

# Unconventional Oil and Gas: Opportunities for Future Development and Managing Above-Ground Challenges:

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# Criteria for sustainable energy solutions

Solving three simultaneous equations:

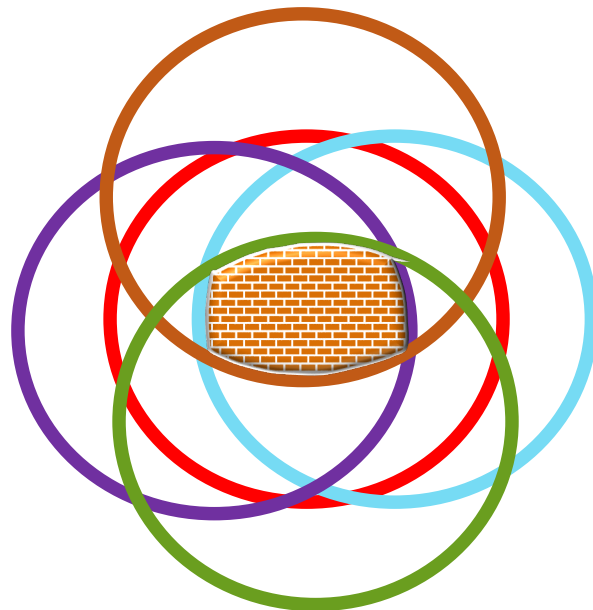
$f(x_1)$  = sound science and technology

$f(x_2)$  = consistency with policy which adequately addresses the welfare of society

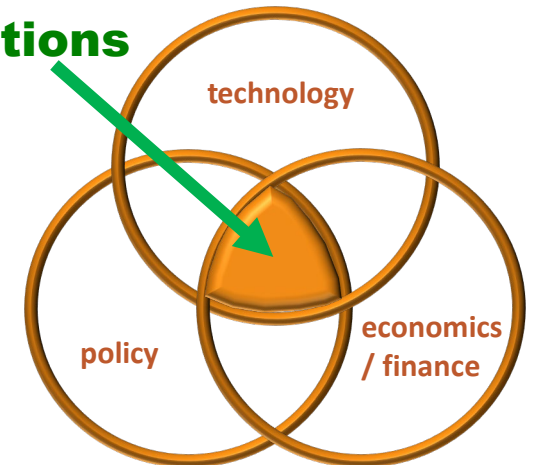
$f(x_3)$  = financial viability to attract the interest of investors

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= complexity



**sustainable  
energy solutions**



multidisciplinary studies for interdisciplinary solutions

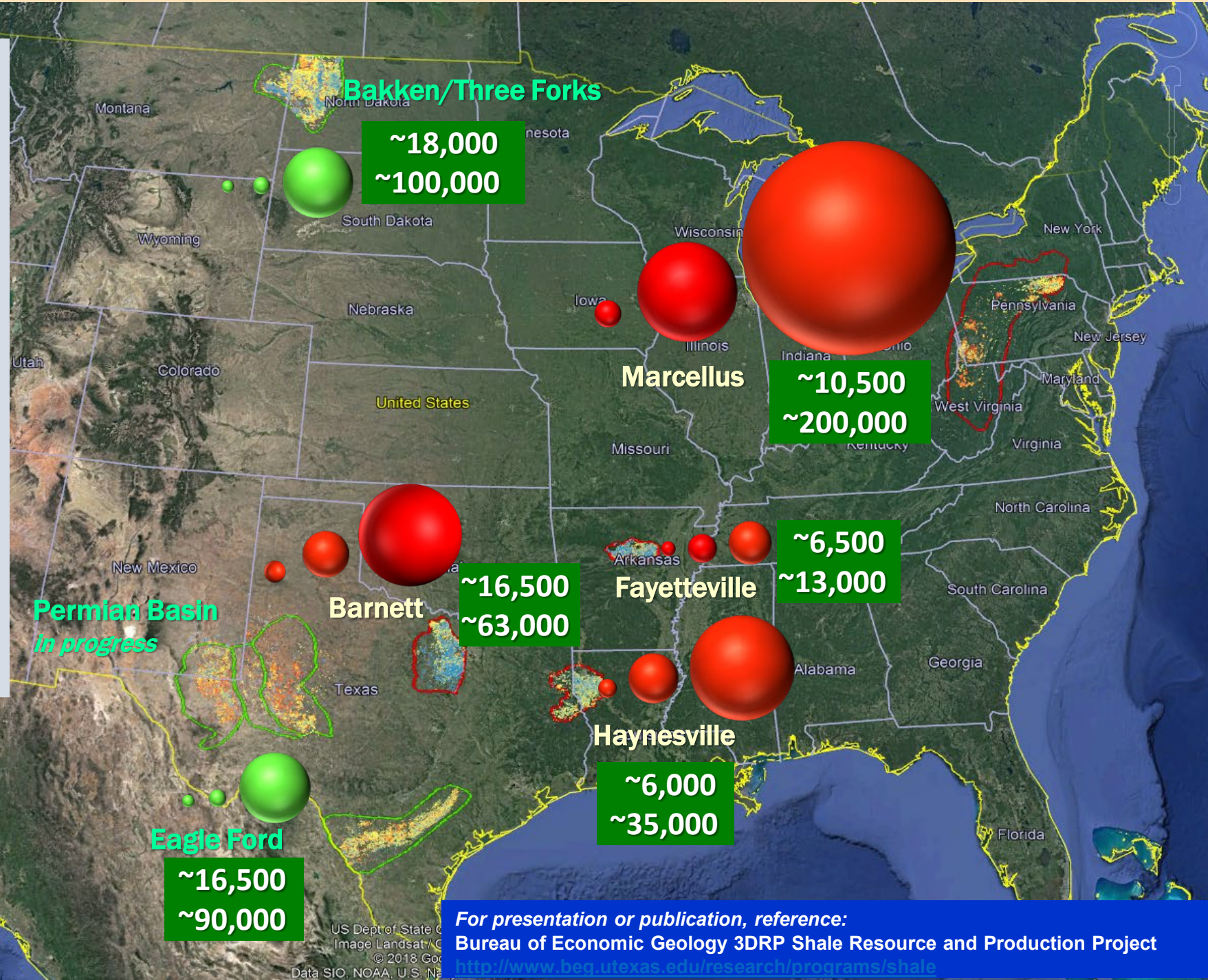
	<u>Gas</u> Tcf	<u>Oil</u> Bbbl
Original In-Place	3100	450
Tech. Recoverable	780	27
Production to date	70	5
Horizontal wells to date	~75,000	
Future wells (base case)	~500,000	

Gas

Oil

Resource-  
in-Place

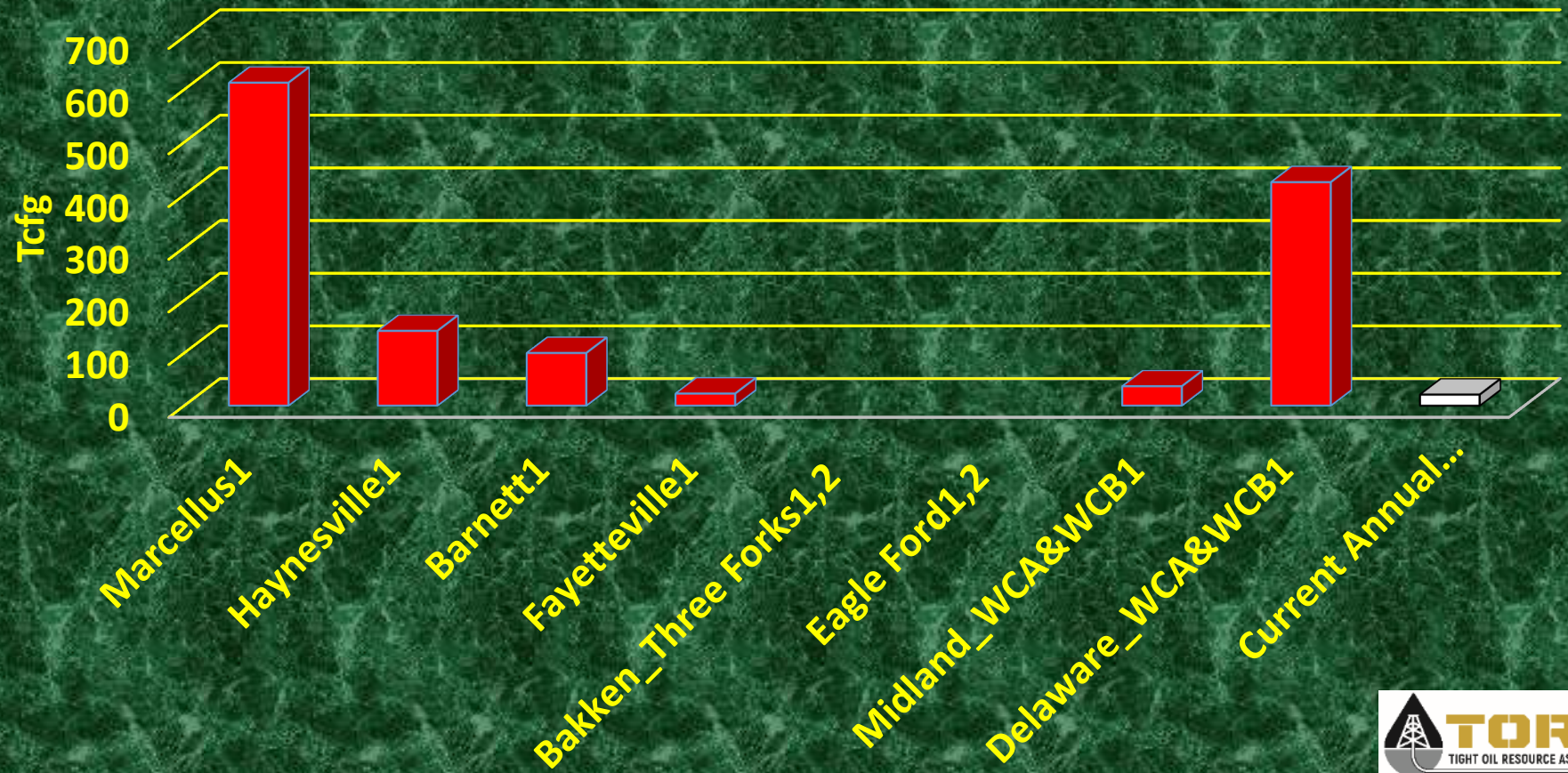
TRR

Produced  
to-dateCompletion  
Date

For presentation or publication, reference:  
 Bureau of Economic Geology 3DRP Shale Resource and Production Project  
<http://www.beg.utexas.edu/research/programs/shale>

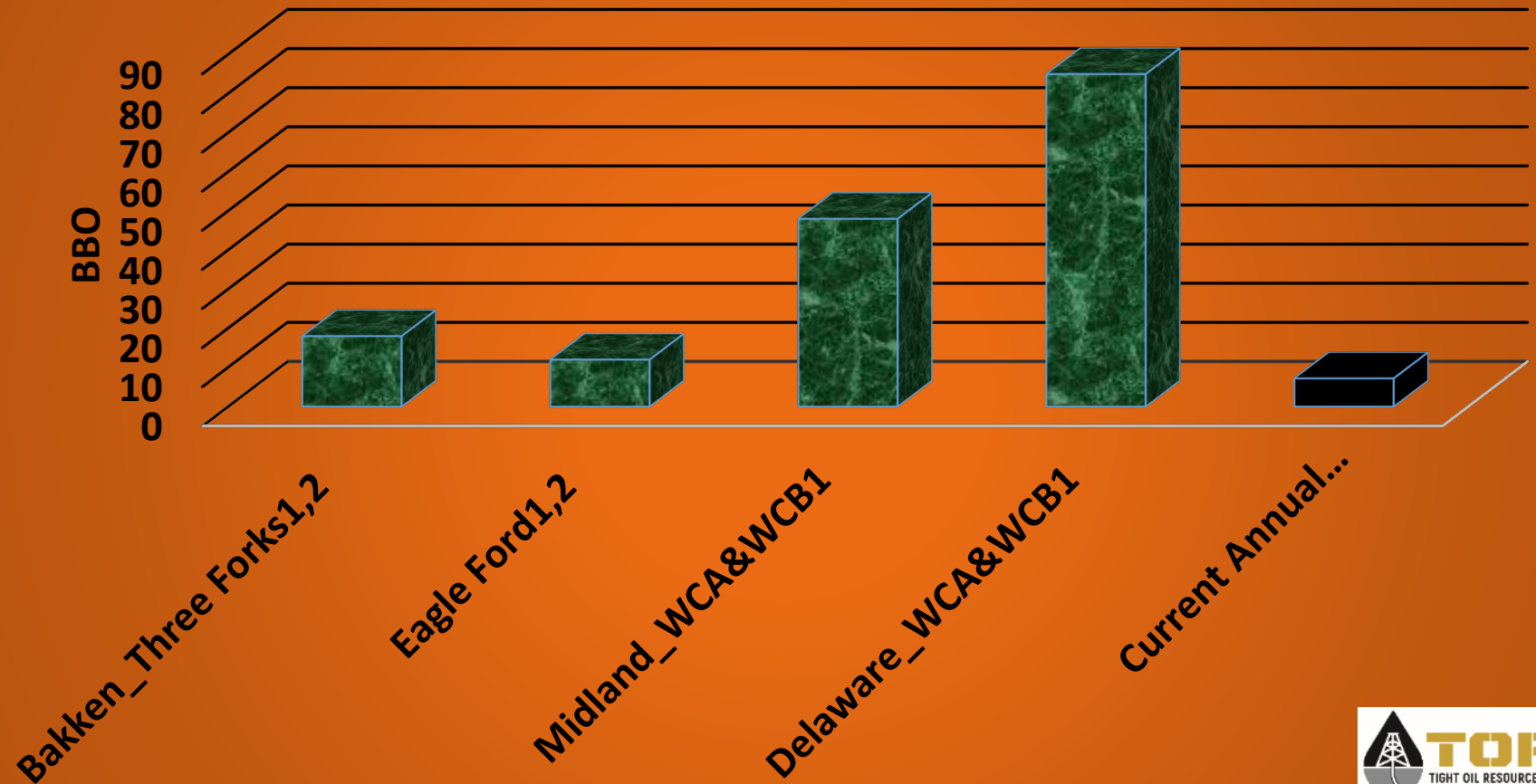
**3,553 TCFG**  
**Total**  
**Technically**  
**Recoverable**  
**Reserves are**  
**over 50 years**  
**current annual**  
**Consumption.**

## TECHNICALLY RECOVERABLE GAS RESOURCES IN PLAYS SHOWN



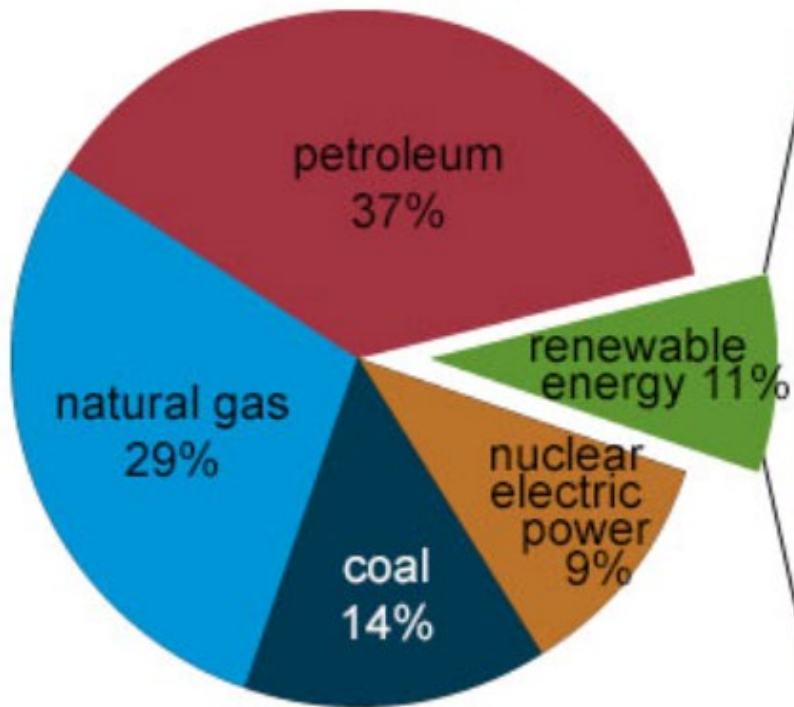
**170 BBO Total  
Technically  
Recoverable  
Reserves are  
over 23 years  
current annual  
Consumption.**

## TECHNICALLY RECOVERABLE OIL RESOURCES IN PLAYS SHOWN

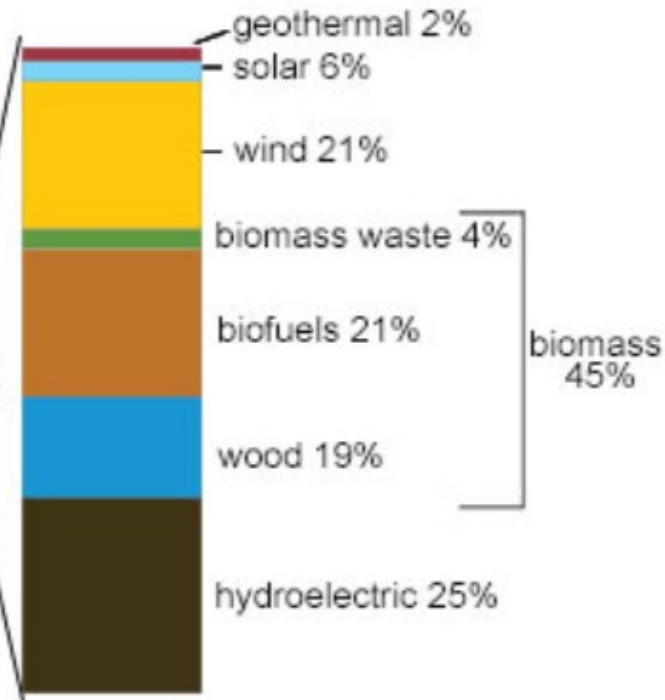


# U.S. energy consumption by energy source, 2017

Total = 97.7 quadrillion  
British thermal units (Btu)



Total = 11.0 quadrillion Btu



Note: Sum of components may not equal 100% because of independent rounding.  
Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Monthly Energy Review*, Table 1.3 and 10.1, April 2018, preliminary data

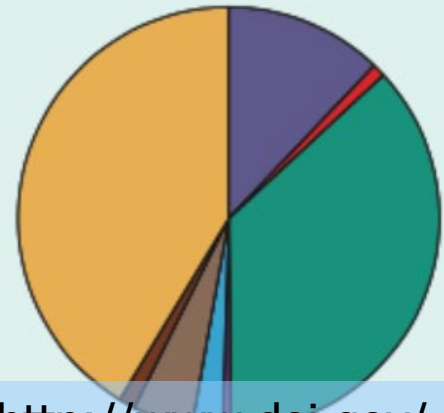


Hydrocarbons account for two-thirds of the United States Energy Sources.

The United States Economy and Economic Standing in the World has historically, continues to develop, and operates on clean, inexpensive energy.

Developing Countries and those in Poverty need inexpensive energy sources to develop and compete.

# Externalities of Oil & Gas Extraction:



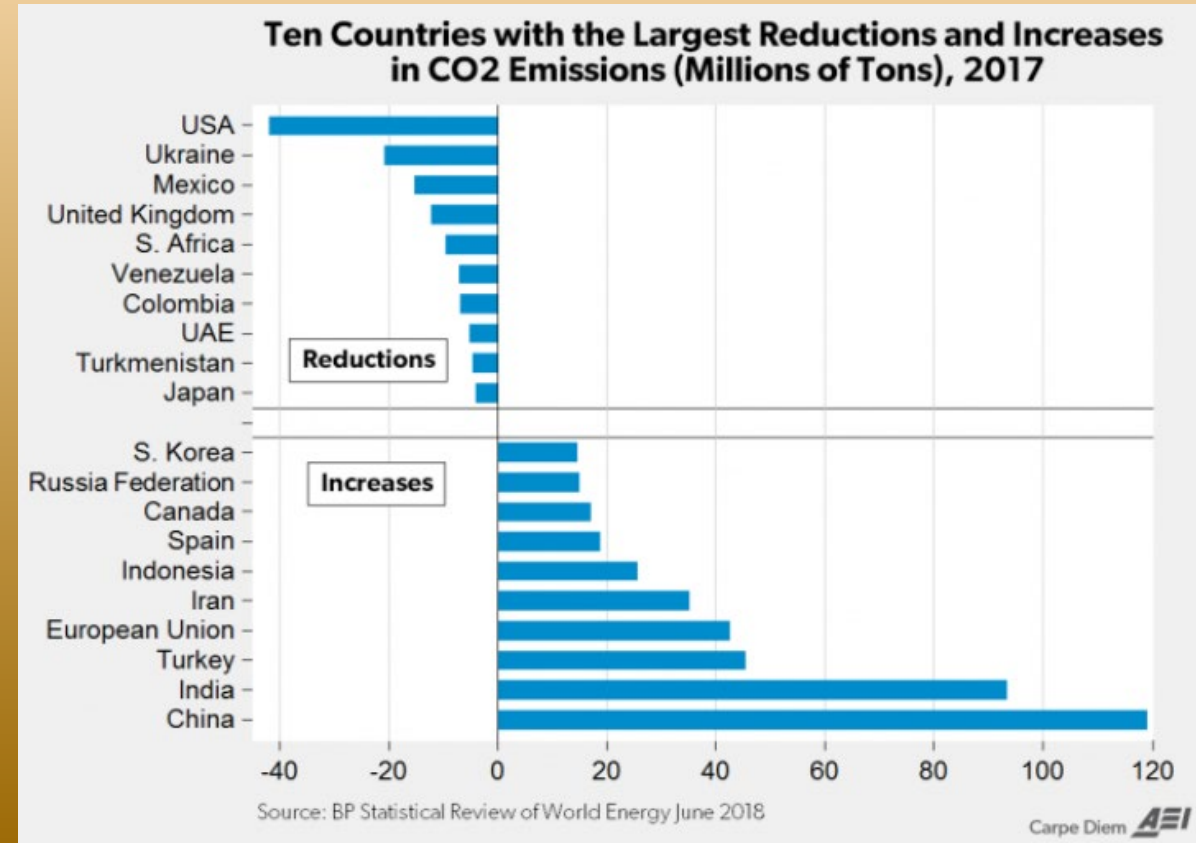
<http://www.doi.gov/>

2015 withdrawals by category,  
in billion gallons per day

<https://www2.usgs.gov/>

U.S. Oil & Gas Industry has reduced emissions 26% in the last several years while doubling production. A greater than 50% decrease per energy unit.

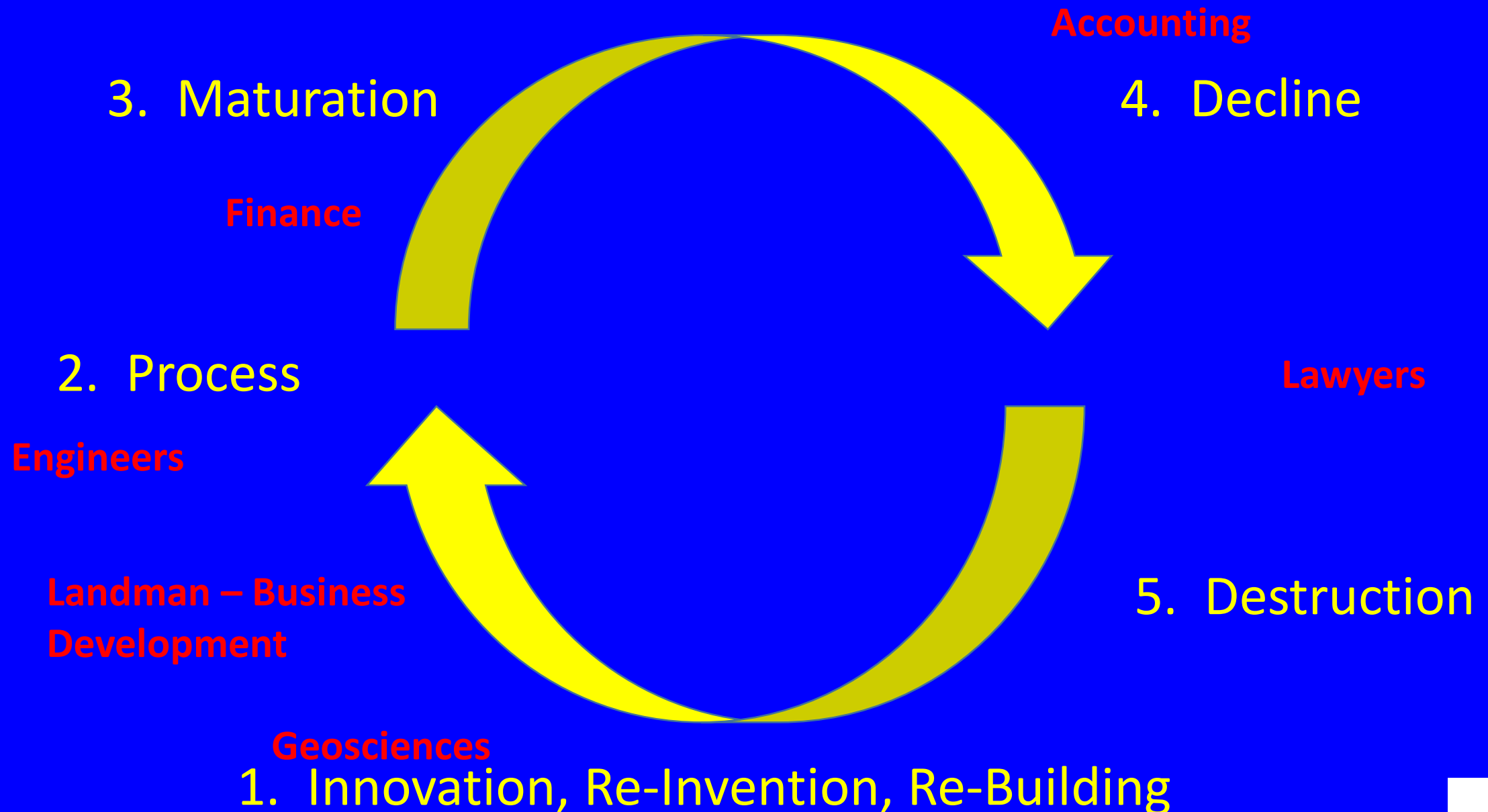
U.S. Oil & Gas Industry accounts for 8% of national GDP and uses approximately 2% of U.S. water supply.



# Why Unconventional, Resource Plays Developed first in the United States:

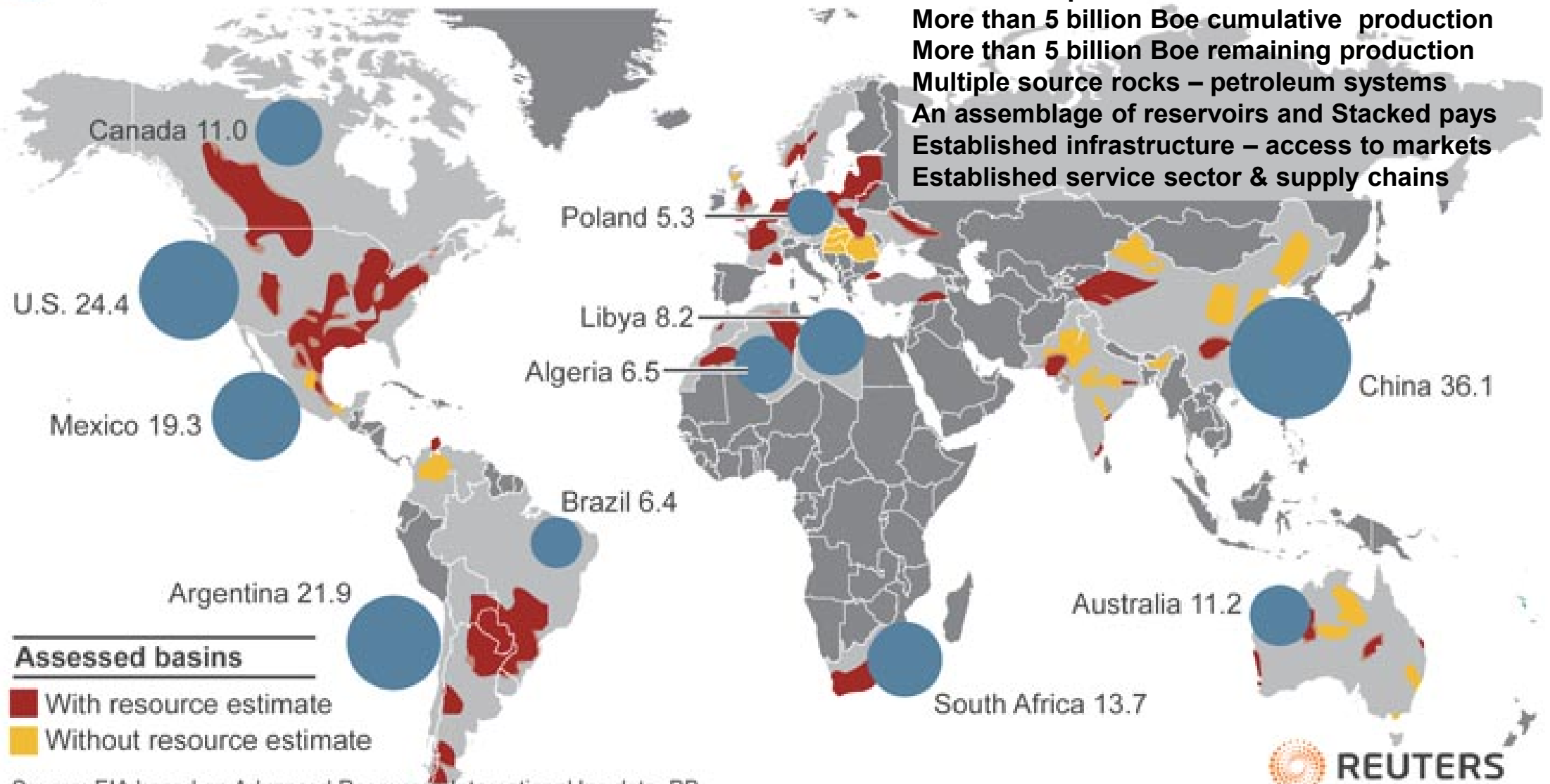
1. Innovators are Small Independents, individuals or small companies.
2. Fee (Private) Mineral Ownership.
3. Infrastructure.
  - a. Fields, pipelines,
  - b. Service Companies,
  - c. Information,
  - d. Technology
    - (i). Drilling,
    - (ii). Completions.
4. Marginal Economics per well and total CapEx.

# Organizational / Trend-Play Life Cycle



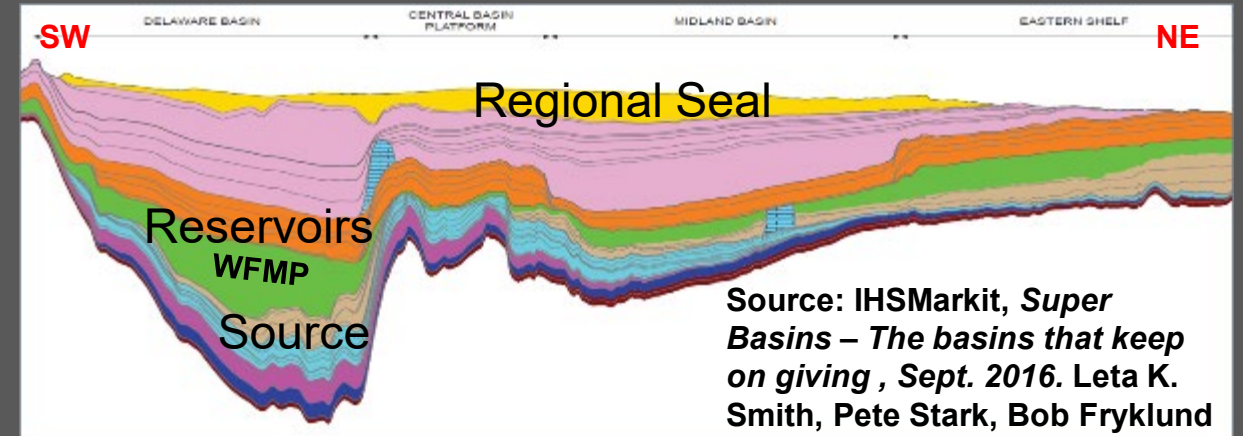
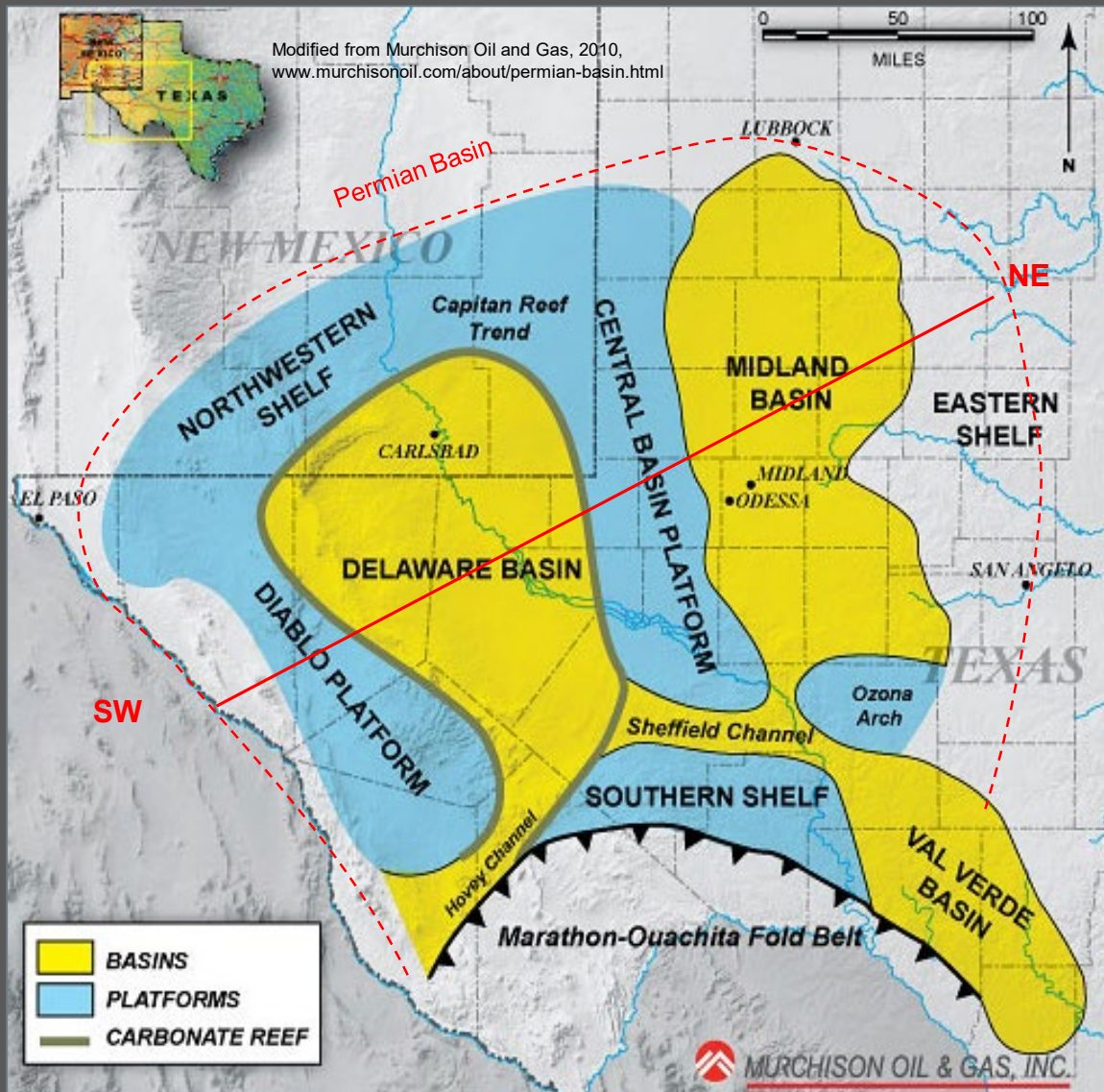
# Global shale gas basins, top reserve holders

● Top reserve holders 200 - Trln cubic metres

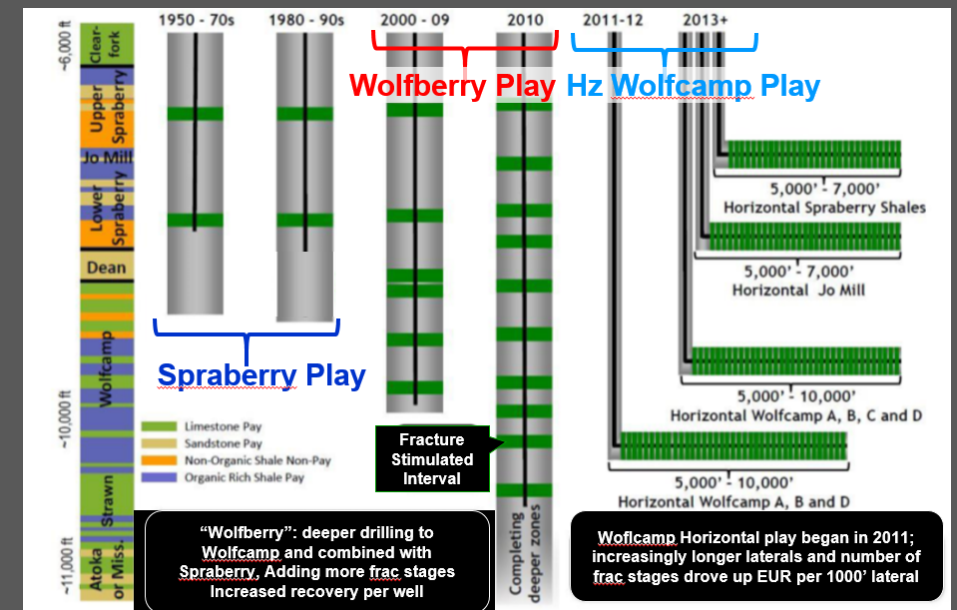


Source: EIA based on Advanced Resources International Inc data, BP

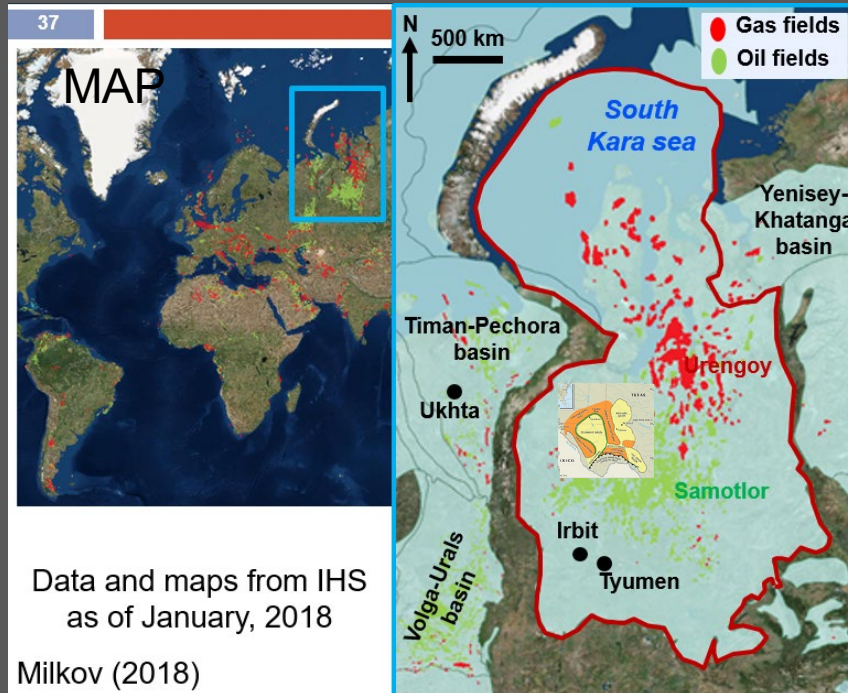
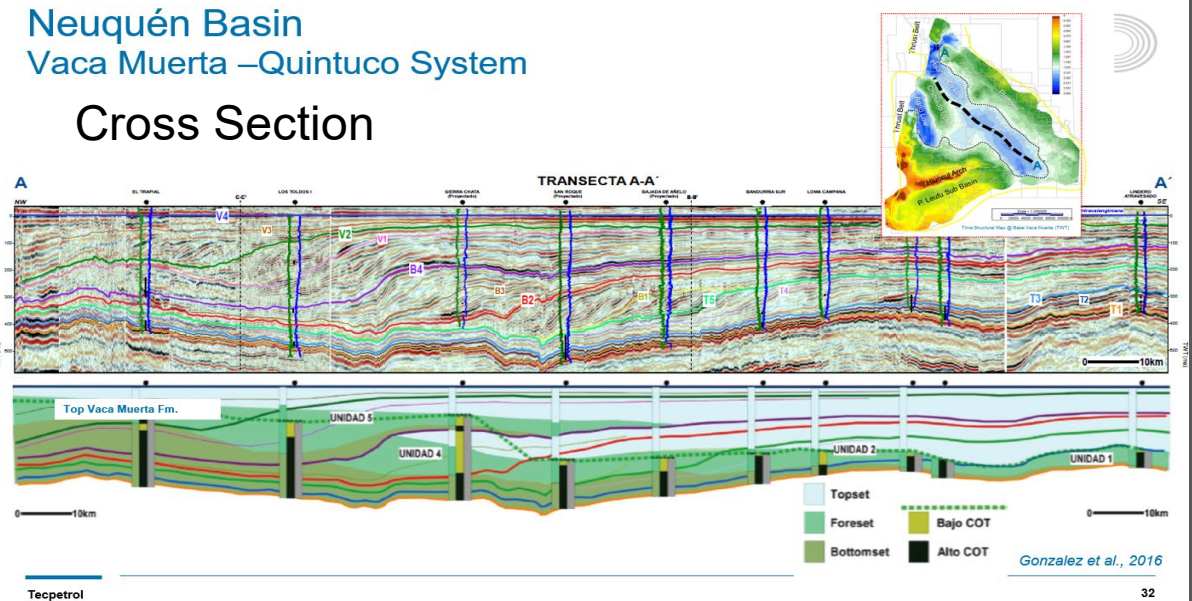
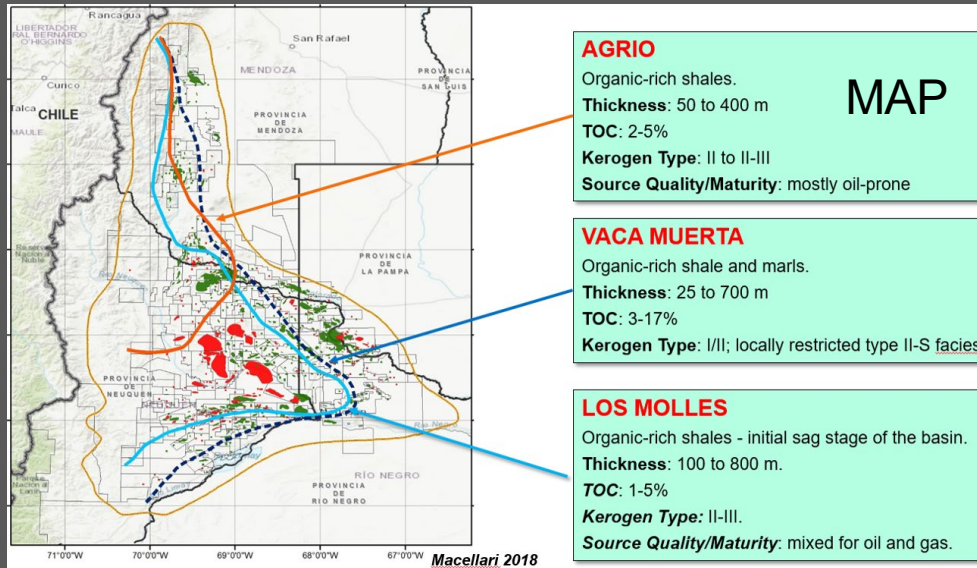
# Permian Basin – “super basin” prototype architecture onshore, unconventional, geology and engineering



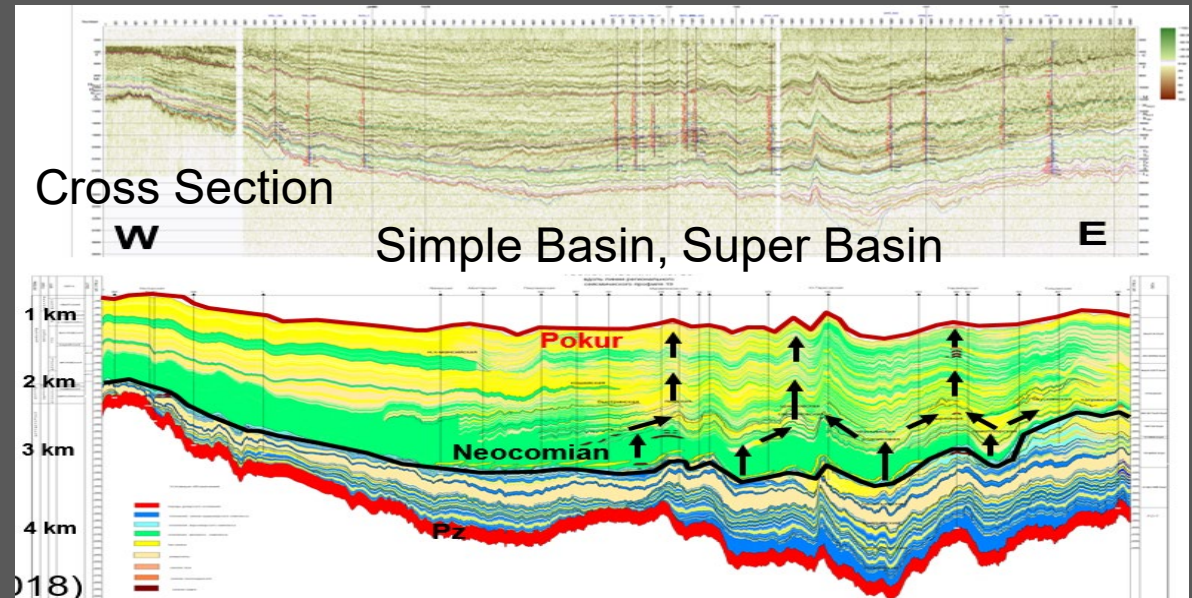
- 1) Four source zones; three low in pile; 2) Maturation due to Permian subsidence for most of basin; 3) Late salt seal reduces leakage;



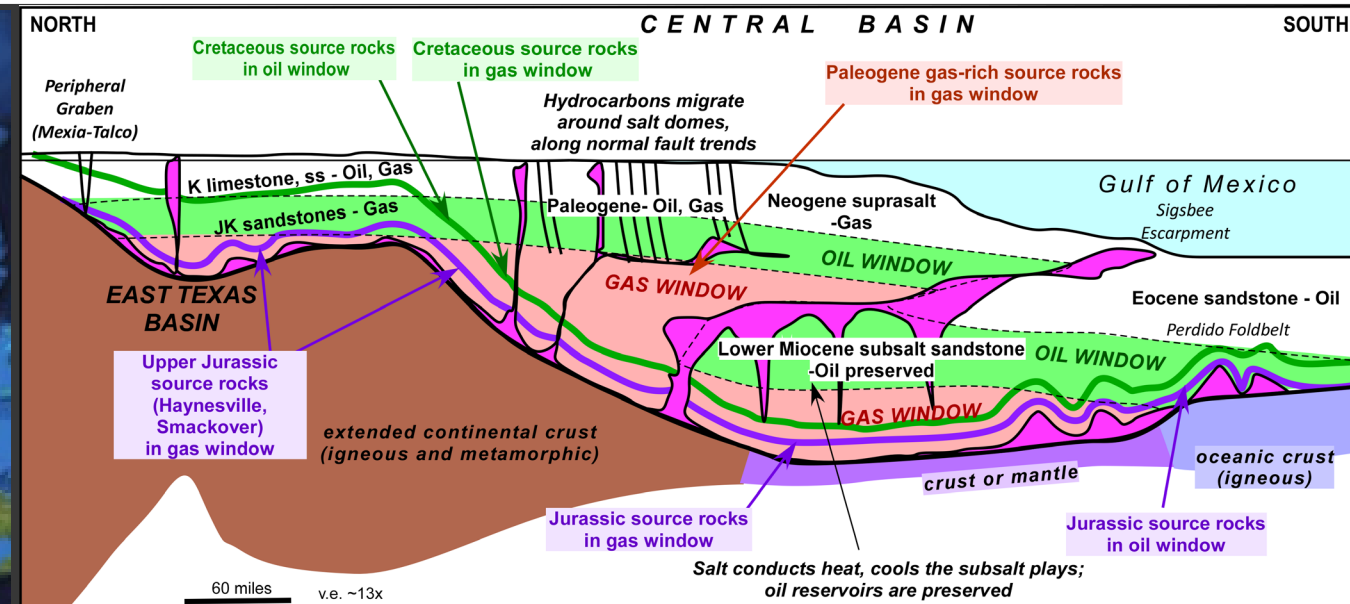
# Argentina Neuquen Bains, Vaca Muerta



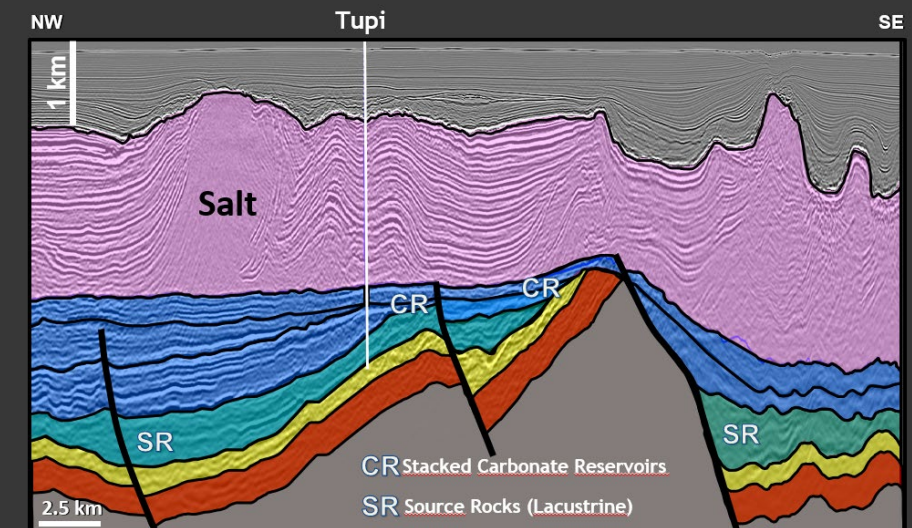
# Russia, W. Siberian Basin



# Gulf of Mexico—"super basin" prototype architecture, onshore, unconventional, and offshore conventional geology and geophysics



## Brazil, Santos and Campos Basins Pre-Salt

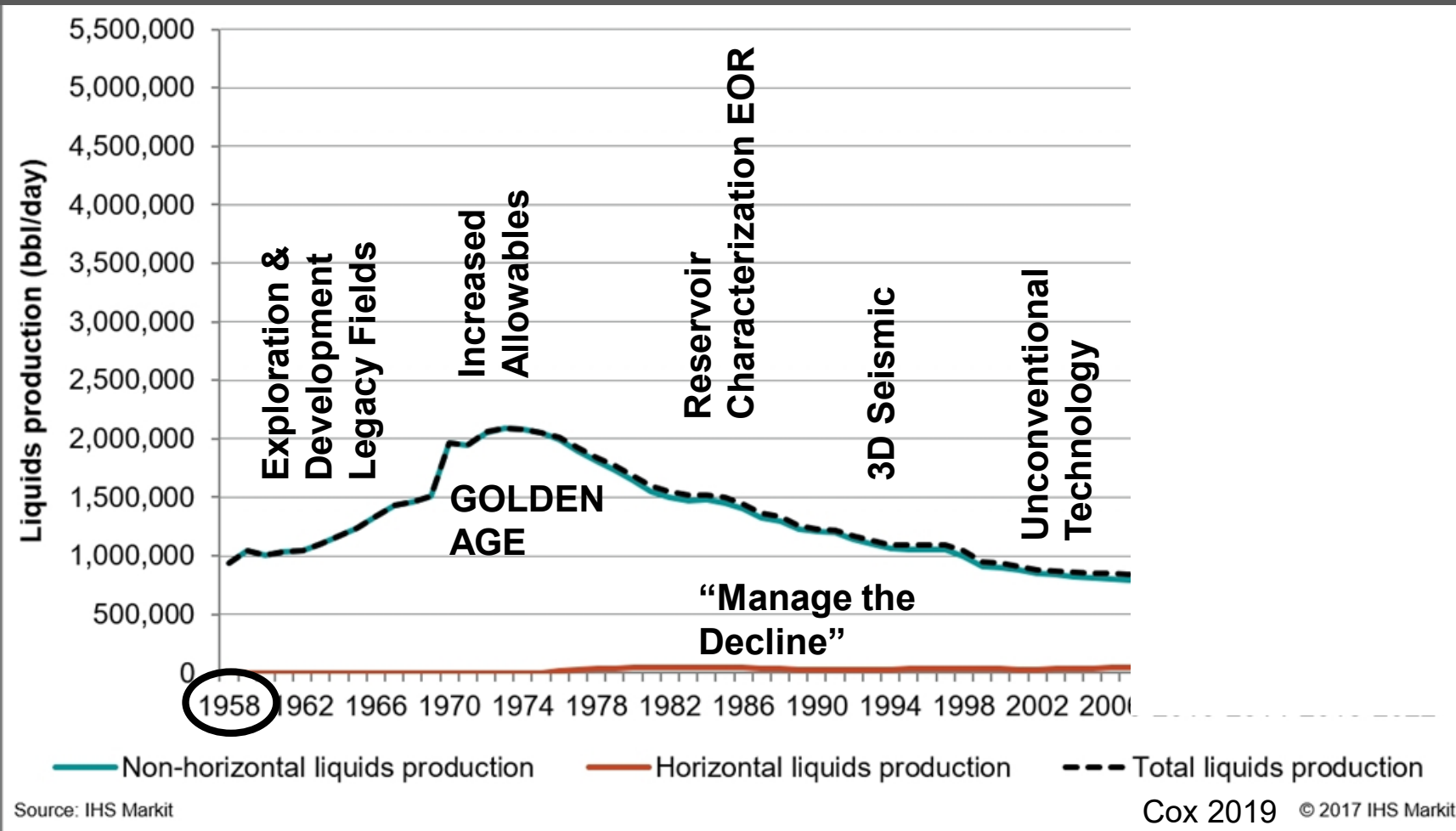


- 1) Three main sources, two low in section (Jurassic, mid-Cretaceous)
- 2) Generation continuing at present
- 3) Repetition of oil window by salt nappe(s)
- 4) Strong vertical migration, no superseal; leaky basin

Courtesy Tom Ewing, 2018; Cindy Yielding 2018; Otaviano Pessoa 2018

# Production Rejuvenation of “mature basin” Permian 1958 to 2019+

*Back to the Future!*



- 1) Be a part of the Energy Solution
- 2) Be a lifelong learner
- 3) Be proactive in professional organizations, say yes!

# Oil and gas advocacy

Colin Leyden



# U.S. O&G Supply Chain

## 2015 Methane Emissions

### Drilling & Production



7.6 Tg  
1.3%

3.5 Tg  
0.6%

### Gathering & Processing



3.3 Tg  
0.6%

2.7 Tg  
0.5%

### Transmission & Storage



1.8 Tg  
0.3%

1.4 Tg  
0.2%

### Local Distribution



0.44 Tg  
0.1%

0.44 Tg  
0.1%



Methane Synthesis  
Alvarez et al 2018

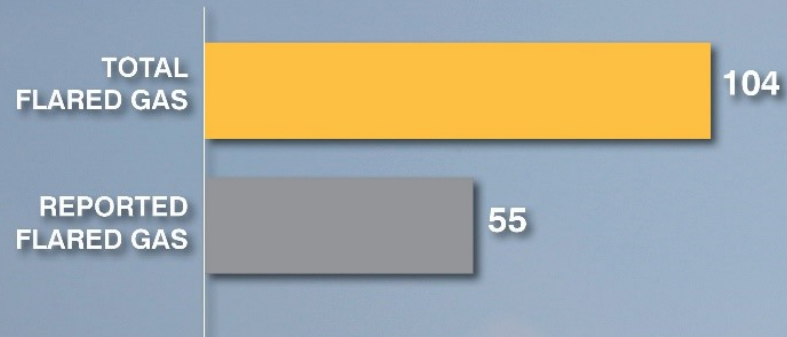


2017 EPA GHG Inventory  
(For year 2015)

# Flaring In Texas

- 4.4% of all Permian gas in 2017
- 1 Trillion cubic feet 2012-2017 statewide

Gas flaring in the Texas Permian Basin is nearly **2X higher** than what companies report



Flaring volumes in billion cubic feet

Source: NOAA Satellite, RRC flaring data





**Fatih Birol**   
@IEABirol

Follow



As I said at the oil & gas session @Davos today, the world will use oil & gas for several years to come, but much more needs to be done to reduce their emissions:

- Lower methane leaks
- Capture CO<sub>2</sub>
- Use renewables in operations
- Step up bio-methane & hydrogen

#wef19

7:15 AM - 23 Jan 2019

128 Retweets 228 Likes



# Unconventional oil & gas development: environmental impacts

Sheila Olmstead

The University of Texas at Austin & Resources for the Future

Energy Week

February 5, 2019



# U.S. unconventional production has generated significant benefits.

- Selected economic benefits of the boom in U.S. unconventional oil and gas production:
  - U.S. natural gas price dropped 47% compared to a counterfactual without new U.S. production, 2007-2013, generating \$74 billion/year in benefits to U.S. consumers (Hausman and Kellogg 2015).
  - New oil and gas extraction increased aggregate US employment by up to 640,000, and decreased the unemployment rate by 0.43 during the Great Recession (Feyrer et al. 2017).
  - U.S. personal income increased *in 2014 alone* by \$67 billion (0.5%) due to oil and gas royalty income (Brown et al. 2019).
  - Coal-to-gas switching in electricity generation (due to cheap gas) has reduced local air pollution concentrations, with associated health benefits of ~\$17 billion/year (Johnsen et al. 2019).



# What about environmental costs?

- Research has established links between fracking and local/regional air pollution, surface water pollution (Olmstead et al. 2012), groundwater contamination, greenhouse gas emissions , seismicity from waste disposal, increased accidents (Muehlenbachs et al. 2017), etc.
- Markets capitalize some risks:
  - In PA, groundwater-dependent homes within 1.5 km of a shale gas well lose 10-17% of their market value, relative to homes at the same distance that use municipal piped water (Muehlenbachs et al. 2015).
  - OK homes in seismically-active regions lose 3-5% of their market value at the onset of the earthquake boom from produced water injection (Metz et al. 2017).
- Which potential environmental costs from unconventional production are likely to be most significant, and what can communities, firms, and regulators do?

