



SECARB Phase III Early Test Receives Recognition for Furthering CCS Technology and Meeting G-8 Goals for Deployment

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Earlier today, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued a [Techline](#) recognizing the Southeast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership's (SECARB) Phase III Early Test for furthering carbon dioxide capture (CO₂) and storage (CCS) technology and meeting G-8 goals for deployment of 20 similar projects by 2010. The Early Test is the 5th project worldwide to reach the CO₂ injection volume of one million tonnes and the first in the United States. SECARB is managed by the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB), and field activities are directed by the Gulf Coast Carbon Center of the Bureau of Economic Geology at the University of Texas at Austin.

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CO₂ injection operations began in July 2008 at the Early Test, which is conducted at Cranfield Field in Southwest Mississippi. Cranfield Field was discovered in 1946 and abandoned in 1965 at the end of primary oil and gas production. Denbury Resources, Inc. currently operates the field and is a partner in the study. The Detailed Area of Study was expanded for Phase III operations, and CO₂ injection on a larger scale began in April 2009. The cumulative CO₂ injected during the two-phase field test reached one million metric tons in August 2009. As of September 30, the combined injection is 1,158,858 metric tons. The source of the CO₂ is naturally occurring CO₂ trapped in the subsurface formation known as the Jackson Dome. The CO₂, transported by pipeline to the injection site, will continue to be injected over several years.



The target formation is representative of the Gulf Coast geology that could be used to store 50 percent of the CO₂ produced in the SECARB region during the next 100 years. The lower Tuscaloosa Formation and similar Cretaceous-age formations are key components of a larger, regional group of similar formations, in terms of deposition and character, called the Gulf Coast Wedge. This wedge of sediments spans the entire region and includes the largest saline sinks (in terms of areal extent and capacity) for the SECARB region as well as the United States. Massachusetts Institute of Technology estimates that annual stationary point-source emissions of CO₂ are 1,047 Mt. Using the range of reported capacity, the Gulf Coast Wedge has the capacity to accommodate these emissions for approximately 300 to nearly 1,200 years, should 100 percent of this CO₂ be captured and stored.

SSEB is an interstate compact comprised of governors and state legislators from sixteen southern states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. SSEB's mission is to enhance economic development and the quality of life in the South through innovations in energy and environmental policies, programs, and technologies. SECARB is a regional network of more than 100 stakeholders with a common goal of determining the best approaches for capturing and permanently storing gases that can contribute to global climate change. SECARB is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy/ National Energy Technology Laboratory with cost-sharing by SECARB partners.

Please visit the DOE Fossil Energy website for the complete announcement, <http://www.fossil.energy.gov>. For additional information, please contact Ms. Kimberly Sams by phone at (770) 242-7712 or by email at sams@sseb.org.