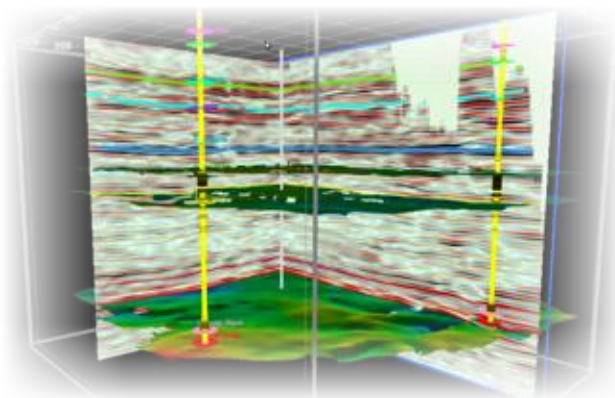


# Emerging Challenges for CCUS Deployment in the Midwest Regional Carbon Initiative (MRCI) Region

Neeraj Gupta, Mark Kelley, Joel Sminchak, Priya Ravi Ganesh – Battelle  
Annual CCUS Conference, Houston, Mar 3-5, 2025

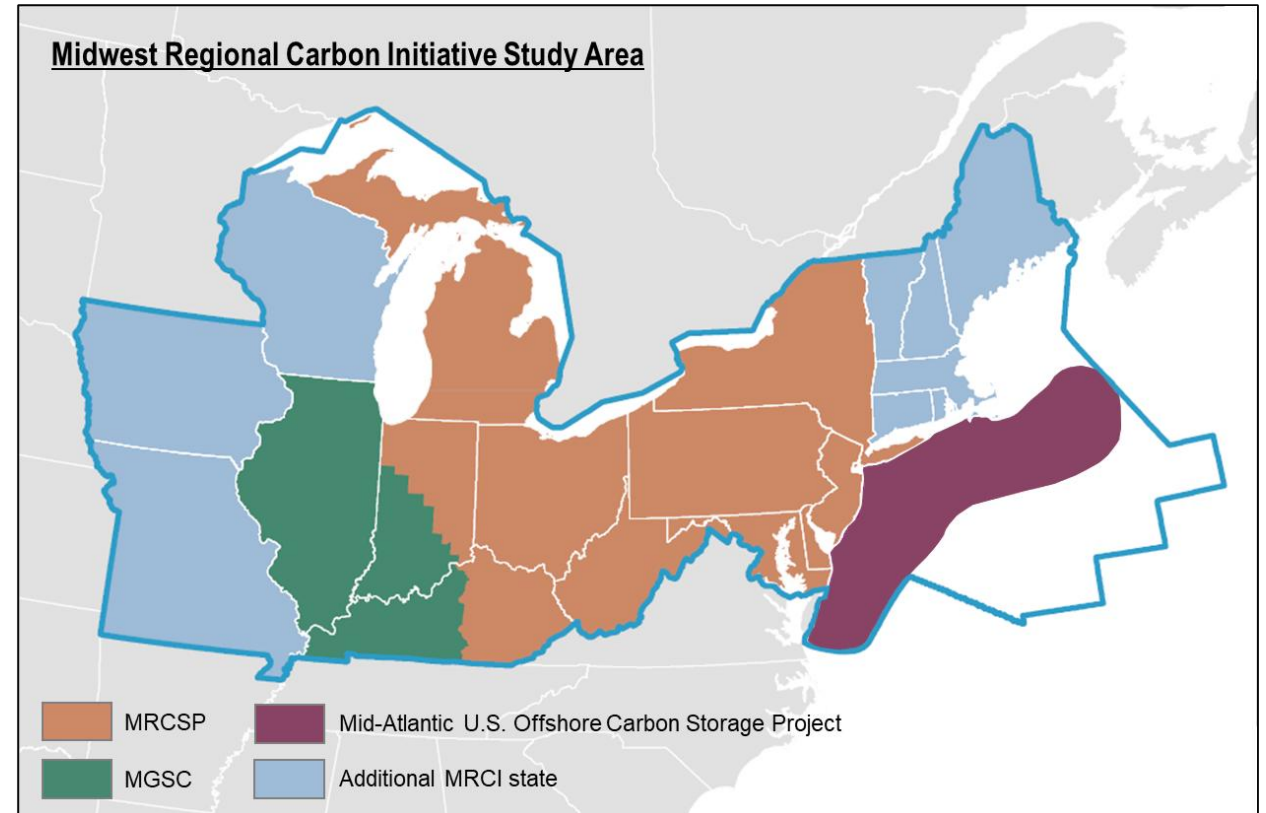


DOE Project DE-FE0031836

# Midwest Regional Carbon Initiative (MRCI)

## *Accelerate CCUS Across 20 States Region*

- Implement a collaborative Regional Initiative to accelerate CCUS in the Midwestern and Northeastern US - build on >20 years of CCUS experience (MRCSP & MGSC).
- Engage national and international stakeholders - States, universities, industrial partners and advisors, fossil fuel production and utilization companies, and NGOs.
- Advanced CCUS research through:
  - Addressing key technical challenges.
  - Obtaining and sharing data to support CCUS.
  - Facilitating regional infrastructure planning.
  - Performing regional technology transfer.

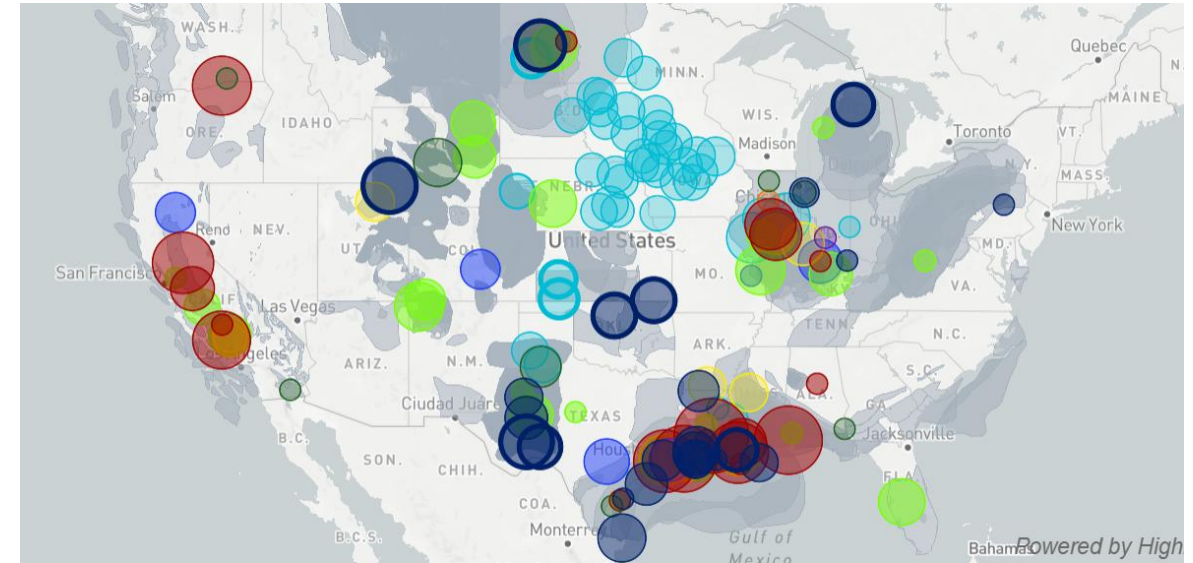
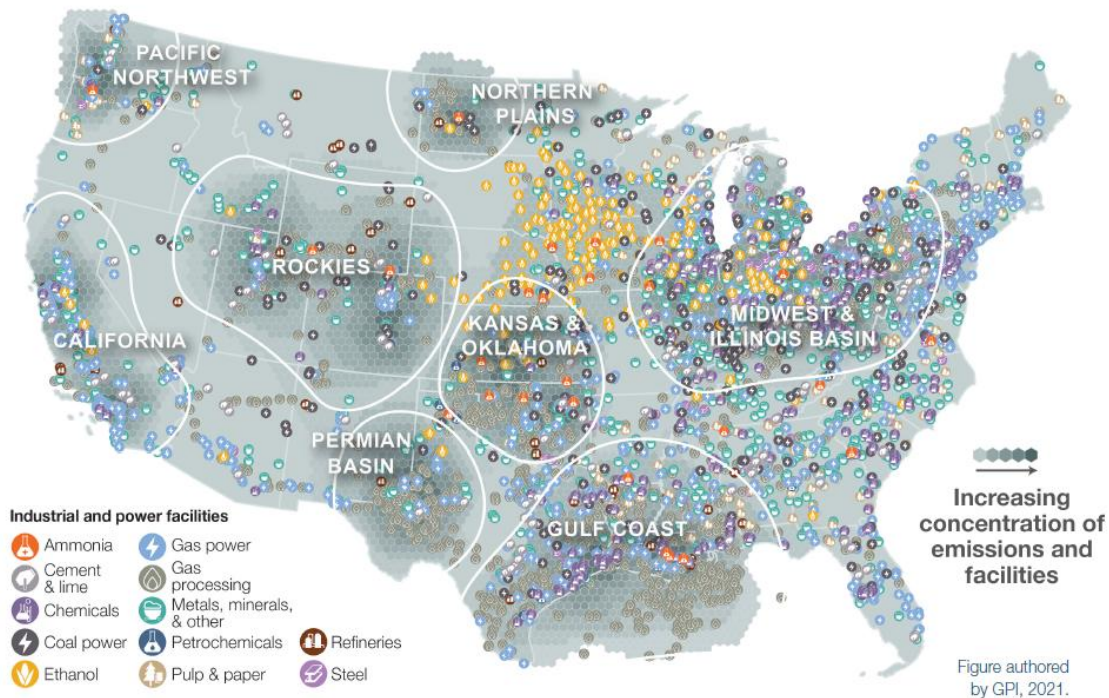




# US Clusters – An Emerging National Framework

## *Numerous current and emerging sources in MRCI Region*

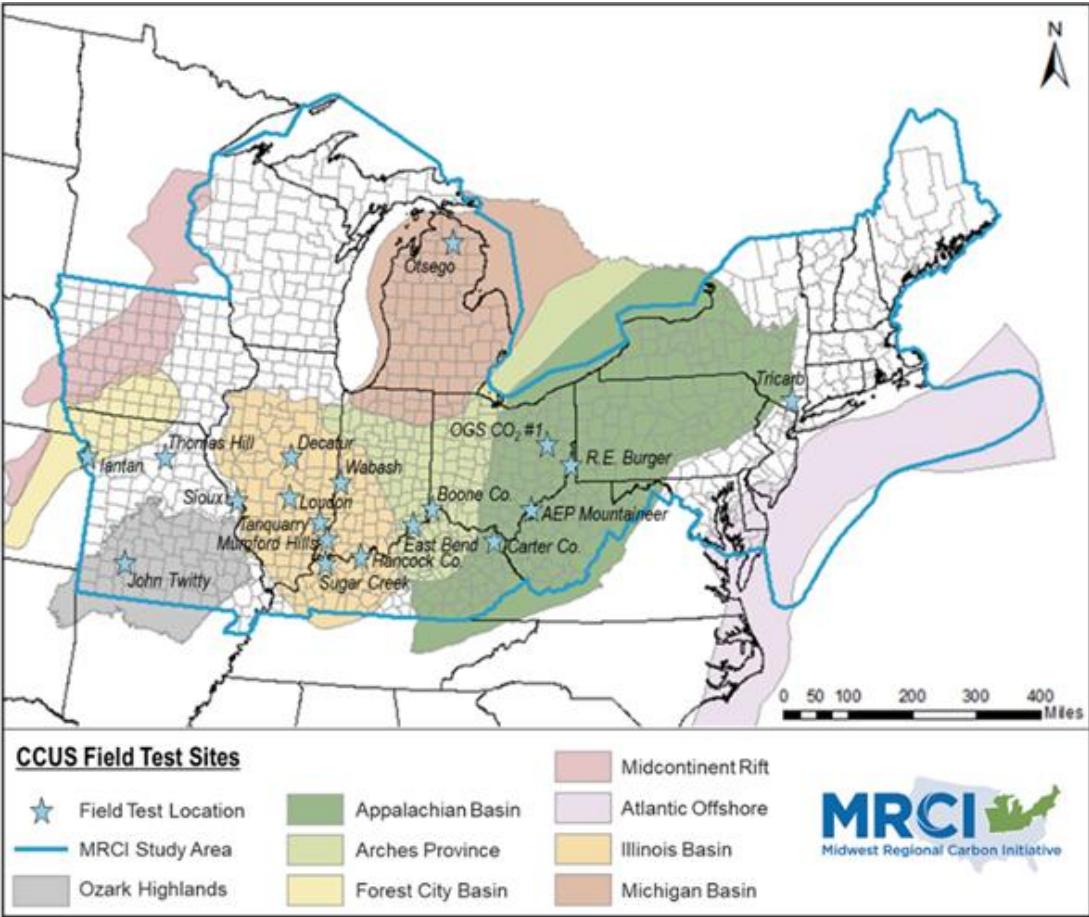
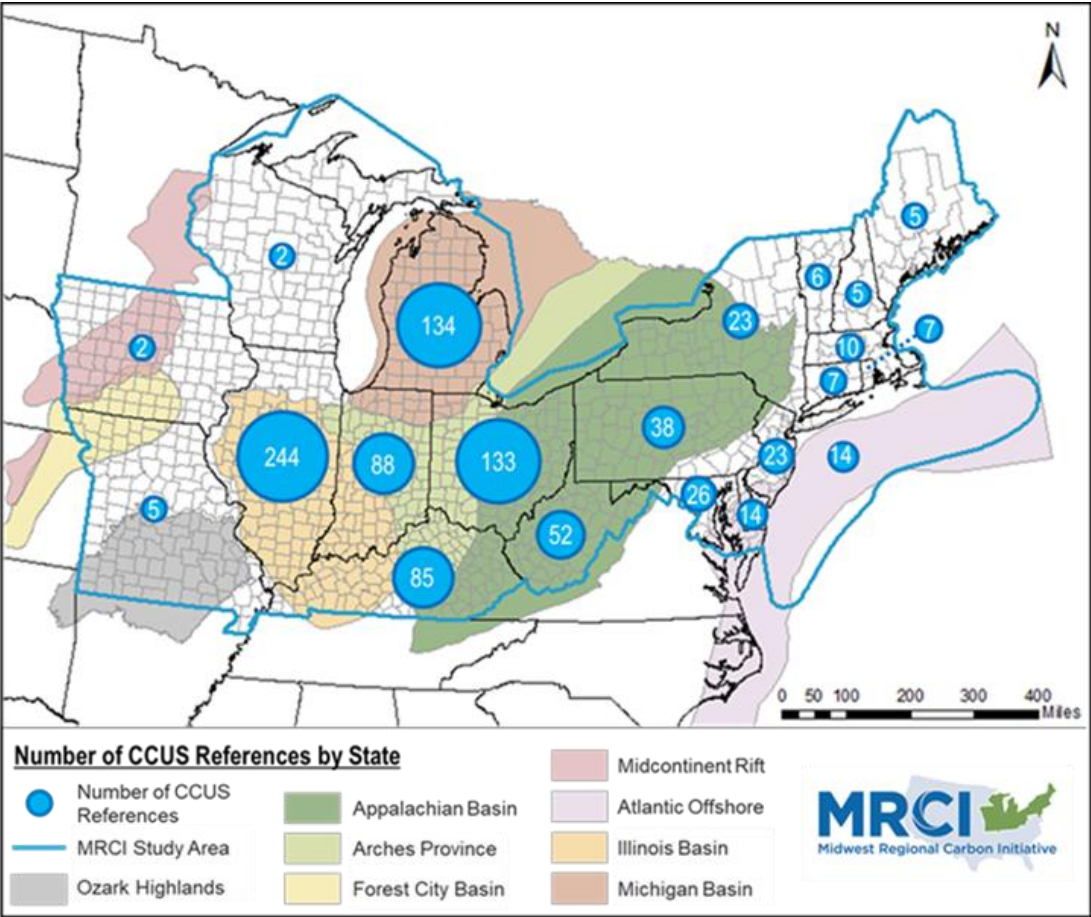
- *Current CO<sub>2</sub> Sources Organizing into Clusters in many regions:*
  - *Midwest and Illinois Basin*
  - *Gulf Coast and Permian Basin*
  - *Rockies and northern Plains*



- *Future CO<sub>2</sub> Sources will likely to follow clusters and geologic storage resources:*
  - *Natural gas power generation*
  - *Industrial facilities*
  - *Bio energy*
  - *Natural gas to Hydrogen*
  - *Direct Air Capture*

Map Sources – Great Plains Institute and Clean Air Task Force

# Past Projects and CCUS References in the MRCI CCS R&D since mid-1990s





# Nearly 30 Years of CCUS R&D in MRCI Region Provides a Foundation for Deployment Phase

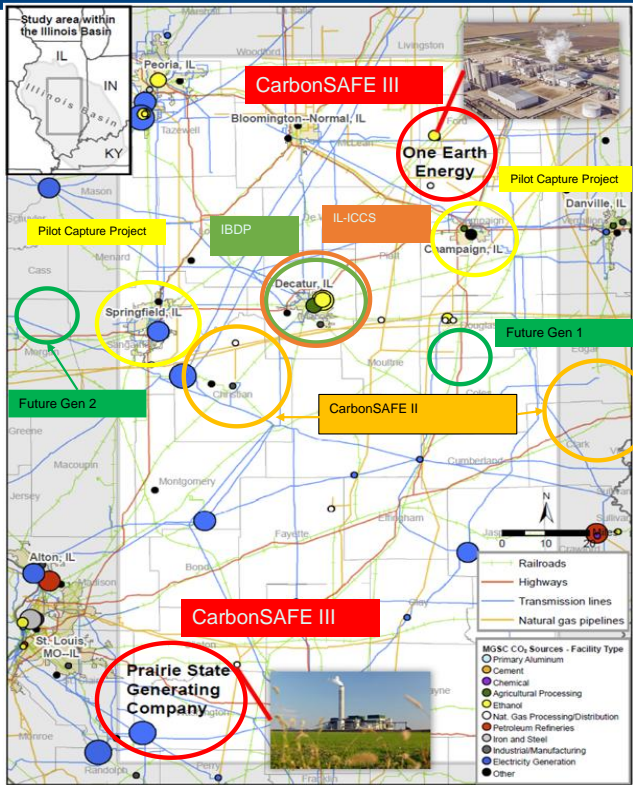
## MRCSP/MRCI Large-Scale Public-Private Partnership



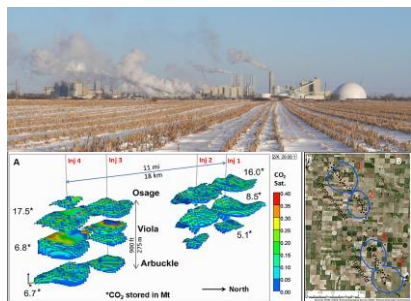
## AEP Mountaineer Pilot and FutureGen



## Illinois Basin Corridor Cluster

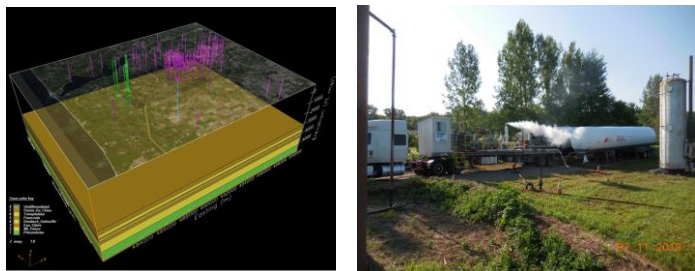


## CarbonSAFE - Scaling Up



Illinois,  
Indiana,  
Ohio,  
Michigan  
Kentucky  
West Virginia

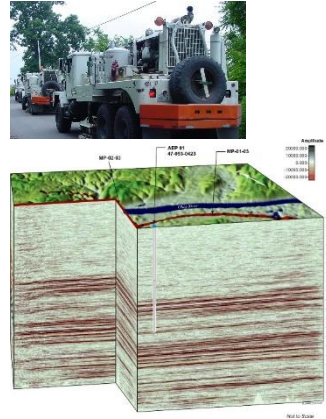
## Commercial Carbon Storage Development



# AEP Mountaineer program – full life-cycle CCS spanning 15 years with Battelle as CO<sub>2</sub> storage service provider

## Feasibility – Exploration Well

- Seismic survey conducted and AEP-1 test well was drilled in 2002
- Included extensive data collection and community outreach
- DOE and industry funded



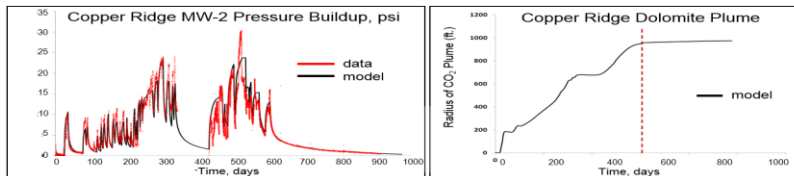
## Pilot Construction & Commissioning

- Network of five wells, two injection and three monitoring, constructed (drilling and completion) in 2008-2009
- Integrated with 20MWe chilled ammonia capture system
- Pressure maintenance and monitoring system installed



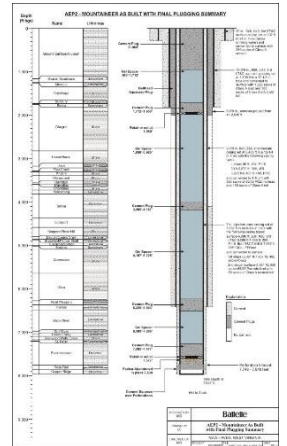
## Injection and Operations Monitoring

- ~37,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> was injected and stored over 18 months from 2009 to 2011
- Included monitoring of reservoir pressure, groundwater chemistry, CO<sub>2</sub> injectate, and soil gas



## Post-Injection and Site Closure

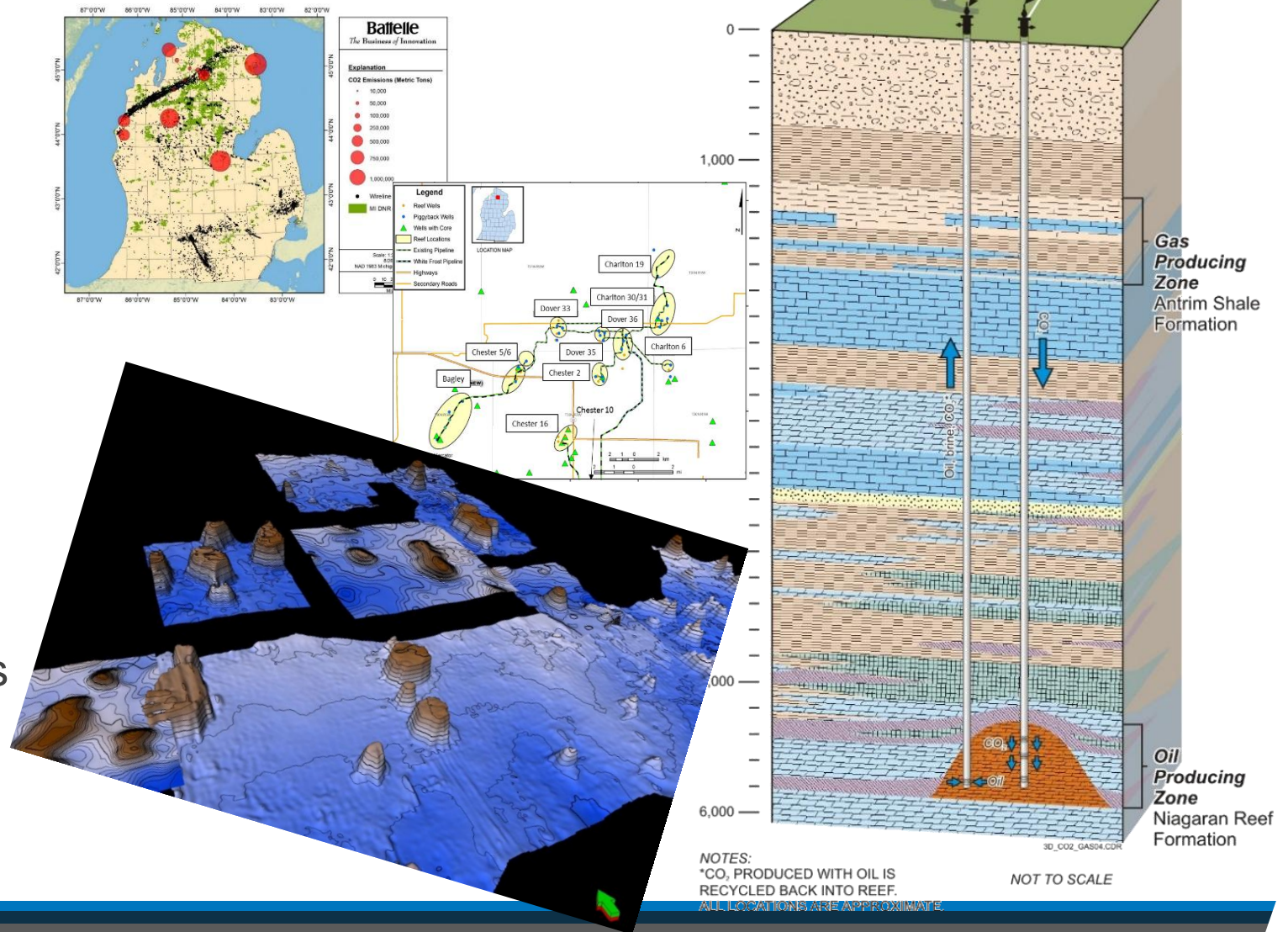
- Post-injection – pressure, groundwater monitoring, plume modeling
- Well plugging and site closure within 5 years by working with regulators and meeting all permit requirements
- Scale-up design for 235 MWe facility completed





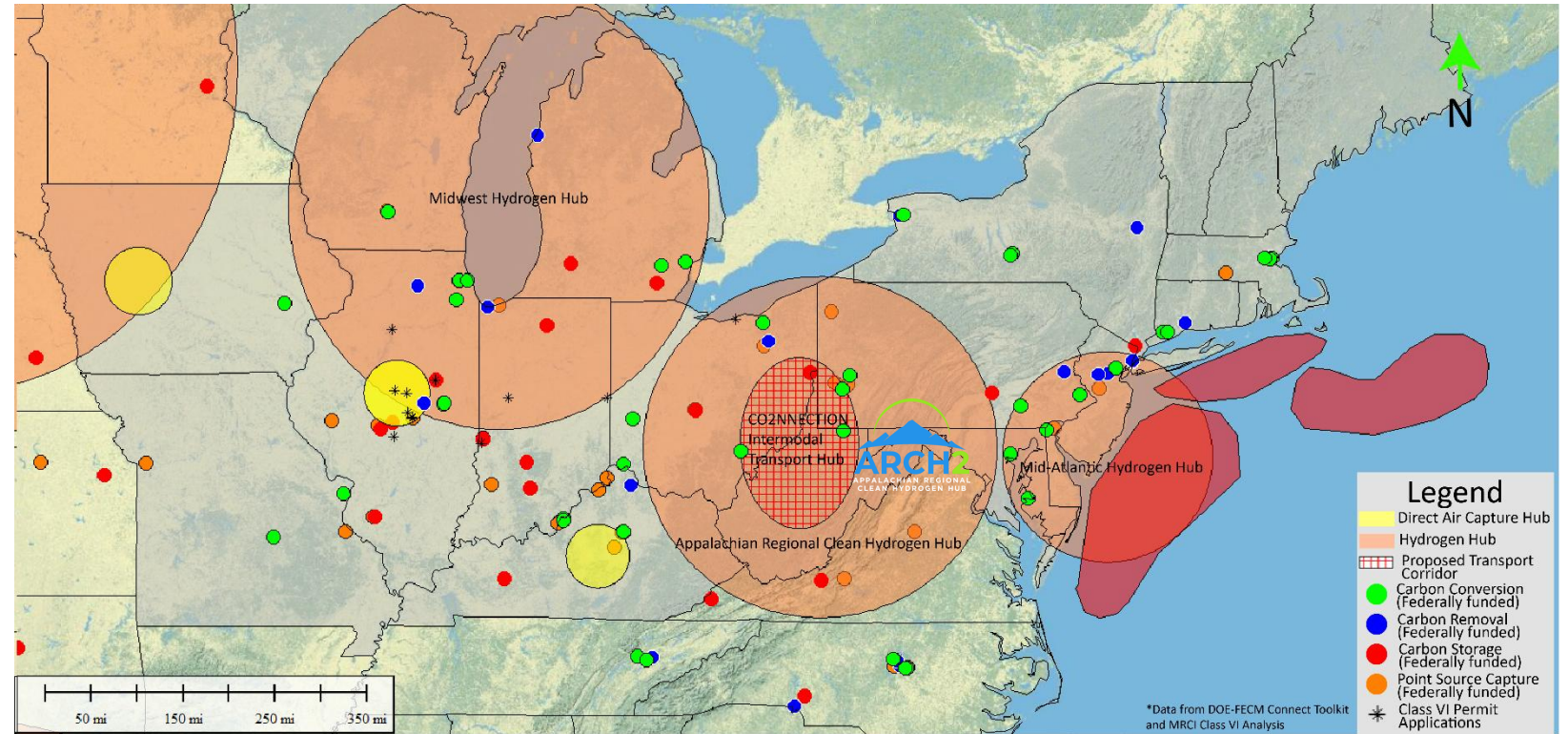
# MRCSP Pilots and Michigan Basin Large-Scale CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR Assessment

- Three pilot tests under MRCSP II
- MRCSP III - Injected/monitored +2 MMT CO<sub>2</sub> in collaboration with EOR
- Hosted by Core Energy, LLC
- Evaluated CO<sub>2</sub> injectivity, migration, containment
- Tested numerous monitoring options
- Demonstrated net-negative life-cycle
- Evaluated regional storage resources
- Outreach and knowledge share
- Reports available from DOE EDX



# Key/Emerging CCS/CDR Projects in the MRCI

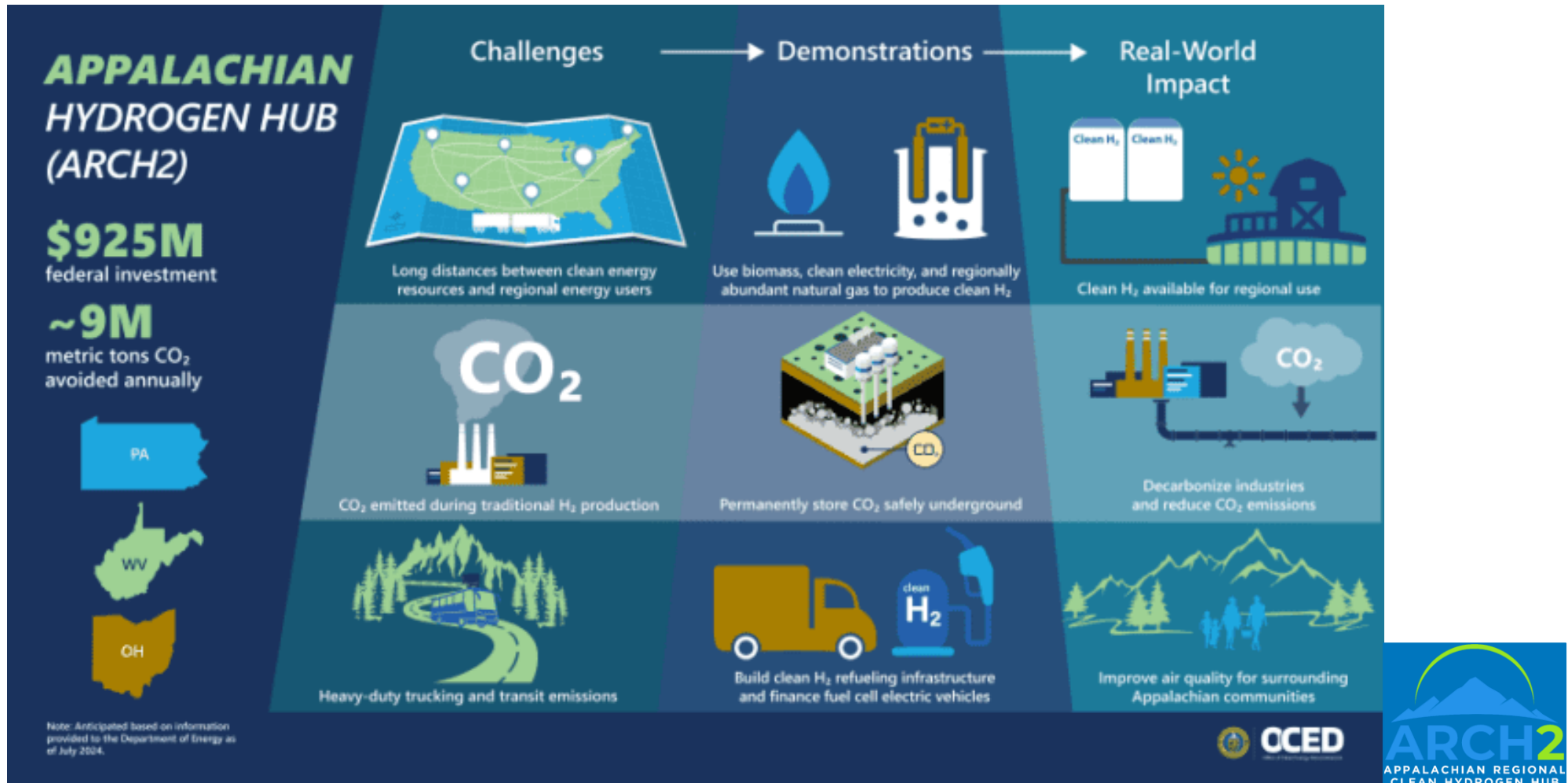
- Regional Initiatives:
  - MRCI (MRCSP/MGSC)
  - FOA2799 – States Surveys
  - FOA2799 – Battelle offshore
  - RITAP – App. and Mich. Basin?
- >10+ CarbonSAFEs I, II, III
- Industrial Decarbonization
- FEED studies
- Three H<sub>2</sub> hubs
- Three DAC hubs
- Transport – CO<sub>2</sub>NECTION



In Addition, numerous private projects are not shown on the Map



# Appalachian Regional Clean Hydrogen Hub (ARCH2) – Emerging CO<sub>2</sub> Source in Deeper Basins

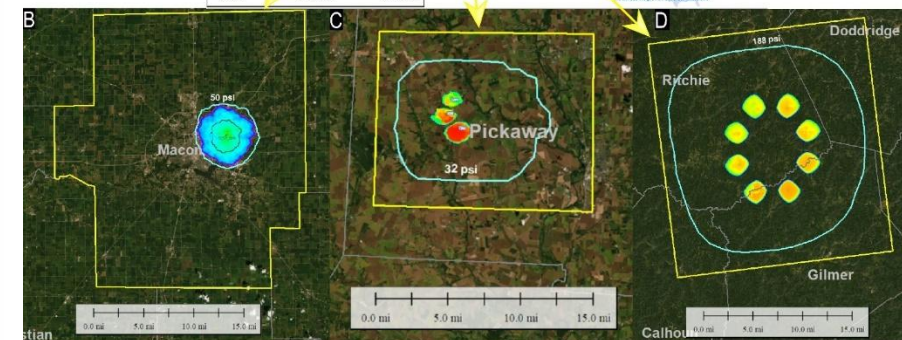
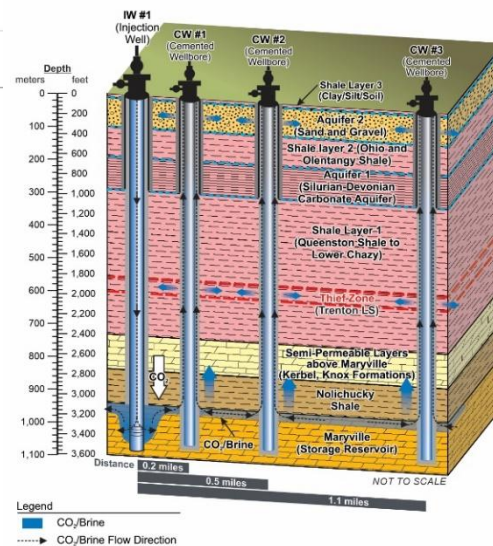
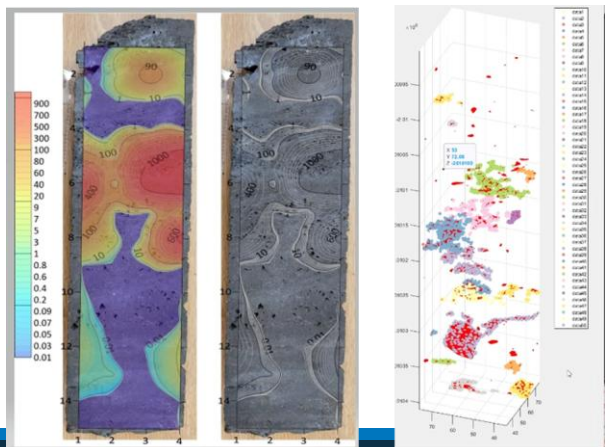
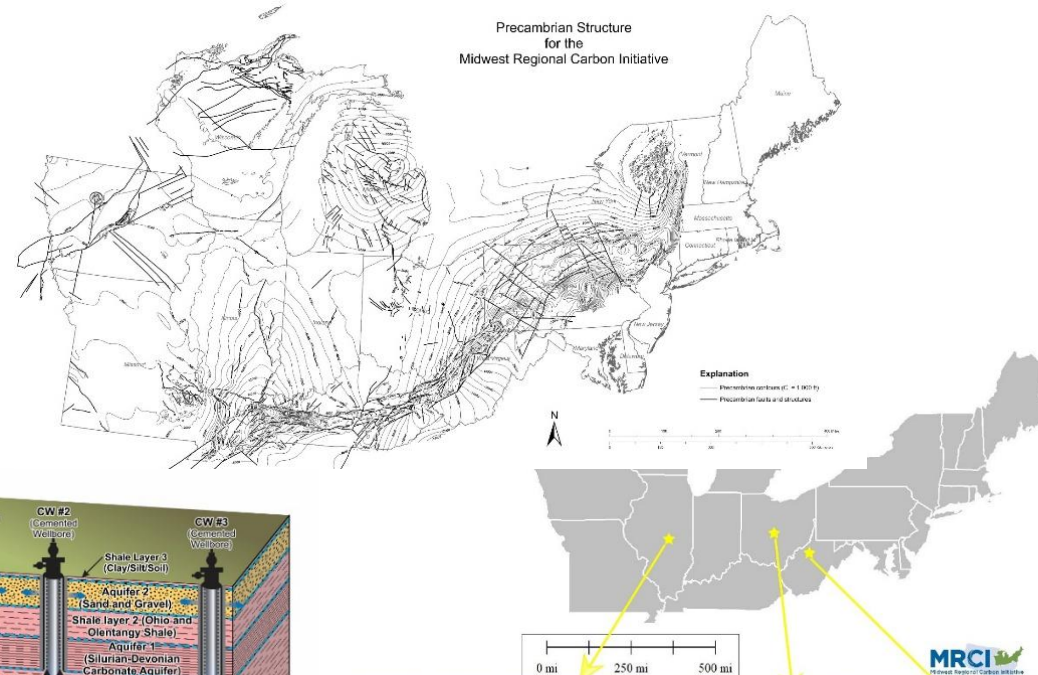
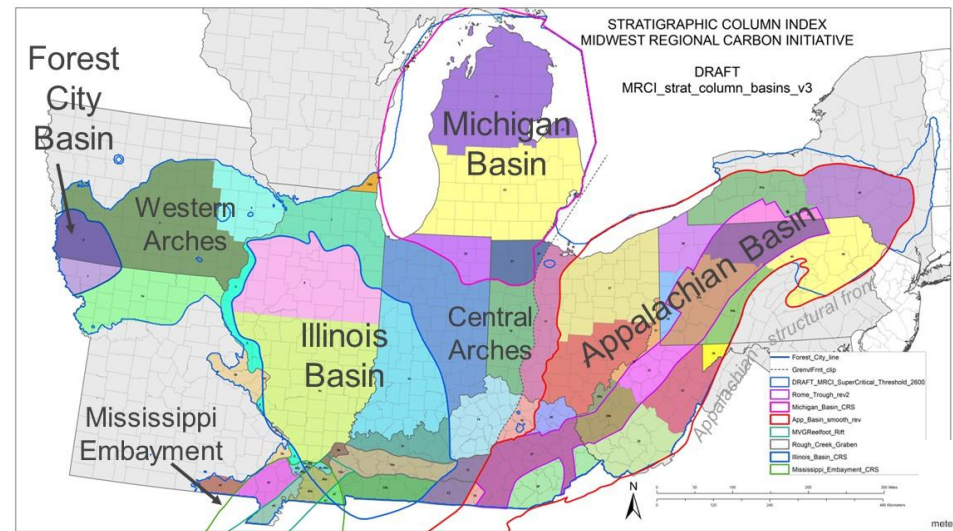


# Despite Tangible Progress, Significant Challenges Remain for Broad-Scale Deployment of CCUS

- Finding/qualifying storage resources for project life-cycle to meet business goals
  - Where is the storage – no proven large hub-scale fields yet, except central Illinois Basin
  - MRCI region projects still limited to Mt. Simon Sandstone. We need deeper basin and carbonate fields
  - Scale-up will require use of well fields, stacked storage, multilateral wells. How to permit these
  - Managing plume and pressure interference, cross-boundary projects
  - Legacy wells remain a major issue and can impede scale-up – need to assess and manage project risk
  - Materials and corrosion issues – increased risk and cost. More monitoring. Regulatory compliance
- Regulatory permitting, due-diligence, up-front well costs for large hubs are significant
- Stakeholder acceptance, community benefits challenges scaling up as projects scale up
- *Alignment of projects components – capture, transport, storage development; variable nature of sources; financing, permitting (Class VI, pipeline, source reviews, NEPA, federal lands, state commissions), stakeholder acceptance*

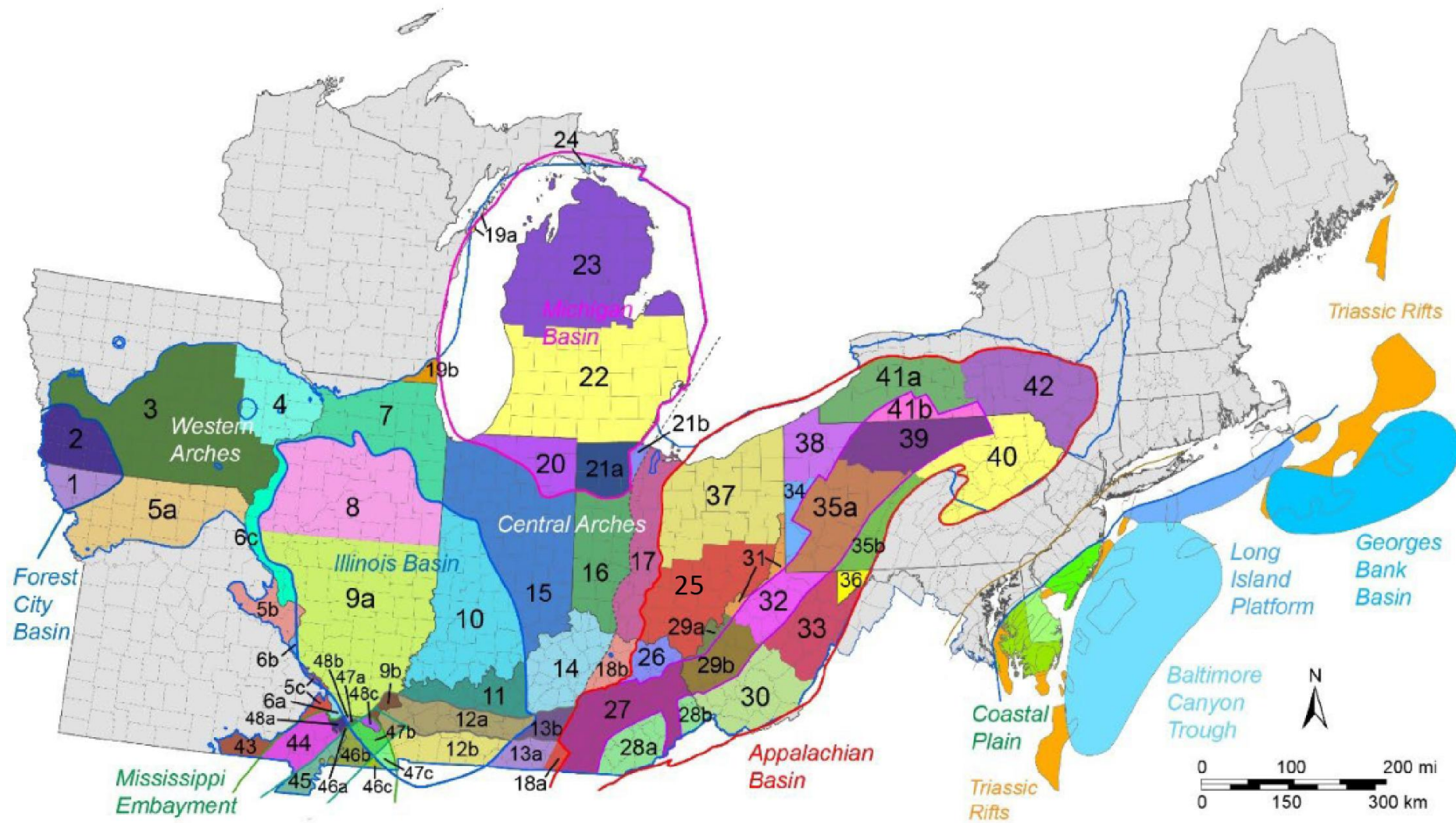


# MRCI Technical Challenges – Developing Geologic Storage Framework and Addressing Risk Factors





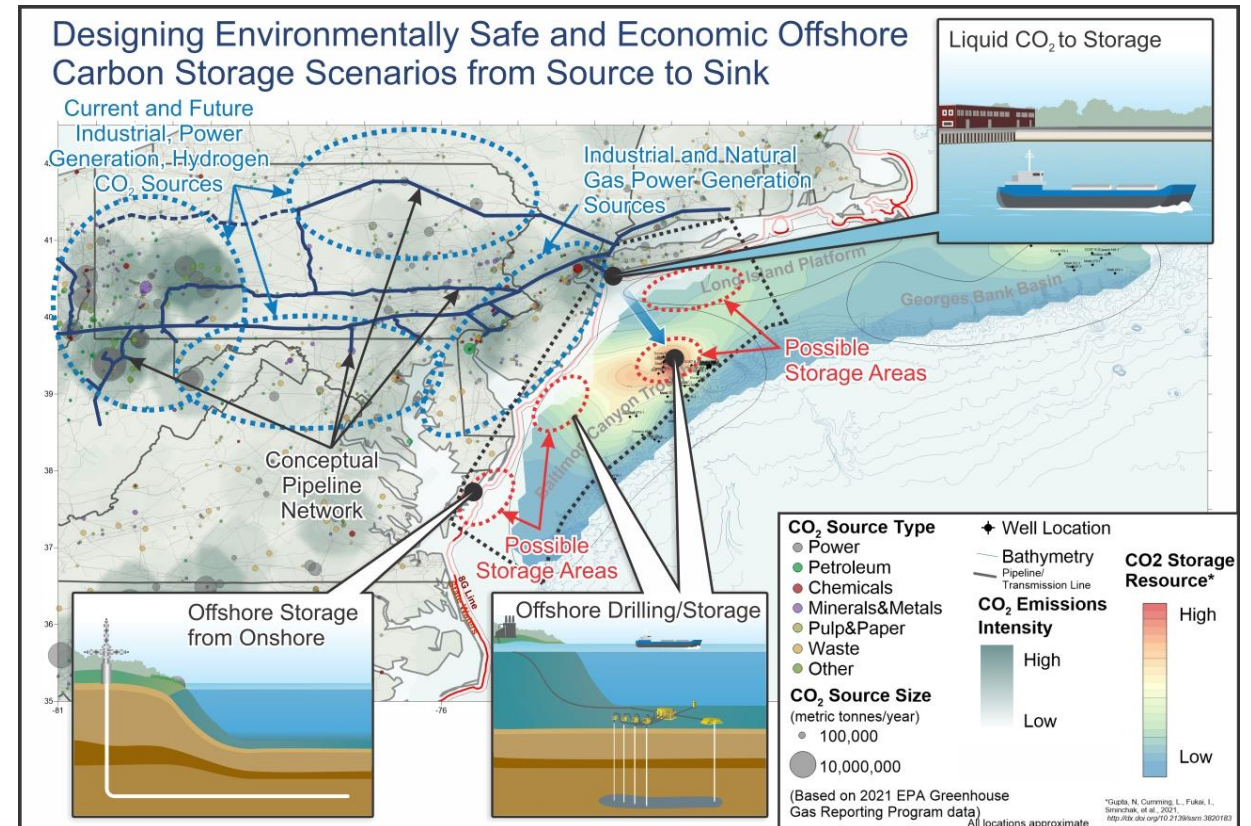
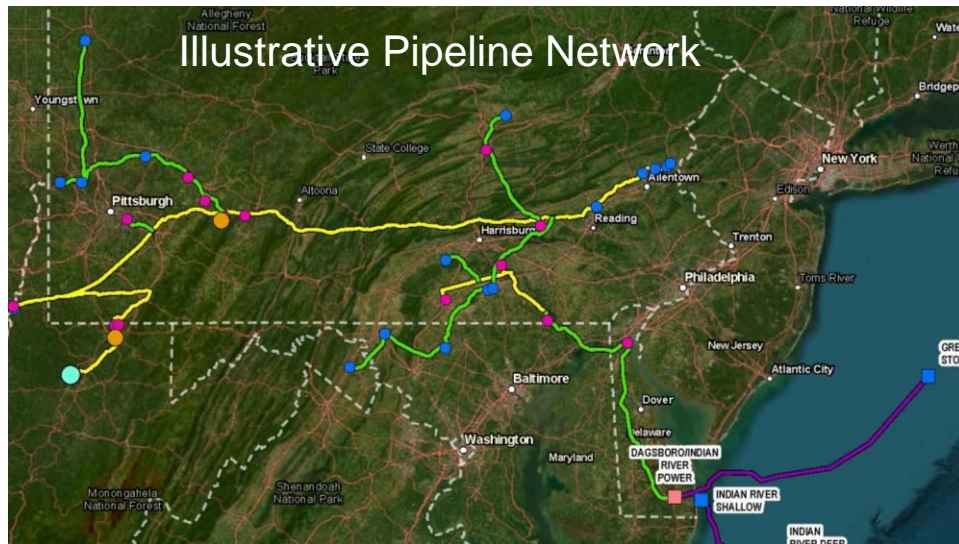
# Subregions of the MRCI study area based on Stratigraphy





# Mid-Atlantic Offshore Storage Cluster – Potential major solution for Eastern US?

- Sources – East Coast, Central PA/MD, Appalachian Basin
- Sinks – Baltimore Canyon Trough; maybe Long Island Platform rift basins
- 100s of Giga tonnes storage resources

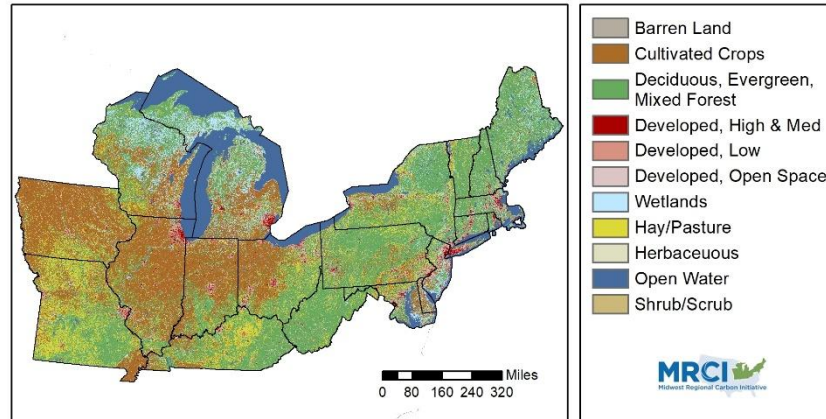


- Transport – onshore pipelines, offshore pipeline/ shipping
- Societal and policy considerations are key

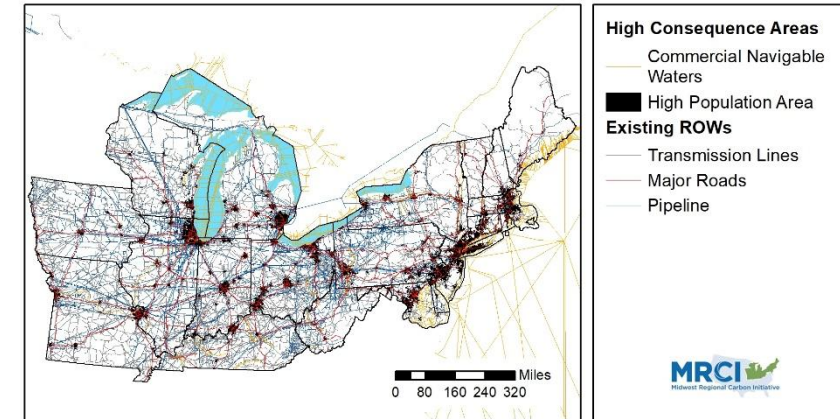
# Regional Infrastructure and Societal Factors

Transport and storage infrastructure must consider other than sources and sinks

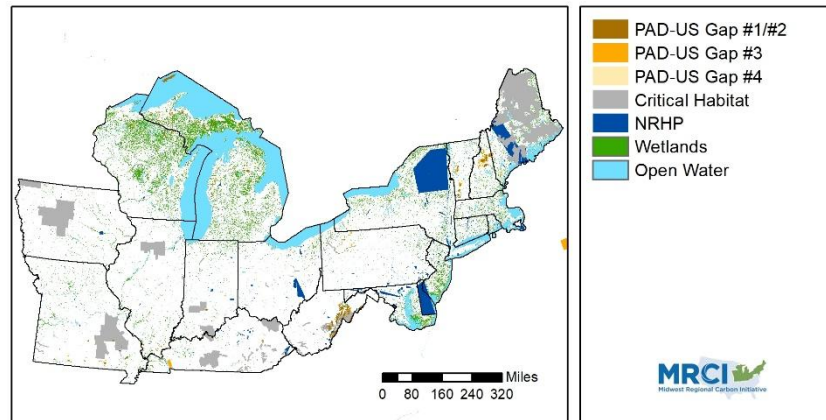
Land cover data = project feasibility



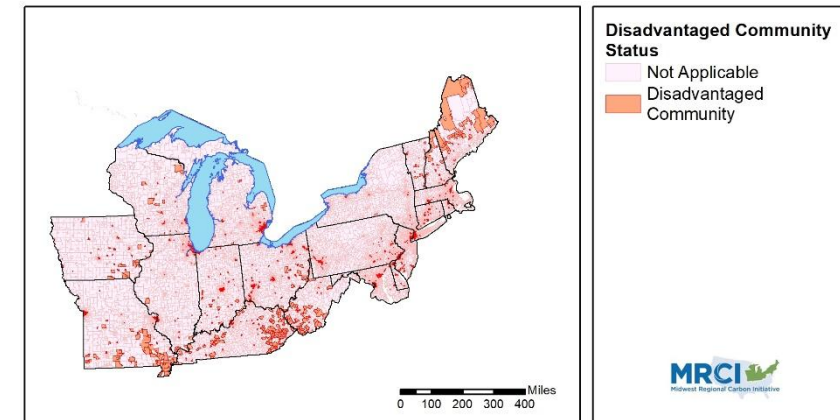
Existing infrastructure = obstacles or opportunities



Sensitive areas = potential project pitfalls



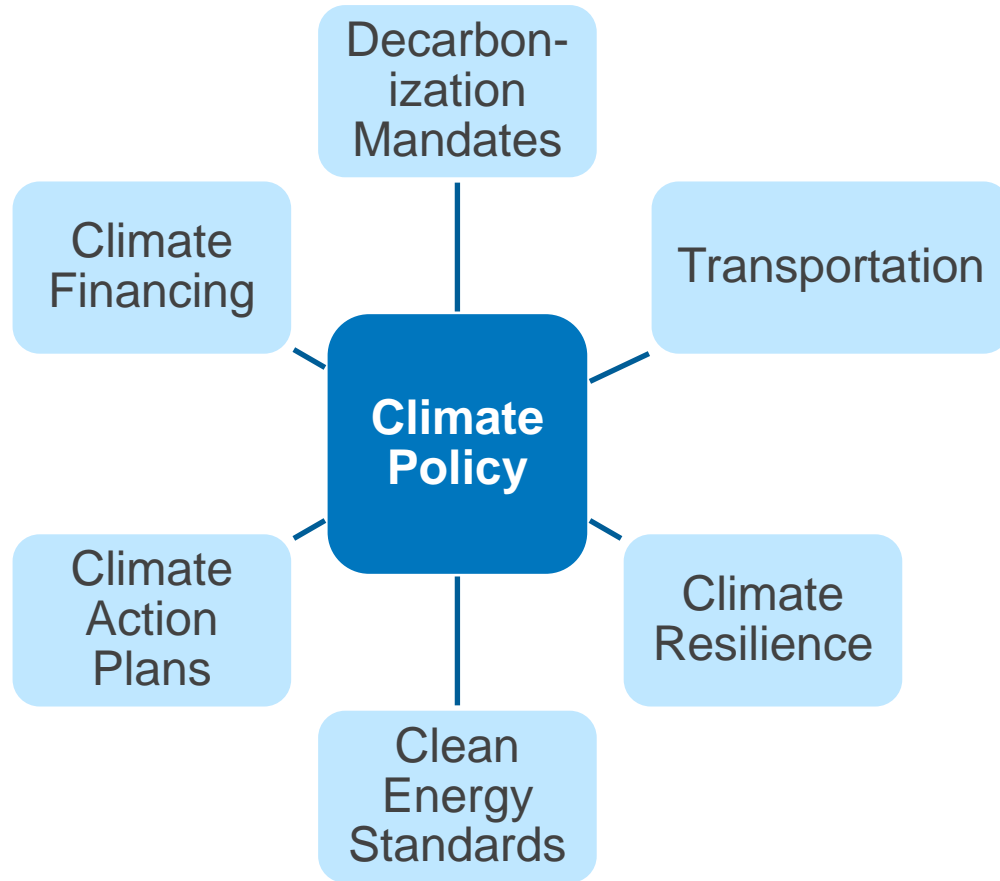
Societal acceptance remains a key challenge



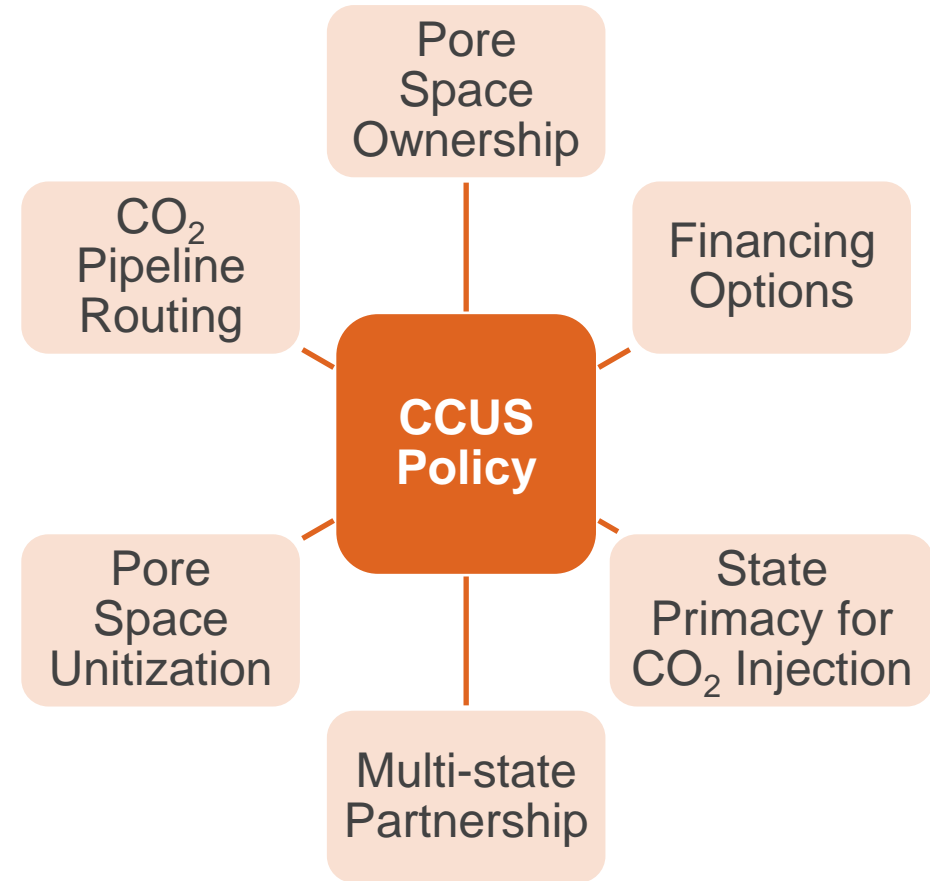


# State/Regional Policies Influence CCUS Development

## Codifying State and Regional Climate Goals



## CCUS Rules Development by States



# CCS Regulatory Advancement and Legislation In The Region Paving the way for Deployment

- Pennsylvania CCUS Enabling legislation in place!
- The Illinois Senate establishing additional requirements for CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline development, permitting for sequestration projects, and protections for pore space owners.
- West Virginia primacy and enabling legislations passed. Class VI primacy achieved!
- Ohio DNR directed to develop primacy application
- Indiana enabling legislation passed
- Other states considering regulatory roadmap

Pa. hopes to regulate carbon storage wells with new law

Rachel McDevitt

JULY 23, 2024 | 1:25 PM



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NEWS

**Senate Energy Committee approves carbon dioxide sequestration bill**

ENERGYWIRE

**Illinois' Pritzker signs law to regulate CO<sub>2</sub> storage, pipelines**

By Jeffrey Tomich | 07/19/2024 06:49 AM EDT

The measure includes a moratorium on CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline approvals while federal regulators revamp regulations.

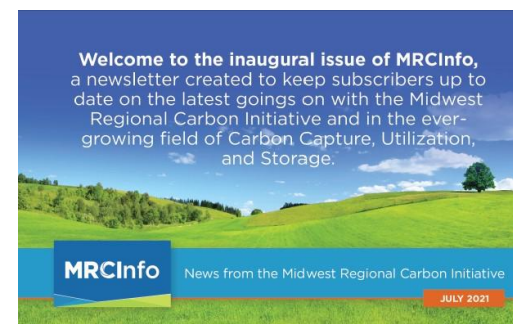


Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker (D) is pictured last year in Chicago.  
Charles Rex Arbogast/AP



# Outreach Issues and Regional Technology Transfer

- Promote CCUS deployment through commercialization and technology transfer
- Communicate information from technical tasks to stakeholders
  - *MRCI reports to be released in coming weeks*
- Engage with federal and state governments, industry consortia and NGOs
- Engage with global institutions
- Continued outreach is a must for advancing CCUS in the region and nationally



We created this newsletter based on feedback received from our February 2021 Stakeholder meeting and are working hard to provide you with the information you requested, including: technical webinars; CCUS-related fact sheets; upcoming Energy/Climate/CCUS events; access to databases, reports, and other resource materials; and links to industry-related headlines.

## What is the MRCI?

The Midwest Regional Carbon Initiative is a broad coalition of partners from research, academia, industry, NGOs, and the US government dedicated to the study and acceleration of carbon storage and sequestration in the Midwest, Northeast, and Mid-Atlantic regions of the United States.



Led by Battelle Memorial Institute and the Illinois State Geologic Survey, the MRCI aims to advance carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) research by addressing key technical challenges, obtaining and sharing data to support CCUS, facilitating regional infrastructure planning, and performing regional technology transfer and engaging national and international stakeholders, including state geological surveys, universities, industrial partners and advisors, fossil fuel production and utilization companies, and NGOs related to this process.



# CCUS in MRCI Region – Poised for Growth but Numerous Challenges to Address!

- A successful 25+ years history of research, pilots, and demonstration projects
- An early microcosm for CCS deployment
- Established broad-based consortium of researchers and stakeholders
- Regional storage assessment and validation is only in it's infancy – geology, well fields, regional monitoring, crisis management)
- Infrastructure challenges (transport, hubs, power) are only beginning to be addressed
- Policy, economic, and social issues can hamper progress, if not address properly
- Continued education and public advocacy for CCS by respected researchers is needed
- Public-private collaboration – financial, technical, basin-scale management is essential