

SPE 120333

The Impact of Carbon Dioxide Geological Sequestration



S. Xina Xie, U of Wyoming
Michael J. Economides, U of Houston

Americas E&P Environmental & Safety Conference
San Antonio, March 23-25, 2009



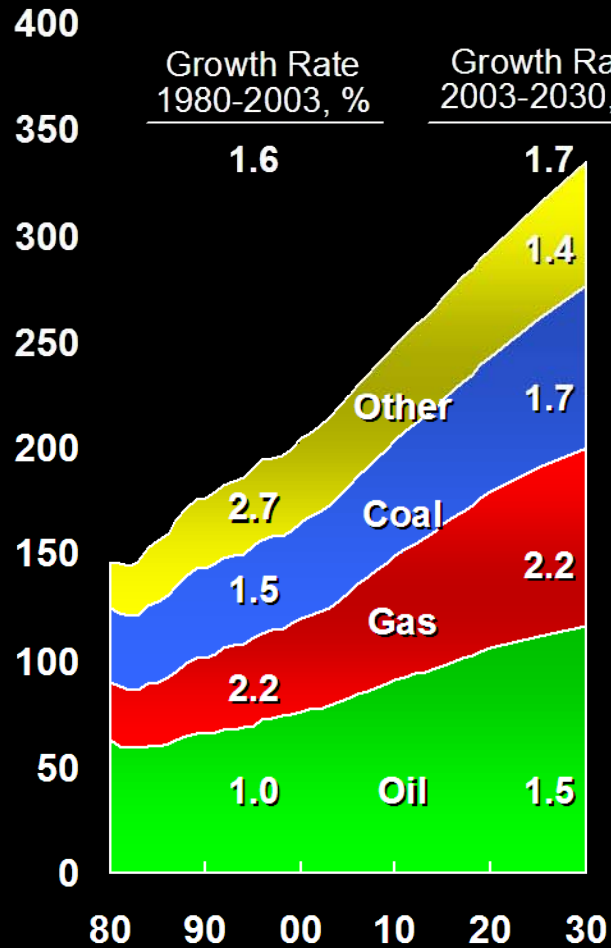
Carbon Geological Sequestration

- The most popular carbon storage method promoted and pilot tested
- Almost all estimates use sketchy empirical data or flawed steady state injection history (for EOR)
- The effect of burying all the extra CO₂ as per Kyoto Protocol on temperature change has never been evaluated

Oil & Gas Remain as Primary Energy Sources

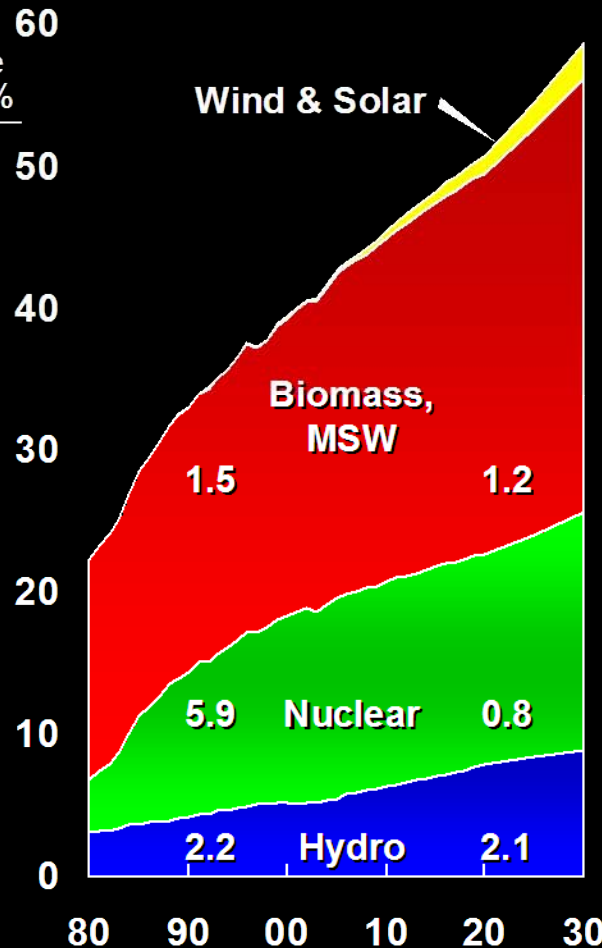
Total Energy

MBDOE



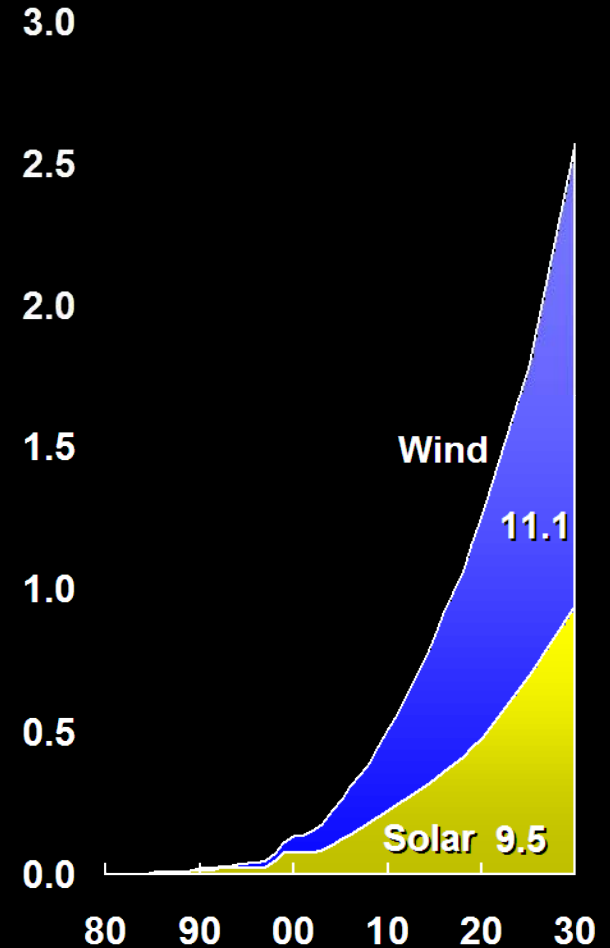
Other Energy

MBDOE



Wind & Solar

MBDOE

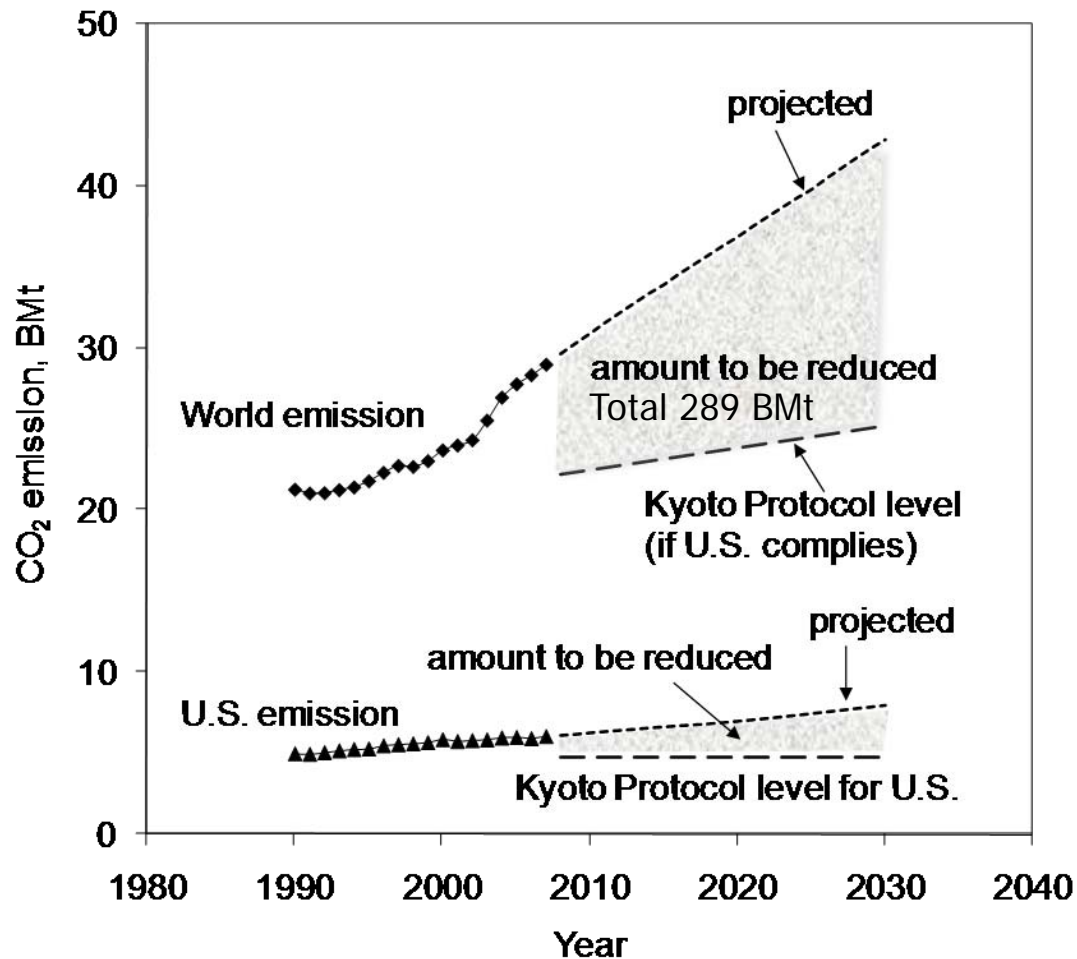




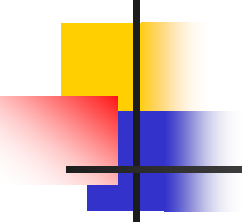
Carbon Geological Sequestration – Scale and Cost

- Uncertainties and Risks
 - Oil and gas reservoirs, Deep saline formations
 - Coalbeds
- Policies and Regulations
 - Classification of CO₂
 - Ownership of injected CO₂
 - Perspective
- The Effect on Global Temperature Change

Amount of CO₂ to be reduced to comply with the Kyoto Protocol



Wells needed to inject the extra CO₂



Year	Extra CO ₂ in U.S., BMt	Wells needed in U.S.	Extra CO ₂ in the world, BMt	Wells needed in the world
2008	1.32	6875-66382	7.35	38282-369626
2010	1.48	7710-74428	8.33	43386-418910
2015	1.85	9636-93035	10.69	55678-537592
2020	2.21	11511-111140	13	67709-653760
2025	2.69	14011-135278	15.29	79636-768922
2030	3.21	16720-161430	17.7	92188-890120

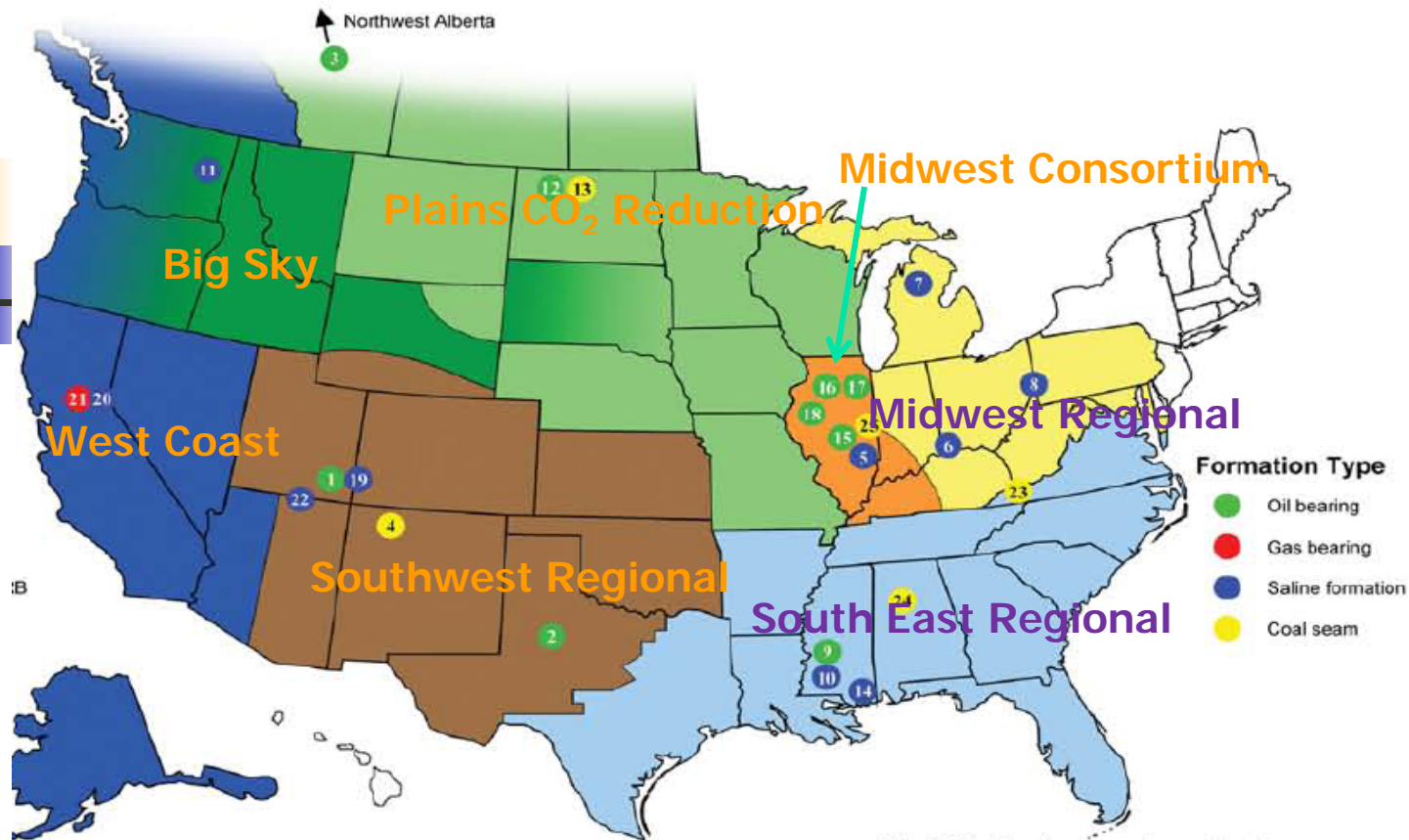
Very optimistically unrealistic estimates

**Pseudosteady state injection would require
5 to 20 times the number of wells**

Cost of Capturing and Compressing CO₂

Year	Extra CO ₂ in U.S., BMt	Cost @ \$167/Mt, \$B	Extra CO ₂ in the world, BMt	Cost @ \$167/Mt, \$B
2008	1.32	220.44	7.35	1227.45
2010	1.48	247.16	8.33	1391.11
2015	1.85	308.95	10.69	1785.23
2020	2.21	369.07	13	2171
2025	2.69	449.23	15.29	2553.43
2030	3.21	536.07	17.7	2955.9

- **Transportation cost (2007):**
\$2 million/mile pipeline, \$1 million/mile power line
- **Electricity cost increase : at least 30%**



Seven Carbon Capture Partnerships in U.S.A.

Phase I – Characterization Phase (2003-2005): ~\$2 to 3 million each

Phase II – Validation Phase (2005-2009): ~\$18 million each

Phase III – Deployment Phase (2008-2017): ~ \$100 million each

How Much Can Be Done by the Partnerships?

The Cancellation of FutureGen



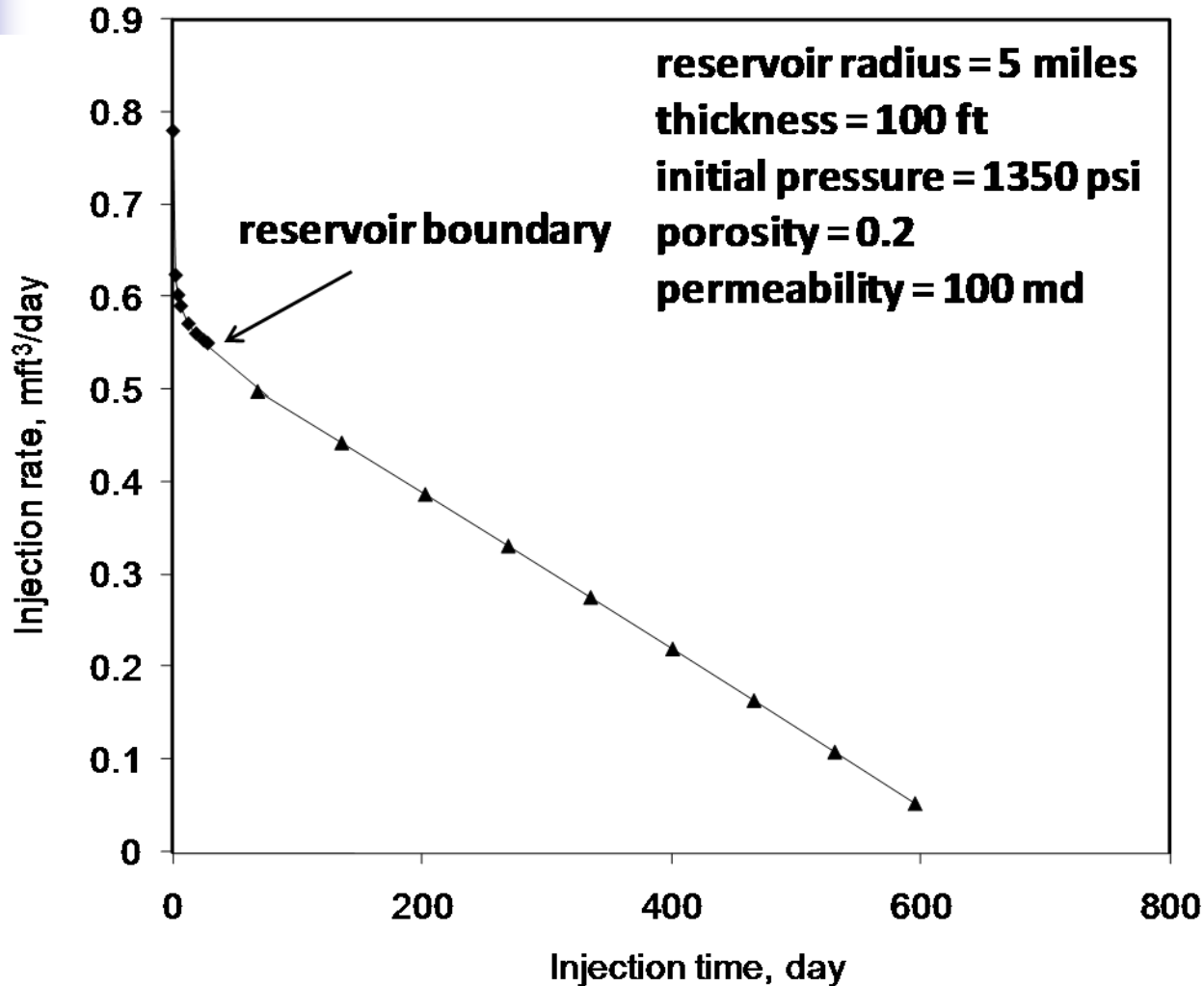
World's first coal-fired power plant with zero CO₂ emissions original plan cost \$0.9 billion, grew to \$1.8 billion before cancellation



Geological Sequestration

- Closed Reservoir
 - Pore volume is crucial
- EOR injection rates are inappropriate analogs
- Injection rate will decline
- Maximum CO₂ volume dictated by capacity and fracturing pressure limitation

Injectivity reduction





Other problems

- Injectivity reduction because of scales and bacteria growth
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and water contamination
- Sudden leakage
 - All coalbeds leak
 - Unknown saline formation geological conditions



Sequestration management

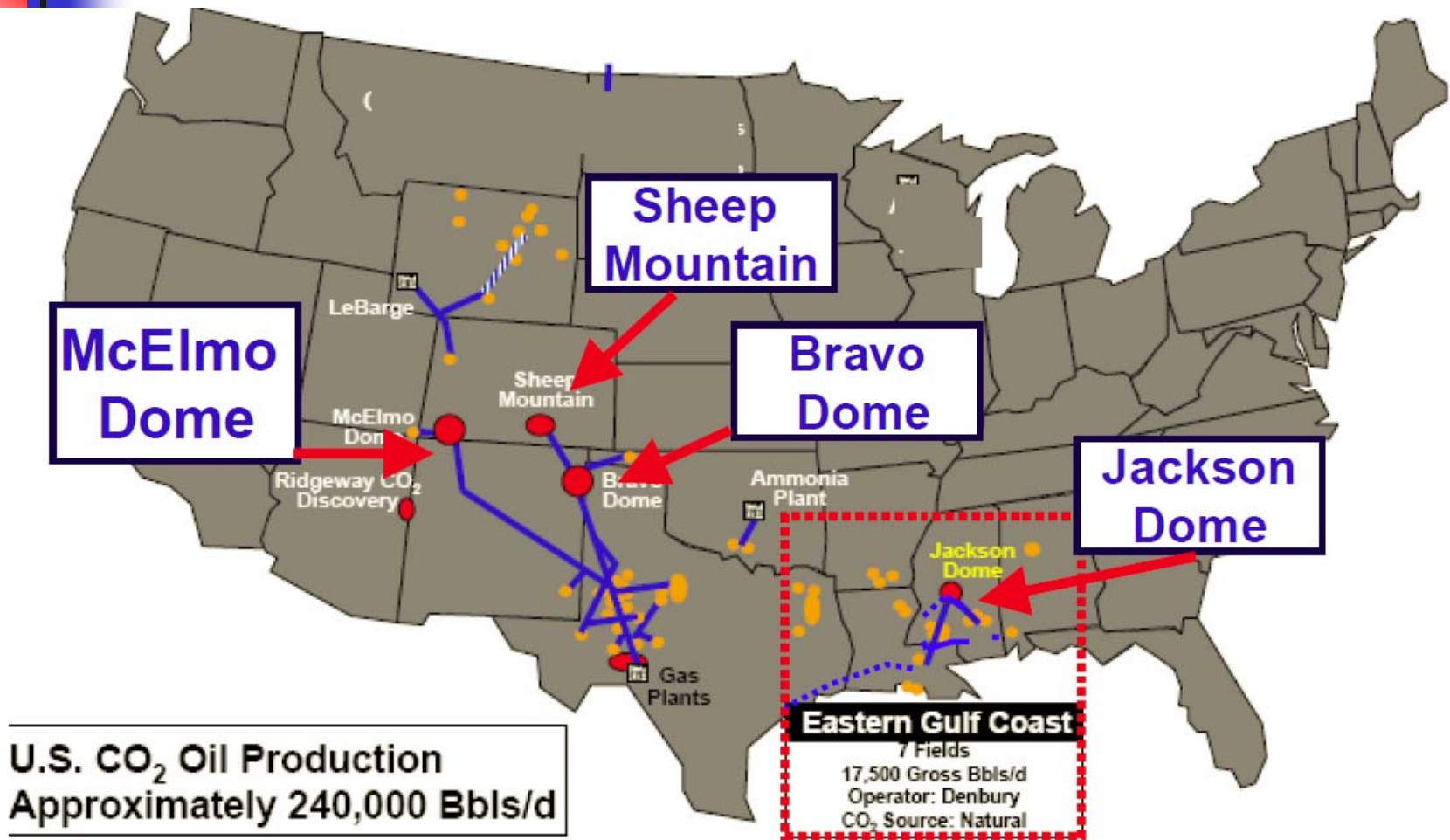
- Classification of CO₂
- Ownership of injected CO₂
- Global policies or regulations
 - Who makes the rules?
 - Population distribution
 - Industrial development
 - Financial burden



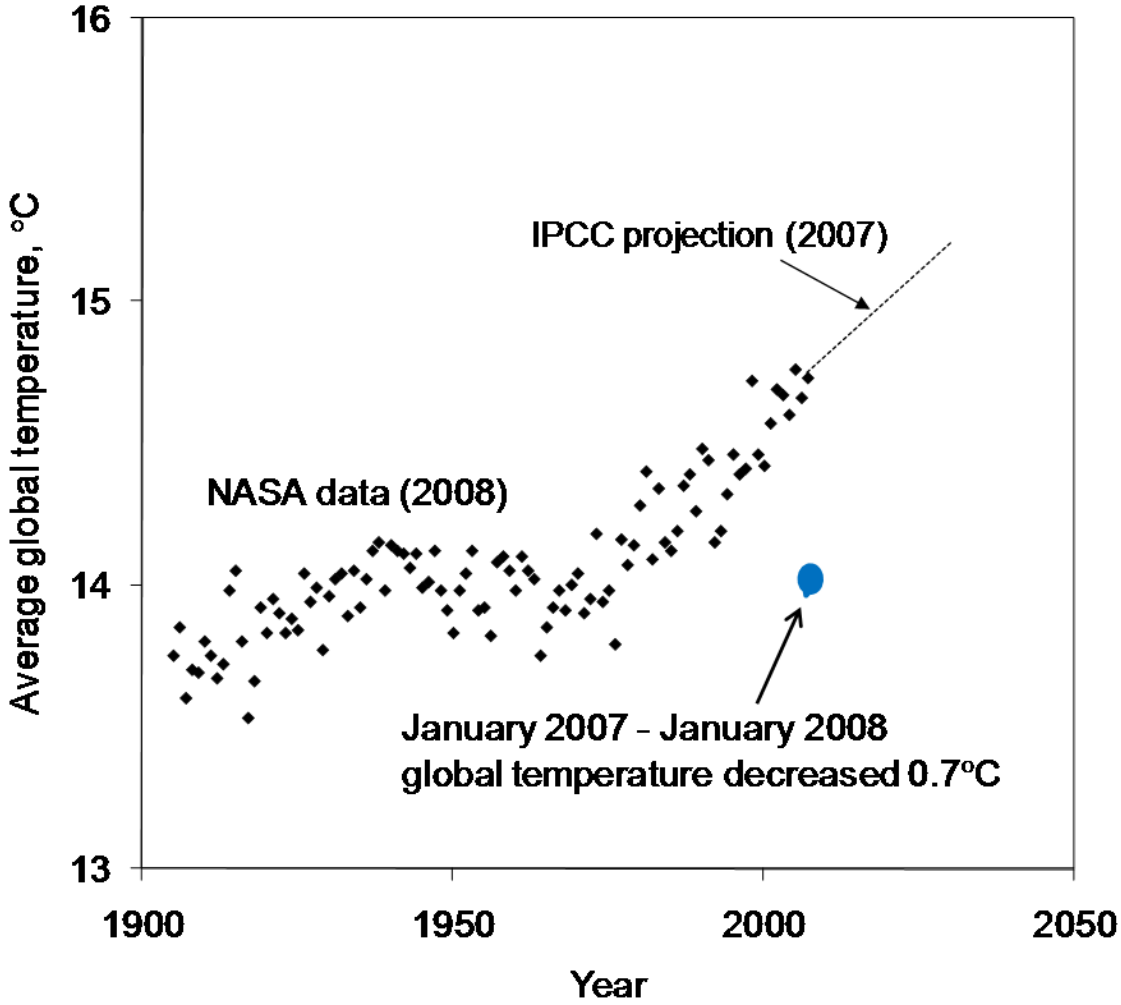
Sequestration management

- Who pays for the management costs?
 - Routine maintenance
 - Leakage remediation
 - Lawsuits

No CO₂ for sequestration!!



Global temperature change



Kyoto Protocol Program on Global Temperature

835 BMt

Total CO₂ emission, 2008 - 2030

0.44°C Total assumed global temperature increase

?? °C Math model change and politics

289 BMt

Kyoto quota for CO₂ removal 2008 - 2030

0.15°C Supposed Kyoto temperature decline

0.1°C 10-11 year solar cycle

?? °C Inertia and heat expansion (centuries)

0.7°C Global temperature decline in 2007



Conclusions

- CO₂ sequestration is likely to be many orders of magnitude more difficult than people think;
- Costs will be in the trillion dollars even if the physical issues are solved;
- Meeting the Kyoto Protocol is either economic impossible or self destructive;
- Management of sequestered CO₂ will be a nightmare.