

#### Calculation of CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Capacity for Arbuckle Group in Southern Kansas: Implications for a Seismically Active Region

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> 13th International Conference on Greenhouse Gas Control Technologies

> > Lausanne, Switzerland

November 18, 2016







## Outline

- Modeling CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity for South-Central Kansas Arbuckle aquifer
- Current state of seismicity and waste water disposal in Sothern Kansas
- How risk of seismicity affects storage capacity



### Plan for Capacity Estimations Study

- Determine formations of interest and outline the area of review
- Select promising sites of interest with known structure (total of 10)
- Gather data
  - Available through existing database at KGS and other sources
  - Drill and core wells, process 3D seismic, well test analysis, process logs, etc.
- Create geologic models for 10 sites and an entire region
- Perform dynamic simulations

## Top Arbuckle Structure Map showing Study areas



### **Core from Lower Arbuckle Injection Interval**

5089-92 ft



5053-56





#### Thin Sections - Baffle Zone (Mid Arb.)



#### Flow units in the lower Arbuckle injection zone







#### Lower Arbuckle Injection Zone



Pairs of photomicrographs Plane light and crossed nichols R. Barker, S. Datta, KSU

# Well KGS 1-32



Calculated Ky

Calculated Kh

Core Porosity



#### Br<sup>-</sup>/Cl<sup>-</sup> and SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>/Cl<sup>-</sup> Identification of Baffles and Lack of Vertical Communication

- Br<sup>-</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> are conservative during water/rock interactions
- Very useful in detecting brine sources and mixing
- Values for brine of Lower Arbuckle vary substantially from Upper Arbuckle
- Lower Arbuckle brines cluster together
- Upper Arbuckle values more spaced out, suggests smaller baffles



#### Arbitrary seismic impedance profile – Wellington Field distinct caprock, mid-Arbuckle tight, lower Arbuckle injection zone



### **Core Features/Fractures**



### **Rock Mechanical Properties vs. Depth**



### Step Rate Test Analysis Pressure-Time plot





# Structural cross section showing regional Arbuckle flow units, southern Kansas



Williams, Gerlach, Fazelalavi, Doveton, KS CO<sub>2</sub>

#### **Relative Permeability and Capillary Pressure**









#### Permeability (K90)

**Permeability (Vertical)** 



**Rock Type Based on RQI** 

**Rock Type Based on RQI** 

 $RQI = 0.0314 \sqrt{\frac{Perm}{Porosity}}$ 





### **Dynamic Simulation Model**



# Simulated commercial storage capacity in the Arbuckle saline aquifer for 10 sites

Area	Estimated Storage Capacity (P50), million tonnes	Area, km²	Gross Thickness, m	Net Reservoir Thickness, m	Porosity, %	Average Permeability, md	Depth, m	Limiting Injection Pressure, bar	Reservoir Pressure, bar
1	79	1.4	300	66	5	25	1184	187	144
2	1	5.2	223	49	4	15	1508	223	175
3	49	6.1	258	57	6	15	1388	210	162
4	121	6.6	240	53	6	15	1170	179	138
5	55	1.4	300	66	5	19	1581	240	185
6	98	2.4	205	45	6	23	1310	194	150
7	71	1.2	209	46	3	31	1266	189	145
8	104	2.6	240	53	6	20	1089	169	130
9	98	5.8	230	51	6	18	1377	206	158
10	104	5.4	208	46	6	25	1224	183	141
Regional Model	4000	821	243	54	5	21	1288	195	150

#### **CO<sub>2</sub>** Spatial Distributions: 10 sites vs Max Capacity





#### **Predicted Delta Pressure Distributions: 10 sites vs Max Capacity**





#### **Kansas Disposal Wells**



Sources: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, ESRI, USGS, Kansas Corporation Commission, Kansas Geological Survey

#### Earthquakes and geology in central KS and OK



Sources: Kansas Geological Survey, Kansas Corporation Commission, NEIC, USGS, ESRI, Oklahoma Geological Survey, Oklahoma Corporation Commission Oklahoma map - Public Justice lawsuit on behalf of the Sierra Club dated 10/29/2015

### Seismic and Waste Disposal Trends in Sothern Kansas





Kansas Geological Survey

#### **Common Analogs?**



Arbuckle Permeability Model



- What is the capacity?
- Empty Volume = 37M ft<sup>3</sup> = 6.6M bbls
- If Ø = 5-7 %
- Volume $_{\phi}$  = ~450K bbls
- If efficiency = 50 %
- Volume<sub>e</sub> =  $\sim$  225K bbls
- High volume wells used to deliver up to 30K bbls/day
- Therefore

It would take up to 7-15 days to fill up this volume (<u>without considering</u> <u>existing water</u>)

- It would take 111-222 "ES units" to accommodate 50M bbls injected in 2014
- Translates into 3.9-7.8M ft<sup>2</sup>
- Harper Co. Area =  $22.4B \text{ ft}^2$
- "Plunging" system?





# Basement geology from sample rock types in the area of the induced seismicity

→ thick arkosic sediment fill indicative of the Midcontinent Rift System (MRS)



M. Killian, KGS

#### **Downhole Pressure Monitoring**

PRESSURE VS TIME



# Summary

- Does the risk of induced seismicity affect storage capacity?
  - Yes, absolutely
- Is the risk of induced seismicity a CCS killer?
  IMHO, No; however...
- Arbuckle/basement interface?
- More characterization
- Monitoring strategies
  - Seismicity monitoring
  - Engineering solutions (pressure monitoring, well testing, etc.)
- Injection management strategies

# **Acknowledgements & Disclaimer**

#### Acknowledgements

• The work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) under Grant DE-FE0002056 and DE-FE0006821, W.L. Watney and Jason Rush, Joint PIs. Project is managed and administered by the Kansas Geological Survey/KUCR at the University of Kansas and funded by DOE/NETL and cost-sharing partners.

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# Acknowledgements

- Bittersweet Energy Tom Hansen with Paul Gerlach and Larry Nicholson; Dennis Hedke, Martin Dubois and SW Kansas CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR industry consortium, John Youle, George Tsoflias and students at KU, Gene Williams, and KGS staff supporting the acquisition of data, stratigraphic correlation, regional mapping, and interpretations for the DOE-CO<sub>2</sub> project
- Dana Wreath, Berexco, LLC for access and participation in drilling and testing at Wellington and Cutter fields and small scale field test at Wellington
- Rick Miller and Shelby Petrie, Wellington seismometer array, high resolution seismic
- Justin Rubinstein, USGS
- Induced Seismicity Task Force -- Rex Buchanan and Rolfe Mandel