

# Instrumentation in CO2 monitoring wells

Innovations for advanced surveillance and reservoir monitoring

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# Agenda

- What is CO2CRC Ltd?
- Project History and Context
- Stage 3 Summary
- Stage 3 Execution and Wells Infrastructure
- Wells Instrumentation
- Fibre Optics Installation
- Pressure Gauge Installation
- Monitoring Outcomes
- Conclusions



# Who is CO2CRC?

- CO2CRC is Australia's **leading CCUS research organisation**, invested A\$150 million in research during past decade.
- A **Not-For-Profit** Organisation, we are supported by Government and Industry to develop technologies for future GHG Management.
- We aim to align high-quality R&D from various national and international institutions with industry partners **to find innovative, efficient and economic ways** to manage their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- Our Otway International Test Centre is one of the largest **CO<sub>2</sub> injection demonstration sites** in the world and is truly unique in both scope and capability

*Optimising Storage*



*Reducing Capture Costs*



*Testing Innovative Technologies*



# Otway Test Centre

*During the drilling of CRC-3 - Stage 3 Injector Well*



# Project Context and History

## Otway Stage 1: 2004 – 2009

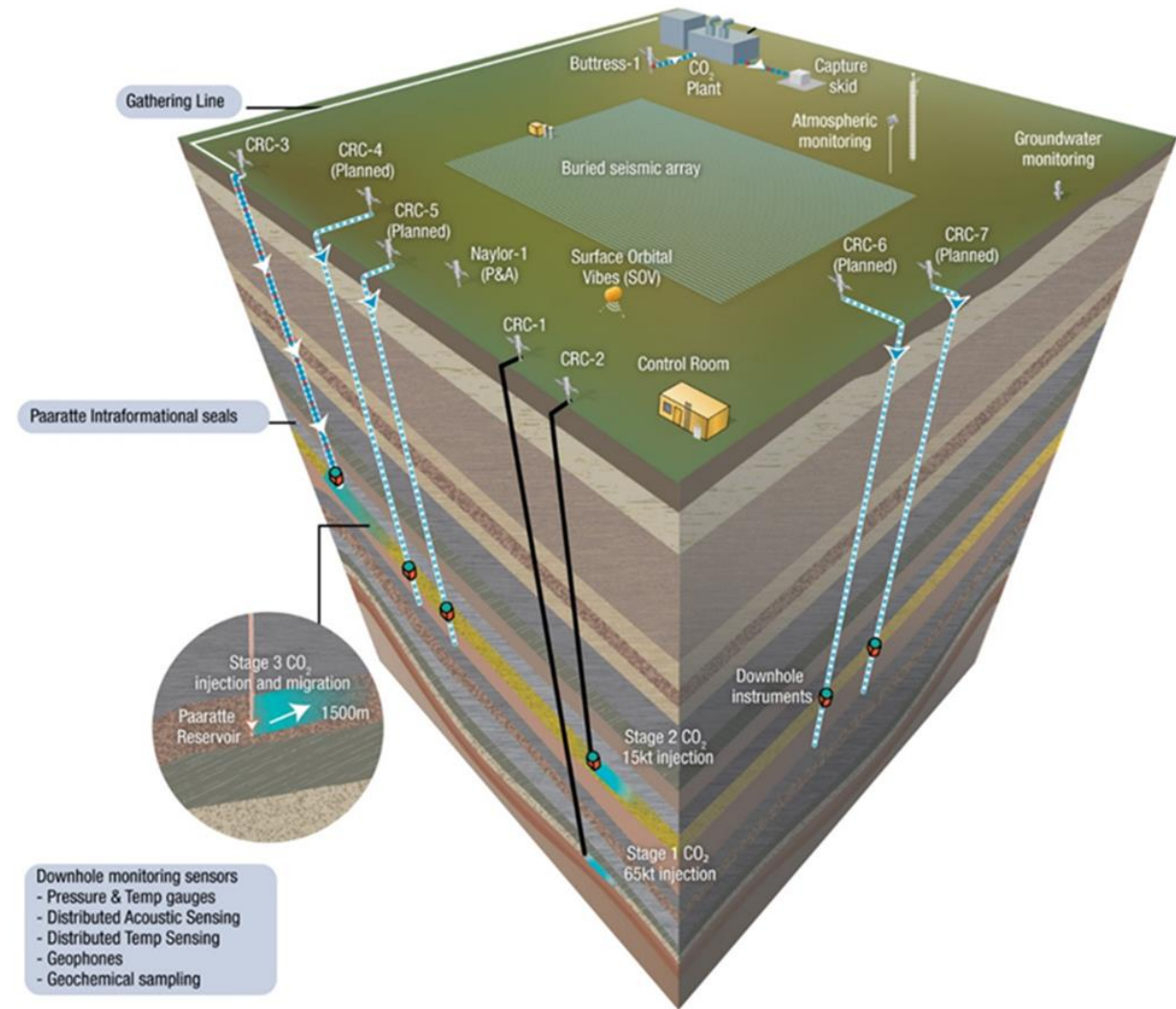
- ✓ Demonstrated safe transport, injection and storage of CO<sub>2</sub> into a depleted gas reservoir

## Otway Stage 2: 2009 – 2019

- ✓ Demonstrate safe injection of CO<sub>2</sub> into a saline formation
- ✓ Demonstrate stable and permanent storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in subsurface saline formations

## Otway Shallow CO<sub>2</sub> Migration

- ✓ Improve capability to predict the role of faults in controlling CO<sub>2</sub> fluid flow in the near surface;



# Stage 3 Project Summary

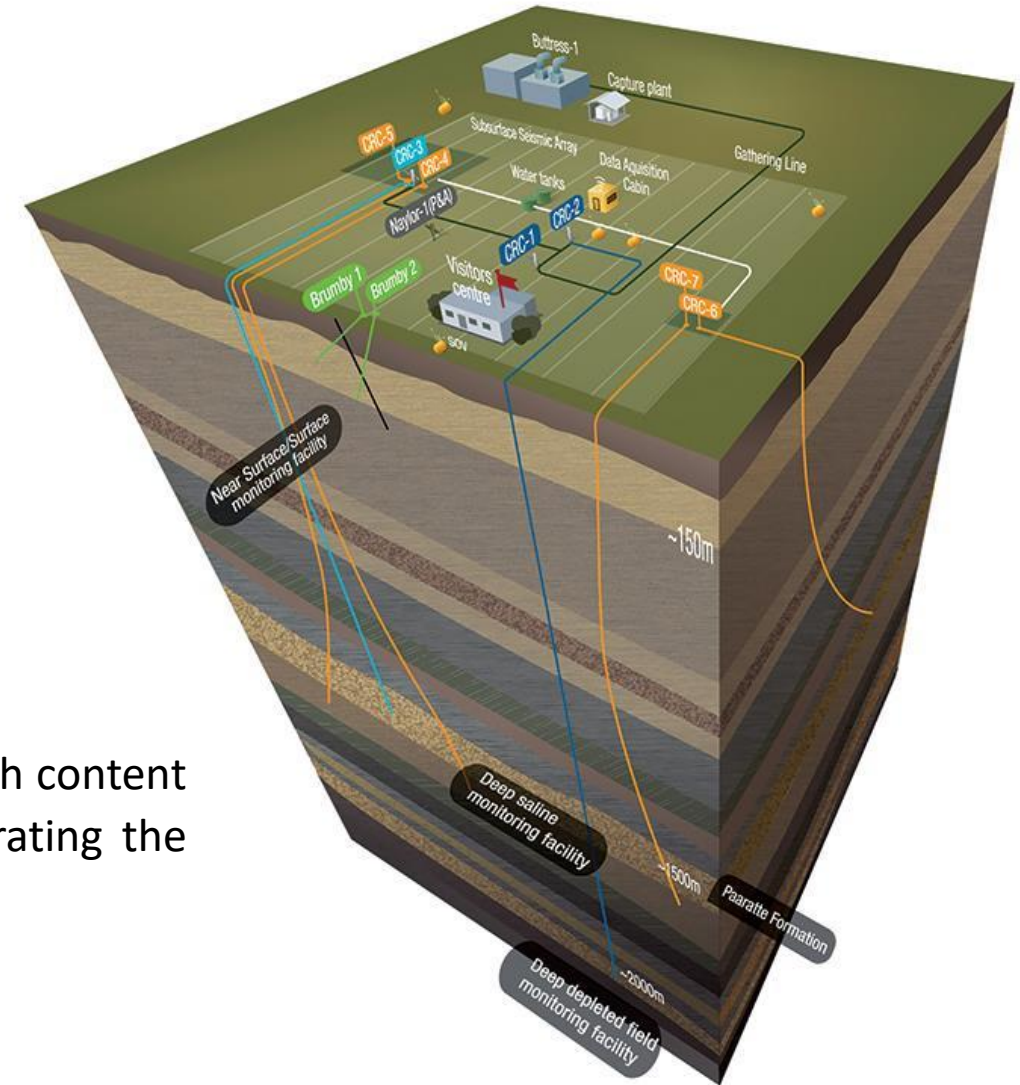
## Project Overview

CO2CRC's Stage 3 Project aims to field test innovative technologies to enable CCS Storage Projects by offering monitoring technologies that provide:

- 1) Fit for purpose data
- 2) On-demand monitoring
- 3) Cost effective monitoring programs
- 4) Minimised impact to the environment and communities

## Project Scope

To simulate a commercial CCS Storage Project by injecting 15,000t of high content CO<sub>2</sub> gas into a saline aquifer (at 1650m) for the purpose of demonstrating the effectiveness of the Stage 3 monitoring techniques





# Stage 3 Execution – Wells Infrastructure

**Project Technical Objective:** to be able to observe the growing gas plume in the reservoir using the innovative technologies of Downhole Seismic and Pressure Tomography

- Wells drilled directionally from 2 x wellpads
- Positioned specifically to monitor the injection
- One Vertical Injection Well – CRC-3
  - Tubing and packer completion
  - 15,000t injection CO2 supercritical condition
- 4 directional monitoring wells – CRC 4,5,6,7
  - 2 close monitors; 2 “far field” monitors
  - CO2 compliant metals and cement
  - Water injection capable



# Well Instrumentation

## Injection Well

- 2 x Engineered TEF\* cemented outside of casing and looped at TD
- 1 x Engineered TEF clamped to tubing and looped at TD
- P&T gauges at reservoir depth (positioned above and below injection zone)
- Wellhead P&T
- Injection line P&T



## Monitoring Well

- 2 x Engineered TEF\* cemented outside of casing and looped at TD
- P&T gauge at reservoir depth suspended from wellhead (TEC clamped to suspension cable)
- CRC-4: 1 x SM/MM TEF suspended from wellhead (clamped to suspension cable)
- Wellhead Pressure

# Fibre Optics Installations

## Issues to address

1. Centralisation
2. Protection
3. Isolation
4. Perforations

## Specific Actions – **Centralisation and Protection**

- Centralisation of casing at each joint through non-vertical section
- Centralisers every 3<sup>rd</sup> joint in vertical with cross-coupling protectors
- Vendor provided protectors as specified (1/200m)
- Additional TEF clamps mid-joint throughout
- BHA/turnaround clamp and protector at TEF end
- At planned perforated interval blast/detection joint installed

# Fibre Optics Installations

## Issues to address

1. Centralisation
2. Protection
3. Isolation
4. Perforations

## Specific Actions – Isolation

- 9-5/8” casing extended to >900m to isolate deep water aquifer
- Cemented with standard cement to surface
- 5-1/2” casing run to TD
- Cemented with a tail of CO2 resistant cement to above target zone with standard cement to surface
- Always follow good cementing practice

# Fibre Optics Installations

## Issues to address

1. Centralisation
2. Protection
3. Isolation
4. Perforations

## Specific Actions – Perforations

- Redundant TEF installed and terminated above perforated interval
- Guns were downlogged from 6spf to 4spf to provide a 180° clearance
- Vendor provided a gun-string capable of detection and downhole rotation
- Blast/detection joint provided directionality
- Each run limited to 2 standard guns (~12m)
- TEF were “active” during perforation to confirm no damage

# Fibre Optics Installations – Running TEF

## Key Focus areas and actions to ensure success

- Individual reelers for each TEF to ensure tension was maintained
- Clamping did take rig time – but it was essential
- Frequent continuity checks (splicing kits on hand)
- Keep the crew focused on the job and constantly aware of the situation... clear communication between clamping crew and casing crew with oversight of the driller



# Pressure Gauge Installation

## Injection Well

- Conventional gauges mounted in gauge mandrel
- 2 gauges run on tubing above and below perfs
- Single TEC with feed through on upper gauge

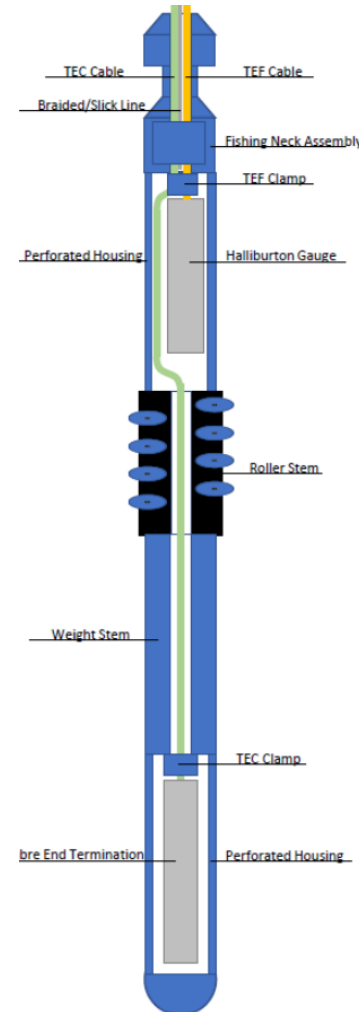
## Monitor Wells

- Single gauge suspended from wellhead
- Suspension cable used to support gauge and BHA and protect the TEC
- Specifically designed clamps to secure cables during RIH
- Entire system run using a single deployment vehicle and reeler
- Allowed deployment of TEF suspended from the wellhead

# Pressure Gauge Installation – Running in Hole

## Key focus areas and actions taken to ensure success

- Tension on the suspension cable and TEC required continuous attention
- Depth measurement is critical
- Regular pressure measurements support equipment checks and depth confirmation





# Monitoring Outcomes - 1

## Downhole Seismic – Primary Objectives

- In combination with surface seismic sources, DAS images clearly identify the gas plume
- Monitoring images were acquired, processed and produced automatically every 2 days
- DAS data from all wells was acquired continuously for ~12 months with a high level of reliability

## Downhole Fibres – Additional Benefits (Temperature Monitoring)

- Temperature during cementing – provides a comparative dataset to the CBL measurements
- Temperature during injection – providing critical information on the well's performance
- Temperature during well operations – ongoing realtime wellbore integrity

# Monitoring Outcomes - 2

## Pressure Tomography

- The technique worked as planned with separate pressure surveys identifying the plume
- The system was tested and able to detect a plume of only 4.5 kt gas injected
- Deployment method worked well, pressure accurately and reliably recorded for >12 months

## Pressure Monitoring – Additional Benefits

- Pressure inversion in a passive environment to examine for above zone leakage events
- Earth Tides monitoring for gas plume identification
- Correlation of pressure response with dynamic reservoir models

# Conclusions

The Otway International Test Centre has expanded capabilities for testing a variety of CCS monitoring systems. The Stage 3 field trials of innovative technologies has shown:

- That the installation of TEF outside of tubing can be performed efficiently and successfully
- Perforation of casing with TEF installed can be delivered reliably and without damage to the fibres
- The benefit of hybrid TEF with temperature sensing fibres provide many further opportunities
- Pressure tomography is a viable technique for monitoring gas plumes in storage aquifers
- A suspended gauge system is a low cost and flexible solution to be considered in any monitoring system

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