

# 26<sup>th</sup> Annual CO<sub>2</sub> Conference

Presented Both Live and Virtually

Illinois Basin ROZ Studies and Carper Formation Pilot Deployment

*Nathan Webb, Nate Grigsby, Fang Yang, Dmytro Lukhtai, and Scott Frailey*

**Illinois State Geological Survey**

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

*with Keith Tracy*

***Elysian Ventures***

Presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual CO<sub>2</sub> Conference

Tuesday - Thursday Dec 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Bush Convention Center

Midland, Texas

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# Acknowledgement

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- Through a university grant, IHS Petra, Geovariances Isatis, and Landmark Software were used for the geologic, geocellular, and reservoir modeling, respectively
- For project information, including reports and presentations, please visit:

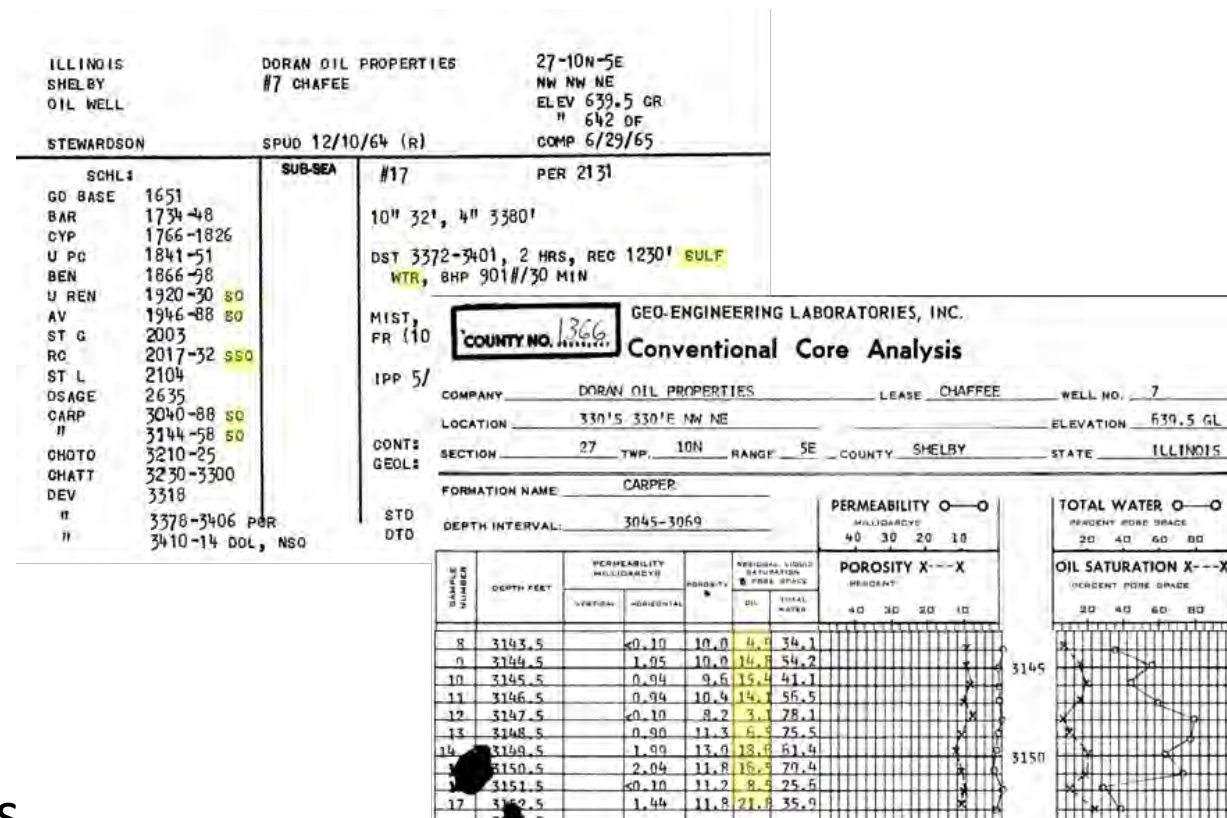
<http://www.isgs.illinois.edu/research/ERD/NCO2EOR>

# Motivation

- DOE objectives
  - Develop specific subsurface engineering approaches leveraging CO<sub>2</sub> injection field tests and applied R&D, that address research needs critical for advancing CCS to commercial scale
- ISGS project objectives
  - Screen for ROZs using analysis of empirical data and basin evolution modeling
  - Characterize stacked brownfield/greenfield siliciclastic ROZs at field lab sites
  - Conduct injection tests and collect and analyze core and logs at field lab sites
  - Use calibrated simulation models and LCA to identify development strategies
- ISGS field pilot objectives
  - Characterize geology and fluids in ROZ
  - Demonstrate the efficacy of CO<sub>2</sub> EOR and storage in a siliciclastic ROZ

# ILB ROZs: Identification Process

- Assess geologic properties of formations of interest
  - Porosity, permeability, thickness, fairway potential
- Document ROZ indicators in well data (e.g. *Trentham & Melzer 2016*)
  - Oil shows
  - Core with  $S_o > 0$
  - Low  $S_o$  indicated from log analysis
  - High water cut production attempts



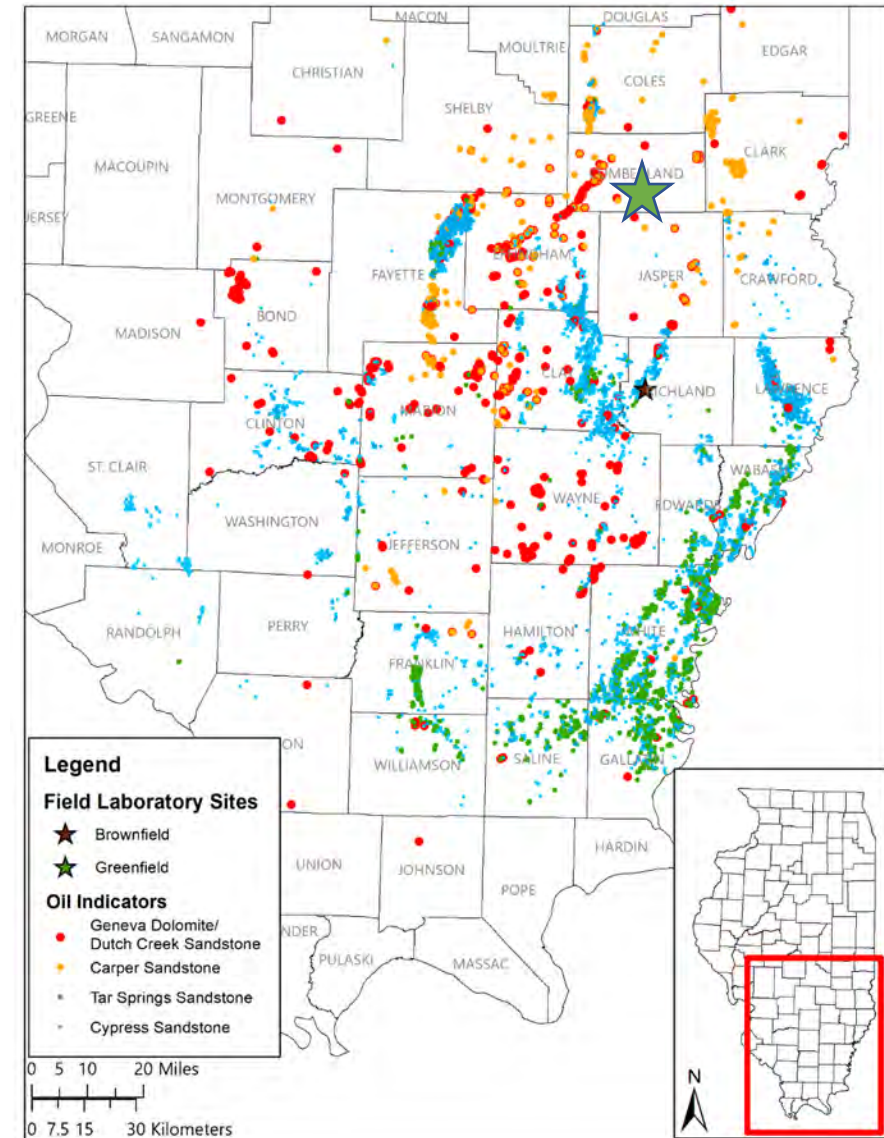
# ILB ROZs: Stratigraphy

- Numerous Paleozoic formations with geologic properties favorable for ROZ development
  - Geologic setting conducive to widespread, well-connected, porous and permeable rock
- Current study focuses on regional characterization of four formations

System	Series	Lithology	Oil Reservoirs	ROZ Potential	Depth Range (Ft. approx.)	
Pennsylvanian	Atokan		Lower Pennsylvanian Sandstones	✓		
	Morrowan					
Mississippian	Chesterian		Kinkaid Limestone	▲		2,200-2,600
			Degonia Sandstone	▲		
			Clore Formation	▲	✓	
			Palestine Sandstone	▲		
			Menard Limestone	▲		
			Waltersburg Sandstone	▲		
			Vienna Limestone	▲		
			Tar Springs Sandstone	▲	✓	
			Glen Dean Limestone	▲		
			Hardinsburg Sandstone	▲	✓	
			Haney Limestone	▲		
			Big Clifty Sandstone	▲		
			Beech Creek Limestone	▲		
			Cypress Sandstone	▲	✓	
Mississippian	Valmyeran		Ridenhower Formation	▲		2,400-3,000
			Downeys Bluff Limestone	▲		
			Yankeetown Sandstone	▲	✓	
			Renault Limestone	▲		
			Aux Vases Sandstone	▲		
			St. Genevieve Limestone	▲		
			Spar Mountain Sandstone	▲	✓	
			St. Louis Limestone	▲		
			Salem Limestone	▲		
			Ullin Limestone	▲	✓	
Mississippian	Kinderhookian		Fort Payne Limestone	▲	✓	3,100-4,200
			Carper Sandstone	▲	✓	
			Chouteau Limestone	▲		
Devonian	Upper		New Albany (Group)			
			Middle	Lingle Limestone		▲
				Geneva Dolomite		▲
Devonian	Middle		Clear Creek Chert	▲		3,000-4,800

# ILB ROZs: Regional

- Numerous Paleozoic formations with geologic properties favorable for ROZ development
- Current study focuses on regional characterization of four formations
  - Focus on siliciclastics
  - Greenfields and brownfields
  - CO<sub>2</sub> HnP demonstration in Carper sandstone



# ILB ROZs: CO<sub>2</sub> EOR and Storage estimates

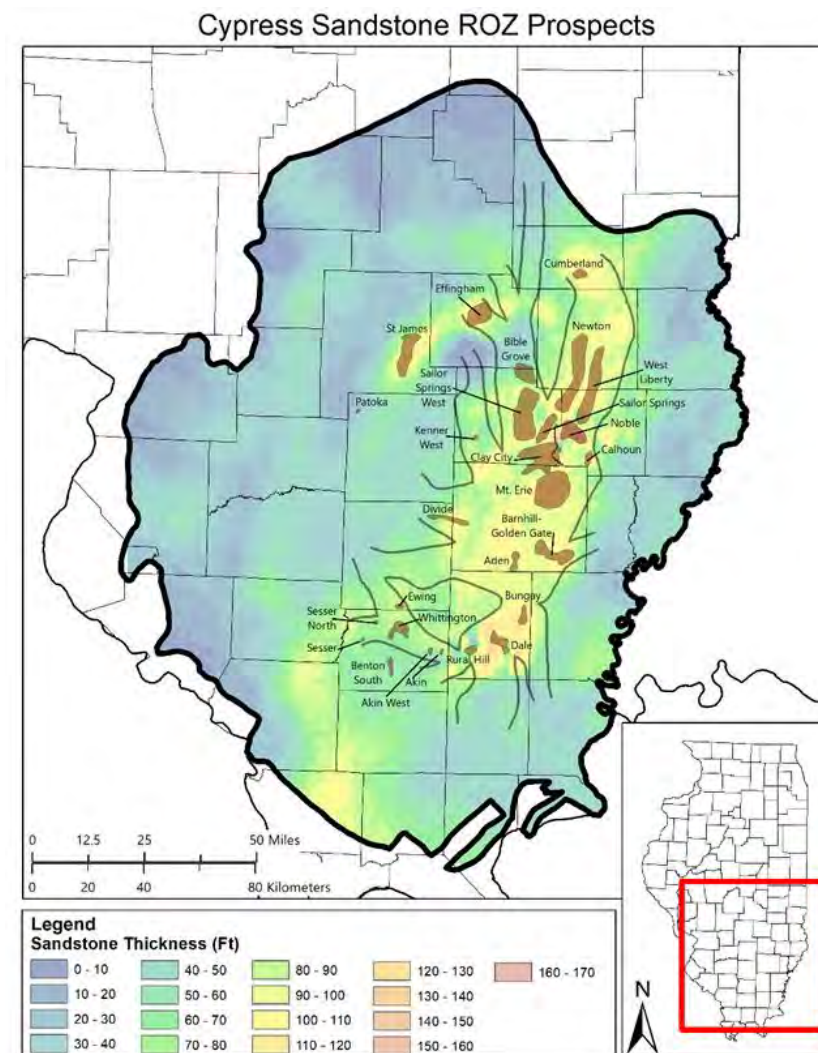
## Example: Cypress Ss ROZ fairway

- ~1.9 million acre ROZ fairway
  - ~1 million acre-ft of pore volume
- ROZ estimated resource:
  - 1.8 billion barrels of oil in place<sup>1</sup>
  - 196 million barrels recoverable<sup>2</sup>
  - 10.4 billion tonnes associated CO<sub>2</sub> storage<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>23% median  $S_{OR}$

<sup>2</sup>80-acre WAG flood EOR factor of 11.4% assuming miscible conditions

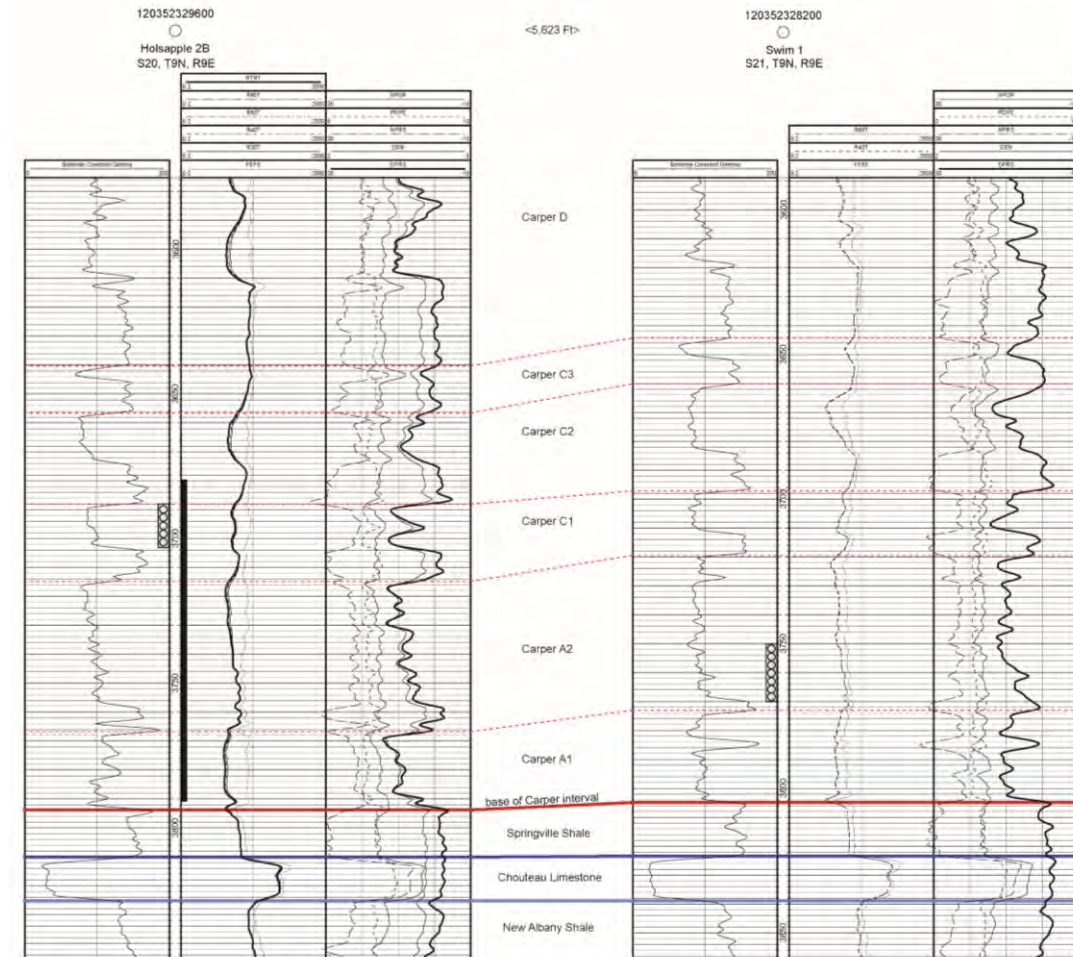
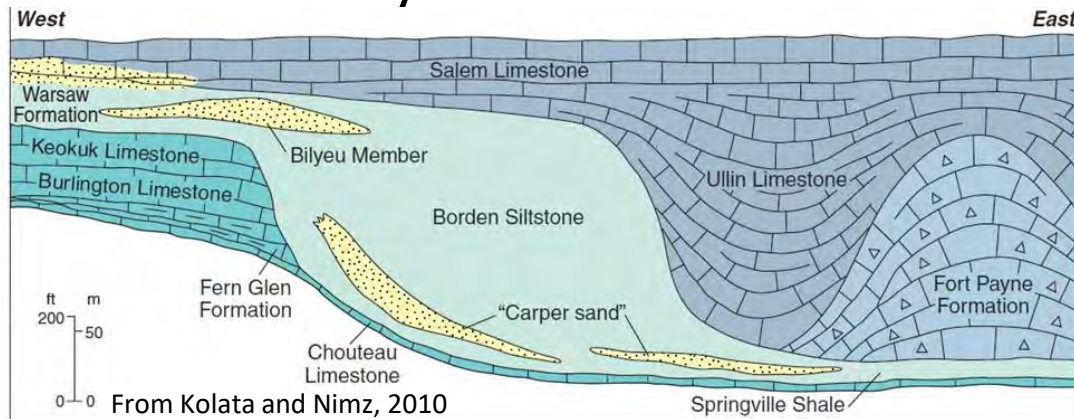
<sup>3</sup>Net utilization of 1,479 Mscf/stb



From Webb et al., 2019

# Carper and Borden (Caprock) ILB ROZ

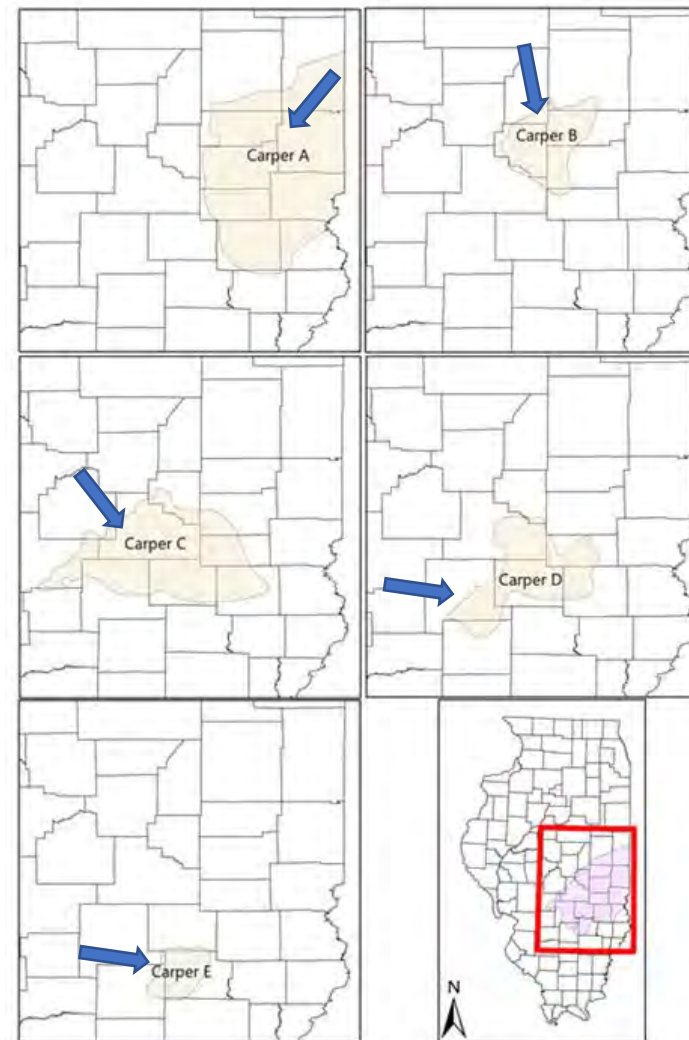
- Mississippian (Osagean) deposits
- Carper sandstone encased in the basal Borden Siltstone
  - Overlain by middle-Miss limestones
  - Secondary seals in Chesterian shales





# Carper and Borden (Caprock) ILB ROZ: Geology

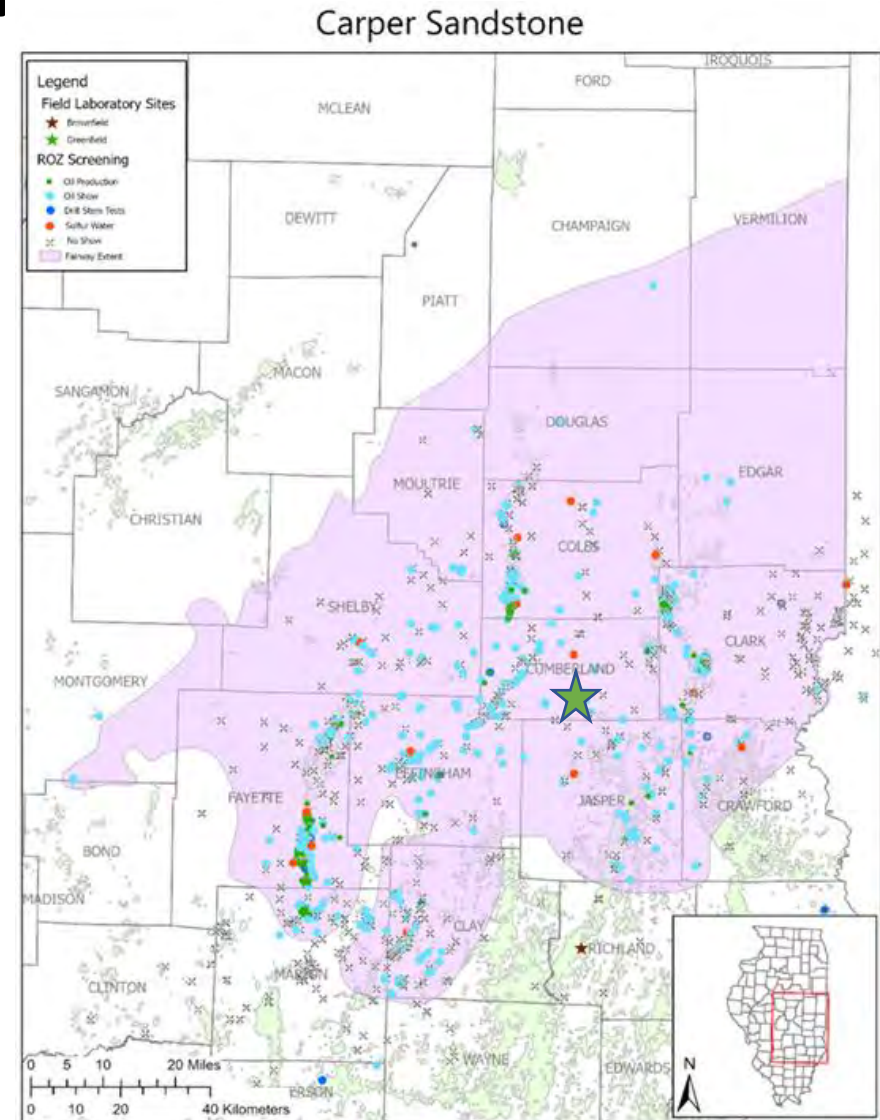
- Initially described as turbidite (gravity flow) beds off the foreset slopes of the low-angle Borden delta
- Five sandstone-lobes mapped and are named: Carper A – E
- Thickness varies up to 300 ft
  - Where lobes overlap, potential stratigraphic traps occur in otherwise structurally low areas



Arrows indicate position of major distributary outlets. Modified from Lineback, 1968.

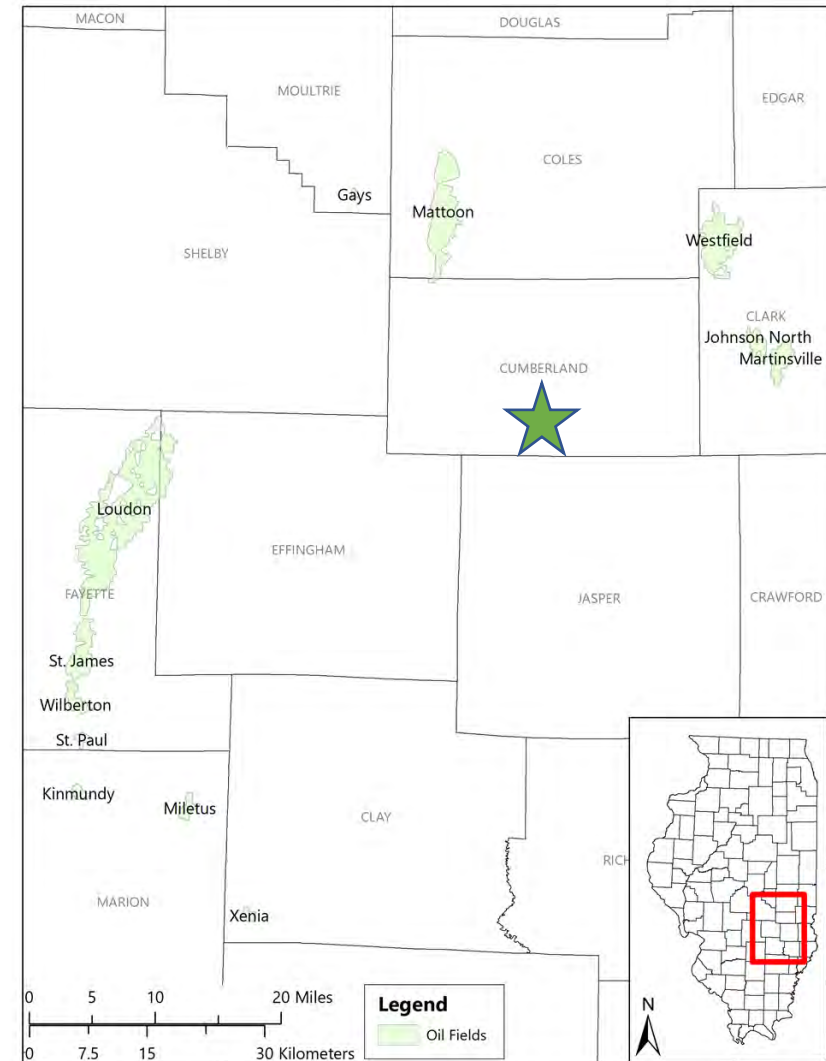
# Carper and Borden (Caprock) ILB ROZ: Regional

- Deposits extend into 18 counties in east central Illinois
- Oil produced from more than 10 oil fields – all on anticlines
- Evidence for regional greenfield based on oil shows w/ limited oil production at high-water cuts
  - Estimated  $S_{orw}$  of 25%



# Carper and Borden (Caprock) ILB ROZ: Historical Basin Oil Production

- Production on anticlines since 1920s
  - IP oil cuts of 70-80%; decrease to a consistent 1-5% after decades
    - All primary production
  - Best estimate of original  $S_o$  is 50%
  - Approx. 200 bbl of total daily fluid production common
  - 36-38°API; 5-8 cP oil



# Carper and Borden (Caprock) ILB ROZ: Unique Geologic Features

- Quartz sandstone (vf-grained) with clay and dolomite cements
  - Cementing minerals are oil wet vs. the water wet quartz matrix; likely intermediate wettability overall
  - Complex lithology; not ideal Archie rock
    - Difficult to establish 100%  $S_w$  baseline
    - Overestimate  $S_o$
- Depositional environment (gravity flow)
  - Unique in Illinois Basin, individual units are generally thin, but have high lateral extent
- Natural Fractures and Reservoir Pressure
  - Fluid throughput during production not possible with 0.1-1.0 mD matrix permeability – inferred natural fractures
  - Operators report possible sub-normal pressure (deep fluid level) – formation is encased within massive siltstone in the subsurface and does not outcrop

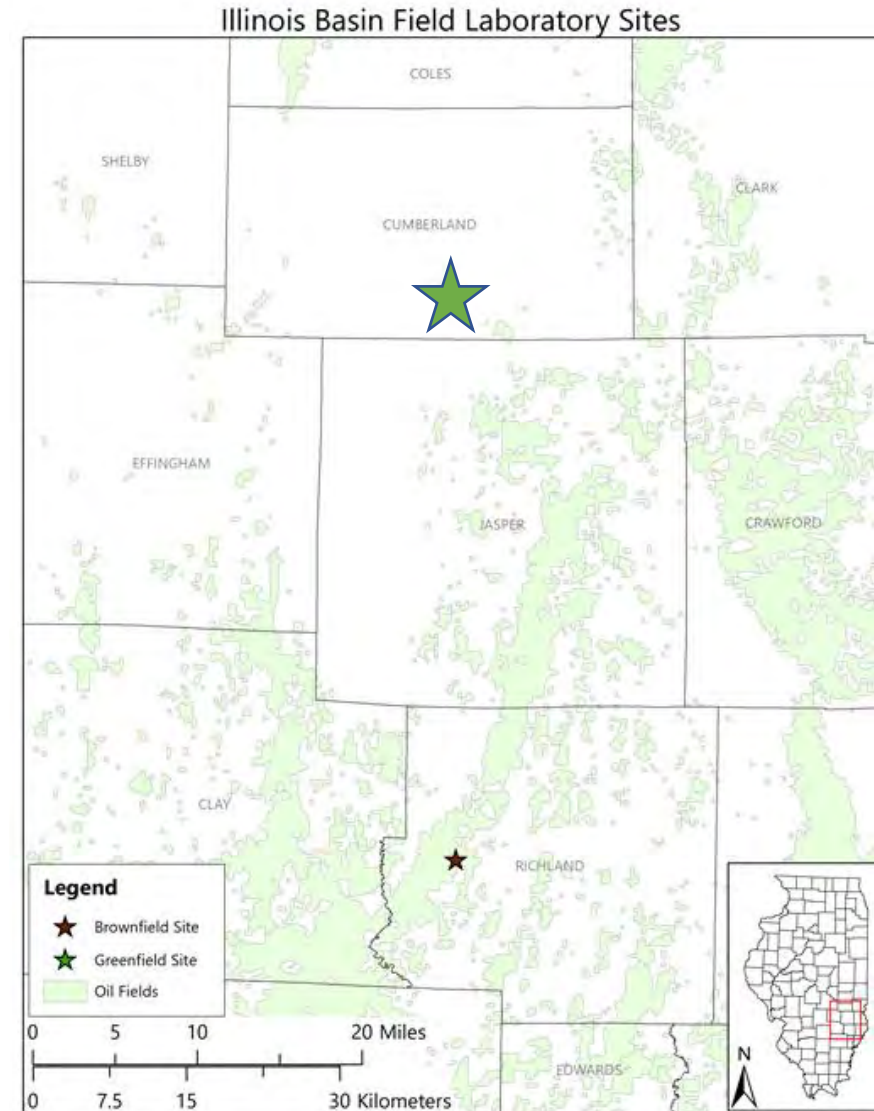
# Field Pilot Site Selection: Criteria

- Evidence of stacked greenfield ROZs
- Operator with existing well, completed in target formation within a greenfield
- Temperature and pressure suitable for miscible test
- Data availability
  - Well records, production history



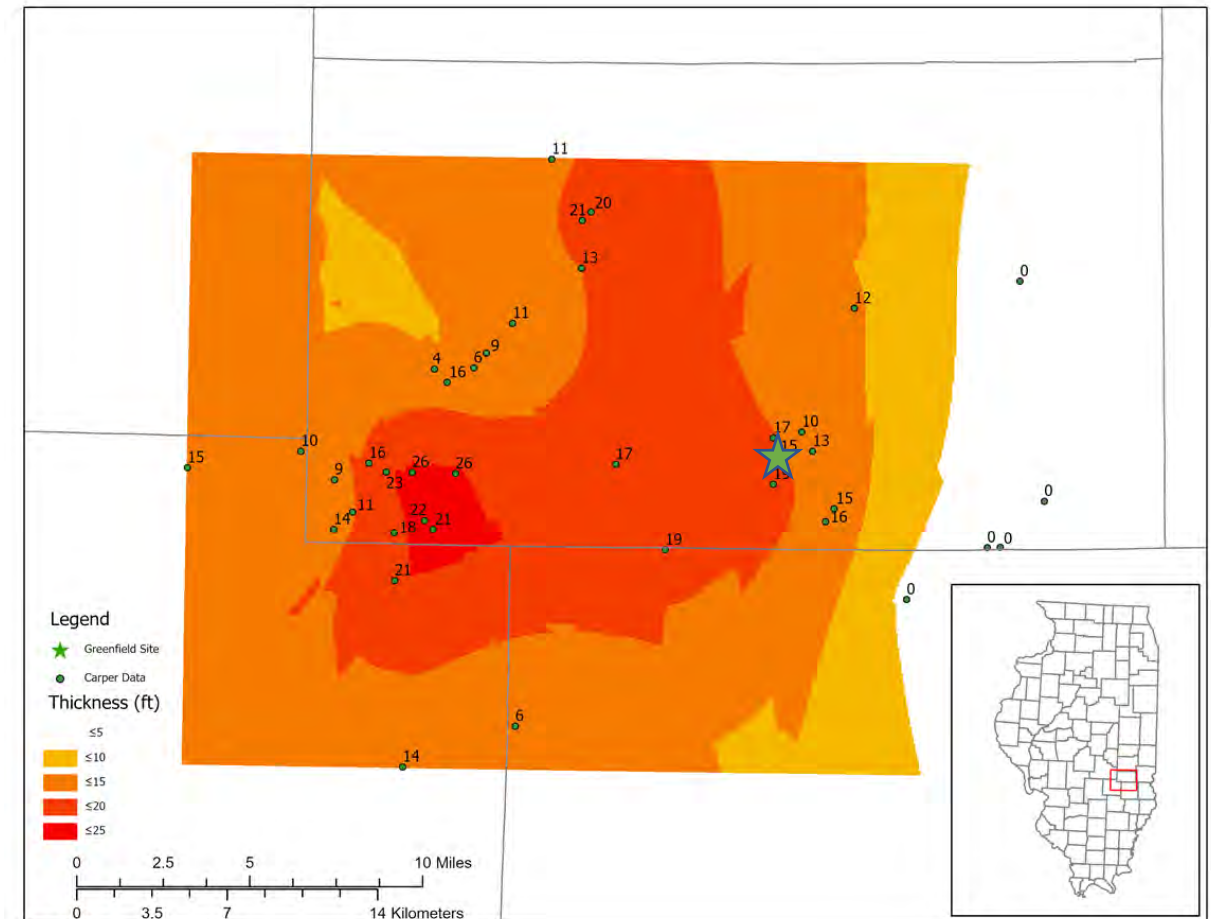
# Field Pilot Site Selection: Geographic Location

- Greenfield
  - Cumberland County
  - South central Illinois
- Approximately 20 miles to nearest Carper oil fields on structures
- Within 70 miles of several significant CO<sub>2</sub> sources



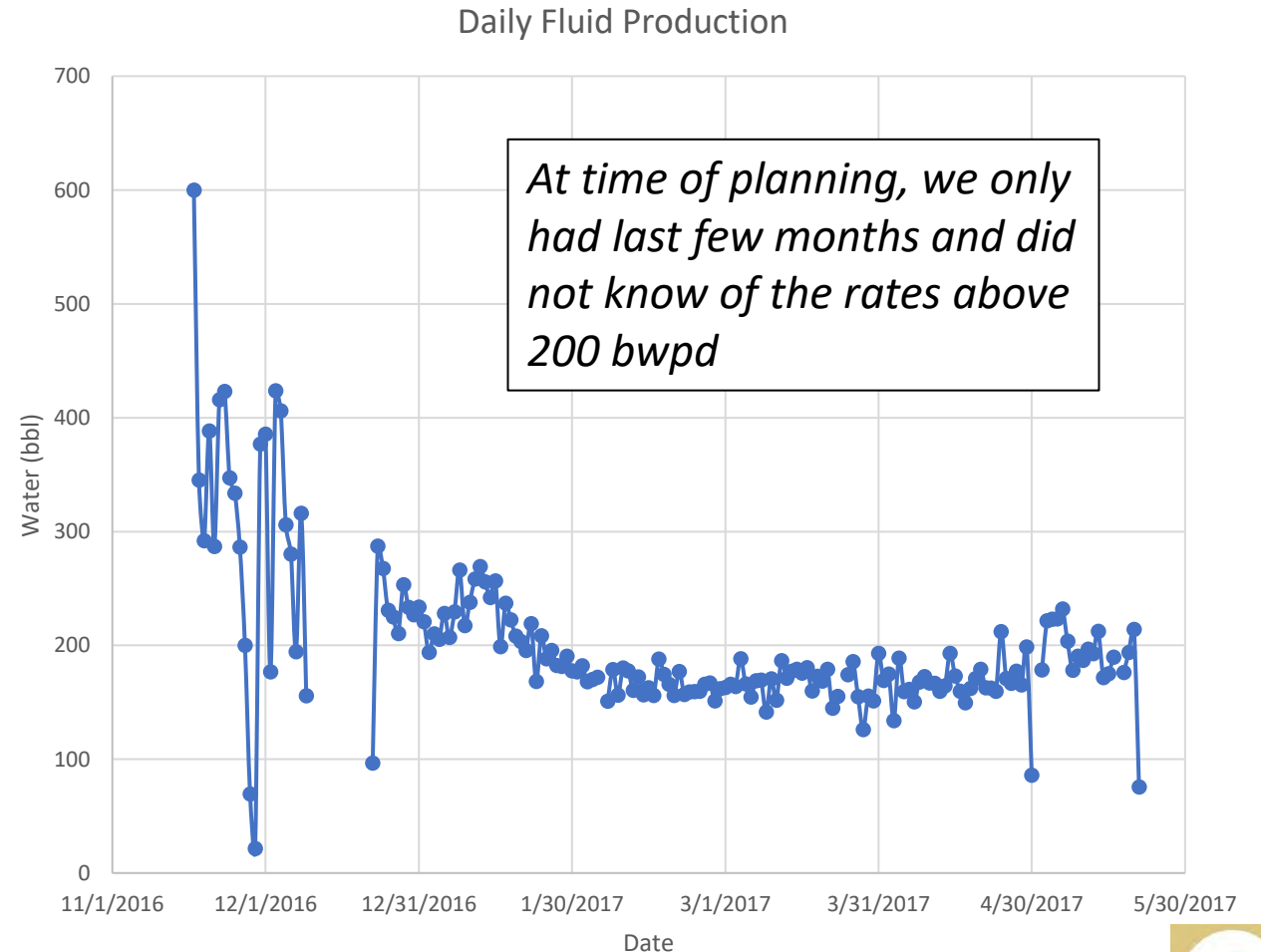
# Field Pilot Site Selection: Site Geology

- Carper sandstone net thickness 100+ ft in 5 distinct sandstone bodies
- Perforated interval
  - Highest calculated  $S_o$  (25%)
  - 15 ft thick, laterally extensive
  - 0.2 mD matrix perm (core)
  - Bounded above and below by 10-15 ft of shaley siltstone



# Field Pilot Site Selection: Production History/Well Completion

- Drilled August 2016
  - Carper zone cored
- Casing set; 15 ft perforated
- Acid treatment
- Slickwater frac
  - 892 bbl water, 31,500 lb. sand
- Six months pumping
  - No measurable oil production
- Well shut-in May 2017





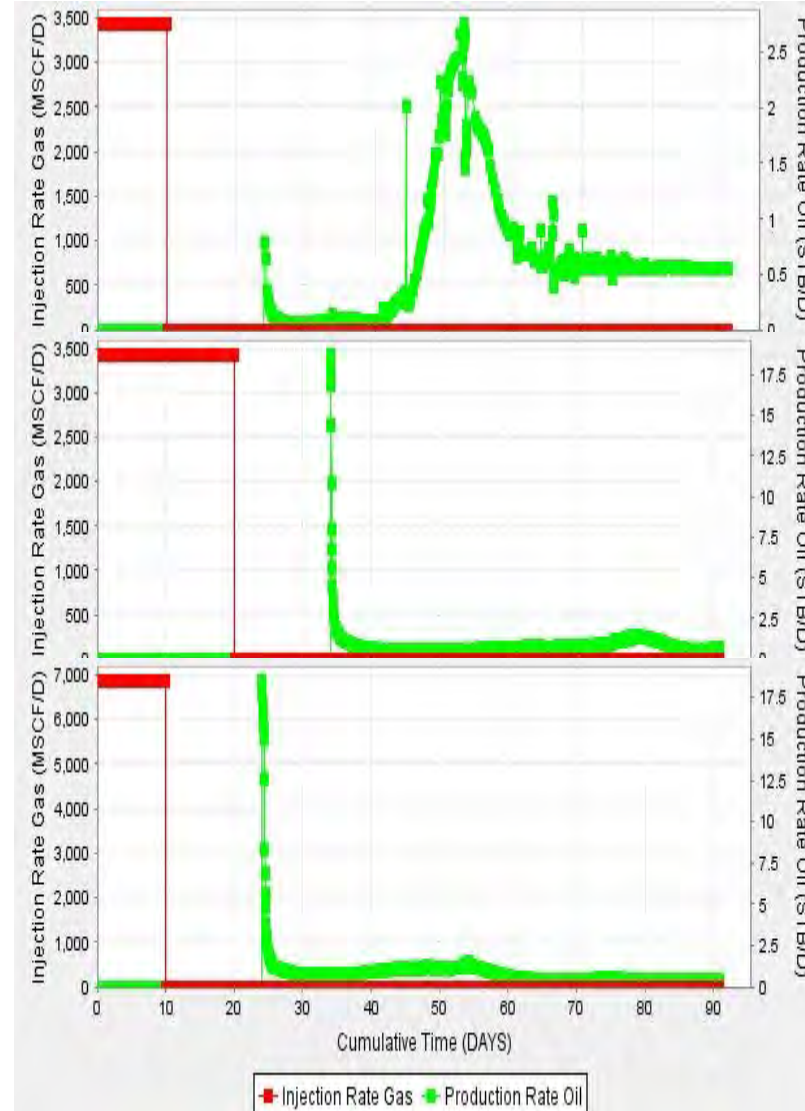
# Field Pilot Site Selection: Simulation Scenarios

- Base model to match historical water production
  - Natural (vertical) fracture model
    - LY=3 ft, LX = 150 ft (orthogonal)
    - $k_{xf}/k_{yf} = 0.02$
    - 10-20 md equivalent perm
  - Matrix:  $S_{or} = S_{oi} = 25\%$
  - Fracture:  $S_{or} = S_{oi} = 2\%$
- HnP sensitivity
  - Injection rate
  - Injection volume
  - Soak period
  - Injection scheme: continuous injection vs. discontinuous injection
  - Initial pressure: above MMP vs. below MMP
  - Prior water injection vs. No water injection

# Field Pilot Site Selection: HnP Simulation Results: Pre-Water Tests

- Baseline: 0.0 stb/day
- Higher cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> inj
  - Higher peak oil rate and cumulative production
- Higher CO<sub>2</sub> injection rate (with same cumulative)
  - Similar peak oil rate but higher cumulative oil production

*Comparison at 1 month production*



200 ton/day for 10 days:  
Peak oil = 3 stb/day  
Cum oil at 1-month = 18 stb

200 ton/day for 20 days:  
Peak oil = 19 stb/day  
Cum oil at 1-month = 25 stb

400 ton/day for 10 days:  
Peak oil = 19 stb/day  
Cum oil at 1-month = 46 stb

*200 tpd = 3.4 MMscf/d*  
*400 tpd = 6.8 MMscf/d*

# Field Pilot Site Selection:

## HnP Simulation Results: Pre-Water Tests, Cont.

- Pump and delivery constrained: injection limit of 60 ton/d (1.0 MMscf/d)
  - Soak period has little impact on oil response
  - Shorter soak time, higher cumulative injection yielded slightly better cumulative oil

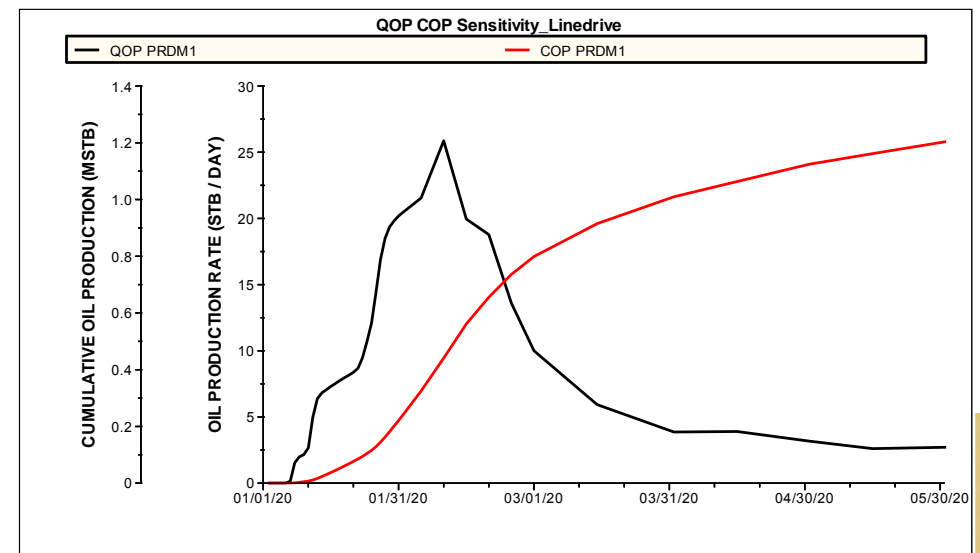
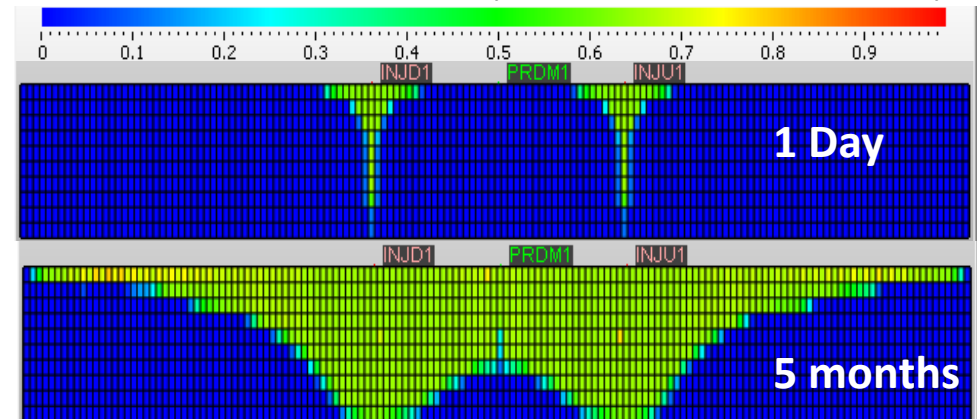
Scenarios	Injection time, day	Cumulative injection, ton	Peak oil rate, stb/day	Cumulative oil at 1-month production, stb
14-day soak	16	960	1.1	15
	8	480	1.1	13
	4	240	1.1	11
7-day soak	16	960	1.2	17
	8	480	1.2	14
	4	240	1.2	12

# Field Pilot Site Selection: Line Drive Simulation Results: Pre-Water Tests

## Direct line drive

- 20-acre pattern
- CO<sub>2</sub> inj rate: 200 ton/d (3.4 MMscf/day)
- Results:
  - Single pattern
    - Peak oil rate: 26 stb/day
    - 1,200-1,300 stb
  - Metrics after 5-months:
    - Oil recovery = 1.6% OOIP
    - Net utilization = 56 Mscf/stb (3.4 ton/stb)
    - Gross utilization = 428 Mscf/stb (25 ton/stb)

Gas saturation in fracture (side view of middle wells)



# Pilot Design: Design Elements

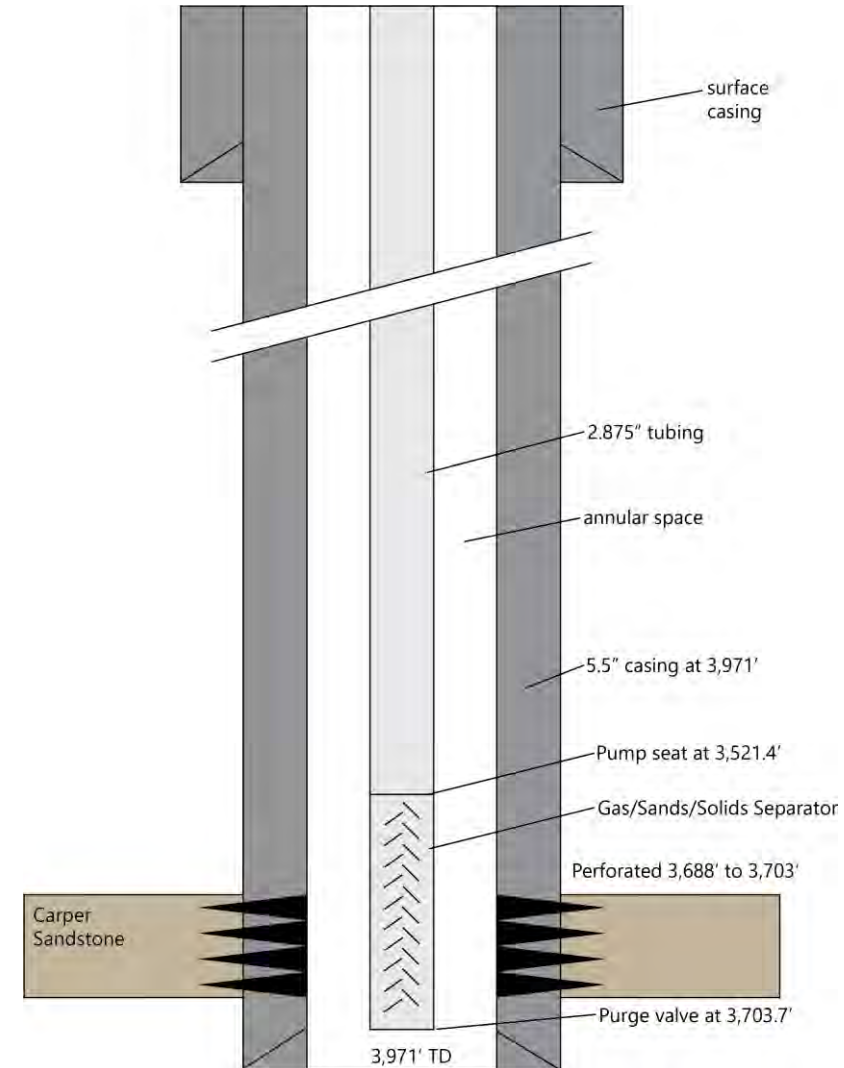
- Goal: acquire HnP data to calibrate model to predict commercial scale CO<sub>2</sub> EOR and storage
- Initial HnP plan
  - Inject 1,000 tons (20-ton tank trucks)
  - Pump capacity (60 ton/day)
  - Soak for >7 days
  - Produce for 1-3 months
- Update plan after:
  - Water injection tests
  - Baseline production (1 month)



*Frailey and Monson (in prep): Designing Small-Scale EOR/CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Pilot Projects*

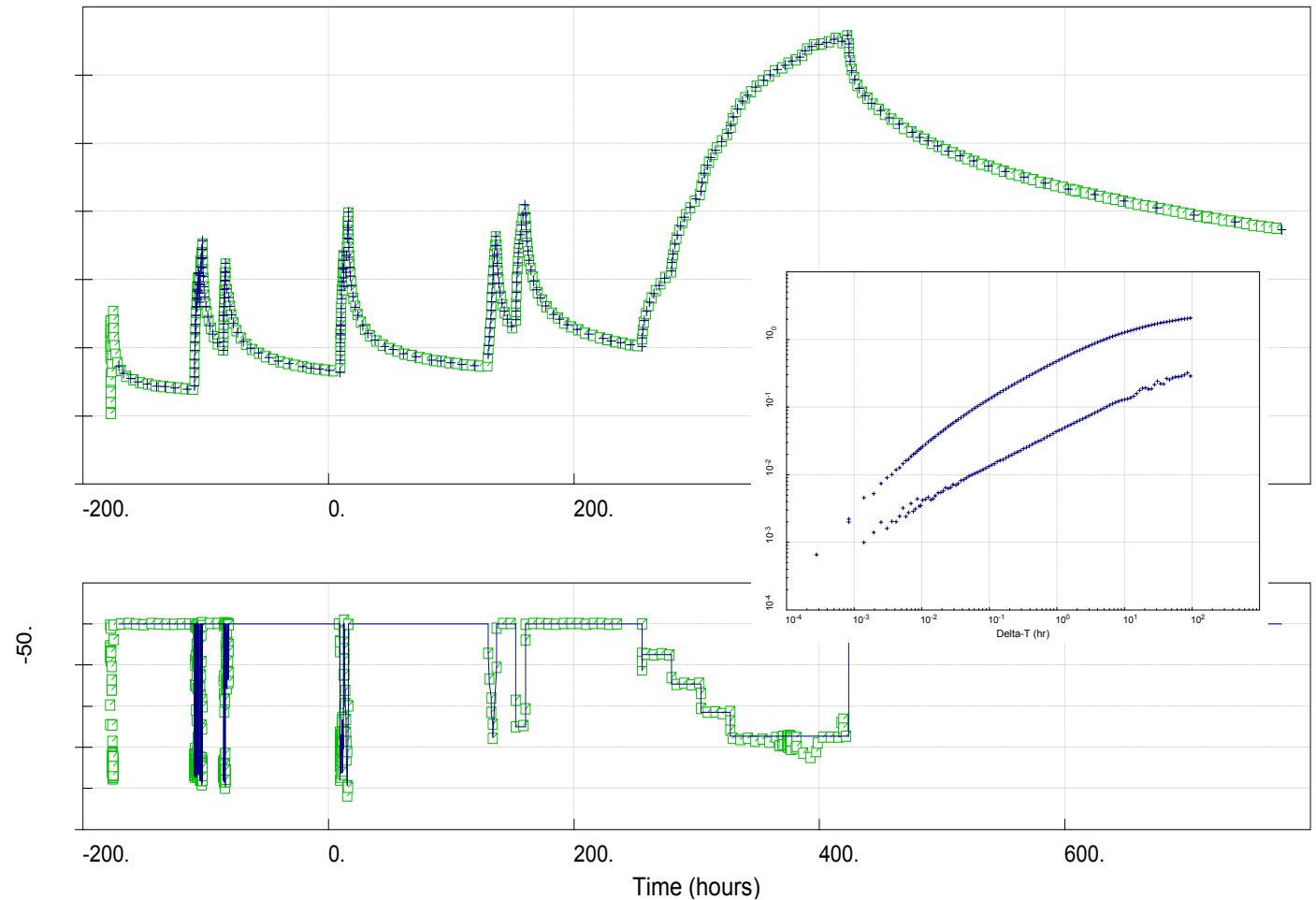
# Pilot Design: Well

- Perforated interval: 3,688-3,703'
- Fill in bottom of well
  - Unable to remove
  - Suspected frac proppant
- Solid (sand)-gas-liquid separator added
- Pump depth: 3,524'
- Pump above perfs
  - Liquid CO<sub>2</sub> will engulf pump
  - Tubing full of brine



# Pilot Design: Water Injection Tests

- Injection tests planned
  - Step rate tests
  - Pressure falloff tests
  - Designed for 20 mD
- Results
  - Expected 1,000s psi response
  - Found 10s psi response
  - Very slow pressure falloff
  - Hydraulic fracture dominated
  - MRT appears as SRT at <100 psi

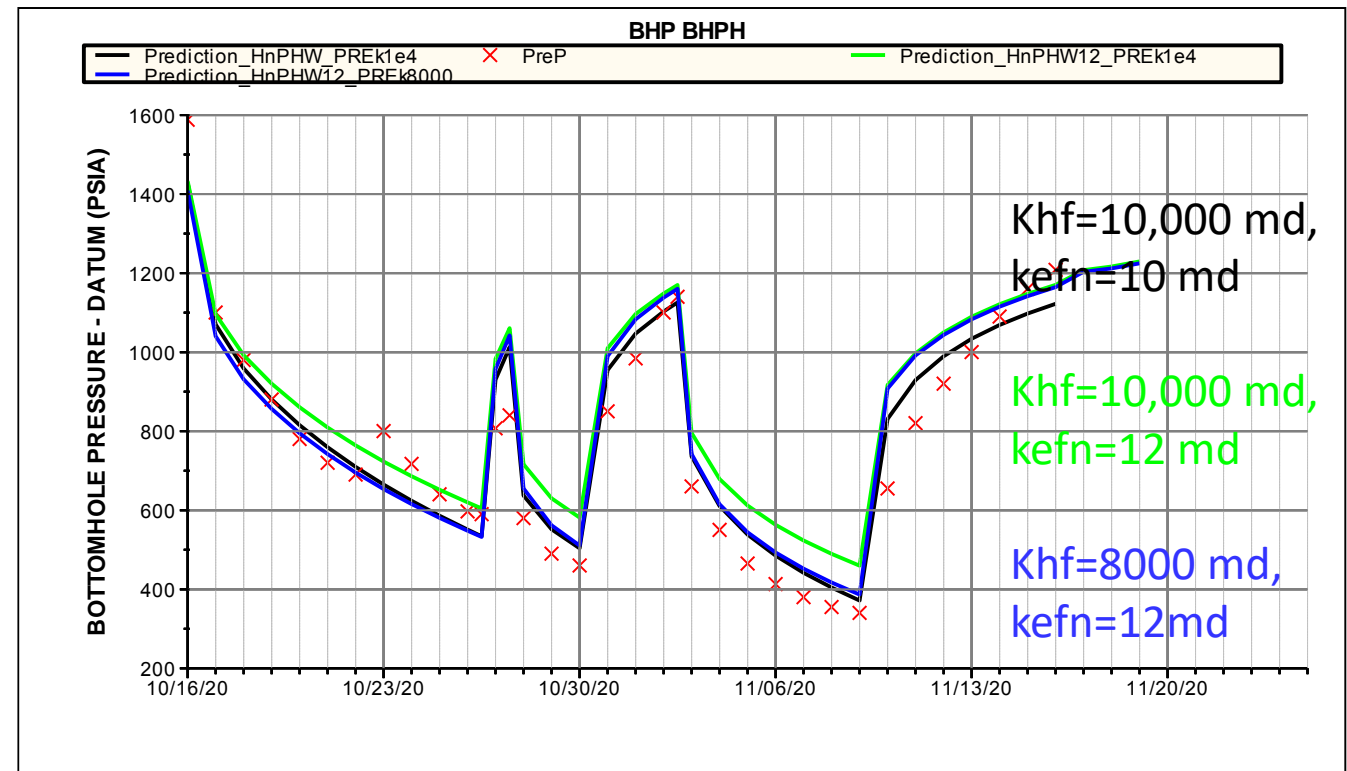


*After discussing with operator, we learned of earlier water rates > 200 bwpd*

# Pilot Design: Simulation Results: Post-Water Injection Tests

- Use 1 ft wide cell to represent a hydraulic fracture
- Vary to match water injection tests
  - Hydraulic fracture half length ( $x_f$ )
  - Permeability ( $k_{hf}$ )
  - Natural fracture spacing (LY)
  - Natural fracture effective perm ( $k_{efn}$ )

LY = 6 ft,  $x_f$  = 510 ft,  $k_{hf}$  = 8000 mD,  $k_{efn}$  = 12 mD





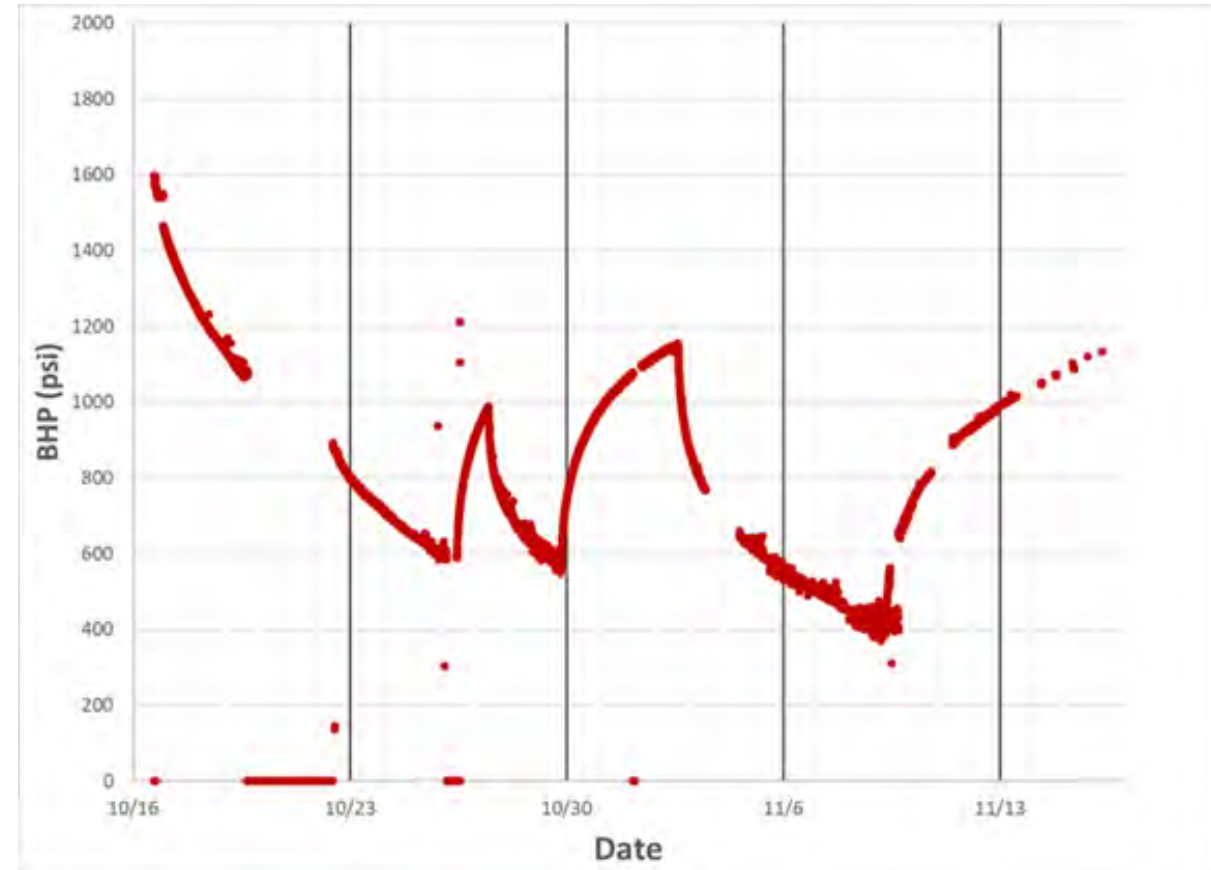
# Pilot Design: HnP Simulation Results: Post-Water Injection Tests

- Inject: 40 ton/day for 25 days (1,000 tons)
- Soak: 7 or 14 days
- Produce: 1 month

Soak period, days	Cumulative oil at 1- month, stb	Peak oil rate, stb/day
7	13	1.6
14	12	1.5

# Pilot Design: Baseline Production Test

- Verify water production from 2017
  - One month
  - Rod pump; 280 bbl/day
  - BHP (Echometer)
- Pressure
  - Readily drawdown well
  - Slow pressure buildup
  - Similar to injection tests
    - Flowing vs. shut-in well response



# Pilot Design: Equipment and Data Acquisition

## Injection

- 50-ton CO<sub>2</sub> storage tank on site
- ISGS CO<sub>2</sub> pump skid (prev. DOE project)
  - Booster and triplex pumps capable of injecting up to 60 tons/day
  - In-line propane heater

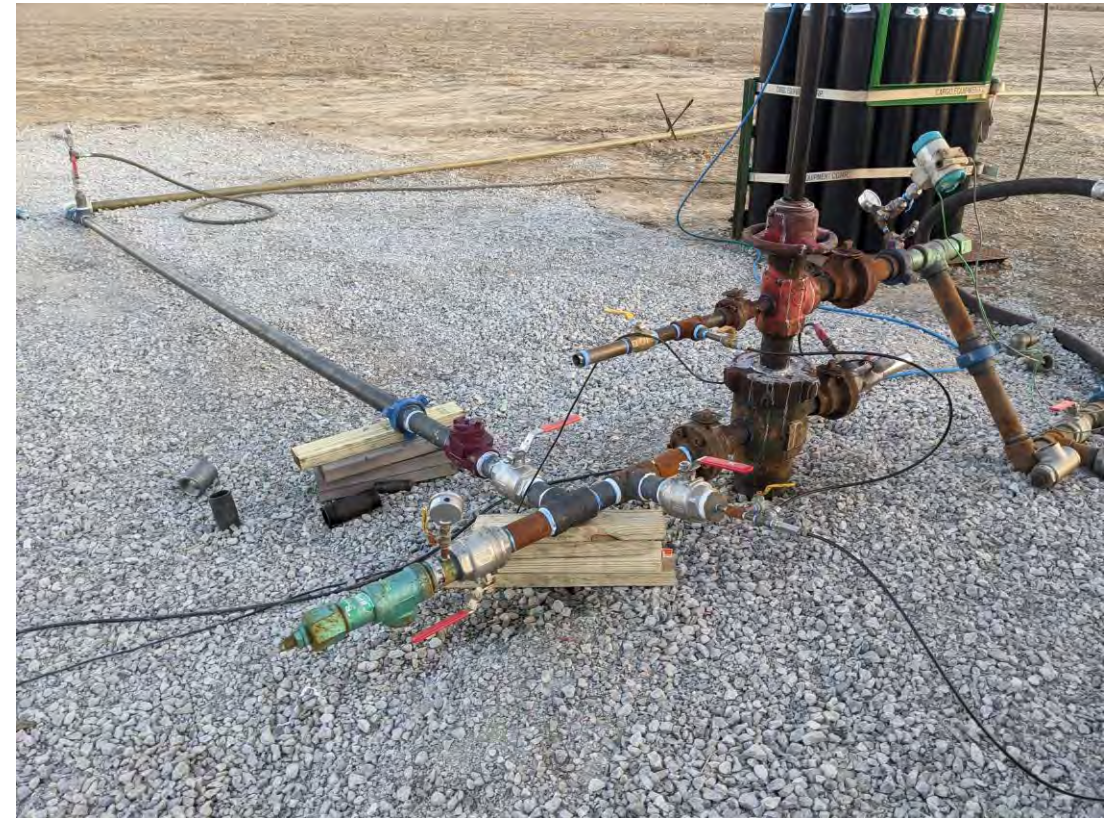
## Production

- Corrosion treatment at wellhead
- Gas-liquid separator



# Pilot Design: Equipment and Data Acquisition

- Quantity of CO<sub>2</sub> injected into annulus
  - Turbine meter at triplex pump
  - Mass sold
  - Delivered mass
- Pump skid gauges linked to data logger and viewed remotely
  - Echometer monitoring annulus pressure
- Production
  - Meter oil, water, CO<sub>2</sub> produced
    - Flexim ultrasonic unit motoring oil and water production, gas provers for CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Echometer tracking fluid level and BHP
  - Water disposal well on location



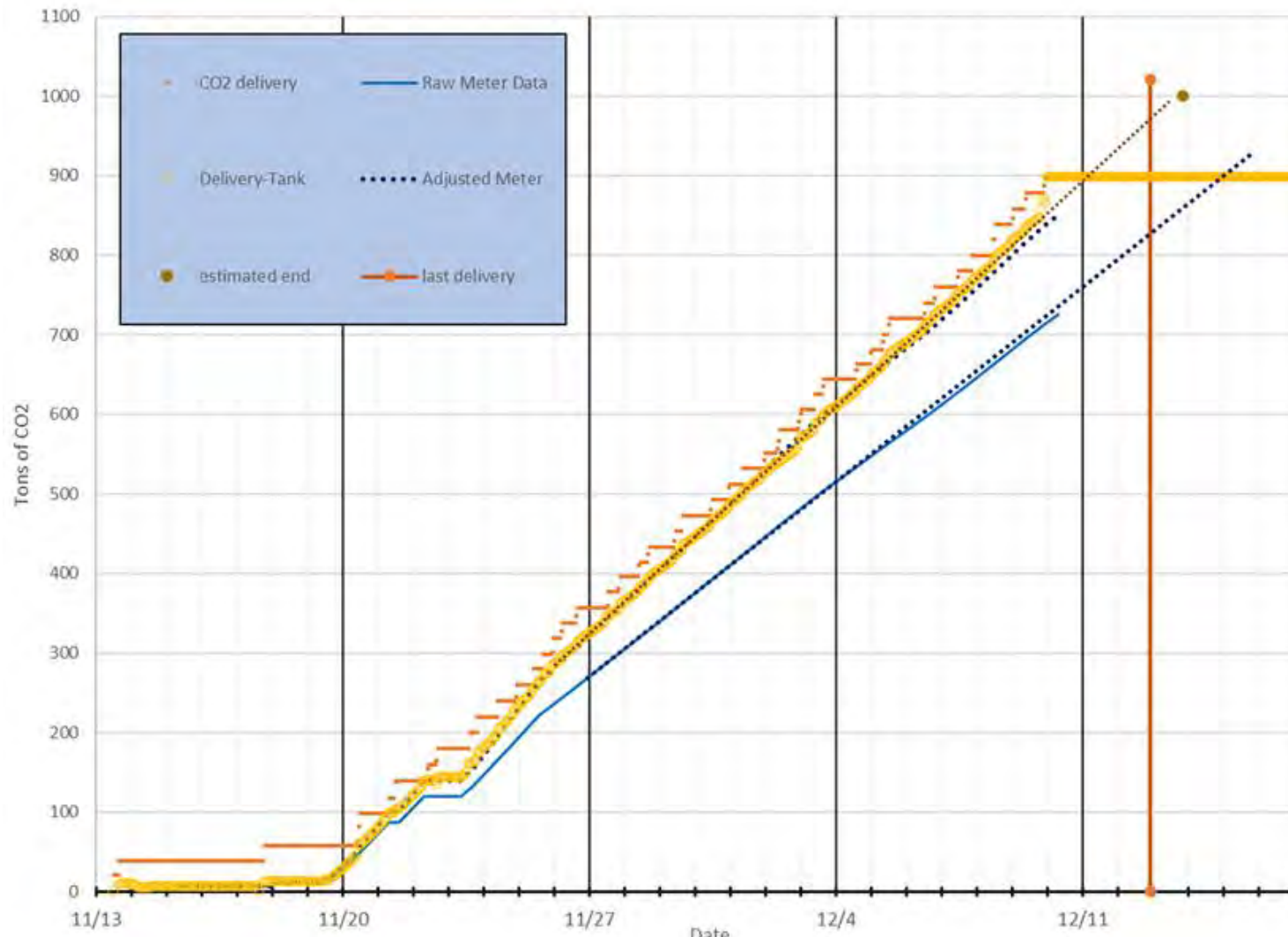
# Pilot Design: Deployment Challenges

- Budgetary
  - No infrastructure remaining at site
    - Costly and time consuming to set up
- Operational
  - Booster pump issues
  - Tank <15% full, caused shut down
  - Differences between metered and delivered CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Connectivity issues
  - Winter road restrictions
  - Road surface degradation



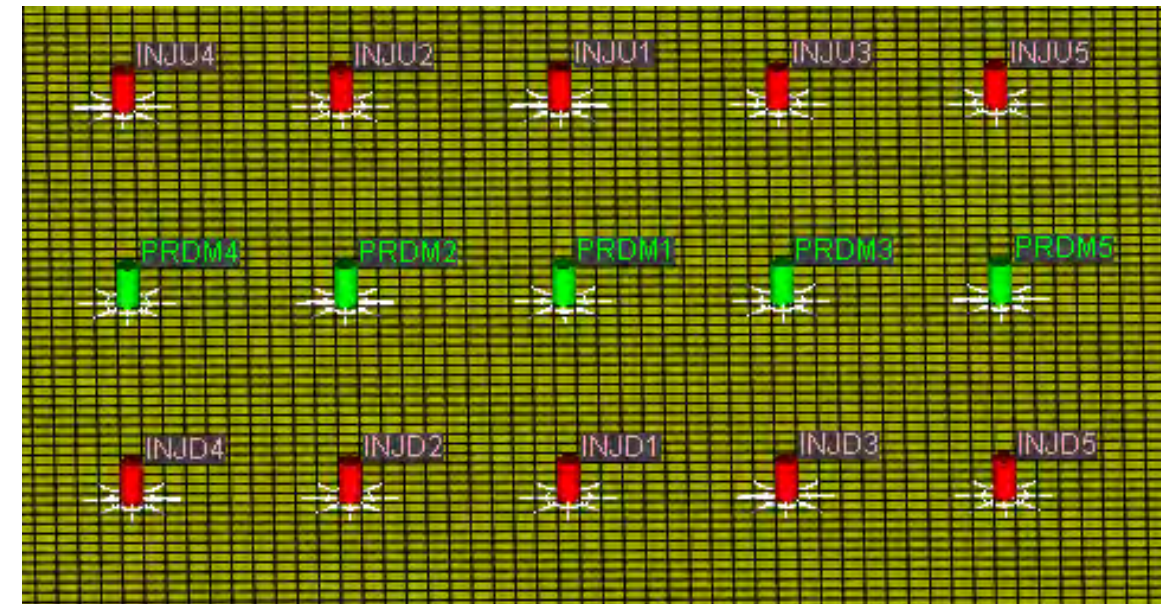
# CO<sub>2</sub> Injection: Current Status

- Injection rate into annulus
  - Initially 50-60 ton/day
  - Stabilized at 40 ton/day
- Surface injection:
  - 500-600 psi
    - Highly temperature dependent
    - CO<sub>2</sub> density
  - 40-50°F
- 900 tons injected to date



# CO<sub>2</sub> Injection: Current Plan

- Another week of injection
- Soak 1-2 weeks
- Produce CO<sub>2</sub> from annulus until water/oil is in the wellbore
  - Echometer: Monitor brine/oil fluid level
- May require pumping brine into the annulus to initiate rod pump
- Calibrate model to full-field pattern injection



# Commercial Deployment Example Assessment: 45Q Application

- Assumptions:
  - Minimum CO<sub>2</sub> injection rate of 325 ton/day
    - ~5.6 MMscf/d or ~107,000 metric ton/year
    - CO<sub>2</sub> is captured from industrial facility
  - 12 consecutive years of injection for EOR
    - Starting January 1, 2022
  - Carbon capture equipment owner elects to transfer 45Q credit to “credit claimant” (EOR operator)
  - EPA approval of MRV plan for field or area of injection, or satisfaction of CSA/ANSI ISO 27916:19 standard
- 45Q Tax Credit:
  - Minimum amount of tax credits is \$2.5 to \$4.25 million per year
  - Cumulative 45Q credits for the Project is \$44 million (year 2022-2033)
- 45Q Tax Equity Partnership
  - Assume tax equity investor’s return is fixed at 14% (cumulative of \$38 million investment)
  - Tax equity investor would make an up-front investment of at least \$7.6 million (Rev Proc 2020-12 requires this 20% minimum investment)



# Commercial Deployment Example Assessment: 45Q Monitoring, Reporting & Verification (MRV) Plan

- Assume project elects to “opt in” to Subpart RR of the EPA Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program
- “General Technical Support Document for Injection and Geologic Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide: Subparts RR and UU” (EPA - Nov 2010)
  - Provides examples for complying with MRV Plan requirements
  - Explains mass balance calculations
  - Describes MRV Plan approval process
  - Identifies annual reporting requirements
- MRV Plan will:
  - Delineate the areas of review
  - Describe the geology and historical use of the area
  - Identify anticipated lifetime of project and amount of CO<sub>2</sub> to be injected
  - Describe injection process
  - Include mass balance equations
  - Provide a schedule for implementation of plan
  - Assess or evaluate risks of potential leakage
  - Explain monitoring techniques and methods

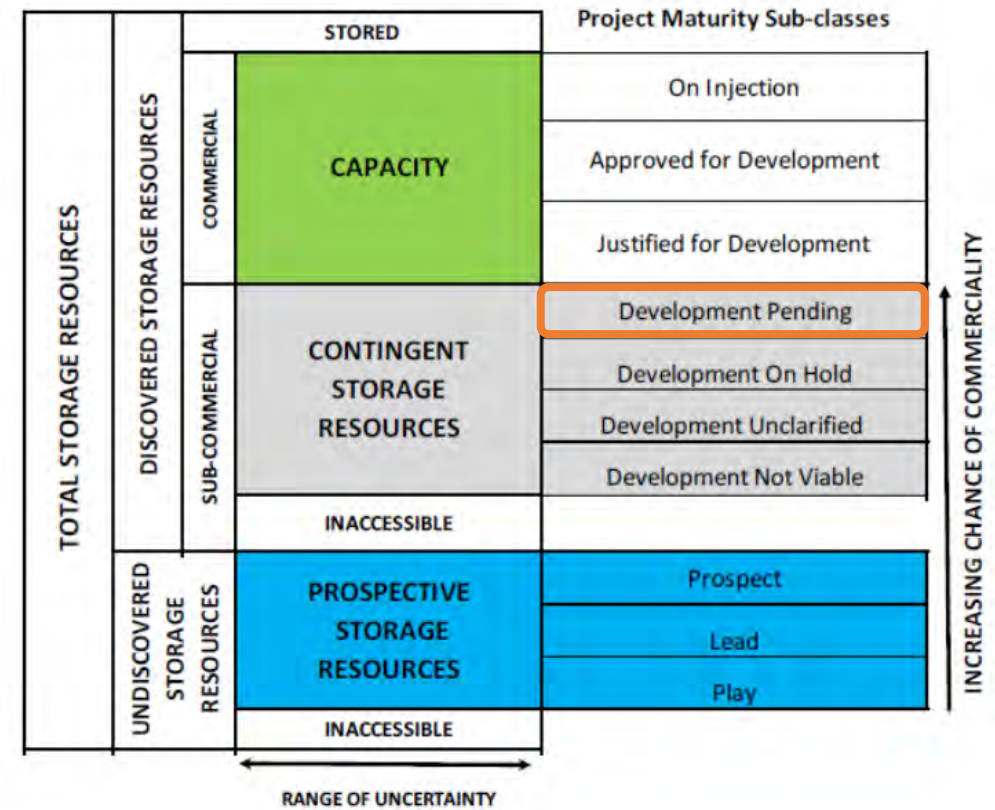
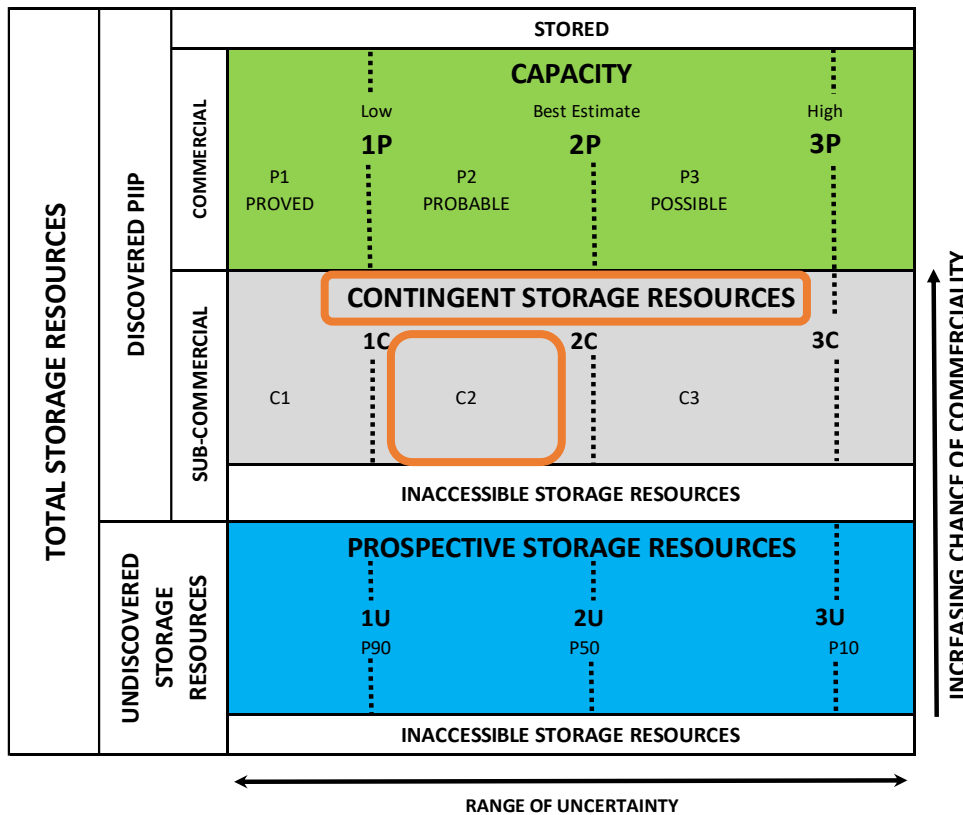
# Commercial Deployment Example Assessment: Carper Sandstone

- Caprock/containment
  - Borden siltstone
    - Lateral extensive
    - 50-100 ft
- Leakage Pathways
  - Geologic
    - Tectonically quiet area
    - No known faults
  - Wellbores
    - Greenfield so very few existing
    - Relative deeper with fewer penetrations
- Minimum storage rate (325 ton/day)
  - 5-10 patterns
- Produced CO<sub>2</sub> must be recycled
  - Breakthrough occurs in 2-5 months
  - Build-out additional patterns to keep up with minimum storage rate
  - Start large, so that minimum storage rate is the long-term difference between injected and recycled

# Commercial Deployment Example Assessment: SPE Resource Classification and Categorization

Categorization: storable quantities certainty

Classification: project maturation



# Summary

- HnP Pilot
  - Another few days of injection
  - Soak >7 days
  - Production
- Calibrate model to HnP results
  - Identify greenfield development strategies for storage and EOR
  - Economics
    - Pilot
    - Commercial scale

## Greenfield ROZ Challenges:

- CO<sub>2</sub> EOR
  - Low oil saturation
  - High utilization factors
  - High water production rates
- CO<sub>2</sub> Storage
  - 45Q MRV Plan
    - Economic monitoring
    - Monetizing credits

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