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NEWSLETTER

June 2012

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## From the Director's Desk

Operational injection at the Illinois Basin - Decatur Project is progressing, with 194,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> stored in the Mt. Simon Sandstone as of this newsletter. A brief update on the project is included later in this newsletter and a more complete overview of the project will be showcased during the Midwest Carbon Sequestration Science Conference, September, 17-19, 2012. We hope you will consider joining us at the conference.

On the first afternoon of the conference, STEP will host a workshop featuring international CCS projects and perspectives. The workshop will feature presentations from project leaders in Australia, Europe, and around the world. Participants will gain insight into project development including site selection, operations, regulatory frameworks, community engagement, and monitoring. Presenters will discuss specific challenges and share lessons learned. A panel discussion will follow with a focus on leveraging these global experiences for future developments.

Please join us for this event. I hope to see you all in Champaign.

Sallie Greenberg  
Director  
Sequestration Training and Education Program (STEP)

## What's Happening In and Around the Illinois Basin

Injection of CO<sub>2</sub> at the MGSC's Illinois Basin Decatur Project (IBDP) recently reached the 194,000 tonne mark towards the project goal to inject one million metric tonnes. Plans are underway for the fourth round of brine sampling, which is scheduled for mid-July, using the Westbay\* multilevel groundwater characterization and monitoring system. Additionally, a second set of Reservoir Saturation Tool (RST) logs will be collected in both the injection and verification wells.

The construction of the Illinois Industrial Carbon Capture and Storage (ICCS) project is progressing well; civil and structural work was completed for the following five facilities: (1) compressor building housing four compressors, three booster pumps, inter-stage, cooling, and vent piping, electrical and instrumentation conduits, and dehydration equipment, (2) compressor motor control center, (3) compressor switchgear building, (4) blower building, (5) blower motor control center. The major long-lead compression and dehydration equipment, except for the blowers, has been received and installed. Two blowers are scheduled to be received and installed in August.

The construction of the National Sequestration Education Center (NSEC) at Richland Community College, Decatur, IL was mostly completed. A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be held for the Illinois ICCS project and NSEC on Wednesday, September 19, 2012. This Ceremony will mark the inauguration of NSEC and substantial mechanical completion of the compression and dehydration facilities for the ICCS project. The project team plans to invite the project partners, state and local legislators, Decatur community members, CCUS technology experts, and other key stakeholders to this Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. (see article later in newsletter for more details about NSEC).

\*Mark of Schlumberger

### Register Now! 2012 Midwest Carbon Sequestration Science Conference, September 17-19, Champaign, Illinois



Dave Morse describes core at IBDP site visit 2011.

The MGSC is planning its 2012 conference and will once again invite open registration for interested CCS participants to attend its annual Project Advisory Meeting. This conference will include a full day of IBDP research presentations covering all aspects of the MGSC Phase III research activities. The conference will also include a STEP-sponsored workshop and an optional tour of the IBDP site. The meeting will begin on Monday, September 17th and is being held at the I Hotel and Conference Center, Champaign, IL.

Registration is now open and can be accessed at  
<http://www.sequestration.org/resources/PAGSept2012/index-PAG.html>.

Reminder -- Copies of presentations from the 2011 Midwest Carbon Sequestration Science Conference are still available on the MGSC website at <http://www.sequestration.org/resources/reports.html>.

## DCEO Coal Conference, June 19-21, 2012, Rend Lake, Illinois



Sallie Greenberg at DCEO 2012 Coal conference.

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Office of Coal Development hosted the Fifteenth Annual Illinois Coal Education Conference, June 19-22, 2012, at Rend Lake Resort in Whittington, Illinois. This four-day teacher workshop explores all aspects of the Illinois coal industry and consisted of lectures, tours, and hands-on activities that correlate to the Illinois Learning Standards. Topics covered during the conference included formation/geology of coal, a historical look at coal mining, land reclamation, clean coal technology, generating electricity, economics of coal, coal bed methane, permitting and environmental projection. The goal of the conference is to increase the teacher's overall knowledge of the coal industry while increasing their comfort level in addressing the science; the regulatory; the economic; and the societal factors at play within the coal industry. Teachers were given tangible learning tools to incorporate coal education into their lesson plans. Several Illinois State Geological Survey staff members gave presentations at the conference including, Sallie Greenberg, STEP Director, who gave an overview on geological sequestration.

## National Sequestration Education Center, Decatur, Illinois

Richland Community College (RCC) established the National Sequestration Education Center (NSEC), Decatur, Illinois, as part of the ICCS project titled: "CO<sub>2</sub> Capture from Biofuels Production and Sequestration into the Mt. Simon Sandstone." The project partners are Archer Daniels Midland Company, Schlumberger Carbon Services, Illinois State Geological Survey, Richland Community College, and National Energy Technology Laboratory/U.S. Department of Energy.

The NSEC, located at RCC in Decatur, Illinois is designed to be a national focal point for carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS), community outreach and academic programming by providing an innovative experiential learning and knowledge transfer environment. As a technology knowledge transfer platform, the NSEC provides unique educational value to researchers and visitors from around the world by experiencing the sequestration technologies

demonstrated on the Richland campus and in the surrounding Midwest communities. The CO<sub>2</sub> injection monitoring well instrumentation to be networked into the NSEC will provide real-time assessment and evaluation of injection and geological system performance.

The NSEC will provide workforce development for CCUS industries as well as facilitate ongoing professional development. In addition to noncredit programming, RCC provides the first higher education in sequestration technology. RCC is implementing new associate degree programs with an emphasis on CCUS (i.e., Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Engineering Technology with Sequestration Specialty and Associate of Science (AS) with Sequestration Concentration, a university transfer degree). RCC will begin offering the AAS degree program in fall 2012.

While the majority of NSEC space is dedicated to educational purposes, the facility includes a Visitors Center for use by the project partners and visiting scientists and researchers. The Visitors Center features traditional artifact displays and a one of kind leading-edge, state-of-the-art Sequestration Technology Education Learning Array (STELA), which is an interactive presentation to learn about CCUS technologies.

## New CCS Resources Now Available

The National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) is part of DOE's national laboratory system and supports DOE's mission to advance the national, economic, and energy security of the United States. Their website

([http://www.netl.doe.gov/technologies/carbon\\_seq/refshelf/refshelf.html](http://www.netl.doe.gov/technologies/carbon_seq/refshelf/refshelf.html)) provides an extensive resource library including two new publications - Best Practices for: Carbon Storage Systems and Well Management Activities, and The North American Carbon Storage Atlas 2012.

The Best Practices for Carbon Storage Systems and Well Management Activities focuses on the management activities related to the planning, permitting, design, drilling, implementation and decommissioning of wells for geologic storage projects.



The North American Carbon Storage Atlas 2012 contains CO<sub>2</sub> geological storage information derived from available data in Canada, Mexico and the United States. The Atlas was developed to provide a high-level overview of CO<sub>2</sub> geological storage potential across North America. The location and areal extent of promising geological storage formations and the CO<sub>2</sub> resource estimates presented in this Atlas are intended to be used as an initial assessment of potential geological storage opportunities. This information provides CCS project developers with a starting point for further investigations.



Both publications are available for download at

[http://www.netl.doe.gov/technologies/carbon\\_seq/refshelf/refshelf.html](http://www.netl.doe.gov/technologies/carbon_seq/refshelf/refshelf.html).

## Meetings of Interest

- Climate Change and Carbon Sequestration, July 23-August 3, 2012, New Mexico Tech. Contact: Bruce Harrison [bruce@nmt.edu](mailto:bruce@nmt.edu)
- Reservoir and Caprock Field School, August 15-17, 2012, New Mexico Tech. Contact: Peter Mozley [moxley@nmt.edu](mailto:moxley@nmt.edu)
- 2012 Midwest Carbon Sequestration Science Conference, September 17-19, 2012, Champaign, Illinois. <http://www.sequestration.org>
- 2012 International Pittsburgh Coal Conference, October 15-18, 2012, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. <http://www.engineering.pitt.edu/pcc/>

## Web Resources

- [Midwest Geological Carbon Sequestration Consortium](#)
- [Midwest Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership](#)
- [U.S. Department of Energy](#)
- [National Energy Technology Laboratory \(NETL\)](#)
- [National Carbon Sequestration Database and Geographic Information System](#)
- [Carbon Capture Journal](#)
- [USGS Carbon Sequestration Research](#)
- [Carbon Capture & Storage Technologies @ MIT](#)
- [The Carbon Capture Report at UI](#)
- [The Midwest Carbon Sequestration Science Conference Presentations](#)

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