



Plains CO₂ Reduction (PCOR) Partnership Monthly Update March 1–31, 2010

PHASE III ACTIVITIES

Task 1 – Regional Characterization (Wesley D. Peck)

Highlights

- Discussed wrap-up of work under the Missouri Department of Natural Resources subcontract which ended March 31, 2010.
- Provided information to other Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Working Group members on data for the upcoming Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership (RCSP) Atlas.
- On March 5, 2010, responded to a request for information from Argonne National Laboratory on potential target formations for geological sequestration within the PCOR Partnership region.
- Internally discussed potential regional characterization efforts, e.g., fact sheets, posters, and atlas, that could easily be tailored to meet the needs of the Indian Land Tenure Foundation.
- Continued review of the Decision Support System (DSS, © 2007–2010 EERC Foundation). The following efforts have been undertaken:
 - Updated the general “CO₂ in the Region” and “Geologic Sinks” information for inclusion on March 9.
 - Adjusted the products database default search sort order to “by date” at the request of users.
 - Continued efforts for the new regulatory and carbon markets sections for inclusion.
 - Continued efforts toward detailing the 200+ images selected as initial entries into the image gallery. The details include a title, description, and category.
 - Overcame issues with the Geocortex software and made progress on the GIS interface.
- Helped develop a presentation for the North American Carbon Atlas Partnership (NACAP) meeting March 9–10, 2010, in Cuernavaca, Mexico.

Task 2 – Public Outreach and Education (Daniel J. Daly)

Highlights

- Submitted on March 31, 2010, the draft final version of the “Carbon Footprint: One Size Does Not Fit All” documentary, incorporating comments from DOE NETL, PCOR Partnership task leaders, in-house focus groups, and Prairie Public Broadcasting (PPB).
- Submitted on March 31, 2010, an update to the outreach action plan.

- Received notifications of acceptance for several presentations at the upcoming 9th Annual Carbon Capture and Sequestration Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Initiated efforts to prepare sample outreach materials for the Indian Land Tenure Foundation.
- Continued discussions with EERC library staff on database activities intended to optimize access to images and video as a basis for future work with PPB.
- Met with senior PCOR Partnership management to review proposed public Web site pages and video clips excerpted from the documentary entitled “Managing Carbon Dioxide: The Geologic Solution.”
- Participated in the RCSP Outreach Working Group conference call on March 18, 2010.
- Prepared a summary of past, current, and planned activities with PPB.
- Continued participation on the Weyburn–Midale Outreach Advisory Panel.

Task 3 – Permitting and NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) Compliance (Lisa S. Botnen)

Highlights

- Continued efforts toward planning the upcoming regulatory meeting in Deadwood, South Dakota on July 21–22, 2010, including:
 - Finalized accommodations for the meeting.
 - E-mailed letters of invitation to pipeline regulators on March 9, with general information (i.e., atlas, video, fact sheets, and products listing) on the PCOR Partnership Program subsequently mailed.
 - Continued development of a draft agenda.
 - Continued to contact potential invitees.
- Participated in the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC) Pipeline Transportation Task Force conference calls and continued development of text for inclusion in the final Task Force report.
- Continued developing materials for inclusion on the partners-only Web site regulatory page.
- Began review of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) proposed new greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reporting requirements.

Task 4 – Site Characterization and Modeling (James A. Sorensen)

Highlights

- Regarding the Fort Nelson carbon capture and storage (CCS) project:
 - Participated in a project update conference call with Spectra Energy personnel.
 - Worked with key subcontractors in Calgary to finalize plans for analyzing core samples from Fort Nelson exploration well.
- Regarding the Bell Creek monitoring, verification, and accounting (MVA) project:
 - Continued to conduct laboratory analyses of rock samples from outcrops of the Newcastle Formation in Wyoming, which are analogous to the reservoir rocks of the Bell Creek oil field, to evaluate their mineralogy and petrologic properties. These activities include the use of x-ray diffraction and scanning electron microprobe techniques.

Task 5 – Well Drilling and Completion (Steven A. Smith)

Highlights

- Nothing to note at this time.

Task 6 – Infrastructure Development (Melanie D. Jensen)

Highlights

- Submitted comments on March 3, 2010, on the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum's draft definition for the concept of "CCS-ready" plants.
- On March 26, 2010, participated in a Webinar entitled "Gaps and Barriers to Carbon Management Technologies: Outcomes of the Founder Societies Technologies for Carbon Management Workshop." The Webinar was put on by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers; the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers; the American Society of Civil Engineers; the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. Received (and accepted) an invitation to present a poster at the upcoming CCS Conference in Pittsburgh.
- Continued preparation of the capture technology overview.
- Web-based information about capture technologies continues to be reviewed on a weekly basis.
- Data vintage was added to the CO₂ sources spreadsheet a few weeks ago. A few discrepancies were noted, and a thorough review and update of these additions were completed.
- Some discrepancies were noted between 26 of the PCOR Partnership-determined CO₂ source locations and the locations on record on the Environment Canada Web site. A review of the locations was initiated to determine if changes to the PCOR Partnership database are warranted.

Task 7 – CO₂ Procurement (John A. Harju)

Highlights

- Continued discussions with potential CO₂ suppliers. Because of the sensitive nature of negotiations, specifics cannot be shared at the present time.

Task 8 – Transportation and Injection Operations (Steven A. Smith)

- This task is anticipated to be initiated Quarter 3 – Budget Period (BP) 4, Year 4 (April 2011).

Task 9 – Operational Monitoring and Modeling (Charles D. Gorecki)

Highlights

- Discussed plans for a quarterly meeting with Spectra Energy, including date options and potential agenda items.
- Discussed deliverables/milestones with other task leaders.

Task 10 – Site Closure (to be announced [TBA])

- This task is anticipated to be initiated in Quarter 1 – BP5, Year 9 (October 2015).

Task 11 – Postinjection Monitoring and Modeling (TBA)

- This task is anticipated to be initiated in Quarter 1 – BP5, Year 9 (October 2015).

Task 12 – Project Assessment (Katherine K. Anagnost)

Highlights

- Nothing to note at this time. The next project assessment report is due December 31, 2010.

Task 13 – Project Management (Edward N. Steadman)

Highlights

- On March 5, provided information on current projects, i.e., Fort Nelson, Bell Creek, and Zama, to WorleyParsons (WP). WP and Schlumberger have been engaged by the Global CCS Institute to undertake an update to a comprehensive survey of all CCS projects globally.
- Initiated planning for the upcoming PCOR Partnership annual meeting.
- Participated in the third NACAP meeting held March 9–10 in Mexico, copresenting a discussion on the appendix on methodology.
- Task leaders and staff have been working on proposed modifications to the statement of project objectives in regard to the Bell Creek MVA project and Zama add-on work.
- Efforts have been initiated on a nontechnical risk register to assist with the overall PCOR Partnership Program risk management.
- An add-on proposal (EERC Proposal No. 2010-0208) for the ongoing work at Zama was sent on March 19, 2010.
- Traveled to Washington, D.C., to present an overview of program activities before the Assistant Secretary of Fossil Energy.
- A task leader meeting was held on March 25, 2010.
- Welcomed the NETL project officer for a day of meetings at the EERC on March 30, 2010.
- Continued discussions with Spectra Energy on the proposed cost-share agreement.
- Deliverables for March:
 - February monthly update
 - M23: Task 14 – monthly WWG conference call held
 - D11: Task 2 – update to outreach action plan

Task 14 – RCSP Water Working Group (WWG) Coordination (Charles D. Gorecki)

Highlights

- Received comments from the WWG on March 26, 2010, on the draft one-page fact sheet (front and back) providing an overview of issues and opportunities associated with the nexus of water and CCS.
- Held the monthly conference call on March 23, 2010.

Travel/Meetings

- March 4, 16, 18, 22, 24, 30 and 31, 2010: participated in editing sessions at Prairie Public Broadcasting in Fargo, North Dakota.
- March 7–13, 2010: attended meetings with Alberta Innovates – Technology Futures and participated in CMG training courses entitled “Geochemistry for GEM” and CO₂ Sequestration with GEM” in Calgary, British Columbia, Canada.
- March 8–11, 2010: participated in the third NACAP Working Group Meeting held March 9–10, in Cuernavaca, Mexico.
- March 22–24, 2010: presented a PCOR Partnership overview before the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy and associated staff on March 23 in Washington, D.C.
- March 27 – April 4, 2010: attended the 6th IMA Conference on Modelling Permeable Rocks, held March 29 – April 1, in Edinburgh, Scotland.