Carbon Geo-storage & CO₂-EOR; A UK Perspective

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7th Annual EOR Carbon Management Workshop - Houston 5-8th December 2009 -







CO₂-EOR – A Long History

- Initiated 1970s in response to oil crisis
- Texas at forefront of technology & leads the way today
- Permian Basin in NW Texas is the primary injection area
- Prize 4-12% of STOIIP additional recovery 1000s km 32" pipeline & associated infrastructure developed
- Natural & anthropogenic CO₂ sources used





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UK Offshore Oil Reserve

	Proven	Probable	P+P	Possible	Maximum
Cumulative Oil Production in millions tonnes (bnbbl)	3315 (24.9)				
Estimated Ultimate recovery in millions tonnes (bnbbl)	3723 (27.9)	361 (2.7)	4048 (30.4)	360 (2.7)	4444 (33.3)



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https://www.og.decc.gov.uk/information/bb_updates/chapters/Table4_3.htm



CeREES Centre for Research into Earth Energy Systems

UKCS Recovery Factors ~45%

- Typically high quality reservoirs (perm 100s mD)
- Line drive water floods for secondary recovery
- Low well density cf West Texas



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UKCS Oil Fields



Maureen Field (Chandler & Dickenson, 2003)



- Light oil ~35-40API
- Typically high quality reservoirs (perm – 100s mD)
- Line drive water floods for secondary recovery
- WAG rare (Magnus)
- Low well density cf West Texas



UKCS vs West Texas

- West Texas incremental oil recovery 4-12% of STOIIP
- CO₂ is expected to be miscible (or nearly so) with current conditions in the UKCS oil reservoirs
- UKCS has higher T&P compared with West Texas but impacts cancels so similar quantities of CO₂ required to sweep a given reservoir

From Goodyear et al, IEA EOR Caracas 2002







UKCS – The Prize

- Assuming UKCS:
 - Reserve of 30,000mmbbl
 - STOIIP 30,000/0.45 = 67,000mmbbl
- From West Texas 4-12% additional recovery of STOIIP
 - Yields 2,700 8,000 mmbbl technical reserves
 - Requiring ~1 tonne CO₂ per 5bbl (Balbinski et al, 2003)
- For ~5,000 mmbbl, ~1,000 mm tonnes of CO₂ required







UK Industrial CO₂ production 2007

- Scotland 19mm tonnes
- North East 21mm tonnes
- Yorkshire 27mm tonnes
 & Humberside



w.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/climate_change/climate_change.aspx







Supply & Demand

- Assuming all industrial CO₂ from the eastern UK could be available for CO₂-EOR yields 60-70mm tonnes per annum
- Over a 15 year period (ie typical CO₂-EOR project length) this would use 1 billion tonnes CO₂ the quantity required to optimise CO₂-EOR in the North Sea







Are UK Oil Fields Ready For CO₂-EOR?









The Time is Right (but don't wait)



UKCS Shrinking Infrastructure

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CO₂-EOR Heritage

- The CO₂ production from eastern UK could 'power' CO₂-EOR in the North Sea for 10-15 years per project, over ~30 year period
- It could deliver:
 - Improved security of oil supply
 - Infrastructure usable for carbon capture
 - Increased tax revenues over current projections







Deep aquifer storage area

