

CO₂ Taxes & NG Prices where Coal with CO₂ Capture & Storage (CCS) Starts Becoming an Economic Option

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by

Dale Simbeck

Vice President Technology

SFA Pacific, Inc.

444 Castro Street, Suite 720
Mountain View
California 94041

phone: 1-650-969-8876
fax: 1-650-969-1317
internet: www.sfapacific.com

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Presentation Overview

Background

- CO₂ mitigation options and why there is a strategic need for CO₂ capture & storage to become an politically acceptable option

CO₂ capture & storage (CCS) challenges – many!

- Biggest being: locations, liability, public acceptance & especially costs as economics beats technology, every time

Summary of current CO₂ capture technologies by generic types

- Pre-combustion
- Post-combustion
- Oxygen-combustion

Advanced CO₂ capture technologies under development

Outlook

Background of SFA Pacific CO₂ Capture & Storage (CCS) Related Projects

1989 - present: CO₂ Capture analysis for EPRI

2001 - Private Multiclient Analysis of CO₂ Mitigation Options

2002- present - Technical Advisory Board (TAB) to the CO₂ Capture Project (CCP)

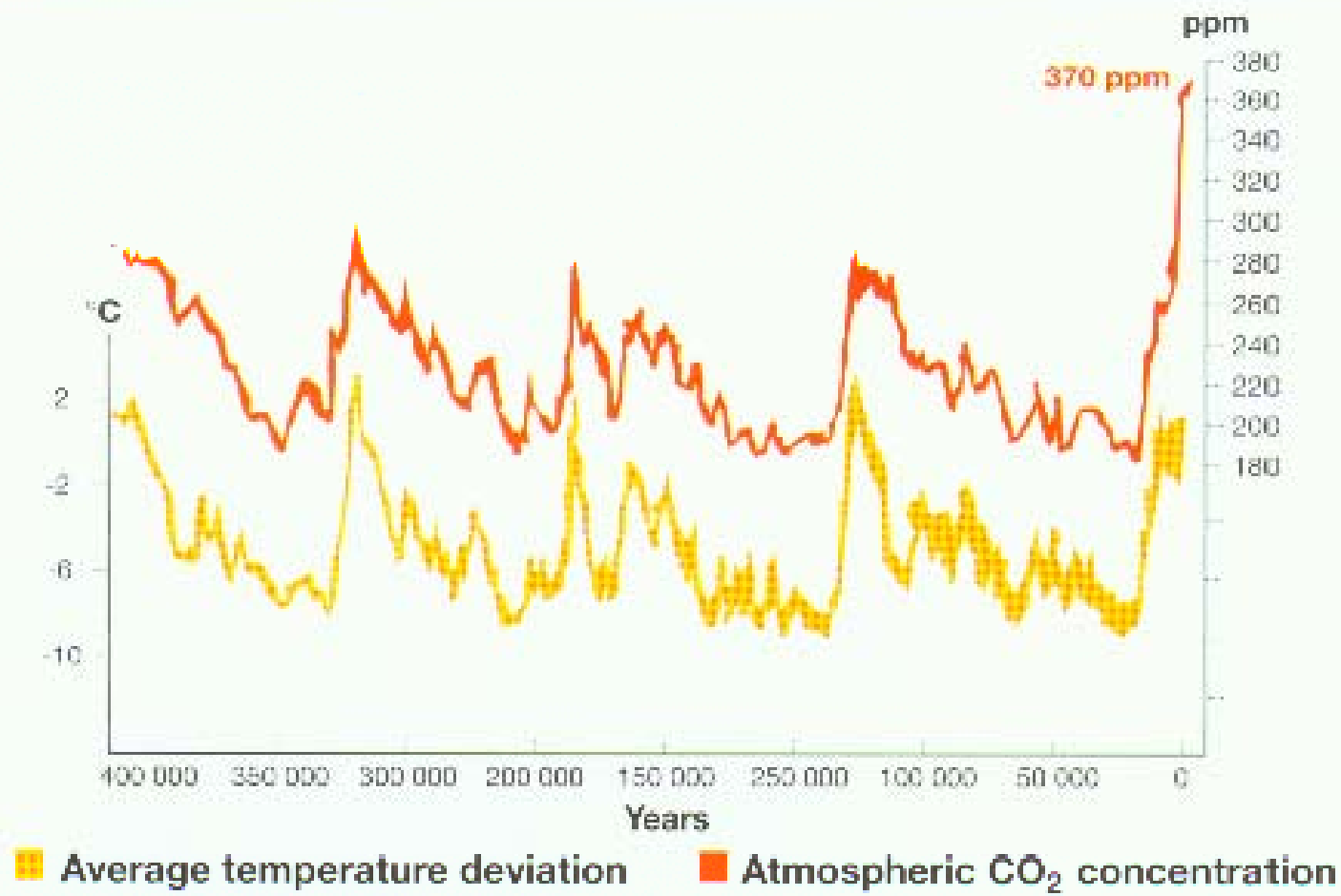
2003-2005 - Lead author of the UN IPCC Special Report on CO₂ Capture & Geologic Storage - Published Nov. 2005

- Member of the large IPCC group awarded the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize**

2007 - CO₂ Capture & Storage costs for Canada Government & Industry Expert Economic and Policy Working Group

Most of our CO₂ mitigation work is for private industry

Atmospheric CO₂ concentration and average temperature changes of the earth over 400,000 years



Global Warming: What is the Big Concern?

Atmospheric CO₂ ppm the main greenhouse gas (GHG) at historic high & increasing

Current Atmospheric CO₂ Inventory & Cycle

Current inventory of CO₂ in our atmosphere @ 380 ppm is 3,040 billion metric tons (Gt) CO₂ or 825 Gt as carbon equivalents

- Note that just 1 ppm CO₂ in atm. = about 8 Gt CO₂ or 2.17 Gt as carbon

Current annual CO₂ atmospheric cycle as carbon equivalents

Natural sources from ocean & vegetation decomposition 150 Gt/y - 93.8%

Anthropogenic (man-made) CO₂ from fossil fuels 8 Gt/y - 5.0%

Anthropogenic (man-made) CO₂ from land use 2 Gt/y - 1.2%

Total 160 Gt/y

Natural CO₂ absorption (ocean & photosynthesis) 156 Gt/y

Net CO₂ annual build-up in atmosphere @ 2 ppm/year 4 Gt/y - 2.5%

The big growth in man-made CO₂ emissions is in developing nations as they increase their standard of living via more fossil fuel use plus continued deforestation for biofuels & food



**Classic Ugly
American:
Confuses "US"
with U.S.
Food for fuel
Driving a vehicle
using gasohol
from corn**

**Ugly European if
driving a vehicle
using biodiesel
from palm
plantations**

Source: Scott Willis of the San Jose Mercury News (California)

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CO₂ Mitigation Options

Current fossil fuel CO₂ emissions of 30 Gt/yr - most effective to analyze via the famous *Kaya Identity* where CO₂ emissions = people x GDP/person x energy/unit GDP x CO₂/unit energy

Thereby only four basic options to impact our CO₂ emissions:

- **Population** (number of people)
- **Standard of living** (GDP/person)
- **Energy intensity** (energy/unit of GDP)
- **Carbon intensity** (CO₂ /unit energy)

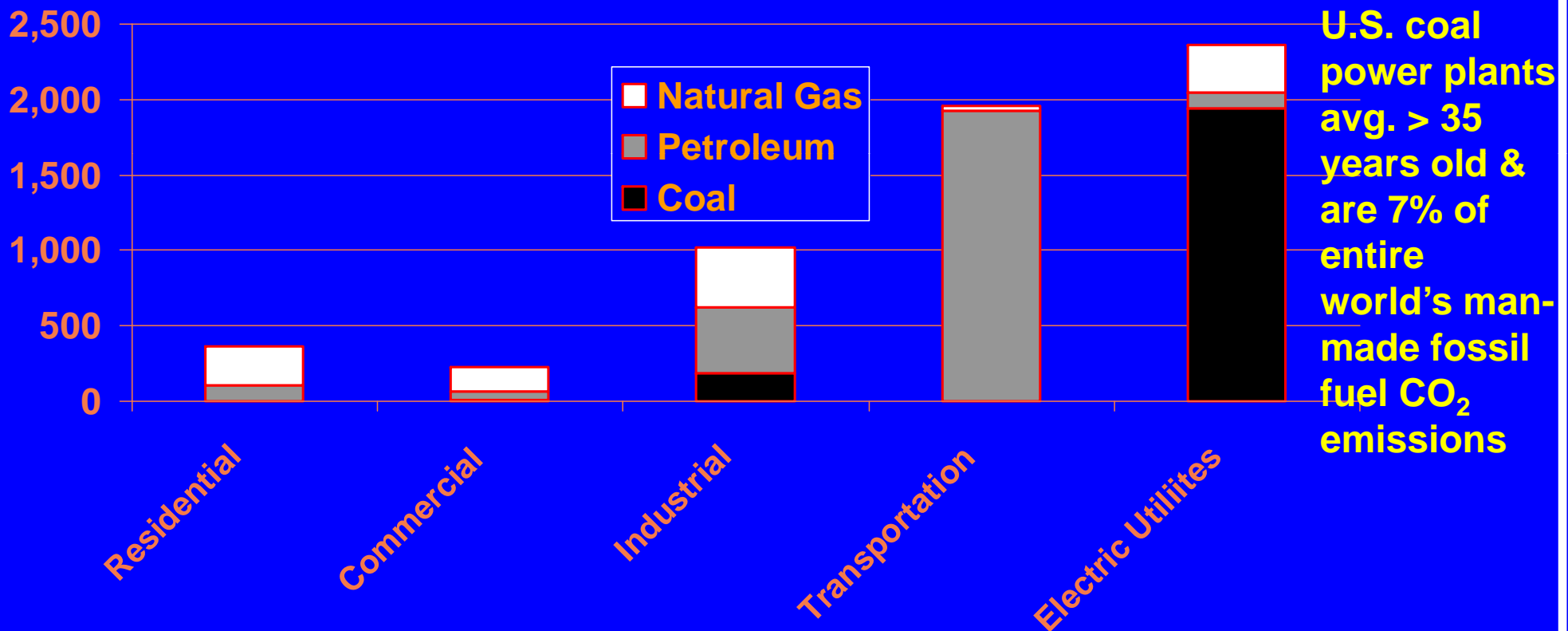
Any meaningful worldwide CO₂ reduction requires focus on carbon intensity & energy intensity in the USA & China

- **USA - 20% of world man-made CO₂, however, also 20% of world GDP**
- **China - appears to have passed the USA in CO₂ emissions in 2007**

USA 2005 CO₂ Emissions By Sector & Fuel

About 6 Gt/yr of 30 Gt/yr World Total fossil fuel CO₂ in 2007

Millions of metric tons per year CO₂ (divide by 3.67 for carbon equivalents)



Source: SFA Pacific plot from U.S. DOE/EIA-0383 February 2007 data

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For a “Carbon Constrained World” to Ever “Really” Develop Requires All of the Following

More conservation & energy efficiency via higher energy prices & CO₂ taxes

Natural gas demand/prices go up while coal demand/prices go down as CO₂ avoidance & emission liabilities gains “real” market values

Nuclear makes a big comeback, however, starts slow: first life-extensions & upgrades & eventual decommissioning of current fleet while the industry demonstrates effective waste disposal & competitive costs of new units

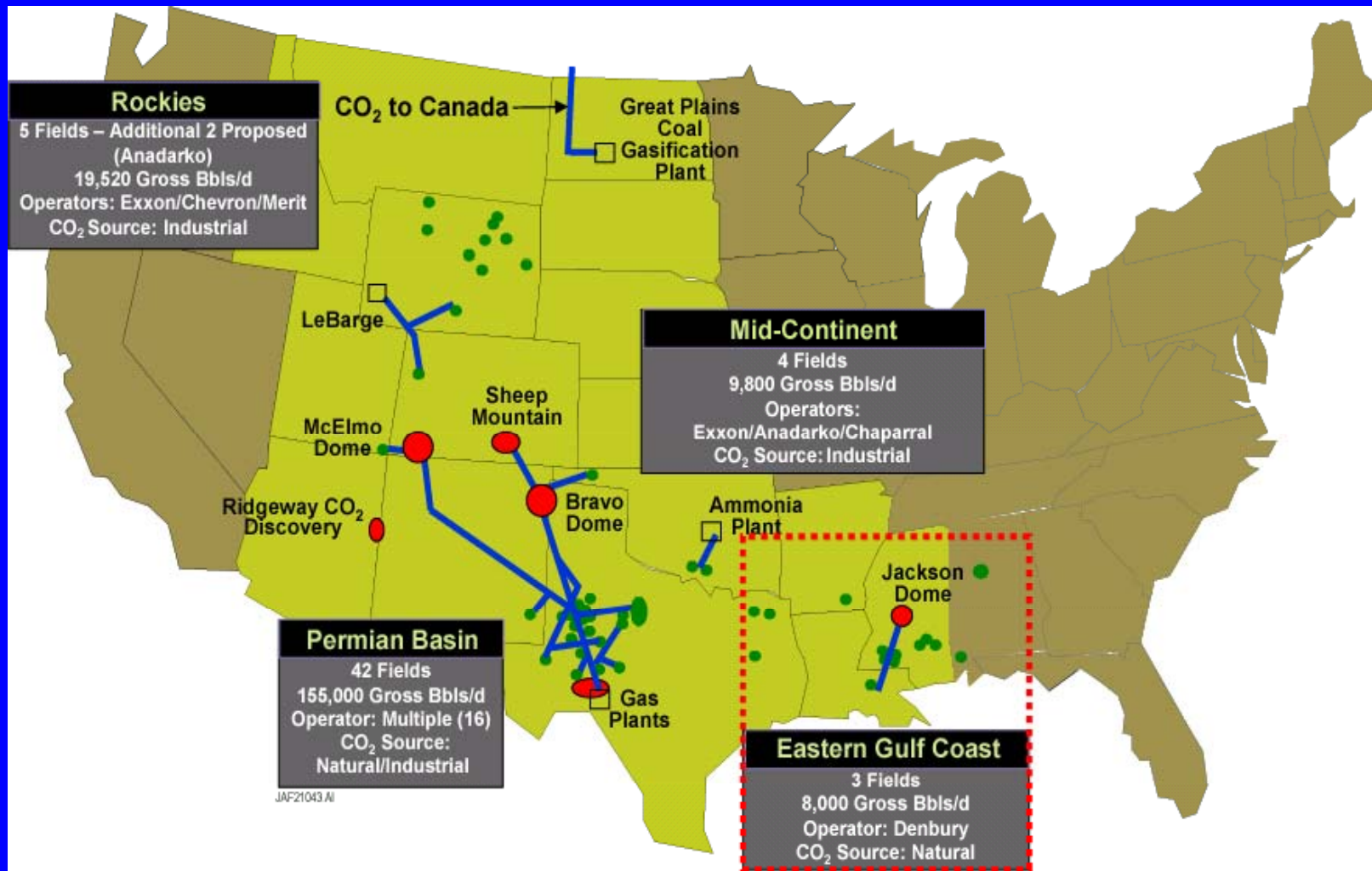
Renewables become increasingly important in spite of inherent limitations

- Intermittent solar PV & wind turbines need back-up fossil power & can only marginally replace baseload coal supplying >40% of total world electricity
- Beyond waste biomass, limited by yield per ha/y, fertilizer & water needs, impact on food & deforestation + basic economics of land & labor costs

CO₂ capture & storage becomes strategic for technical, economic, energy supply & most importantly, overall CO₂ reduction perspectives

- Once developed for big coal units, increasing CO₂ taxes enables more co-processing of waste biomass whenever available for “double reductions”

25 Years of CO₂ Experience – about 35 million t/y CO₂ storage with 25% man-made CO₂ sources (squares below) used in producing 250,000 bbl/d of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)



CO₂ Capture & Storage (CCS) Overview

Simple concept: recover CO₂ from fossil fuel or waste biomass utilization then geologically store CO₂ deep underground

However, the “devil is in the details”, requires the following:

- Locations with specific geologic formations of sedimentation & cap rock - typically oil & NG and/or deep saline aquifers geology
- Large “point sources” of CO₂ for essential economy-of-scale
 - Typically coal power plants, cement kilns & other big “smoke stack” industrial complexes: oil refineries, bulk chemicals & iron/steel making
- Concentrate & compress to high pressure for geologic CO₂ injection
 - Some pure CO₂ vents but usually only 15% CO₂ in coal boiler flue gas thus large costs & energy use to recover or capture CO₂ as pure stream
 - **Compress the recovered or captured CO₂ to high pressure supercritical conditions for pipeline transport & injection into geologic storage**

Power Generators Will Be Forced to Meet a Disproportionate Share of Any CO₂ Reductions

SUV owners have voting power over CO₂ intensive industries

- Politicians believe they cannot get re-elected if they increase transportation fuel taxes via adding a CO₂ tax on gasoline or diesel

Power plants can not move to China, as other CO₂ intensive industries in Annex 1 nations will, if faced with CO₂ taxes

Big CO₂ reduction potential from coal-based power generation

- Reduce coal CO₂ emissions via conservation & efficiency
- Replace coal with NG, nuclear, biomass and wind/solar
- **CO₂ capture & storage due to the large CO₂ point sources, pass-through pricing structure of traditional regulated power generation & potential to co-process waste biomass for double reductions**

The CCS Basic Challenge

Magnitude required for 0.5 ppm/yr CO₂ or 50 ppm in 100 years reduction from BAU - 4 Gt/yr or total 400 Gt CO₂ reduction

- 500 GWe of zero CO₂ emissions baseload nuclear (as solar & wind are only cycling load) replacements of existing coal power plants
- 500 GWe of replacement new for old coal power unit with 100% CCS = 4 Gt/y CO₂ which at 100°F & 150 atm. pressure = 80 million bbl/d CO₂
- Only 333 GWe of replacement coal power plants with 100% CCS when co-processing 50% biomass energy = 2.67 Gt or 53.3 million bbl/d CO₂

Who needs CCS: coal & coal-based electric power industries

- CO₂ capture is the easy part – costly but available technology plus cap & trades allocations handouts & cost pass-through power pricing
- The key issue is public acceptance of CO₂ storage plus the reality that the oil & gas industries have the essential geologic expertise required

The CCS Liability Challenge

CCS in the USA is limited to just EOR until fundamental changes in USA liability & mineral rights laws plus tort reform

- **USA tort litigation + mineral rights laws would turn “ambulance chasing lawyers” into “CO₂ injection chasing lawyers”**
 - Classic “David vs. Goliath” easy to win, regardless of the facts
- States like Texas are trying to address this key CCS limitation for EOR
- EPA and IOGCC heading toward a power struggle over control of CCS

CCS likely to develop in areas of world where the government owns the mineral rights & pore space underground plus litigation is rational & fair

- Like Australia, Canada, China and Europe

The CCS Cost Basics

CCS costs can be separated into its 3 distinct process steps:
50% for capture to pure CO₂ stream, 25% for compression &
25% for CO₂ pipeline, injection & geologic storage monitoring

CCS costs are mostly from added capital & internal energy use

- Added internal energy use for new coal plants w/wo CCS reduces capacity from 400 to 300 MWe & net efficiency from 40% to 30%
 - Existing coal unit CCS replacements avoids this capacity & efficiency loss
- Added capital costs of CCS increases \$/kW for new coal w/wo by about 40-80% due to added capital + lower net capacity & efficiency

CCS bottom line costs: best matrix is electricity cost increase, as \$/t CO₂ avoidance cost vary greatly depending on baseline

- Nevertheless, CO₂ avoidance cost is the minimal required CO₂ tax at which CCS starts to become an economic option for CO₂ mitigation
- \$/t CO₂ avoided = (\$/MWh_{CCS} - \$/MWh_B) / (to atm t CO₂/MWh_B - t CO₂/MWh_{CCS})

The CCS Cost Challenge

What is the minimum CO₂ tax at which coal-based power with or without CCS has the same power cost?

- New coal plant: ~ \$30/mt CO₂ & 9 cent/kWh plant gate or ~ 3 cent/kWh higher delivered baseload power – low Gulf Coast costs in 2006 dollars
- Existing paid-off coal plant: ~ \$60/mt CO₂ & same power increase, thus need cap and trade allocations or CO₂ tax with plant age adjuster

If faced with a \$30/mt CO₂ tax for a new power plant, what is the NG price where NGCC without CCS is the same power cost as coal-based power with or without CCS?

- About \$9/MM Btu NG based on low \$1.50/MM Btu coal
- **In a carbon constrained world: NG demand & prices will increase due to lower risk & capital of lower carbon NG wo CCS vs. coal w/wo CCS**
 - At high NG prices, NGCC with CCS is higher cost than coal with CCS

Pre-Combustion CO₂ Capture

Overview

- Gasification at high pressure of any carbonaceous fuel with O₂ to make H₂ & CO “syngas” then CO reaction with H₂O to just H₂ & CO₂
 - Easy separation of CO₂ from H₂ due to high pressure (HP) & concentration via physical solvents with high CO₂ loading & low energy use flashing to LP

Status

- Many commercial gasification based hydrogen and ammonia plants making pure H₂ & CO₂ - with units >3,500 t/d CO₂ capture operating
 - **Of the >50 GWt (syngas) of commercial gasification plants now operating all except the few IGCC units (<8 GWt or <4 GWe) already have CO₂ capture**
 - Over 500,000 hours operation of commercial GTs firing H₂ rich fuel, however this experience is mostly in low firing temperature GTs for oil refinery cogen

Attributes

- **H₂ or high H₂/CO ratio fuels have many strategic long-term utilization advantages over just making steam in a boiler - such as high power/heat ratio cogen, clean transportation fuels & perhaps “the H₂ economy”**

Post-Combustion CO₂ Capture

Overview

- CO₂ capture from flue gas, after conventional combustion of any fuel
- Harder separation of CO₂ due to low pressure & concentration + O₂
 - Amine chemical solvent liquid absorber/stripper system requiring large amounts of steam for stripping (over 1.5 ton steam per ton CO₂)

Status

- Many big commercial amine chemical CO₂ capture systems usually for natural gas but at high pressure and without the presence of O₂
- However, only a few, relatively small units used for flue gas CO₂ capture - the biggest in operation is just 330 t/d CO₂ capture

Attributes

- Viewed as just another flue gas scrubber by traditional coal power plant people already familiar with flue gas desulphurization (FGD)
- **Potential advantage to retrofit any existing flue gas with minimal impact of existing system beyond big additional steam & power needs**

Oxygen-Combustion CO₂ Capture

Overview

- Replaces air with oxygen (O₂) combustion of any fuel plus mixed with a large CO₂ rich flue gas recycle or water injection to about the same properties, flows & heat flux rates as traditional air combustion
 - Requires over twice as much O₂ per net MWe as pre-combustion

Status

- Only small pilot plant testing, however, commercially done in large high sulfur nickel ore kilns to concentrate SO₂ for conversion to H₂SO₄

Attributes

- Avoids complex chemical processes (only Ch. E. like IGCC or FGD)
- Can “theoretically” capture 100% of the CO₂ & avoid flue gas cleanup
- **Potential advantage to retrofit existing systems, especially when oxygen replacement of air combustion can increase existing capacity**
 - **Perhaps cement kilns or fluid cat crackers (FCC) units in oil refineries**

Advanced CO₂ Capture Tech. Under Development

Pre-combustion

- Demonstrations of H₂-IGCC with CCS by traditional coal-based utilities
- Longer-term: solid oxide fuel cells to directly convert CO rich syngas to higher efficiency electricity & high-pressure CO₂ in one step

Post-combustion

- Demonstrations of large coal boiler power plants with CCS
- Longer-term: Alstom chilled ammonia CO₂ absorber/stripper to greatly reduce both the stripping steam & CO₂ compression power needs

Oxygen-combustion

- Demonstrations of large coal boiler power plants with CCS
- Longer-term: NG or syngas O₂ fired with water injected modified high temp. reheat gas/steam turbine of Clean Energy Systems

Needs both “learning-by-doing” & improved technology R&D

Summary

Over 25 years of large commercial experience in CO₂ capture & storage (CCS) in the USA for enhanced oil recovery (EOR)

Pre-combustion CCS is the most developed + advantages of H₂ over steam, however not yet integrated in coal-based utilities

Post-combustion CCS is less developed but advantages for retrofits + viewed like FGD: familiar to coal-based utilities

Oxygen-combustion CCS is least developed but risks are minimal if large flue gas recycle to match traditional boilers

CCS costs for coal-based power mostly due to added capital

- CCS costs & performance will improve with time via both learning-by-doing as well as development of advanced technologies
- **However, the more important issue than CCS cost reduction is gaining public acceptance of CO₂ geologic storage – requires big demos ASAP**

Summary

Effectively protecting status quo & delaying CCS by waiting for the “leap-frog” advanced technologies of the future – forever!

Conservation & efficiency require major lifestyle changes plus regulatory changes & incentives to encourage both

Renewables & biofuels are great, but likely cannot generate big enough CO₂ reductions due to intermittent wind/solar power & biofuel impacts on food, land use + low net CO₂ reductions

Big enough CO₂ reductions to impact ppm of CO₂ in the atmosphere before the oil & gas peak, will likely require CCS

- The coal based power generators have the big CO₂ point sources, cannot move to China & less economic risks via regulated pricing
- The challenges are many: locations, liability, costs & public acceptance
 - Once CCS begins with coal can gain big “double CO₂ reduction” by co-processing waste biomass whenever it can be economically delivered