

# Crude Oil Characterization Research Study Update

Presentation to  
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers

Rail Policy Working Group Meeting  
Houston, TX  
May 18, 2016



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*Presented by*

David L. Lord, Ph.D.

Geotechnology & Engineering Department  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Albuquerque, NM 87185



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# Technical Team

- David Lord (Ph.D., Env E.), Project technical lead
  - Geotechnology & Engineering Department, Sandia National Laboratories
- Anay Luketa (Ph.D., Mech E.), Combustion/fluids modeling lead
  - Fire Science & Technology Department, Sandia National Laboratories
- Tom Blanchat (Ph.D., Nuclear Engr), Combustion testing lead
  - Fire Science & Technology Department, Sandia National Laboratories
- Chad Wocken (B.S., Chem E.), Hydrocarbon supply chain specialist
  - University of North Dakota Energy & Environmental Research Center
- Ted Aulich (B.S., Chemistry), Hydrocarbon supply chain specialist
  - University of North Dakota Energy & Environmental Research Center
- Ray Allen (B.S. Chem E.), PE (TX), HC sampling and testing specialist
  - President of Allen Energy Services engineering consulting firm
- David Rudeen (B.S., Mathematics), Data analyst and EOS modeler
  - GRAM, Inc. technical consulting

# Outline

- Problem Statement and Objectives
- Project Governance and Workflow
- Overview of Task 2 – Task 3 Testing
- How AFPM can help
- Project Management Contacts
- Project Publications

Technical Objectives

# PROBLEM STATEMENT

# Problem Statement

- Crude transport by rail poses risks recognized by US and Canadian regulators
- Hazards have been realized in a number of high-profile train derailments leading to oil spills, environmental contamination, fire, property damage, and fatalities
- Open debate on whether the types of crude (tight oil vs. conventional production) have significant bearing on severity of transportation accidents



TSBC (2014). "Runaway and Main-Track Derailment Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway Freight Train Lac-Mégantic, Quebec 06 July 2013."

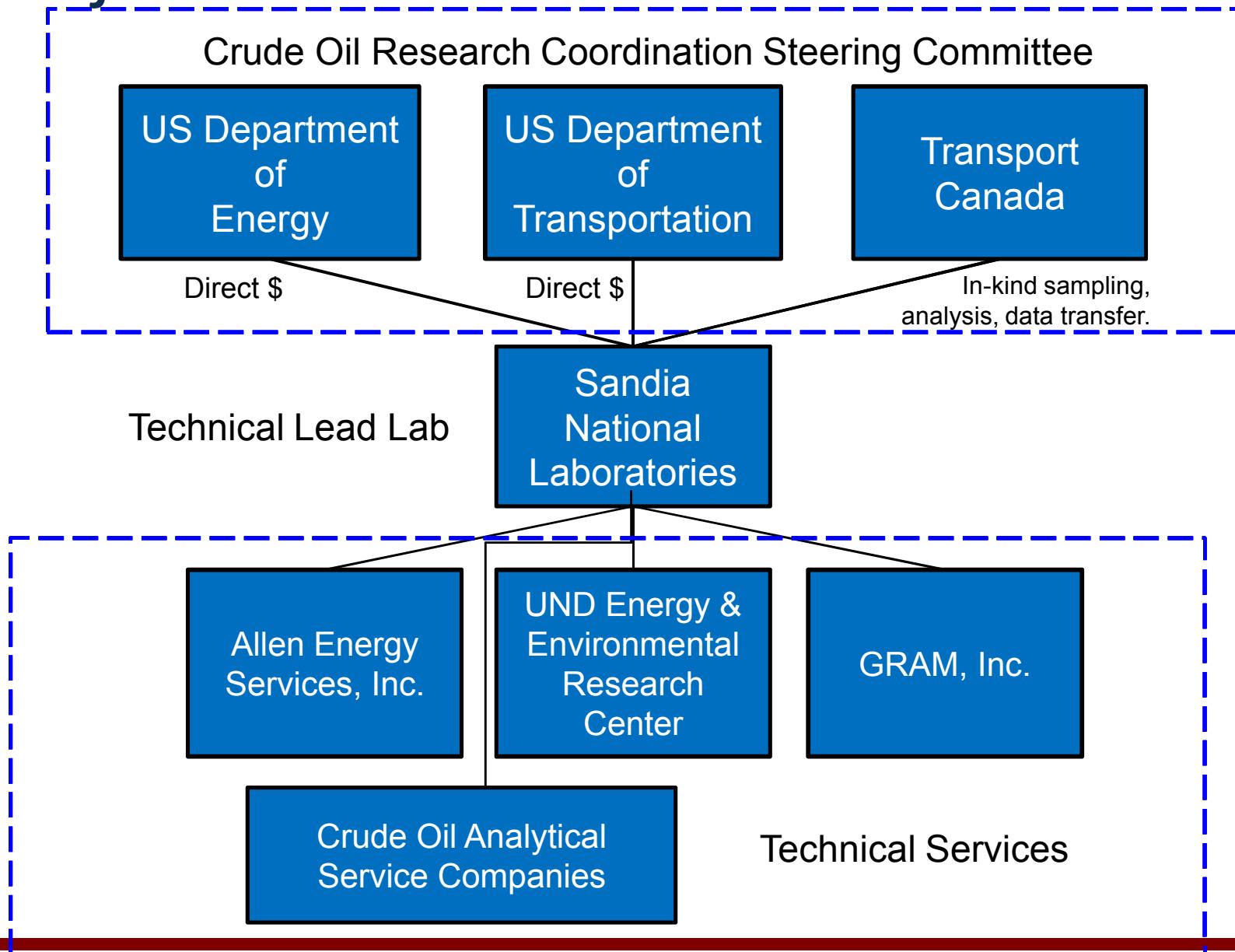
**R13D0054.** Transportation Safety Board of Canada, Gatineau QC K1A 1K8.  
Railway Investigation Report.

# DOE/DOT Project Objectives

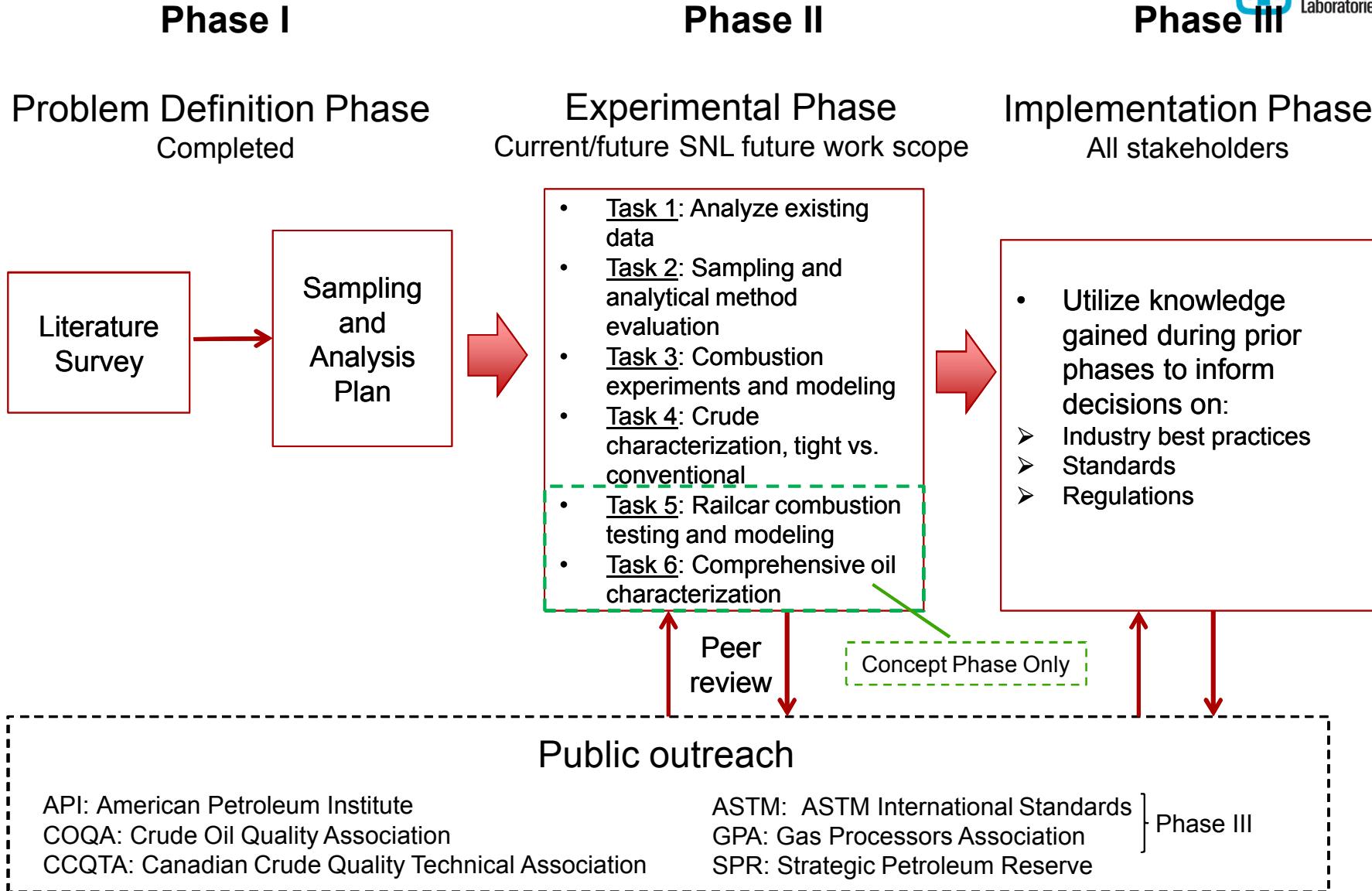
- Determine what combinations of sample capture and analysis methods are suitable for characterizing selected physical properties of volatile crudes
- Evaluate selected physical properties of crude oils (tight vs. conventional production) that are moved within rail transport environment that may have some bearing on flammability risks
- Measure combustion properties (flame dimensions, surface emissive power) of selected crude oils (tight vs. conventional) in controlled burn scenarios that have bearing on hazard determination
- Compare combustion properties to existing published data on other flammable liquids, including methanol, ethanol, jet fuel, hexane
- Evaluate if selected tight oils exhibit measurably different combustion properties from conventional crudes and the reference fluids tested previously

# PROJECT GOVERNANCE

# Project Governance

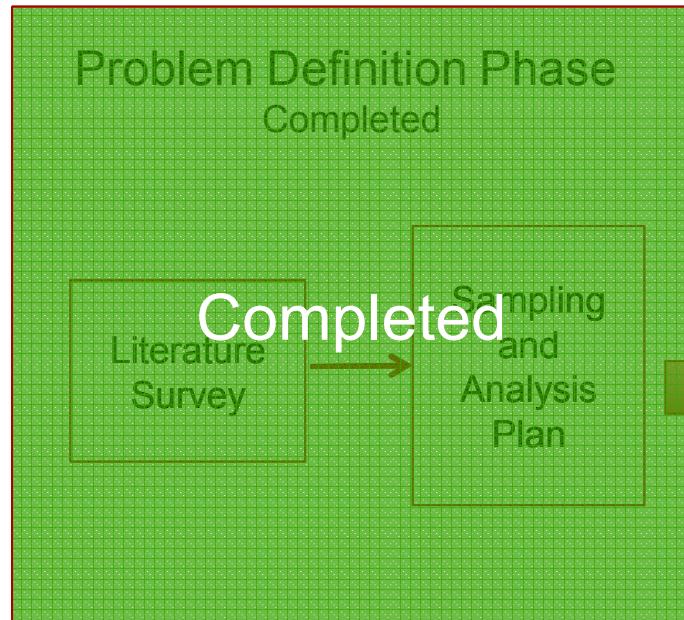


# Overall Project Workflow

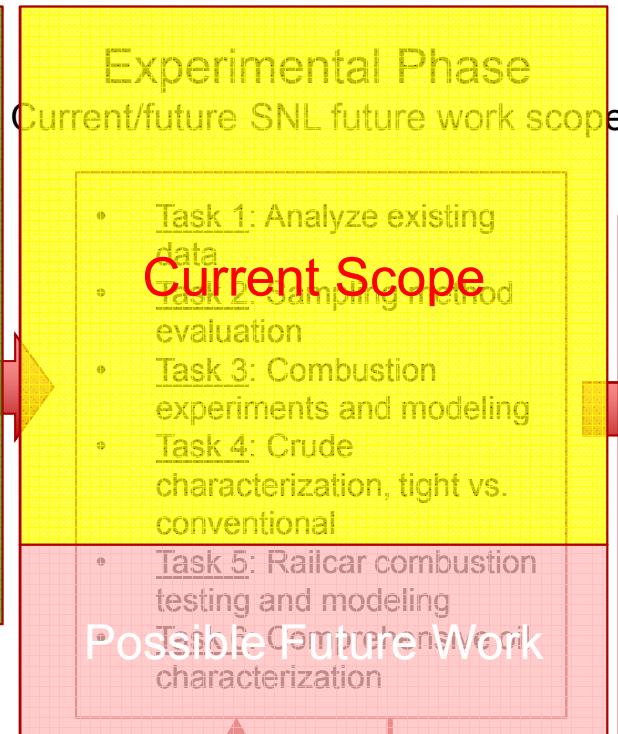


# Overall Project Workflow

## Phase I



## Phase II



## Phase III

Implementation Phase  
All stakeholders



## Public outreach

API: American Petroleum Institute

COQA: Crude Oil Quality Association

CCQTA: Canadian Crude Quality Technical Association

ASTM: ASTM International Standards

GPA: Gas Processors Association

SPR: Strategic Petroleum Reserve

Phase III

# High-Level Project Schedule, Phase I

Task	Description	Year 1				Year 2			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	Review new & emerging data								
2	Evaluate sampling and analysis methods								
3	Large sample acquisition, combustion tests, modeling								
4	Tight vs. conventional crude characterization								

Crude Oil Property and Combustion Tests

# TESTING OVERVIEW

# Task 2 Overview

- Compare sample capture and analysis methods for two selected North American crude oils
  - Prefer upstream production or tank terminals handling tight oils
- Sandia National Laboratories and Transport Canada will administer parallel tests using a variety of sample capture and analysis methods
- Critical review of open vs. closed capture and applicability for use on minimally stabilized oils for measuring:
  - Crude vapor pressure  $VPCR_x(T)$  at selected V/L and temperature
  - Pressurized GC light ends concentration
  - Unpressurized GC DHA and simulated distillation
  - Unpressurized physical property measurements MW, SG, viscosity
  - IBP based on 0.5 wt% determination

# Task 2 Test Matrix

Sample Technique	Standard	Property Measurement								
		TVP	Compositional Analysis 1	Compositional Analysis 2	Compositional Analysis 3	Avg MW	Relative Density	Viscosity	Flashpoint	IBP (0.5 wt%)
SPR Tight Line to Mobile Laboratory		ASTM D6377 & Separator shut-in	BPP flash gas GC analysis	GOR flash gas GC analysis	Separator liquid C30+	frz pt dep	ASTM D5002	N/A	N/A	EOS with flash gas
Floating Piston Cylinder	ASTM D3700-14	ASTM D6377-M	GPA2103 M	GPA2177 + ASTM D7900 + ASTM D7169	ASTM D8003 + ASTM D7169 + GOR flash gas	frz pt dep	ASTM D5002	ASTM D7042	ASTM D93 or D56	GPA 2103/2177
Water Displacement	GPA 2174-14	ASTM D6377-M	GPA2103 M	GPA2177 + ASTM D7900 + ASTM D7169	ASTM D8003 + ASTM D7169 + GOR flash gas	frz pt dep	ASTM D5002	ASTM D7042	ASTM D93 or D56	GPA 2103/2177
Manual Syringe	ASTM D8009-15	ASTM D6377-M	GPA2103 M	GPA2177 + ASTM D7900 + ASTM D7169	ASTM D8003 + ASTM D7169 + GOR flash gas	frz pt dep	ASTM D5002	ASTM D7042	ASTM D93 or D56	GPA 2103/2177
Boston Round	ASTM D4057-12	ASTM D6377-M	GPA2103 M	GPA2177 + ASTM D7900 + ASTM D7169	ASTM D8003 + ASTM D7169 + GOR flash gas	frz pt dep	ASTM D5002	ASTM D7042	ASTM D93 or D56	GPA 2103/2177
Manual Syringe	ASTM D7975-14	ASTM D7975-14	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Color coding	Test Administrator
White	SNL
Red	TC
Blue	Both

- Test matrix will be run on two minimally stabilized North American crudes
- Objective is to compare multiple methods on a homogeneous sample
- Note: Oil variability across production regions or supply chain is addressed in Task 4 and potential Task 6, not Task 2

# Task 2: Closer Look

## Conceptual Example of PVT Data Consistency Check

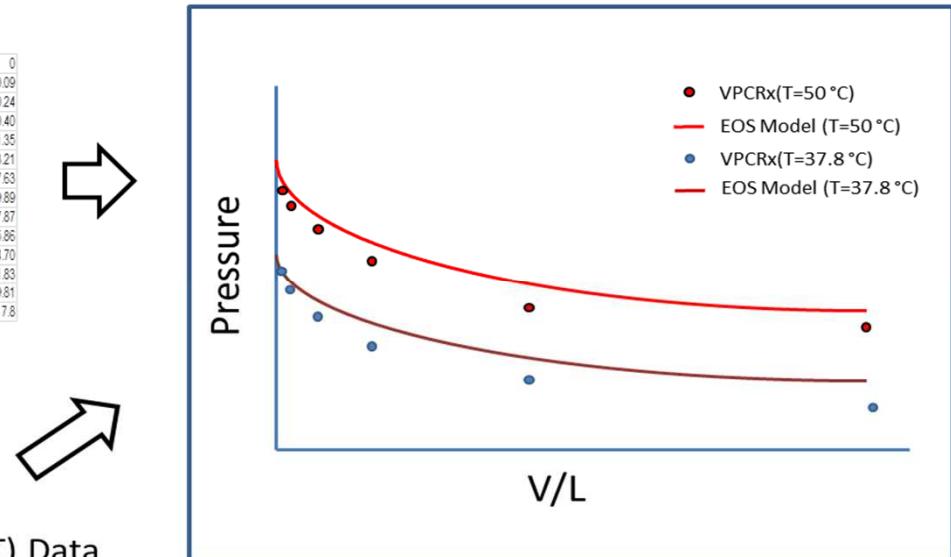
Measured  
Compositional Data

	SPR Bkn mole frac	WH108 mole frac
Nitrogen	0.0004	0.0006
Carbon Monoxid	0.0000	0.0000
Carbon Dioxide	0.0002	0.0007
Argon	0.0000	0.0000
Oxygen	0.0000	0.0000
Hydrogen Sulfid	0.0000	0.0000
Methane	0.0009	0.0004
Ethane	0.0073	0.0035
Propane	0.0346	0.0285
Iso-Butane	0.0146	0.0128
N-Butane	0.0541	0.0488
Iso-Pentane	0.0300	0.0301
N-Pentane	0.0468	0.0443
N-Hexane	0.1172	0.1173
Heptanes	0.1110	0.0927
Benzene	0.0044	0.0096
Toluene	0.0105	0.0162
Ethyl Benzene	0.0034	0.0042
Xylenes	0.0211	0.0193
Residual	0.5438	0.5746

Equation of State  
model PVT  
predictions

	E1 (-)	0	0	0	0
E2		0.087	0.07	0.09	0.09
E3		0.24	0.23	0.25	0.24
E4		0.42	0.50	0.53	0.40
E5		1.10	1.06	1.40	1.35
E6		2.26	2.18	3.02	3.21
E7		4.62	4.31	6.16	7.63
P1 (psia)		19.34	15.94	19.82	19.89
P2		17.62	14.70	18.02	17.87
P3		15.89	13.23	16.22	15.66
P4		14.70	11.87	14.70	14.70
P5		12.45	10.51	12.61	11.83
P6		10.72	9.16	10.80	9.81
P7		9.00	7.8	9	7.8

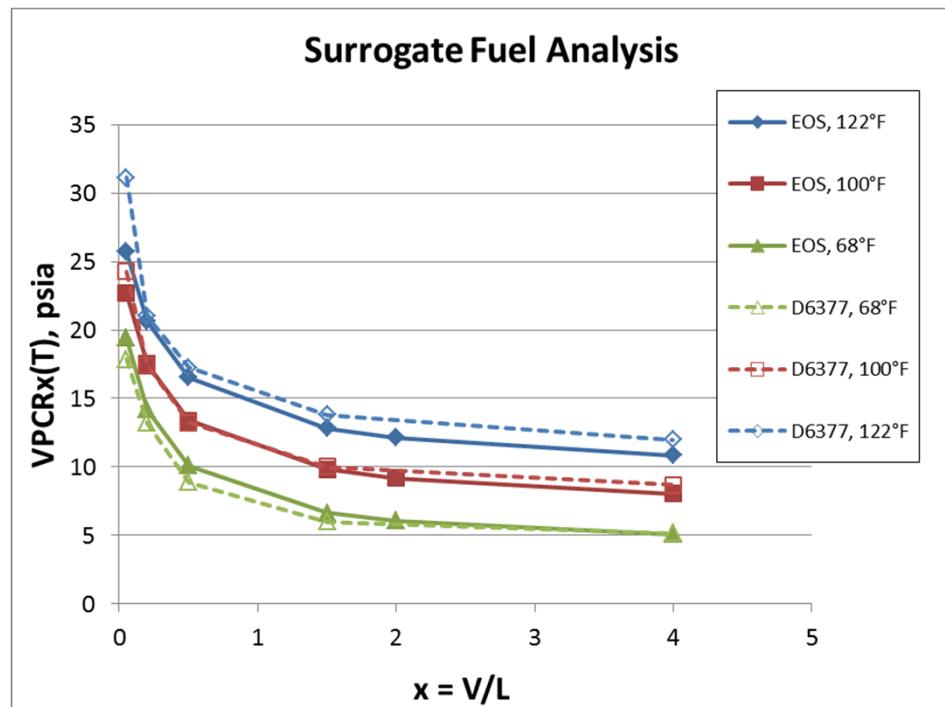
Overlay PVT behavior for two-phase crude oil systems



Temperature (°F)	(°C)	V/L	V/L	V/L	V/L	V/L	V/L
68	20	0.02	0.05	0.2	0.5	1.5	4.0
100	37.8	0.02	0.05	0.2	0.5	1.5	4.0
122F	50	0.02	0.05	0.2	0.5	1.5	4.0

# Task 2 Closer Look

- Actual example of PVT Data consistency check
- Comparing EOS modeling with measured VPCR<sub>x</sub>(T) for a test fuel (jet A + gasoline) that will later be burned
- Data show reasonable agreement between simulated and measured PVT curves



# Task 3 Overview

- Subject four selected North American crudes to basic property and controlled burn testing
- Span a range from tight oils (Bakken, Eagle Ford) with high visibility, to baseline light sweet (WTI, LLS), to specially-stabilized crude from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve
- Compare results against existing hydrocarbon liquid combustion test data

# Burn Test Configurations

## Pool fire

- Surface emissive power (SEP)
- Heat flux to engulfed objects
- Flame height
- Fuel consumption rate

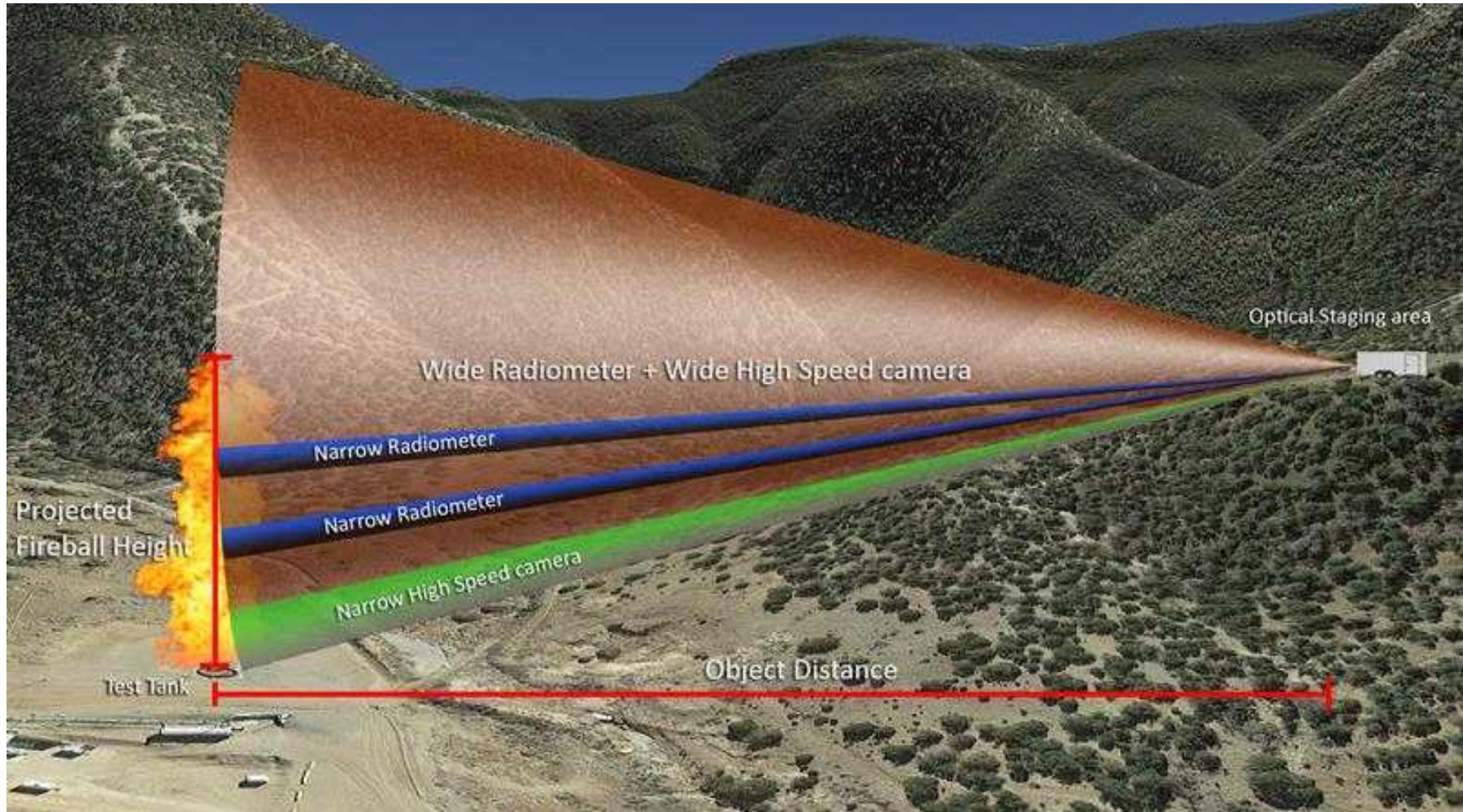


## Fireball

- Surface emissive power (SEP)
- Heat flux to nearby objects
- Fireball diameter
- Fireball duration



# Fireball Test SEP Instrumentation



# Task 3 Test Matrix - Highlights

Oil	Properties	Pool Fire 2m, 5m	Fireball 40 gal, 400 gal
Tight Oil #1	VPCRx(T), Light Ends, SimDis, IBP, MW, SG, flashpoint	SEP, flame height, burn rate	SEP, fireball diameter & duration
Tight Oil #2	VPCRx(T), Light Ends, SimDis, IBP, MW, SG, flashpoint	SEP, flame height, burn rate	SEP, fireball diameter & duration
Conventional light sweet oil	VPCRx(T), Light Ends, SimDis, IBP, MW, SG, flashpoint	SEP, flame height, burn rate	SEP, fireball diameter & duration
Stabilized SPR oil	VPCRx(T), Light Ends, SimDis, IBP, MW, SG, flashpoint	SEP, flame height, burn rate	SEP, fireball diameter & duration

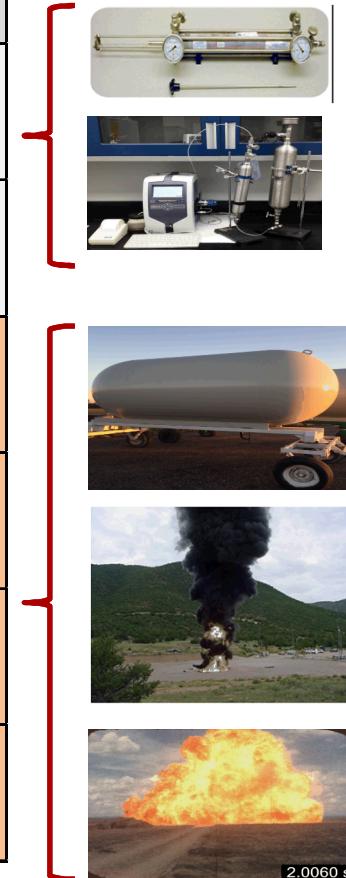
# HOW AFPM CAN HELP

# How AFPM can help

- Technical peer review of test plans, test reports
  - Need a point-of-contact for communications
- Access to sampling points for Tasks 2, 3, and 4
  - Sandia has 7-page sampling proposal (re: Tasks 2 and 3) for distribution to crude oil producers and/or terminal operators who may be interested in helping provide samples
  - Use and publication of data
    - Oil data acquired from the sampling event will be analyzed and published in unclassified, unlimited release technical research reports and presentations. Sandia will avoid any specific references to producer name, terminal operator name, or geographic location (lat/long) of the sampling location.
  - Contact David Lord for more information (slide 25)

# Access to Crude Oil Samples

Sample Description	Target Timeframe (Calendar Year-Quarter)	Preferred Sample	Approx Quantity
Task 2 Parallel Test #1	CY2016	Q2	LACT or rail/pipeline terminal in central or southern U.S. that handles tight oil
Task 2 Parallel Test #2		Q2	LACT or rail/pipeline terminal that handles Bakken
Task 3 Burn Sample #1	CY2016	Q3	Bakken
Task 3 Burn Sample #2		Q4	Eagle Ford
Task 3 Burn Sample #3	CY2017	Q1	SPR stabilized oil
Task 3 Burn Sample #4		Q2	WTI or LLS



# Project Sponsor Contacts

- U.S. Department of Energy
  - Evan Frye
    - U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy, Office of Oil & Natural Gas
    - *evan.frye@hq.doe.gov*
    - 202-586-3827
- U.S. Department of Transportation
  - Joseph Nicklous
    - U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety
    - Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
    - *joseph.nicklous@dot.gov*
    - 202-366-4545
- Transport Canada
  - Barbara Di Bacco
    - Transport Canada, Transport Dangerous Goods Directorate
    - *barbara.dibacco@tc.gc.ca*
    - 613-990-5883

# Sandia Project Contacts

- Sandia project manager/technical lead
  - David Lord
    - Sandia National Laboratories, Geotechnology & Engineering Department
    - [dlord@sandia.gov](mailto:dlord@sandia.gov)
    - 505-284-2712
- Sandia geosciences program manager
  - Erik Webb, Senior Manager
    - Sandia National Laboratories, Geoscience Research & Applications
    - [ekwebb@sandia.gov](mailto:ekwebb@sandia.gov)
    - 505-844-9179

# Project Publications

- Lord, D., A. Luketa, C. Wocken, S. Schlasner, R. Allen and D. Rudeen (2015). "Literature Survey of Crude Properties Relevant to Handling and Fire Safety in Transport." *Unlimited Release SAND2015-1823*. Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM 87185.
- SNL (2015). "Crude Oil Characteristics Sampling, Analysis and Experiment (SAE) Plan." Office of Fossil Energy. U.S. Department of Energy, <http://energy.gov/fe/articles/crude-oil-characteristics-research>. 9-Jul-2015.
- Lord, D., R. Allen, C. Wocken and T. Aulich (2016). "DOE/DOT Crude Oil Characterization Research Study, Task 2 Sampling & Analysis Plan: Evaluate Crude Oil Sampling & Analysis Methods." *Unlimited Release SAND2016-3079*. Albuquerque, NM 87185. *Anticipated release date June 6, 2016.*

**END OF PREPARED SLIDES**