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# The Water, Energy and Carbon Sequestration Simulation Model (WECSsim): *Integrating Geoscience, Power Plants and CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration Infrastructure in the U.S.*

Peter H. Kobos,  
David J. Borns, Geoff T. Klise, Jason E. Heath, Len A. Malczynski,  
*and many others*



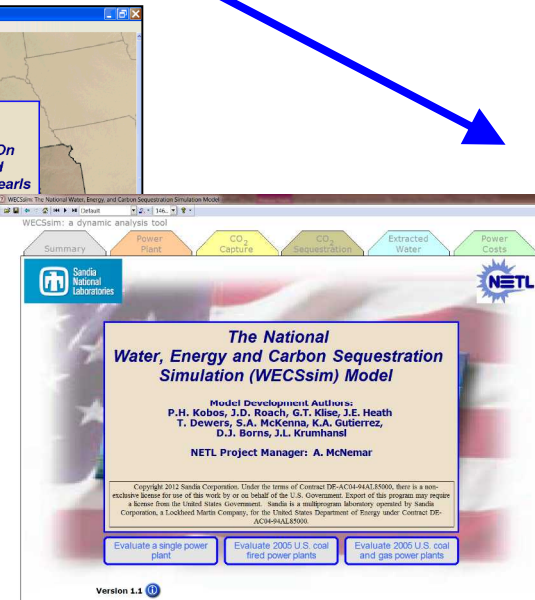
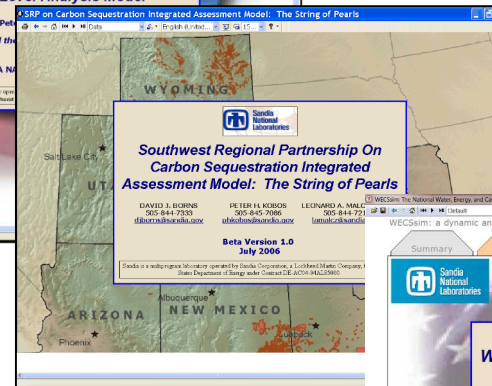
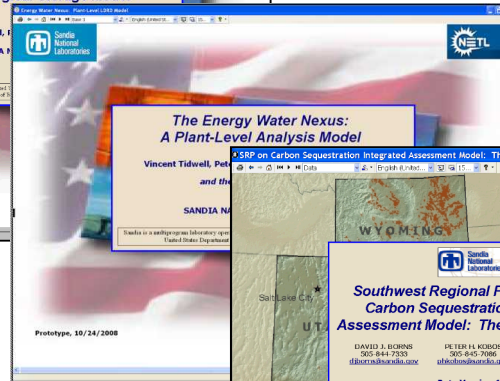
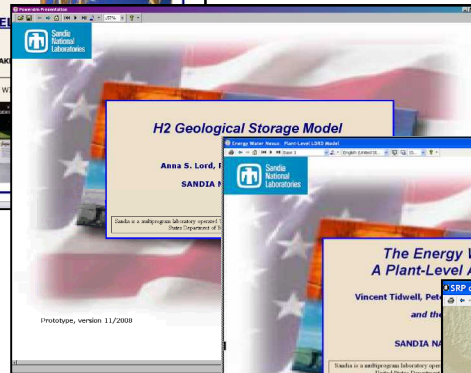
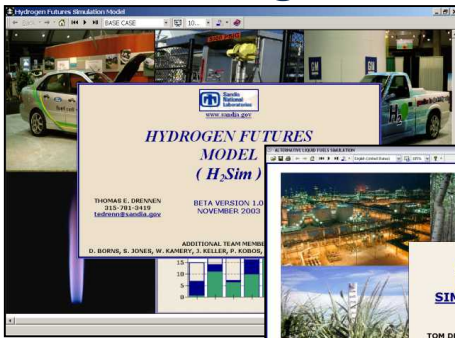
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# Integrated Assessment Models:

## *Addressing Technology-Specific and Fleet-Wide Analysis*

### Pilot Scale to U.S. Fleet Wide Technology Adoption & Assessment

- Surface Water & Power Plants
- CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration Pipelines
- National CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration & Saline Water Extraction



### Fuel-Specific Technologies

- Hydrogen Use
- Alternative Liquid Fuels
- H<sub>2</sub> Geologic Storage

# Water, Energy and CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration Simulation Model (WECSsim) Model:

(4) H<sub>2</sub>O Treatment & Use

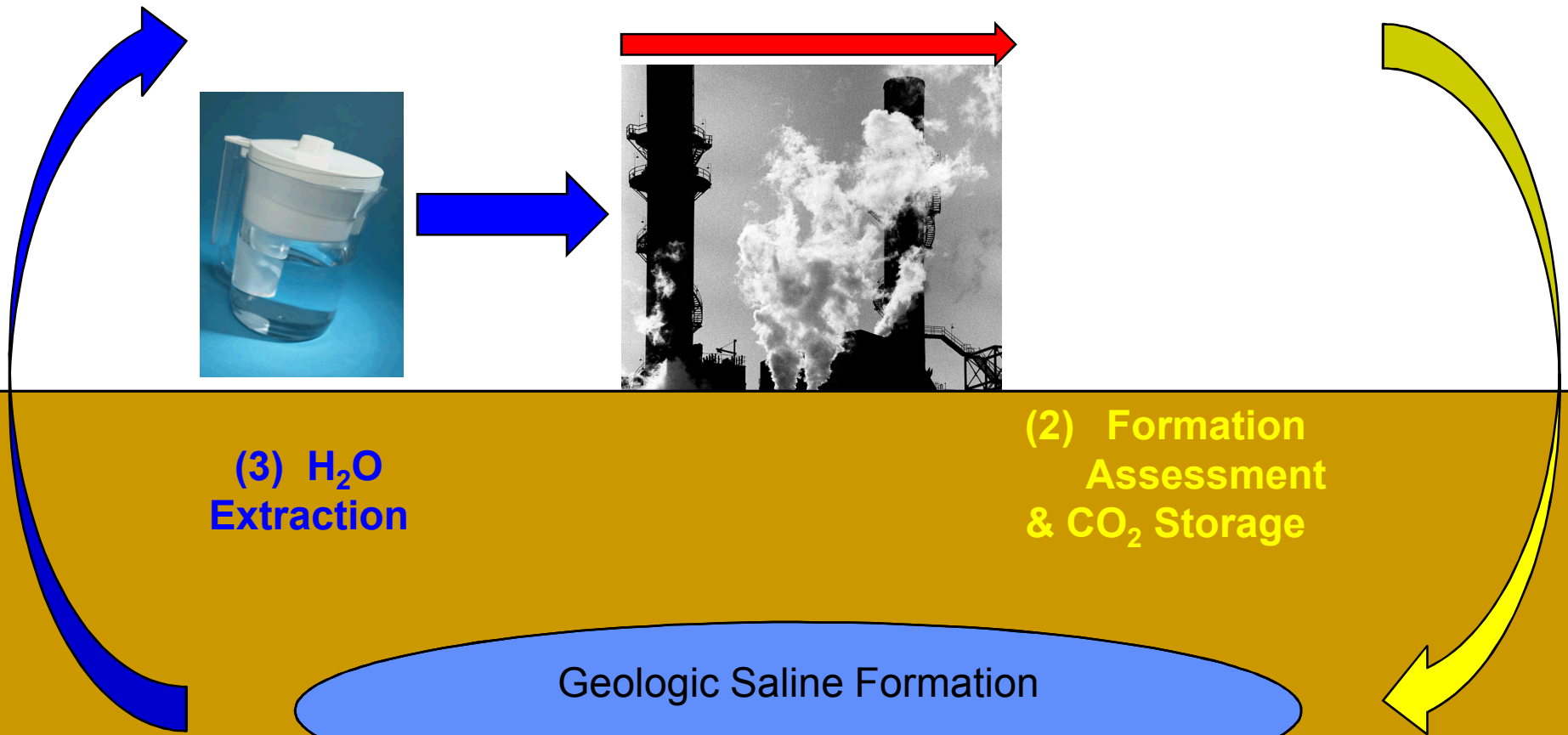
(1) CO<sub>2</sub> Capture



(2) Formation  
Assessment  
& CO<sub>2</sub> Storage

(3) H<sub>2</sub>O  
Extraction

Geologic Saline Formation



# CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Systems Modeling (U.S.)



- Power Plant Technologies
  - Coal and Natural Gas Electricity
    - Retrofit CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Technology
    - More efficient future water cooling technologies
- CO<sub>2</sub> Sinks
  - U.S. Department of Energy NatCarb Database
  - Geologic Storage sites (large focus on geologic saline aquifers)
- Geomodeling
  - TOUGH2 integrated within WECSsim
  - Probability Distribution Functions
- Pipeline network development
  - Cost reductions
  - Competition for Sinks

Summary

Power  
PlantCO<sub>2</sub>  
CaptureCO<sub>2</sub>  
SequestrationExtracted  
WaterPower  
CostsSandia  
National  
Laboratories

## ***The National Water, Energy and Carbon Sequestration Simulation (WECSSim) Model***

### **Model Development Authors:**

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D.J. Borns, J.L. Krumhansl**


**NETL Project Manager: A. McNemar**

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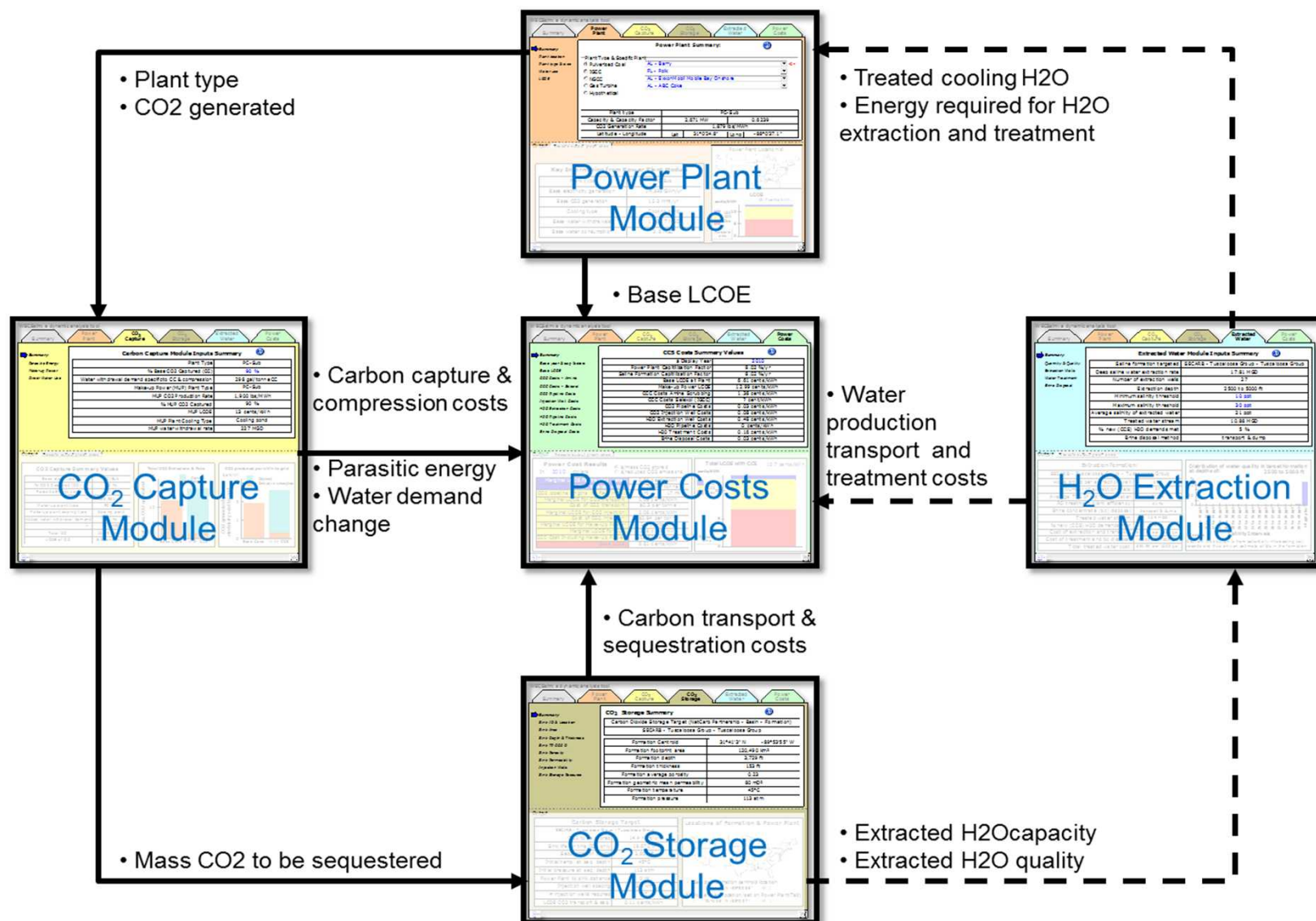
Evaluate a single power  
plant

Evaluate 2005 U.S. coal  
fired power plants

Evaluate 2005 U.S. coal  
and gas power plants

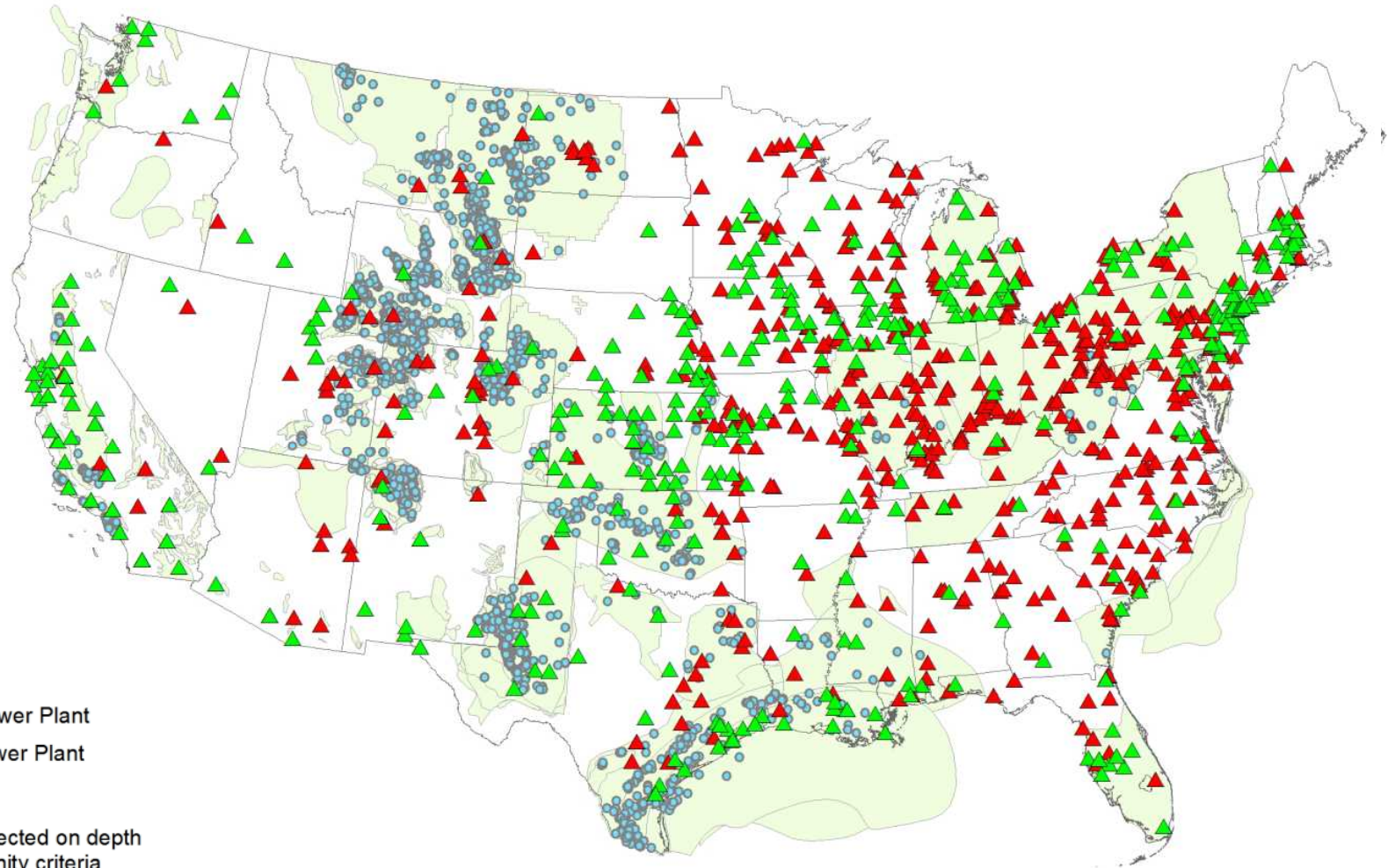
**Version 1.1** 

# WECSsim Modular Structure





# U.S. CO<sub>2</sub> Saline Formation Sinks



## Legend

▲ Coal Power Plant

▲ Gas Power Plant

● Well

● Well selected on depth  
and salinity criteria

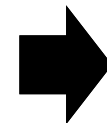
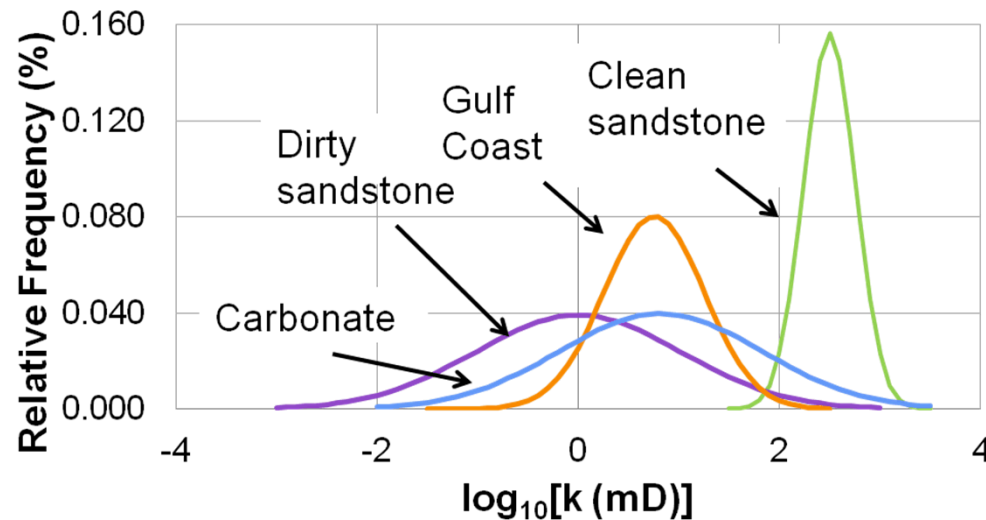
325 downselected formations from  
original NatCarb Atlas data

# Methods behind the Permeability-to-Cost Analysis

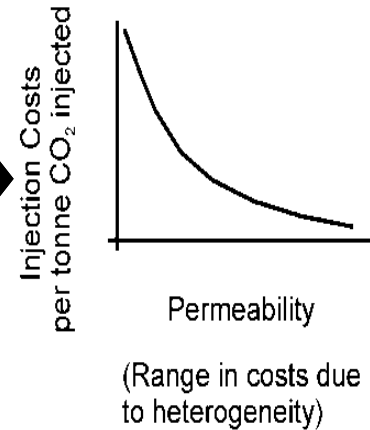
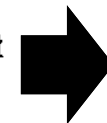
**Injectivity equation:** permeability sampled from 4 Rock Types  
(all storage targets defined as some mixture of these 4 Rock Types)

Integrated Assessment  
Model

Injection Well Costs as a  
Function of Geologic  
Permeability



Integrated Assessment  
Model (IAM)  
**(WECSsim)**



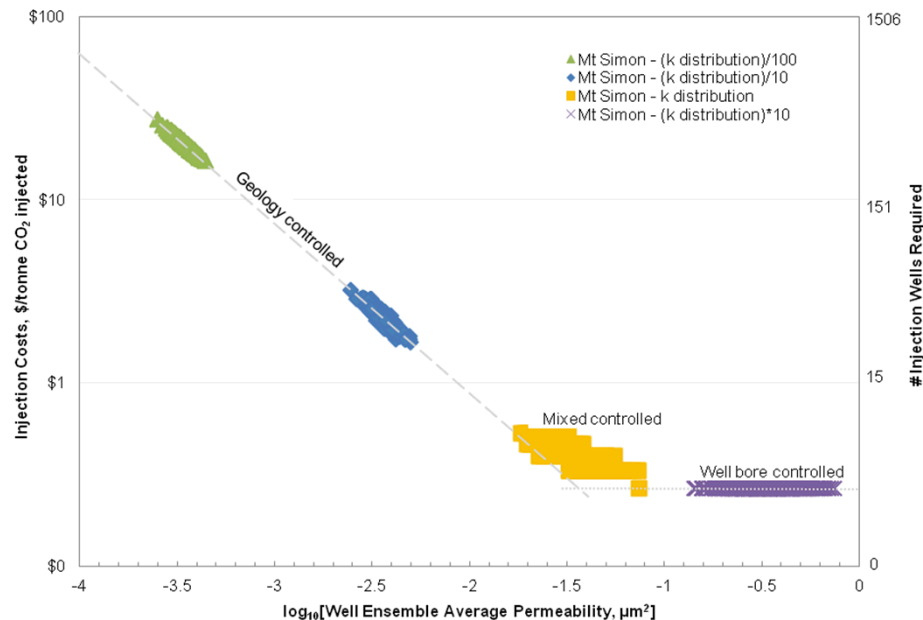
Source: Heath, J.E., Kobos, P.H., Roach, J.D., Dewers, T.A. and S.A. McKenna, 2012, "Geologic Heterogeneity and Economic Uncertainty of Subsurface Carbon Dioxide Storage," *SPE Economics & Management Journal*, January 32-41.



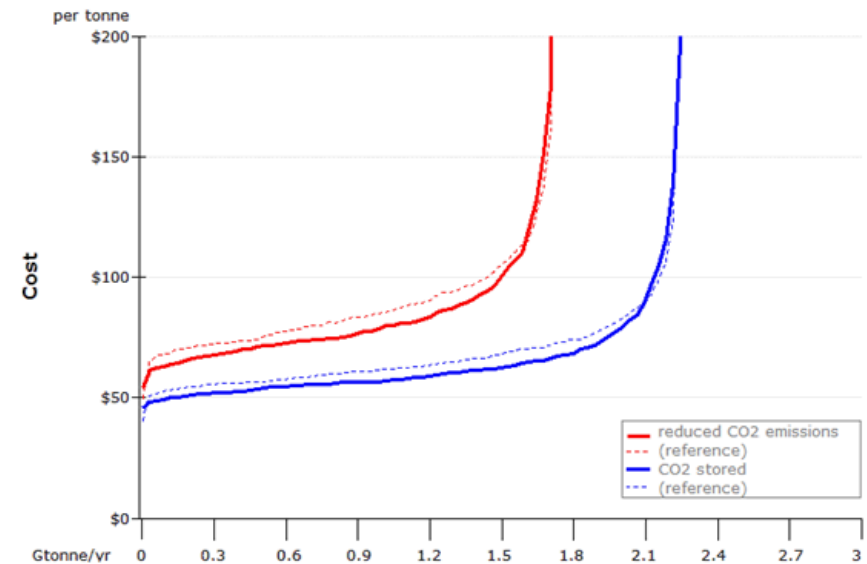
# Cost Drivers & Supply Curve:

*Combining TOUGH2 Geotechnical Modeling & System Cost Modeling*

Permeability  $\uparrow$  = Well Costs  $\downarrow$

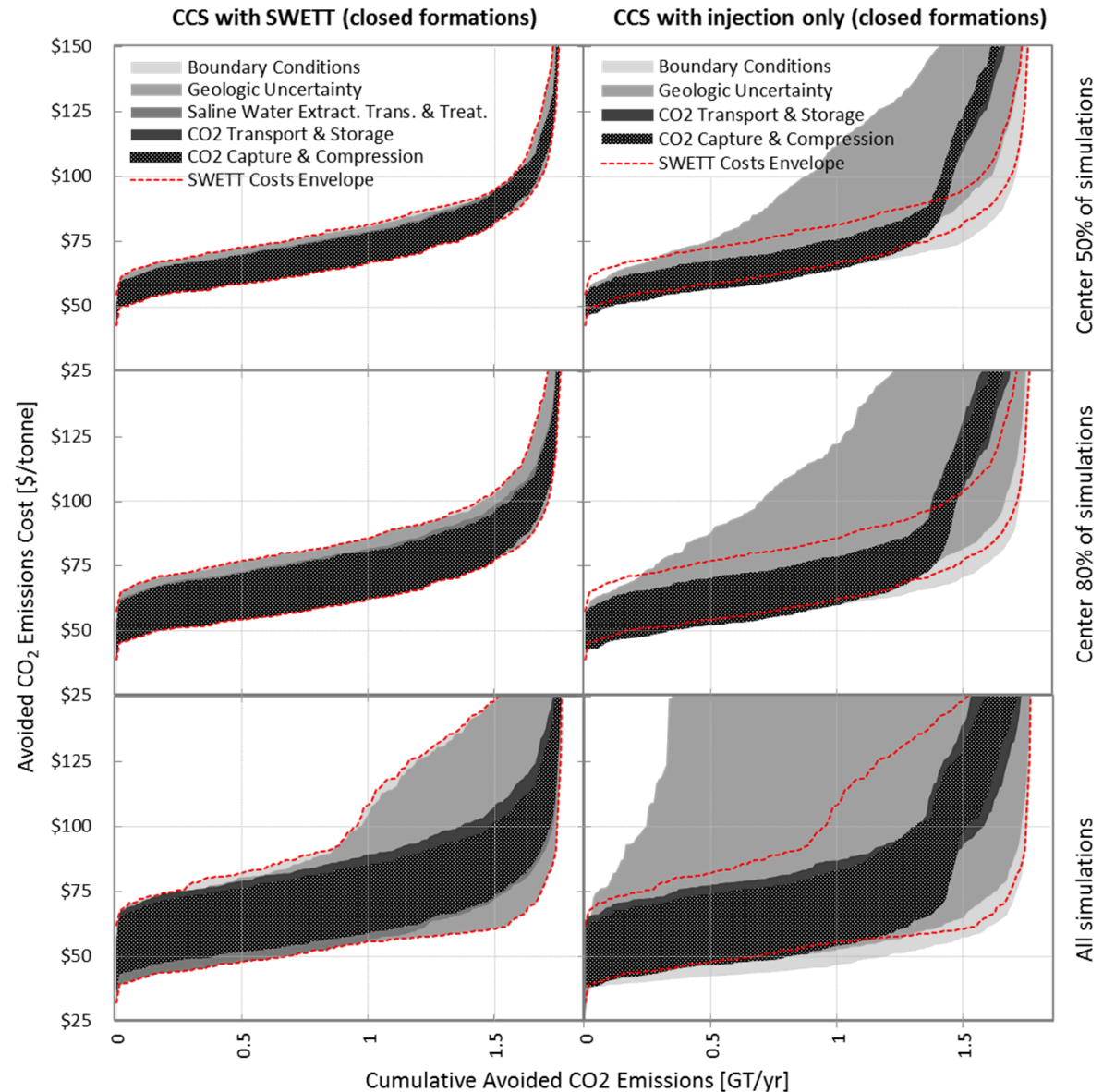


## Developing a National, CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Supply Curve



## Saline Water Extraction Transport and Treatment (SWETT):

- Reduces Geologic Uncertainty
- Improves Cost Envelope Certainty
- Provides Cooling Water for Power Plants



# Power Plant Cooling Requirements:

## *SWETT can offset new water demands from CCS*

WECSsim: a dynamic analysis tool

### Summary

Overview

Power Plant

CO<sub>2</sub> Capture

CO<sub>2</sub> Storage

Extracted Water

Power Costs

Cost Curves

➔ **Water Curves**

Formation Use

Reference Points:

Added water demand [MGD] to avoid emissions of

1 Gt/yr

Current	Reference
1,081	1,082

% of this added demand offset by extracted brine

Current	Reference
86 %	0 %

Include water demand without CCS

Water Curve  
(fixed axis & reference runs)

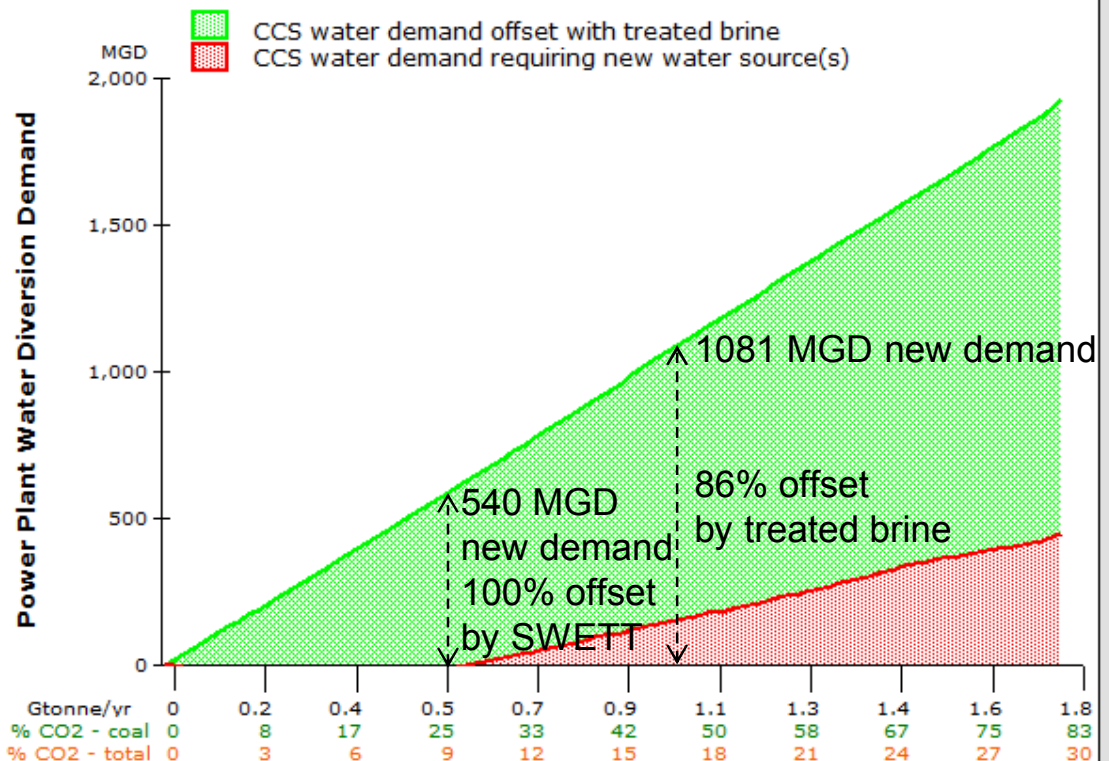
**Water Curve**  
(dynamic axis)

Water  
Histograms

Water Scatter  
Plots

Water Cost of  
Reduced CO<sub>2</sub>  
Data

### Water Demands Associated with CCS Reduced CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions



At 1 Gt/yr reduced emissions, SWETT offsets 86% of the 1081 MGD new demand

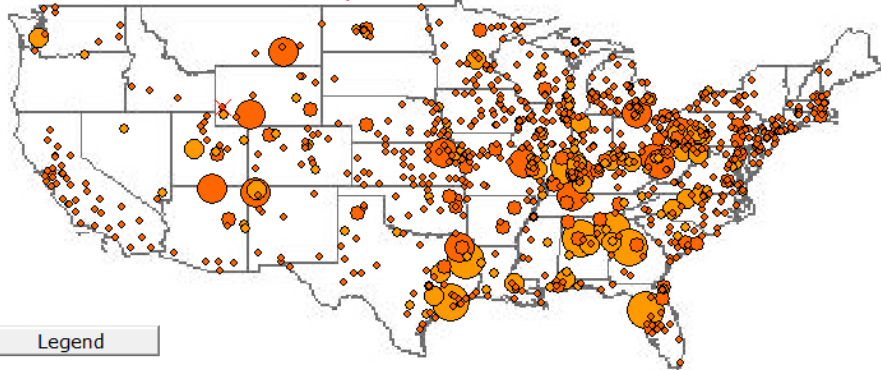
SWETT offsets all new water demands up to 0.5 Gt/yr reduced emissions

(Scenario assumes NGCC MUP cooled with towers)

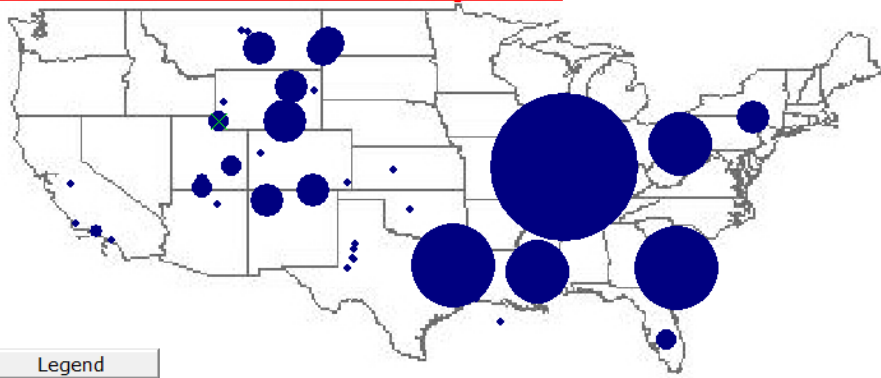
# Power Plant Capture & Formation Storage: *SWETT Increases Efficiency of Storage Space Use*

## With CO<sub>2</sub> injection & SWETT

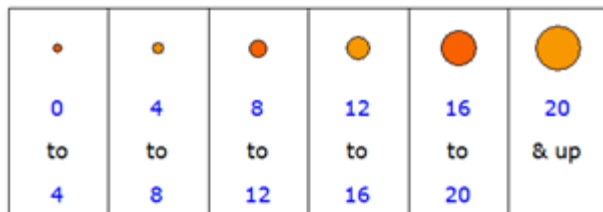
Power Plant Locations & CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Rates:



Utilized Formation Centroids & CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Rates:

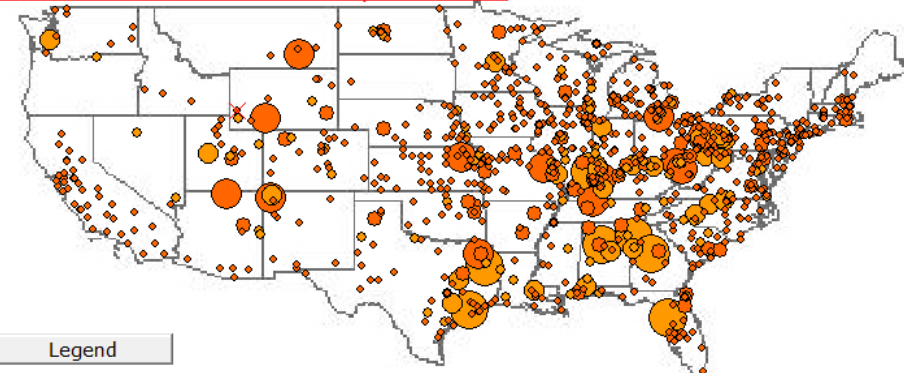


CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Rate (Mmt/yr)

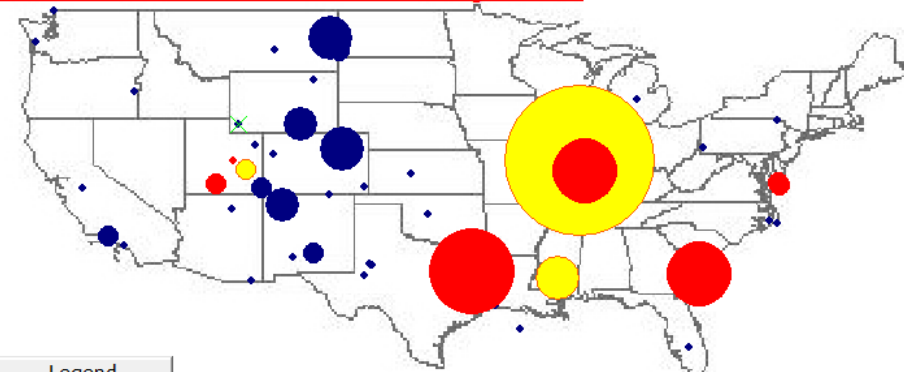


## With CO<sub>2</sub> injection only

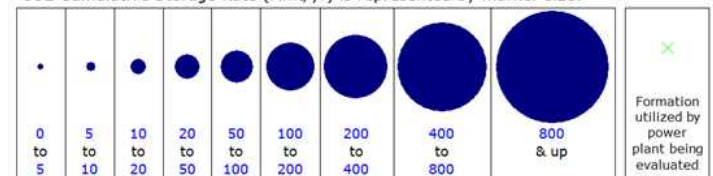
Power Plant Locations & CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Rates:



Utilized Formation Centroids & CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Rates:



CO<sub>2</sub> Cumulative Storage Rate (Mmt/yr) is represented by marker size:

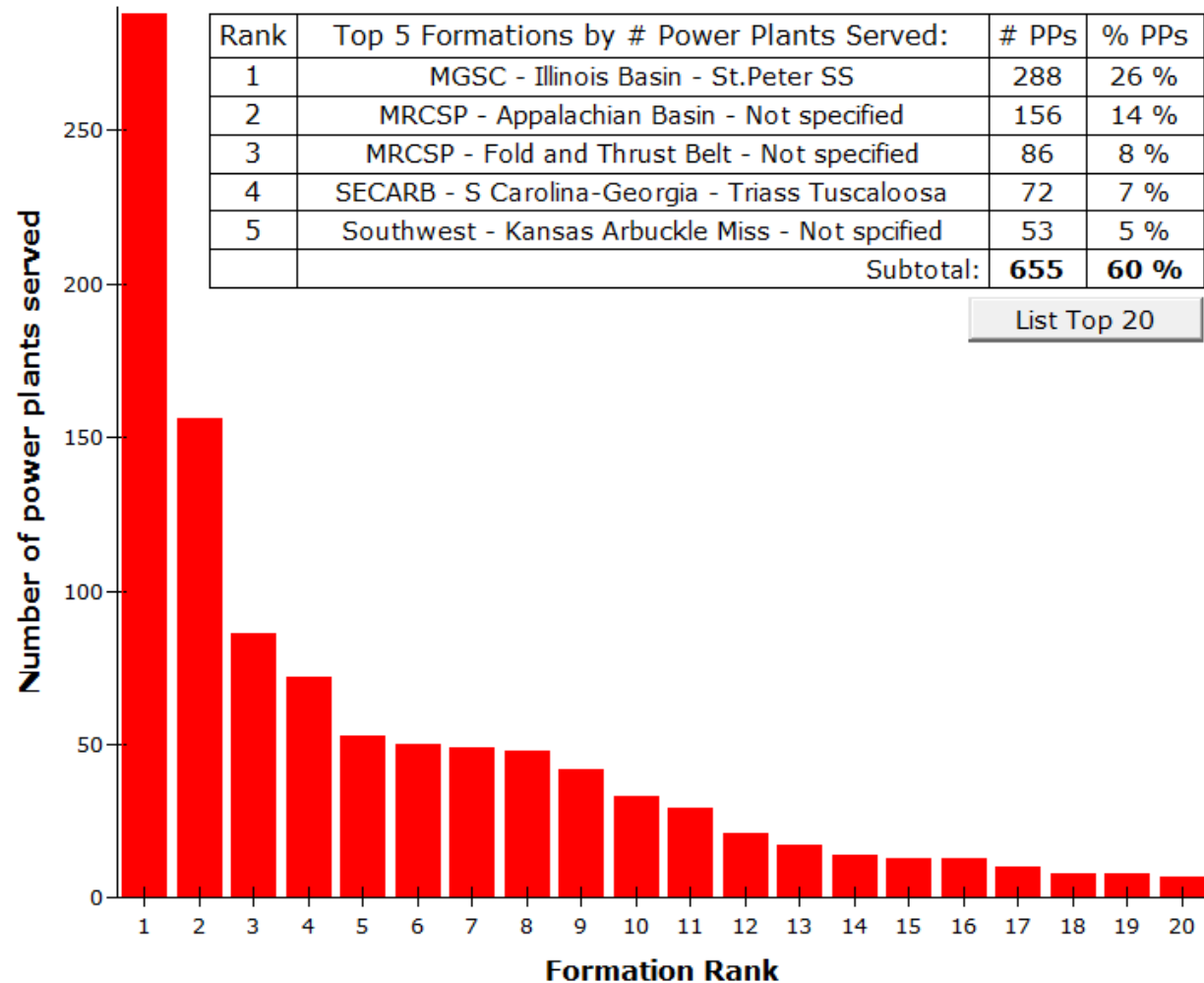


Formation utilization is represented by marker color:



# The Top 5 Saline Formations in the Lower U.S.: *storage potential*

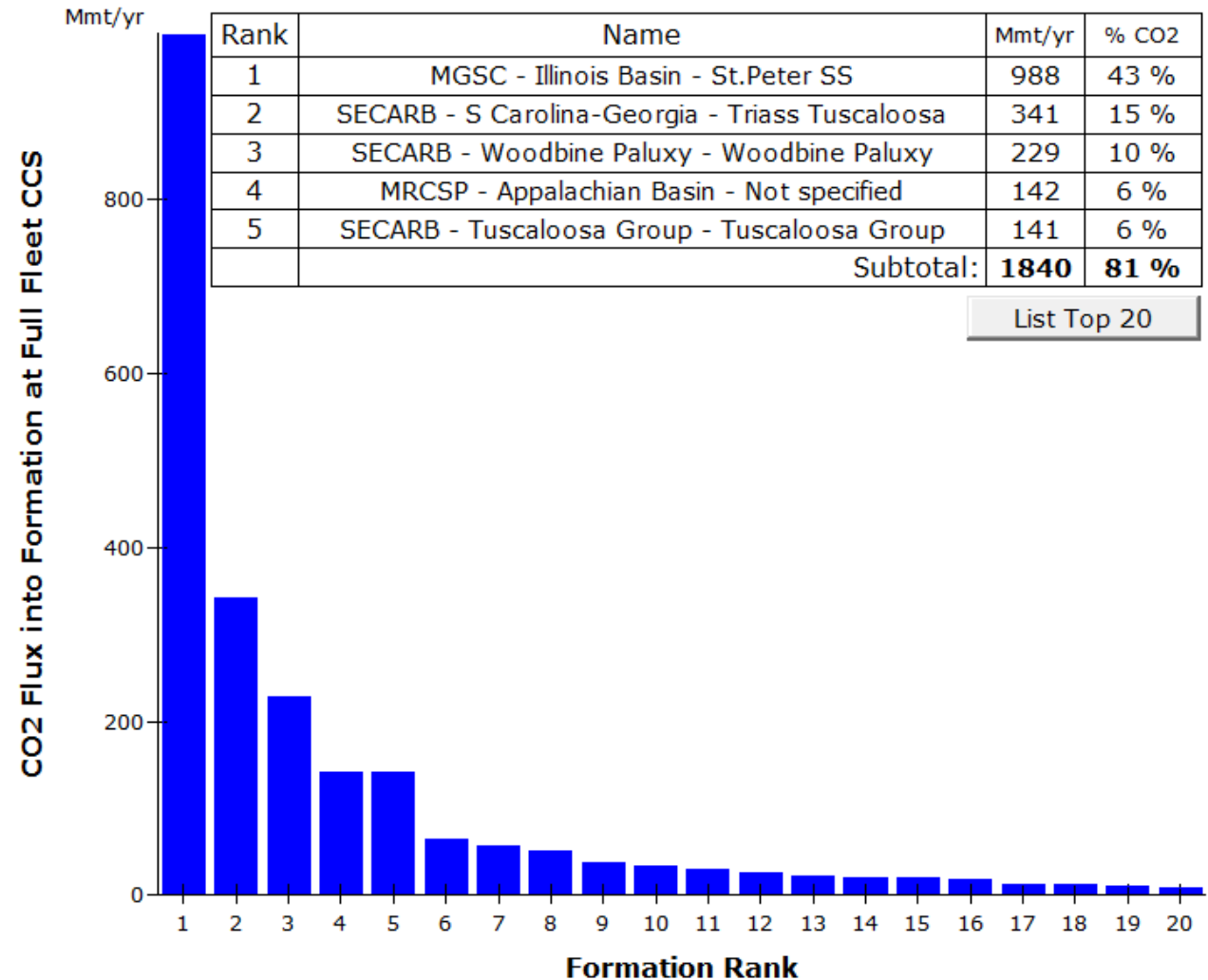
- Top 5 formations may hold 60% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Over 25% storage in St. Peter Sandstone or Mt. Simon (w/o SWETT)\*
- Large(r) and more favorable storage formations may face competition for the best 'supply' of storage space



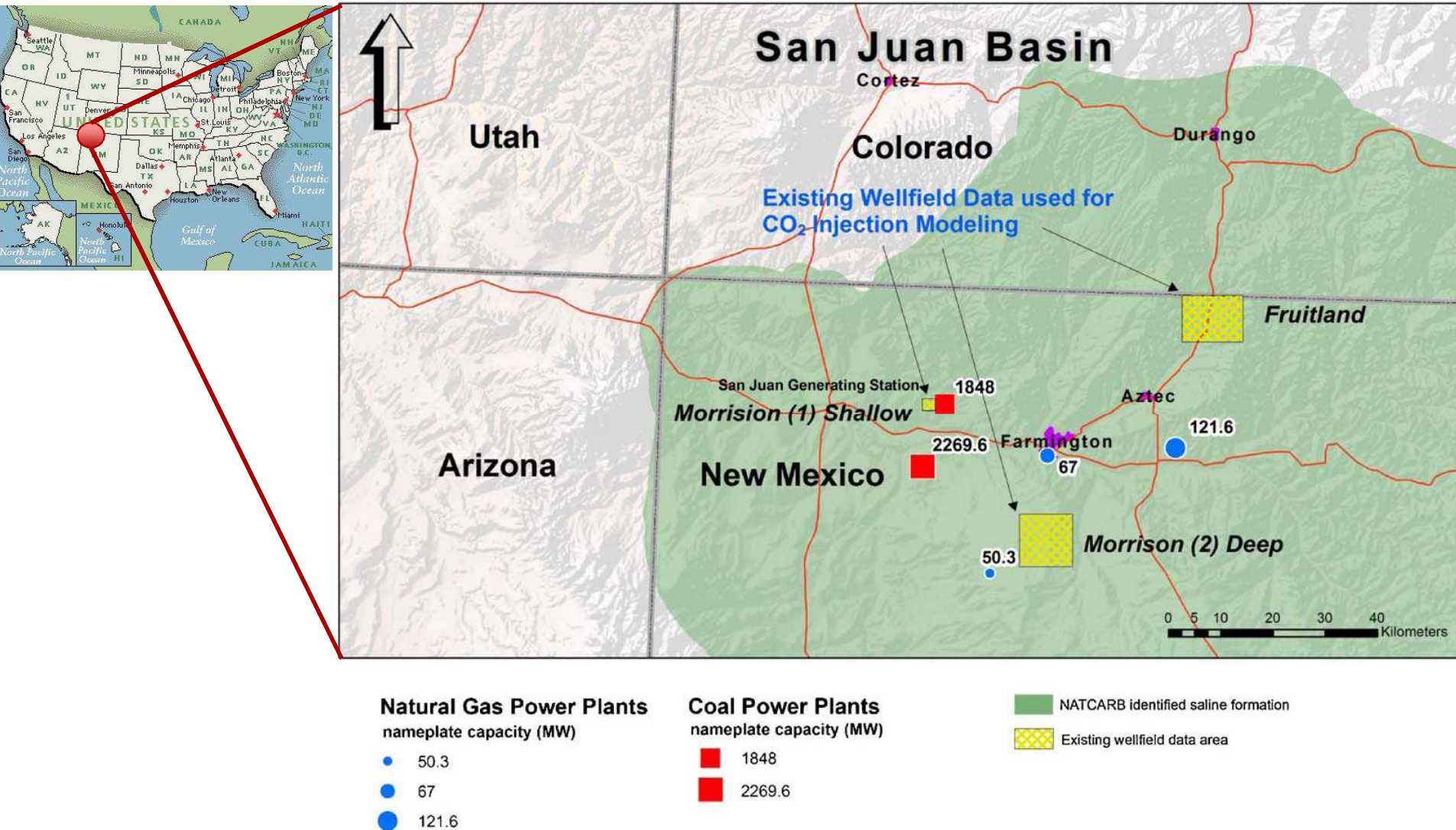


# The Top 5 Saline Formations in the Lower U.S.: *storage potential*

- Top 5 formations may hold 60% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Over 25% storage in St. Peter Sandstone (988 Mt/yr) or Mt. Simon (1,202 Mt/yr) w/o SWETT

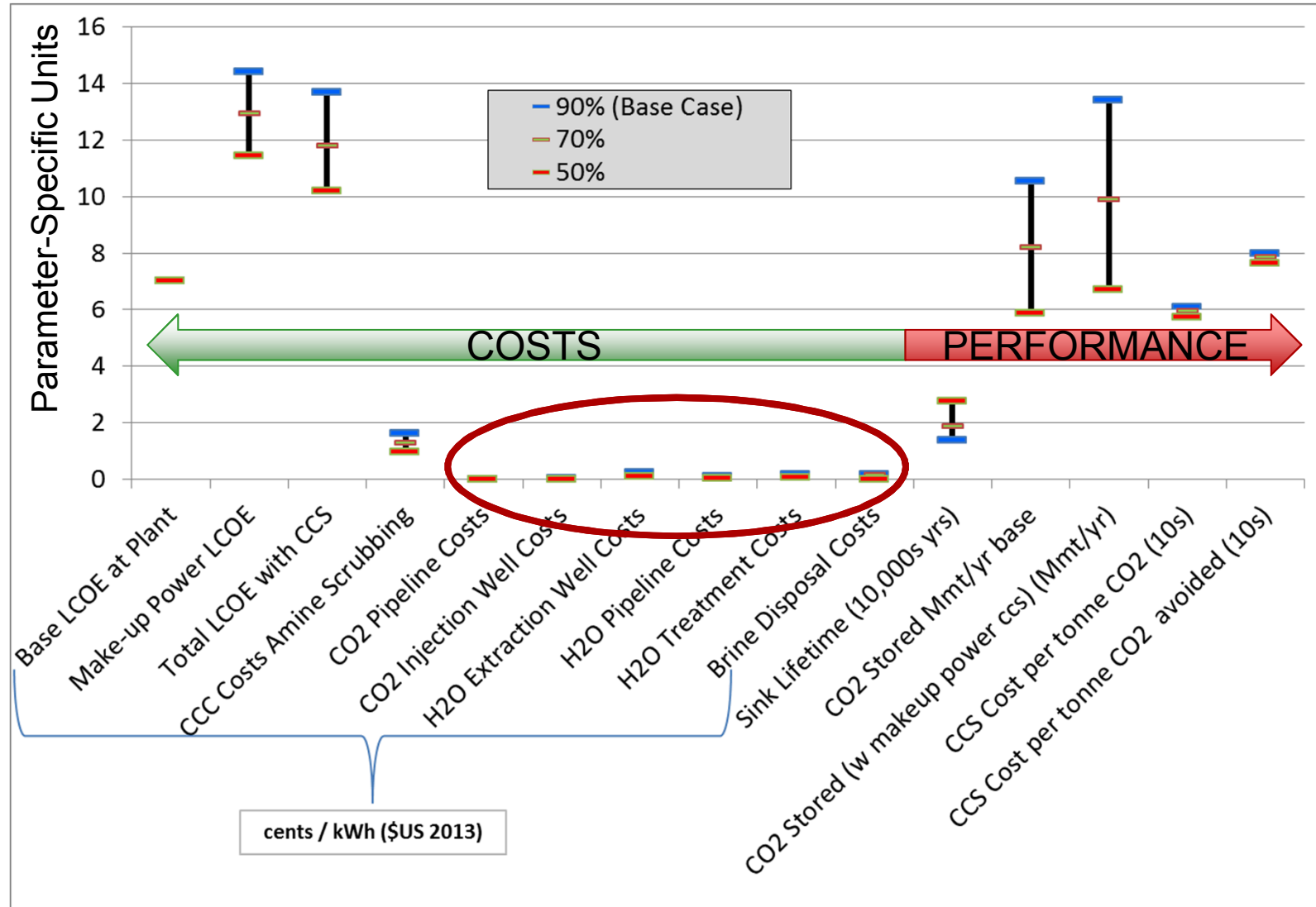


# WECSSsim Analysis Can also Investigate a Specific Power Plant to a Specific Sink

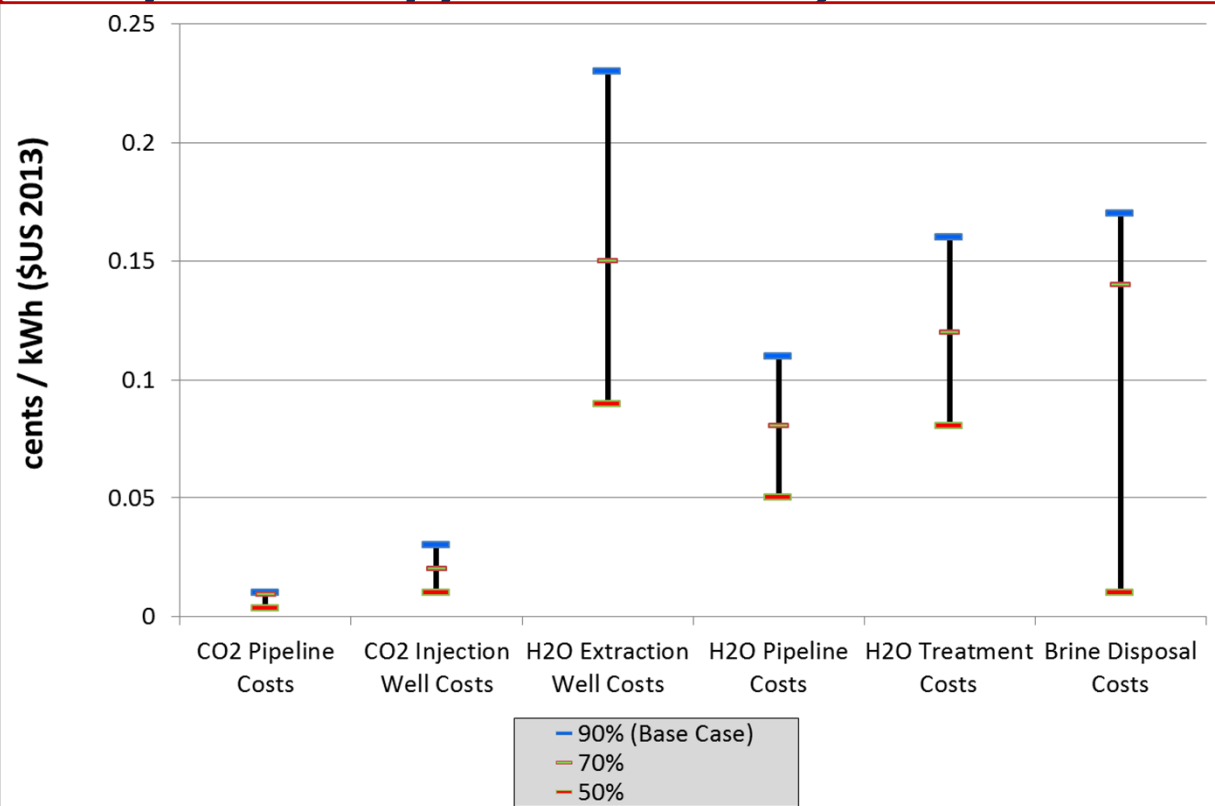
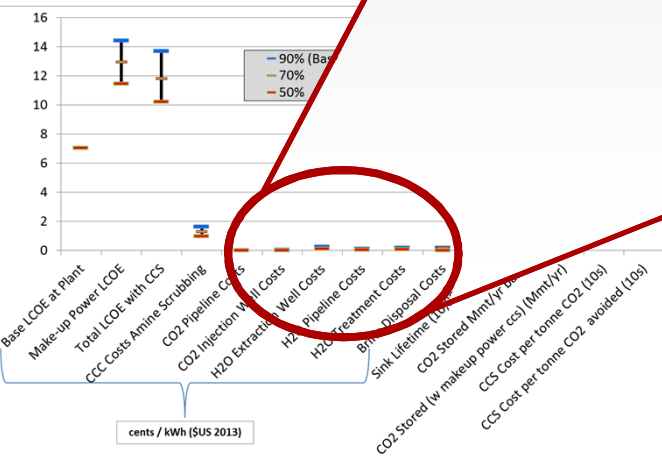


# Percent CO<sub>2</sub> Captured:

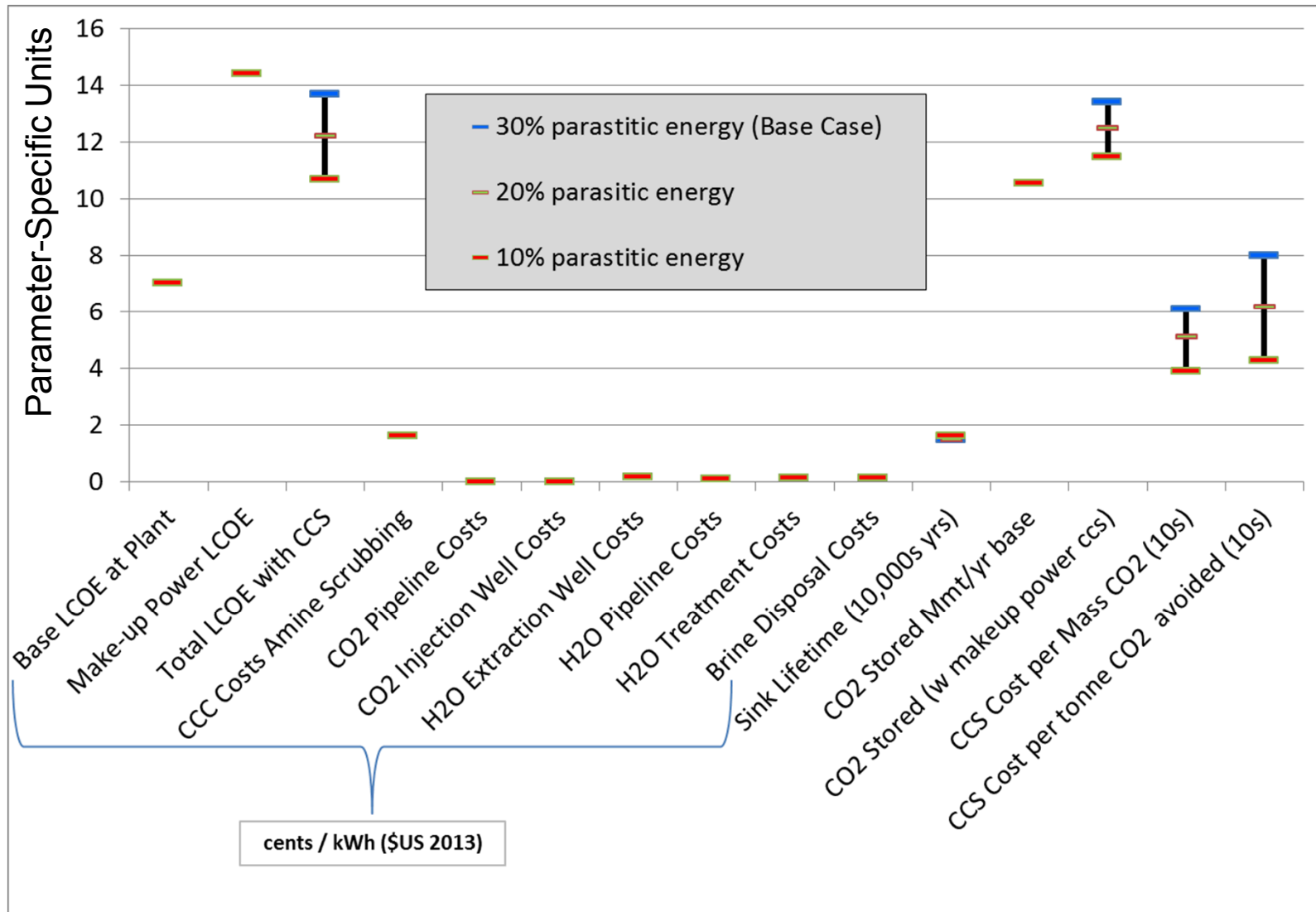
San Juan Generating Station: 90% (base case), 70%, 50%.



# Expanding Select Results from Previous Figure Reporting in cents/kWh

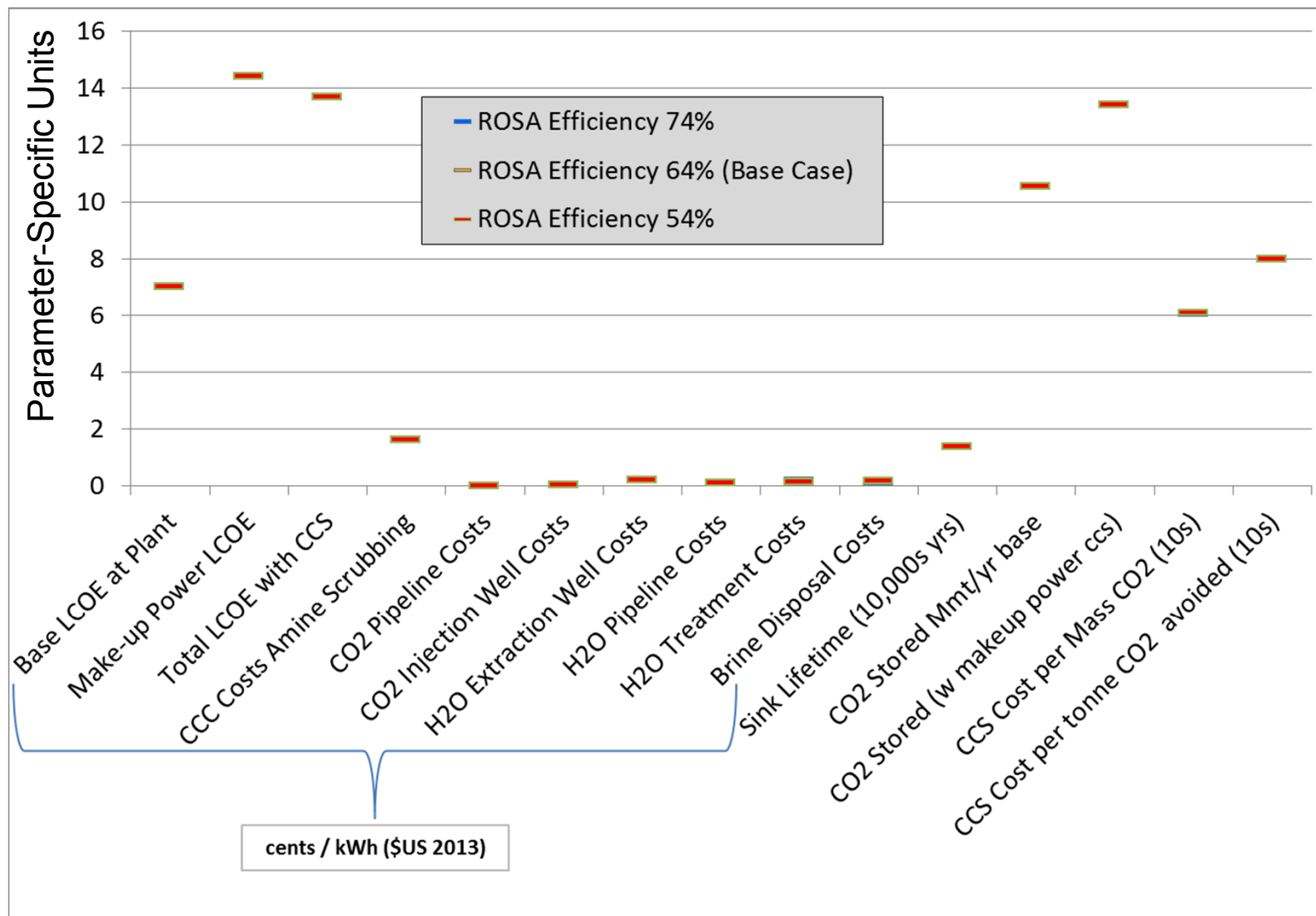


# Parasitic Energy for CCS: 30%, 20%, 10%





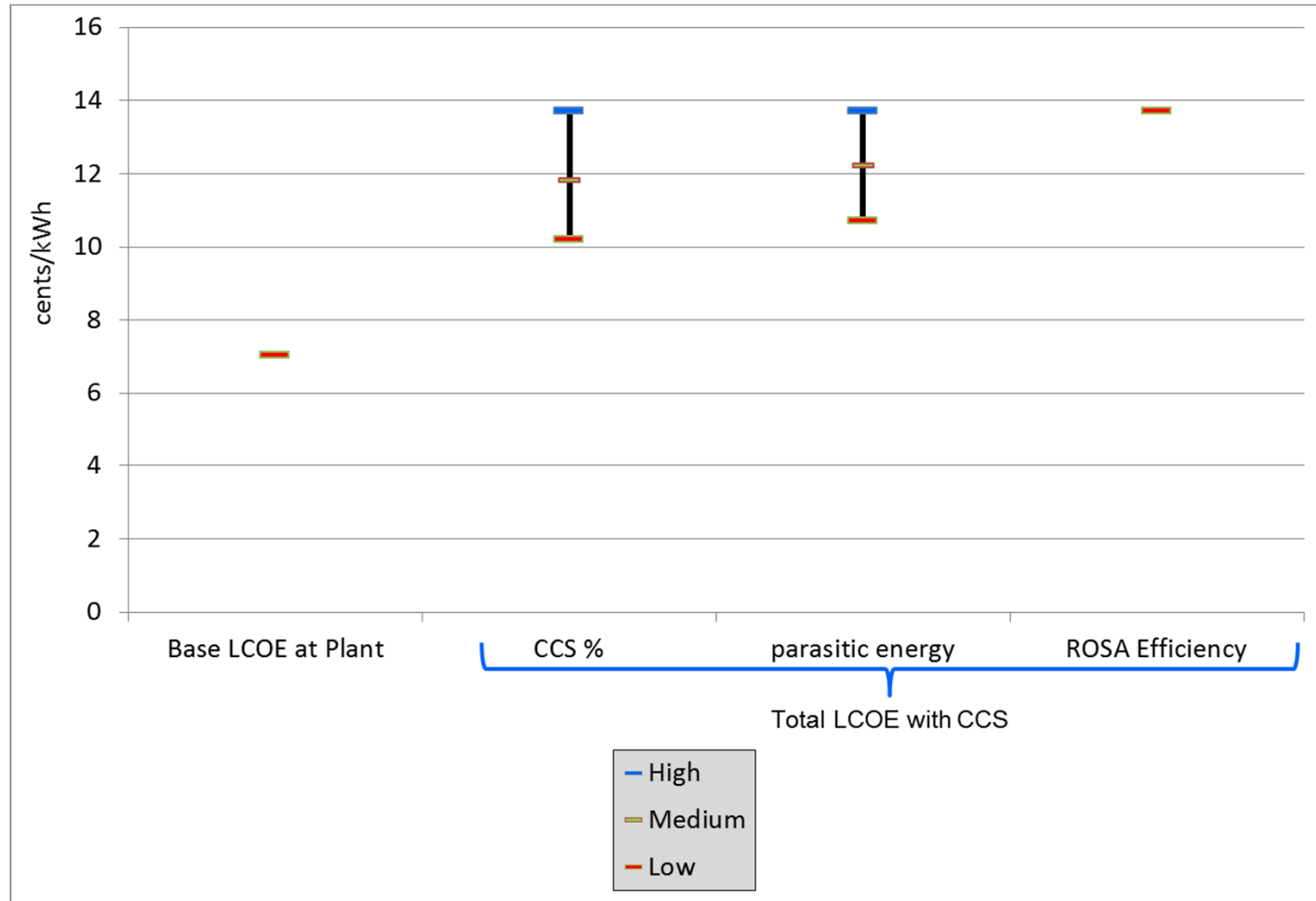
# Efficiency of the Reverse Osmosis System Analysis (ROSA): 74, 64, 54%



# Cost and Performance Drivers:

*% CO<sub>2</sub> captured, Parasitic Energy, Water Treatment Efficiency*

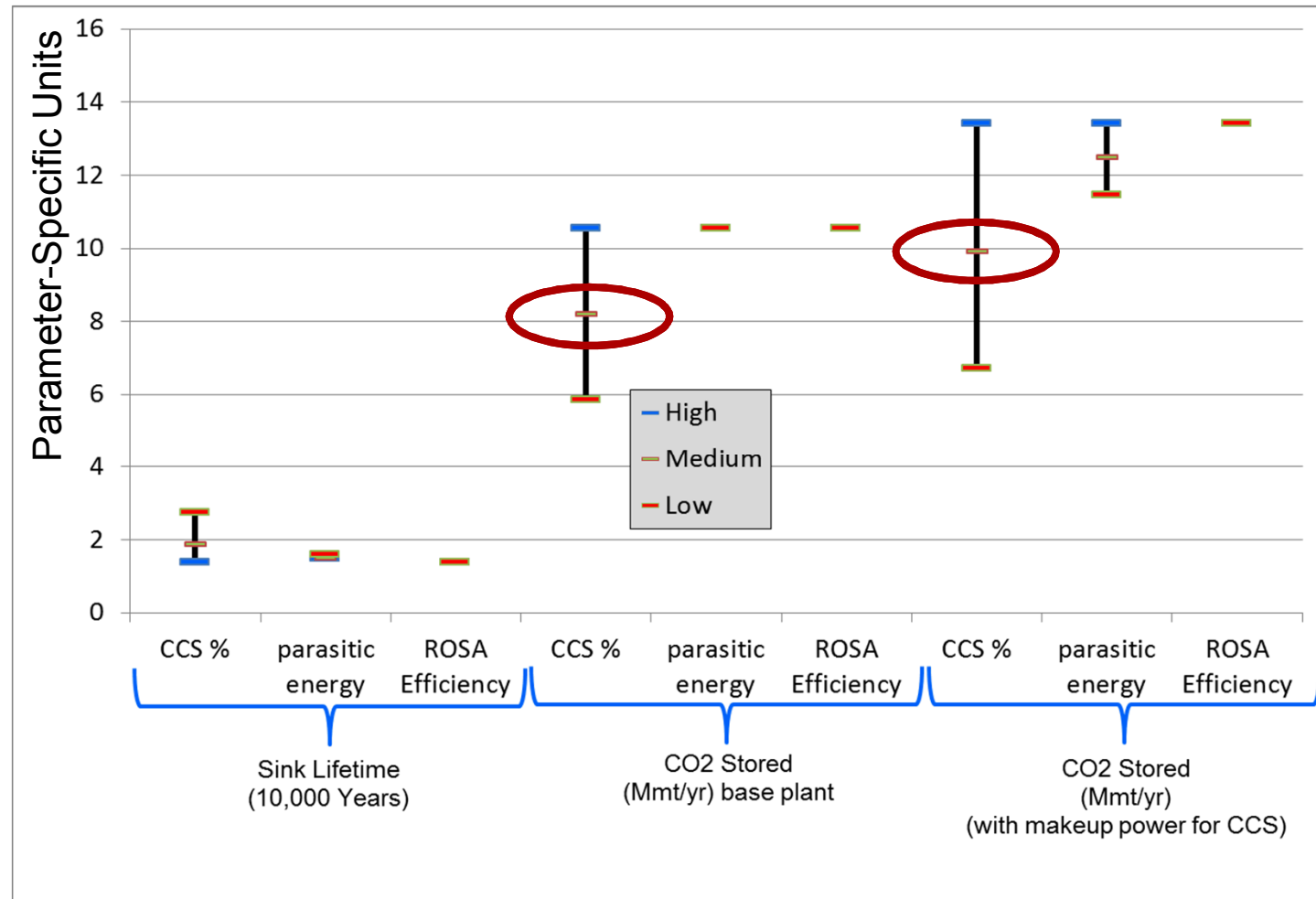
- Percent Capture & parasitic energy greatly affect the LCOE
- Water Treatment Efficiency changes to LCOE are small
- Highlights importance to:
  - Decide on % CO<sub>2</sub> capture
  - Reduce parasitic energy load & costs



# Cost and Performance Drivers:

*% CO<sub>2</sub> captured, Parasitic Energy, Water Treatment Efficiency*

- Percent Capture greatly affects sink lifetime and CO<sub>2</sub> stored
- Parasitic energy requirements affect the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> stored
- Supports notion to focus on avoided CO<sub>2</sub> rather than absolute CO<sub>2</sub> stored



# Future Analysis Considerations

- Expand the framework of WECSsim and other Integrated Assessment Modeling efforts to new technologies and regions
- Focus on engineered systems' components that reduce total costs the most
- Focus on reducing parasitic energy loads
- Continue to utilize WECSsim<sup>®</sup> for fleet and plant-specific analysis
- Select model resources and publications available at:  
<http://carbonmanagement.sandia.gov/>

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**Thank You.  
Questions?**

