



- 1997: PhD Earth and Environmental Sciences (Geophysics) NMT
- 2012-2020: Oil Conservation Commisioner

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- 2016- Present: Director Petroleum Recovery Research Center

 Focus has evolved towards sustainability, carbon storage, water cleanup
- ANSI Representative to ISO TC 265 (Geologic Storage of Carbon)
 US Mirror Committee (ISO) have brought in 3 standards to US
- Member Class VI Advisory Group (Groundwater Protection Council)
- Lead: Southwest Partnership on Carbon Sequestration (7 SW States)
- Lead: Carbon Utilization and Storage Partnership (15 Western states)
- New Mexico Lead: Intermountain West Energy Sustainability & Transitions

 (I-WEST) Los Alamos
- Involved in 24 Carbon Storage Projects in SW and Western USA
 - 5 Completed with >1.2 Million Tonnes Stored
 - 19 Active, targeting more than 15 million tonnes per year of active storage











How Do We Meet these Goals?

Simply stated this is an immense challenge

- Hydrocarbon Energy: Is pervasive and impacts every aspect of modern life
 - Coal-fired power (~30% of world CO₂ emissions)
 - Natural gas (~22%)

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- Vehicle Fuel (~9%)
- Critical Building Materials: Drive economic development
 - Steel (~9% of world emissions)
 - Cement (~8%)
- Strategic Minerals are Scarce: Relative to new demands we lack sufficient supplies to meet demand for renewables, renewable power storage, and 0 emissions vehicles

While rapidly evolving, Technology may not answer all of these needs in the time we have left



How Do We Achieve Carbon Reduction? NEW MEXICO TECH Switching completely to renewables is a multi-generational change, and we only have a generation to accomplish this Need major advances in Energy storage, Grid Management, and Power Electronics - Huge infrastructure ask, solar panels to power the US would completely cover the states of NM and AZ, and would require Terawatt sized batteries with longer cycle times than current Lithium-Ion Need to rapidly develop new sources of strategic minerals or alternate technology to use more common materials Will need to be able to use existing energy sources while this transition is made Mitigation (storage and reductions by efficiency) will have to dominate the near term to buy time for new technology to be developed • Fortunately we can leverage existing energy assets and subsurface experience, with a highly trained workforce of energy workers Emission Penalties (Stick) and Tax credits like 45Q in USA (Carrot) are impactors



•	Economic benefits of tax credit can be substantial
	 – 1 tonne of CO2 is approximately 18 mmcf of gas
	 – 1 million tonnes per year from each of 4 gas plants in San Juan, for example
	 If stored this could generate a tax credit of \$50-85 million a year per plant Pays for expensive infrastructure required
	— If stored this reduces emissions to the Atmosphere!
٠	Other tangible benefits of reducing carbon emissions
	 Stored CO2 does not count as emissions for EPA reporting purposes
	 Reduces CO2 footprint of the company
•	Sustainability of operations for oil and gas producers
	 Improved public perception of operations
	 Reduced economic risk from future regulatory or policy changes

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Qualified Facility

"Any industrial facility... the construction of which begins before January 1, 2026, and the construction of carbon capture equipment begins before that date, or the original planning and design of the facility includes carbon capture equipment..."

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- Electrical generating facilities must capture at least 62,500 tonnes per year
- Other facilities must capture at least 12,500 tones per year



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- EOR has been doing this for years
 - More than 1.3 Gigatonnes of CO2 stored in Permian basin over 40 years
- Regional Carbon Storage Partnerships (2003)
 - US DOE established regional partnership program to understand regional and national storage potential, technologies, and to perform demonstration projects
- Carbonsafe
 - DOE program to promote large scale capture and storage for coal plants
- New Regional Partnership program
 - DOE doubled down and is continuing the work of the RCSP's









Critical Building Materials

- Work is being done on reducing emissions from these sources, but these solutions are in the realm of **Science**, not **Engineering**
- These are difficult materials to replace and are also essential for renewables
 - Wind Tower materials include (NREL):
 - 71-95% steel and Iron by mass (150 metric tonnes
 - 11-16% fiberglass resin or plastic my mass (950 barrels of oil)
 - Concrete (400 m³)

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- Copper for turbines (1% by mass)
- Does not consider fuel for trucking and manufacturing

Likely need to mitigate rather than eliminate most of these emissions

Strategic Minerals NEW MEXICO TECH Materials needed for generators, catalysts (hydrogen), and batteries to build and store energy from renewables Minerals used include (futures prices): - **Copper** (\$2.10 per lb in 2016, \$4.48 per lb in February **2X**) - Cobalt (\$16,205 per ton in 2016, \$81,360 per ton in April 5X) Nickel (\$7,148 per ton in 2016, \$48,436 per ton in March 7X) Rare Earths (varies but typically has gone up 3-4X) - Lithium (\$83,054 per tonne in 2017, \$468,500 in June 6X) - Silver (\$4.72 per oz in 2016, \$21.91 per oz in May of 2022 5X) Batteries need vast quantities of materials - To electrify all 285 million vehicles in USA would require • 4 years of world annual Copper production • 8 years of world annual Lithium production 15 years of world annual Cobalt production Other countries and Industries also need these materials! Tradingeconomics.com

NEW MEXICO TECH And Then There is Geopolitics...

- Major emitting countries that are most likely to pursue Net Zero (USA/EU) do not produce the bulk of these materials because mining has major environmental concerns!
- Where do these minerals come from?:
 - Copper top 5 : Chile, Peru, China, DR Congo, USA
 - Cobalt top 5 : DR Congo, Russia, Australia, Phillipines, Cuba
 - Nickel top 5: Indonesia, Phillipines, Russia, Caledonia, Australia
 - Rare Earths Top 5: China, USA, Myanmar, Australia, Thailand
 - Lithium top 5: Australia, Chile, China, Argentina, Brazil
 - Silver top 5: Mexico, Peru, China, Russia, Poland
- Also there are social costs:
 - Democratic Republic of Congo Child Labor, dangerous conditions, lack of environmental protections

Renewables, Hydrogen, and associated new infrastructures, all need much more strategic minerals than are mined today, this means many new mines

Tradingeconomics.com

Is There a Path to Net Zero? Is Coulty, yes. Communities, Cities, States, even Countries could conceivably do this with a healthy mix of: Increased efficiency Use all types of decarbonized powers depending on local needs Carbon capture and storage from fixed emission sources Direct Air Capture will still likely be needed to compensate for some sectors that are decentralized Cost is an issue Cannot work in a vacuum when it comes to costs of global commodities Significant portions of GDP will be required Will become non-competitive with neighbors who do not, or cannot afford to, pursue these goals as aggressively



How Can We Best Address Climate Goals Then?

- Think of all-inclusive and regionally relevant solutions
- Need to embrace <u>"Engineering Solutions"</u> available today, while we continue to work on <u>"Science Solutions"</u> for the future. With current technology:
 - Need to accelerate and embrace nuclear power
 - Traditional, Thorium reactors, standing wave reactors, etc
 - Develop renewables to the extent we can fully utilize them
 - Adapt to intermittent power use to get better utilization
 - Hydrocarbons are very cost-effective, and will continue to be used in vast quantities
 - Those emissions must be captured and geologically stored

Ultimately, we must be prepared to adapt to some climate change, as goals are not likely to be met, even at Paris Accord levels in the 1-2 generations we have left

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