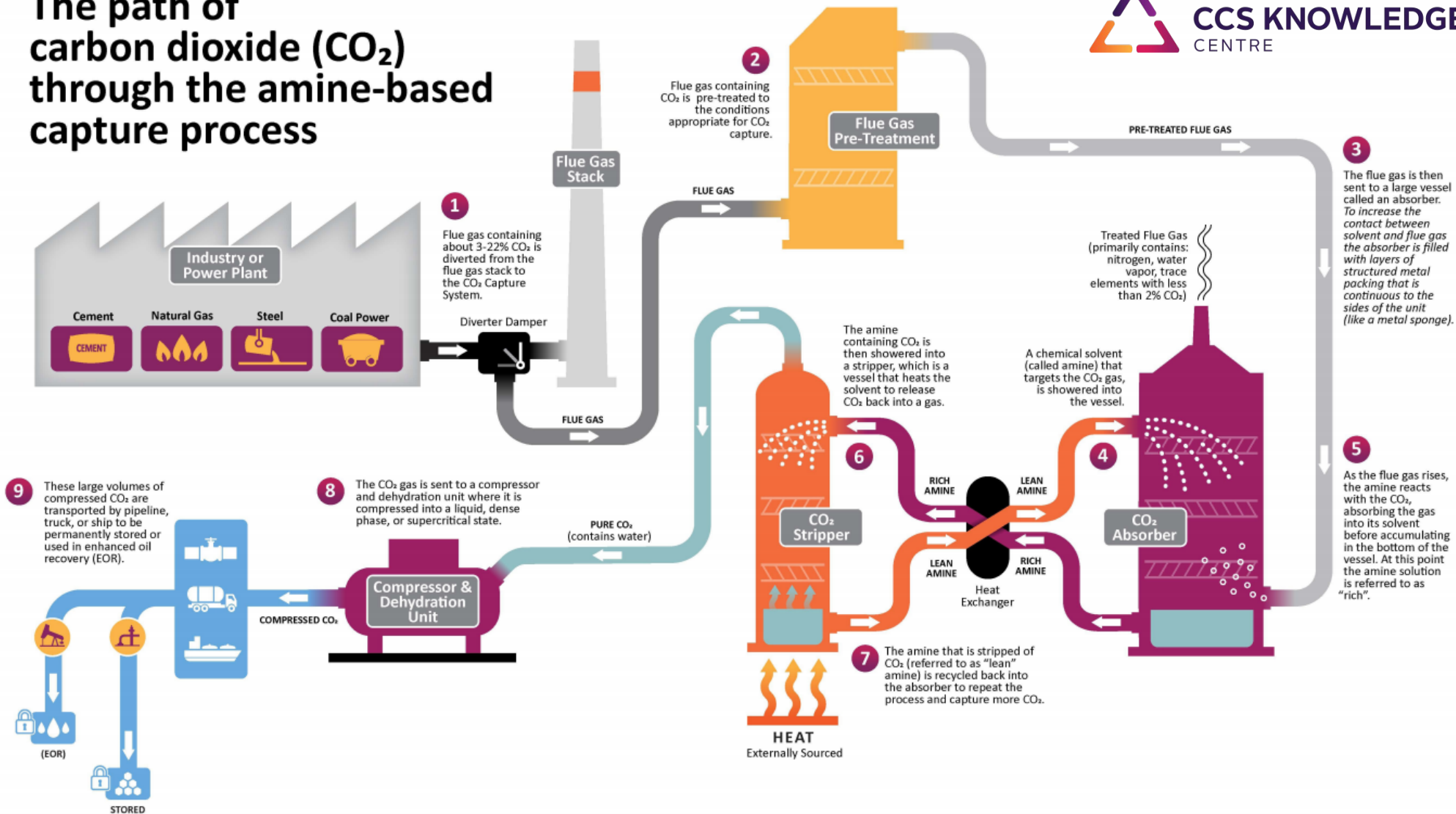


CO₂ Emissions - Significantly Reduced with Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS)

CO₂ emissions are significantly reduced with large-scale CCS – which is further reduced with 2nd generation CCS and shows negative emissions with BECCS.

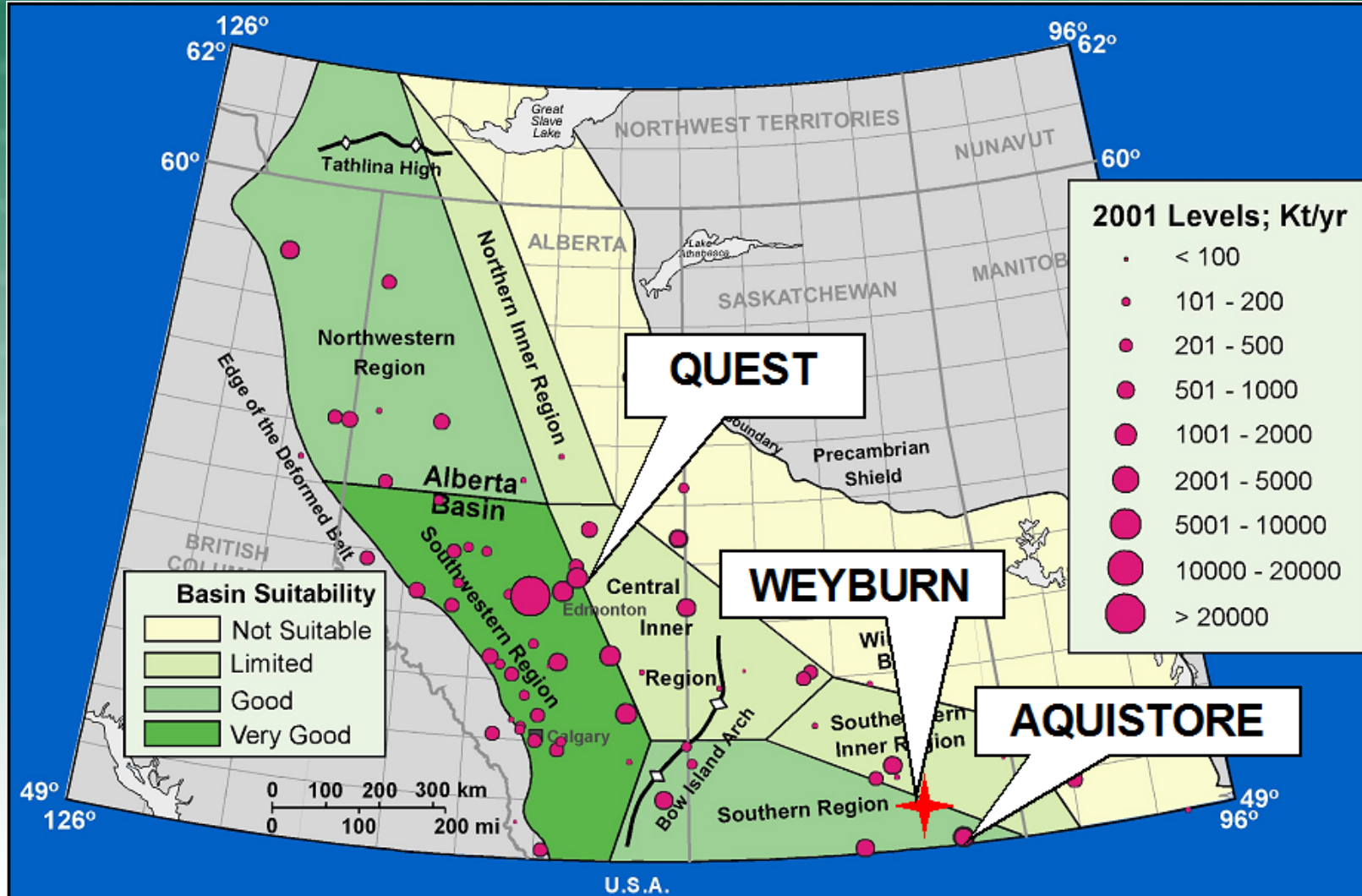


The path of carbon dioxide (CO₂) through the amine-based capture process



INTERNATIONAL
CCS KNOWLEDGE
CENTRE

Why Saskatchewan?



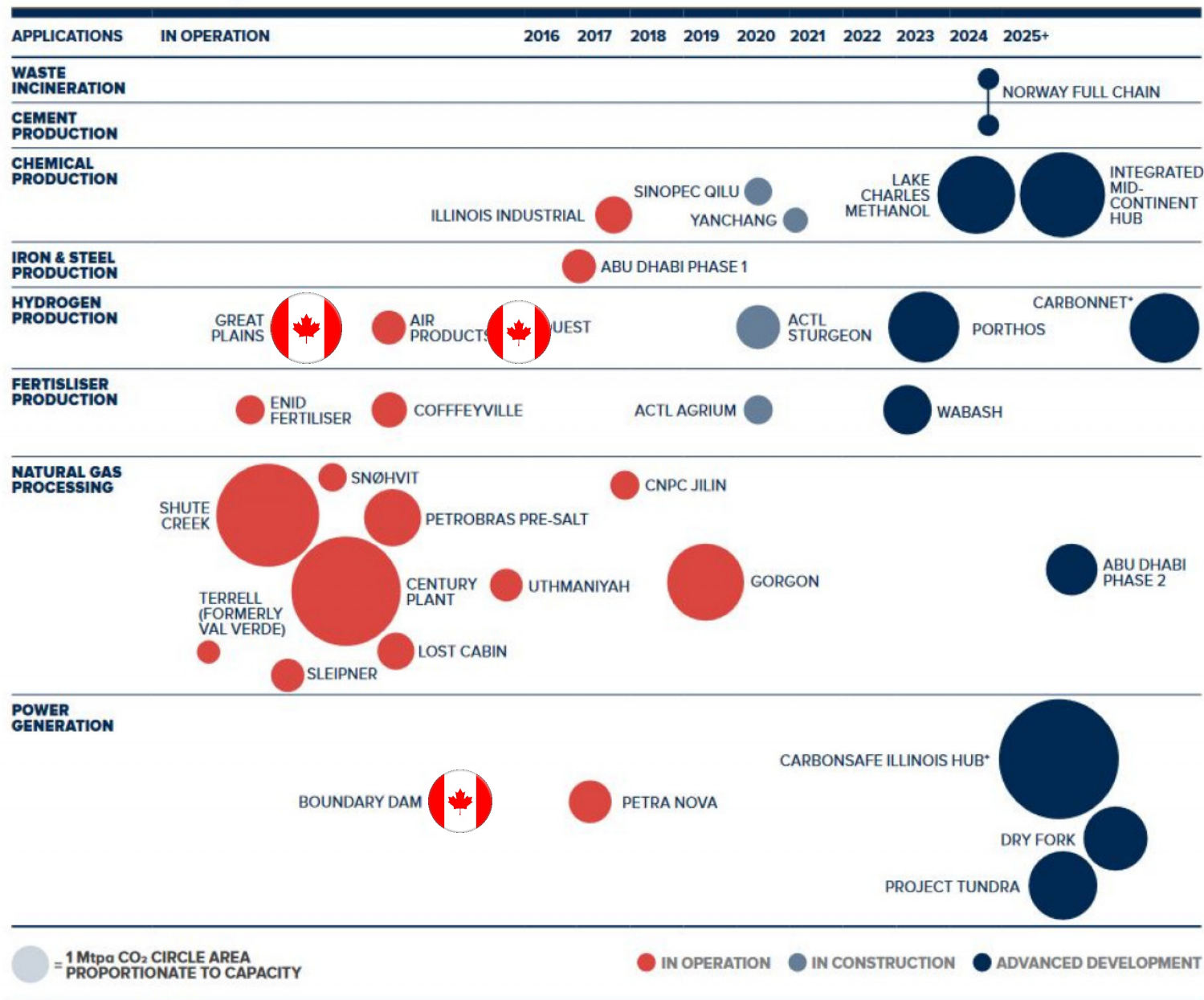


FIGURE 3 POWER AND INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS OF LARGE-SCALE CCS FACILITIES IN OPERATION, UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND IN ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT

*Size of the circle is proportional to the capture capacity of the facility.
 Indicates the primary industry type of the facility among various options.

Image courtesy GCCSI

- Industrial CCUS projects in the world
- Canada was an early adopter
- We are quickly being outpaced by US megaprojects
- Tax incentives (45Q) in the US amount to \$50/Tonne tax break for storage (\$35 for EOR)

WEYBURN: THE FIRST CCS/EOR PROJECT

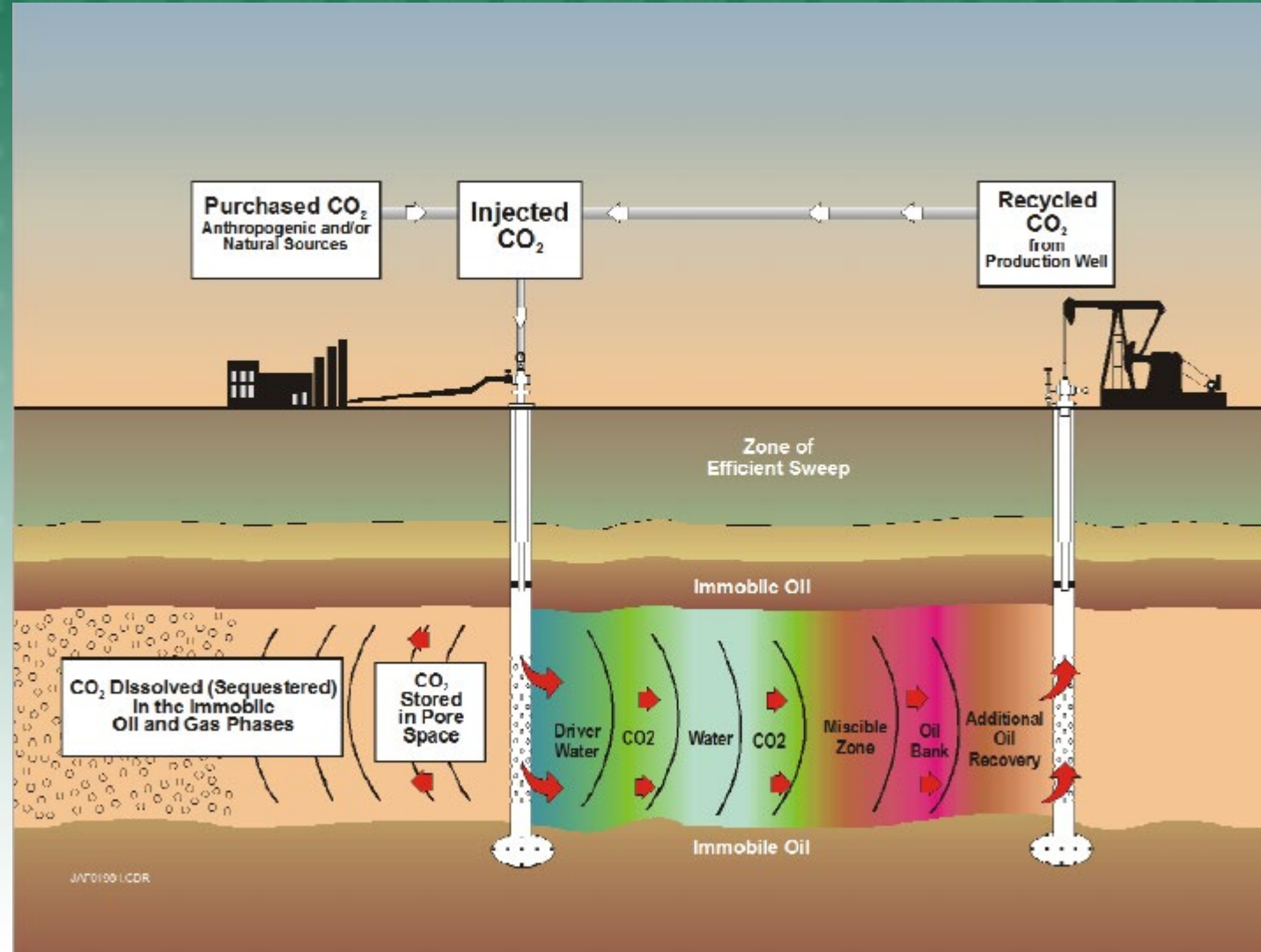


- Started in 1998
- approx. 6000 tonnes/day suitable for EOR
- CO₂ purity 95% (less than 2% H₂S)
- 180 mi pipeline (14 in & 12 in) built & operated by Great Plains
- 39 Million Tonnes Stored in Weyburn/Midale



CO₂ Storage and EOR

- Most EOR is running miscible CO₂ from one well to another, often in complicated patterns
- “Supercritical” CO₂ becomes important to achieve miscibility with the oil
- “WAG” is alternating water with the CO₂ to build up an “oil bank”



Weyburn Findings

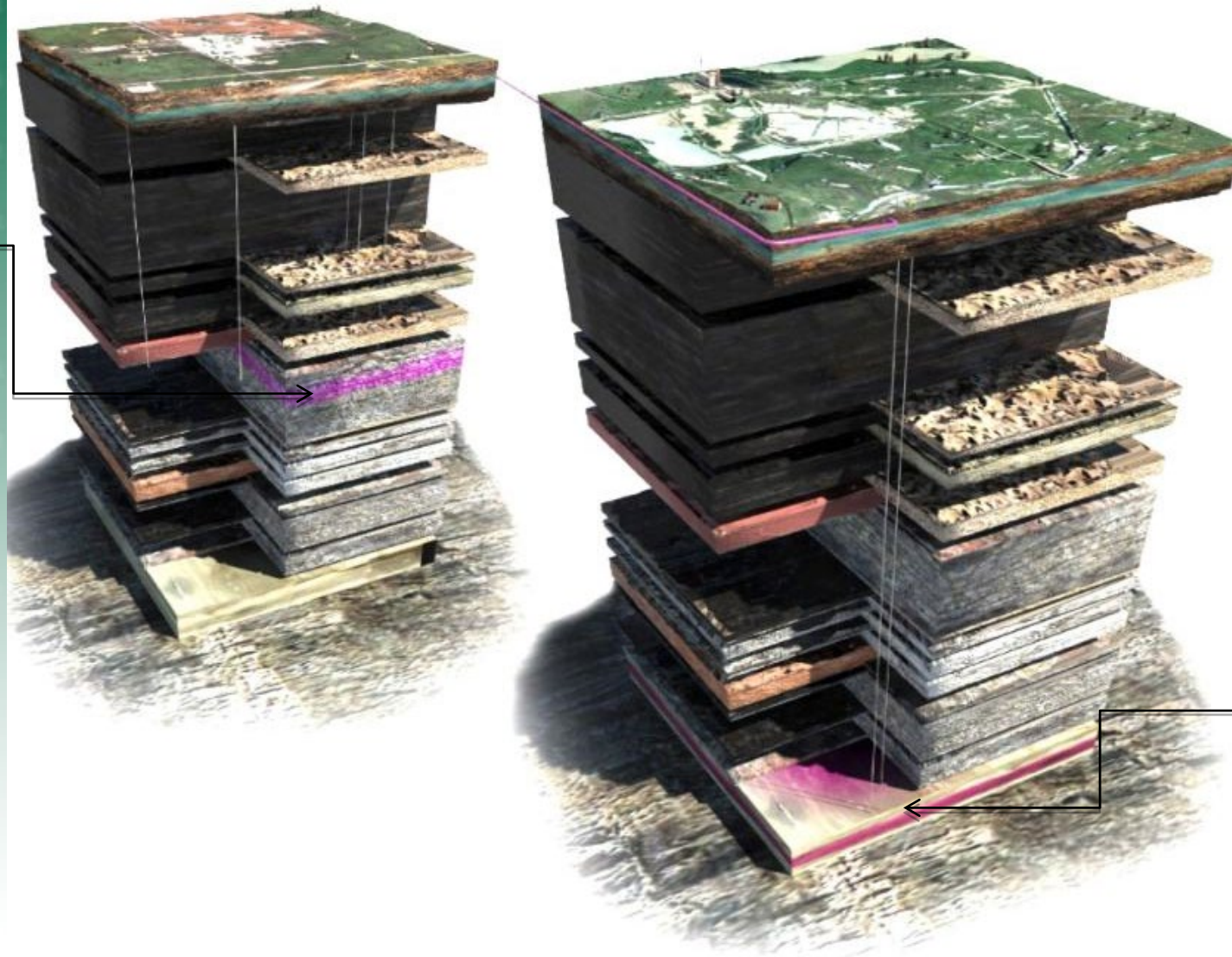
PTRC's CCS RESEARCH — DISSEMINATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING



AQUISTORE BACKGROUND

Weyburn

**Injection
Horizon**



Aquistore

**Injection
Horizon**

Aquistore/Boundary Dam Background

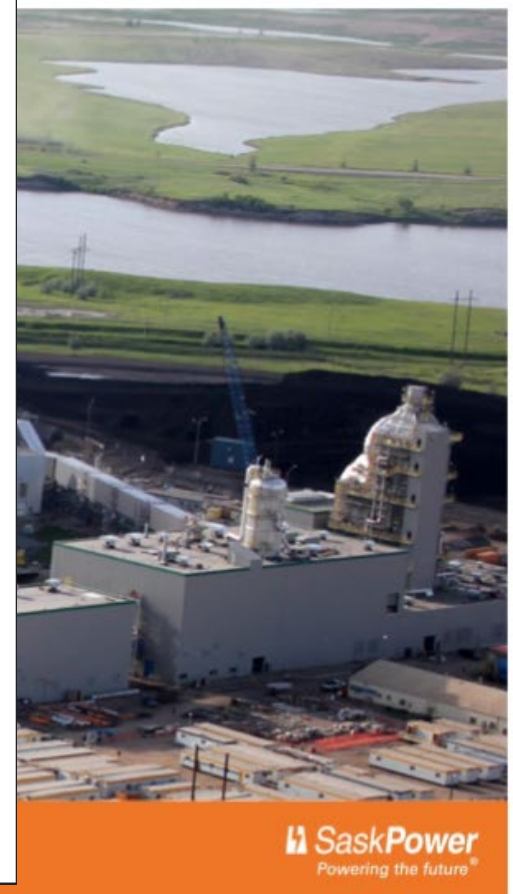
- CCS plant in lower right
- Each stack represents a “unit” at the plant
- Line from Unit 3 seen running to CCS plant

SaskPower CCS facility achieves 4 million tonnes of CO₂ captured

Estevan Mercury
MARCH 31, 2021 01:38 PM



SaskPower's Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) facility at Boundary Dam Power Station near Estevan has captured more than four million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) since operations began in 2014.



Pipeline Route



Wells Drilled!

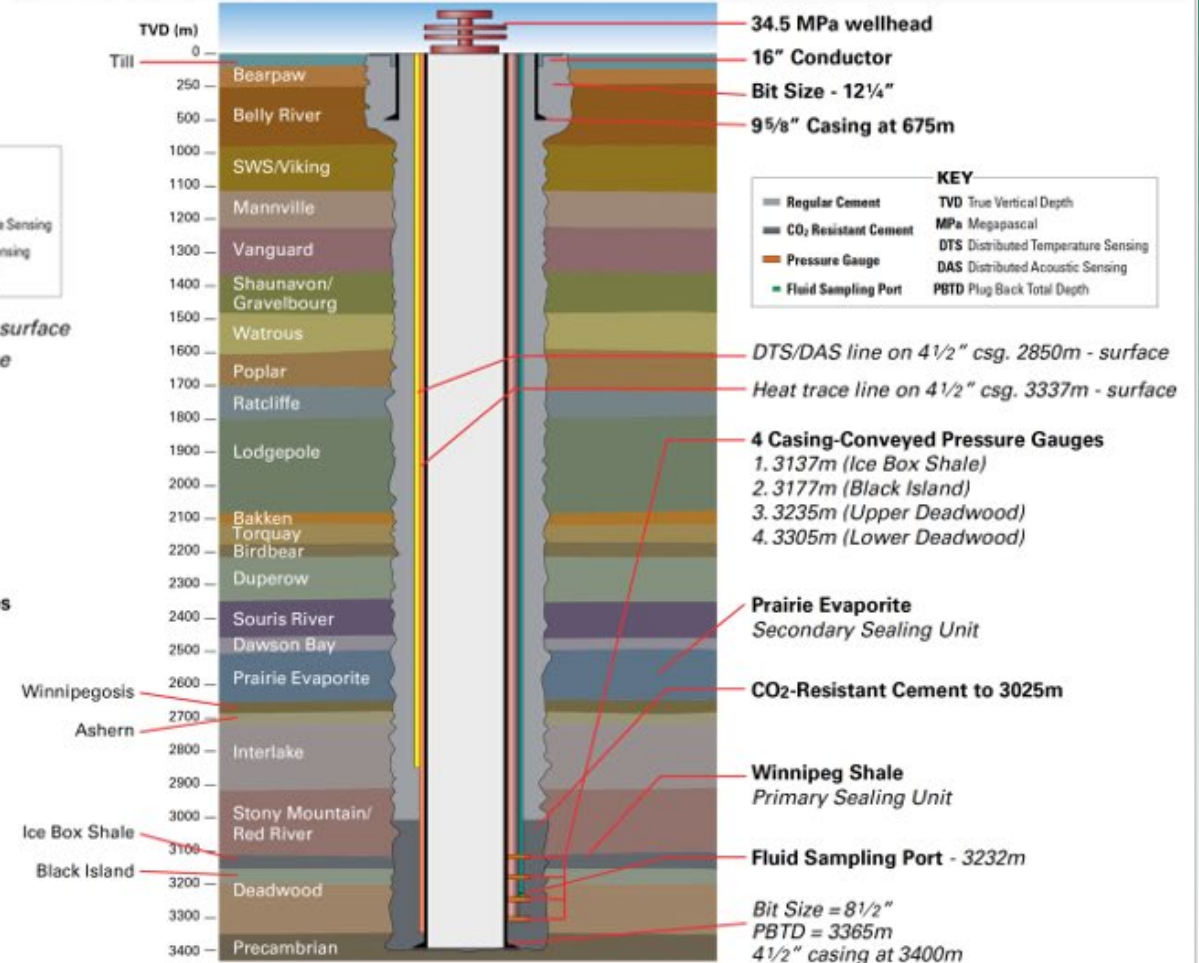
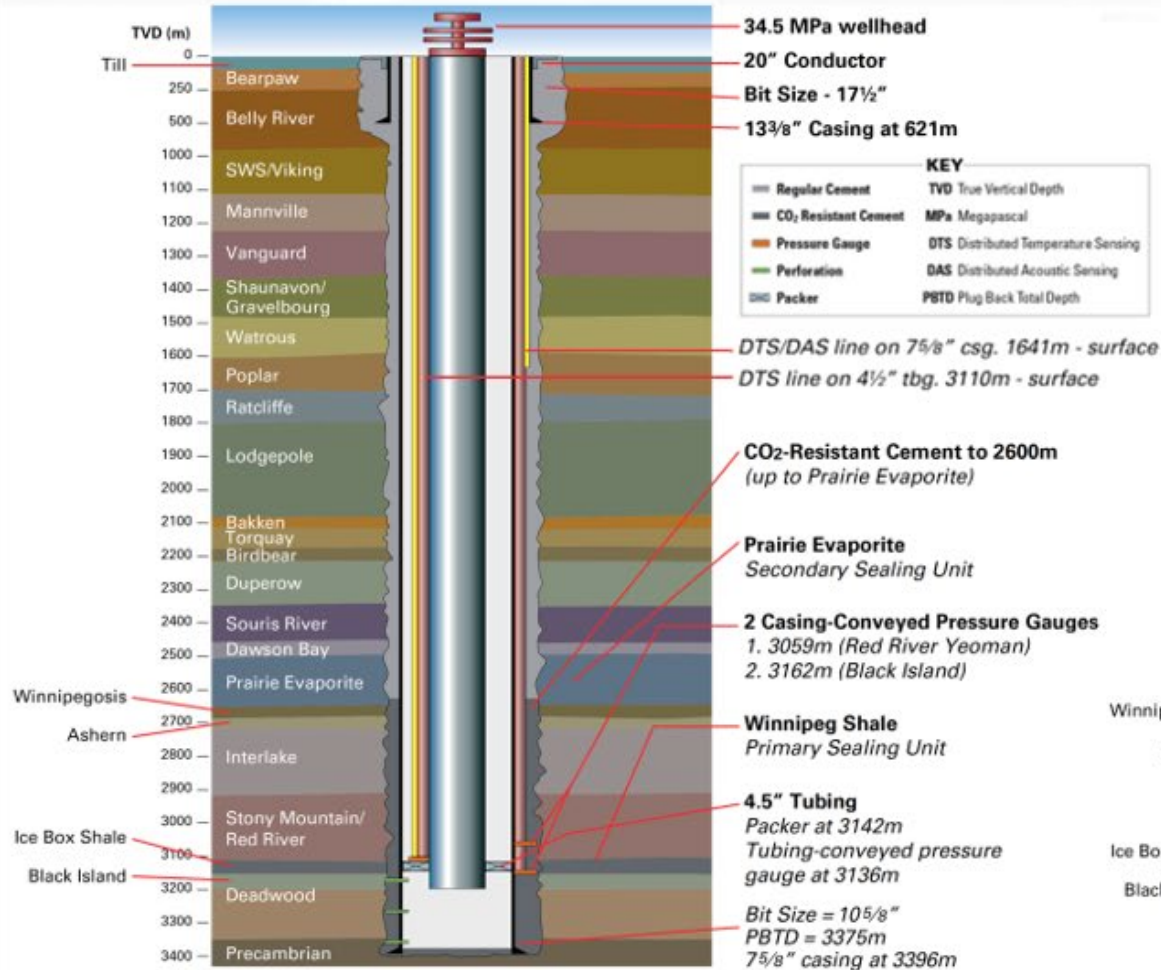


Summer, 2012

Well Schematics

PTRC INJ
5-6-2-8W2M

PTRC OBS
D5-6-2-8W2M



MMV Field Laboratory

Surface-based:

- Regional 3D seismic survey
 - Geological characterization
 - Baseline & time-lapse
- Permanent seismic array
 - Time-lapse imaging
- Electrical/electromagnetic
- Gravity

Plume

- Passive seismic (broadband & short period array)
- InSAR
- GPS
- Tiltmeters

Deformation

- Groundwater & soil gas monitoring
- Carbon isotope profile

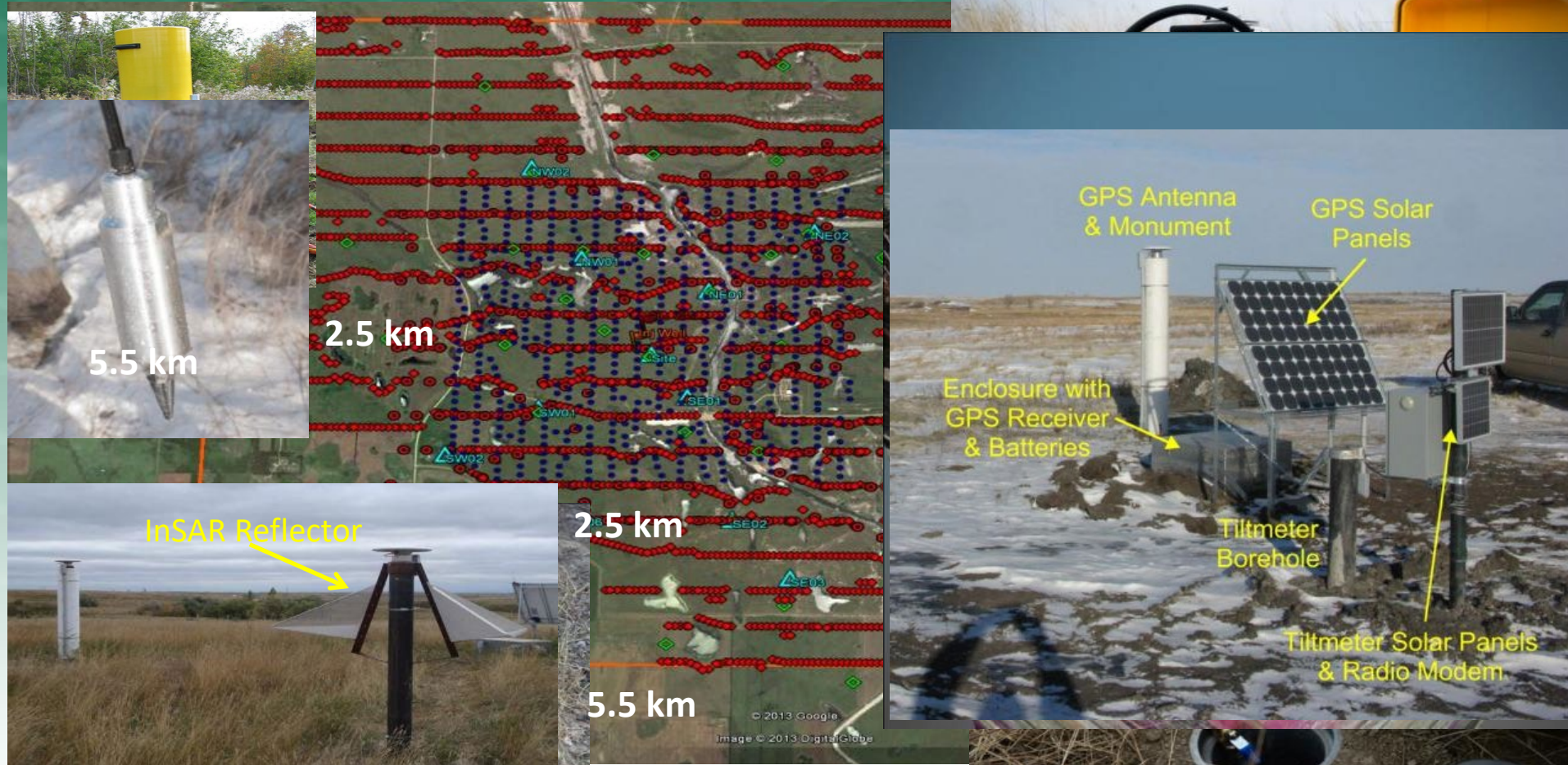
Leakage

Down-hole

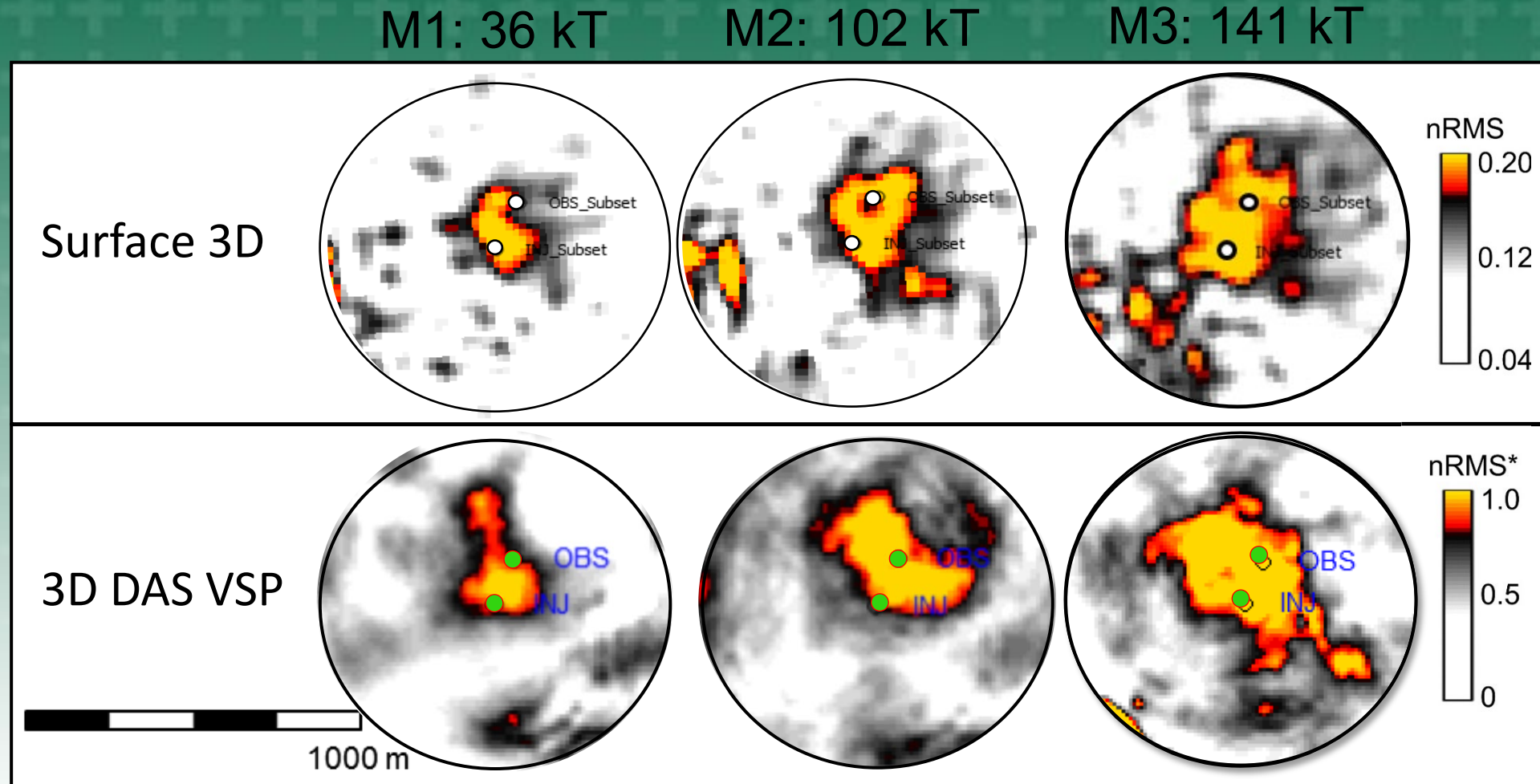
- Cross-well seismic & VSP
- Cross-well & surface-to-downhole electrical monitoring
- Real-time P & T
- Passive seismic
- Fluid sampling
- Time-lapse logging
- Distributed Acoustic/Temperature Sensors (DAS/DTS)
- Heater cable
- Gravity

In Situ

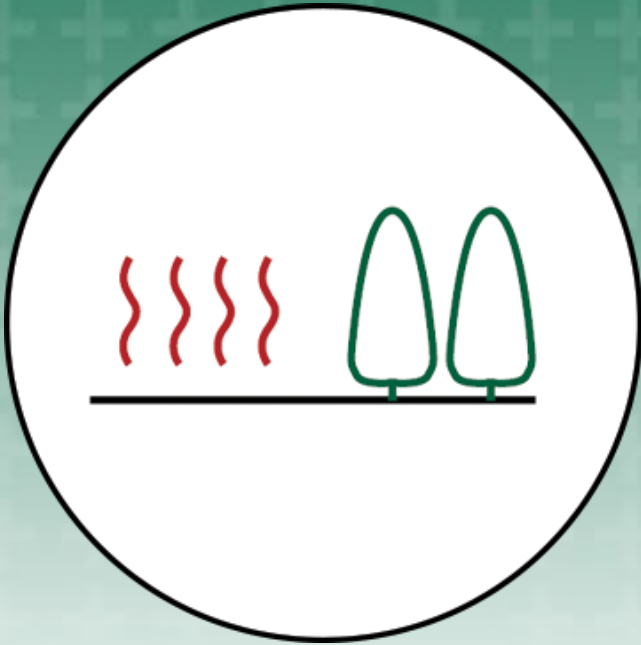
Aquistore Monitoring Program



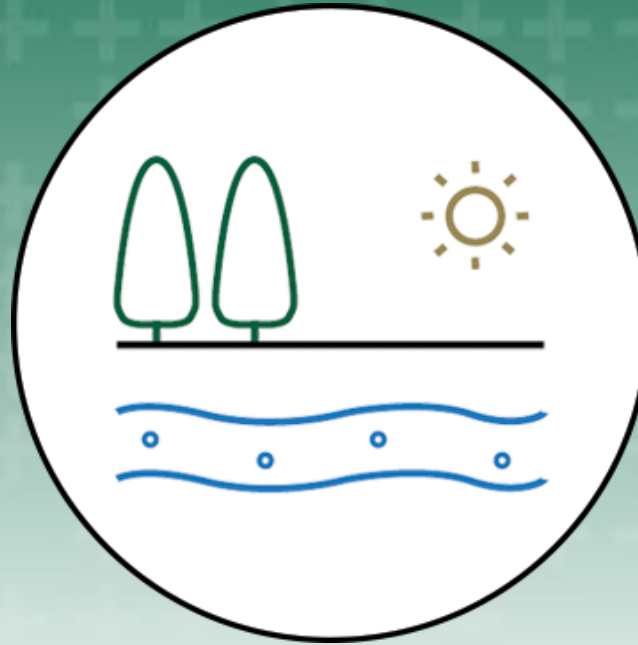
Seismic Studies Surface Geophones vs. DAS



Public Assurance



Zero Impact on
Soil Gas



Zero Impact on
Ground Water

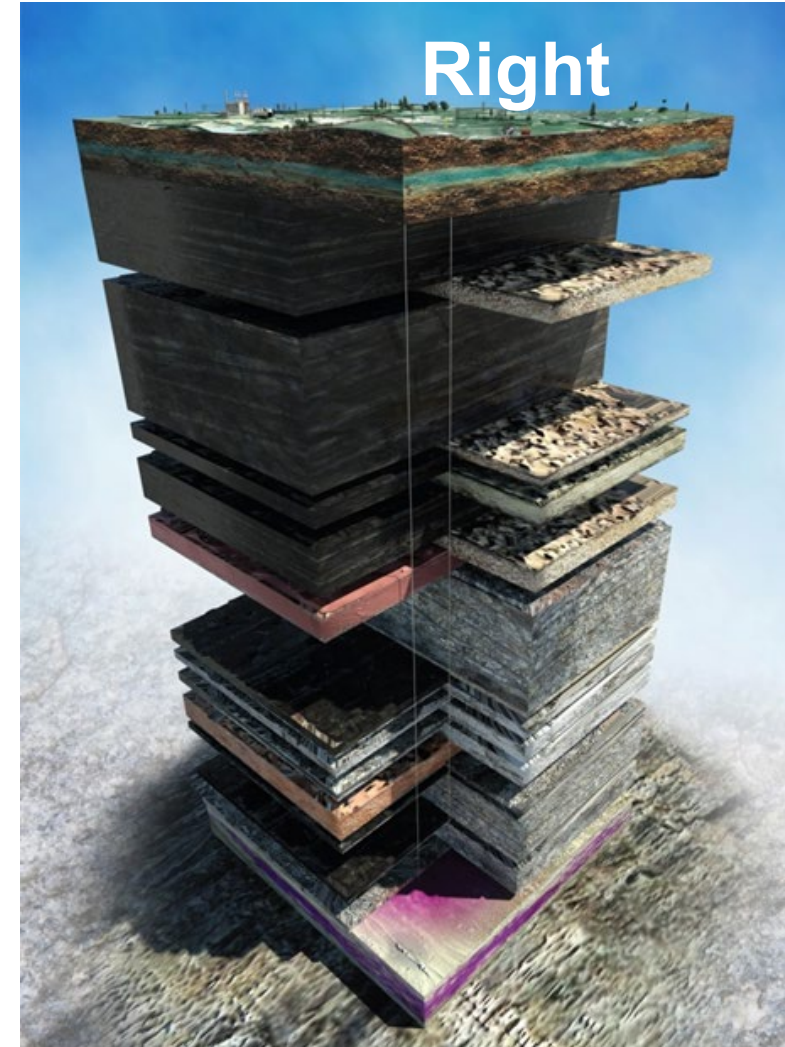
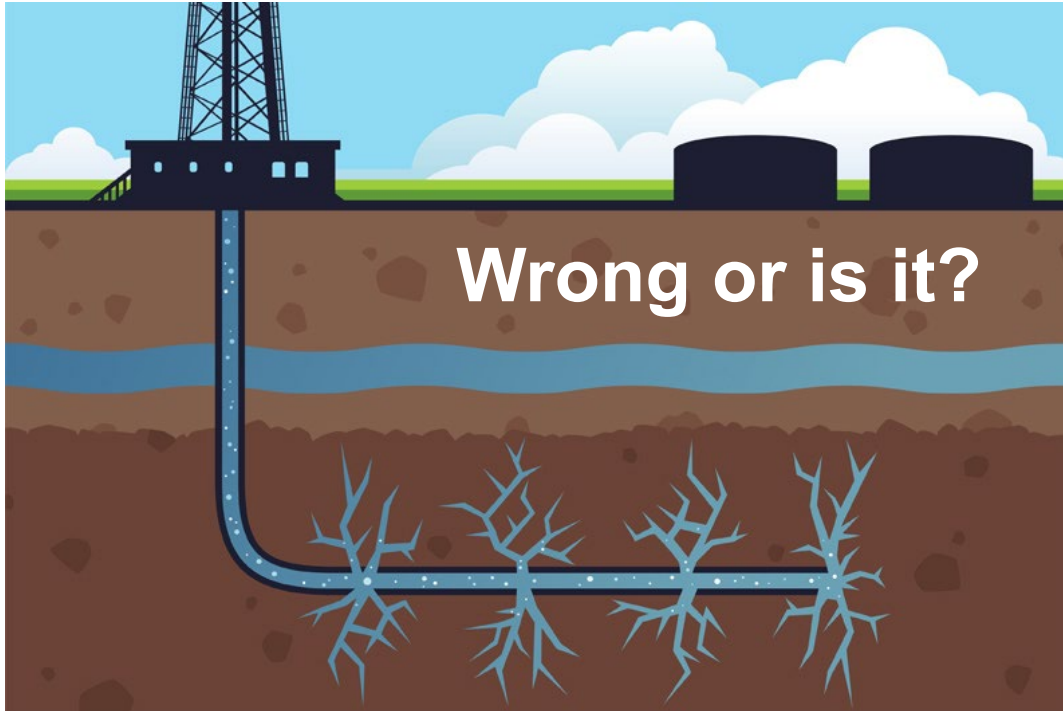


No Measurable
Seismic Activity

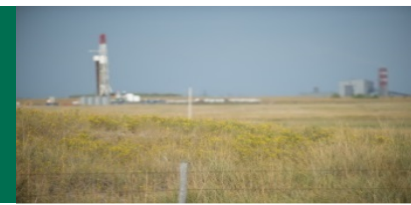
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



One of the purposes of effective CCS communications is to provide clear, scientific detail where needed. This means, for example, the storage images should be to scale.



LANGUAGE AND IMAGE: THE EFFECT OF A GOOD STORY



Open Houses, Estevan Saskatchewan



The future of CCS in Saskatchewan

“Enhanced oil recovery, carbon capture utilization and storage position Saskatchewan as the best place in North America to test, commercialize and scale new oil and gas technologies.”



CONTACT:

Erik Nickel

Director of Operations

erik.nickel@ptrc.ca

Norm Sacuta

Director of Communications

norm.sacuta@ptrc.ca



ptrc

Petroleum Technology
Research Centre

<https://ptrc.ca>

Twitter: [@ptrc_sk](https://twitter.com/ptrc_sk)