



## Geothermal Energy Machinery and Systems Workshop (GEMS)



# NextGeneration Geothermal Power (NGP)



# NextGeneration Geothermal Power (NGP) functionalizes stored CO<sub>2</sub> from CCS or DACCS to power the energy transition

## THE CHALLENGE

Wind and solar power are intermittent

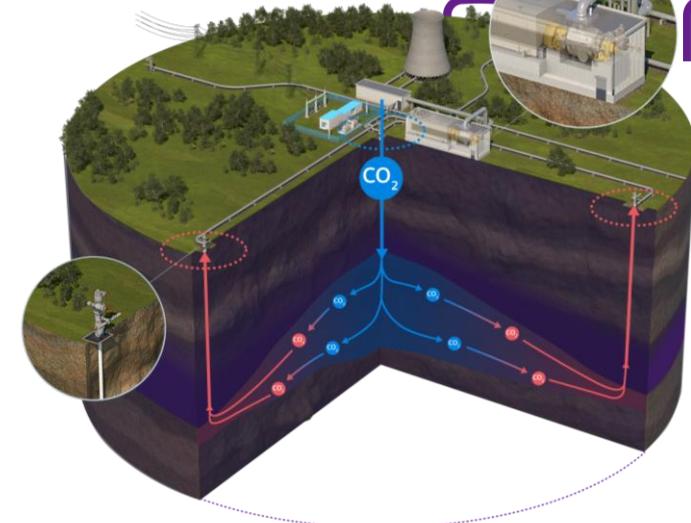
Hydro and traditional geothermal are regionally restricted

CCS is essential to limit global warming, but recognized as “disposal” with no value-add

## THE CONCEPT

NGP combines geothermal energy with CCS

NGP as supplement to CCS accelerating energy transition (electrification, H<sub>2</sub>, DAC...etc)  
Establishing a closed loop by means of strong natural circulation (thermosiphon),



## THE VALUE

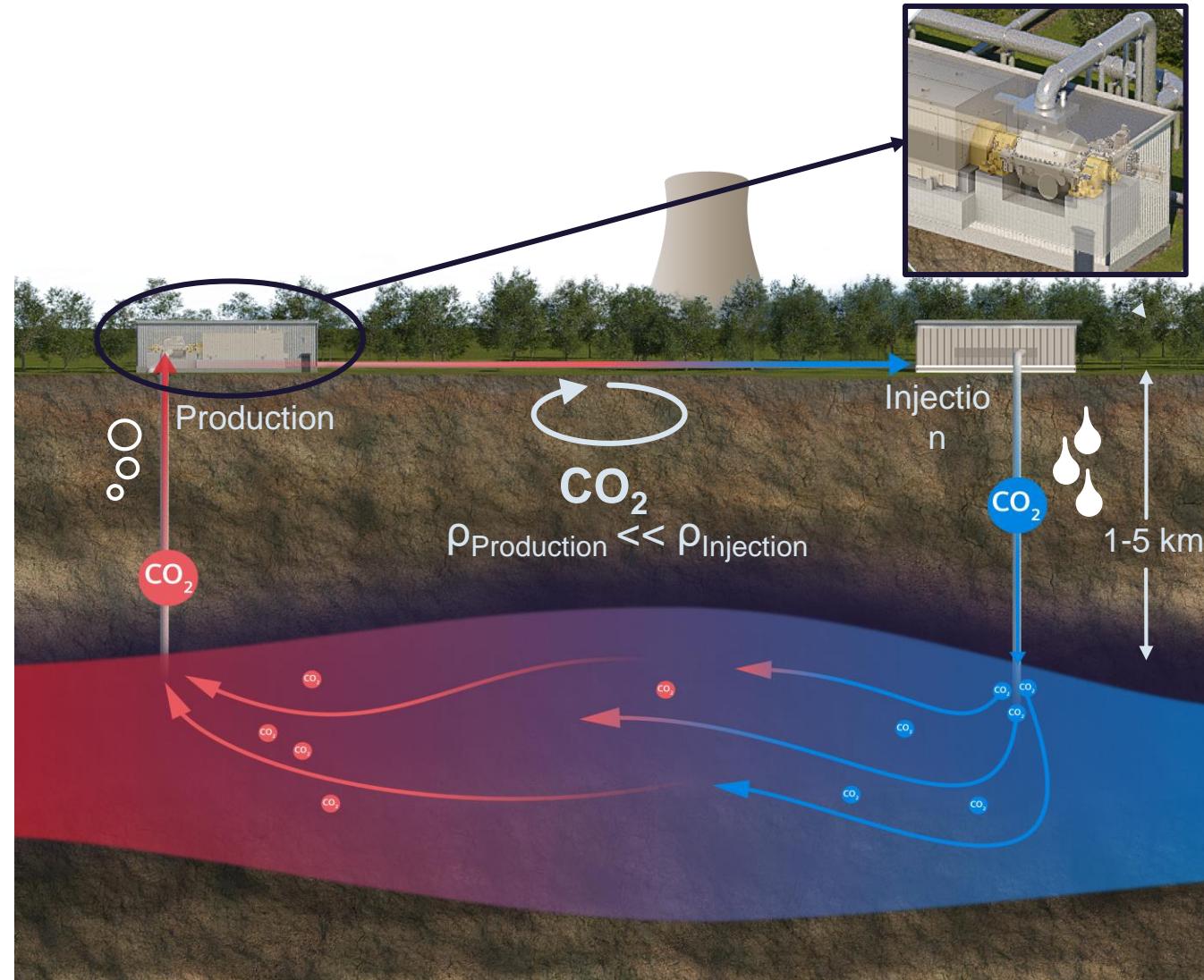
- Renewable, firm, & dispatchable energy
- Up to 6 x higher net power vs. hydro based geothermal
- Second life for depleted reservoirs and infrastructure
- Stored CO<sub>2</sub> can help power the energy transition

# Concept Overview

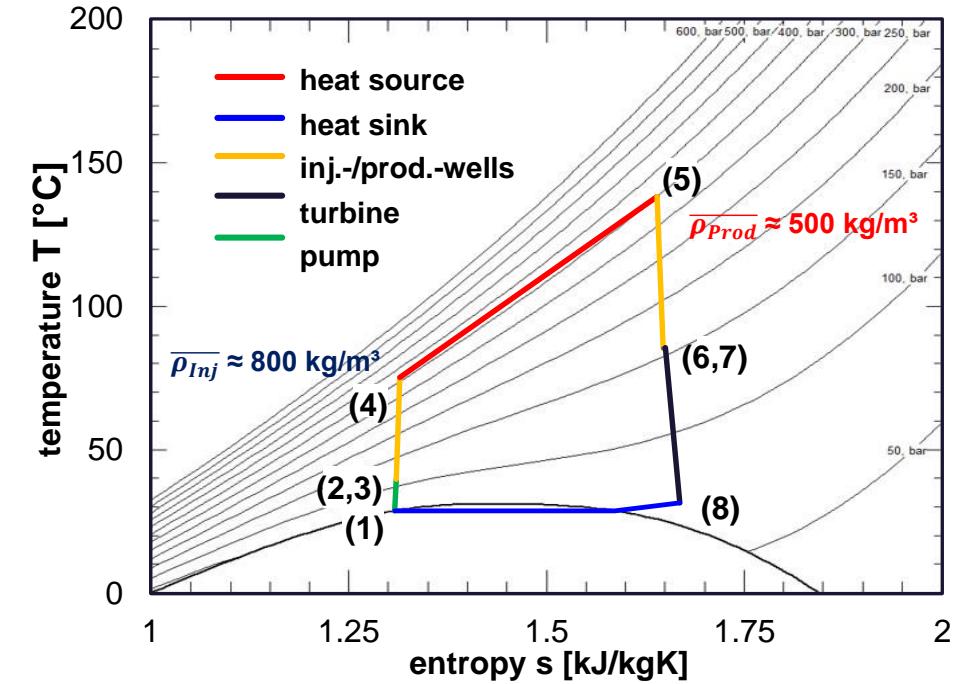
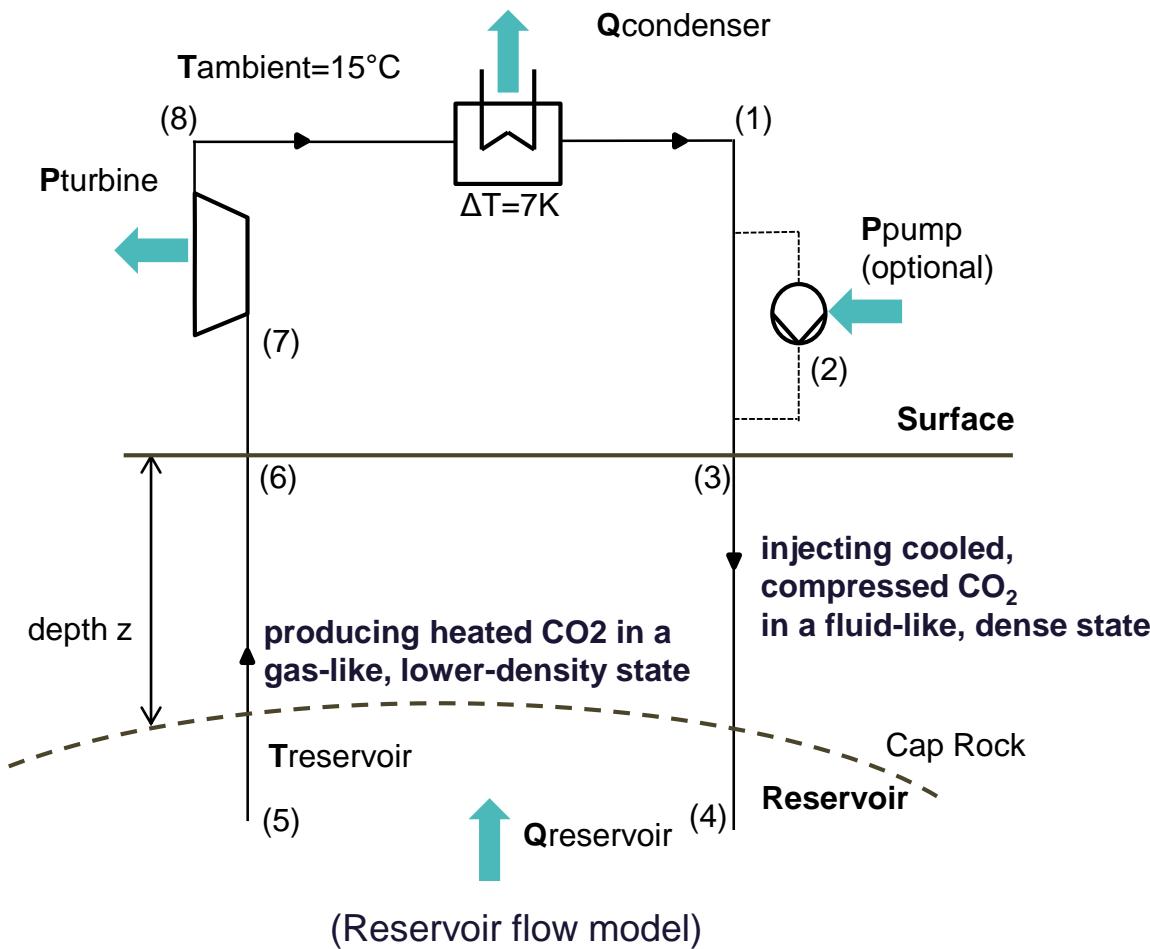
CO<sub>2</sub> is injected into sedimentary basins that host high-permeability reservoirs overlain by cap rocks

CO<sub>2</sub> is heated by geothermal energy, flows to the surface and expands in a turbine to generate electricity and is reinjected again (closed CO<sub>2</sub> loop)

Reservoir conditions for NGP can be more modest than other geothermal technologies



# The Cycle Concept



- Geothermal heat supply leads to density difference between injection and production, that leads to pressure difference between wellheads
$$\Delta p_{TS} = (\bar{\rho}_{\text{Inj}} - \bar{\rho}_{\text{Prod}}) \cdot g \cdot \Delta z$$
- Due to lower viscosity of CO<sub>2</sub> compared to water pressure loss in the reservoir and seismic activity can be reduced

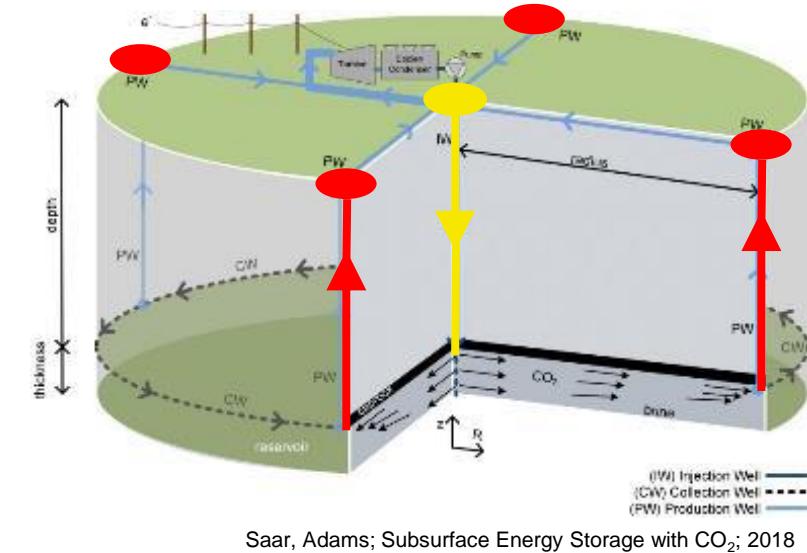
# NGP Example

## Geologic conditions – Base Case

Coordination number (configuration)	1 (5-spot-system)
Depth	2500 m
Well tubing diameter (well casing diameter @ target)	0.32 m /12.6" (18 5/8") /(0.47 m)
Permeability*thickness (transmissivity $kh$ )	300 mD * 50 m (15,000 mD·m)
Temp. gradient	35 C/km

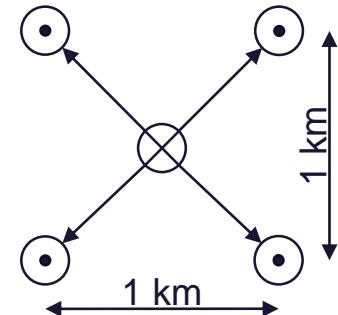
## Power Cycle Variants

	direct   sCO <sub>2</sub>	indirect   Water / ORC	
Thermosiphon only	with supplemental pumping	single pressure	dual pressure



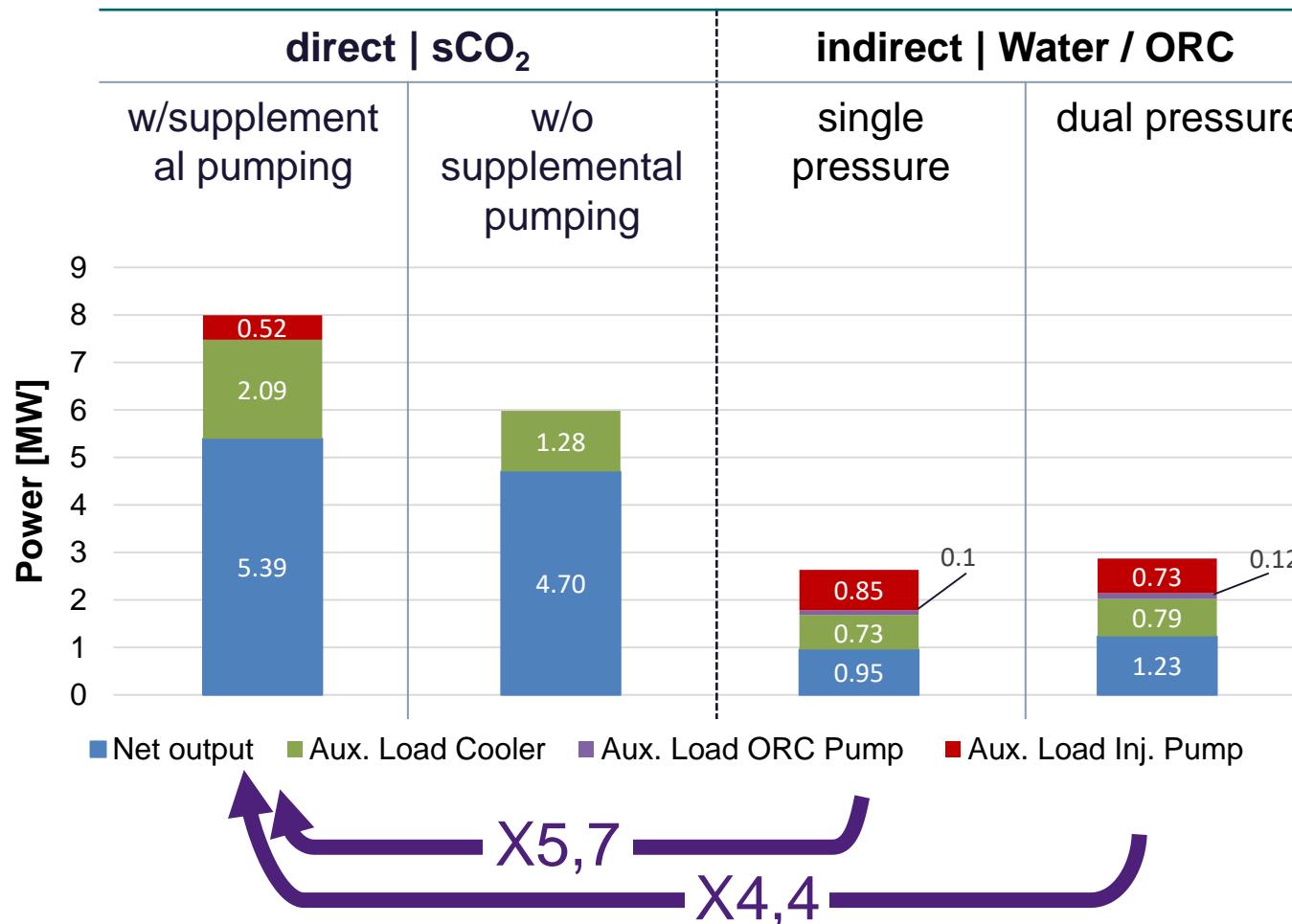
## Base Case well pattern

- production well
- ⊗ injection well



# How Does NGP Compare?

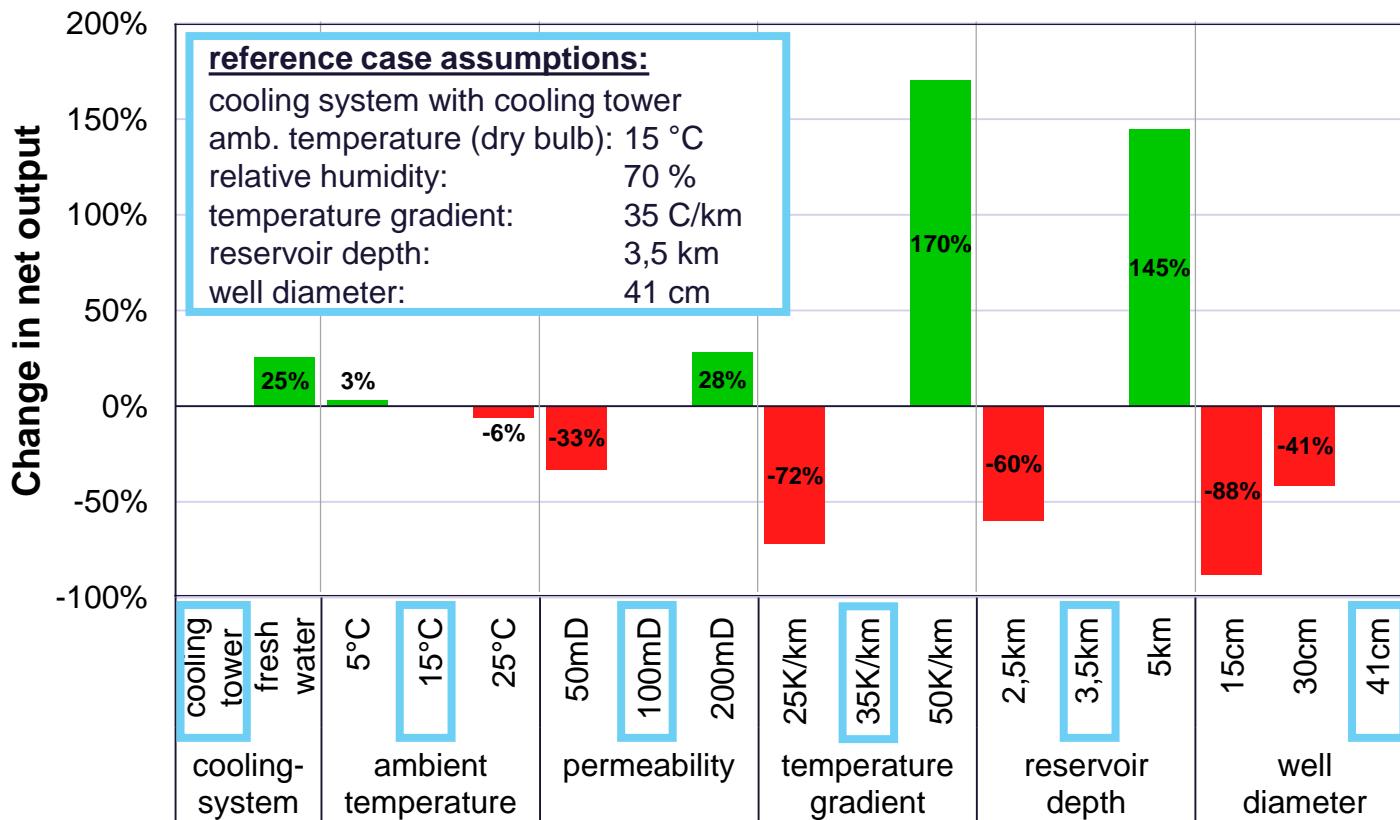
## Power Cycle Variants



- Same Reservoir conditions for both cycles
- Same Ambient conditions for both cycles
- Smaller well diameter for NGP (Tubing included)
- Higher turbine efficiency for NGP cycle

**Up to ~ 6 x net power output**  
compared to water based systems at base case

# What is the Sensitivity to Changes in Geologic and Ambient Conditions?



- Sensitivity study with one variable
- Fresh water cooling reduces losses (pumps vs. fans) and provides lower temperature of heat rejection improving net power
- Net power increases with higher temperature gradient, permeability, and depth
- Large wells diameters reduce pressure losses
  - diameters will be determined based on permeability and depth

# How many wells?

## Wellfield pattern:

1x1km  
(five-spot pattern)

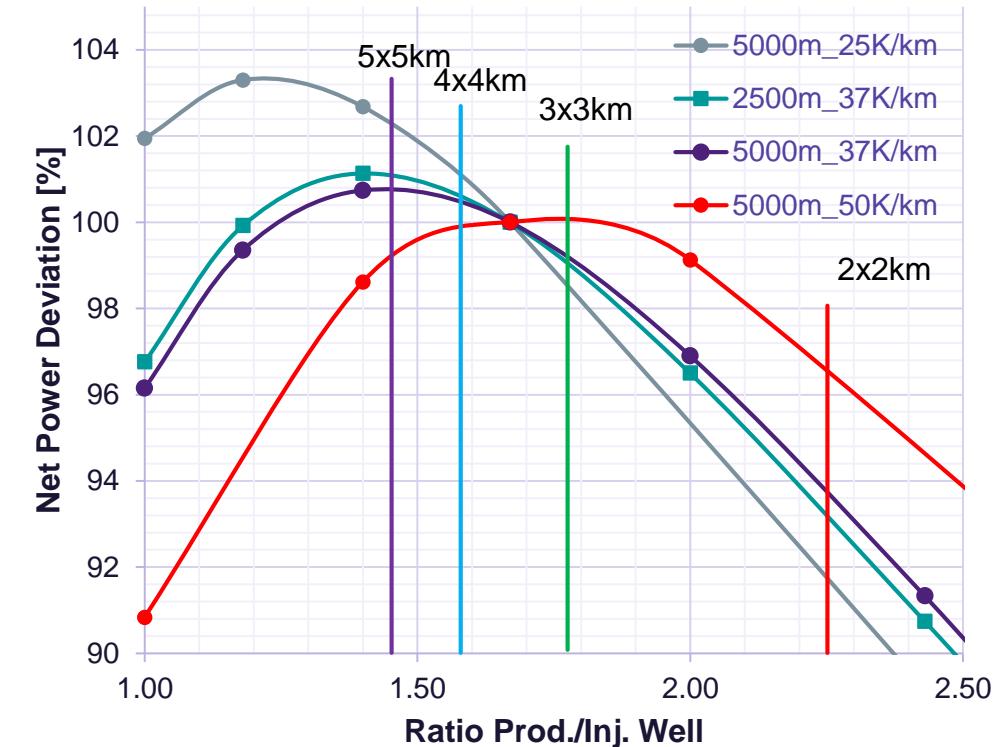
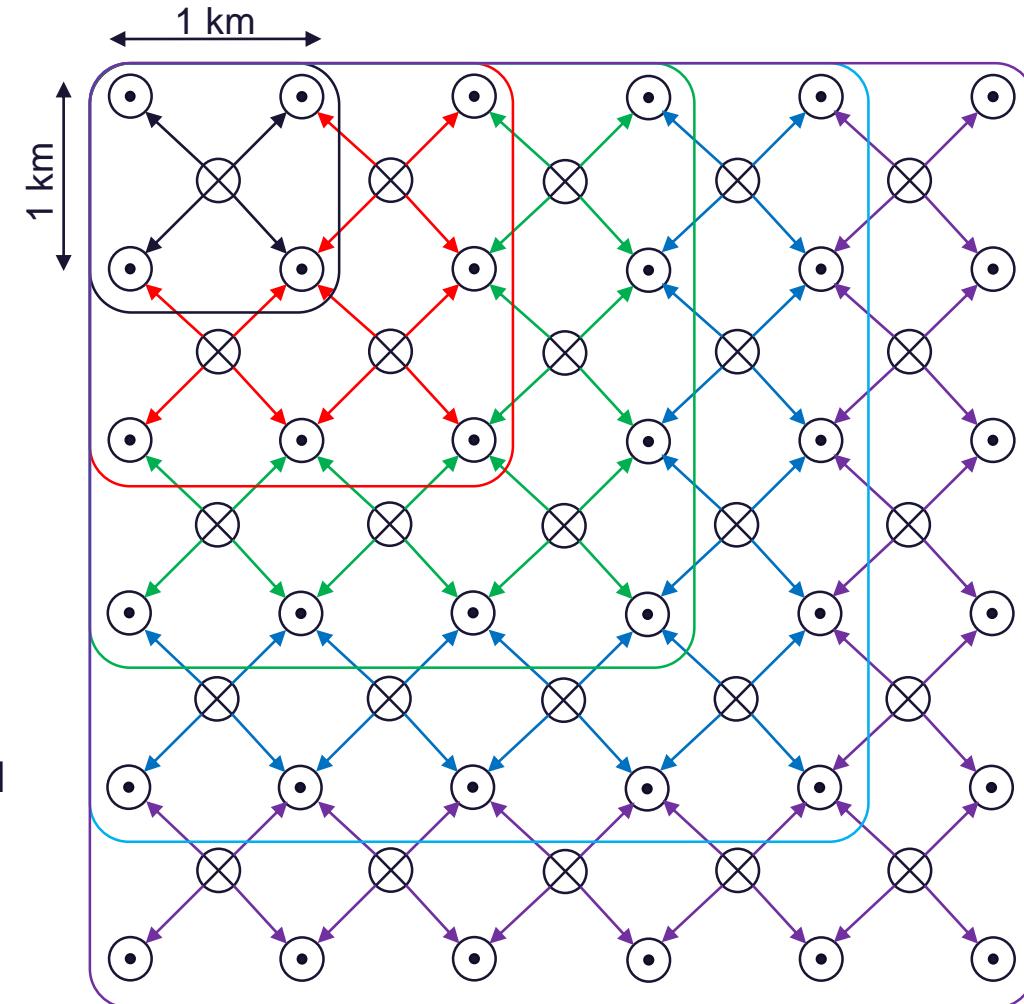
2x2km

3x3km

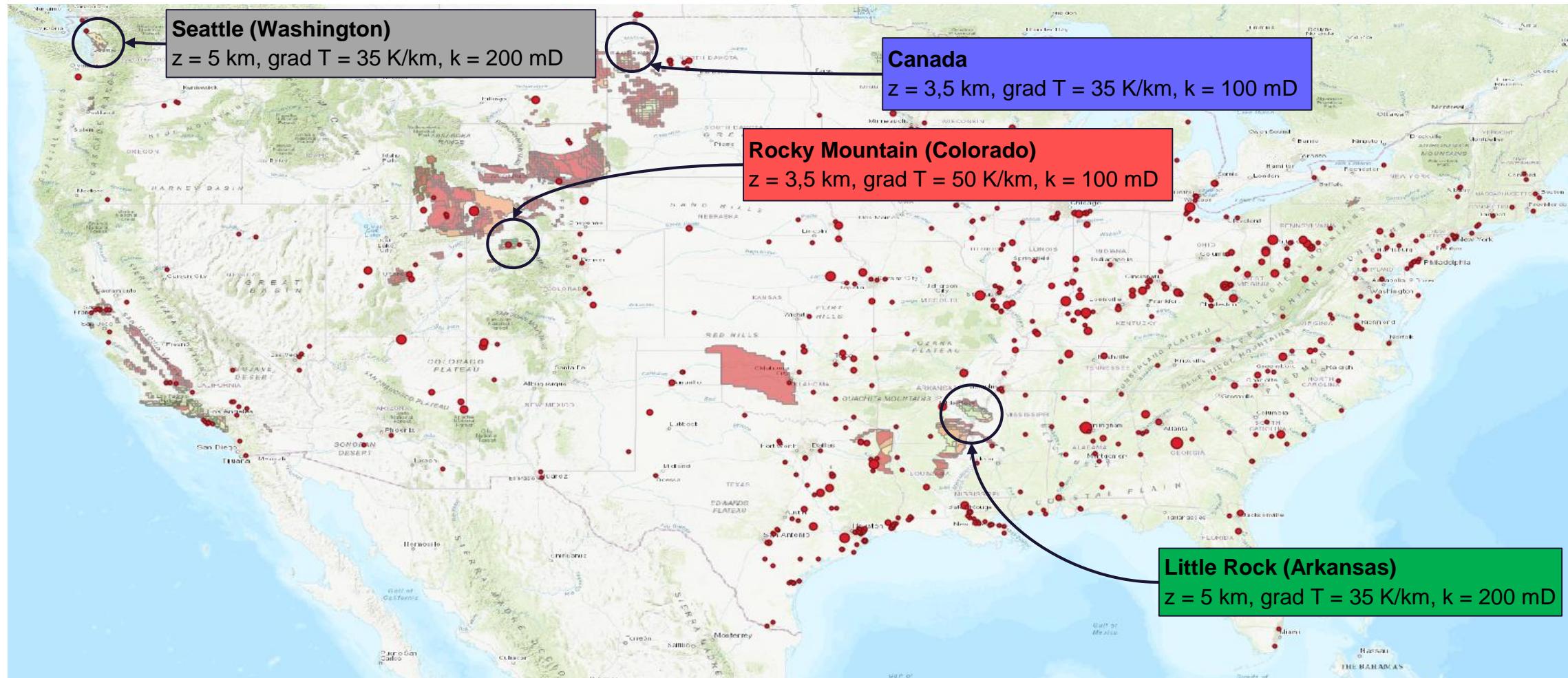
4x4km

5x5km

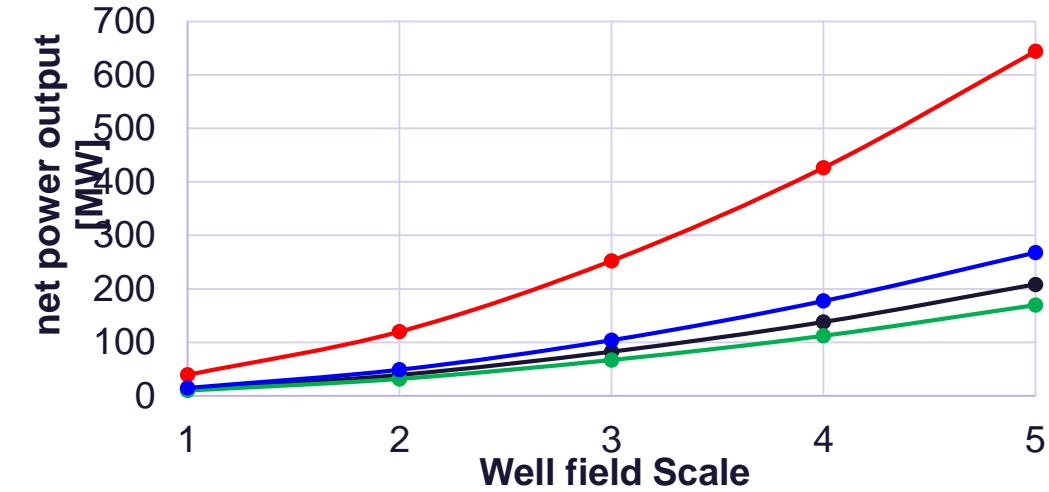
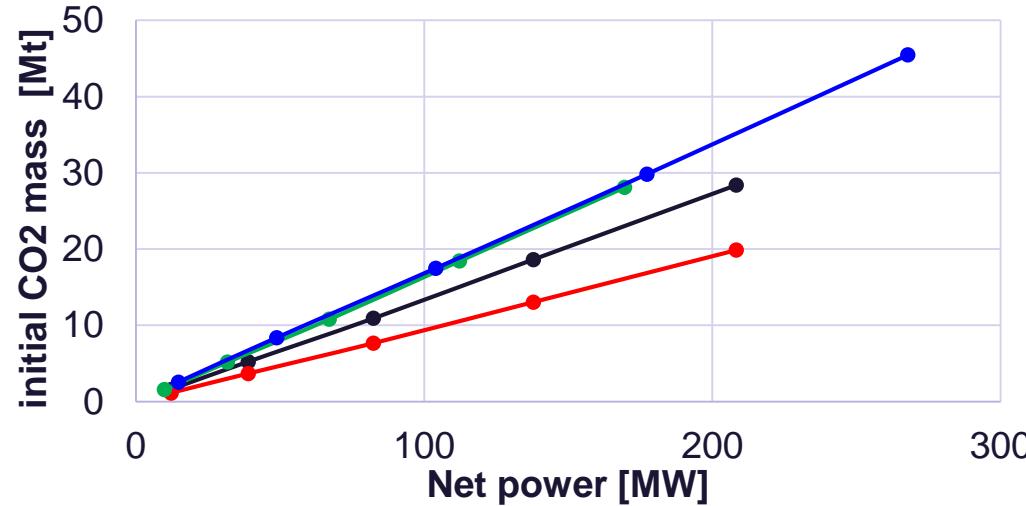
- production well
- ⊗ injection well



- Optimal Prod / Inj ratio dependent on reservoir conditions
- Main driver: temperature gradient



# How much CO<sub>2</sub> and How much Power?



**Reservoir 1 Seattle**  
 depth: 5 km  
 temp.gradient: 35 C/km  
 permeability: 200 mD  
 thickness: 100 m  
 amb. temp.: 10 °C  
 direct cooling

**Reservoir 2 Rocky M.**  
 depth: 3.5 km  
 temp.gradient: 50 C/km  
 permeability: 100 mD  
 thickness: 100 m  
 amb. temp.: 10 °C  
 cooling tower

**Reservoir 3 Little Rock**  
 depth: 5 km  
 temp.gradient: 35 C/km  
 permeability: 200 mD  
 thickness: 100 m  
 amb. temp.: 15 °C  
 cooling tower

**Reservoir 4 Canada**  
 depth: 3.5 km  
 temp.gradient: 35 C/km  
 permeability: 100 mD  
 thickness: 200 m  
 amb. temp.: 5 °C  
 cooling tower

# Project Capital Expenditures



Wells  
(Partner)

- Drilling
- Casing
- Corrosion protection
- Project management

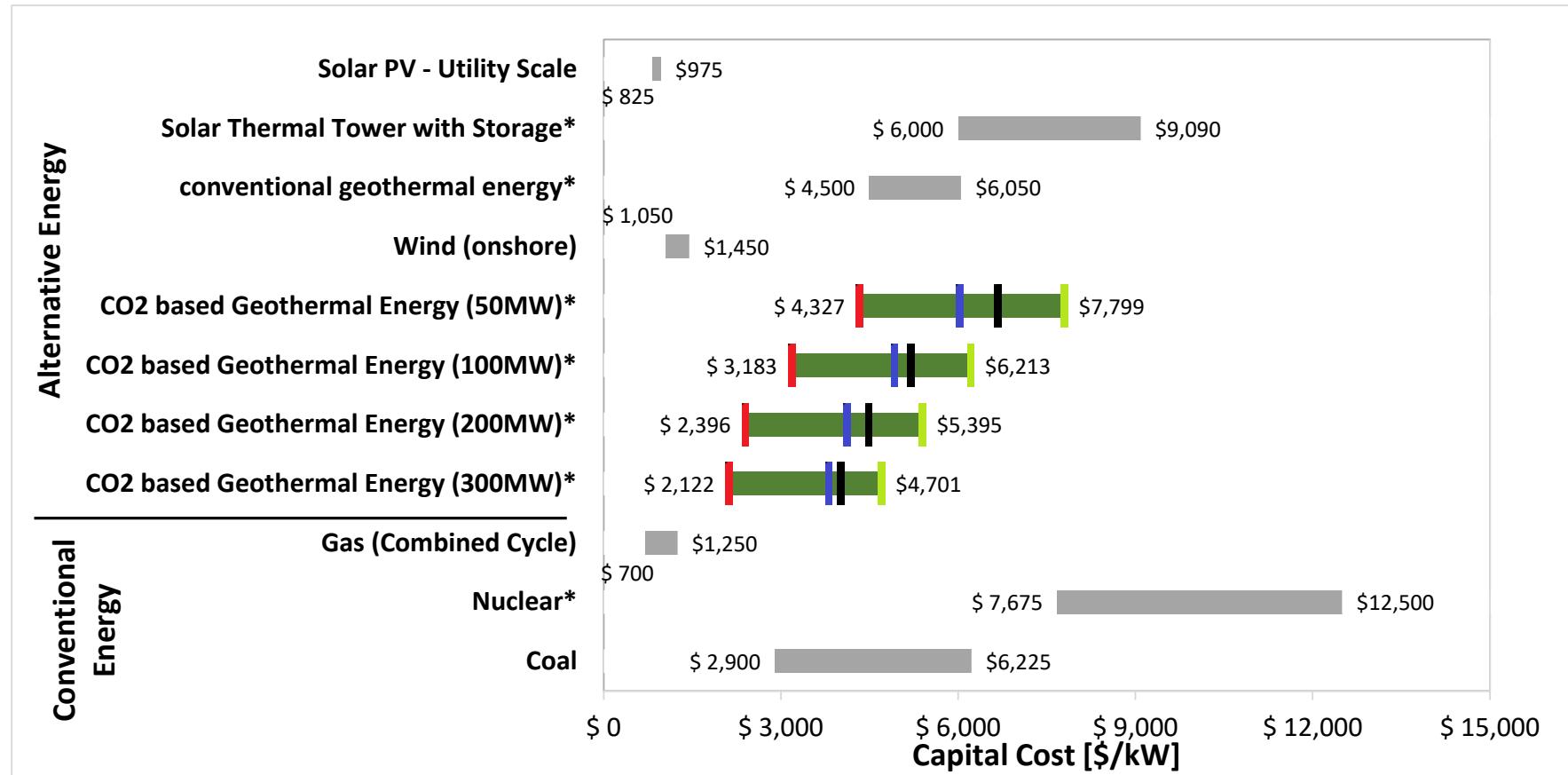
Surface Piping  
(Siemens Energy /  
Partner)

- Piping wells to surface
- Piping network to power plant
- Civil works

Power Plant  
(Siemens Energy)

- Turbomachinery
- Gas cooler
- Cooling tower
- Pumps
- Transmission interconnect
- Civil works
- Project management
- Control System

# Capital Cost Comparison (\$/kW)



Seattle  
Rocky Mountain  
Little Rock  
Canada

excl. expenses for  
capture plant,  
reservoir filling,  
CO2 and revenues  
from emission  
certificate trading

\* baseload/dispatchable energy resource with CO2 "free" steady state operation

<https://www.lazard.com/media/451419/lazards-levelized-cost-of-energy-version-140.pdf>

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# LCOE Comparison (\$/MWh)

NGP represents a competitive alternative to existing CO2 emissions “free” baseload/dispatchable energy technologies.

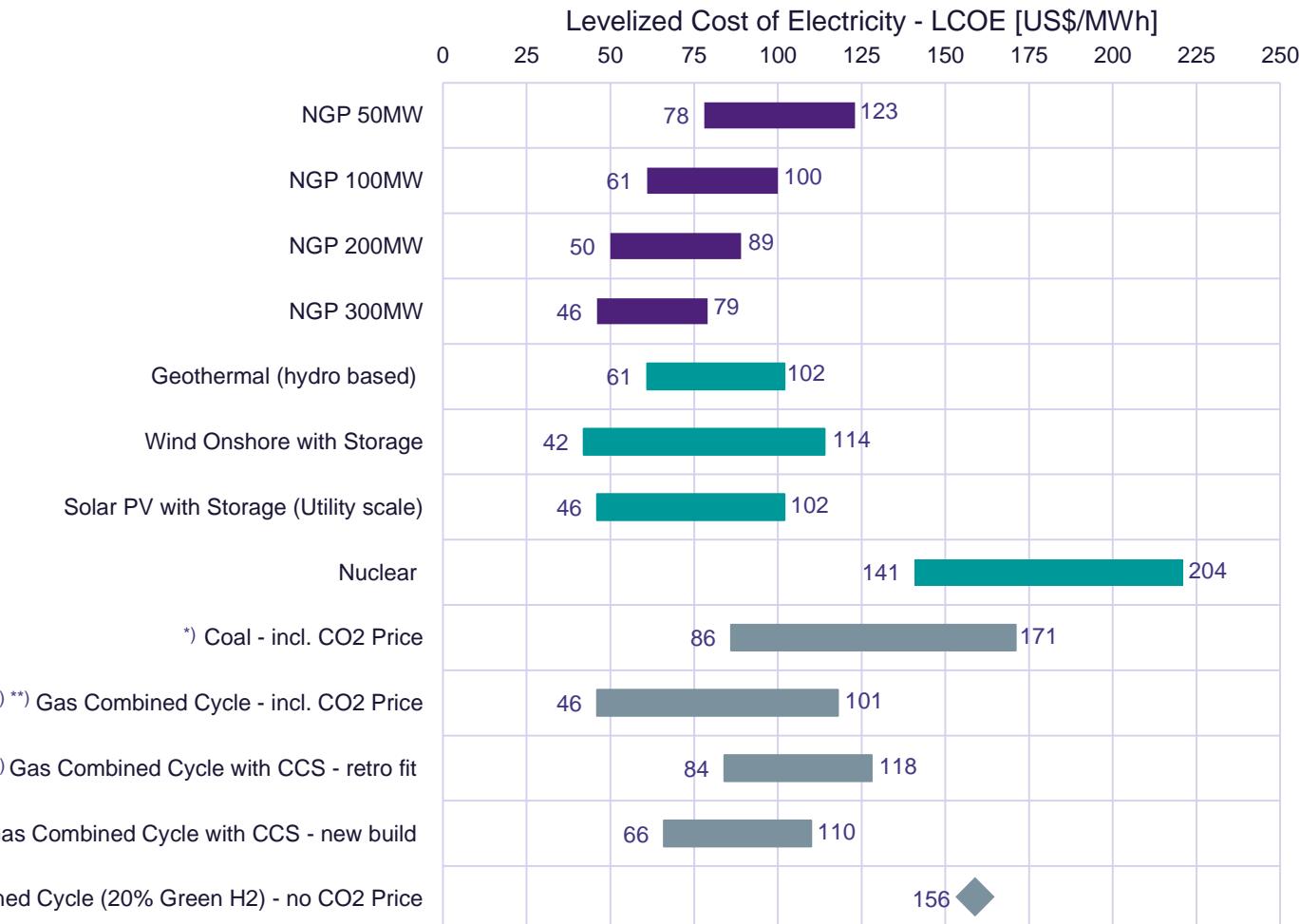
NGP LCOE are calculated based on different use cases in the US and Canada  
Teal and grey columns represent results calculated by [Lazard](#) 2023:

<https://www.lazard.com/research-insights/2023-levelized-cost-of-energyplus/>

NGP results are calculated with the same financial boundary conditions as in Lazard LCOE report

\*) – 20 – 40 \$/Ton of CO2

\*\*) Gas fuel price \$3,45/MMBTU – \$4.15/kg Green Hydrogen



NOTE: Well costs for NGP power production validated by Halliburton

# Proof of Concept



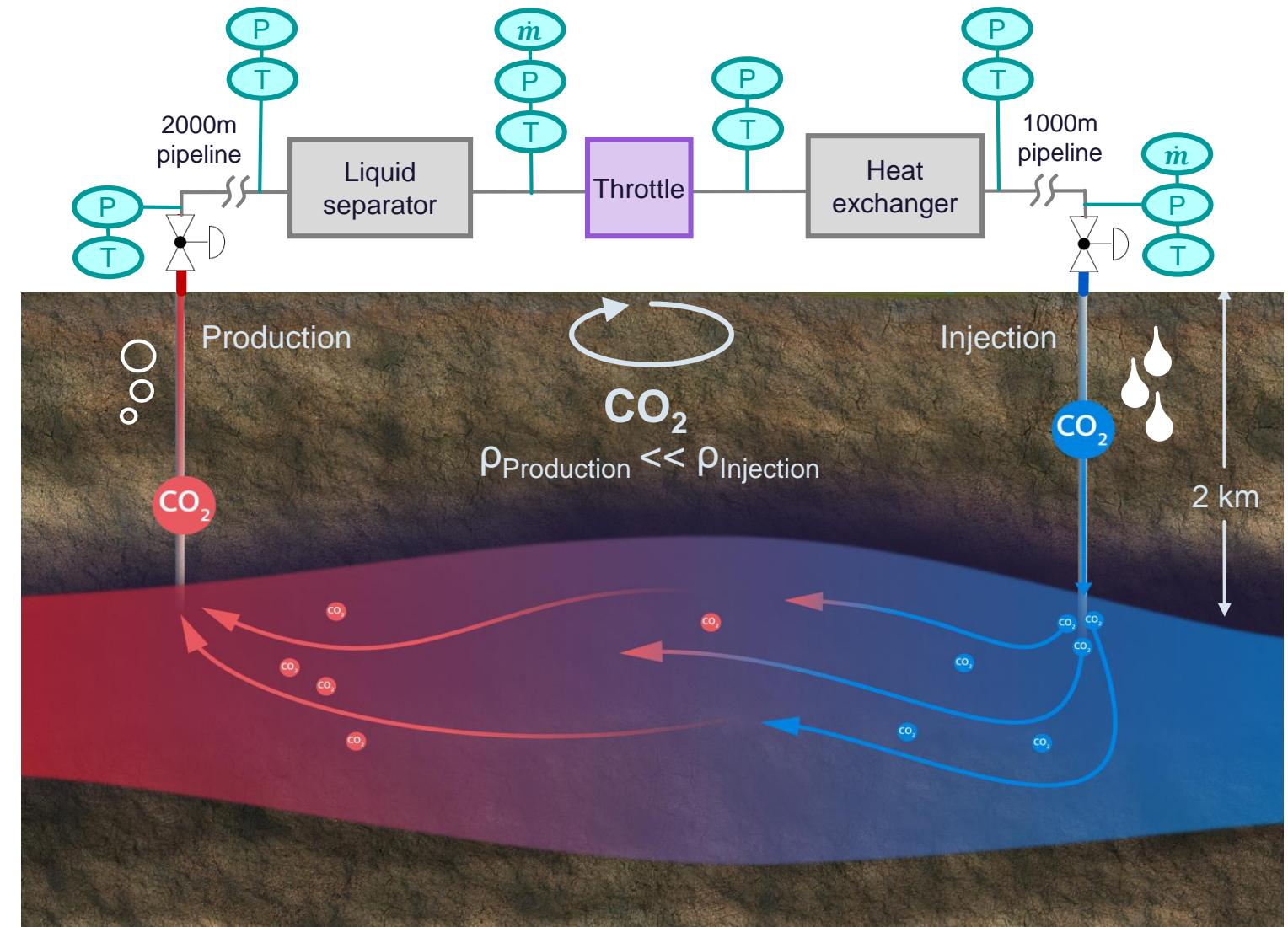
**Partner:**  
MOL Group



**Location:**  
Hungary  
Depleted oil and gas reservoir  
Usage of existing assets



**Achievements:**  
Stable CO<sub>2</sub> circulation  
Validation of calculation models  
System regulation  
Proof of thermosiphon concept



# Next Steps

	Minimum Conditions
Temperature Gradient [°C/km]	30
Reservoir Thickness [meter]	50
Reservoir Permeability (millidarcy) [mD]	20
Reservoir Transmissivity (permeability x thickness) [mD*m]	1,000 (e.g. 50m thickness x 20mD permeability = 1,000mDm)
Well Depth [meter]	1,000
Total Mass CO2 [Mega tonne]	1-2
CO2 of Reservoir Contents [%-volume]	90% CO2
Well Injection Rate/ CO2 Mass Flow Rate (kg/sec)	220-600 7Mt/a-19Mt/a

50-100MW NGP Power Plant  
9/16

~10MW NGP Demo Plant  
1/1 – 1/4



Proof-of-Concept  
1/1 Circulation Test



Concept Feasibility  
Economic Viability  
Conceptual Design

# Next-Gen Geothermal Power Opportunity

## Pilot Project Business Case



# Levelized Cost of Electricity (LCOE) Forecast

Power Plant		
Capacity	5	Mwel.
Load Factor	90	%
Operating time per year	39,420	MWh
Lifetime	25	years

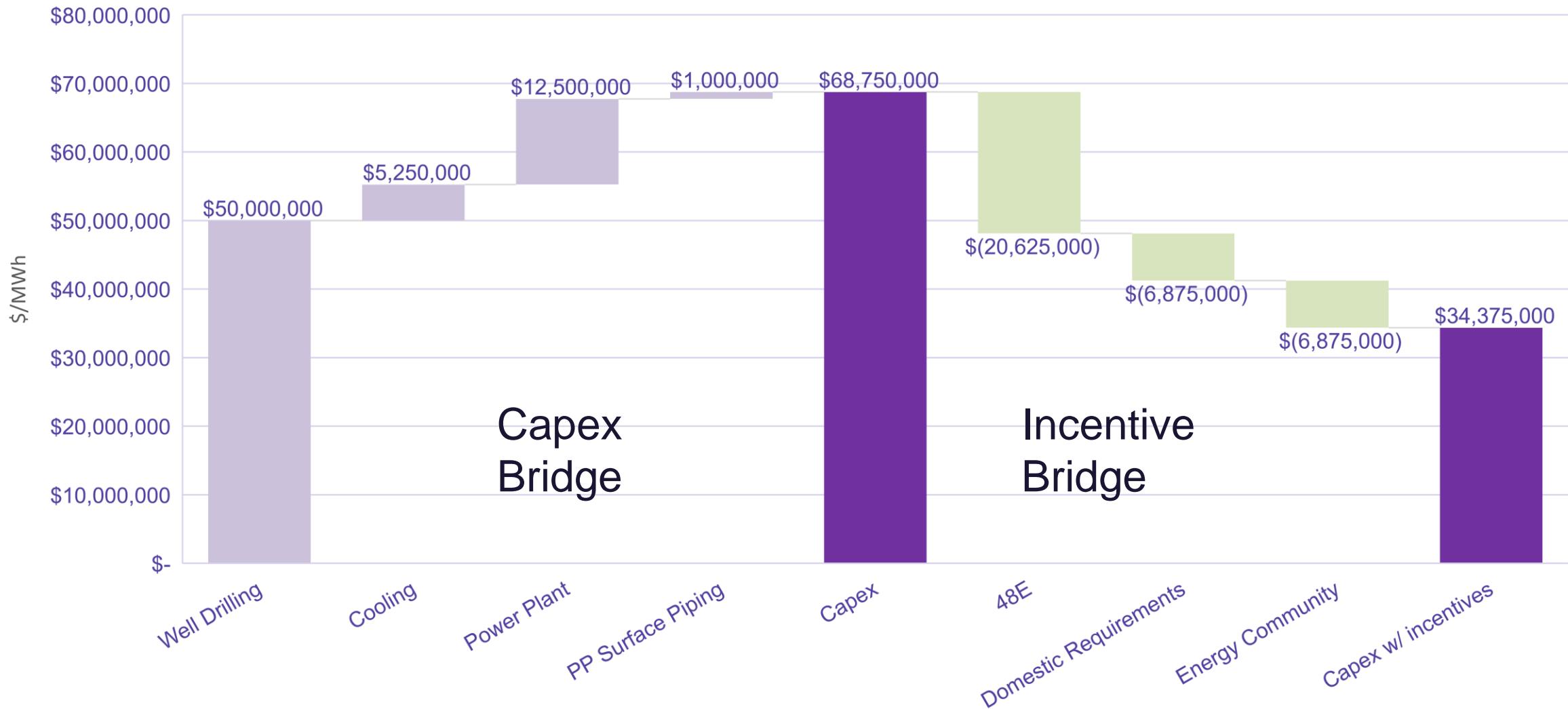
Financial (Placeholders)		
Opex escalation rate	2.25	%
Discount Rate (WACC)	10	%
Effective tax Rate	27	%

Capex		
Power Plant (excl. cooling)	12.5	\$m
Cooling	5.25	\$m
Power Plant Piping	1	\$m
CO2 Transfer Piping	Not incl.	\$m
Wells (Injection & Production)	50	\$m
<b>Total</b>	<b>68.75</b>	\$m

LCOE Calculation Scheme	
	<b>LCOE = 218 \$/MWh</b>
	$LCOE = \frac{\sum_{t=0}^n \frac{C_t + M_t + F_t}{(1+r)^t}}{\sum_{t=0}^n \frac{E_t}{(1+r)^t}} = 218 \text{ $/MWh}$
	$NPV = \sum_{t=0}^n \frac{(LCOE * E_t - Costs)_t}{(1+r)^t} = 0$

Opex		
Variable (to MW output)	197,100	\$
Fixed	150,000	\$
Well O&M	150,000	\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>497,100</b>	\$

# Capex Forecast



# Clean Electricity Investment Tax Credit & Clean Energy Production Tax Credit

January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 - 2033



## Background:

Post-January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) sections 45 & 48 will expand to all qualified facilities with net-zero emissions. Sections 45Y, Clean Energy Production Tax Credit, and 48E, Clean Electricity Investment Tax Credit, will continue IRA benefits until emission targets are achieved post-2033.

## Base Credit Rate: Elect Section 48E or 45Y

### 48E: Clean Electricity Investment Tax Credit

- **30% tax credit rate.** These credits will start to phase out for projects under construction after 2033 or when emission targets are achieved.
- To qualify under section 48E an energy storage project must satisfy prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements or only be eligible for base 6% tax credits.

### 45Y: Clean Energy Production Tax Credit

- **\$15/MWh adjusted for inflation base year 1992. Adjusted PTC ≈ \$27.50**
- \$3/MWh without prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements.

## Additional Credits

### Domestic Content Minimums

- 100% iron/steel. The domestic standard for iron/steel products does not apply to iron/steel components incorporated into other manufactured products, but only to those products made “primarily” of iron/steel.
- 40% total costs of manufactured products that are components of the facility. Likely to increase to 45% before 2025, 50% before 2026, and 55% for construction projects starting after 2026.

Max Bonus Credits

ITC: +10%  
PTC: +\$1.5/MWh

### Siting in an Energy Community

- ex. Brownfield site, area related to mining operations

ITC: +10%  
PTC: +\$1.5/MWh

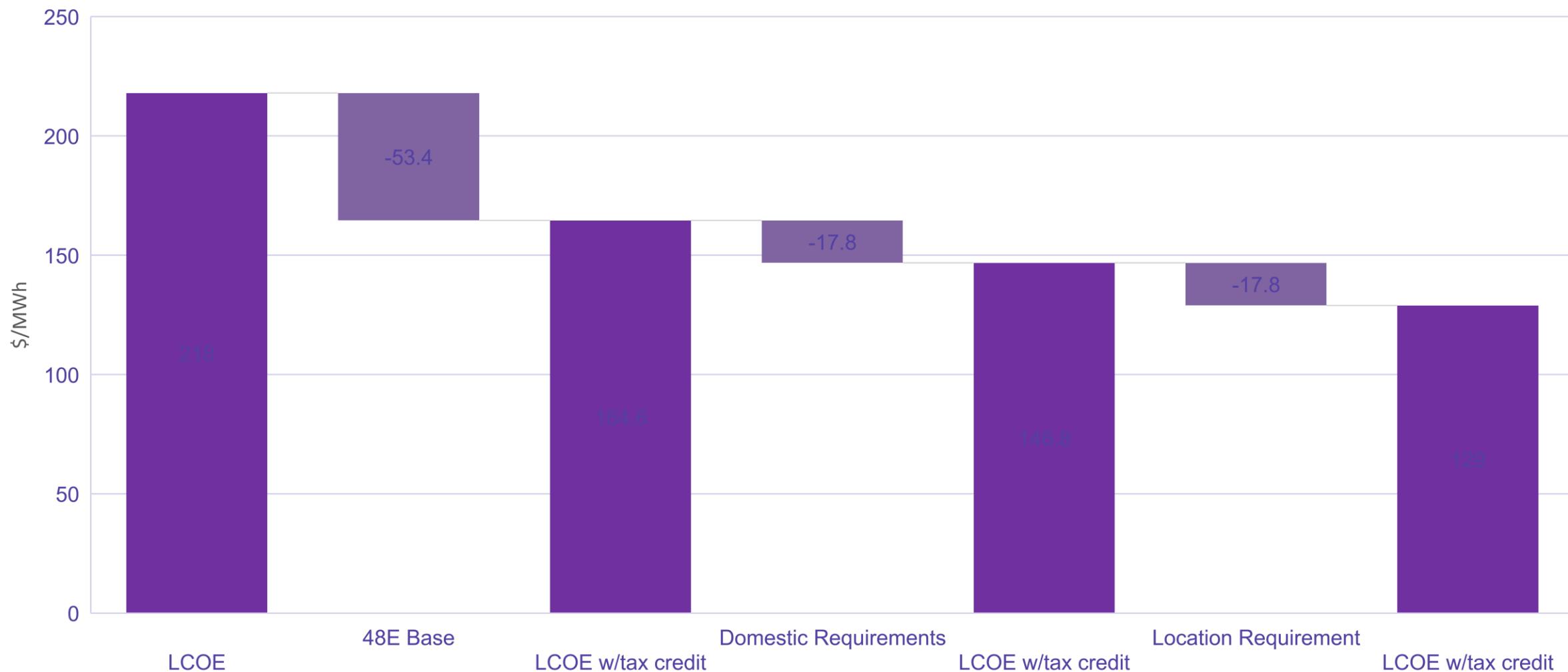
### Siting in Low-Income Community or on Indian Land (<5 MW<sub>AC</sub>)

ITC: +10%  
PTC: N/A

## Wage and Apprenticeship Requirements:

Workers must be paid prevailing wages at the rates published for Davis-Bacon Act purposes both during construction and for repairs during the credit period (10 years for the PTC and 5 years for the ITC); and a certain percentage of workers must be qualified apprentices during construction.

# Levelized Cost of Electricity (LCOE) Forecast Subsidized with IRA 48E ITC



# 45Q CCS/CCUS Tax Credit



## Background:

First introduced in 2008, Section 45Q of the United States Internal Revenue Code provides a tax credit for CO2 storage. The policy is intended to incentivize deployment of carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS), and a variety of project types are eligible.

In 2022, the US introduced a significant stimulus for CCUS investment with the passage of legislation (the Inflation Reduction Act) to expand and extend the 45Q tax credit.

## 45Q: Capacity Requirements

- 18,750 tons per year for power plants (provided at least 75% of the CO2 is captured)
- 12,000 tons per year for other facilities
- 1,000 tons per year for DAC facilities

## IRA Direct Payment Options:

- Carbon capture project developers can receive 45Q as a fully refundable direct payment as if it were an overpayment of taxes.
- For-profit, tax-paying entities can only realize the direct pay option for five years after the carbon capture equipment is placed in service.
- Tax-exempt entities such as states, municipalities, Tribes, and cooperatives can realize the direct pay option for the full 12 years after the carbon capture equipment is placed in service.

## Transferability of Credit:

- Recipients of the 45Q tax credit may transfer all or any portion of the credit value credit to any third-party, tax-paying entity in exchange for a cash payment during any portion of the 12-year credit window.
- The cash payment received by the original recipient of 45Q will not be taxable.

	2018 BBA-45Q Credit	2022 IRA-45Q Credit
QCO Captured by Industrial Facility (Non-EOR/non-utilized)	\$50/MT	\$85/MT
QCO Captured by Industrial Facility (Used in EOR/utilized)	\$35/MT	\$60/MT
QCO Captured by DAC (Non-EOR/Non-Utilized)	\$50/MT	\$180/MT
QCO Captured by DAC (Used in EOR/Utilized)	\$35/MT	\$130/MT

**45Q Projects must commence construction January 1, 2033: Projects must begin physical work by then to qualify for the credit.**