

Field Testing and Independent Review of Post-Combustion CO₂ Capture Technology

Presented by Phil Boyle, President and COO, Powerspan Corp. *McIlvaine Company, Carbon Management Strategies & Technologies Webinar, June 24, 2010*

Description of ECO₂® Technology

- 90% CO₂ capture using absorption-regeneration process
- Packed-bed absorption tower, similar but smaller regeneration tower
- Uses proprietary solvent, but chemicals are readily available
- Solvent is stable from both thermal and oxidative degradation
- Tolerant of higher levels of SO₂ (40+ ppm); in many cases obviates need for a polishing scrubber
- Relatively low energy of regeneration extraction steam heat less than 1000 BTU/lb of CO_2
- No interaction with Powerspan's SO₂ removal technology; can be installed after conventional SO₂ scrubbers



ECO₂ Process Flow Diagram





ECO₂ Pilot Plant

- At FirstEnergy's R.E. Burger Plant in Southeastern Ohio
- 1 MW capacity, 20 tons CO₂/day
- CO₂ capture >90% with 11-12% CO₂ in inlet gas
- Constructed using commercial equipment
- Designed to evaluate performance and economics for scale-up
- Demonstrates process performance and control under varying, real world plant operating conditions
- Initial flue gas flow December 2008





ECO₂ Pilot Performance Test Results

- >90% CO₂ removal at full system flow
- Regeneration energy provided by extraction steam: 1,000 Btu/lb of CO₂
- Product gas meets Kinder-Morgan pipeline standards for concentration
 - O₂: 8 ppmv, H₂O: 16 ppmv, SO₂: <0.02 ppmv, H₂S: <0.5 ppmv
 - Hydrocarbons: <0.5%, N₂ <0.05%





Background of Independent Assessment

- Independent review of Powerspan's ECO₂ carbon capture process
- Two-part study
 - Validate pilot design, operation, and performance
 - Assess commercial scale-up potential based on pilot results
- Selection of WorleyParsons
 - Worldwide experience in power, oil and gas, and chemical process industries
 - Supported USDOE NETL's Baseline Study of CO₂ capture technologies / costs
 - Commissioned by the Global CCS Institute to participate in strategic analysis of global status of CCS and CO₂ capture technologies



Approach to Pilot Assessment

- Study Objectives
 - Determine if the ECO₂ pilot is designed and constructed in such a way that it is a good representation of a large-scale ECO₂ unit (200 MW and higher)
 - Determine if the ECO₂ pilot is instrumented and operated in such a way as to produce reliable and meaningful results for the specification and design of a large-scale commercial unit
- Methodology
 - Visited, inspected, and observed operations of the ECO₂ pilot at FirstEnergy's R.E. Burger Plant in Ohio
 - Verified installation and operations per PFD, P&IDs, and operating procedures, including instrumentation calibrations and cross-checks
 - Counter-checked information on process and design using sources available in the public domain
 - Evaluated scale-up for the major equipment



Conclusions of Pilot Assessment

- Concluded that the ECO₂ pilot has demonstrated a reliable CO₂ capture process
- Verified that the pilot is constructed and operated as was intended
- Determined that the pilot is a good representation of the ECO₂ process
- Confirmed that the pilot data provide a sound basis for scale-up to commercial size units



Approach to Commercial Assessment

- Assess the performance and cost implications of scale-up and retrofit of the ECO₂ technology to commercial power plants (200 MW and greater)
- Selected 220 MW_{net} (234 MW_{gross}) with subcritical steam cycle
- CO₂ intensity of 1.14 tons of CO₂/MWh; 1.68 Mtons of CO₂/year
- Analyzed impact of ECO₂ process to the following plant systems:
 - Flue gas system
 - Steam and condensate system (using WorleyParsons in-house simulation models)
 - Circulating water cooling system
 - Water supply and treatment
 - Electrical system
 - Data acquisition and control
- Analyzed impact on maintenance and reliability



Conclusions of Commercial Assessment

- The ECO₂ technology is read for scale-up to 200+ MW units
- Economic analysis included:
 - Capital levelized over 20 years
 - Impact of added electrical load (33,470 kW, includes compression of CO₂ to 2200 psig) valued at \$50/MWh
 - Impact of lost generation due to steam extraction (31,800 kW) valued at \$50/MWh
 - Consumables
 - Maintenance and labor

Total Cost of CO₂ Captured: \$36.61/ton of CO₂



(Selling Price of Electricity: \$50.00/MWh)



Cost Drivers

- Capital cost contribution impacted by financing assumptions
- Use cost of power to evaluate lost generation and parasitic load increase (View as plant "selling" power to ECO₂ process)
- Value assigned to power has significant impact on \$/ton result 68% of operating cost is proportional to power cost
- Plant impact in terms of lost generation strongly affected by carbon intensity. Reference plant at 1.14 tons of CO₂/MWh. Many existing plants at 1.0 to 1.1 tons of CO₂/MWh. New SCPC may be as low as 0.89 tons of CO₂/MWh.
- The study's reference plant had reduced net output of 30%; Powerspan estimates this would be 18% for a USCPC unit at 0.77 tons of CO₂/MWh



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