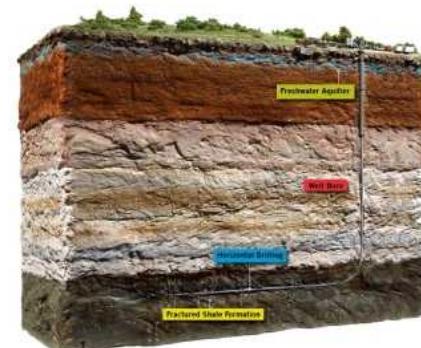
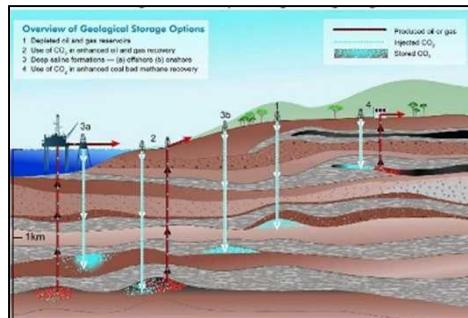
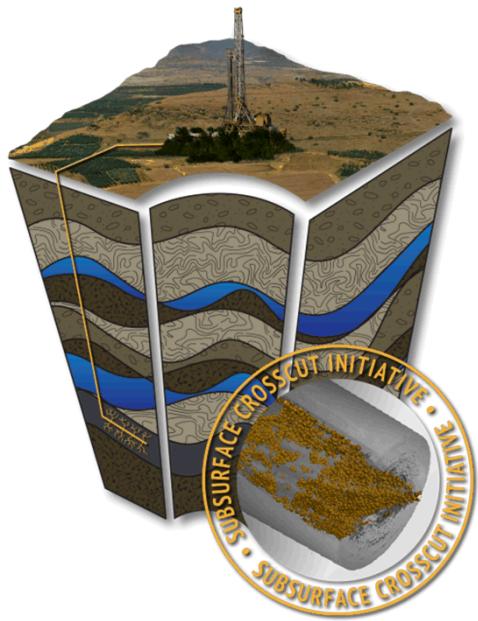


*Exceptional service in the national interest*



# Subsurface Crosscut Initiative

*Marianne C. Walck, Ph.D.*  
*Director – Geoscience, Climate and*  
*Consequence Effects Center*

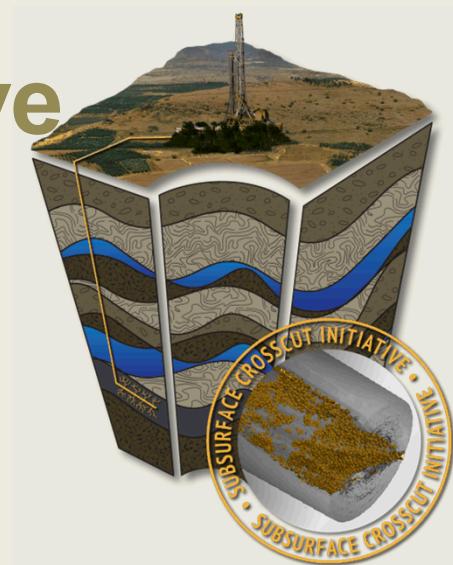
March 3, 2015

# Subsurface Crosscut Initiative

Marianne Walck (SNL)

Susan Hubbard (LBNL)

National Laboratory Subsurface Crosscut Team &  
DOE SubTER Tech Team



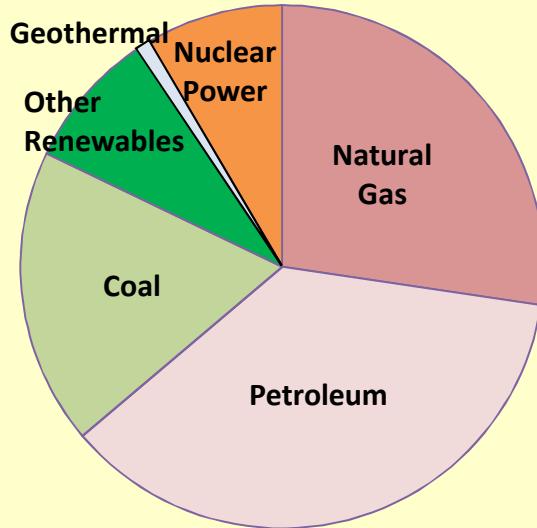
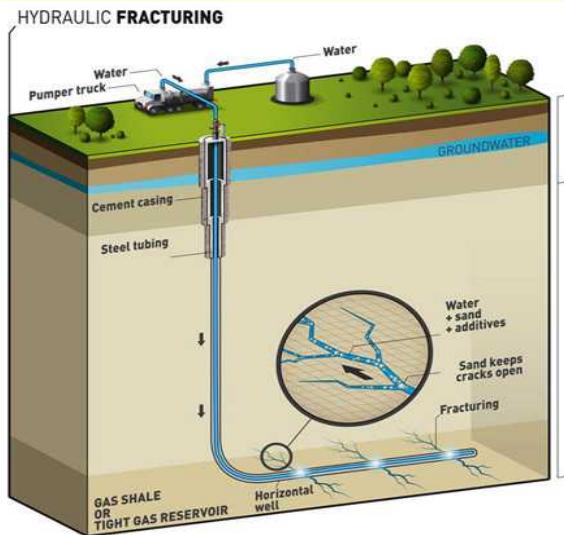
Big Idea Red Team Review  
March 2, 2015



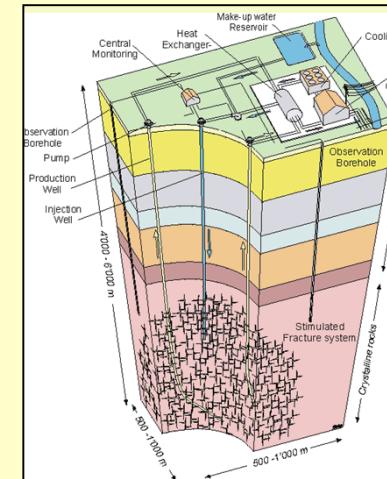
November 2014 Subsurface Scoping Meeting, Denver

# Mastery of the Subsurface needed for US Energy Security

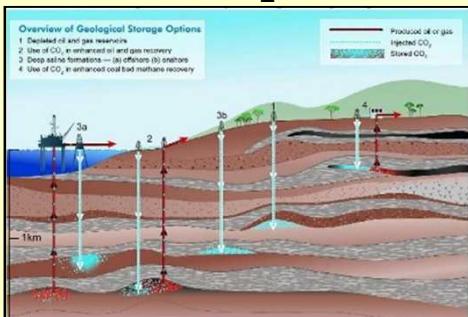
## Shale hydrocarbon production



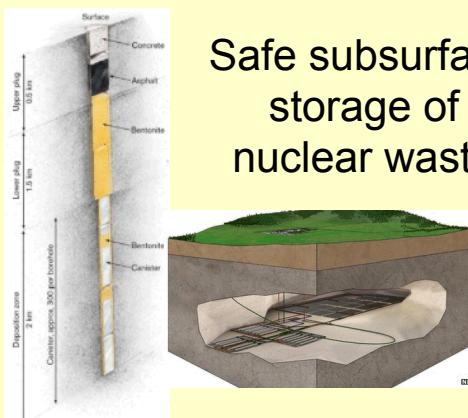
## Enhanced geothermal energy



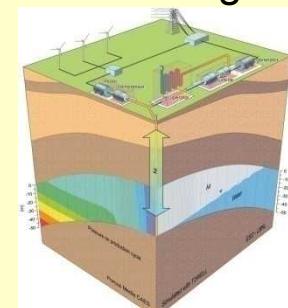
## Safe subsurface storage of CO<sub>2</sub>



## Safe subsurface storage of nuclear waste



## Compressed Air Energy Storage



# 2014: DOE Subsurface Tech Team: SubTER Common Subsurface Challenges

## Discovering, Characterizing, and Predicting

Efficiently and accurately locate target geophysical and geochemical responses, finding more viable and low-risk resource, and quantitatively infer their evolution under future engineered conditions

## Accessing

Safe and cost-effective drilling, with reservoir integrity

## Engineering

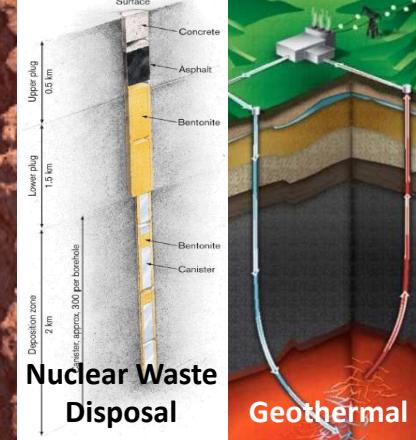
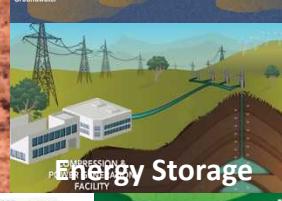
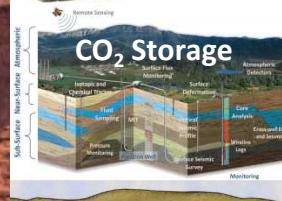
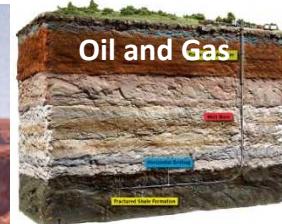
Create/construct desired subsurface conditions in challenging high-pressure/high-temperature environments

## Sustaining

Maintain optimal subsurface conditions over multi-decadal or longer time frames through complex system evolution

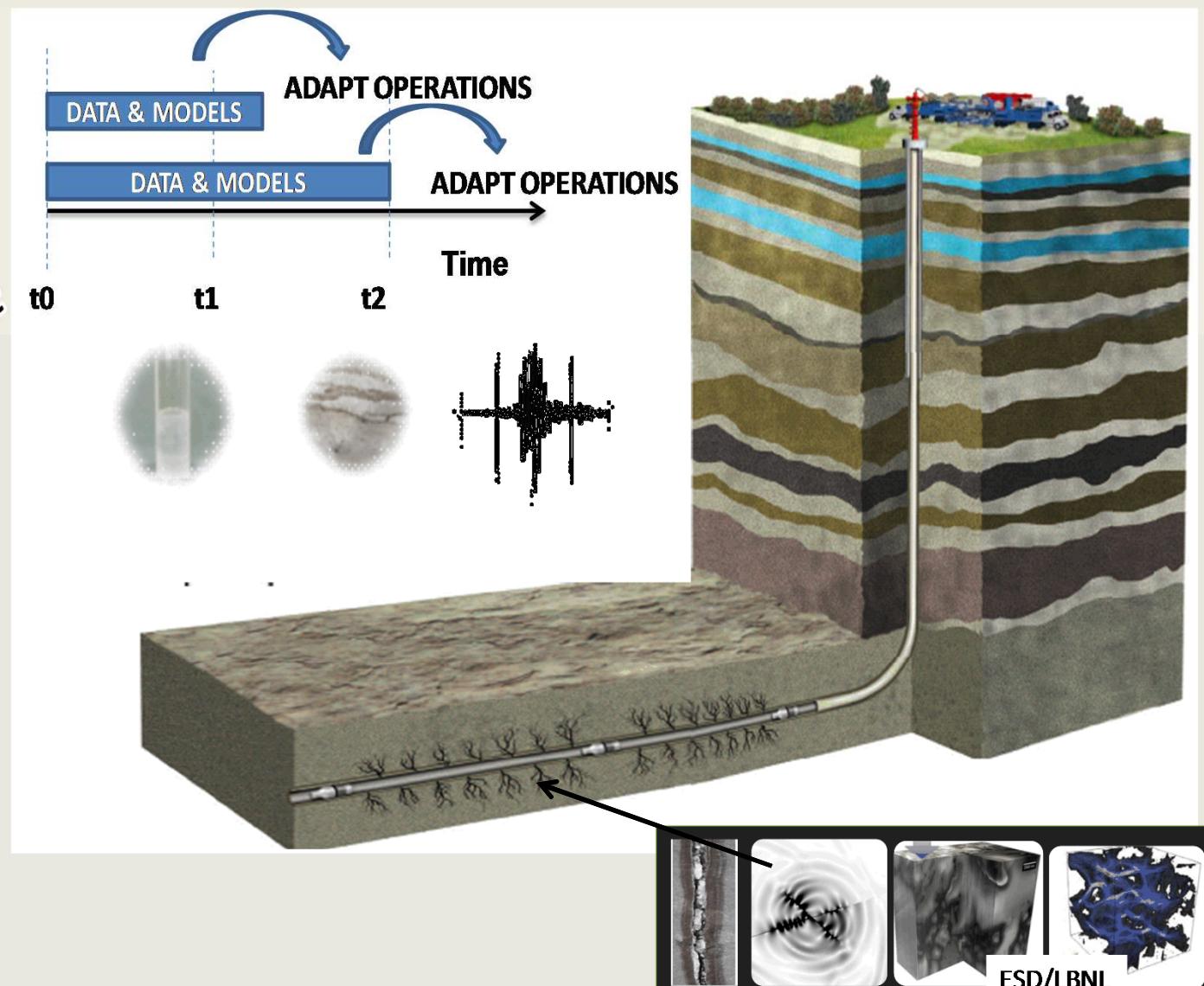
## Monitoring

Improve observational methods and advance understanding of multi-scale complexities through system lifetimes

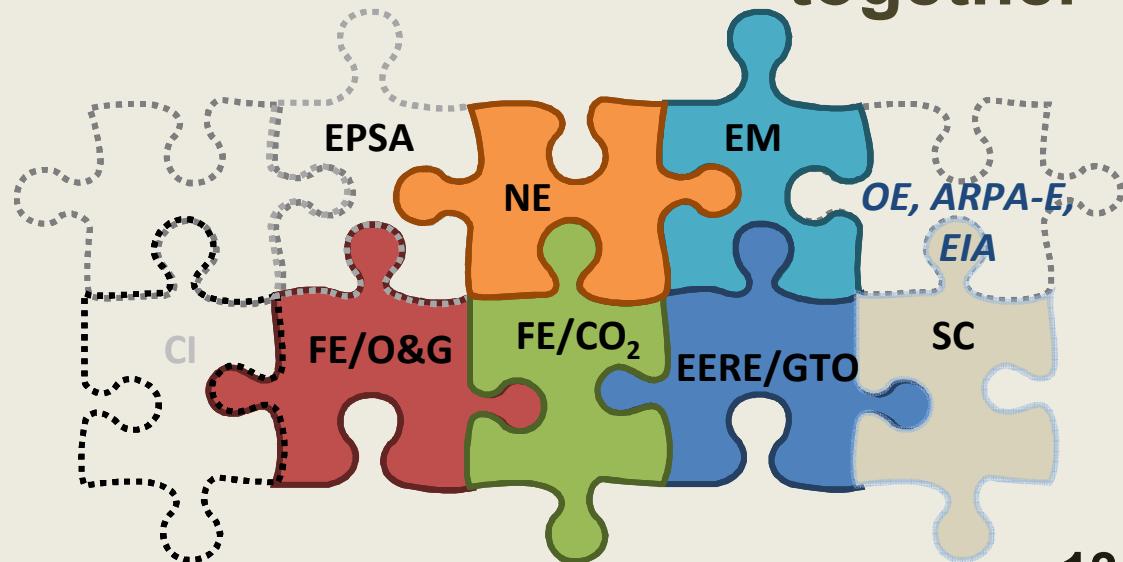


# The Big Idea: “Adaptive Control of subsurface fractures, reactions and flow”

A Grand Challenge



# The Crosscut Team and the Big Idea come together



13 National Laboratories



# Subsurface Vision

## Adaptive Control of Subsurface Fractures and Fluid Flow

### ENERGY SECURITY

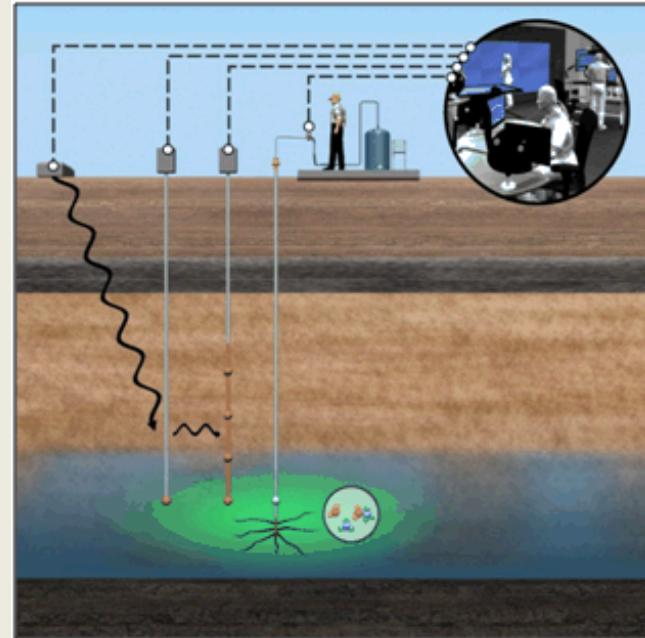
- Increase U. S. electrical production from geothermal reservoirs
- Increase U.S. unconventional oil and natural gas production

### ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY

- President's Climate Action Plan: Safely store CO<sub>2</sub> to meet GHG emissions reduction targets
- Safe storage/disposal of nuclear waste
- Reduced risk of induced seismicity
- Protect drinking water resources

### ECONOMIC SECURITY

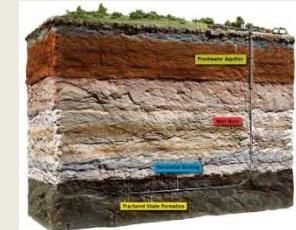
- Retain U. S. subsurface leadership
- Increase revenues (taxes and royalty) to Federal, State, and local governments
- Increased public confidence in subsurface energy sector



# Preliminary 10-year Metrics

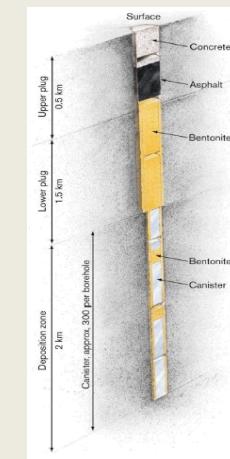
**Double hydrocarbon production** from tight reservoirs.

- Increase longevity of US energy security
- Cut in Half
  - The number of wells drilled
  - the emissions associated with extraction and truck use
  - Water use for tight reservoir production

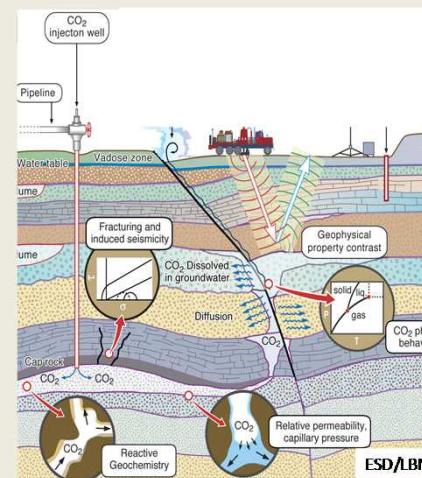


**Achieve order-of-magnitude increase** in U. S. electrical production from geothermal reservoirs

Establish practical feasibility of **deep borehole disposal** for specialty nuclear wastes



**Double confidence level** in safe subsurface storage of CO<sub>2</sub>



# SubTER Progress

## National Labs

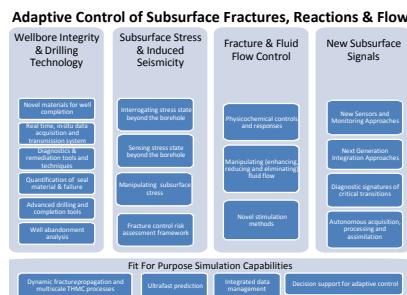
**Big Ideas  
Summit  
March 7  
2014**

White  
Papers  
May 2014



### SubTER Workshop

Subsurface Technology and Engineering R&D Crosscut  
March 14, 2014  
SRA, International, 1801 K Street, Suite 460



**Crosscut framework  
identified**

**FY14 Seed  
projects  
initiated**



Committee on Geological and Geotechnical Engineering  
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

**Lab Rep  
Scoping  
Meeting  
Nov 2014**

**FY15 project  
proposals**

**Town Hall**



**2015**

- Initiated unifying “system of labs” approach with common vision, message and sense of purpose

- Developed effective partnership between labs and DOE

**Subsurface  
Briefings to  
Staffers**



**Forge FOA released**



# Example 2014 Outreach, Feedback & Activities

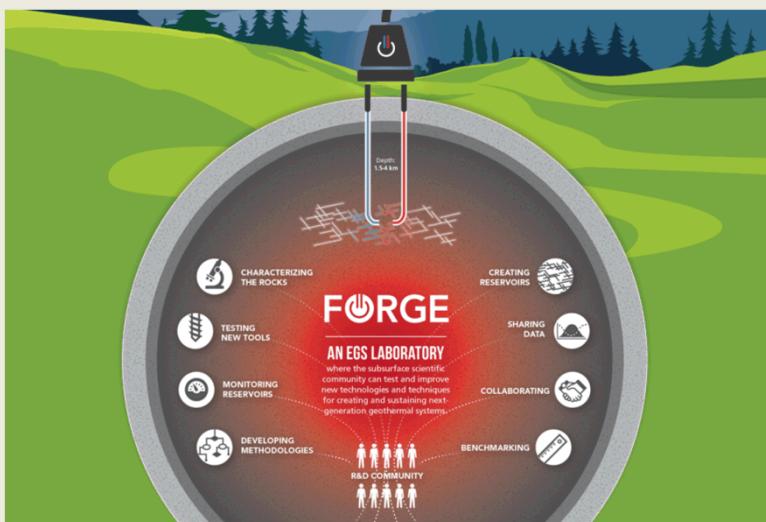
JASON report: 9/14. Recommended “DOE take a leadership role in developing engineered subsurface systems, addressing major energy and security challenges of the nation.”



“Recent interest in fracturing organic-rich mudstones has **revealed our profound ignorance of the physical and chemical properties of these rocks**. We are injecting 100 billion gallons of water into them every year, while not even knowing whether water imbibition aids or impedes hydrocarbon production....

**Schlumberger**

I would advocate for cooperation” (Schlumberger fellow)



**FORGE** Field Observatory FOA:  
Required for field testing, validation, and ultimately adoption of subsurface technologies



# Subsurface Crosscut Research Framework

## Adaptive Control of Subsurface Fractures and Fluid Flow

### Intelligent Wellbore Systems

Improved well construction materials and techniques

Autonomous completions for well integrity

### Subsurface Stress & Induced Seismicity

Measurement of stress and induced seismicity

### Permeability Manipulation

Physicochemical fluid-rock interactions

### New Subsurface Signals

New sensing approaches

## The Subsurface Crosscut Ramps Up

- FY14 Kickstart: \$2M investment in seedling projects
- FY15 ~\$6M opportunity to propose high priority, integrated and collaborative projects
- FY16 expected launch: President's Budget Request includes \$244M for SubTER; ~\$100M new funds

New  
Re  
Fit-f  
(e.g. anticipative drilling, centralizers, monitoring)

HT/HP well construction / completion technologies

Applied risk analysis of subsurface manipulation

Novel stimulation methods

Diagnostic signatures and critical thresholds

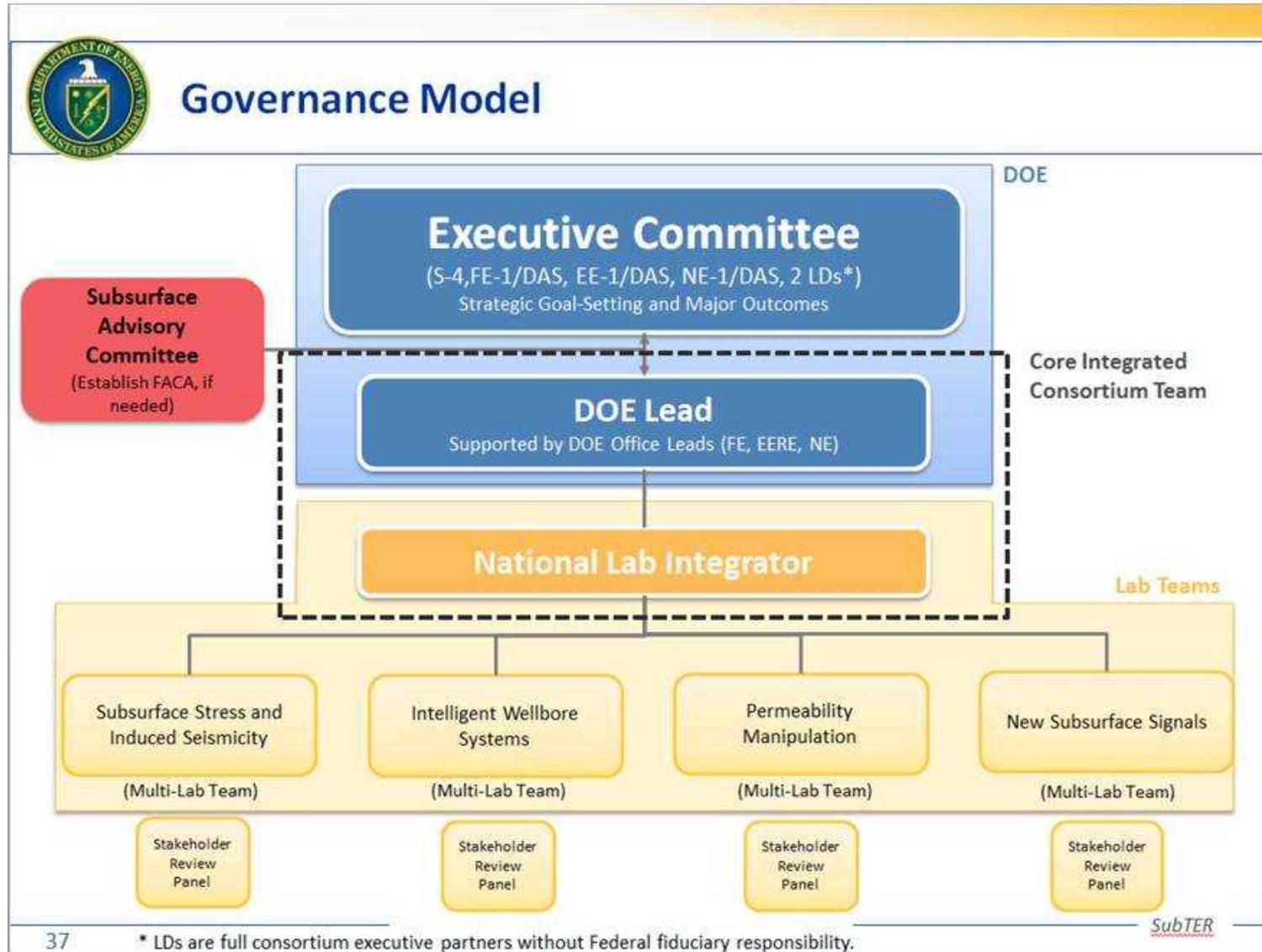
Energy Field Observatories

Fit For Purpose Simulation Capabilities

# SubTER in FY2016 President's Budget Request

	Wellbore Integrity	Subsurface Stress and Induced Seismicity	Permeability Manipulation	New Subsurface Signals	Ongoing Subsurface-Related R&D	TOTAL
<i>Defense Environmental Cleanup, TOTAL</i>	---	---	---	---	8,000	8,000
Headquarters Operations: Technology Development	---	---	---	---	2,000	2,000
Idaho National Laboratory	---	---	---	---	3,000	3,000
Richland/Hanford: Hanford Site	---	---	---	---	3,000	3,000
<i>Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, TOTAL</i>	---	10,000	8,000	8,000	45,000	71,000
Geothermal Technologies: Enhanced Geothermal Systems	---	5,000	---	---	34,000	39,000
Geothermal Technologies: Hydrothermal		5,000	8,000	8,000	11,000	32,000
<i>Fossil Energy Research &amp; Development, TOTAL</i>	11,788	23,888	5,071	9,687	70,084	120,518
Carbon Storage: Advanced Storage R&D	5,000	7,384	---	5,000	---	17,384
Carbon Storage: Storage Infrastructure	---	---	---	---	60,084	60,084
Carbon Storage: Sub-Disciplinary Storage R&D	5,600	15,316	3,888	3,500	---	28,300
Crosscutting Research: Coal Utilization Science	1,188	1,188	1,187	1,187	---	4,750
Natural Gas Technologies: Environmentally Prudent Development	---	---	---	---	10,000	10,000
<i>Nuclear Energy, TOTAL</i>	26,000	---	---	---		26,000
Fuel Cycle R&D: Used Nuclear Fuel Disposition	26,000	---	---	---		26,000
<i>Science, TOTAL</i>	---	---	---	---	5,000	<b>5,000</b>
Basic Energy Sciences: Chemical Sciences, Geosciences, and Biosciences					5,000	5,000
<i>Total, Subsurface Technology and Engineering</i>	37,788	33,888	13,071	17,687	141,584	<b>244,018</b>

# Latest proposed SubTER model from DOE



# FY 2015 Schedule

Activities	Nov-Dec 2014	Jan-Feb 2015	Mar-Apr 2015	May-Jun 2015	Jul-Aug 2015	Sep-Oct 2015	Nov 2015
<b>Subsurface Crosscut Scoping Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 13 labs and DOE participated</li><li>• Technical planning for program elements</li></ul>							
<b>Labs support DOE on SubTER elements in QTR</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Substantive narrative for web appendix</li></ul>							
<b>FY15 AOP Opportunity for Labs (\$6M, multi-lab projects)</b>							
<b>Outreach: Professional Societies, universities, industry</b>							
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Subsurface Crosscut Scoping Meeting</b>							
<b>Develop Technical Plan for FY16</b>							
<b>SubTER Community Workshop (Academia and Industry)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Includes Published workshop report</li></ul>							
<b>SubTER Launch</b>							

# Subsurface Control for a Safe, Effective and Environmentally Responsible Energy Future

- Facilitates innovation to address **climate change** and reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  - Safe storage of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Increased deployment of renewable energy (geothermal)
  - Reduction of fugitive methane emissions through improved wellbore technologies, etc.
- Addresses challenges and opportunities with **water** management
- Drives innovation to improve **safety** associated with subsurface energy operations
- Advances new concepts for safe and responsible disposal of **nuclear waste**
- Increased recovery factors from tight formations can vastly increase the longevity of **US energy security**
- Implementation of a **new collaborative model** to tackle an energy “grand challenge” faced by multiple sectors

 Office of the Under Secretary for Science and Energy

## Energy Department Subsurface Crosscut

**Addressing Common Subsurface Challenges**

The ability to master the subsurface continues to elude researchers and practitioners, while being a source of energy production and energy applications. The DOE is implementing a new collaborative model to tackle this “energy grand challenge” through a coordinated RD&D strategy. Common challenges faced by the participating offices include:

- 1. Discover, Characterize, and Predict**
  - accurately characterizing the subsurface using integrated geophysical and geochemical technologies
  - Quantitatively inferring subsurface evolution under current and future engineered conditions
  - Finding viable, low-risk resources
- 2. Access**
  - safe, cost-effective reservoir integrity
- 3. Engineer**
  - Creating/constructing desired subsurface conditions in challenging high-pressure/high-temperature environments
- 4. Sustain**
  - maintaining optimal subsurface conditions over multi-decadal or longer time frames through complex system evolution
- 5. Monitor**
  - improving observational methods to advance understanding of multi-scale complexities through system lifetimes

The SubTER technical team identifies and facilitates crosscutting RD&D and policy activities for DOE, to enable programs with common technical challenges to work together toward solutions. The SubTER crosscut reports to the Under Secretary for Science and Energy and leverages program budget priorities to better plan for investment and assistance. While each of the offices brings new activities to the table, the sector benefits as a whole from crosscutting solutions. Partnerships include Departmental programs and offices, labs, academia, and industry, as well as synergies across federal agencies.



## Subsurface Technology and Engineering Research, Development, and Demonstration (SubTER) Crosscut

Subsurface energy sources satisfy over 80% of total U.S. energy needs. Finding and effectively exploiting these resources while mitigating impacts of their use constitute major technical and socio-political challenges. Still, the opportunities are vast. Next generation advances in subsurface technologies will enable increases in domestic natural gas supplies, as well as 100-GWe of clean, renewable geothermal energy. The subsurface provides hundreds of years of safe storage capacity for carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), and opportunities for environmentally responsible management and disposal of hazardous materials and other energy waste streams. The subsurface can also serve as a reservoir for energy storage for power produced from intermittent generation sources. These opportunities have immediate connection to societal needs and administration priorities. Clean energy deployment and CO<sub>2</sub> storage are critical components of the President’s Climate Action Plan, necessary to meet the 2050 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction target. Increasing domestic energy supply from greater hydrocarbon resource recovery, in a sustainable and environmentally sound manner, are also Administration goals that enhance national security and fuel economic growth.

## Who's Involved?

Representing the geosciences, research, modeling, technology development, policy, and stakeholders, the participating program offices include:

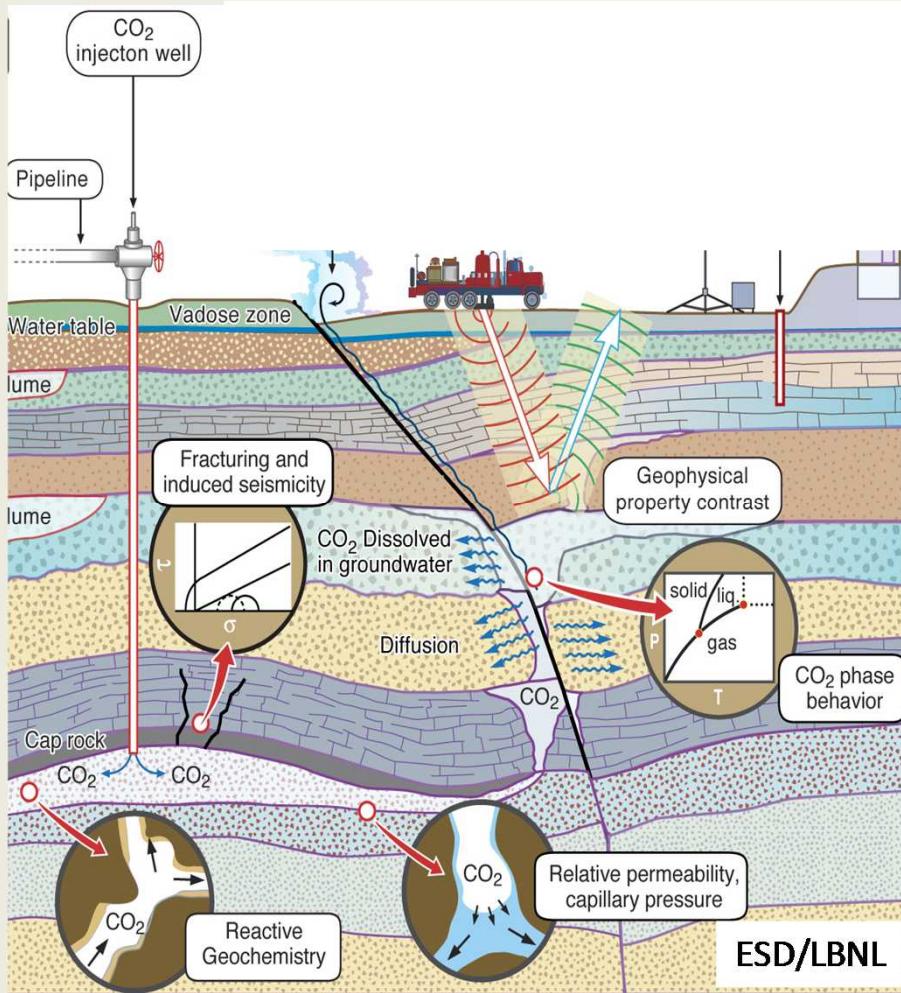
- Fossil Energy-Oil and Gas
- Fossil Energy-CO<sub>2</sub> Storage
- ERD-Geothermal Technologies Office
- Nuclear Energy
- Environmental Management
- Office of Science
- ARPA-E
- Office of Electricity
- Energy Policy & Systems Analysis
- Congressional & Inter-governmental Affairs
- Energy Information Administration

**THANK YOU**  
For More Information:  
[energy.gov/subsurface-tech-team](http://energy.gov/subsurface-tech-team)

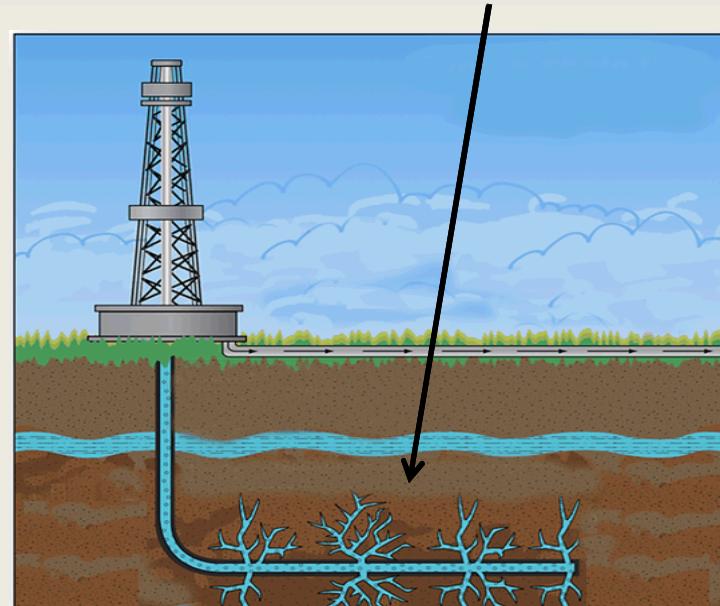
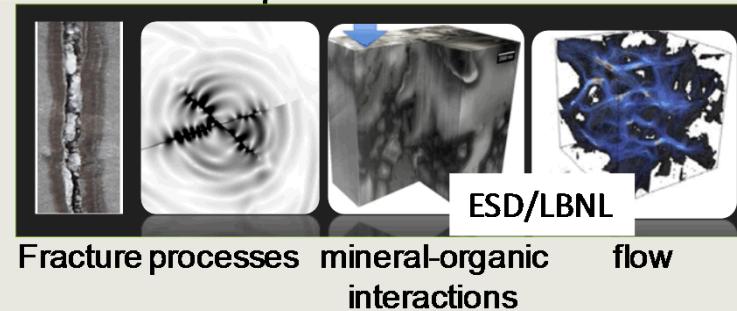
# Thank You

# Many Common Subsurface Challenges

Reduce risk and cost of energy waste storage



More with Less: Improve efficiency & minimize environmental impact of energy production



Geological Carbon Sequestration

Shale Gas Production

# Who Is Involved: DOE & NLs

## Energy Policy & Systems Analysis

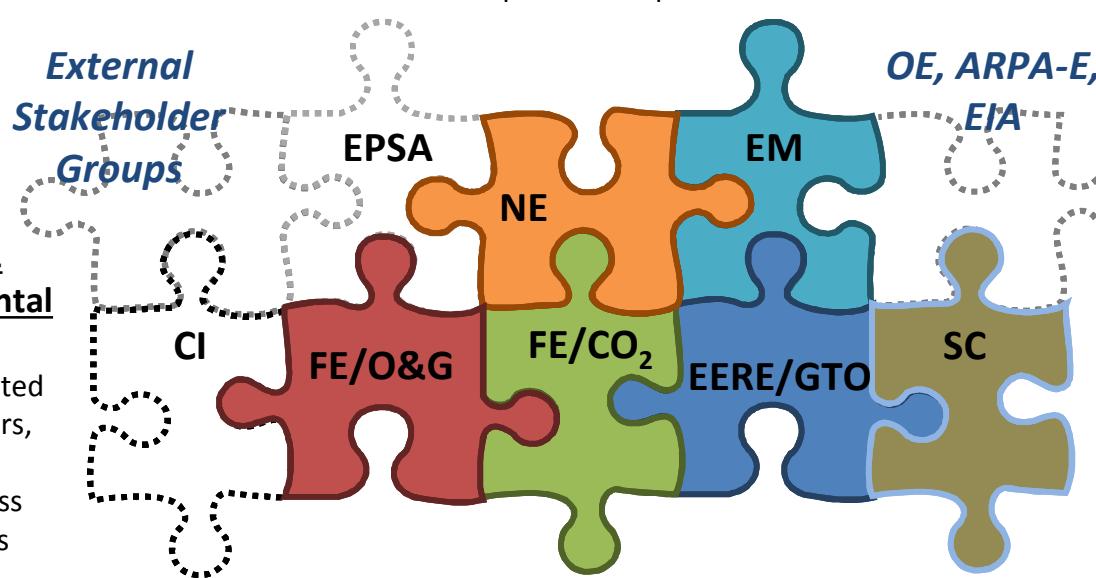
- Advisement: Secretary of Energy
- Policy: low-carbon and secure energy economy
- Technical assistance: States and local entities

## Nuclear Energy

- Policy and technology: disposition of used nuclear fuel and waste
- R&D: deep borehole disposal concept

## Environmental Management

- Modeling and tools: subsurface evaluation and characterization
- Cleanup: nuclear weapons legacy



## Fossil Energy/Oil & Gas

- R&D and access: clean, affordable traditional fuel sources
- R&D: drilling, well construction and integrity, and hydraulic fracturing technologies

## Fossil Energy/Carbon Storage

- Policy and technology: challenges of CO<sub>2</sub> storage to inform regulators, industry, and the public
- R&D: CO<sub>2</sub> offshore and onshore storage

## Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy/Geothermal Technologies Office

- R&D: locate, access, and develop geothermal resources
- R&D: access, create, and sustain enhanced geothermal systems (EGS)

## Science

- Basic research: geology, geophysics, and biogeochemistry
- Expertise: subsurface chemistry, complex fluid flow