



Plains CO₂ Reduction (PCOR) Partnership
Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC)

TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED

Plains CO₂ Reduction (PCOR) Partnership Phase III Task 13 – Milestone M36

Prepared for:

Andrea M. Dunn

National Energy Technology Laboratory
U.S. Department of Energy
626 Cochrans Mill Road
PO Box 10940
Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940

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Prepared by:

Scott C. Ayash
Charles D. Gorecki

Energy & Environmental Research Center
University of North Dakota
15 North 23rd Street, Stop 9018
Grand Forks, ND 58202-9018

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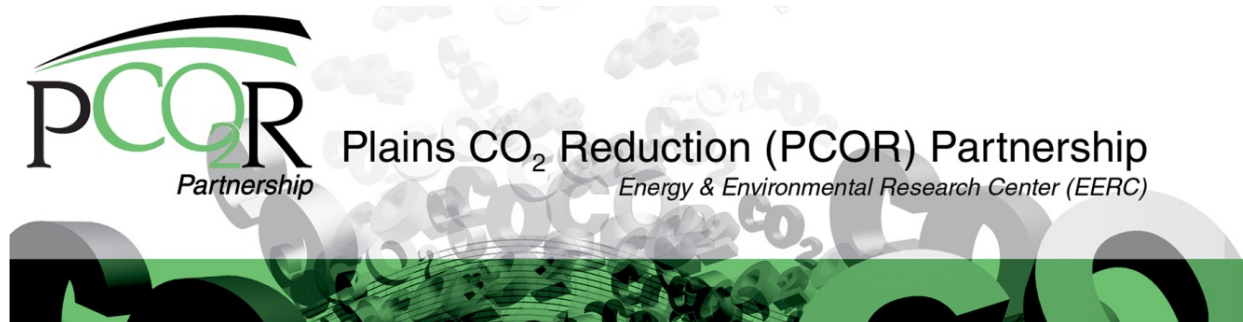
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TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED

BACKGROUND

The Plains CO₂ Reduction (PCOR) Partnership is one of seven Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships (RCSPs) competitively awarded by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) in 2003 as part of a national plan to reduce greenhouse gas emission intensity. The PCOR Partnership is led by the Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC) at the University of North Dakota and includes stakeholders from the public and private sectors. The PCOR Partnership region includes all or part of nine U.S. states and four Canadian provinces.

Phase III, the development phase, is a ten-year effort (2007–2018) that extends the characterization (Phase I) and validation (Phase II) phases. Currently, the Phase III efforts of the PCOR Partnership include a large-volume demonstration test in the United States (the Bell Creek project). The demonstration test focuses on injecting commercial-scale volumes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) into deep geologic formations for CO₂ storage. Many different aspects of carbon capture and storage (CCS) will be evaluated during the demonstration, ranging from CO₂ capture, compression, and pipeline transport to injection; recycle; and monitoring, verification, and accounting.

DOE required that an independent technical review be undertaken at the outset of the RCSP Phase III Program. DOE approached the IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme (IEAGHG) for this task because of its extensive experience with CO₂ injection projects worldwide. To review the RCSP Program and its Phase III activities, IEAGHG appointed an independent international panel of experts. The experts were drawn from onshore CO₂ injection projects under way in Canada, Europe, and Australia. This initial review was conducted in March 2008.

A second independent review of the program was conducted March 14–17, 2011, at the Hilton Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. IEAGHG again organized this review, and the ten-member panel comprised experts from Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, Japan, and the United States. The PCOR Partnership gave an hour-long presentation, followed by 90 minutes of questions and answers, on March 15, 2011.

Following the presentation and question-and-answer session, the expert panel discussed its assessment of the PCOR Partnership's efforts and compiled comments and recommendations. Based on these discussions and the written comments provided, IEAGHG prepared an evaluation

for each project reviewed. The expert panel's evaluation of the PCOR Partnership's projects was received in June 2011. A fundamental component of the NETL expert review process is that the recommendations identified by the expert panel are required to be addressed.

The panel's recommendations for the PCOR Partnership included the "appointment of scientific and/or operational advisory boards or committees." When formal responses to the recommendations were submitted in August 2011, the EERC decided to establish a single-panel advisory board to provide scientific guidance on the entire PCOR Partnership Program, including its demonstration sites.

In September 2011, DOE issued a contract modification, No. 21, authorizing the creation of an advisory board under Statement of Project Objectives (SOPO) Task 13 – Project Management. The SOPO was amended to include the following provisions:

Subtask 13.2 – Advisory Board Meetings:

Subtask 13.2.1 – Select Advisory Board Members. An advisory board, consisting of no fewer than five non-EERC advisors, will be selected from among knowledgeable persons in the fields of CCS and enhanced oil recovery (EOR). The advisors will have no term requirements or limits, but their service will be dependent upon availability.

Subtask 13.2.2 – Hold Advisory Board Meetings. Advisory board meetings will be scheduled to occur prior to the annual project meeting and will take into consideration the availability of selected advisors and, when feasible, be held in conjunction with another carbon management event or conference. The recommendations of the advisory board will be reported at the successive annual project meeting.

A new milestone (M), M36, was created for Program Years 5–10 (2012–2017) to help track the planning of PCOR Partnership TAB-related activities.

Creation of the PCOR Partnership Technical Advisory Board (TAB)

The PCOR Partnership TAB was created in 2012 with various CCS and EOR experts as follows:

- Bill Jackson, BillyJack Consulting, Inc. (Chair)
- Stefan Bachu, Alberta Innovates – Technology Futures
- Ray Hattenbach, Blue Strategies
- Lynn Helms, North Dakota Industrial Commission
- Mike Jones, Lignite Energy Council
- Steve Melzer, Melzer Consulting
- Tom Olle, Lonestar Resources, Inc.
- Steve Whittaker, CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization)
- Neil Wildgust, Global CCS Institute

Current PCOR Partnership TAB Membership

In 2016, TAB member Neil Wildgust became a staff member of the EERC. This new position presented a conflict of interest with serving as an independent advisor, and Mr. Wildgust stepped down from his role on the TAB. An invitation to join the TAB was extended to Ms. Stacey Dahl of Minnkota Power Cooperative, which she accepted. Ms. Dahl is an attorney-at-law and has valuable experience and knowledge in the power utility sector, especially related to regulatory and policy matters surrounding CO₂ emissions. The following are the current PCOR Partnership TAB members:

- Bill Jackson, BillyJack Consulting, Inc. (Chair)
- Stefan Bachu, Alberta Innovates – Technology Futures
- Ray Hattenbach, Industry Expert
- Lynn Helms, North Dakota Industrial Commission
- Mike Jones, Lignite Energy Council
- Steve Melzer, Melzer Consulting
- Tom Olle, Lonestar Resources, Inc.
- Jim Erdle, Computer Modelling Group, Ltd.
- Stacey Dahl, Minnkota Power Cooperative

Past changes to the TAB membership include the following:

- In 2015, Dr. Steve Whittaker accepted a position with the Illinois State Geological Society, causing a potential conflict of interest with participating on the TAB. Dr. Whittaker was replaced by Dr. Jim Erdle of Computer Modelling Group, Ltd.

TAB MEETING SCHEDULED

The sixth annual TAB meeting is scheduled to be held May 22–24, 2017, with the location of the meeting to be determined. While the agenda is still under development, it is anticipated that several topics will be presented on and discussed, including the Bell Creek and Aquistore projects, best practices manuals, and future work.

ADDITIONAL TAB ACTIVITY

Three additional TAB activities took place between March and December 2016, including two Webinar meetings and a 2-hour face-to-face meeting held in conjunction with the PCOR Partnership Annual Membership Meeting. The first Webinar occurred on July 26, with the EERC presenting an update on the ongoing predictive simulation and history-matching efforts related to the Aquistore project. The second Webinar meeting was held December 13, and discussion focused on the PCOR Partnership's presentation to be given at the next RCSP peer review, currently scheduled for January 2017. Topics for the face-to-face meeting included PCOR Partnership best practices manuals, the RCSP peer review, an upcoming PCOR Partnership regulatory deliverable, and future work.