

The #H2IQ Hour

Today's Topic:

Subsurface Hydrogen Assessment, Storage, and Technology Acceleration (SHASTA)

This presentation is part of the monthly H2IQ hour to highlight hydrogen and fuel cell research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) activities including projects funded by U.S. Department of Energy's Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office (HFTO) within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE).

Housekeeping

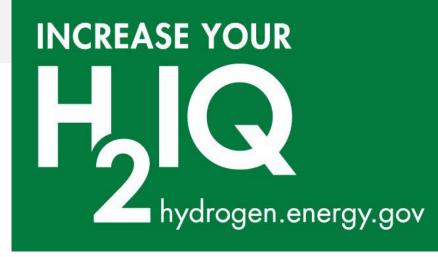
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Technical Issues:

- If you experience technical issues, please check your audio settings under the "Audio" tab.
- If you continue experiencing issues, direct message the host, Kyle Hlavacek

Questions?

- There will be a Q&A session at the end of the presentation
- To submit a question, please type it into the Q&A box; do not add questions to the Chat



The #H2IQ Hour Q&A

Please type your questions into the <u>Q&A Box</u>	✓ Q&A × All (0)
Open the Q&A panel	
To open the Q&A panel, click Panel options (Windows) or More options (Mac) and select Q&A	Select a question and then type your answer here, There's a 256-character limit. Send Send Privately

Subsurface Hydrogen Assessment, Storage, and Technology Acceleration

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Project Overview

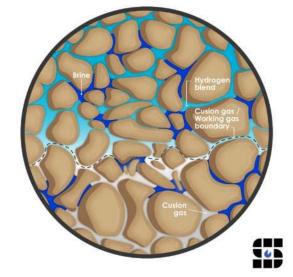
Dr. Nicolas Huerta, PNNL

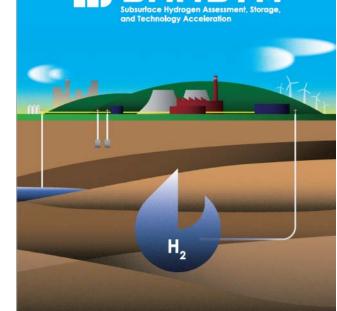
Dr. Angela Goodman, NETL

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H₂IQ Hour Webinar December 15th, 2023

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Fossil Energy and

Carbon Managemen

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SHASTA Project Objective and Goals

Identify and address key technological hurdles and develop tools and technologies to enable broad public acceptance for subsurface storage of pure hydrogen and hydrogen/natural gas mixtures

Project Goals:

- ✓ Quantify operational risks
- \checkmark Quantify potential for resource losses
- ✓ Develop enabling tools, technologies, and guidance documents
- ✓ Develop a collaborative field-scale test plan in partnership with relevant stakeholders









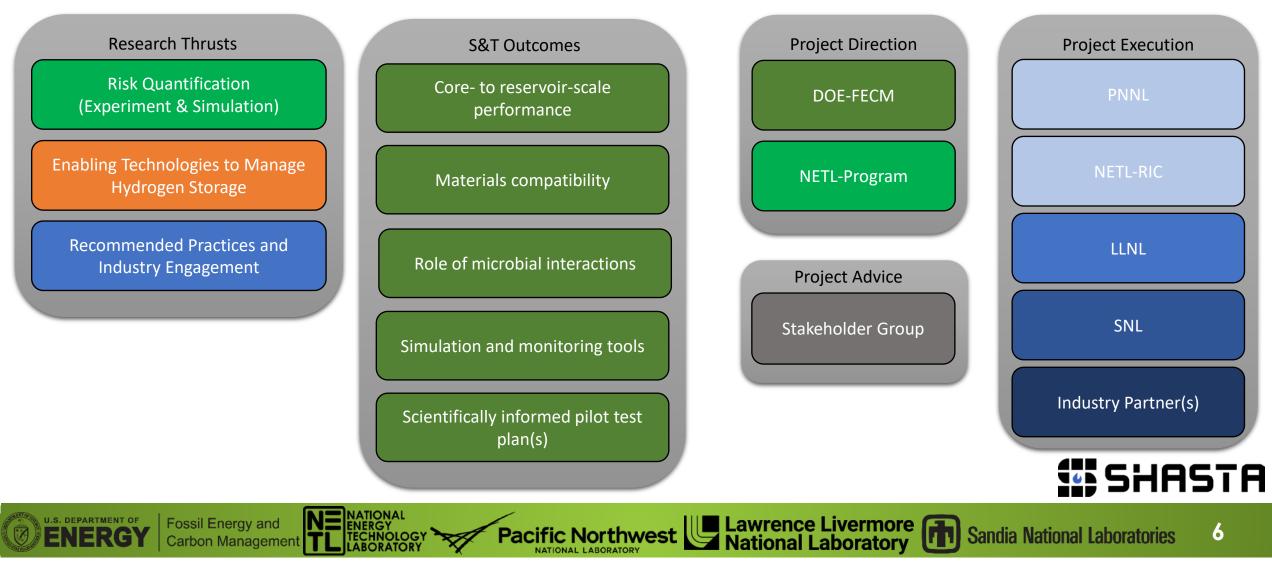




Project Organization

Research Focus

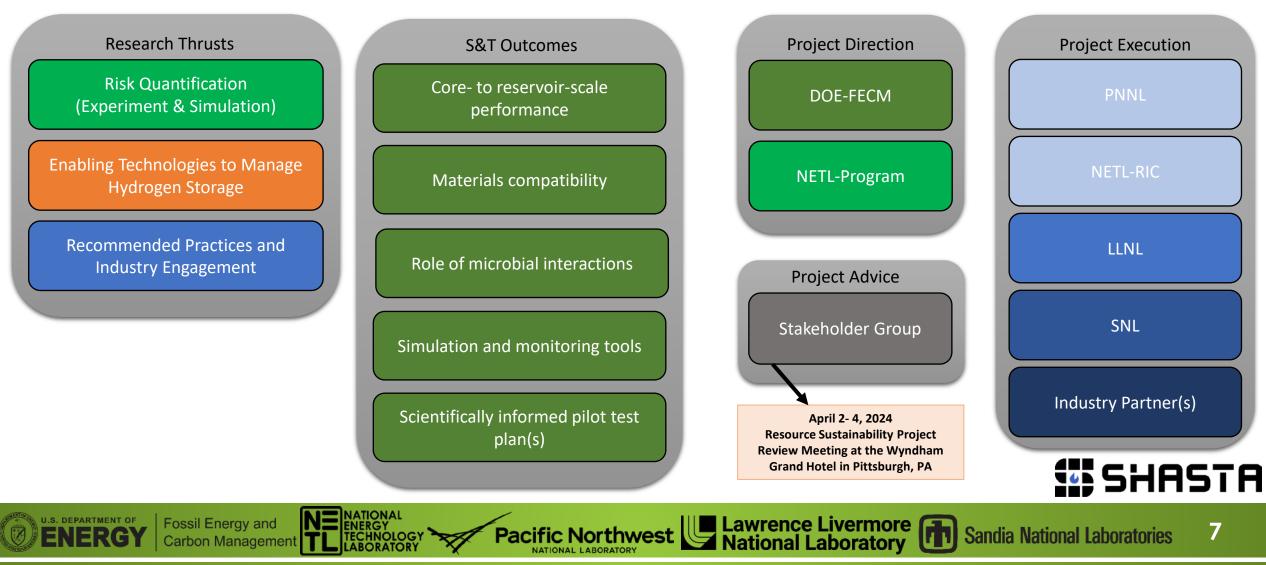
Structure



Project Organization

Research Focus

Structure



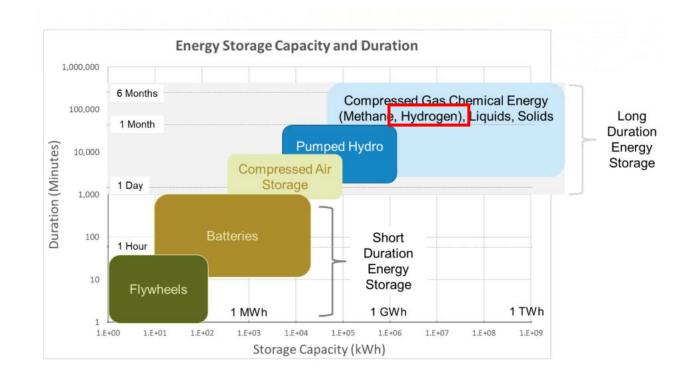
Hydrogen as an Enabler to a Low-Carbon Future

Significant potential

- A flexible fuel with many end uses
- Potential for very large-scale energy storage

Need

• Provide long-term, safe, effective regional subsurface storage to ensure reliability of hydrogen energy supply







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Advantages of Underground Gas Storage (vs. Tank)

✓ Storage capacity

- Reservoirs and caverns can accommodate long-duration (seasonal) storage
- Gas can be stored at greater pressure and mass density than in storage tanks •

✓ Storage cost

- Geologic structure is the containment vessel
- Construction costs are primarily those associated with the injection/withdrawal • well infrastructure, which are less than the cost of storage tanks

✓ Surface footprint

Land area occupied by well pads and pipelines is smaller than that of storage tanks •

✓ Storage safety

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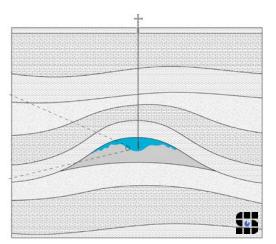
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Storage formation is physically separated from risk factors, such as oxygen, ignition sources and floods, which reduces the vulnerability to fire, extreme climate events, and sabotage

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 \sim 300 – 10,000 kg H₂



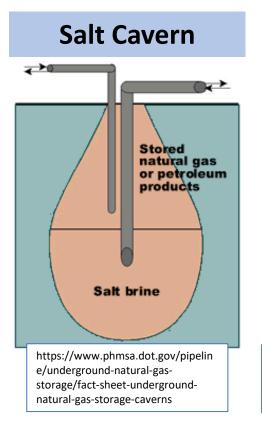
~3,000,000 - 30,000,000 kg H₂





Storage Reservoir Types

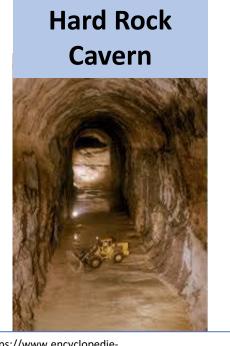
4 main types of underground gas storage



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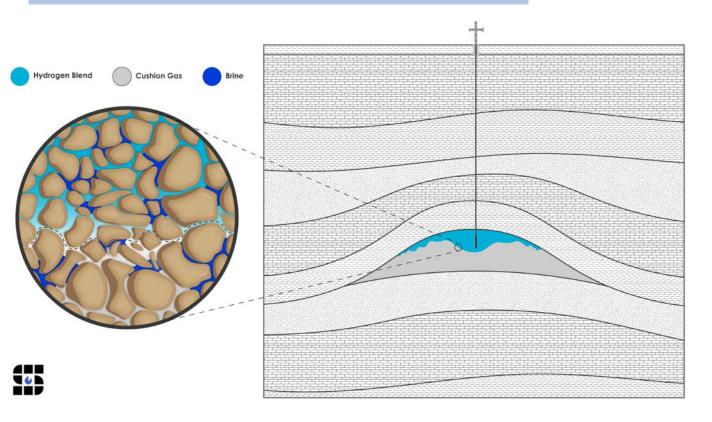


https://www.encyclopedieenvironnement.org/en/soil/underground-storagegas-and-hydrocarbons-prospects-for-energytransition/

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Depleted Reservoirs & Brine Aquifers



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Storage Reservoir Types Across the U.S.

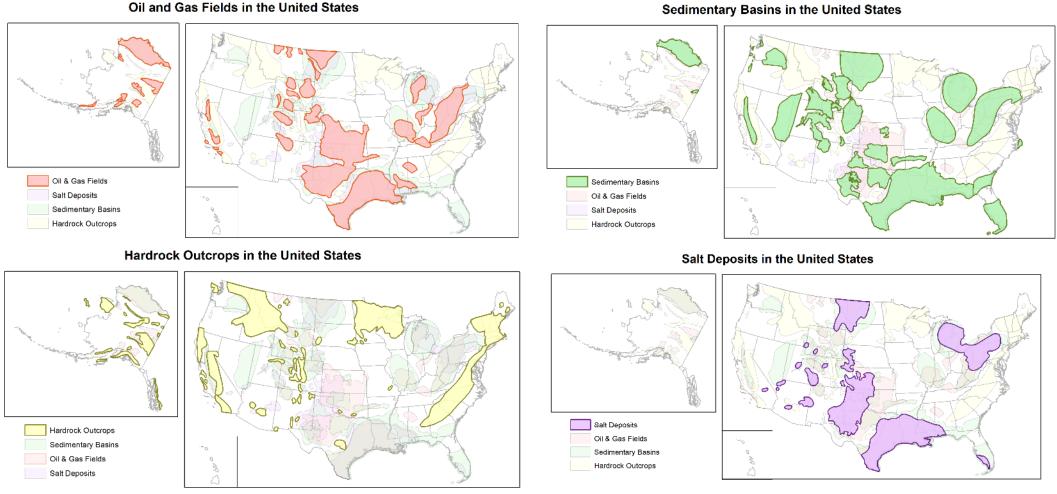
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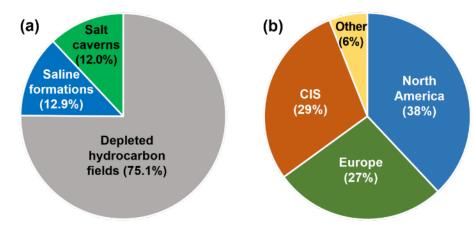
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Sedimentary Basins in the United States

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Underground Natural Gas (UGS) Storage Infrastructure

- UGS has provided long-duration storage for more than 100 years, primarily to meet seasonallyvariable heating demand.
 - What is the impact of H₂ blending on underground energy storage?
 - Can existing UGS facilities be converted to underground hydrogen storage (UHS) to sufficiently buffer prospective H₂ demand?



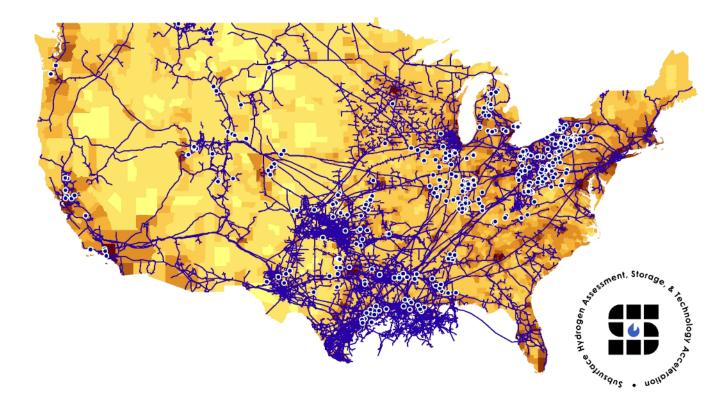
Breakdown of UGS storage volumes by storage types (a) and by region (b)

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UGS sites are distributed throughout the United States and are often located near large population centers, where NG gas demand is greatest.



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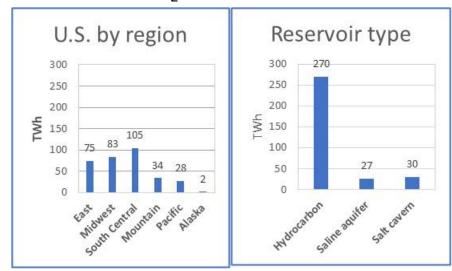
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H₂ Energy Storage Potential in Existing UGS Facilities

Conversion of working gas energy (WGE) for natural gas to hydrogen results in a 75% reduction of 1,282 TWh (92.3 MMT) to 327 TWh (9.8 MMT)



Assuming 100% H₂

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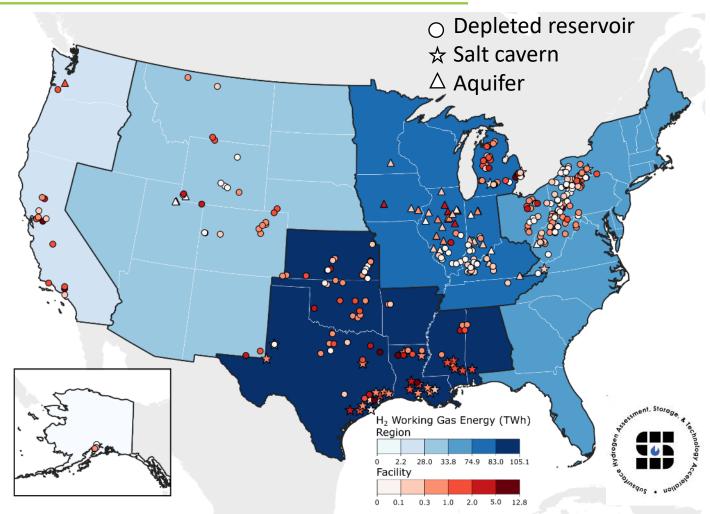
 \checkmark Lots of interest in blended storage (H₂ + natural gas)

✓ Many facilities operating below their max volume

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✓ May need new sites depending on demand scenario



Lackey et al., 2023 (https://doi.org/10.1029/2022GL101420)

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SHASTA-HELP Tool

SHASTA-HELP MAP CALCULATION MANUAL CONTACT US SHASTA WEBSITE

Hydrogen Estimator for Logistical Planning Tool, V. 1.0.0

Intended Use

This tool contains functionality for estimating the storage potential of pure and blended natural gashydrogen mixtures in various subsurface formations and is intended to be used for pre-characterization or site screening purposes. Detailed storage analysis should be conducted by full reservoir simulation models.



SHASTA-HELP Tool Overview

MΔF

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Volumetric approach

$$WGE_{H_{2},a} = WGV_{CH_{4},a} \left(\frac{\rho_{CH_{4},a}}{\rho_{CH_{4},r}}\right) \rho_{H_{2},r} LHV_{H_{2}}$$

WGE = working gas energy *WGV* = working gas volume ρ = gas density *LHV* = lower heating value

Other references

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Mouli-Castillo et al. (2021), Chen et al. (2023), and Lankof and Tarkowski (2020)

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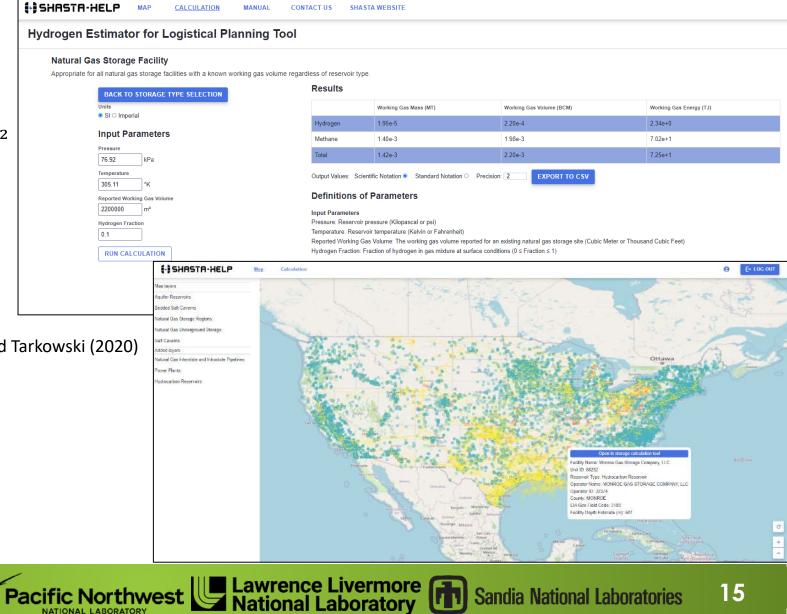
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SHASTA-HELP

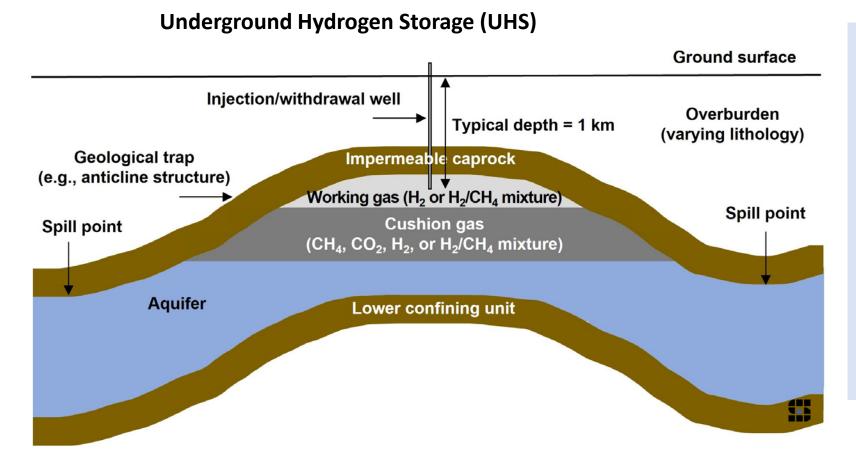
Hydrogen Estimator for Logistical Planning Tool

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Considerations for Subsurface H₂ Storage



Key considerations

✓ Well integrity

✓ Microbiology & geochemistry

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 Managing reservoir flow dynamics

✓ Techno-economics

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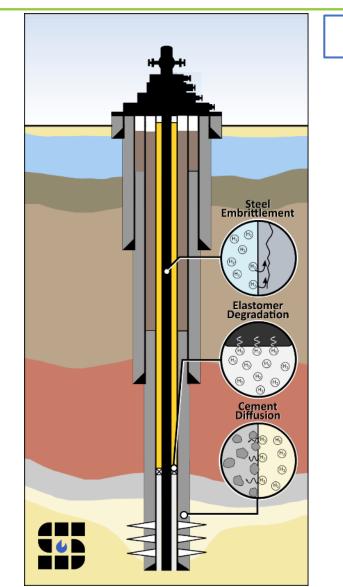
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Well Integrity



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Well integrity is an important source of risk and liability for UHS

- Well integrity loss has been the source of most leakage events at natural gas storage sites
- H₂ is highly mobile in the subsurface and will potentially leak through faulty wells
- Well integrity must be maintained in injection, monitoring, and legacy wells

Steel embrittlement

- H₂ moves into the atomic structure of steel causing premature cracking and failure
- Commonly used low-carbon steels are susceptible
- Occurs when H₂ concentrations are high

Elastomer degradation

- Damage can result from permeation of H₂ into the material followed by rapid decompression
- Other failure mechanisms may include temperature and chemical degradation, extrusion and nibbling, compression set, wear, and spiral failure

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Cement diffusion

H₂ is the smallest molecule and has a high diffusivity

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H₂ diffusivity in cement is expected to be more of a challenge than reactivity

Well Integrity: Permeability and Diffusivity



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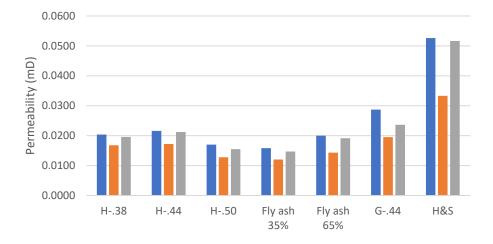
Cement Type	Water/Solids Ratio	Additives	Slurry Density lb/gal (g/cm ³)
Class H	0.38		16.6 (2.00)
Class H	0.44		16.0 (1.91)
Class H	0.50		15.4 (1.84)
Class H	0.52	Fly Ash 35%	14.8 (1.76)
Class H	0.56	Fly Ash 65%	13.9 (1.68)
Class G	0.44		15.9 (1.91)

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Gas permeabilities to Wellbore material





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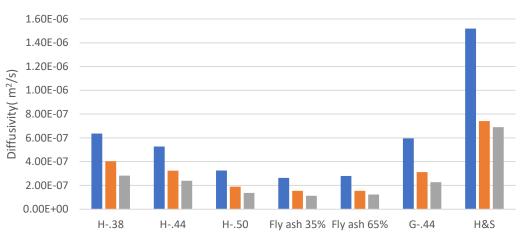
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Gas diffusivity of Wellbore material





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Well Integrity: Mechanical Properties



Modulus (GPa)

Bulk

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30.00

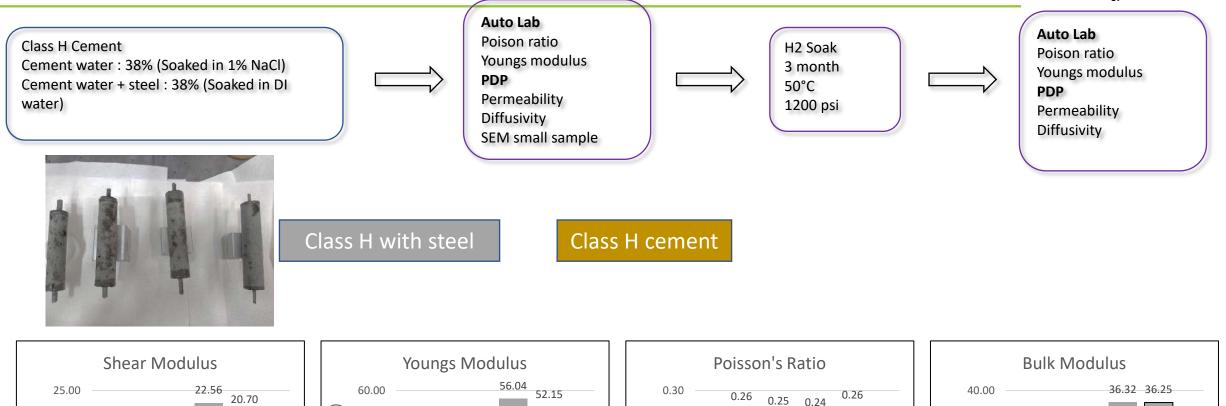
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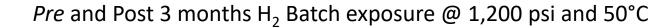
10.00

0.00

14.42 13.77

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Poisson's Ratio

0.25

0.20

0.15

0.10

0.05

0.00



20.00

15.00

10.00

5.00

0.00

8.38 8.45

Post

soak

Pre

soak

Shear Modulus (GPa)

20.70

Post

soal

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Pre

soak

(oung's Modulus (GPa)

50.00

40.00

30.00

20.00

10.00

0.00

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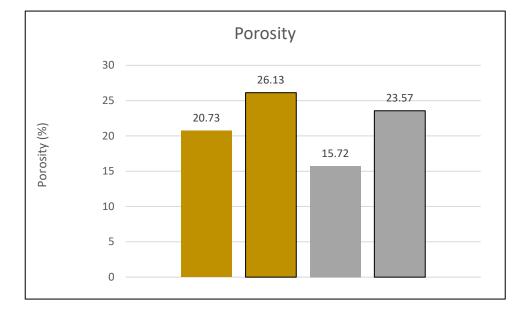
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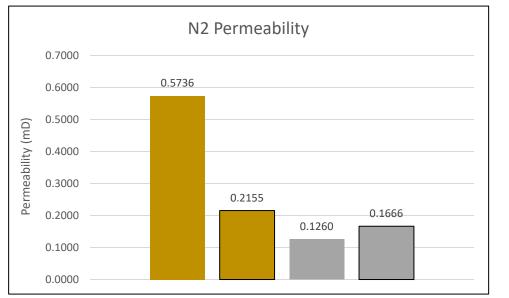
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Well Integrity: Porosity & Permeability



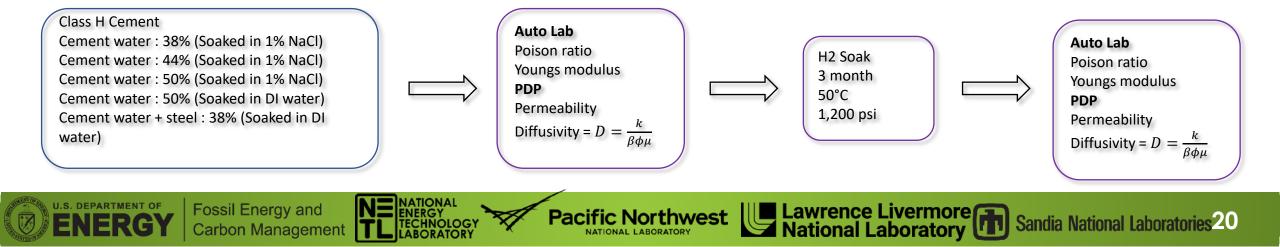
Pre and Post 3 months H₂ Batch exposure @ 1,200 psi and 50°C





Class H cement

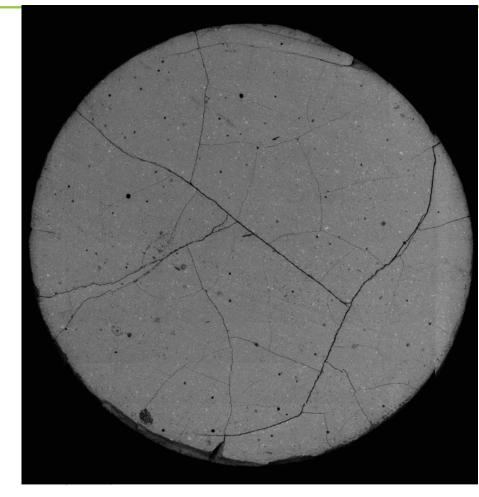
Class H with steel



Well Integrity



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pre-H₂ soak

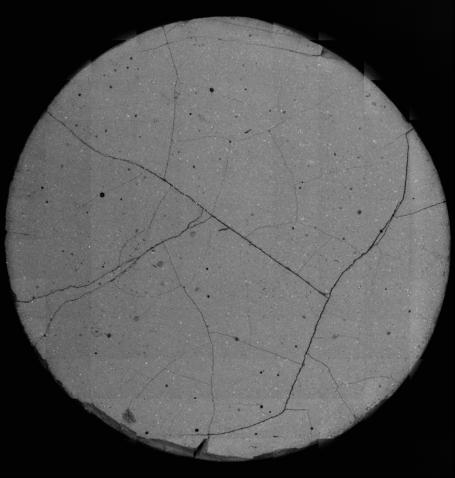
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post-H₂ soak

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F: [Workflow] Leveled (LS-plane)

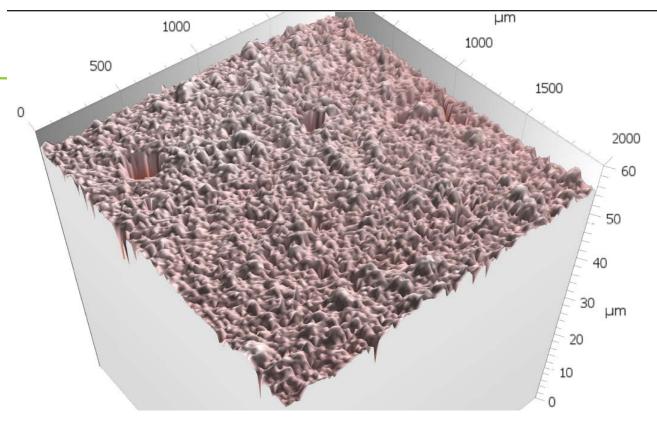
S-filter (\lambdas): None

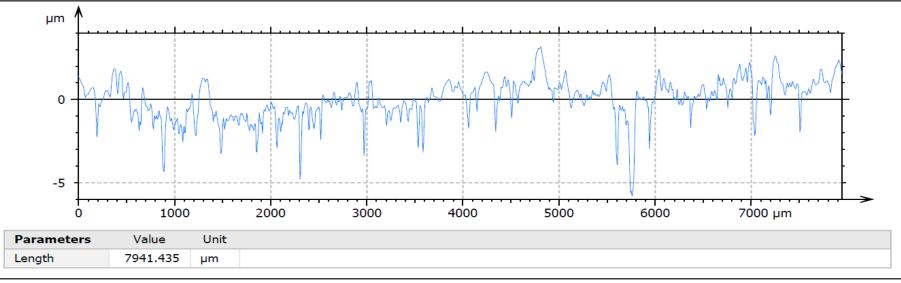
L-filter (λc): Gaussian, 1.2 mm

Height parameters

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Sq	6.594	μm	
Ssk	-12.825		
Sku	278.534		
Sp	21.432	μm	
Sv	217.856	μm	
Sz	239.288	μm	
Sa	2.289	μm	

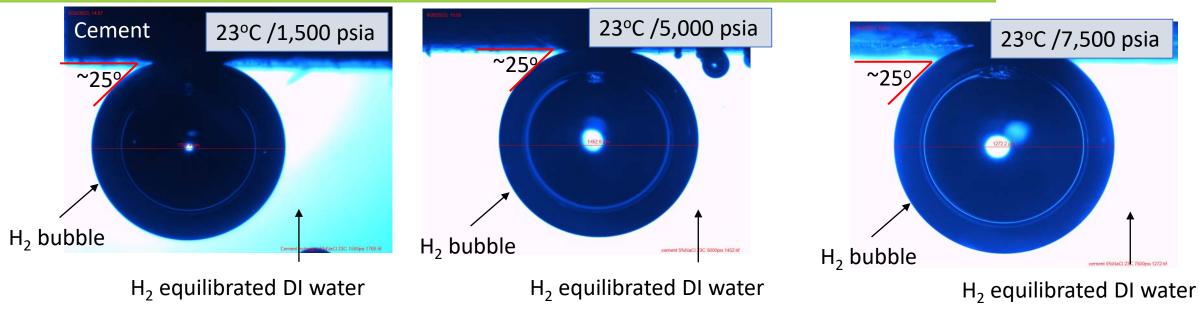




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Well Integrity: Multiphase Flow Properties



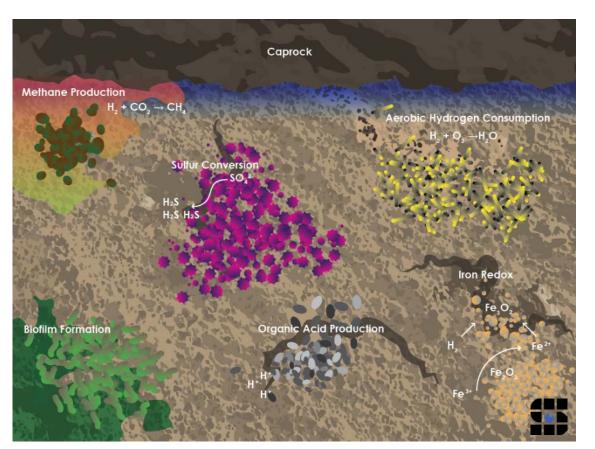


- Measured wetting properties of H_2 with cement (contact angles ~ 25°)
- Results show no significant change in contact angle with pressure, temperature, and H₂ bubble size
- ✓ Conclude that H₂ will remain non-wetting in subsurface storage conditions and will not lead to leakage by imbibition into the cemented annulus or caprock

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Microbiology and Geochemistry Fundamentals

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Microbial activity can affect subsurface energy storage through:

- Methanogenesis
- Hydrogen Sulfide Production
- Acid Production
- Microbiological Corrosion Pathways

Geochemical reactions between H₂, formation fluids, and rock mineralogy may lead to:

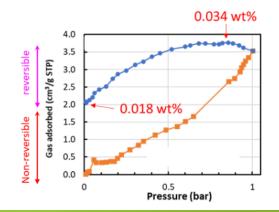
Loss of H₂

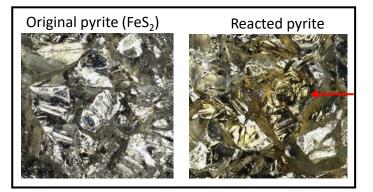
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• Contamination of stored H₂ by wanted gas generation (e.g., H₂S)

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• Mineral dissolution/precipitation





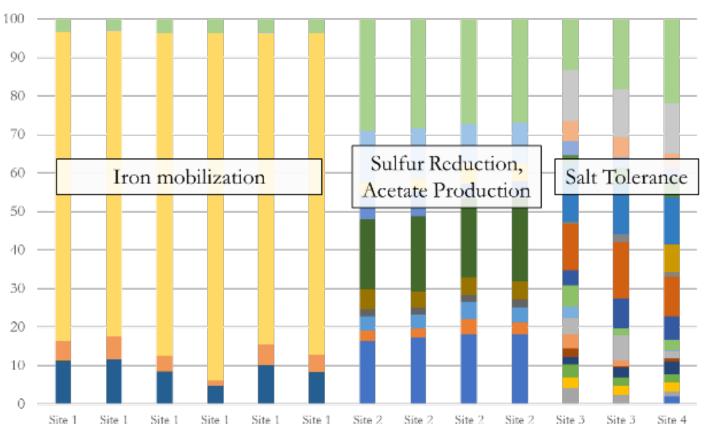
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Microbiology – Field Characterization and Lab Testing

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- **Goal:** Identify and characterize potential reservoir reactions that may occur after hydrogen storage
- Examining four field sites (Midwest and West)
- Diverse microbial community (Metagenomic and 16S rRNA Sequencing characterization)
- Identified microorganisms capable of sulfur reduction, iron reduction, and acetogenesis in the initial microbial community
 - Suggests native microorganisms are capable of driving hydrogen consumption reactions resulting in organic acid production, hydrogen sulfide production, and metal mobility

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Relative Abundance

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Microbiology – Field Characterization and Lab Testing

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 Conducting exposure testing with fluids (containing microbial community and abiotic) and H₂/CH₄ blends at reservoir pressure & temperature conditions

			B ^A	Ba ^A	Ca ^A	Fe ^A	KA	Li ^A	Mg ^A	Mn ^A	Na ^A	P ^A	Sr ^A	Cl ^B	SO4	Br ^B	PO4 ^B
	Field Sample	DST Fluid	3.25	0.28	2730	BDL	215	5.97	808	1.03	11480	0.44	70	30857	3280	BDL	BDL
With Sediment	Biotic	Day 1	2.98	0.34	2351	BDL	201	5.71	775	1.02	10650	0.45	64	30917	2217	BDL	BDL
		Day 2	3.45	0.34	2568	BDL	232	6.38	871	1.37	11960	0.43	72	30480	2244	BDL	BDL
		Day 7	3.24	0.35	2700	BDL	228	6.18	868	1.16	11820	BDL	72	26523	2475	BDL	BDL
		Day 21	3.14	1.30	2491	BDL	222	6.37	865	2.91	12080	0.39	71	33760	2689	BDL	BDL
		Day 1	3.22	0.32	2591	BDL	217	6.14	822	1.23	11290	0.42	69	33930	2128	BDL	BDL
	Biotic Replicate	Day 2	3.28	0.31	2484	BDL	217	5.94	828	1.05	11200	0.44	68	28360	1979	BDL	BDL
		Day 7	2.96	0.38	2332	BDL	201	5.52	769	1.07	10540	BDL	63	23973	2876	BDL	BDL
		Day 21	3.38	0.34	2629	102	227	6.39	861	1.35	11950	0.53	72	29860	2399	BDL	BDL

Initial results:

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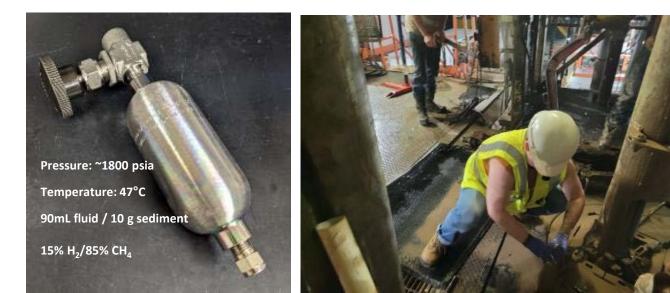
- Production of H₂S (both biotic and abiotic)
- Decrease of sulfate in the fluid phase

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 Some selection of microbes as reaction progresses

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Reservoir Performance

Goal

 Investigate reservoir behavior when converting existing natural gas storage fields to UHS or creating new storage from depleted field or aquifer

Key questions

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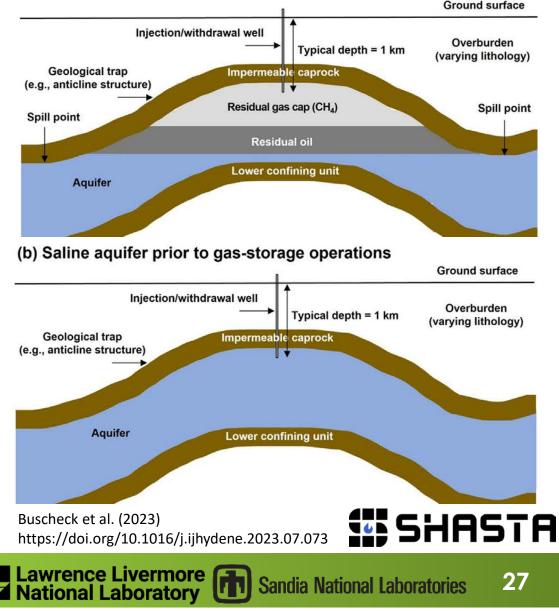
- What is the impact of rock and fluid properties on storage efficiency and energy availability?
- How can H₂ / NG / brine flow dynamics be managed?
- What mechanisms could lead to resource loss?

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 To what extent can existing industrial workflows be re-used for H₂ projects?

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(a) Depleted hydrocarbon reservoir prior to gas-storage operations

Compositional Reservoir Simulation, GEOS

Tracking the evolution of

- 1. One or more components (H₂, CH₄, H₂O, CO₂, ...)
- 2. One or more fluid phases (gas, aqueous, oil, ...)

Satisfying

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1. Component-wise mass conservation

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- 2. Phase and component summation constraints
- 3. Multiphase Darcy's law
- 4. Thermodynamic equilibrium (i.e., flash calculations)
- 5. Various constitutive models: density, viscosity, relative permeability, capillary pressure, etc.

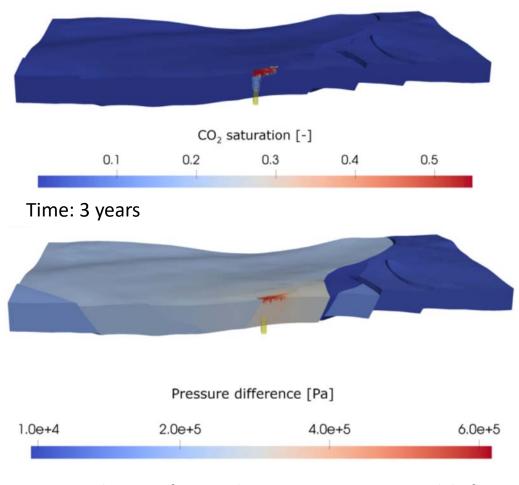


Figure: Side view of a two-phase, two-component model of CO₂ injection into a saline aquifer.

[Camargo et al., GHGT-16, 2022. http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4296637]

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Mixture Density and Viscosity Capability Upgrades

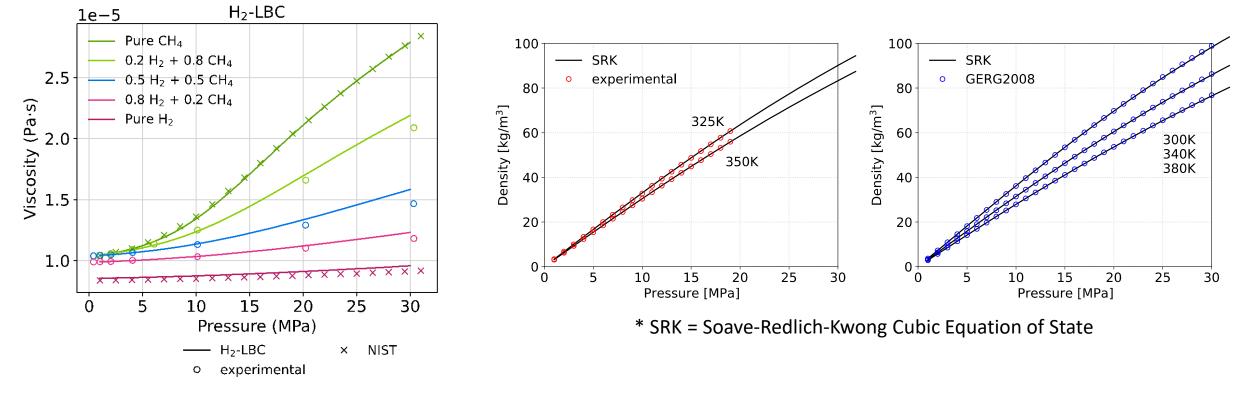
Upgrades to GEOS to enable H₂ simulations

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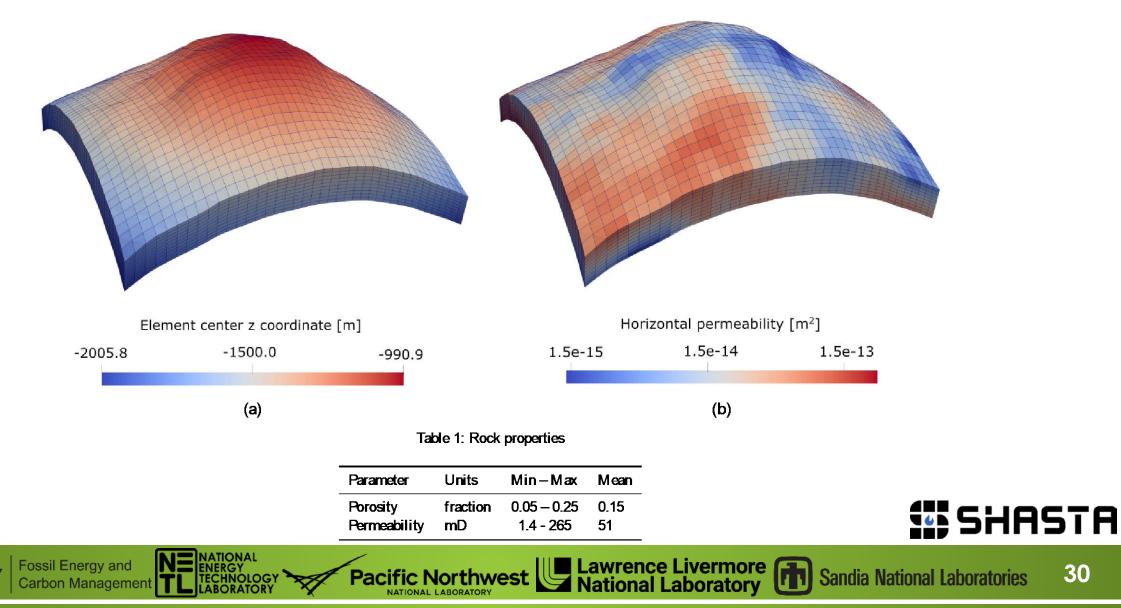


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Field-Scale Simulations for a Simple System

Synthetic Hydrogen Storage Reservoir Model

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Field-Scale Simulations, Operational Scenario

Seasonal Storage & Delivery Scenario

• Field is initially saturated with CH₄

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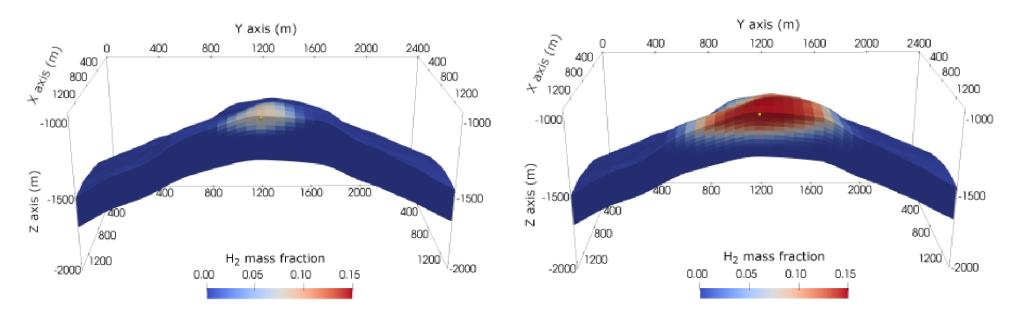
Carbon Manademen

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• H₂ (pure or blended) is cyclically injected in various design configurations

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• Gas-water contact dynamics ignored for the moment (single-phase, two-component system)



(a) After the first withdrawal cycle when injecting at the top of the (b) After the last (15th) withdrawal cycle when injecting at the top of the reservoir.

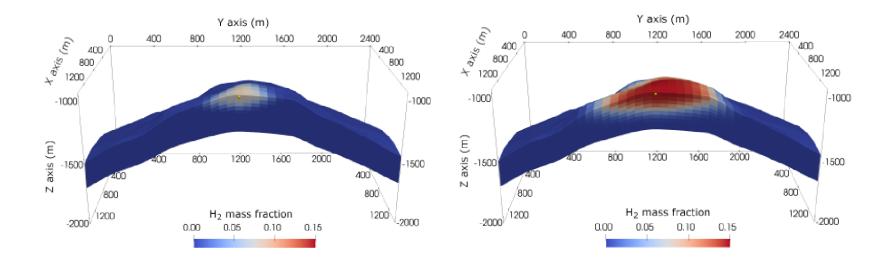
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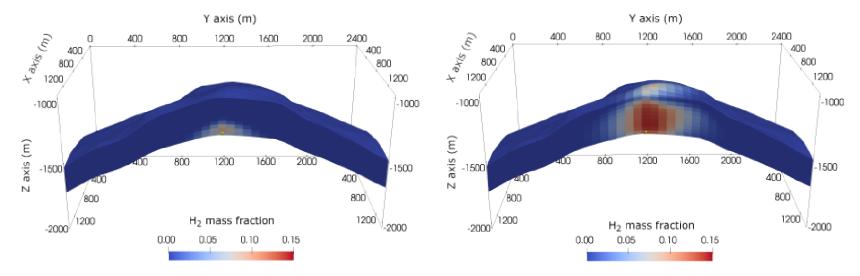


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A stable hydrogen cap (relative to perfs) is essential to stable production rates



(a) After the first withdrawal cycle when injecting at the top of the (b) After the last (15th) withdrawal cycle when injecting at the top of the reservoir.



(c) After the first withdrawal cycle when injecting at the bottom of (d) After the last (15th) withdrawal cycle when injecting at the bottom of the reservoir.

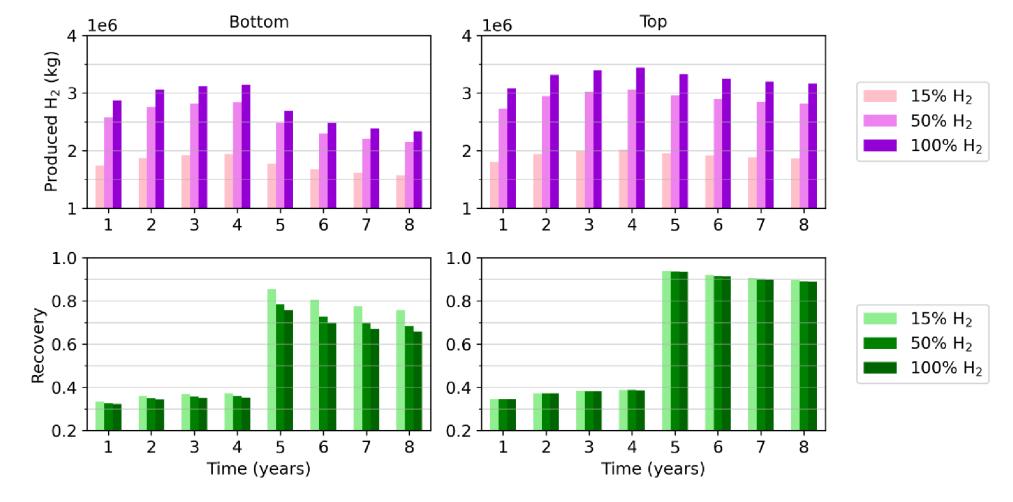
Perforations at **top** of storage

formation:

Perforations at **bottom** of

storage formation:

A stable hydrogen cap (relative to perfs) is essential to stable production rates



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Reservoir Simulations Conclusions

- Using NG instead of H₂ as a cushion could save significant build-out costs
 - NG is much cheaper than H₂
 - Circumvents viscous fingering problem in a new saline storage project
- Standard reservoir simulators are well suited to H₂ simulations with modest upgrades (e.g. improved viscosity models)
- 3. A stable H_2 gas cap is essential to stable production rates
- 4. Stability is favored by:

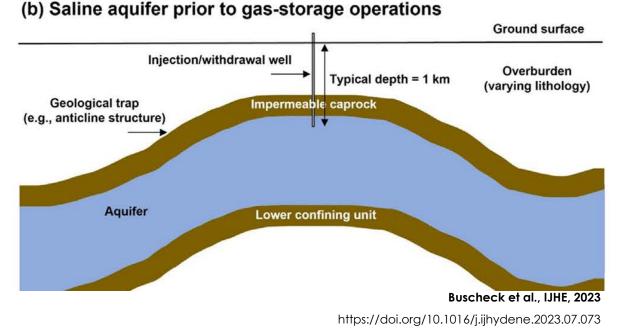
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1. Good trapping structure

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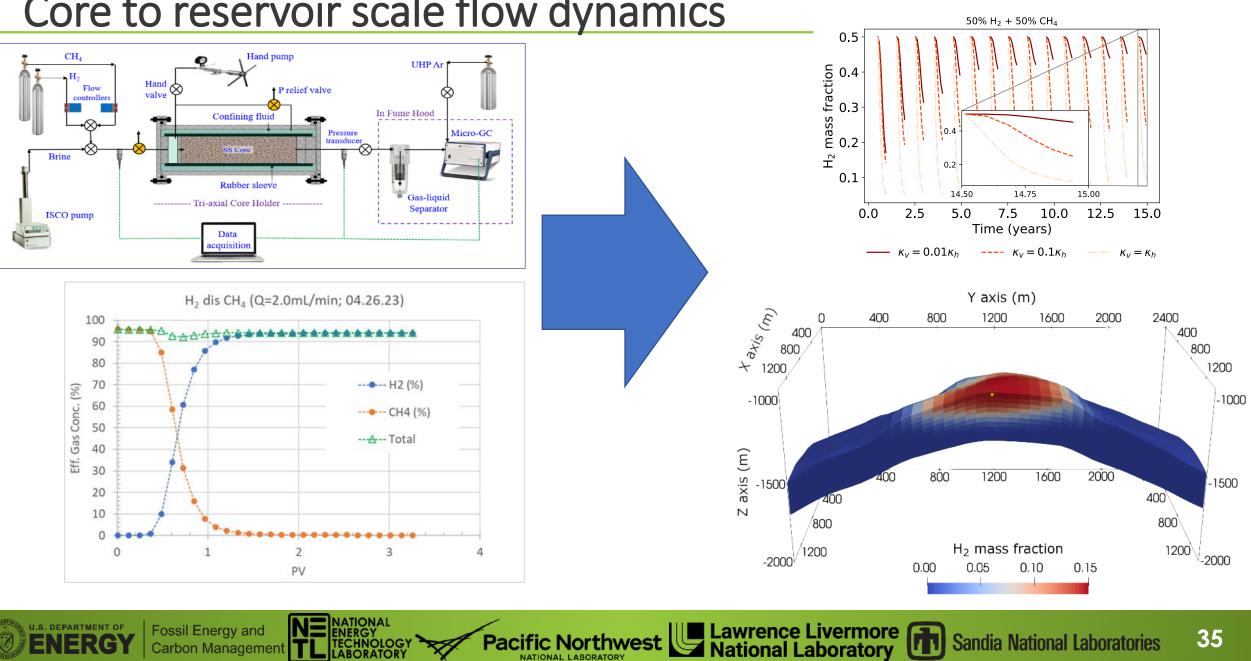
- 2. Low vertical permeability and/or baffling
- 3. Perforations near top of storage formation



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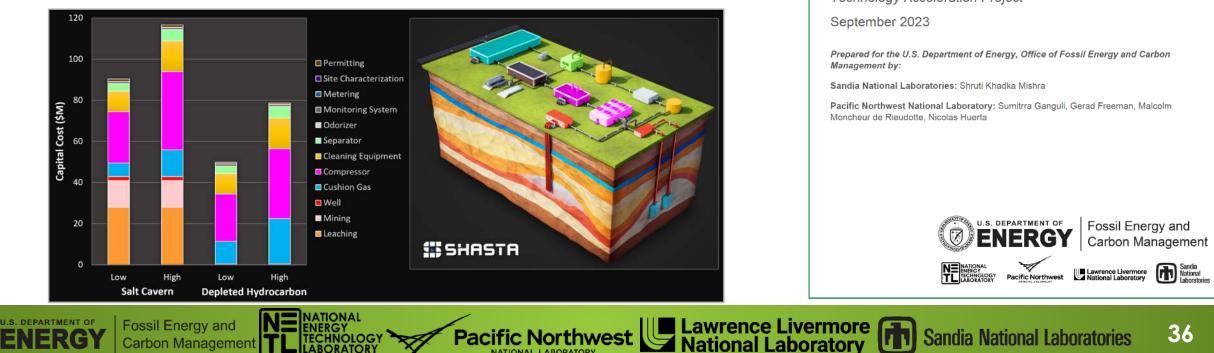
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Core to reservoir scale flow dynamics

Local Scale Technoeconomic Analysis for UHS

- Framework for UHS cost estimation that reflects the granularity that an operator might use to assess their existing infrastructure or to identify opportunities to develop new facilities
 - <u>https://www.osti.gov/servlets/purl/2202473</u>
- Present a hypothetical use case for Pennsylvania
- Working on a regional scale assessment methodology





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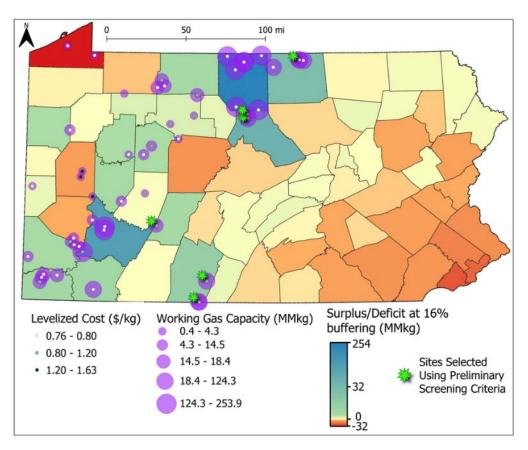
Local-Scale Framework for Techno-Economic Analysis of Subsurface Hydrogen Storage

SHASTA: Subsurface Hydrogen Assessment, Storage, and Technology Acceleration Project

Initial Technoeconomic Site Screening, PA

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- Initial screening criteria based on techno-economics:
 - Working gas mass (favor large sites)
 - County-level demand (favor sites with surplus of working gas mass relative to demand)
 - Levelized cost of storage (favor sites with lower levelized costs)
- If we consider a 100 km (62 mile) transportation distance, 43 of PA's 67 counties might be served by an existing UGS facility

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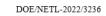
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State of Knowledge (SOK) Report

SOK for subsurface $\rm H_2$ and $\rm CH_4$ storage

Delivered Subsurface Hydrogen and Natural Gas Storage: State of Knowledge and Research Recommendations Report April 2022

- Report covers:
 - Subsurface energy storage systems overview
 - Storage operations and key risks
 - Well integrity
 - Surveillance and monitoring
 - Social license to operate for subsurface hydrogen storage
 - Recommendations
- https://www.osti.gov/biblio/1846632/





Subsurface Hydrogen and Natural Gas Storage: State of Knowledge and Research Recommendations Report

SHASTA: Subsurface Hydrogen Assessment, Storage, and Technology Acceleration Project

April 2022

Prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management by:

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Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory: Joshua White, Thomas A. Buscheck, Nicola Castelletto, Megan Smith



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Other Publications

- Managing reservoir dynamics when converting natural gas fields to underground hydrogen storage, International Journal of Hydrogen Energy, 2023, ISSN 0360-3199. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijhydene.2023.09.165</u>.
- Local-Scale Framework for Techno-Economic Analysis of Subsurface Hydrogen Storage, 2023. "Local-Scale Framework for Techno-Economic Analysis of Subsurface Hydrogen Storage". United States. <u>https://www.osti.gov/biblio/2202473</u>.
- 3. Underground storage of hydrogen and hydrogen/methane mixtures in porous reservoirs: Influence of reservoir factors and engineering choices on deliverability and storage operations, (2023). Underground storage of hydrogen and hydrogen/methane mixtures in porous reservoirs: Influence of reservoir factors and engineering choices on deliverability and storage operations. International Journal of Hydrogen Energy. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijhydene.2023.
- Characterizing Hydrogen Storage Potential in U.S. Underground Gas Storage Facilities, (2023). Characterizing hydrogen storage potential in U.S. underground gas storage facilities. Geophysical Research Letters, 50, e2022GL101420. <u>https://doi.org/10.1029/2022GL101420</u>
- 5. SHASTA Brochure SHASTA, Subsurface hydrogen assessment, storage, and technology acceleration, 2022. https://edx.netl.doe.gov/dataset/shasta-brochure
- 6. Subsurface Hydrogen and Natural Gas Storage: State of Knowledge and Research Recommendations Report, <u>DOE/NETL-2022/3236</u>; NETL Technical Report Series; U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory: Morgantown, WV, 2022; p 77. DOI: <u>https://doi.org/10.2172/1846632</u>

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edx.netl.doe.gov/shasta

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Resources

SHASTA research has resulted in a number of products including tools, publications, presentations, intellectual property, and datasets. These will be posted below as they become available.





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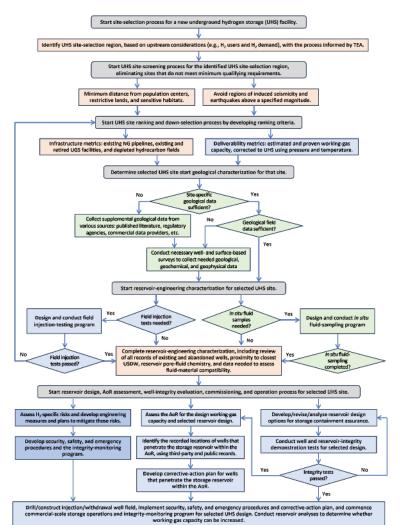
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End of Project Deliverables



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ECHNOLOGY

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- Working on a recommended UHS project design and management workflow
- Consistent with API 1170 and 1171 RPs
- *Key elements* ٠
 - Site selection 1
 - Site characterization 2
 - Engineering design 3.
 - Field testing and commissioning 4.
 - Operations 5.
 - Emergency response 6.
- Will be used to structure final report deliverables ٠
 - Geologic characterization & ranking of candidate sites ٠
 - Risk assessment for UHS ٠
 - Facility and regional-scale Technoeconomic framework ٠

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End of Project Deliverables

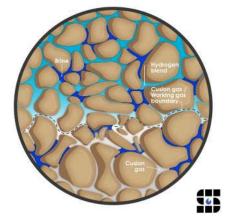
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Additional deliverables coming out of SHASTA

- Code comparison study for reservoir simulations
- Geologic screening study for several locations (PA, AK)
- Multiphase flow study in rocks
- Material performance in H₂ environments (cement/steel)
- Materials performance for reservoir and caprock under abiotic and biotic conditions
- Continuous updates to SHASTA help tool (e.g., storage & delivery capability, GIS functionality)
- Community engagement plan

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Field test planning

- SHASTA's ultimate goal is to enable field tests
- Continue to build relationships with industry
 - Quantify asset and resource risks
 - Reduce uncertainty in operations
 - Characterize site-specific behavior
- Looking for site owners who may be interested in pilot-scale studies
 - Site characterization & risk assessment
 - Small pilot-scale demonstration at single well
 - Larger field-scale operations

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• End of SHASTA deliverable is a plan for field test



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Completion of SHASTA 1.0

Subsurface Hydrogen Assessment, Storage, and Technology Acceleration – 2024 Workshop, **April 3, 2024, in-person**

- Present a dive into final SHASTA deliverables
- Invite complimentary efforts to present
 - International efforts
 - Complimentary R&D
 - HFTO projects
 - USGS

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• FOA-2400 projects

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- H₂ Hubs
- Industry & regulatory perspective

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• Discuss next step needs in UHS for research, industry, and regulators



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Thank You

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Subsurface Hydrogen Assessment, Storag and Technology Acceleration

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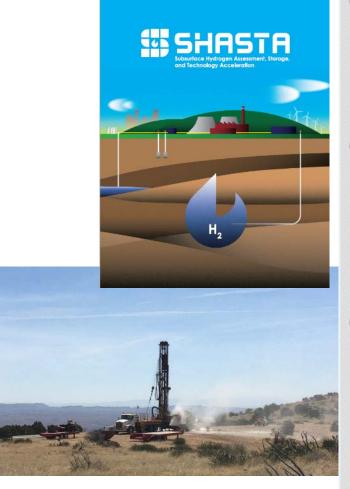
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Risk quantification (experiment & simulation)

- Survey state of knowledge
- Capabilities establishment
- Fundamental work
- Risks
- Enabling technologies to manage H₂

storage

- Technology Transfer through Software Development
- Advanced Technology Suite to support H₂ Subsurface Storage System
- Recommended practices and industry engagement
 - Knowledge transfer through Recommended Practices
 - Technoeconomics and the Business Case
 - Industry Engagement and Pilot Study Preparation



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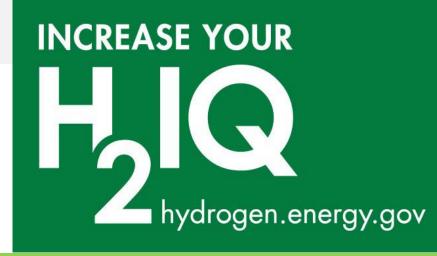
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The #H2IQ Hour

Thank you for joining!

This presentation is part of the monthly H2IQ hour to highlight hydrogen and fuel cell research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) activities including projects funded by U.S. Department of Energy's Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office (HFTO) within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE).







