# Advancing Fossil Energy Technology Solutions at the National Carbon Capture Center

John Northington – Assistant Director



# National Carbon Capture Center (NCCC)

- Location: Wilsonville, Alabama
- **Sponsors:** U.S. Department of Energy and its National Energy Technology Laboratory
- **Partners:** Electric Power Research Institute, power and coal industry leaders
- Managed by: Southern Company

















# **Our Mission and Values**

Offering a **world-class neutral** test facility and highly specialized staff to **accelerate the commercialization** of advanced technologies and enable coalbased power plants to achieve **near-zero emissions (low-cost CO<sub>2</sub>)**.



Safety First Unquestionable Trust Superior Performance Total Commitment

# What the Project Provides

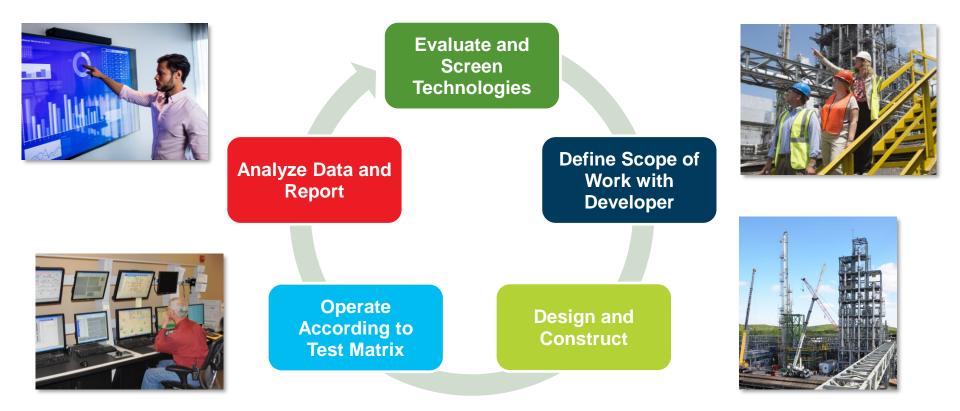
- **Cost-efficient test site** with **infrastructure** for numerous technology developers
- Real-world conditions with coal-derived flue gas
- Flexible capability for testing at **multiple scales** and **on-site scale-ups**
- Expert **technical staff** for design, installation and testing support
- High-quality data acquisition and gas/liquid sampling and analysis





- Over **98,000 test hours** since founding in 2008
- Technology developers from the U.S. and six other countries
- First coal-derived gas testing of solid oxide fuel cells and certain solvents, membranes and enzymes
- On-site scale-ups and process enhancements for 10 technologies
  - Scale-ups for testing at larger sites for five solvents
  - Scale-up to commercial operation for one solvent
- Full compliance with all regulations, including on-time submittal and publication of technical reports

# **Technology Development Process**



# **Test Sites**



# **Gasification and Pre-Combustion Accomplishments**

 Gasifier operation supported over 50,000 hours of technology testing - Biomass gasification in air- and oxygen-blown operation - Sensors: Tunable Diode Laser, particulate monitor, thermowells, coal feeder Catalysts: Fischer-Tropsch, water-gas shift, and COS hydrolysis - Sorbents: trace metals, CO<sub>2</sub>, ammonia - Membranes: hydrogen and CO<sub>2</sub> - Advanced processes: ammonium carbonate/bicarbonate solvent, syngas chemical looping, pressure-swing adsorption, pressure-swing Claus Additional operation with CO<sub>2</sub> solvents – on-line and off-line Achieved scale-ups and process intensification for several technologies



- Fuel cells

instrumentation



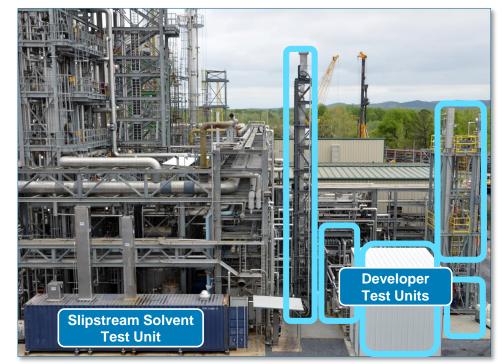




Recent Developer Testing	
Developer	Technology
	Chemical Looping
MTTR Membrane Technology & Research	Hydrogen Membranes
Media and Process Technology	Hydrogen Membranes
SR	Coal-To-Liquids
	Syngas Reformer
SRI Internations	PBI Membrane
TDA Research	0.1 MWe Sorbent System
WGS & COS Developer	WGS
	COS

# **PC4 Bench-Scale**

- Simultaneous operation of up to five developer test units
- Slipstream Solvent Test Unit (SSTU) for solvents in early development
- SSTU also used for solvent emissions studies, emission mitigation processes
- Flue gas/utilities and gas analysis systems operating independently of PC4 pilot-scale area



# **PC4 Pilot-Scale**

- Simultaneous operation of developer test units and Pilot Solvent Test Unit (PSTU)
- PSTU offers flexible operation to match developers' planned commercial configuration
- PSTU also supports solvent emissions and degradation studies



# **Post-Combustion Accomplishments**

#### PC4 operation supported over 49,000 hours of technology testing

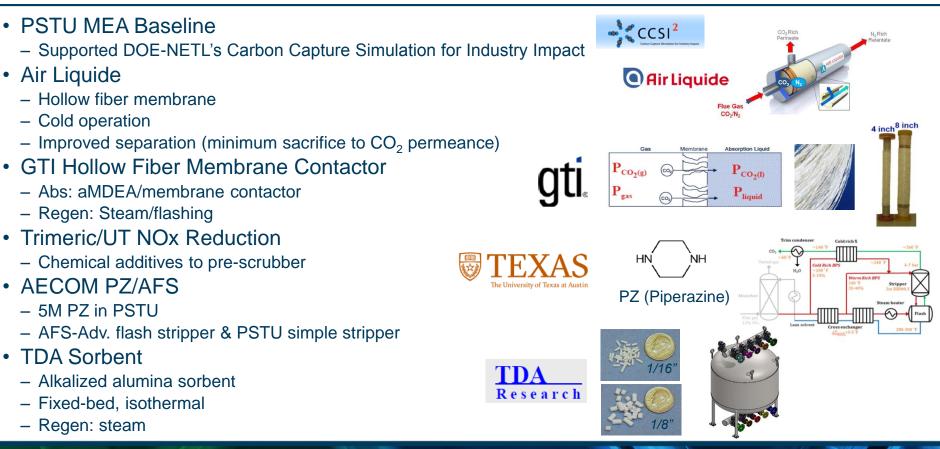
- Over 6,000 hours under natural gas conditions
- More than 20 developer projects completed
- Tested enzymes, membranes, sorbents, solvents, and associated systems
- Continued relationship with technology developers to achieve scale-ups and process enhancements

#### PSTU operation for over 15,000 hours

- Demonstrated near 100% mass and energy balance closures
- Supported commercial developers and DOE Carbon Capture Simulation Initiative
- Several solvents progressed to further testing at other facilities
- Facility construction and upgrades
  - Plant capacity more than doubled from 12,000 to 30,000 lb/hr flue gas
  - Added systems (SSTU, air dilution, etc.) and enhanced instrumentation, sampling methods, and analysis systems



# **Recent/Upcoming Tests**



# **NCCC Active Internationally**

# International Collaboration

- Support DOE goal of international cooperation
- Multiple paths for involvement; partners, developers, network members and workshops
- Ease of collaboration since intellectual property is not being shared
- Broad effort China, India, Middle East, Korea, Japan, EU, Australia, Canada, Norway

### ITCN

- Share pubic knowledge with 13 carbon capture test facilities
  - Facility operations
  - Facility funding
  - Safety
  - Analytical techniques
- · Collaborate on one technical item per year

# Carbon Capture is an international issue that requires international solutions



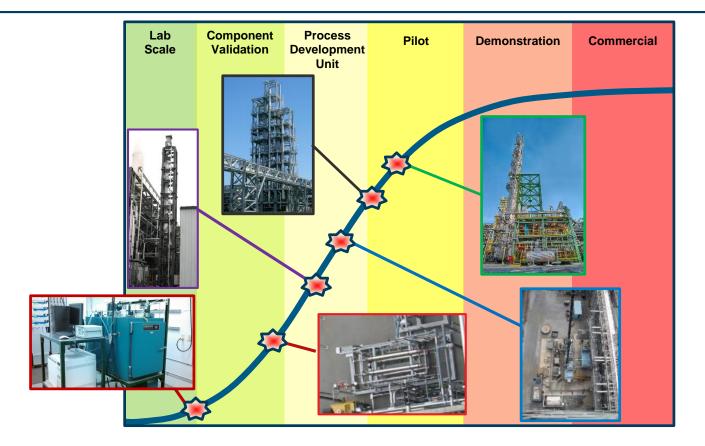




# **International Test Center Network Members**



# **Successful Testing and Partnerships**

















CLEARPATH

#### More information

www.nationalcarboncapturecenter.com

https://twitter.com/NCarbonCaptureC



