

CCS Risk Management

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- ▶ **Co-Founder, CCS Alliance**
- ▶ **Drafted federal and State CCS risk legislation**
- ▶ **Advocacy on Class VI financial responsibility regulations/guidance**
- ▶ **Co-Author, The Layered Approach to Risk Management for Geologic Sequestration of CO₂**



- Significant industry interest in initiating Class VI storage projects
- Major focus from Congress in fostering Class VI storage
 - \$2.5 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill for carbon storage projects
- 2019 National Petroleum Council report *Meeting the Dual Challenge* identified CCS risk management as a key priority

MEETING THE DUAL CHALLENGE

A Roadmap to At-Scale Deployment of
CARBON CAPTURE, USE, AND STORAGE

CHAPTER THREE – POLICY, REGULATORY,
AND LEGAL ENABLERS

6. Long-Term Liability

Two of the most important questions that must be answered if CCUS is to become a large-scale commercially viable technology are:

- What will be the liability of CCUS operators for personal injury, property damage, trespass, and nuisance claims that could arise over the lifetime of a geologic storage project, which could be measured in centuries?
- What is the appropriate institutional framework for managing CCUS sites after closure?

EOR and Dedicated Storage

EOR

- Known history of containment in the formation
- Extensive industry experience
- Comparatively small areal extent
- Pressure equilibrium generally maintained
- Brines produced, reinjected
- Fewer property owners

Dedicated Storage

- Less known or unknown history of containment in formation
- Less mature industry experience
- Comparatively large areal extent
- Potential pressure management issues
- Brine management tbd
- More property owners

Oil Field Utilization versus Dedicated CCS

BASE CASE

- Single gasification project producing 200 MMcf/d of CO₂
- 30 year life
- Total CO₂ Utilization : 2.2 Tcf of CO₂

CO₂ ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY OPERATIONS

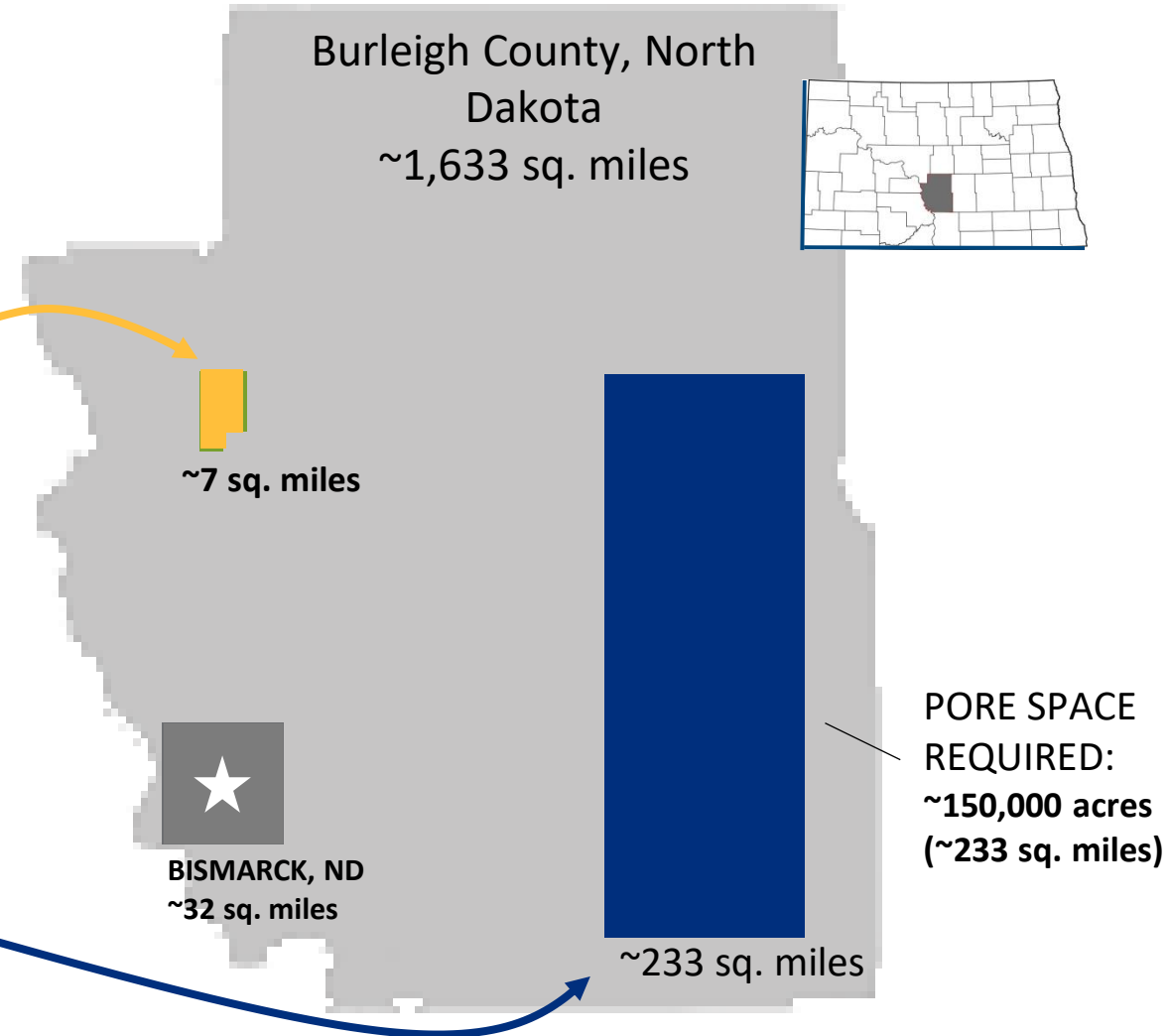
Oil Field Example (approximate values)

- 5,500'
- Reservoir Pressure: 2,500 psi
- Areal Extent: 4,600 acres
- Max CO₂ Utilization: 1.0 Tcf

DEDICATED CARBON CAPTURE & STORAGE

Saline Reservoir (approximate values)

- CO₂ to be stored: 2.2 Tcf
- 6,500'
- Reservoir Pressure: 3,000 psi
- Thickness: 125'
- Porosity: 20%
- Percent of pore space utilized: 4% (versus avg. 40% for EOR)



CCS or CCUS?

CCS

CCUS

Pros

- Higher 45Q tax credit amount (\$50/ton vs. \$35/ton)
- Broader support from environmental community
- Less interconnected project risk (offtakers don't need CO2, facility is down, etc.)

- Well-known low containment risks
- Much smaller storage footprint
- Lighter-handed regulatory structure (Class II vs. Class VI UIC program); State regulatory lead

Cons

- More difficult regulatory structure; EPA lead
- Larger project footprint – property rights, public intervention
- Less well-known containment – liability risk?

- Interconnected project risk
- Lower 45Q tax credit amount (balanced by fee for CO2)
- Environmental community resistance
- Future fossil fuel production risk?

Offtakers may have dual capability

Necessity of Risk Management for Class VI Storage

- **UIC program requires Financial Responsibility – 40 CFR 146.85**
 - Purpose of UIC program is to protect USDWs
 - Must be sufficient to cover cost of corrective action, injection well plugging, post-injection site care and site closure, emergency and remedial response
 - Variety of mechanisms approved for use
- **Market will require risk management**
 - Risk management likely required for financing
 - Market may distinguish between storage options based on credibility of risk management

Key Class VI Requirements – 40 CFR 146.85

- Specifies types of instruments allowed:
 - trust funds, surety bonds, letter of credit, insurance, self-insurance, escrow account, other “acceptable to the Director”
- “[M]ust be sufficient to address endangerment of underground sources of drinking water”
- Must maintain coverage “for the entire term of the geologic sequestration project” (essentially, until closure)
 - Certain restrictions on cancellation and renewal of instruments
- Risk management must be based on an estimate of costs of corrective action on wells in the AoR, plugging, PISC, closure, and emergency/remedial response (adjusted annually for inflation)
 - Director must approve estimate increases/decreases
- Must notify Director if “adverse financial conditions . . . May affect the ability to carry out injection well plugging and [PISC] and site closure”

Types of Risk Management Instruments

Trust Fund

Insurance

Surety
Bond

Letter of
Credit

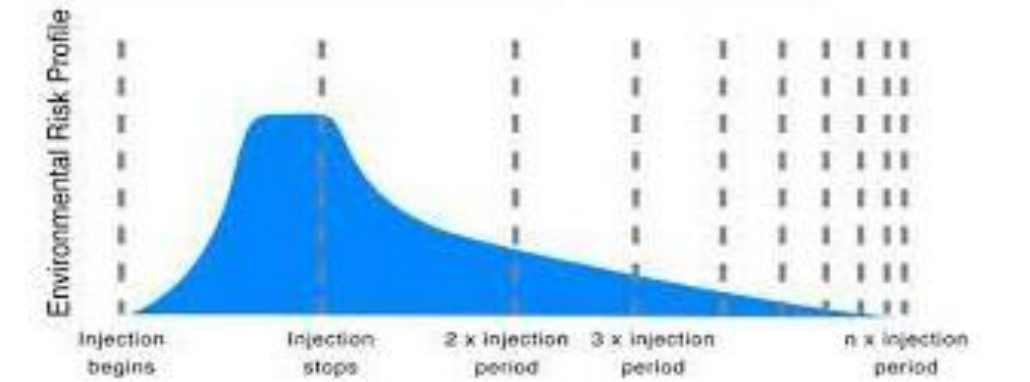
Self
Insurance

Escrow

Or any other instrument acceptable to the Director
(EPA or the State)

Risk and the Storage Site Timeline

Schematic profile of environmental risk (Benson, 2007)

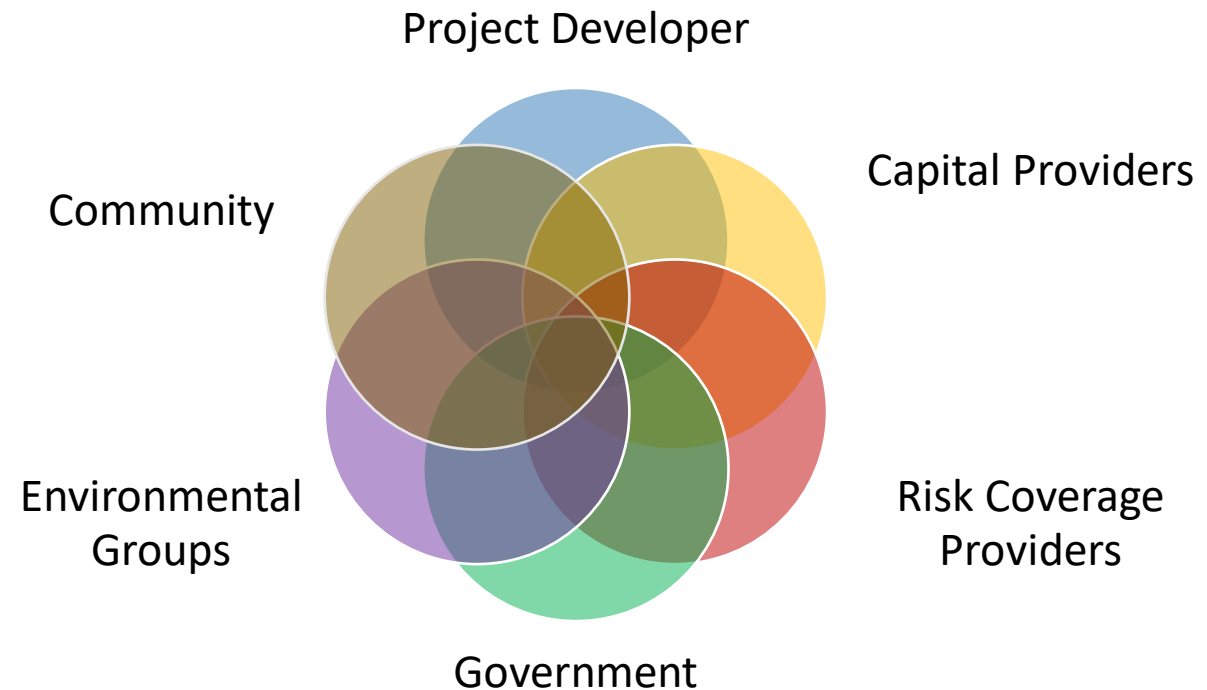


- Pre-injection
- Injection
- Post-injection site care (PISC)
- Post-PISC (long-term)

Risk Management Considerations

Considerations in Risk Management

- Protecting human health and the environment, including USDWs
- Cost of risk management
- Encouraging a proper level of caution (moral hazard)
- Regulatory capture
- Assurance over a long term
- Market-driven solutions, not government-driven solutions
- Ability of society to put risk capital to work (dead capital problem)



Next Steps

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