

# An Update on the Risks of CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration A Case Study: Alberta Canada

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# HSE ISSUES RAISED ABOUT RE-INJECTION AND SEQUESTRATION IN U.S. AND CANADA

- ▶ Regulatory
  - Seismicity
- ▶ Economic
  - Surface and Ground Water Contamination
- ▶ Transportation
  - Toxic Chemicals Management
- ▶ Air Emissions and Global Warming
  - Community Opposition
- ▶ Community Health

# RECENT DEVELOPMENTS: HUGE ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY & ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

- ▶ Bankruptcies, Corporate Re-Organization, Downsizing, Mergers and Acquisitions
- ▶ **Ripe time to purchase assets for less!!**
- ▶ Blowouts from Acid Gas injection in Texas and Louisiana
- ▶ Minor Injection induced earthquakes
- ▶ Continued litigation concurrent with shut ins
- ▶ Long term storage of carbon projects initiated despite environmental and economic concerns

# RESEARCH AND HISTORICAL DATA ON ISSUES

- Underground Injection Control (UIC) Record in U.S.
- Basis for Chinese Regulations Developed in 2011.
- Alberta Research proved up cryogenic capture of H<sub>2</sub>S and liquid injection of Acid Gases (H<sub>2</sub>S and CO<sub>2</sub>) in Alberta
- Technology spread to U.S. particularly Texas and Colorado

# HISTORY OF INJECTION AND SEQUESTRATION IN CANADA

- First CCS Leases Granted in Alberta in May 2011
- Allows Exploration of Field and Determination of Numbers of Wells Later
- Alberta Experience in Western Canada providing guidance to Eastern Canada
- Initial Regulatory Protocols for Emergency Planning zone



# SHELL ADDRESSES HSE ISSUES RAISED RE-INJECTION AND SEQUESTRATION

SPONRED BY



Scotford Upgrader



1.2 Mtpa CO<sub>2</sub>



80 km 30mm line



3-8 Wells

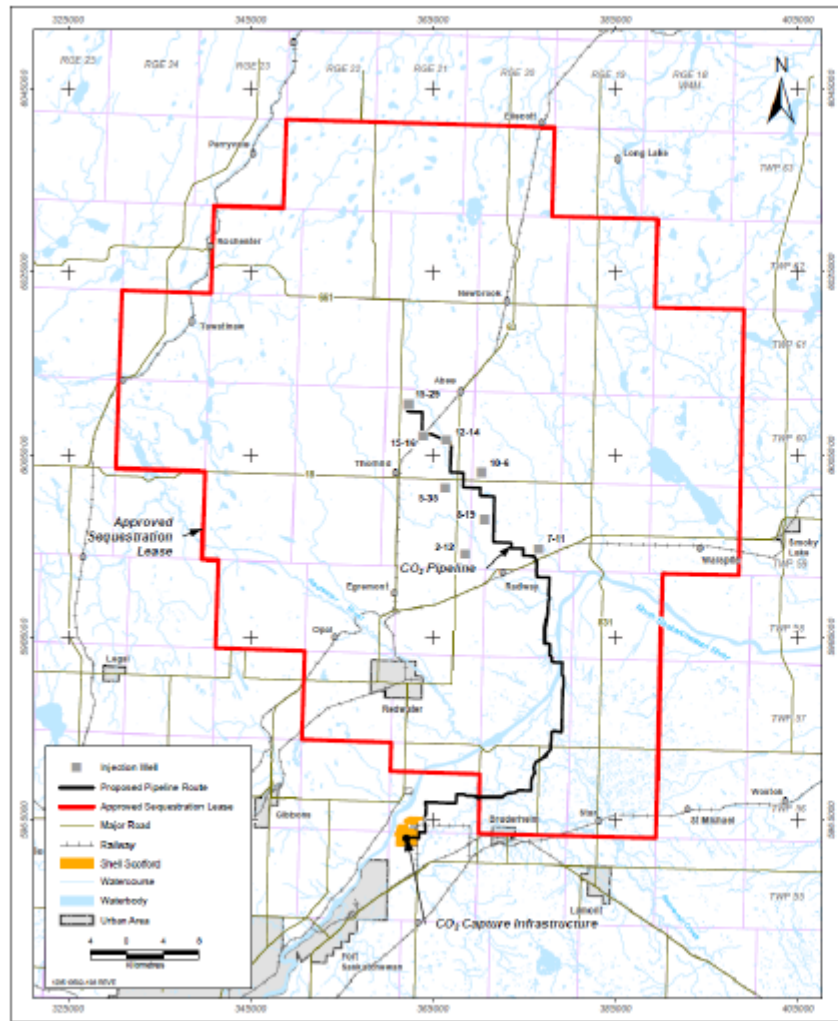


2000 m in saline



+39 Townships in Area of Interest

# SHELL ADDRESSES HSE ISSUES RAISED RE-INJECTION AND SEQUESTRATION



- **Capture and Compression**
  - Capture at Shell Scotford Upgrader- amines
  - CO<sub>2</sub> source 3 x HMUs (SMR technology)
  - Up to 1.2 Mtpa CO<sub>2</sub> ; CO<sub>2</sub> > 95% purity
- **Pipeline**
  - Agricultural lands with distributed population
  - 12 inch line; about 80 km length
  - Laterals pipelines from main to wellheads
- **Disposal Scheme**
  - 3-8 wells
  - Target zone is saline aquifer- over 2000m depth
  - 39+ townships Area of Interest (AOI)
- **MMV Program**
  - To verify containment and storage performance
- **Project Status**
  - July 2012- Regulatory Approvals
  - Sept 2012- Final Investment Decision!!



# QUEST MAJOR REGULATORY APPLICATIONS

- Injection-Disposal Application (ERCB Dir 51)
- Pore Space Tenure (Alberta Energy)
- Well & Pipeline Licenses (ERCB Directive 56)
- Capture Infrastructure (ERCB OSCA)
- Disposal Permit (ERCB Directive 65)
- Alberta Environmental Assessment
- Environmental Impact Assessment by (Environment Canada)
- MMV Plan & Closure Certificate (Alberta Energy)

# ALBERTA FRAMEWORK ADDRESSES REGULATORY GAPS

## **Alberta Carbon Capture & Storage Statutes Amendment Act (2010)**

- *Enables Gov't to assume Liability for Stored CO<sub>2</sub> Project Operators*
- *Clarified ownership of Pore Space (i.e. Province of Alberta)*
- *Enables Alberta to create Post-Closure Stewardship Fund*
- *Enables Alberta to issue Tenure Agreements (pore space tenure)*

## **Alberta Carbon Sequestration Tenure Regulation (April 2011)**

- *Administrative details on permits/ carbon sequestration leases*
- *Framework for MMV Plans and Closure Plans*

## **Alberta Regulatory Framework Assessment (2011/2012)**

- *Multi-stakeholder Review for CCS*
- *Provides Recommendations on How Framework GAPS can be addressed*

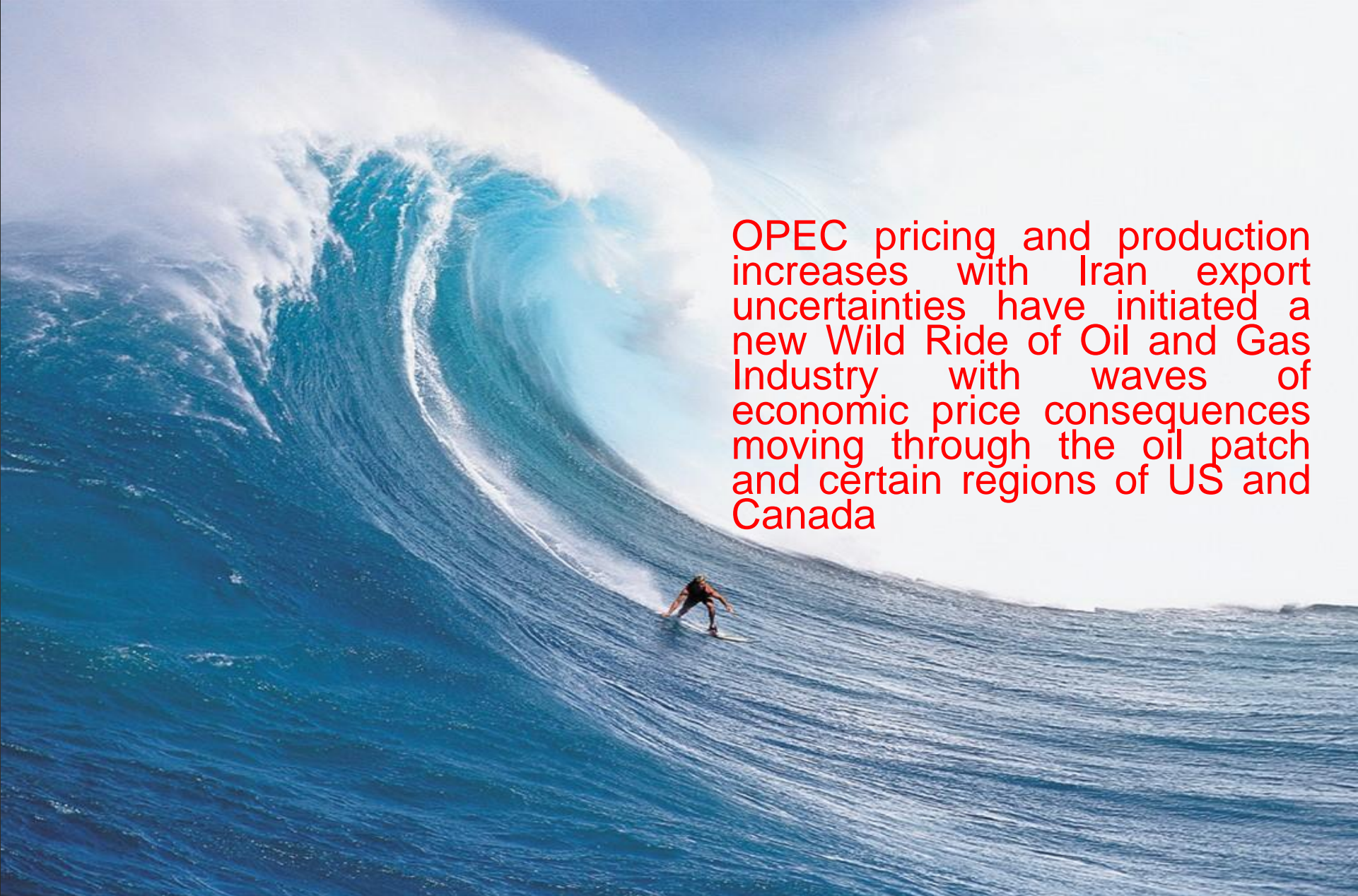
# COMPARING CANADA WITH U.S.

- Notifications of Surface Occupants extends 1.6 km (1 mi) radius in Canada versus usual ¼ mile in U.S.
- Preference for Saline Areas with no history of oil and gas development, without old wells in Canada
- Provinces assume long-term liability
- Canada requires 3-year monitoring measurement and verification plans
- Granting of Permits in U.S. may limit liability
- Tenure in Canada - 5-Year Evaluation and 15-Year Renewable Sequestration Leases

# RECENT CCS DEVELOPMENTS

1. Shell's Quest is one of first commercial demonstrations of cost-effectiveness of Long Term Carbon Storage
2. Permian Basin also has demonstrated long term storage of carbon, about 60% of EOR Injected carbon remains
3. Texas NRG project delayed
4. Other commercial projects proceeding.



A large, powerful blue wave is crashing over a surfer. The wave is curling over, creating a tunnel-like structure. The surfer is positioned at the base of the wave, riding the face. The water is a deep blue color, and the sky is a pale blue. The overall scene is dynamic and captures the power of the ocean.

OPEC pricing and production increases with Iran export uncertainties have initiated a new Wild Ride of Oil and Gas Industry with waves of economic price consequences moving through the oil patch and certain regions of US and Canada

# MAJOR ISSUES CONFRONTING INJECTION IN U.S. BESIDES ECONOMICS

## Practice of Injection in Old Fields

- Releases in Texas & Louisiana

## Practice of Injecting H<sub>2</sub>S in Highly Lethal Concentrations

- Three releases in Texas

## Injection-Related Earthquakes

- Can we limit injection rates and effectively limit earthquake occurrence and magnitude



# U.S. CASE STUDY DATA REVIEW

- Acid Gas (AG) releases in Louisiana and Texas demonstrate importance for aggressive review and plugging of old wells
- Enforcement of EPA guidance on injection well location and zone siting and re-plugging of old wells is under review and being tested in US courts
- Texas/Pennsylvania courts award damages

**Conclusion: Despite the risks, we can no longer  
hide our heads in the Sand about the opportunities  
for carbon sequestration**

