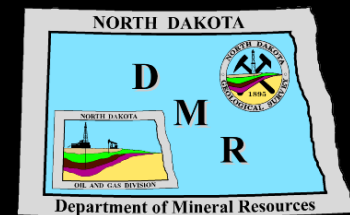


# *OIL & GAS ACTIVITY UPDATE*

*South Dakota Ag  
and Rural Leadership Tour*

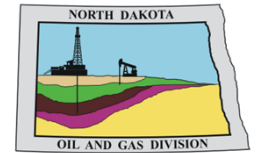
*Bismarck, ND– June 3, 2013*



# North Dakota Development

- **Regulation**
- **Resource Play**
- **Uniform Spacing—orderly development**
- **Multi-well locations—small footprint**
- **Corridors—industry and residents**
- **Water Needs—surface waters**
- **Bakken Results**

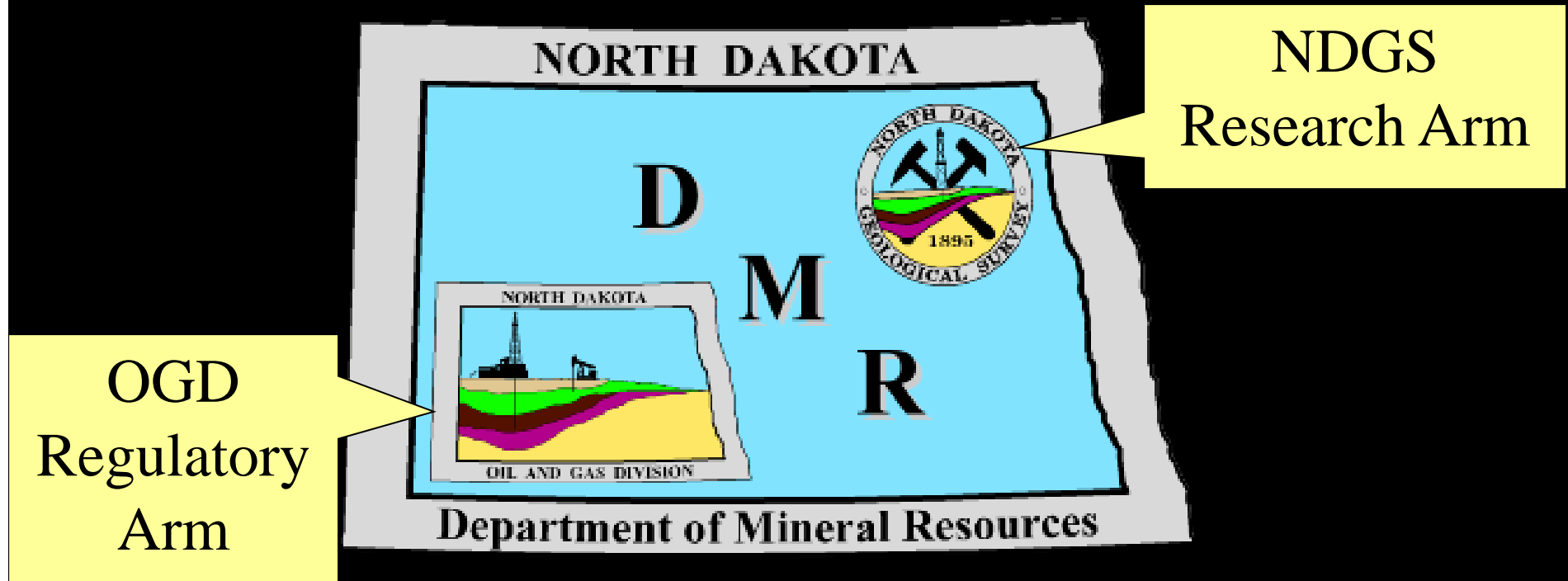
*Bruce E. Hicks  
Assistant Director  
NDIC-DMR-OGD  
Bismarck, ND*



**WHAT IS THE ONLY WAY TO  
KEEP CASINOS FROM GETTING  
YOUR MONEY?**

**ROLL DOWN YOUR WINDOW AND  
THROW IT OUT ON YOUR WAY  
THERE!**

# North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources



<https://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/>

<https://www.dmr.nd.gov/ndgs/>

***600 East Boulevard Ave. - Dept 405***

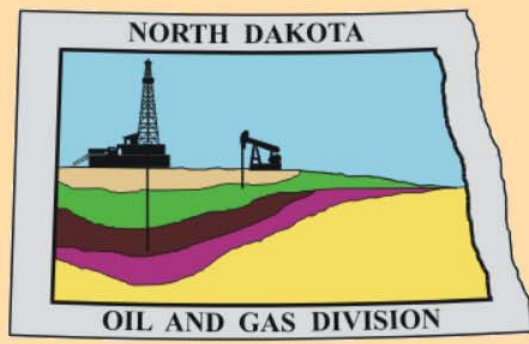
***Bismarck, ND 58505-0840***

***(701) 328-8020***

***(701) 328-8000***



- Services
- Rules & Regulations
- Forms
- Hearing Dockets
- Active Drilling Rigs
- Daily Activity Reports
- Confidential Well List
- General Statistics
- Seismic
- Well Search
- Report a Spill/Incident
- GIS Map Server
- Publications
- Surface Mineral Owner
- Basic Services
- Premium Services
- Electronic Filing
- Related Links
- FAQ & Web Help
- Contact Us
- Employee Directory
- Email Addresses



## Welcome to the North Dakota Industrial Commission, Department Mineral Resources, Oil and Gas Division, home page.

[Director's Cut - 04/16/2013](#) and [Recent Presentations](#)

The Director's Cut is an update on current activity in the North Dakota oil patch from the Director of Department of Mineral Resources. ([View past Director's Cuts](#))

View the [latest press releases](#) from the Oil and Gas Division

**Rules approved for Geologic Storage of Carbon Dioxide.**  
See the [signed order](#).

### [Bakken and Three Forks Information!](#)

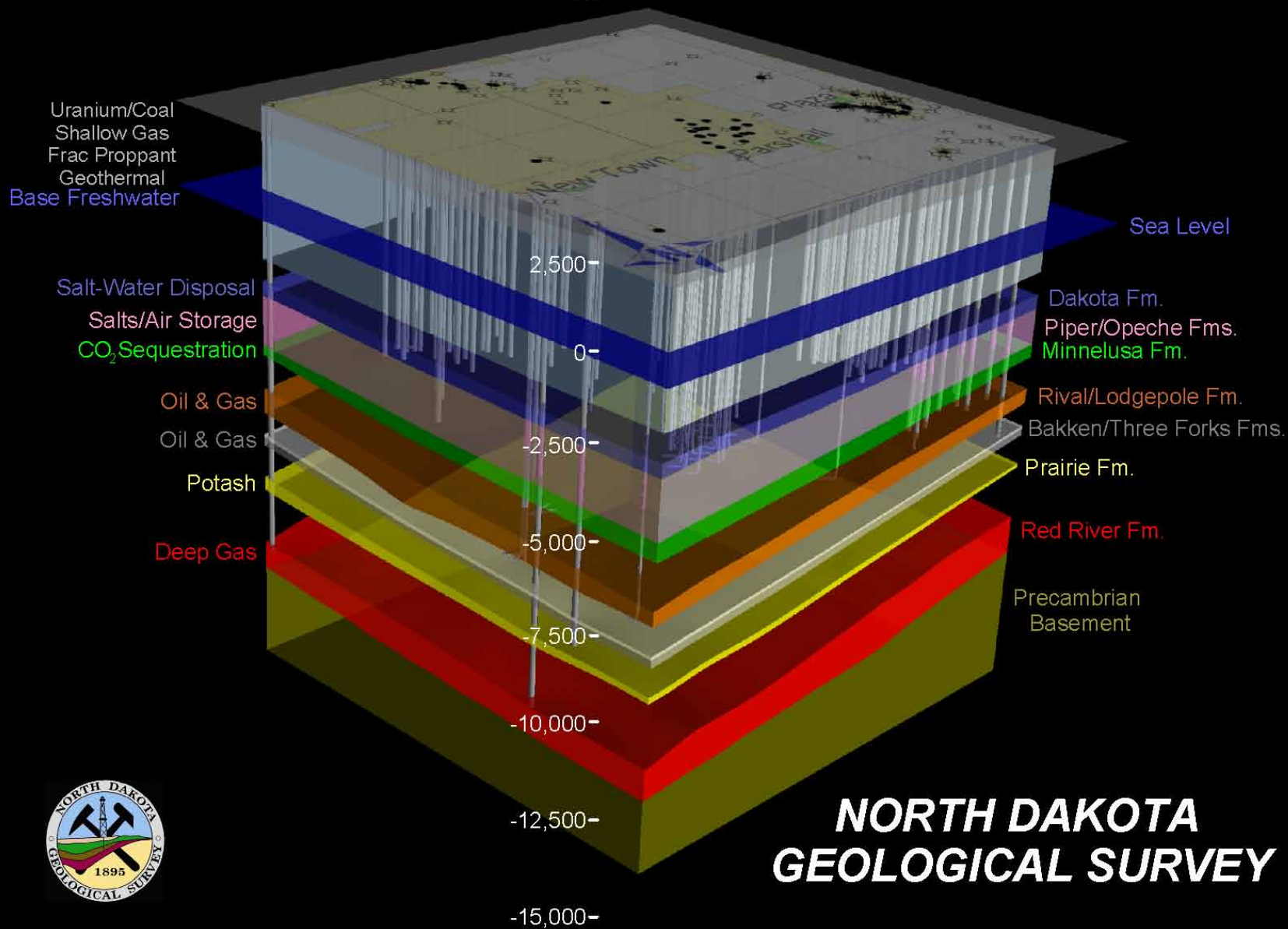
There are currently **2** job openings available for an [Engineering Technician IV](#) and [Engineering Technician IV](#) located in the Williston Field Office and one job opening available for an [Engineering Technician IV](#) located in the Dickinson Field Office.

**Available on the ND Petroleum Council web site** are the [Surface Owner Information Center](#), the [Royalty Owner Information Center](#) and the PowerPoint presentations that were used at the [2012 Williston Basin Petroleum Conference](#).

The Oil and Gas Division regulates the drilling and production of oil and gas in North Dakota. Our mission is to encourage and promote the development

**Phone:** (701) 328-8020  
**Fax:** (701) 328-8022

# Three-Dimensional Geologic Model of the Parshall Area



**NORTH DAKOTA  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

# North Dakota Development

- **Regulation**
- Resource Play
- Uniform Spacing—orderly development
- Multi-well locations—small footprint
- Corridors—industry and residents
- Water Needs—surface waters
- Bakken Results

# TYPICAL HORIZONTAL OIL WELL



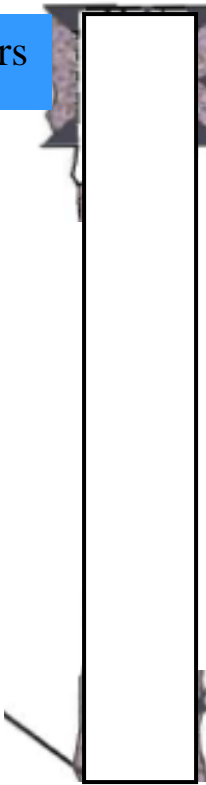
- Drill with fresh water
- Total depth below lowest potable water
- Run in hole with surface casing
- Cement casing back to surface of ground
- 1<sup>st</sup> layer of surface water protection

# TYPICAL HORIZONTAL OIL WELL

Potable Waters

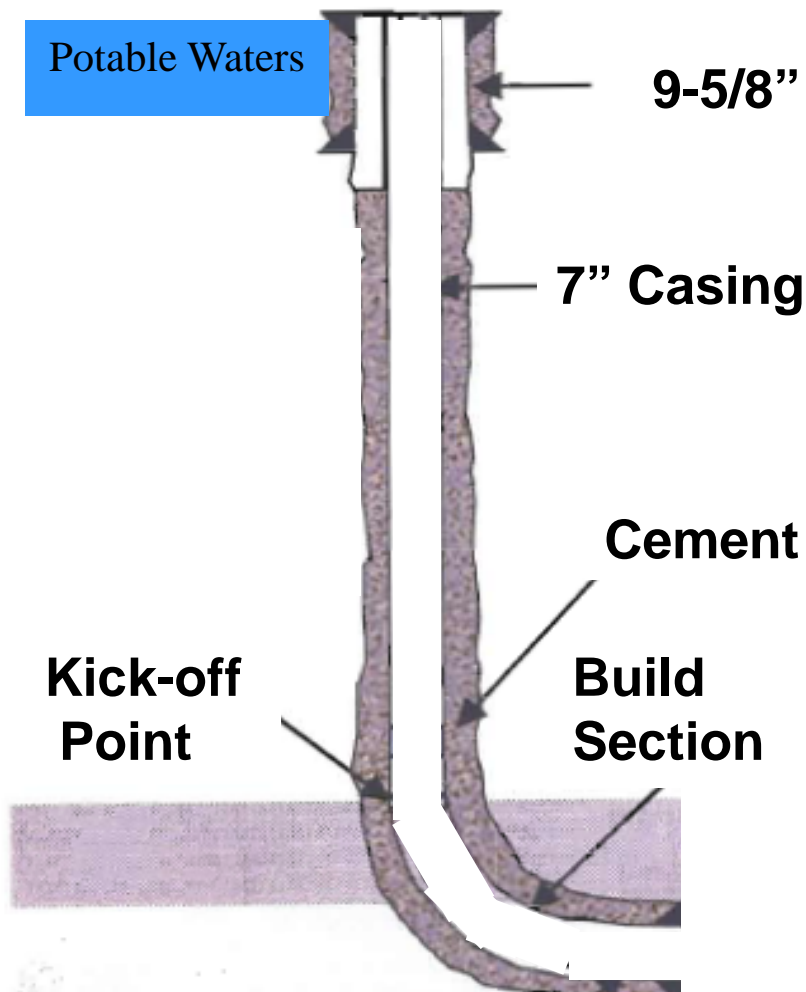
9-5/8" @ 2500'

KOP @  
10500'



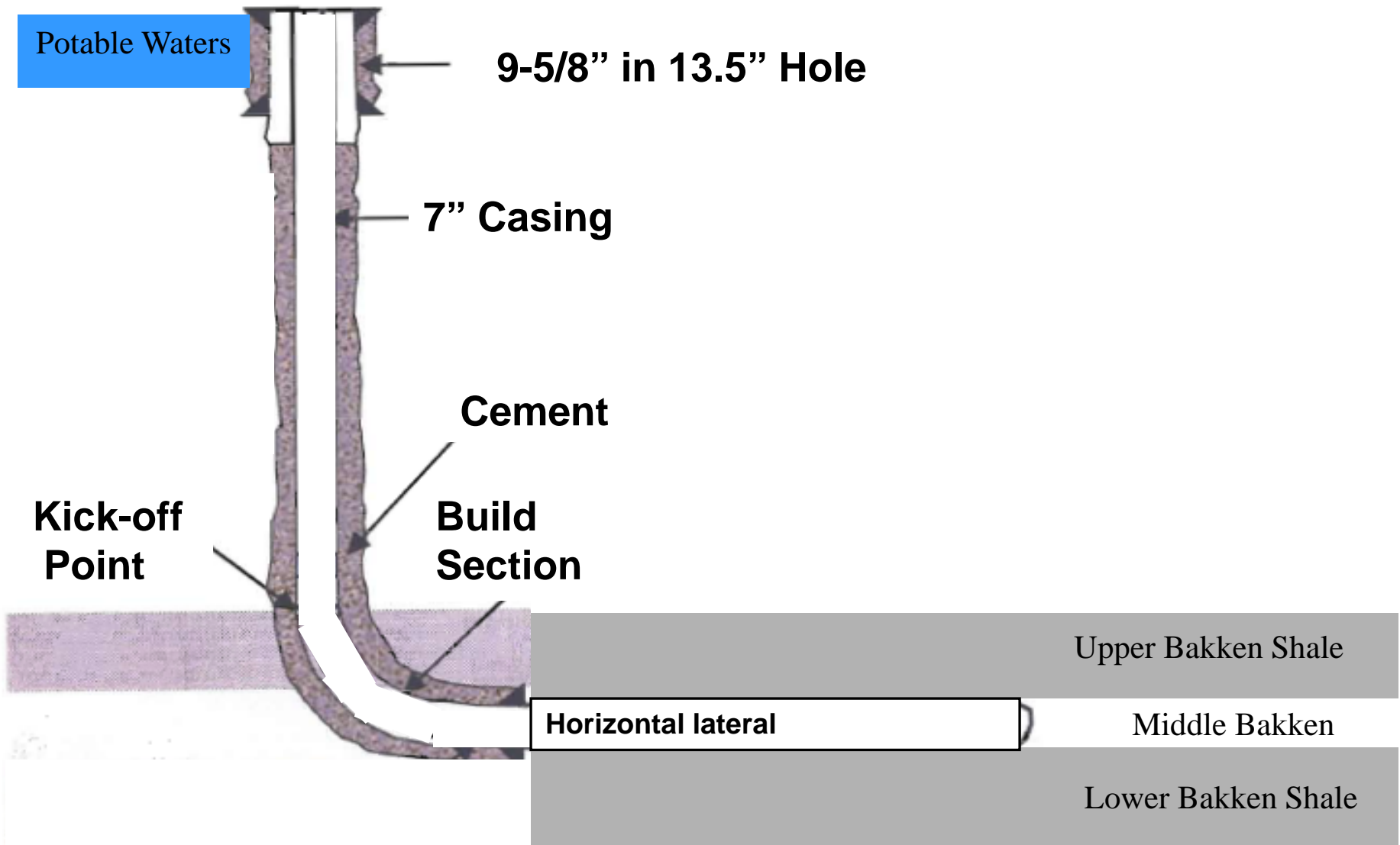
- Drill vertically to kick-off point
- Run in hole with bent assembly
- Downhole mud motor

# TYPICAL HORIZONTAL OIL WELL



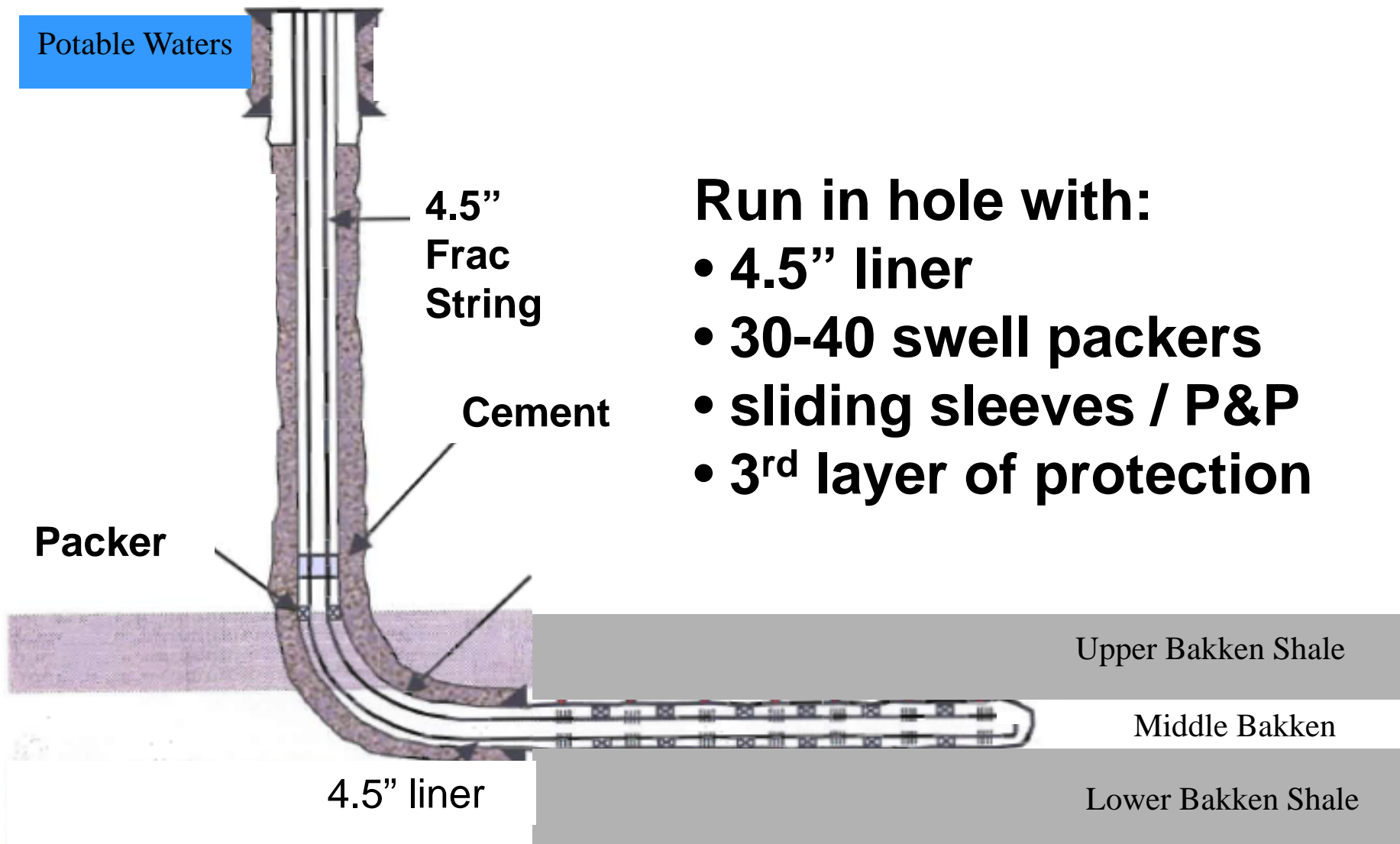
- Drill 8-3/4" hole to pay
- Run in hole with 7" casing
- Cement 7" casing
- 2<sup>nd</sup> layer of protection

# TYPICAL HORIZONTAL OIL WELL



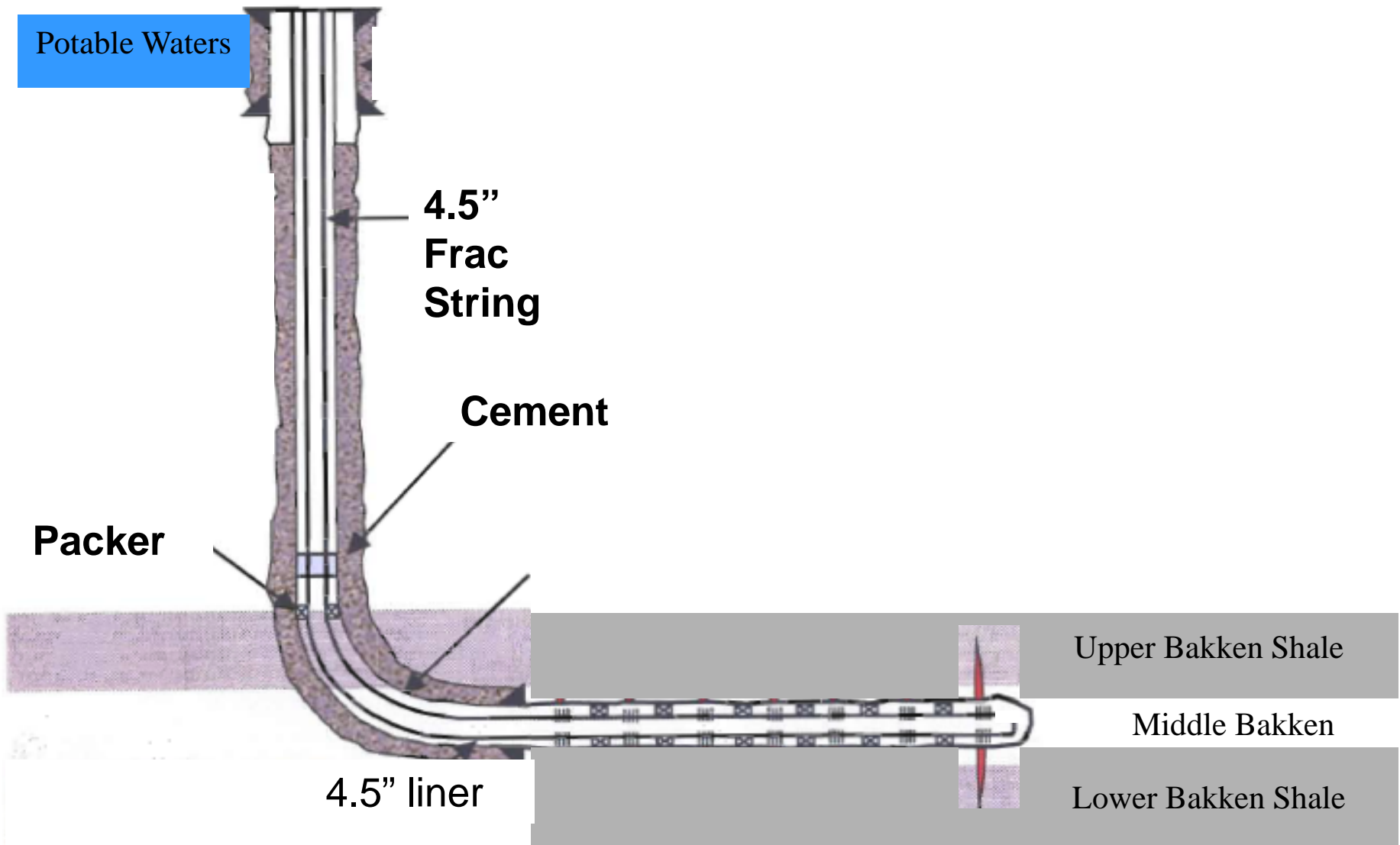


# TYPICAL HORIZONTAL OIL WELL

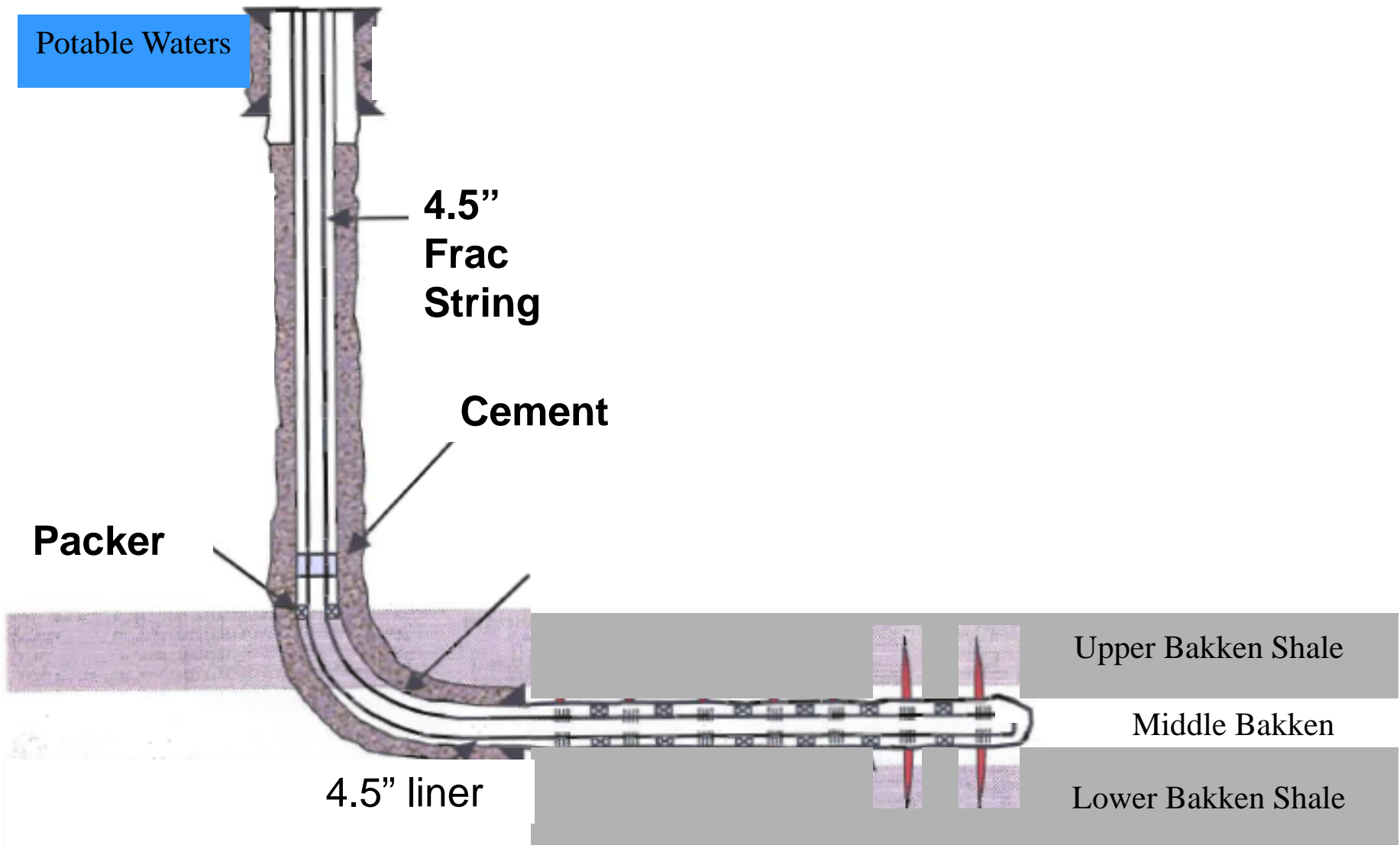




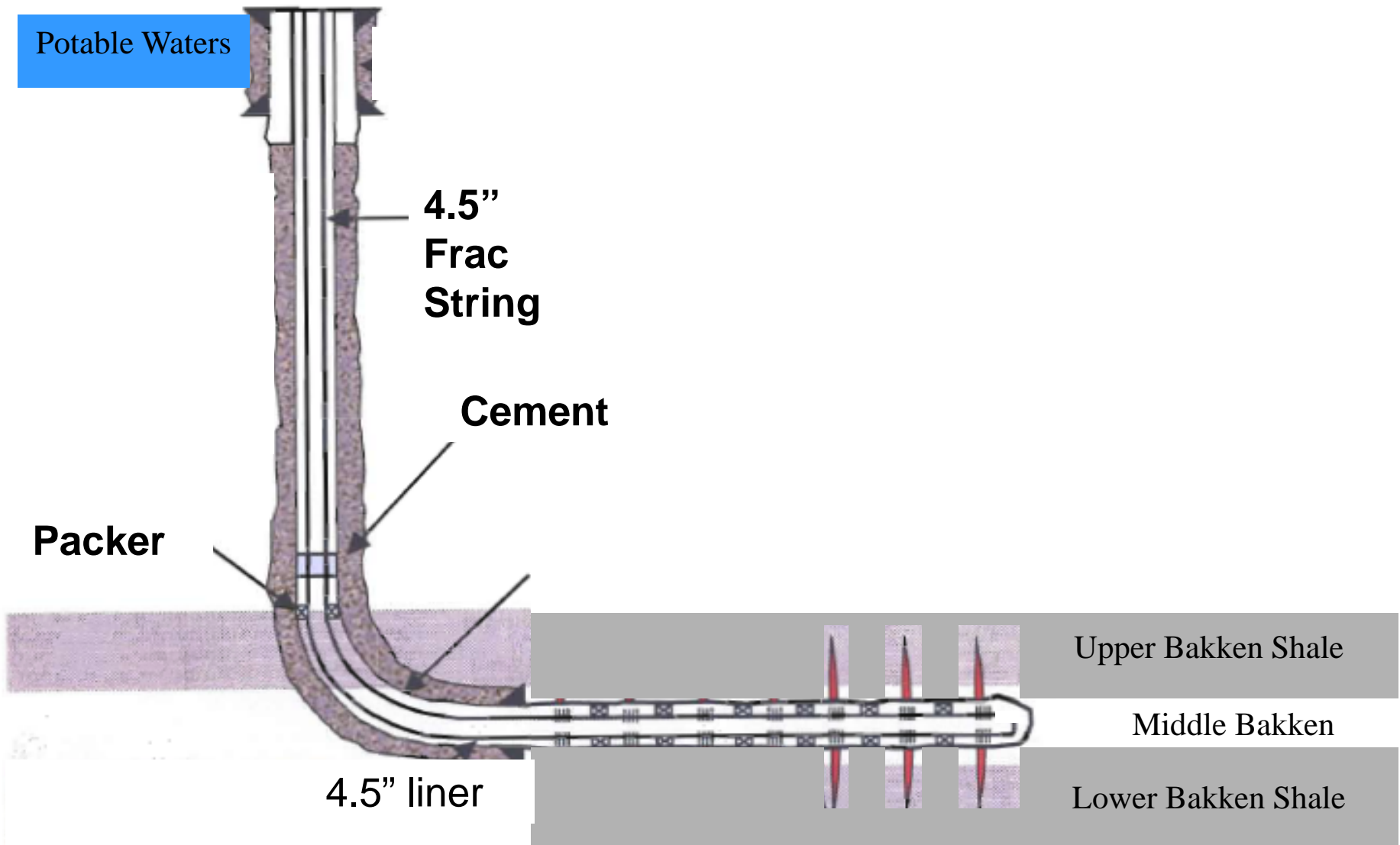
# TYPICAL HORIZONTAL OIL WELL



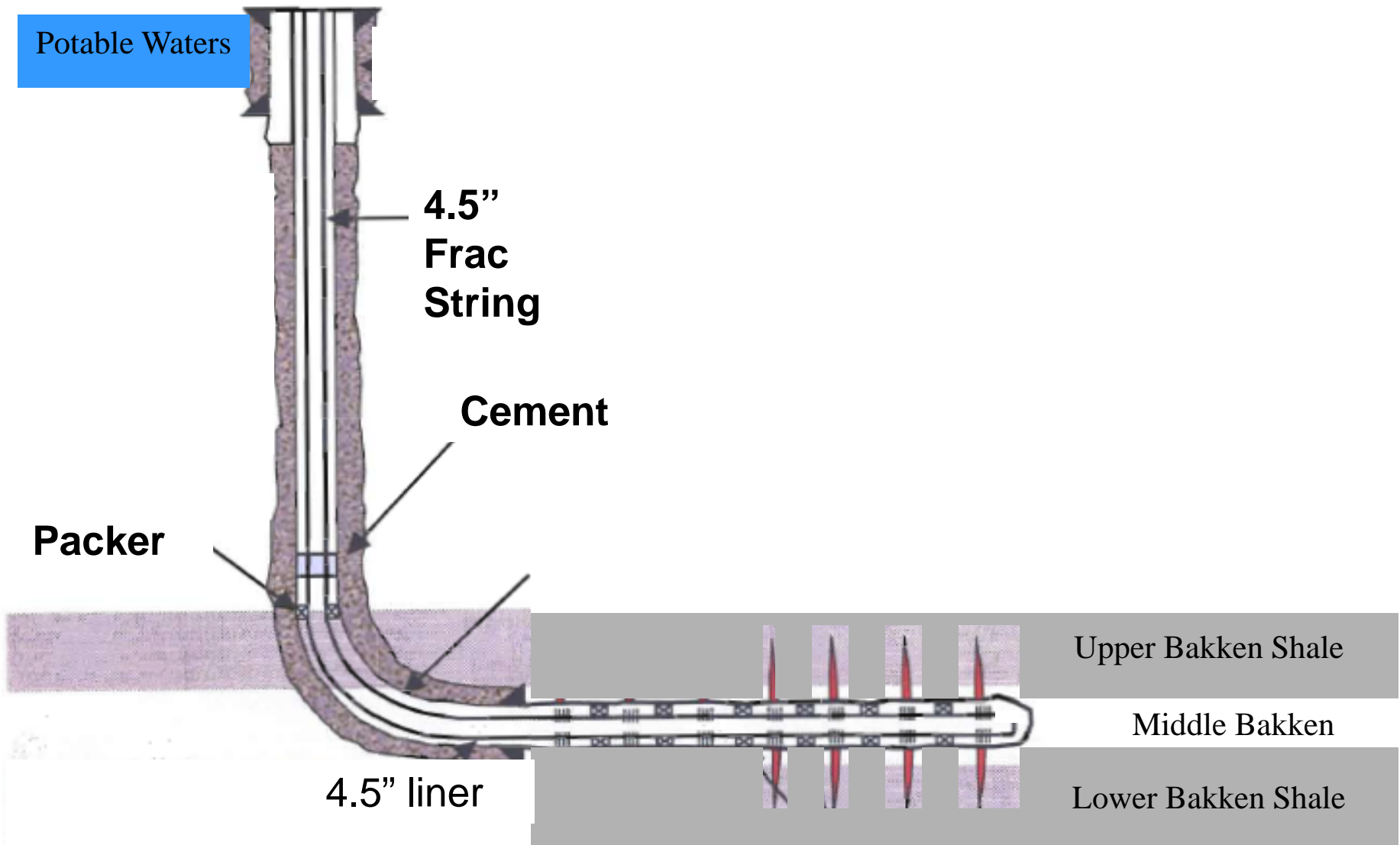
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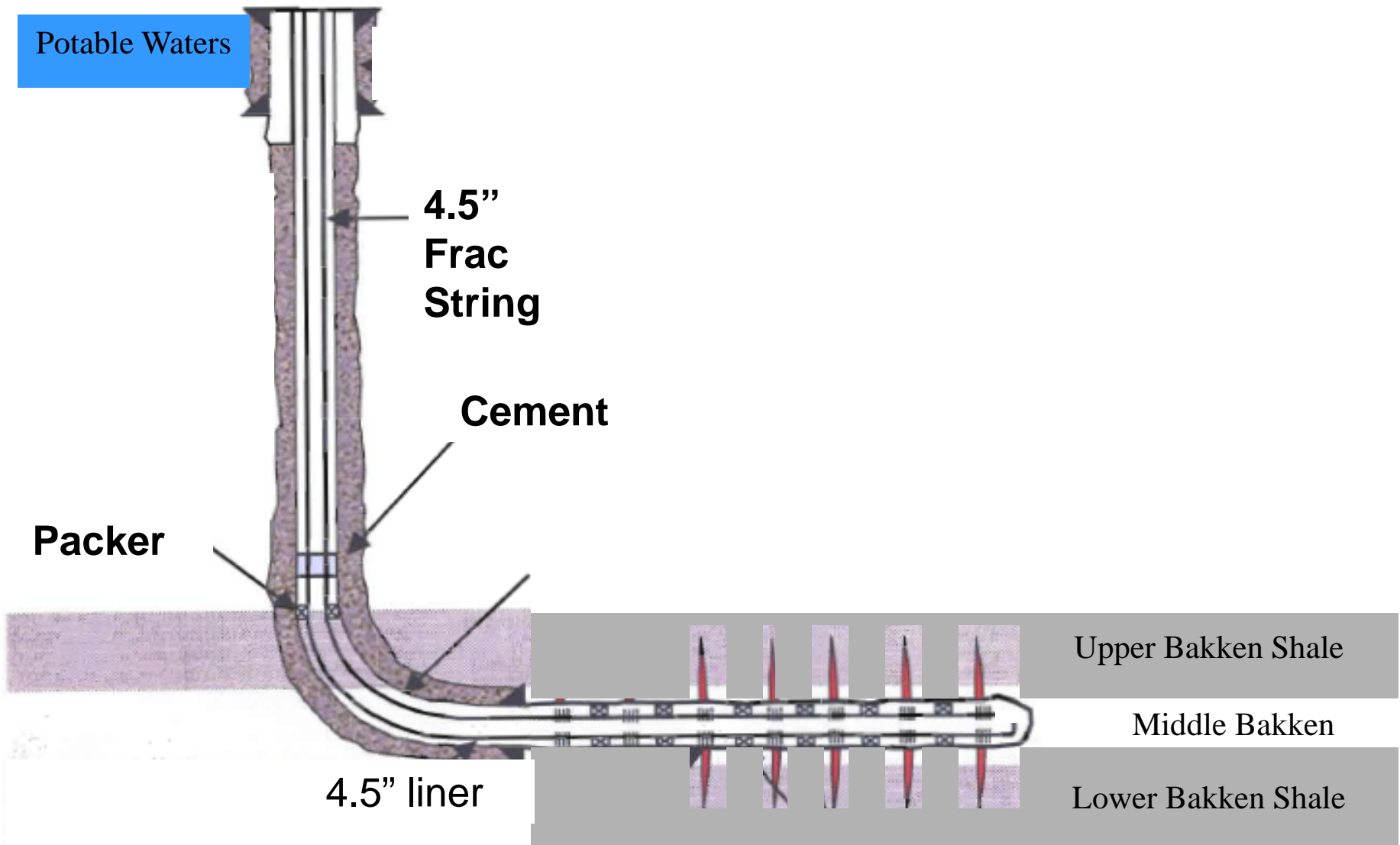
# TYPICAL HORIZONTAL OIL WELL



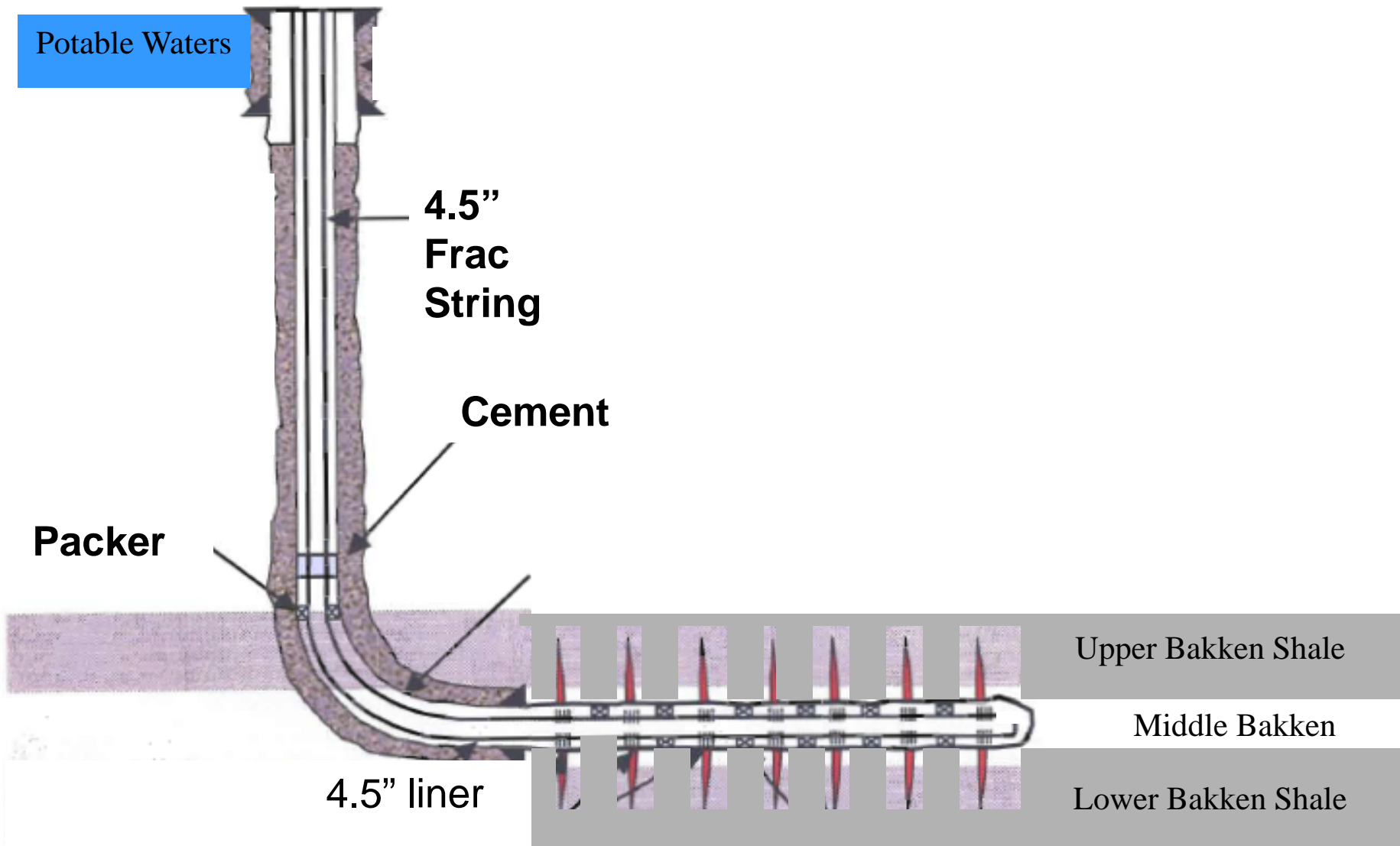
# TYPICAL HORIZONTAL OIL WELL



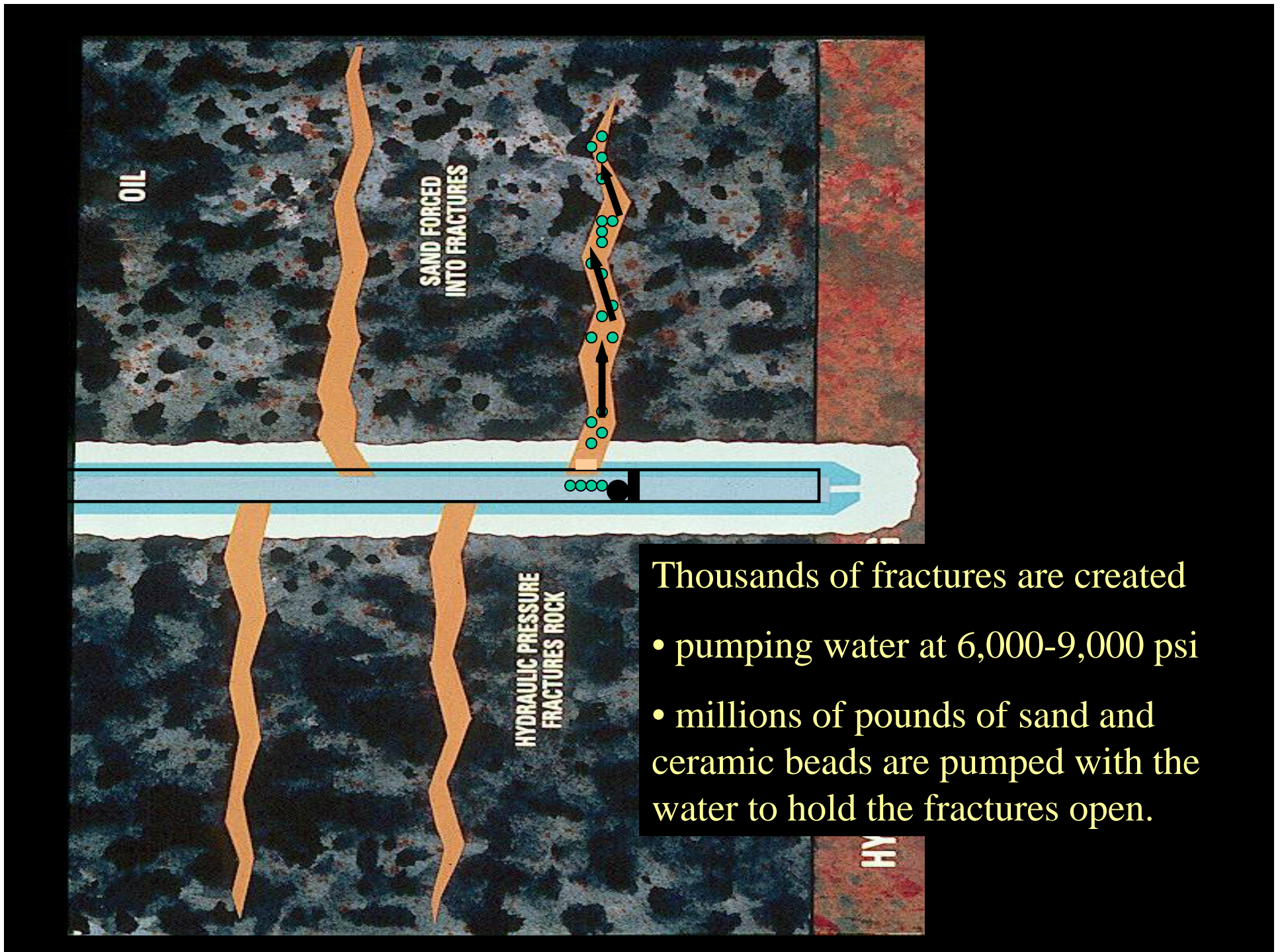
# TYPICAL HORIZONTAL OIL WELL



# TYPICAL HORIZONTAL OIL WELL

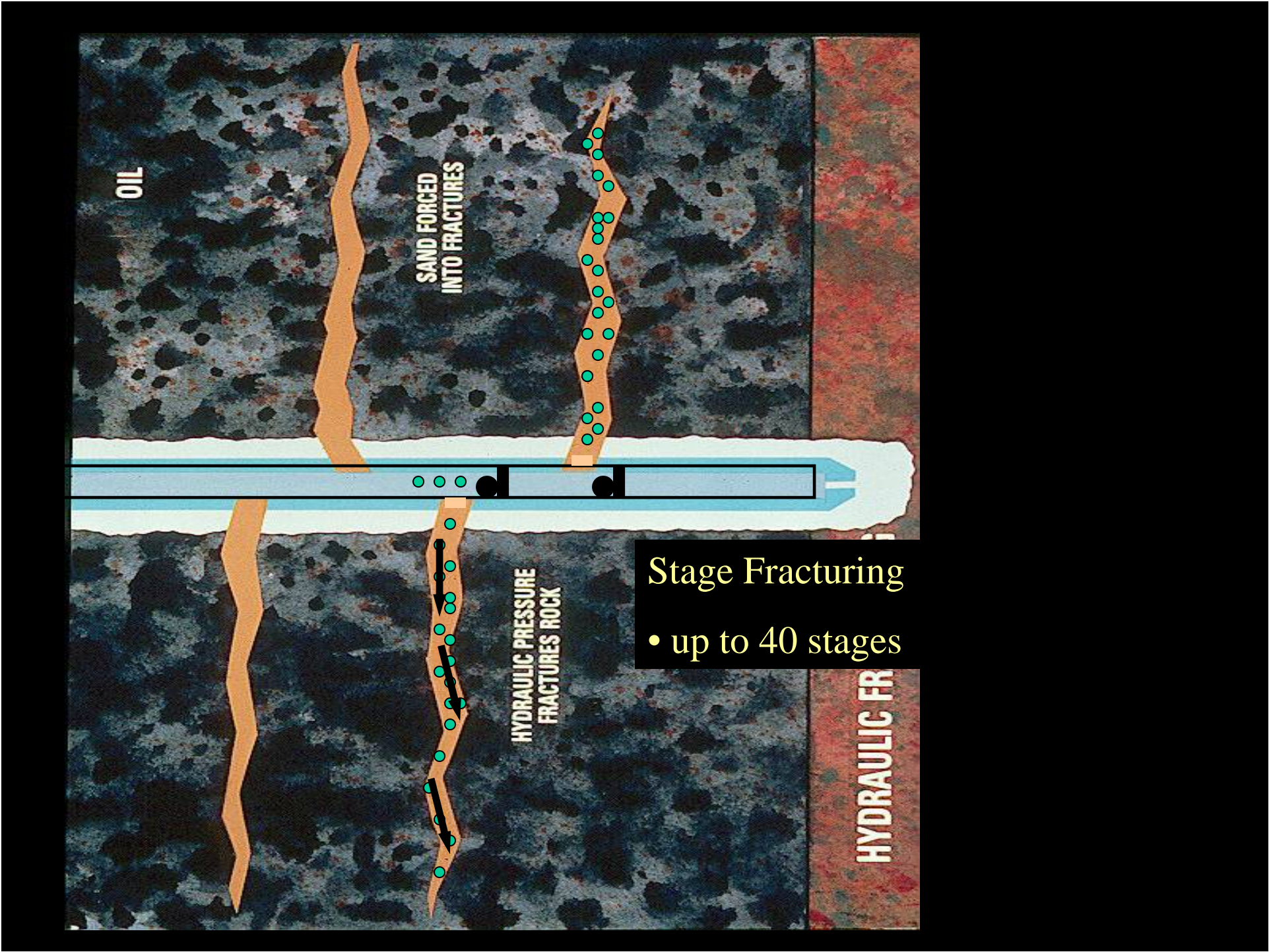






- Thousands of fractures are created
- pumping water at 6,000-9,000 psi
  - millions of pounds of sand and ceramic beads are pumped with the water to hold the fractures open.





### Stage Fracturing

- up to 40 stages

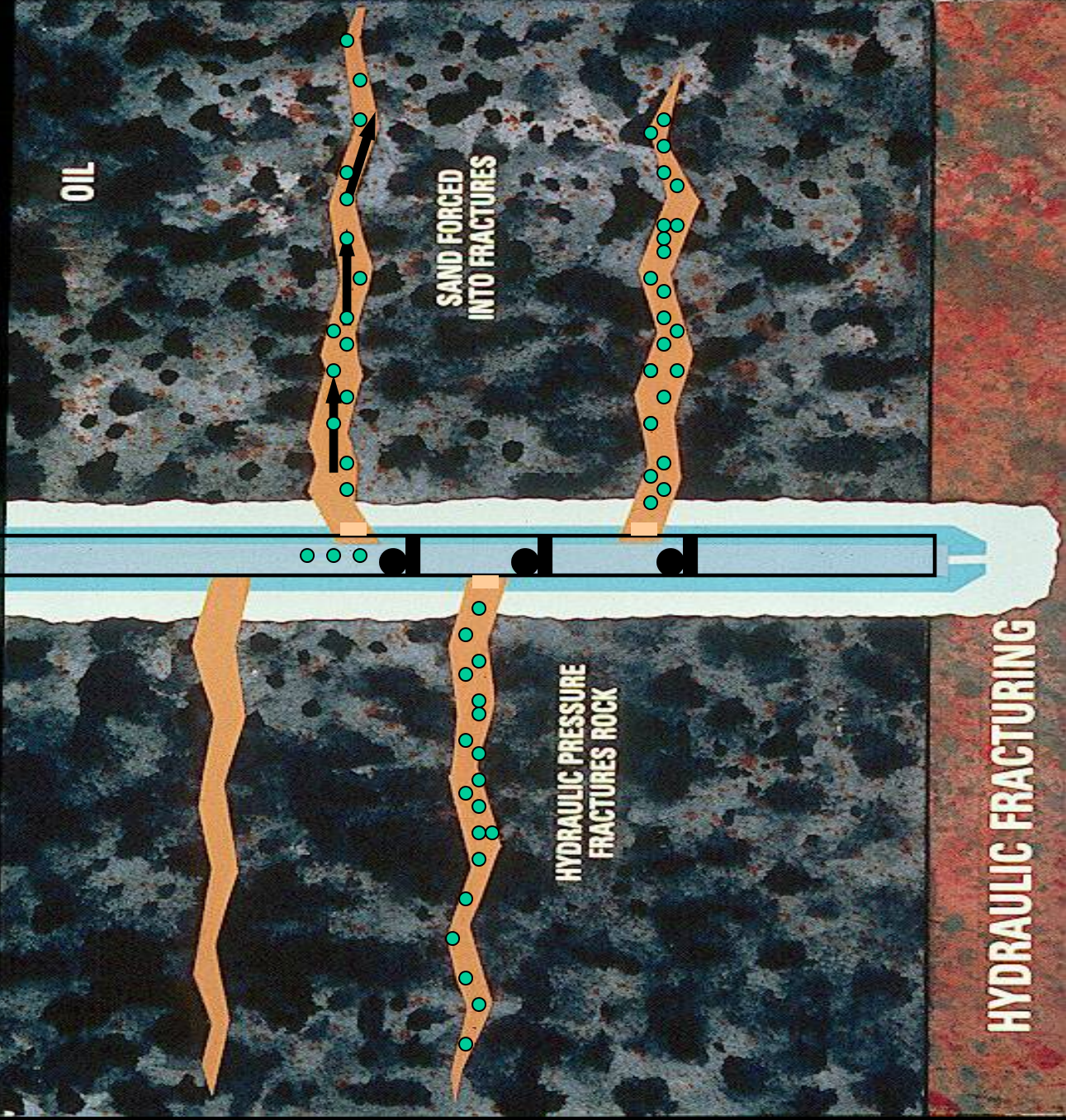


OIL

SAND FORCED  
INTO FRACTURES

HYDRAULIC PRESSURE  
FRACTURES ROCK

HYDRAULIC FRACTURING



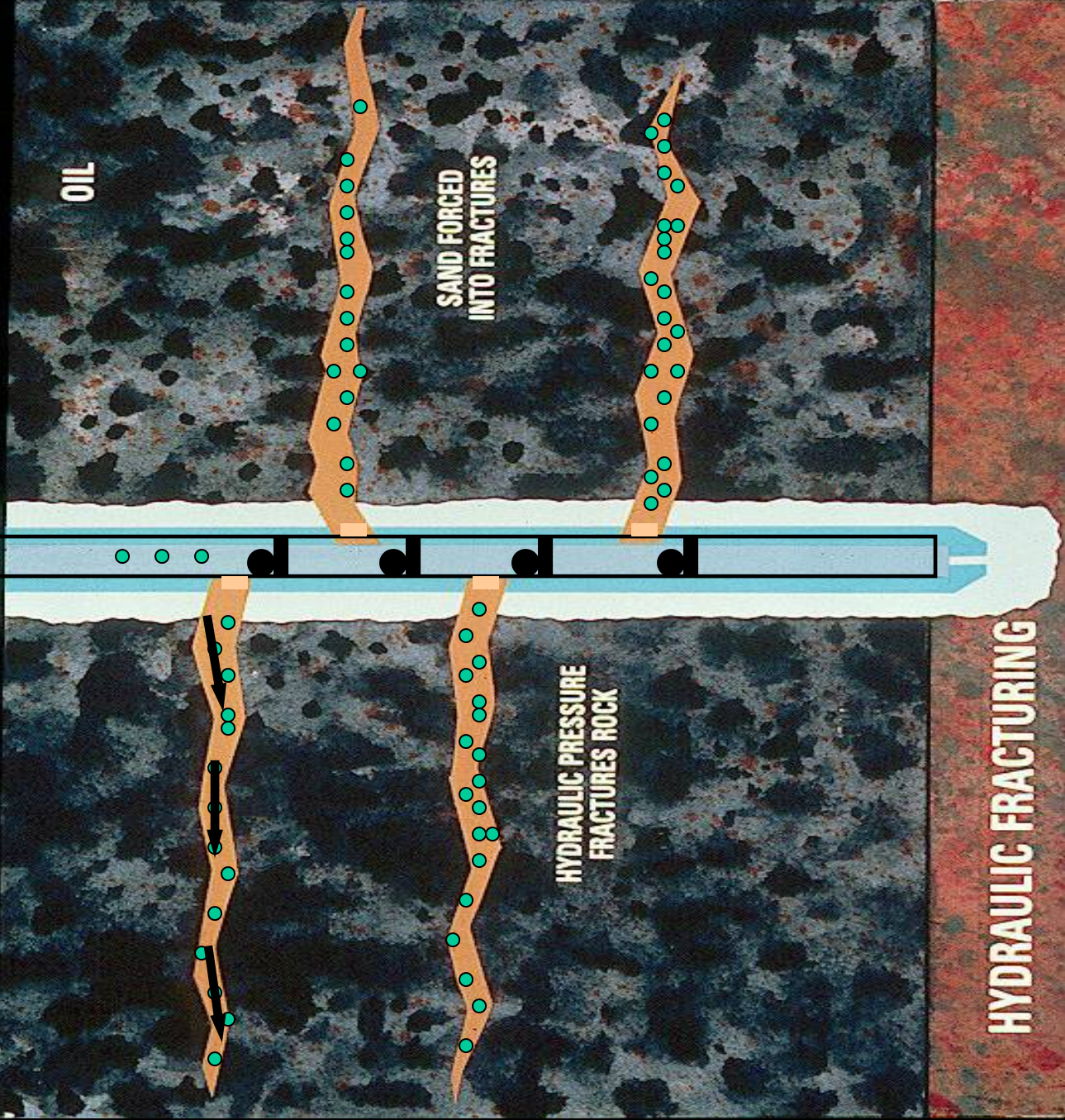


OIL

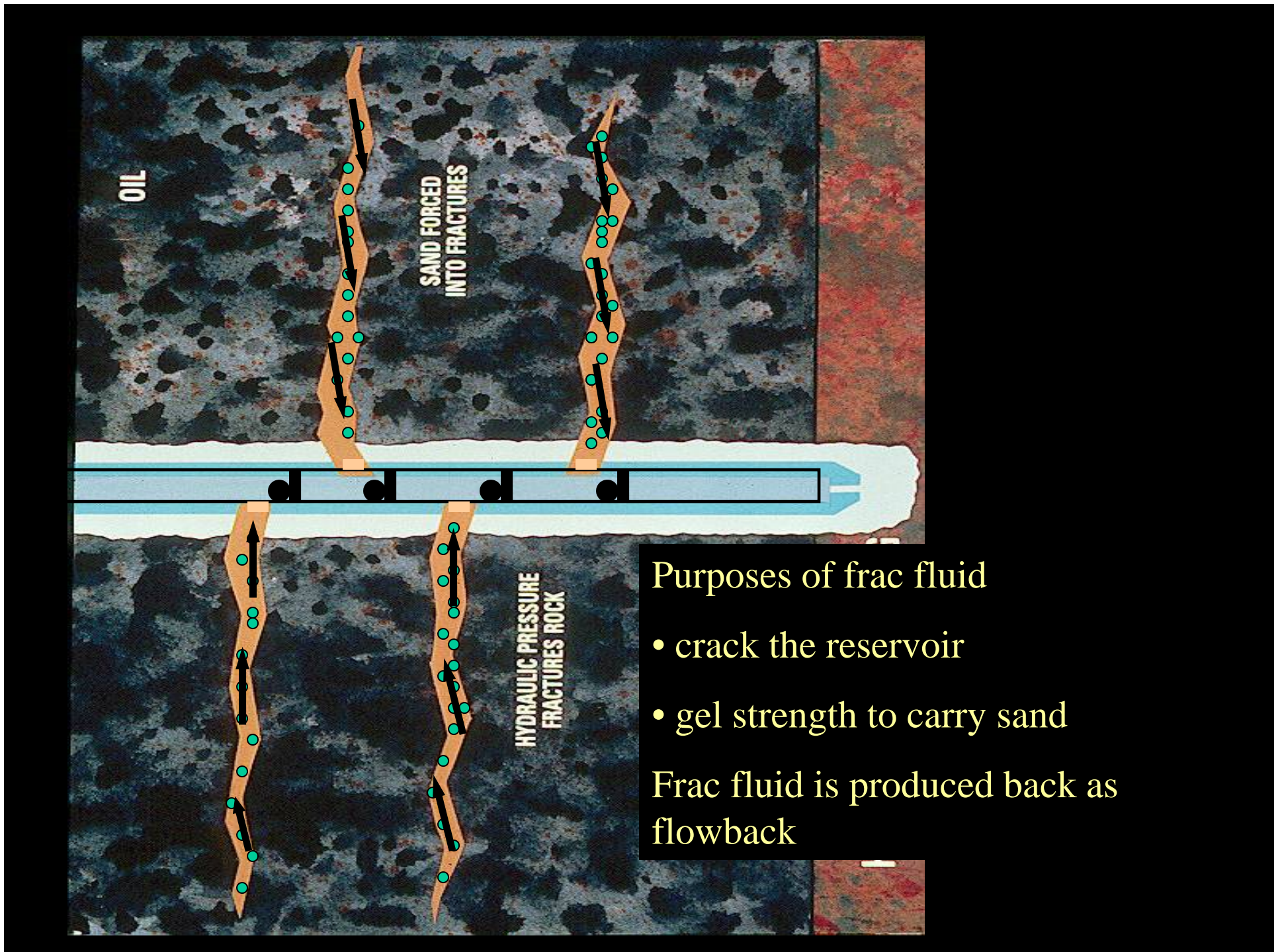
SAND FORCED  
INTO FRACTURES

HYDRAULIC PRESSURE  
FRACTURES ROCK

HYDRAULIC FRACTURING





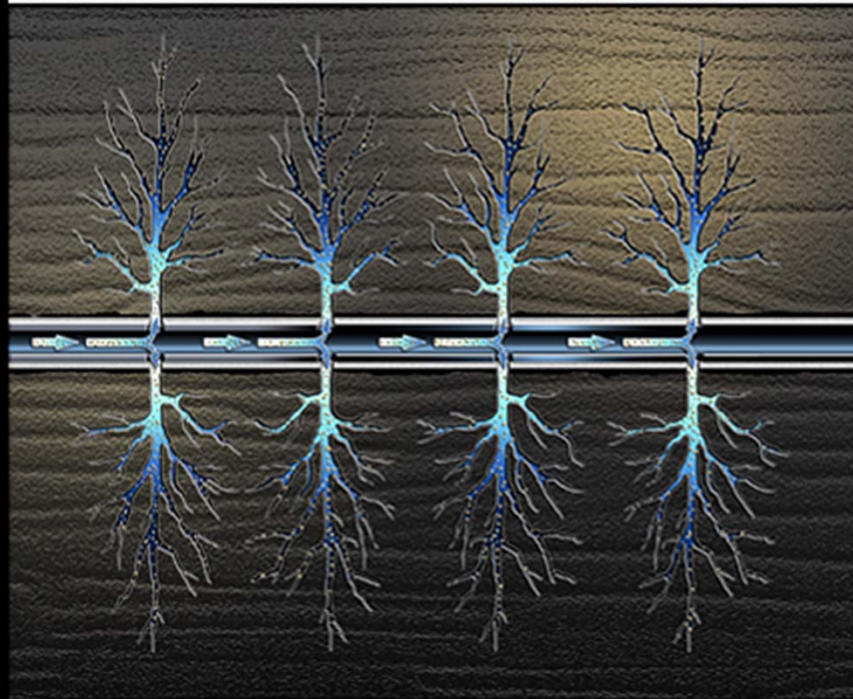


### Purposes of frac fluid

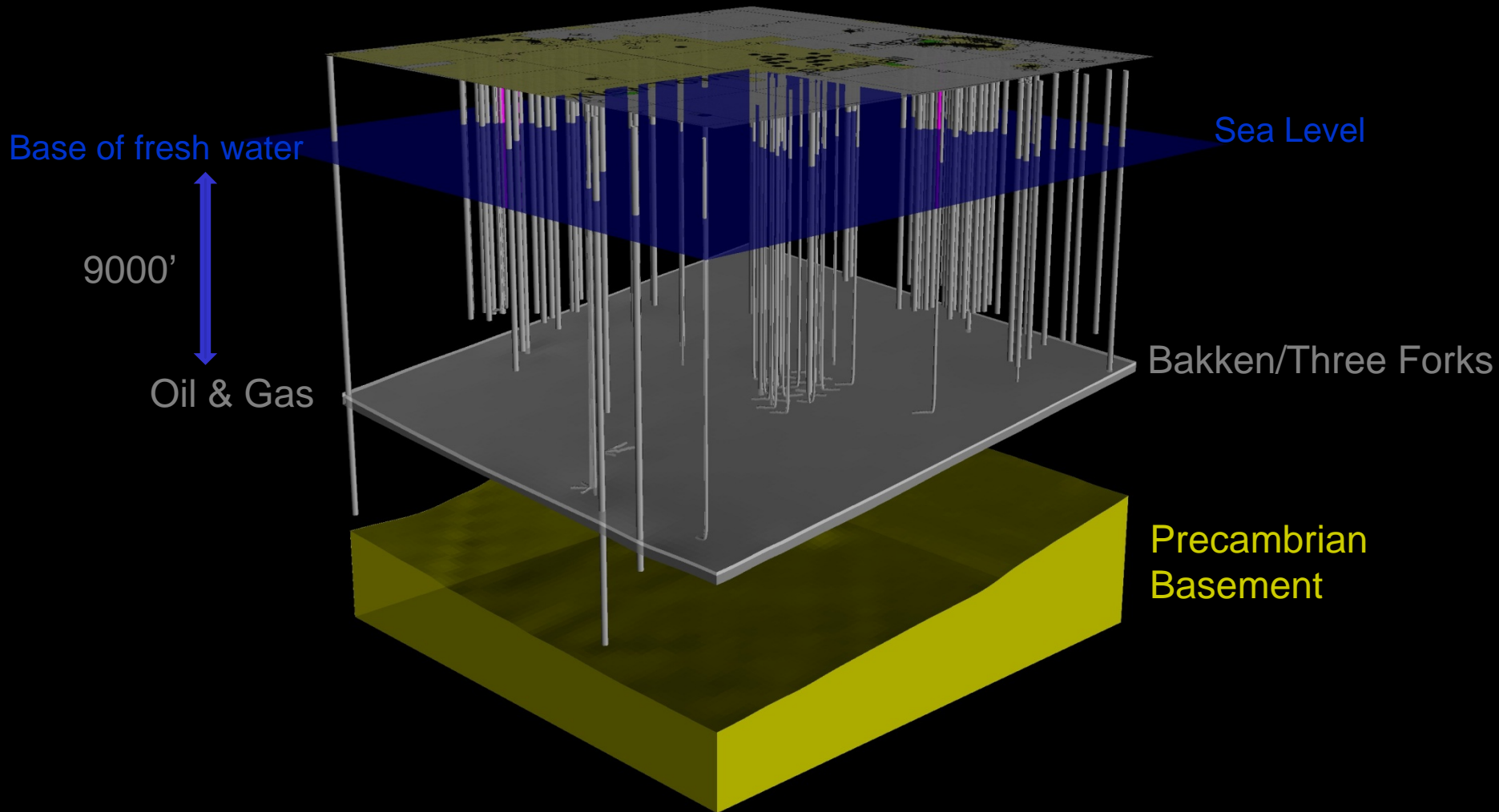
- crack the reservoir
- gel strength to carry sand

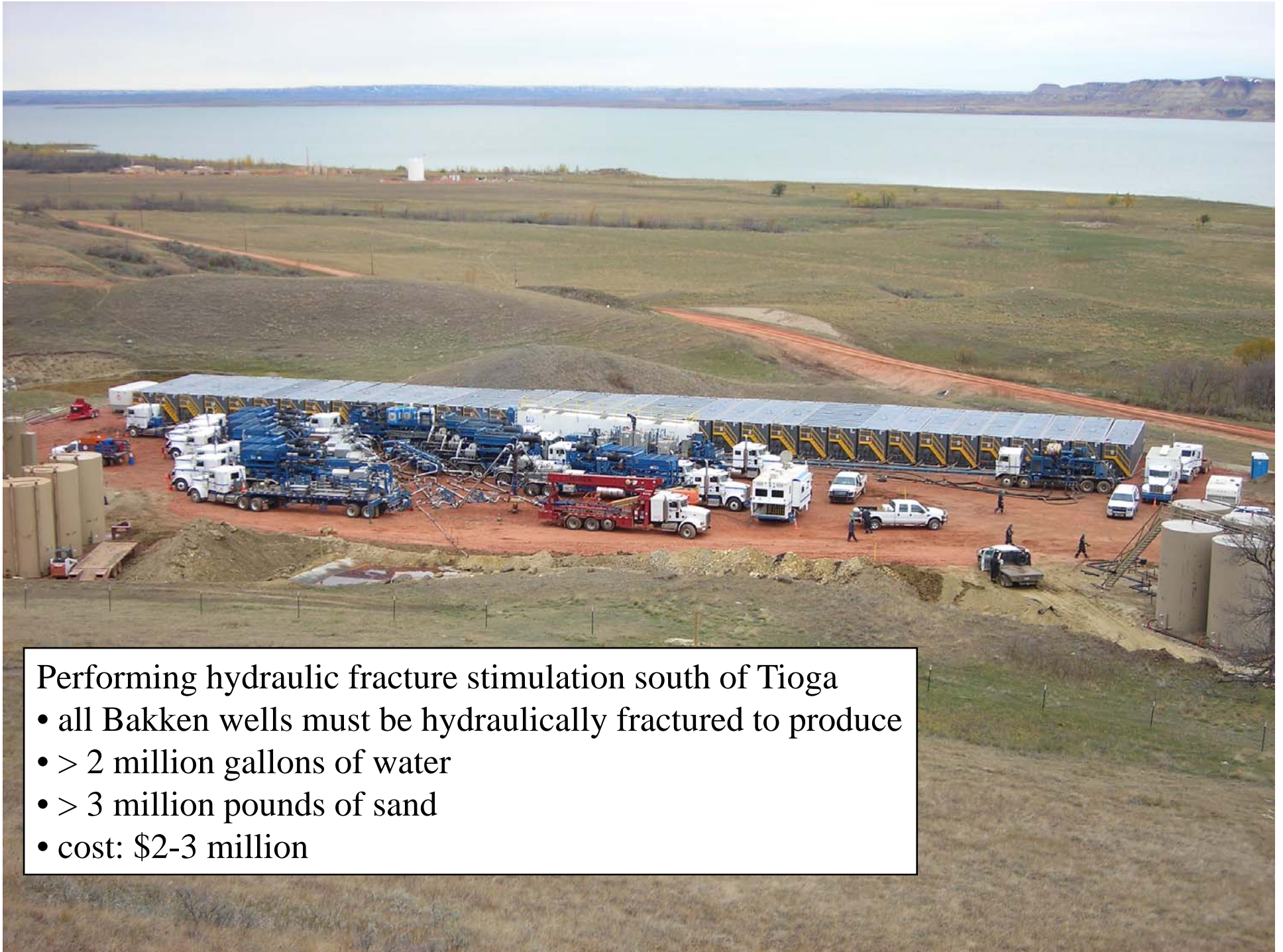
Frac fluid is produced back as flowback

**Hydraulic Fracturing:** Mixture of water, sand and chemicals pressurized and pumped into the well to form microscopic fractures in shale.









## Performing hydraulic fracture stimulation south of Tioga

- all Bakken wells must be hydraulically fractured to produce
- > 2 million gallons of water
- > 3 million pounds of sand
- cost: \$2-3 million

# **WHY FRAC THE ROCK?**

- **already developed easy oil**
  - **oil flows easily without fracking**
- **Unconventional Reserves**
  - **reservoirs are tight**
  - **look at sample**
  - **uneconomic to produce w/o fracking**
  - **must create a path for oil to flow**

# Industrial Commission Regulation

- **Hydraulic fracturing regulation**
  - **NDAC Section 43-02-03-27.1**
    - <https://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/>
  - **sur csg open + diversion line to pit/vessel**
  - **relief valve on treating lines w/ck valves**
  - **remote operated frac valve on treat lines**
  - **if sur csg press > 350 psi notify NDIC**
  - **60 days post FracFocus chem registry**



- **Frac down 4-1/2" frac string**
  - **sting into liner or set pkr below Kd**
  - **press and monitor 4-1/2" X 7" ann**
  - **press relief valve on treating lines**
    - **set  $\leq 85\%$  of yield press**
  - **press relief valve on 4-1/2" X 7" ann**
    - **set  $\leq 85\%$  of weakest 7" yield**
    - **diversion line run to pit or vessel**

- **Frac down 7" csg string**
  - **max treating press 85% of csg rating**
  - **csg eval tool to verify wall thickness**
  - **inspect + photo of top 7" csg jt**
    - **reduce treating press if warranted**
  - **cmt eval tool to confirm cmt**
    - **run frac string if defective cmt**
  - **press test 7" and wellhead**
  - **if wellhead press rating < frac design**
    - **use wellhead protection system**

**States have been regulating the  
full life cycle of hydraulic  
fracturing for decades**

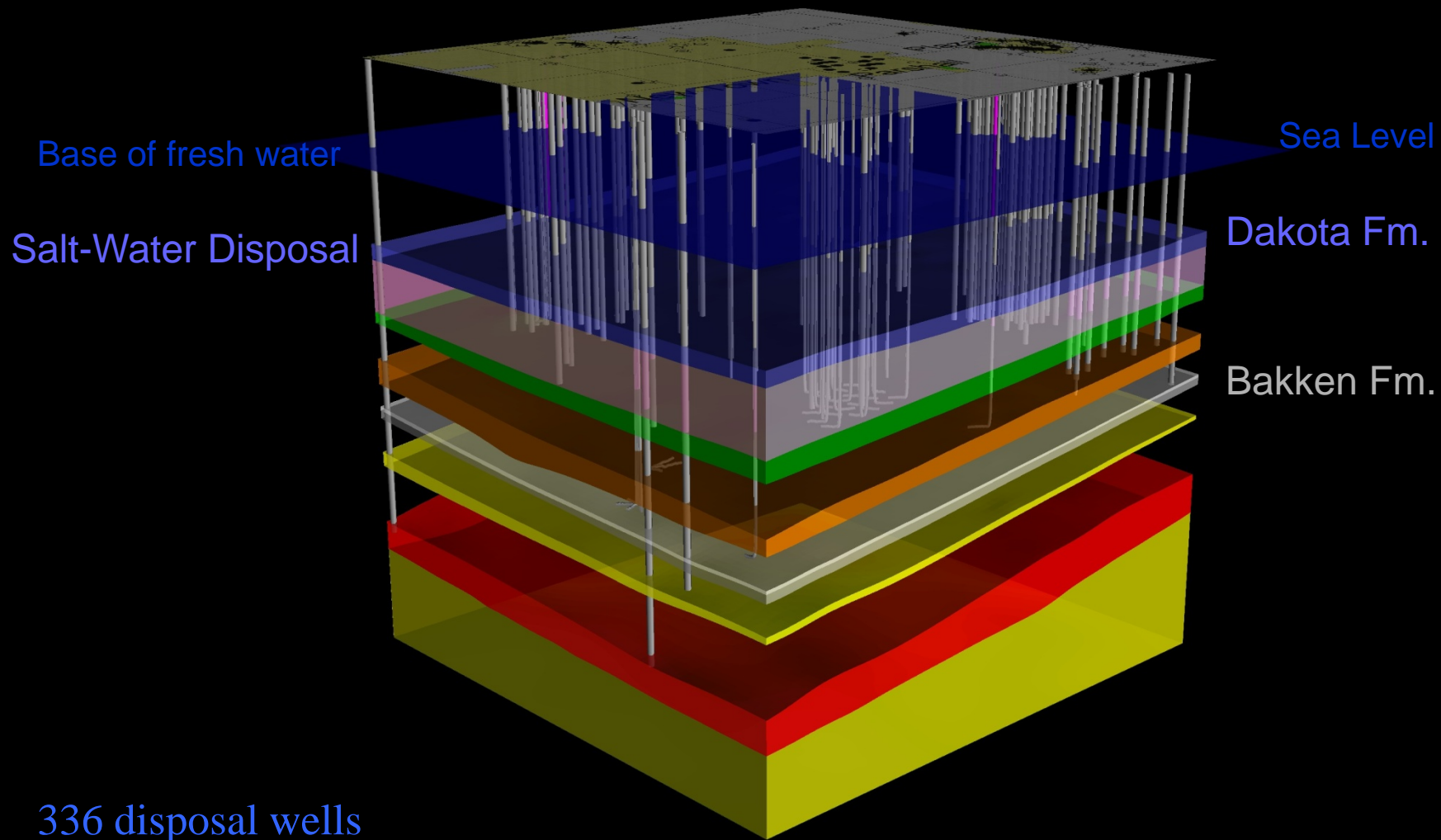
- **Water Appropriation Regulation**
- **Oil & Gas Regulation**
- **Health Department Regulation**
- **Geologic setting in each basin different**

# **Hydraulic Fracturing Stimulation is Safe**

- **IOGCC survey—no contamination**
- **GWPC study verifies State's regs**
- **GWPC National Registry f/chemicals**

# **Industrial Commission Regulation**

- **Water flowback after frac**
  - **Storage in open pits prohibited**
  - **Disposal wells permitted through Underground Injection Program**
  - **Disposal zone is 2,500 feet below potable waters**



Base of fresh water

Sea Level

Salt-Water Disposal

Dakota Fm.

Bakken Fm.

336 disposal wells

720,000 barrels per day

# Rules and Legislation

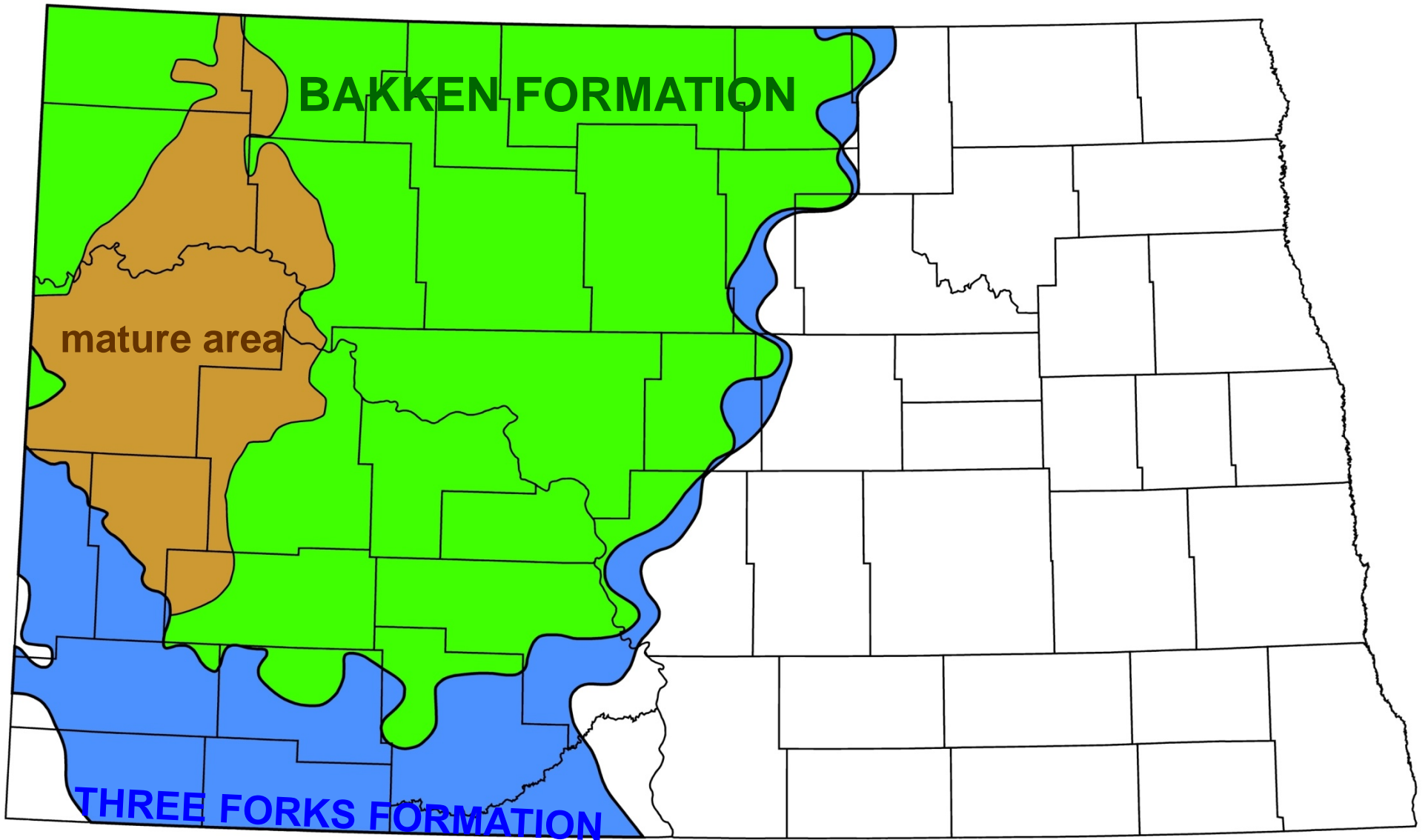
- **prohibit most reserve pits**
- **implement strong HF rules**
- **63<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Session—☺**
  - **HB 2014—DMR budget: 21 new FTEs**
  - **HB 1348—safety f/SO w/in 1000'**
  - **HB 1333—GIS pipelines**
    - **OGD jurisdiction on installation**
    - **Landowners can request info**

# North Dakota Development

- Regulation
- **Resource Play**
- Uniform Spacing—orderly development
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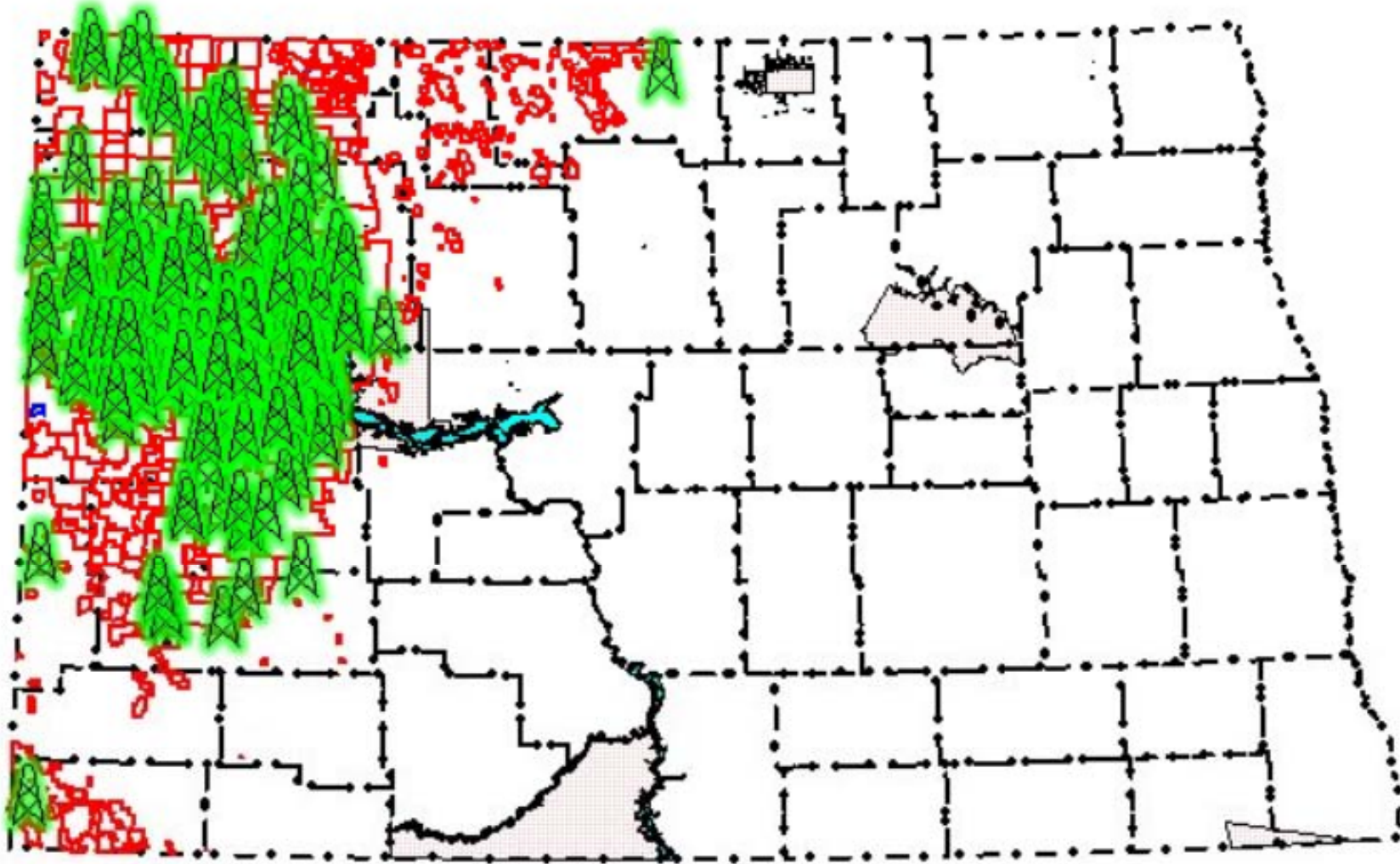


# ESTIMATED MATURE AREA OF THE BAKKEN FORMATION



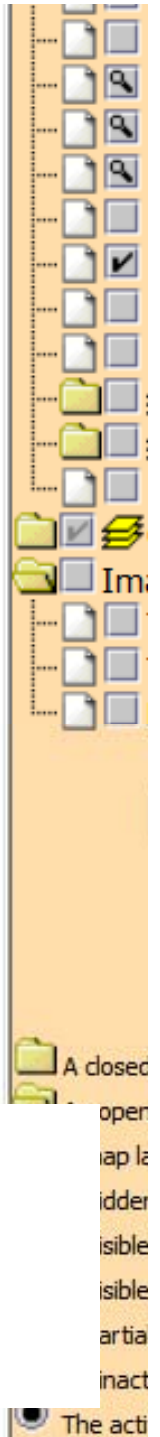
(Nordeng, 2010)

# NORTH DAKOTA – 187 DRILLING RIGS – June 2013



**Current drilling activity is focused  
in Mountrail, Dunn, McKenzie, and Williams Counties.**

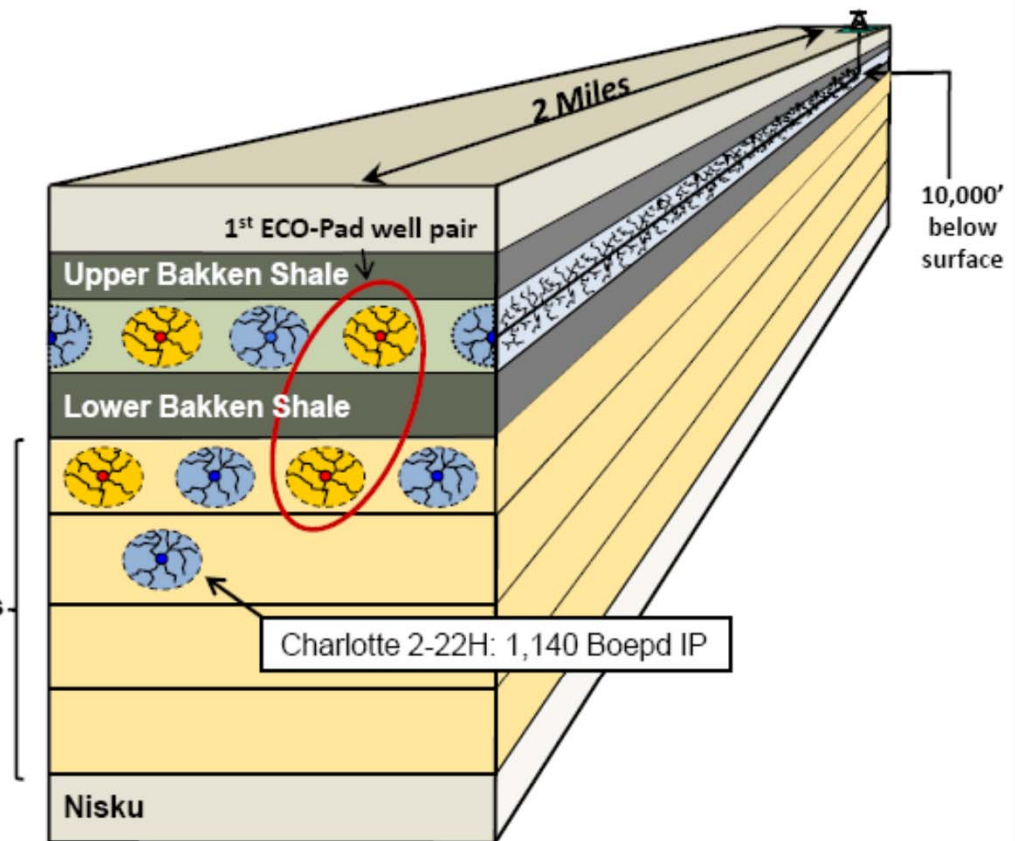
Click the button below to create a PDF version of the above map or to view the legend.



# Bakken Development Plan

- Original dual-zone development plan
  - 8 wells per 1,280 acres – 4 MB, 4TF
  - 603,000 Boe EUR per well (avg. 24.5 stages/completion)
  - ECO-Pad® design: 2 wells south, 2 wells north

- Additional Three Forks potential



11



# North Dakota Development

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# ArcIMS Viewer



**ND OI**

- Oil an
- W
- Pe
- Ric
- Dir
- Dir
- Ho
- Ho
- Ca
- Oil
- Ur
- In
- Dr
- Se
- Ga
- Other
- Re
- Co
- Riv
- La
- Imagery
- Topo
- Topo
- NAIP

**R**

**Townships**

Rec	Township	Tdir	Range	Rdir	TWPRNG	TWPTEXT	RNGTEXT
1	156	N	90	W	156090	T156N	R 90W



# : ArcIMS Viewer



**1280 Acre**

Information	Size	Type	Ref Code	Feature Created	Feature Updated	Case No	Order No	Map Symbol
1280 Acre	1280	SPC		Thu, 5 Jun 2008 00:00:00	Mon, 8 Dec 2008 00:00:00			1280SPC

ND O

- Oil a
- V
- P
- R
- D
- D
- H
- H
- C
- C
- U
- I
- D
- D

Power

Download Shape Files



- ### ND OIL & GAS LAYERS
- Oil and Gas
    - Wells
    - Permit Status Before Spud
    - Rig Location
    - Directional Surveys
    - Directional Legs
    - Horizontal Surveys
    - Horizontal Legs
    - Cases Docketed
    - Oil Fields
    - Unit Boundaries
    - Inspector Areas
  - Drilling / Spacing
    - Seismic
  - Gas Plants
  - Other
  - Imagery
    - Topo/DRG 250k
    - Topo/DRG 100k
    - NAIP 2009

Refresh Map

Auto Refresh

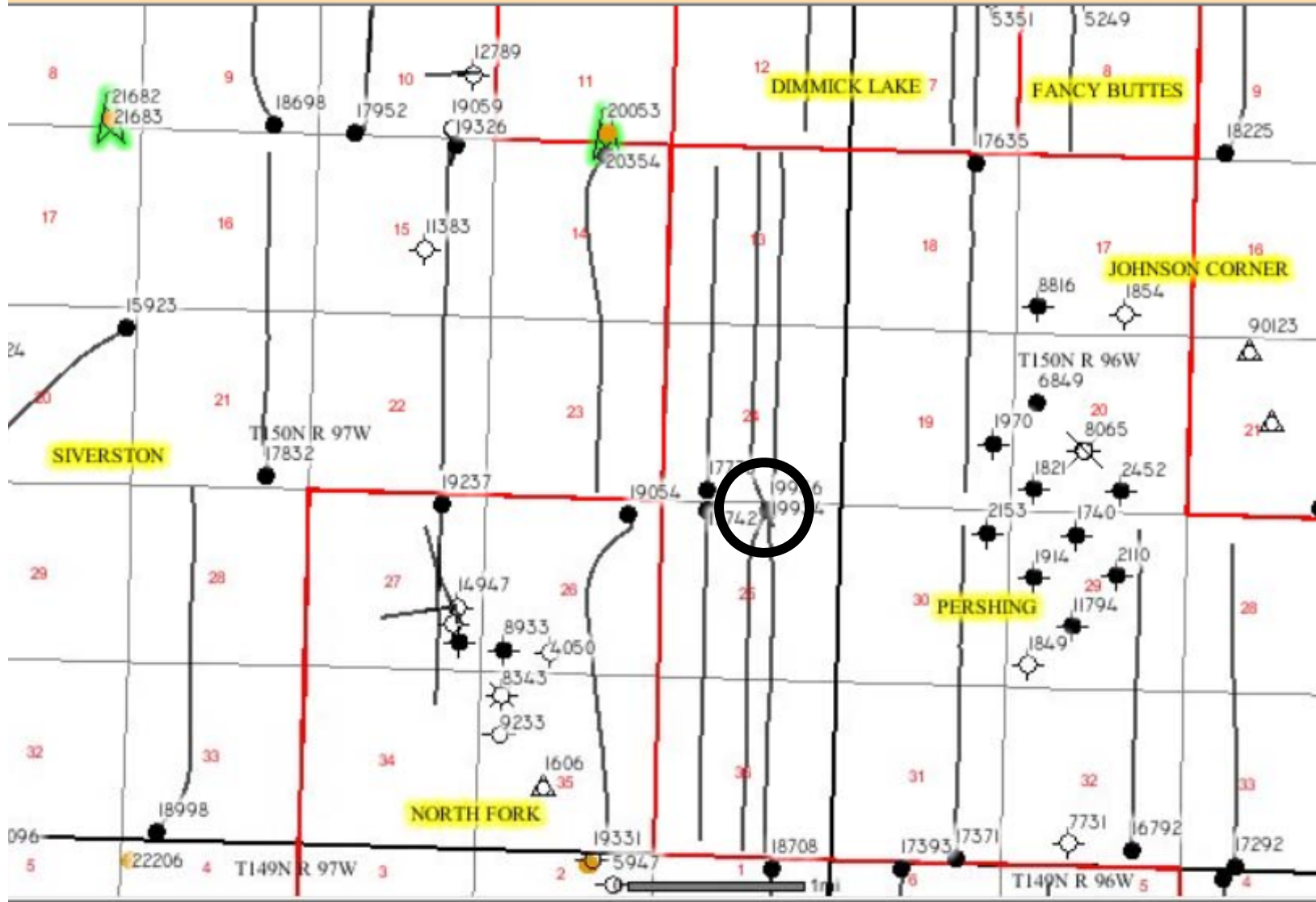
Help:

- A closed group, click to open.
- An open group, click to close.
- A map layer.

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**ND OIL & GA**

- Oil and Gas
  - Wells
  - Rig Location
  - Directional
  - Directional
  - Horizontal
  - Horizontal
  - Cases Drilled
  - Oil Fields
  - Unit Boundaries
  - Inspector
  - Drilling / Seismic
  - Seismic
  - Gas Plants
- Other
  - Imagery
  - Topo/DRG 2
  - Topo/DRG 1
  - NAIP 2009

**Refresh**

Auto Refresh

Help:

- A closed group, click to open
- An open group, click to close
- A map layer.
- A hidden group/layer, click to show
- A visible group/layer, click to hide
- A visible layer, but not at top
- A partially visible group, click to show



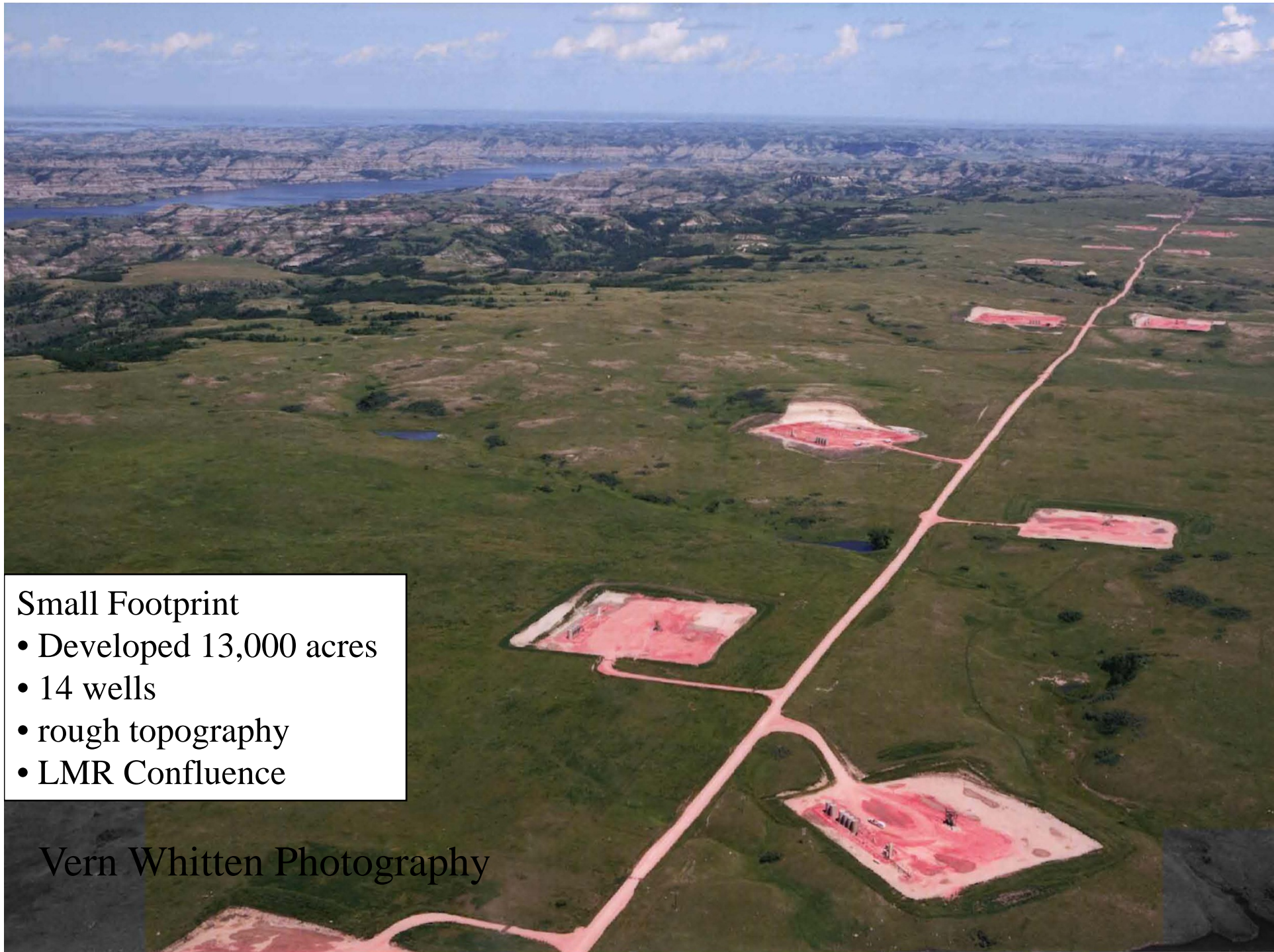


Vern Whitten Photography



# North Dakota Development

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### Small Footprint

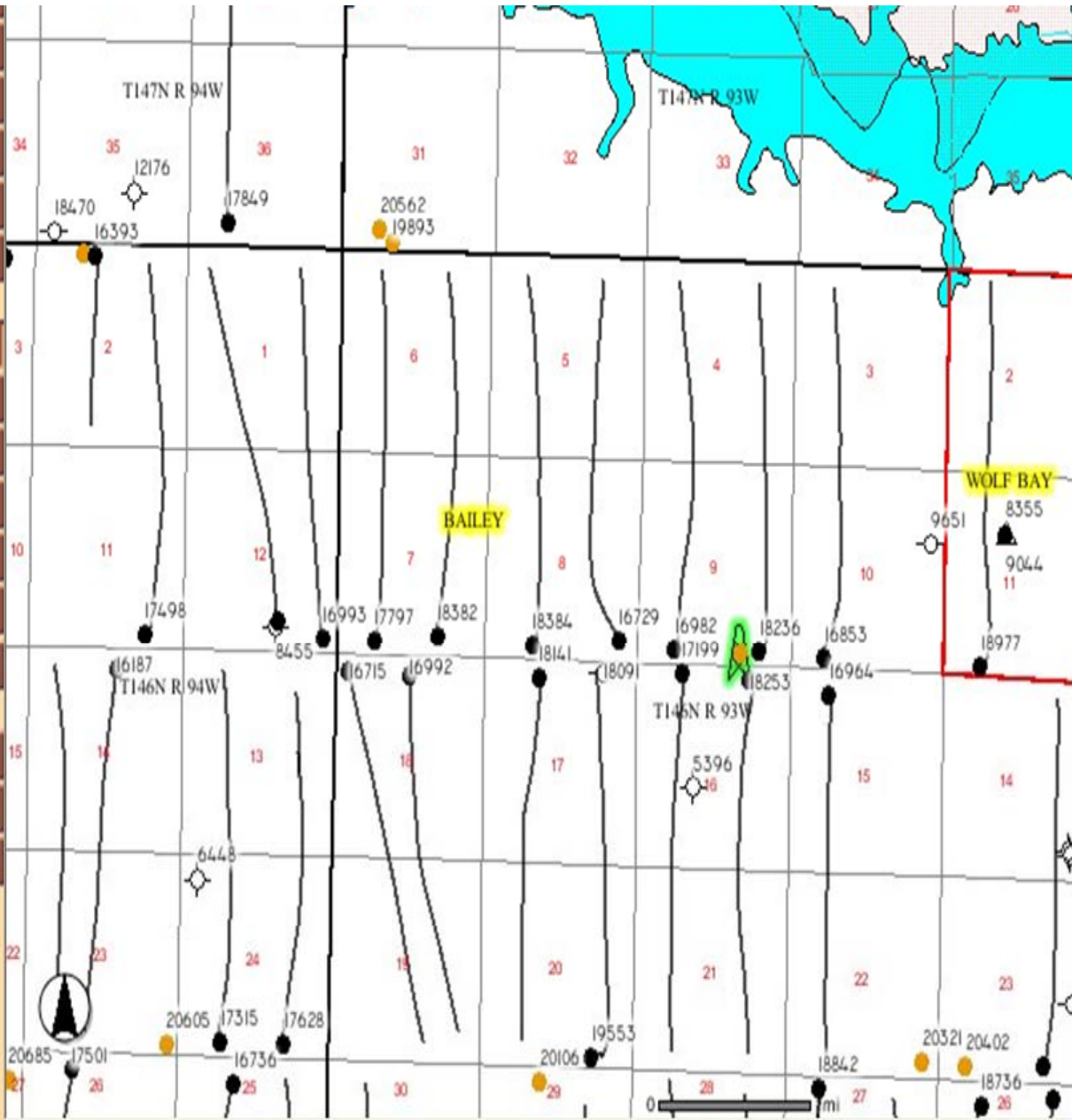
- Developed 13,000 acres
- 14 wells
- rough topography
- LMR Confluence

Vern Whitten Photography



View Entire State  
Previous View  
Clear Selection  
Search  
Generate PDF

Zoom In  
Zoom Out  
Pan  
Rect Identify  
Select Object  
Buffer  
Distance  
Find Well  
Find Field/Unit  
Find Section



Major Rivers  
Selection cleared.

- Rig Location
- Directional Surveys
- Directional Legs
- Horizontal Surveys
- Horizontal Legs
- Cases Docketed
- Oil Fields
- Unit Boundaries
- Inspector Areas
- Drilling / Spacing
- Seismic
- Gas Plants
- Other
- Reservations
- Corporate Boundaries
- Rivers and Roads
- County Roads
- Major Roads
- Major Rivers
- Missouri River
- Land Ownership
- Imagery
  - Topo/DRG 250k
  - Topo/DRG 100k
  - NAIP 2009

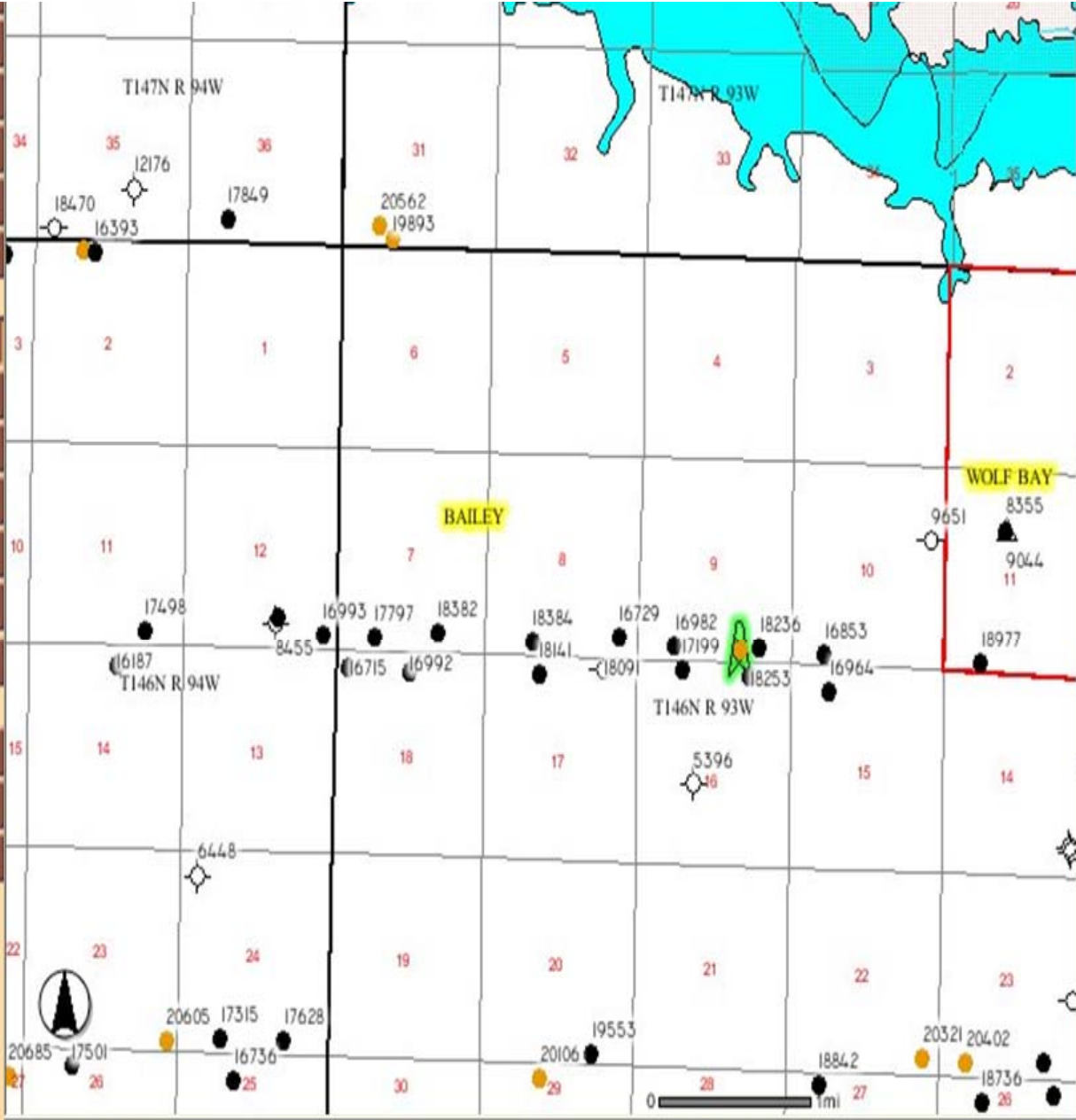
Refresh Map

Auto Refresh

Help:  
A closed group, click to open.  
An open group, click to close.  
A map layer.  
A hidden group/layer, click to make visible.

[View Entire State](#)  
[Previous View](#)  
[Clear Selection](#)  
[Search](#)  
[Generate PDF](#)

[Zoom In](#)  
[Zoom Out](#)  
[Pan](#)  
[Rect Identify](#)  
[Select Object](#)  
[Buffer](#)  
[Distance](#)  
  
[Find Well](#)  
[Find Field/Unit](#)  
[Find Section](#)



**Major Rivers**  
 Selection cleared.

- Rig Location
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- Directional Legs
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## **Thirsty Horizontal Wells**

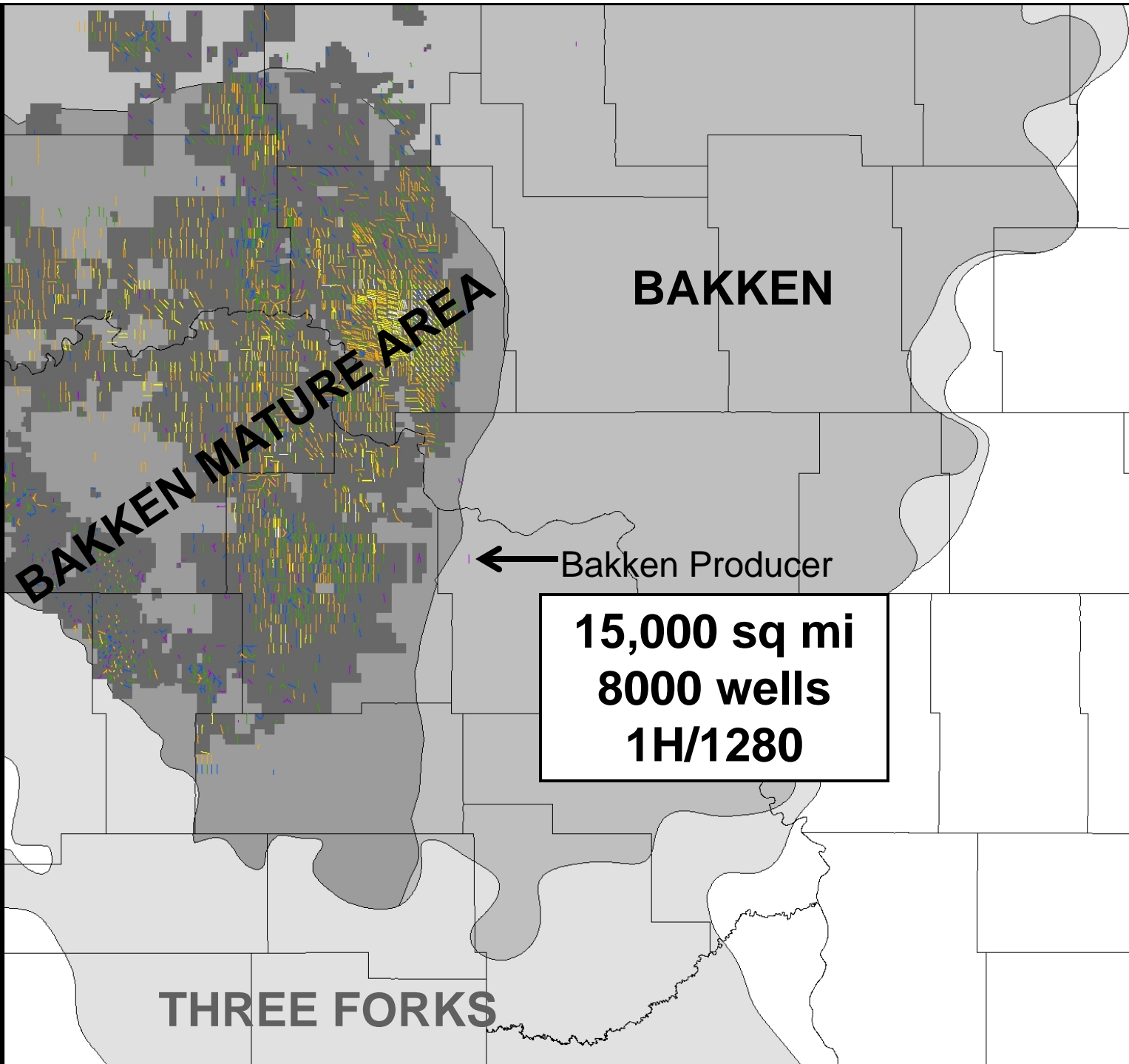
- **2,000 wells / year**
- **15-25 years duration**
- **20 million gallons water / day**

## **Commission supports surface water use**

- **Lake Sakakawea best water resource**
  - **one inch contains 10 billion gal water**
    - **5000 wells @ 2mil gal wtr/well**
    - **2-year supply**

# North Dakota Development

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**BAKKEN MATURE AREA**

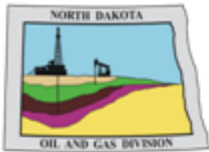
**BAKKEN**

← Bakken Producer

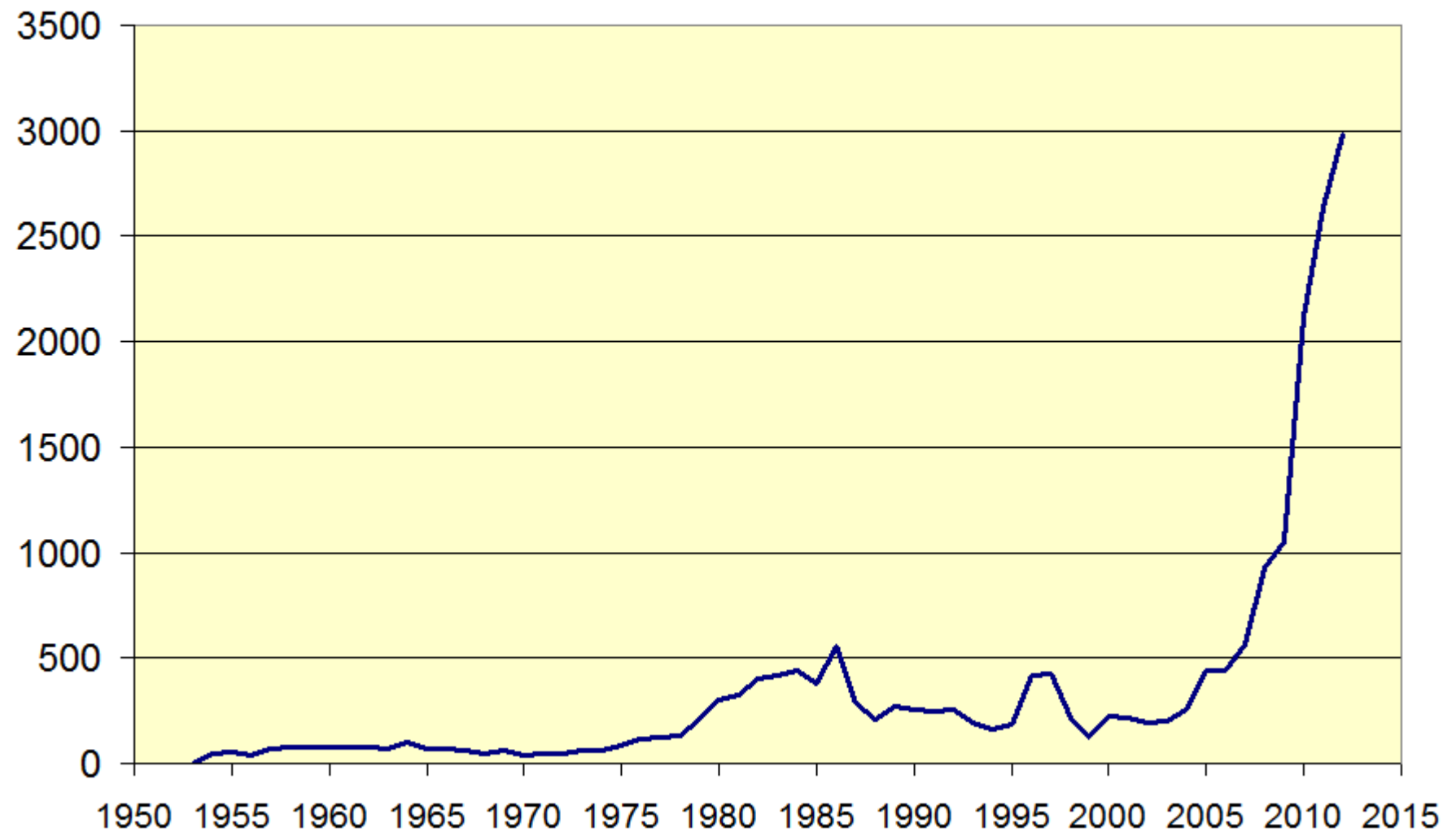
**15,000 sq mi**  
**8000 wells**  
**1H/1280**

**THREE FORKS**



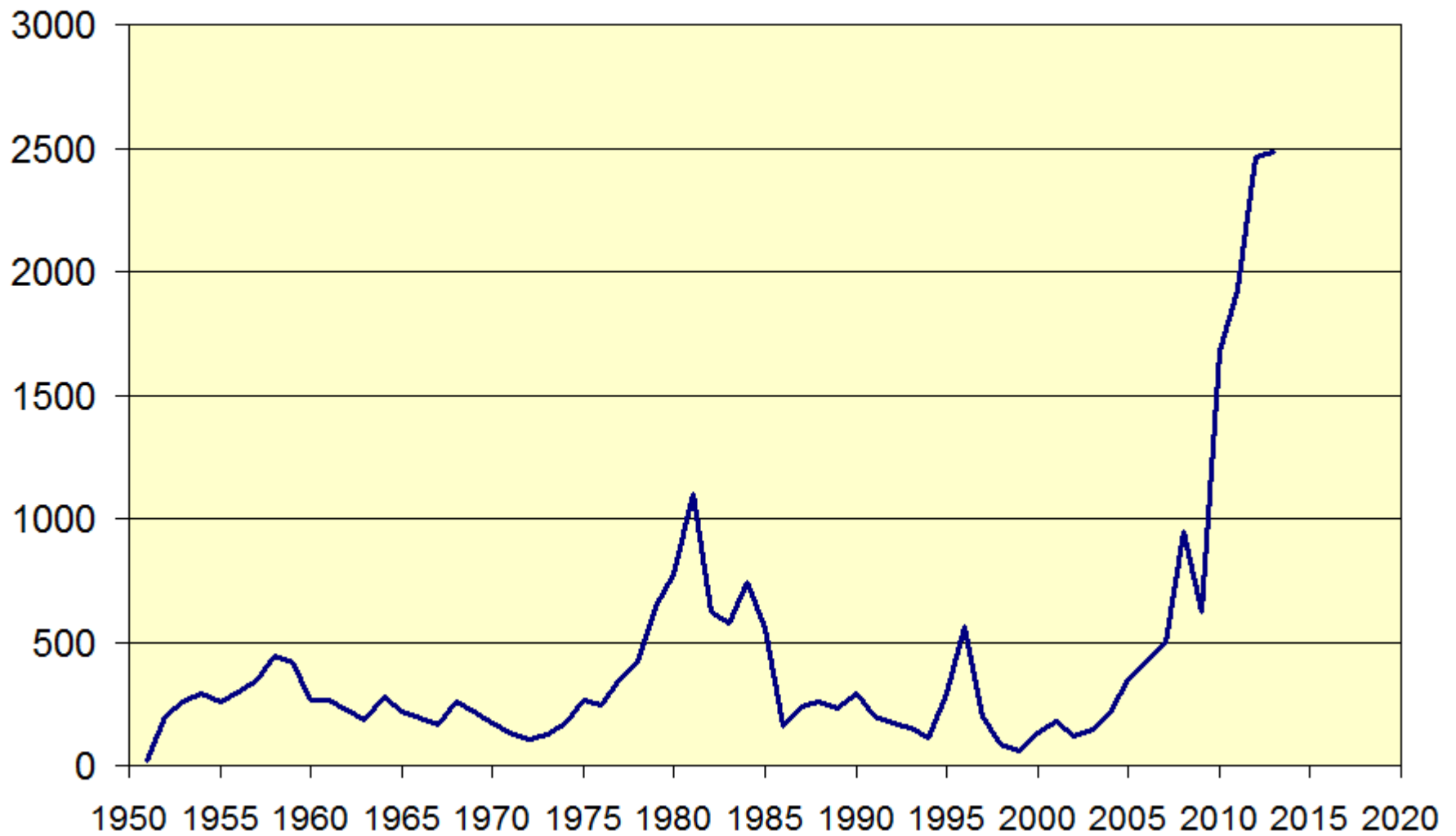


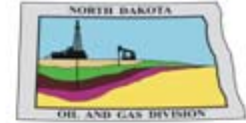
## North Dakota Industrial Commission Cases Heard



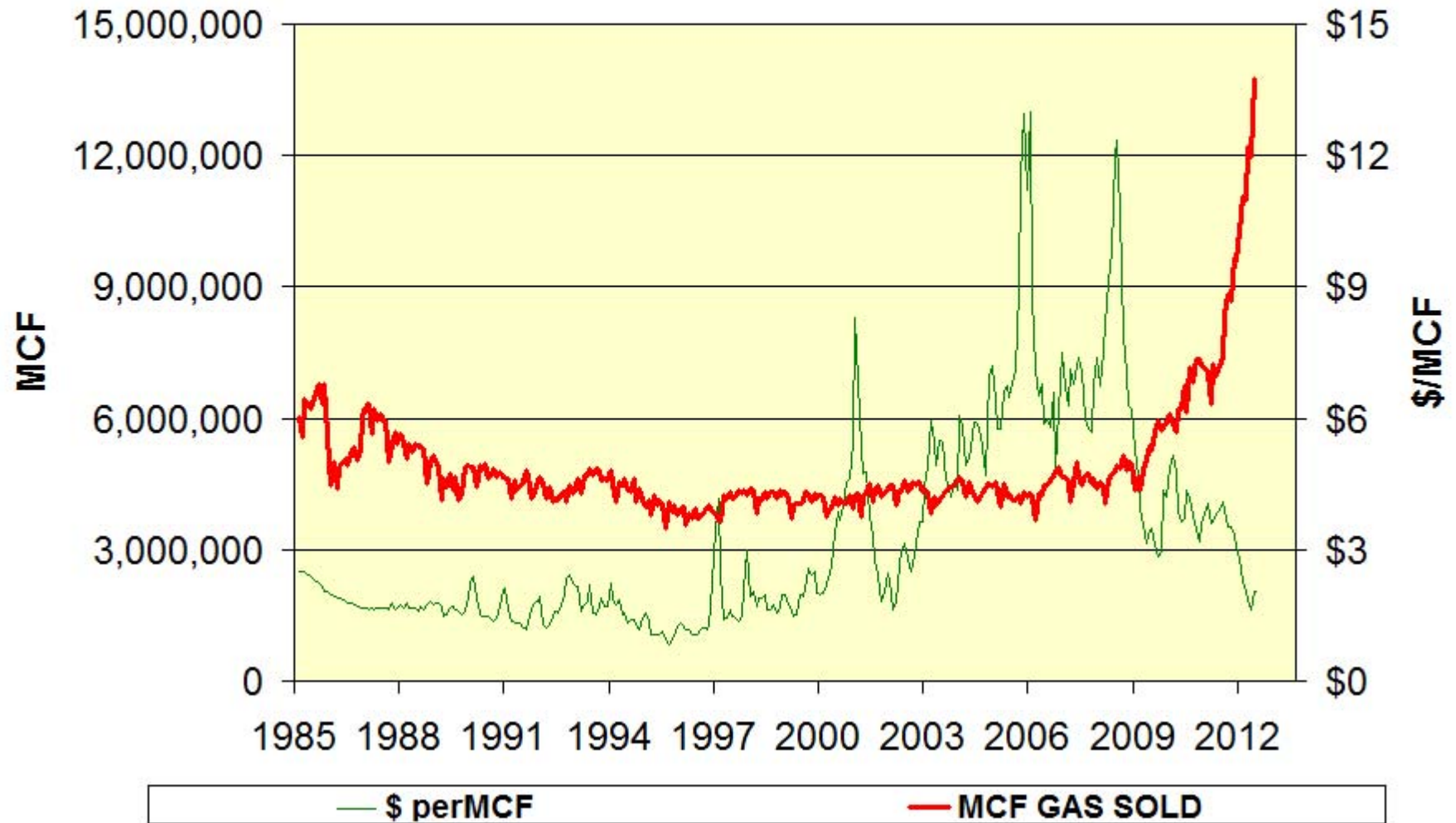


## North Dakota New Well Permits Issued



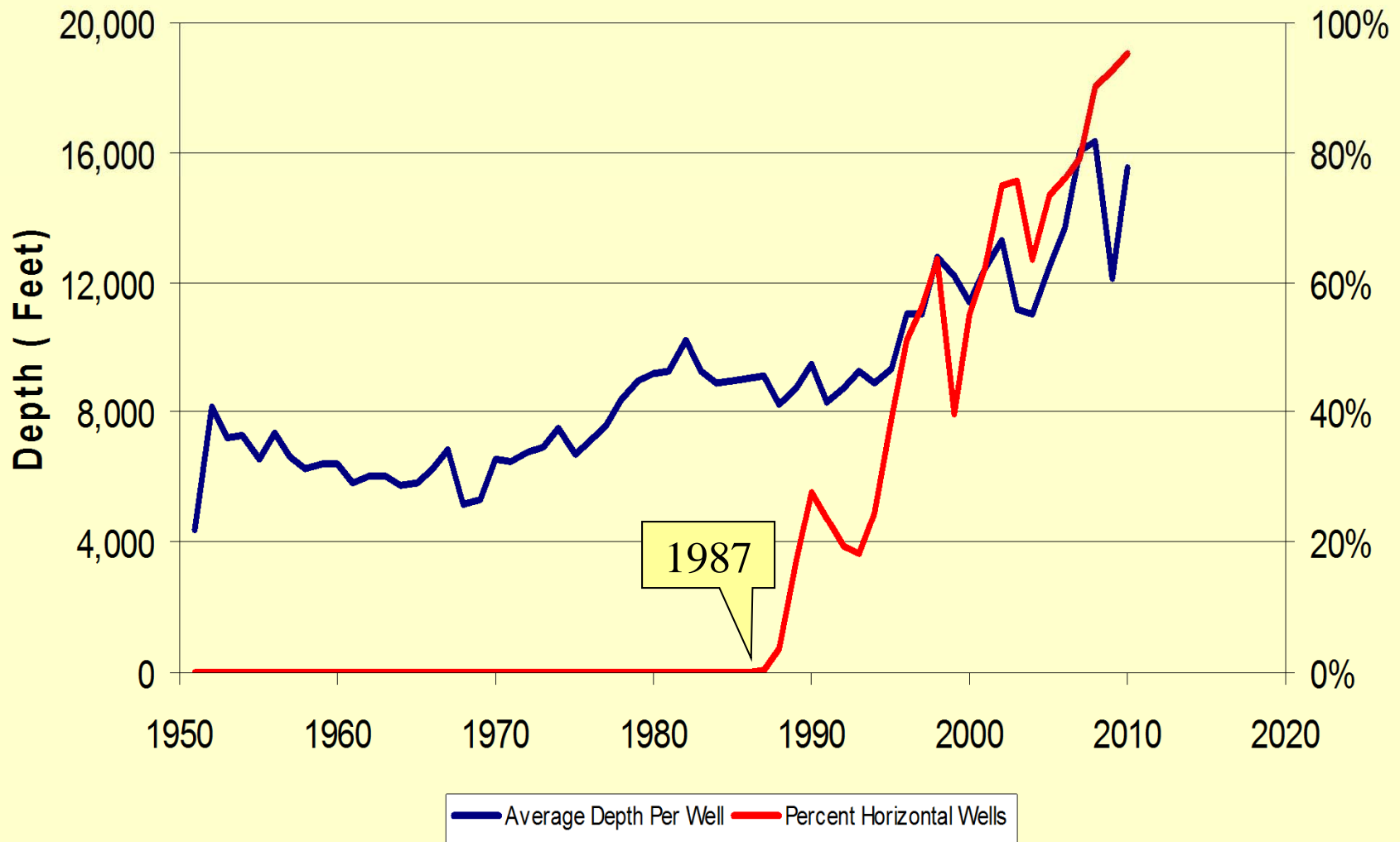


## North Dakota Monthly Gas Sold and Price





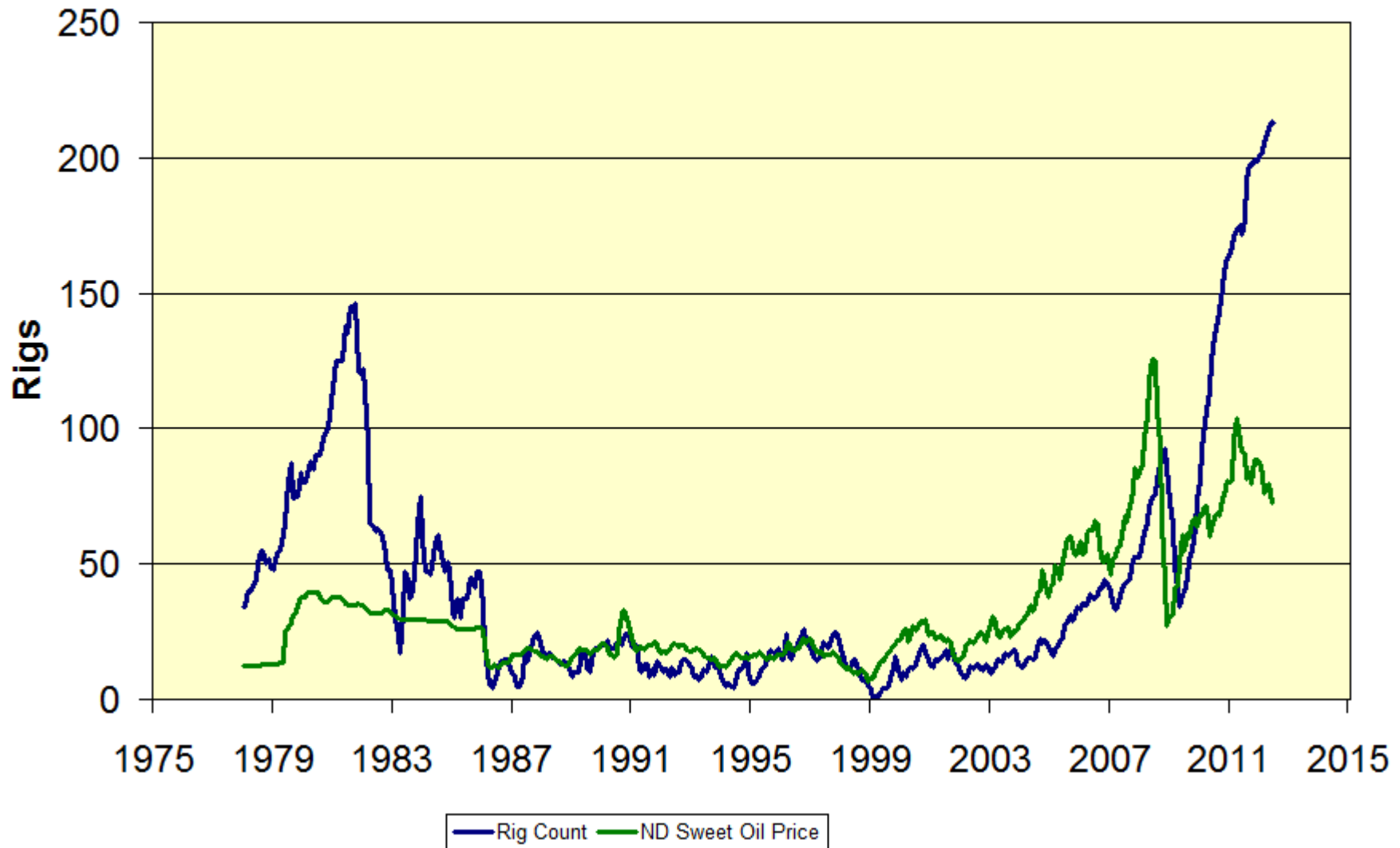
# North Dakota Well Depth and % Horizontal







## North Dakota Average Monthly Rig Count



# RIGS

- **187 rigs currently**
- **225 rigs - 2 years to secure leases**
- **225 rigs – another 16 years f/5H/SU**
- **Declining rig count?**
  - **walking rigs replace inefficiencies**
  - **drilling more wells w/less rigs**

# WELLS

- **8,634 wells currently producing**
  - **5,464 Bakken**
  - **3,500 more to secure leases**
- **40,000 additional development wells**
  - **225 rigs – another 16 years**
  - **100 rigs – another 30 years**
- **Bakken Pool – 4 targets**

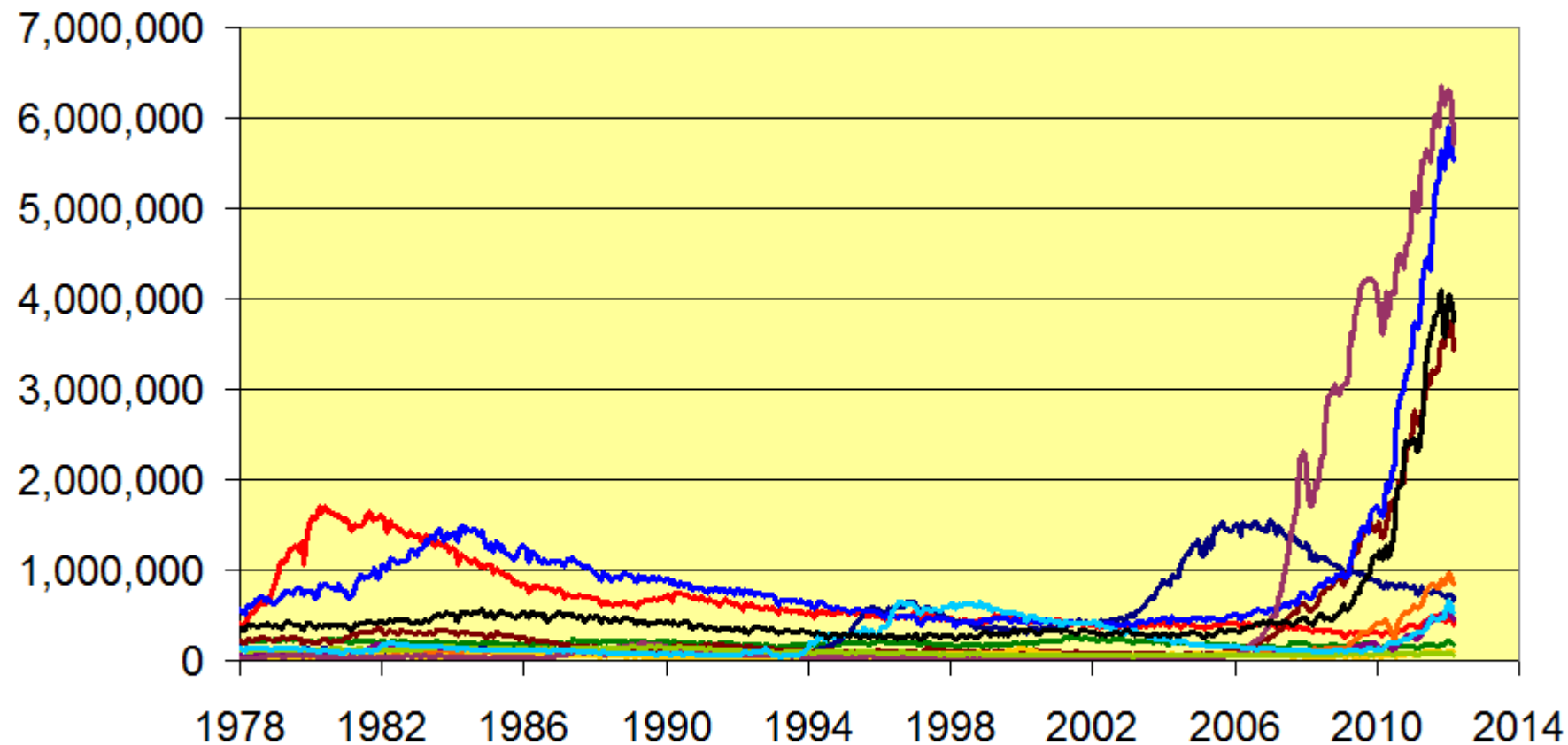
## **Typical 2012 Bakken well**

- **45-year well life**
- **615,000 barrels of oil**
- **\$9 million to drill and complete**
- **\$20 million net profit**
- **\$4 million in taxes**
- **\$7 million in royalties**
- **\$2 million in wages**
- **\$2 million in operating expenses**





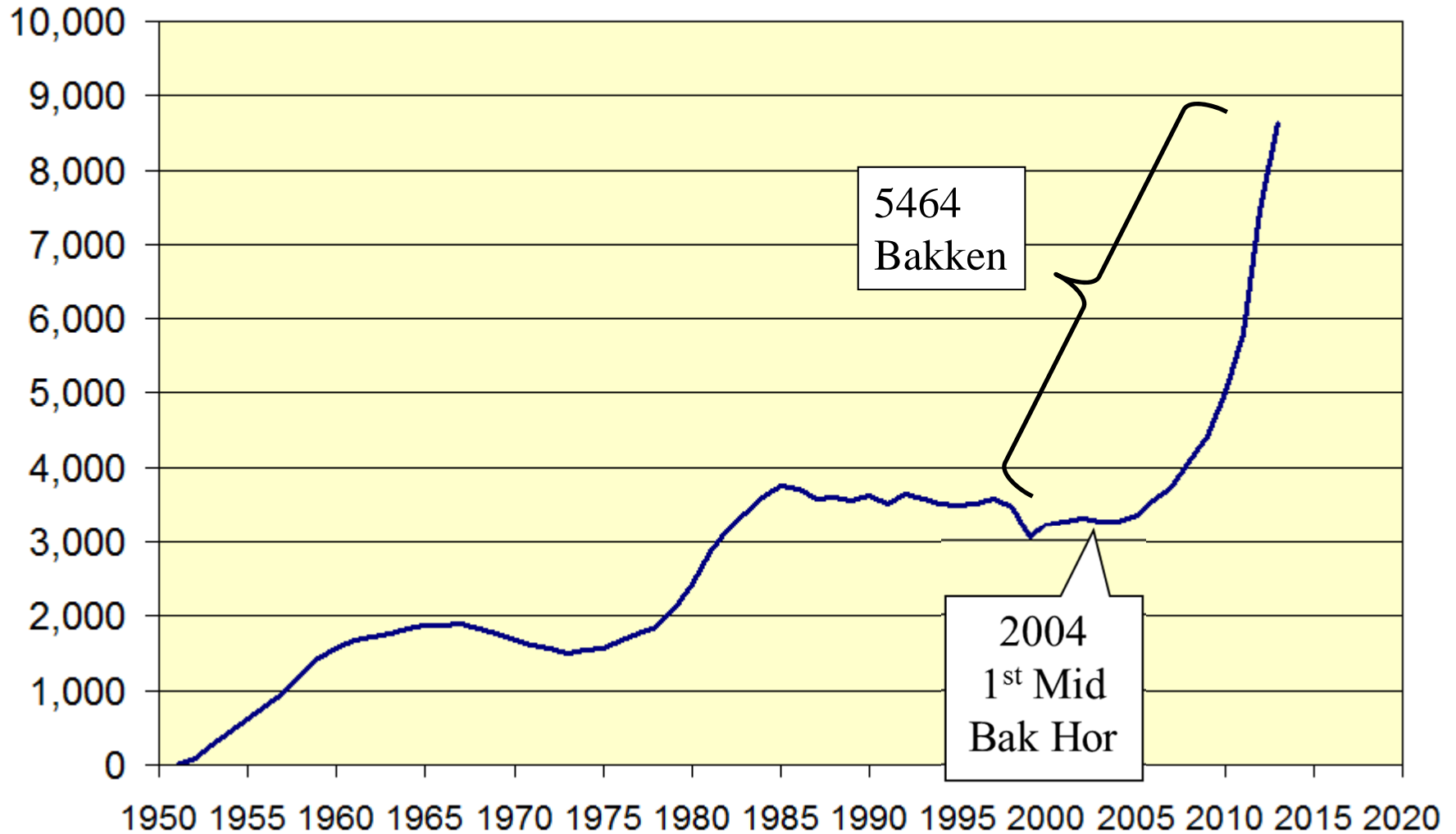
## North Dakota Monthly Production Top 12 Counties



- |             |             |                 |            |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| — BILLINGS  | — BOTTINEAU | — BOWMAN        | — BURKE    |
| — DIVIDE    | — DUNN      | — GOLDEN VALLEY | — McKENZIE |
| — MOUNTRAIL | — RENVILLE  | — STARK         | — WILLIAMS |

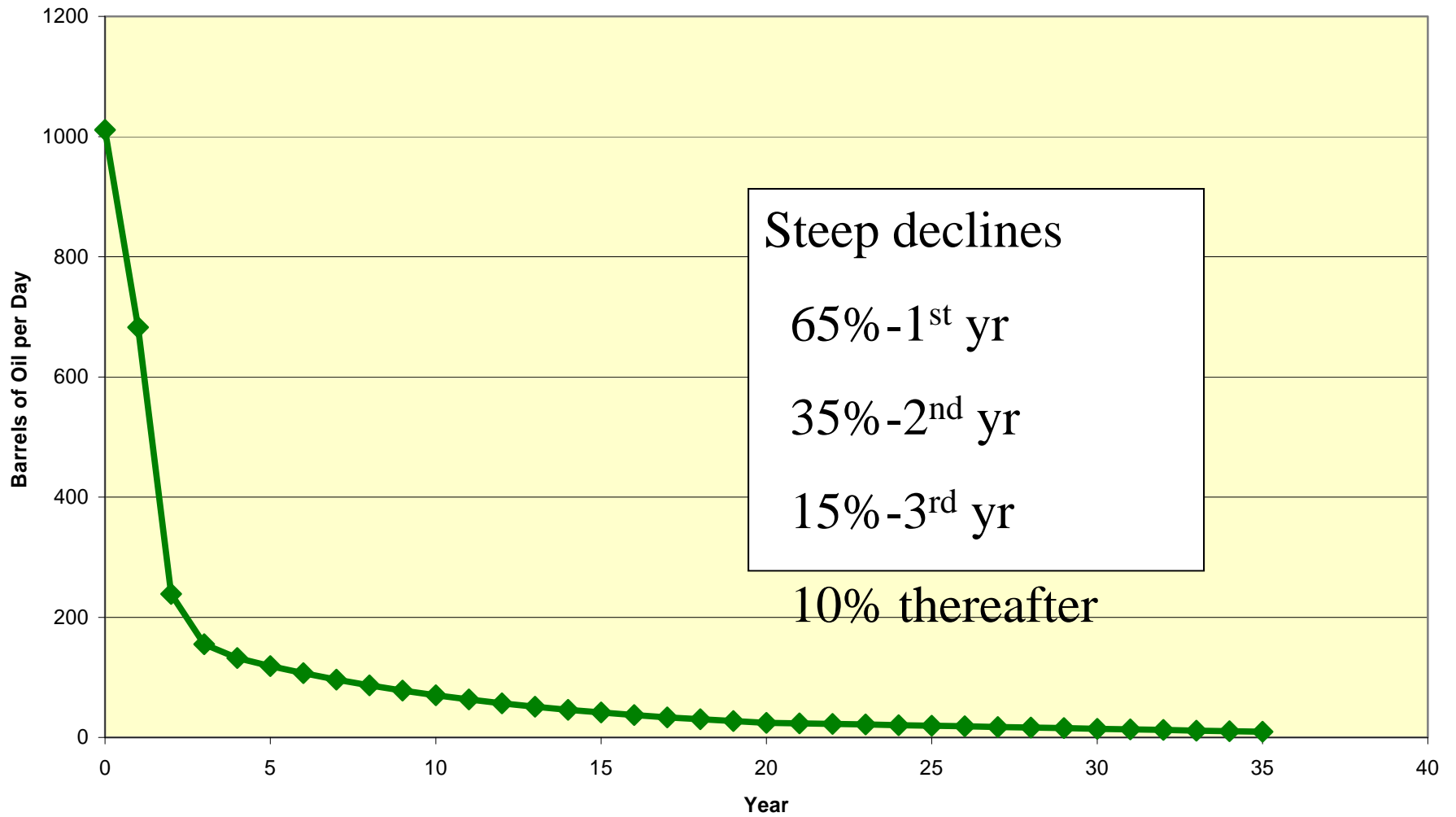


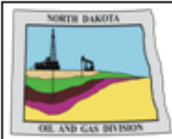
## North Dakota Wells Producing



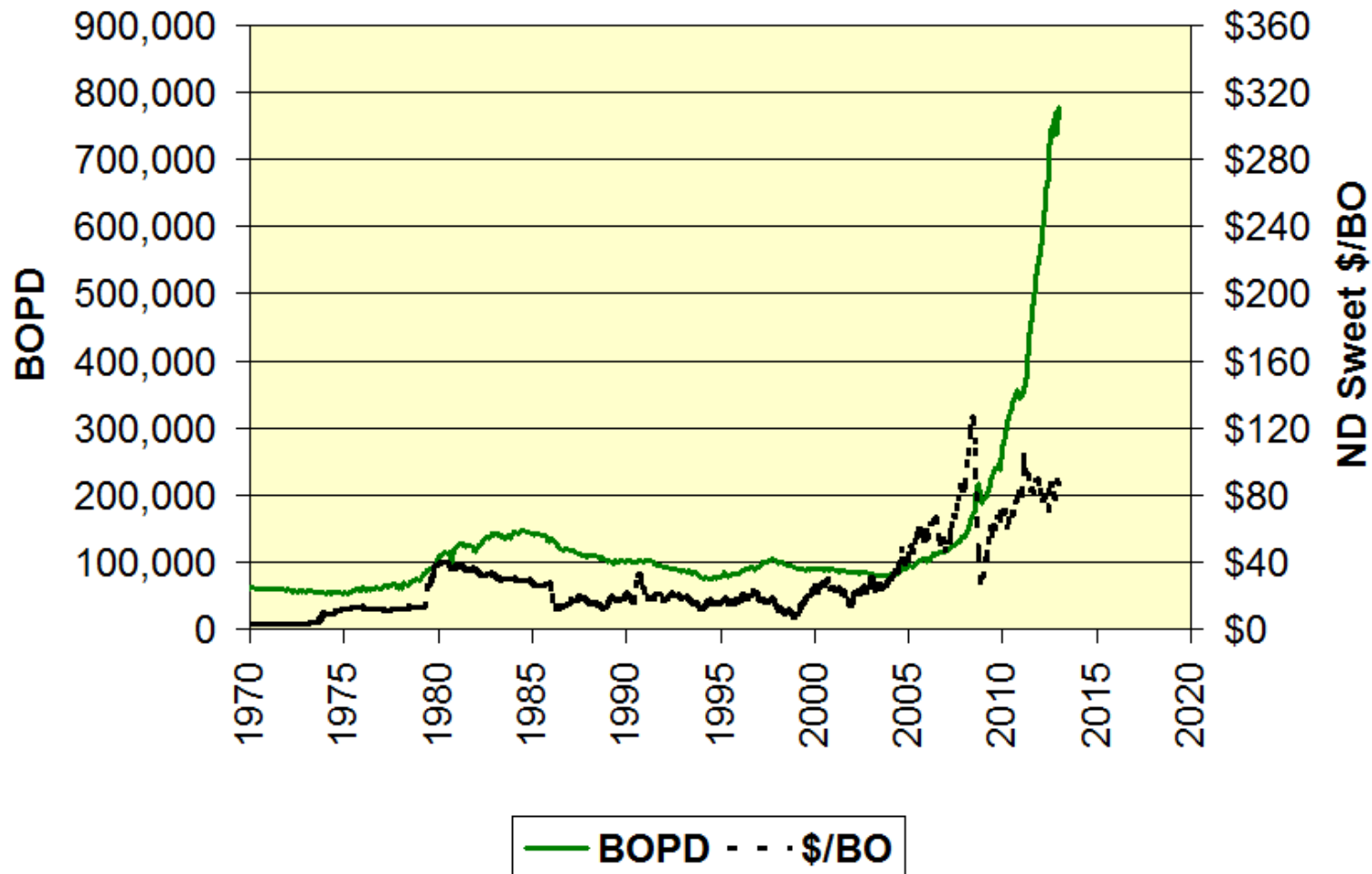
**8634 total wells – 5464 Bakken horizontal (63.3%)**

# Typical Bakken Well Production





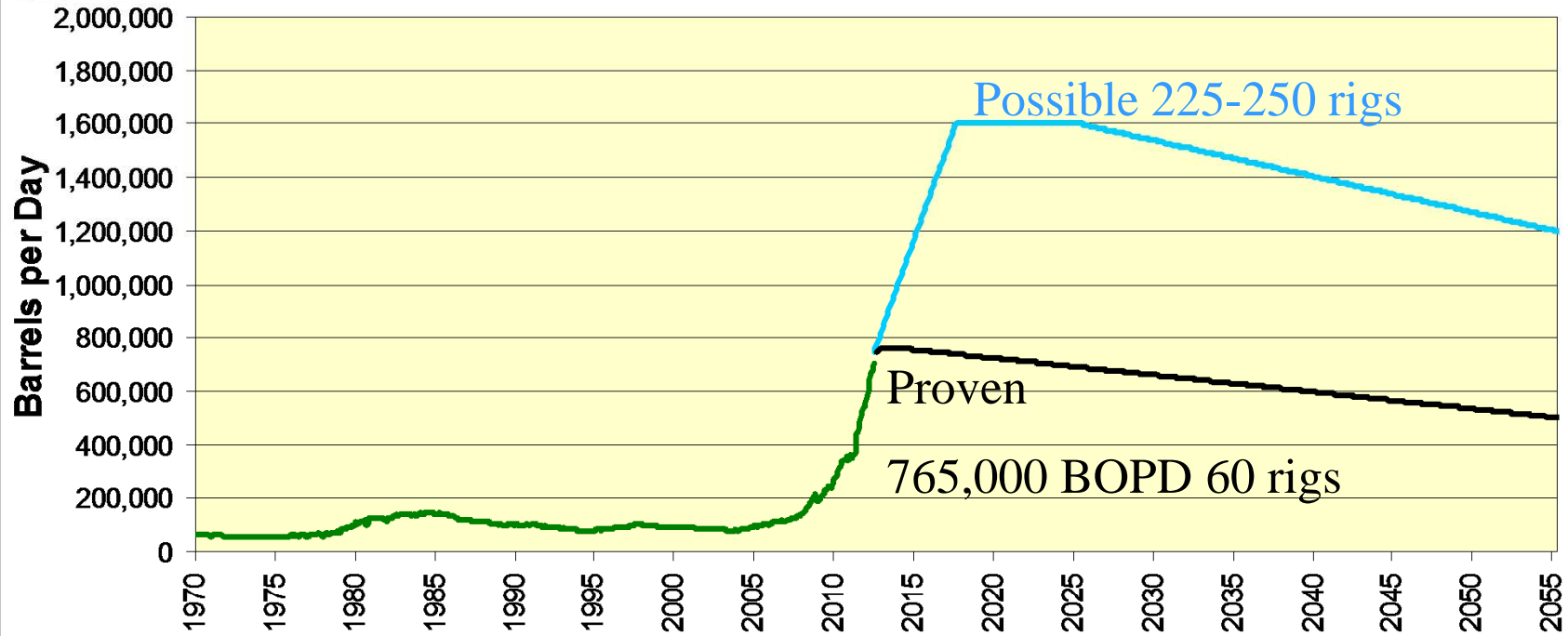
## North Dakota Daily Oil Produced and Price



**Production 782,812 bopd (appr 715,671 from Bakken—91%)**



## North Dakota Oil Production



**5,400** Bakken and Three Forks wells drilled and completed

**35,000 - 40,000** more new wells possible in thermal mature area





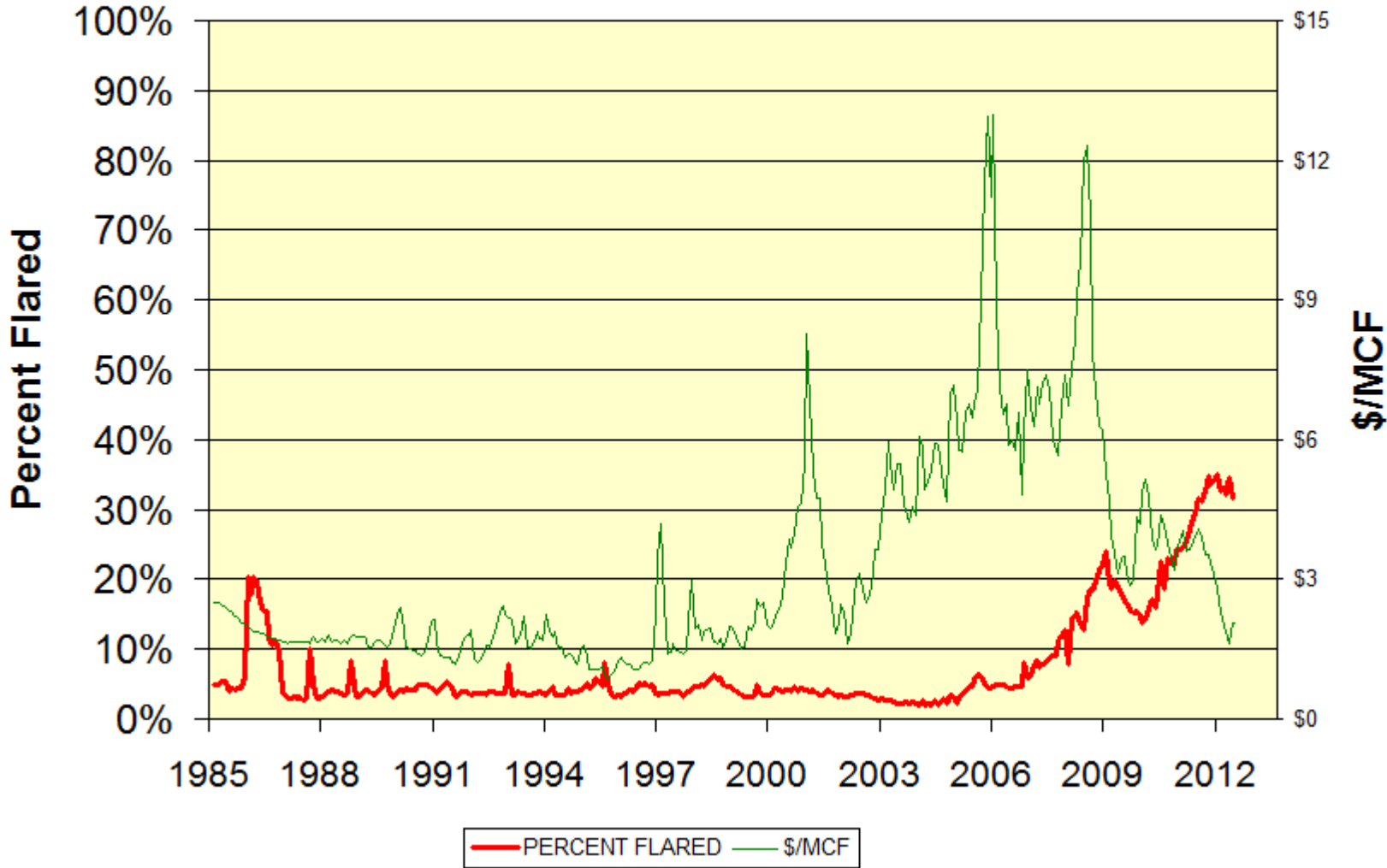
## **Typical 2012 Bakken well**

- **45-year well life**
- **615,000 barrels of oil**
- **\$9 million to drill and complete**
- **\$20 million net profit**
- **\$4 million in taxes**
- **\$7 million in royalties**
- **\$2 million in wages**
- **\$2 million in operating expenses**

# **ASSOCIATED GAS**

- **Current gas plant cap exceeds prod**
  - **no infrastructure**
  - **infrastructure bottlenecks**
- **\$4 billion investment in gas**
  - **must justify expenditures**
  - **4 new plants recently online**
  - **4 new + one expansion planned**
  - **compressor upgrades**

# North Dakota Monthly Gas Flared



Stateline I Gas Plant  
(Bear Paw)  
100 MMCFPD  
Operational

Stateline II Gas Plant  
(Bear Paw)  
100 MMCFPD  
Operational

Glass Bluff Gas Plant  
(Hiland)  
50 MMCFPD  
Operational

Little Missouri Gas Plant  
(Saddle Butte)  
5 MMCFPD--LPG  
Operational

Belfield Gas Plant  
(Whiting)  
100 MMCFPD  
Operational

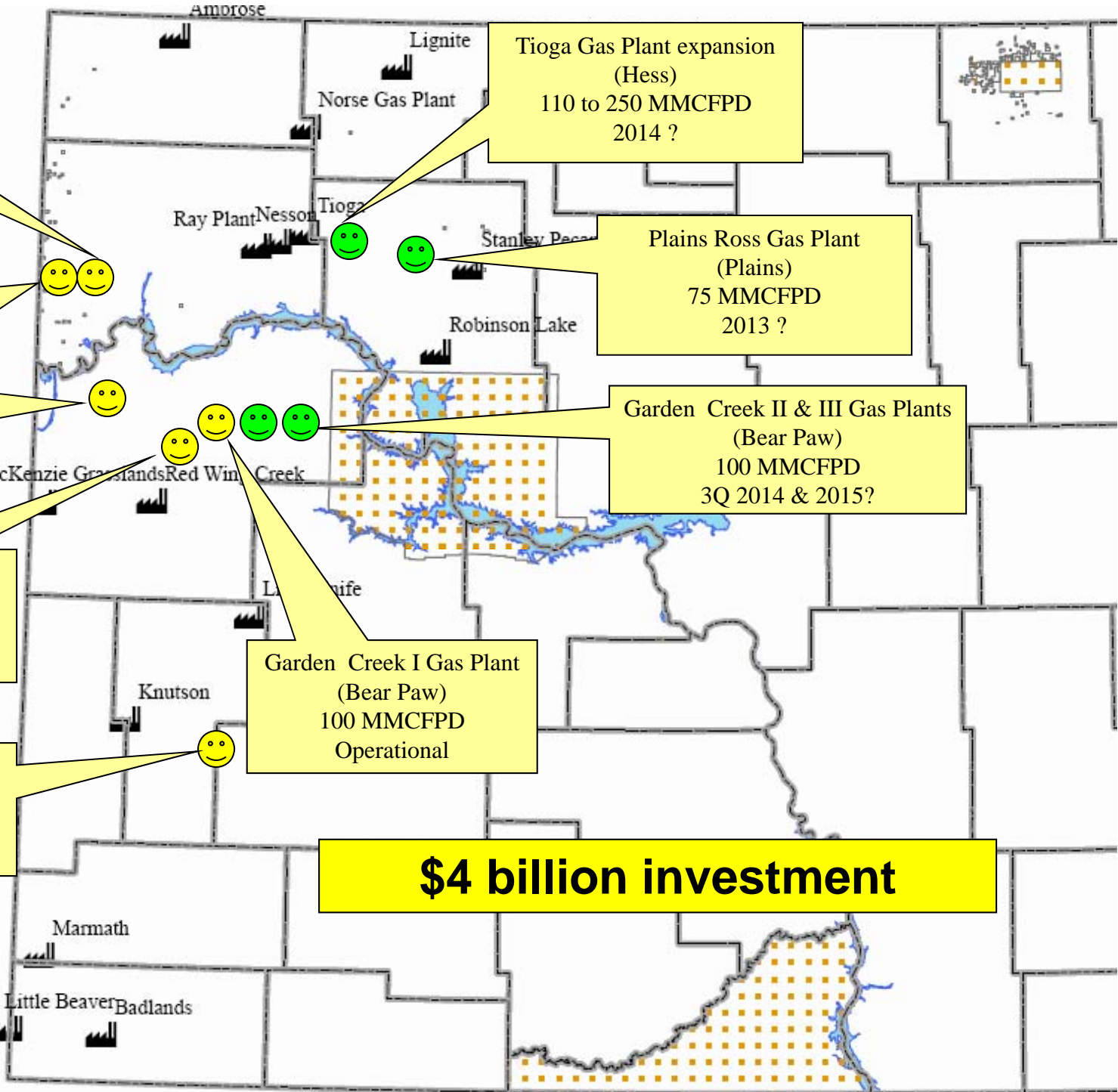
Tioga Gas Plant expansion  
(Hess)  
110 to 250 MMCFPD  
2014 ?

Plains Ross Gas Plant  
(Plains)  
75 MMCFPD  
2013 ?

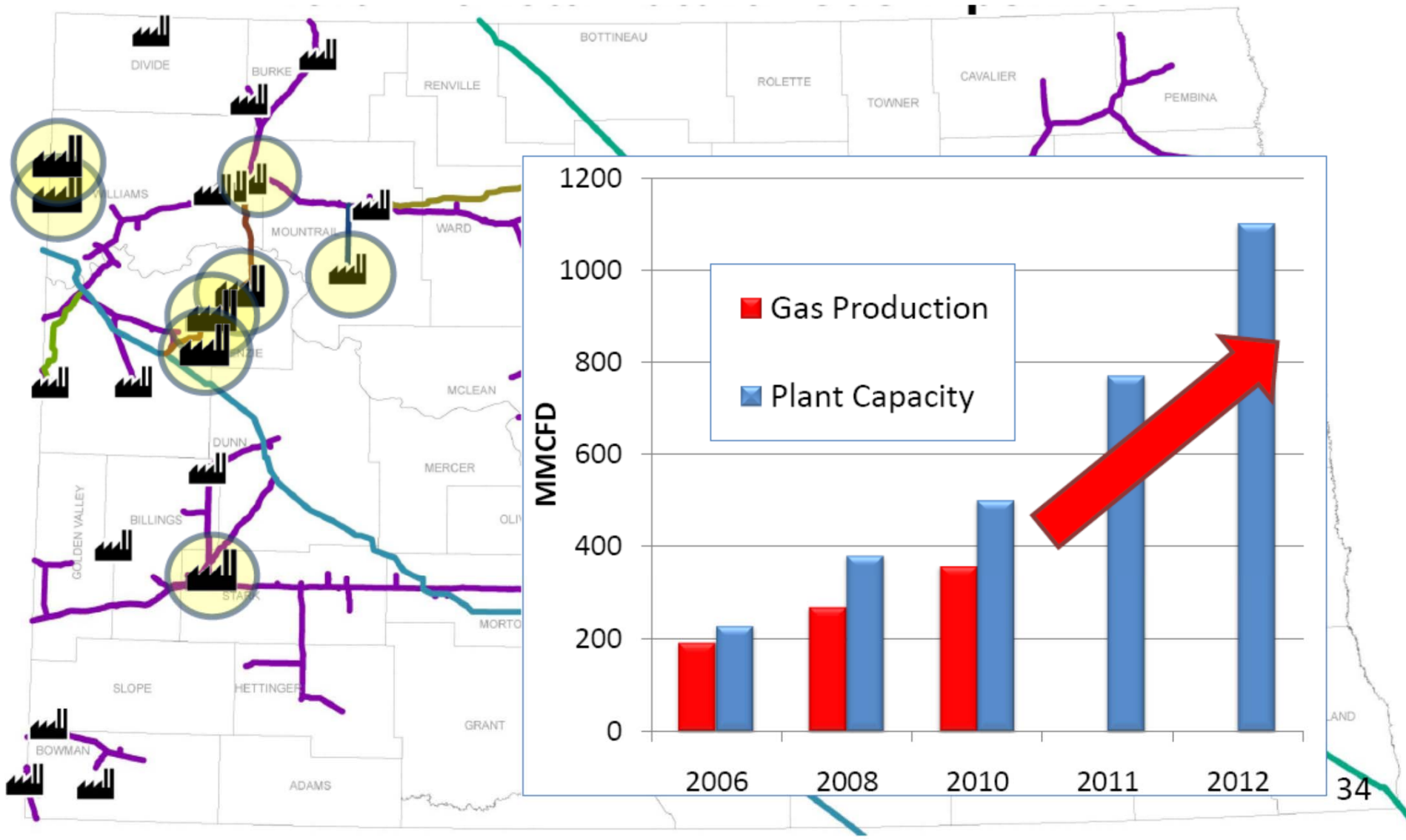
Garden Creek II & III Gas Plants  
(Bear Paw)  
100 MMCFPD  
3Q 2014 & 2015?

Garden Creek I Gas Plant  
(Bear Paw)  
100 MMCFPD  
Operational

**\$4 billion investment**

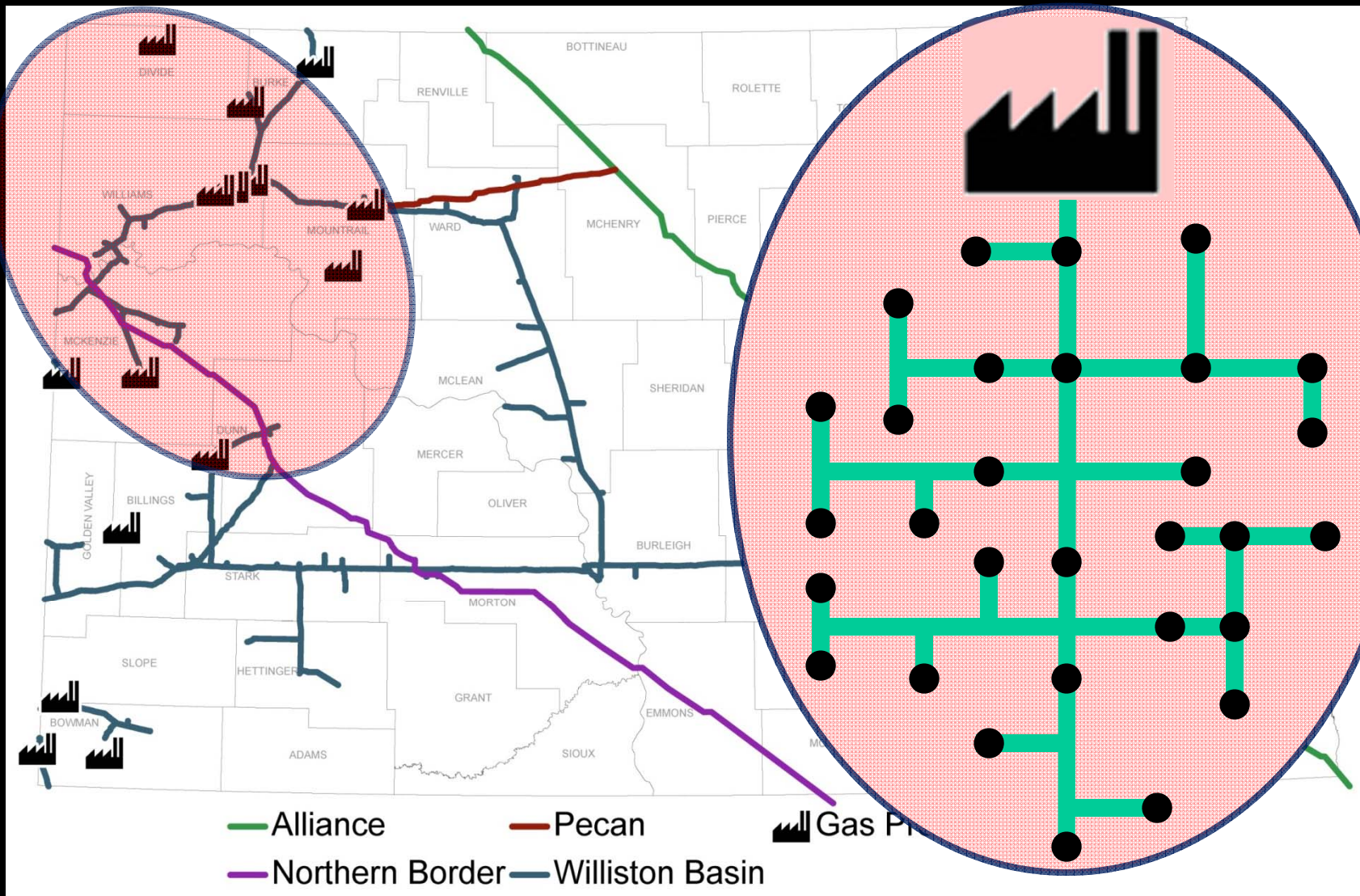


# New or Expanding Gas Plants





# Natural Gas Challenges



***Tyler Absent***

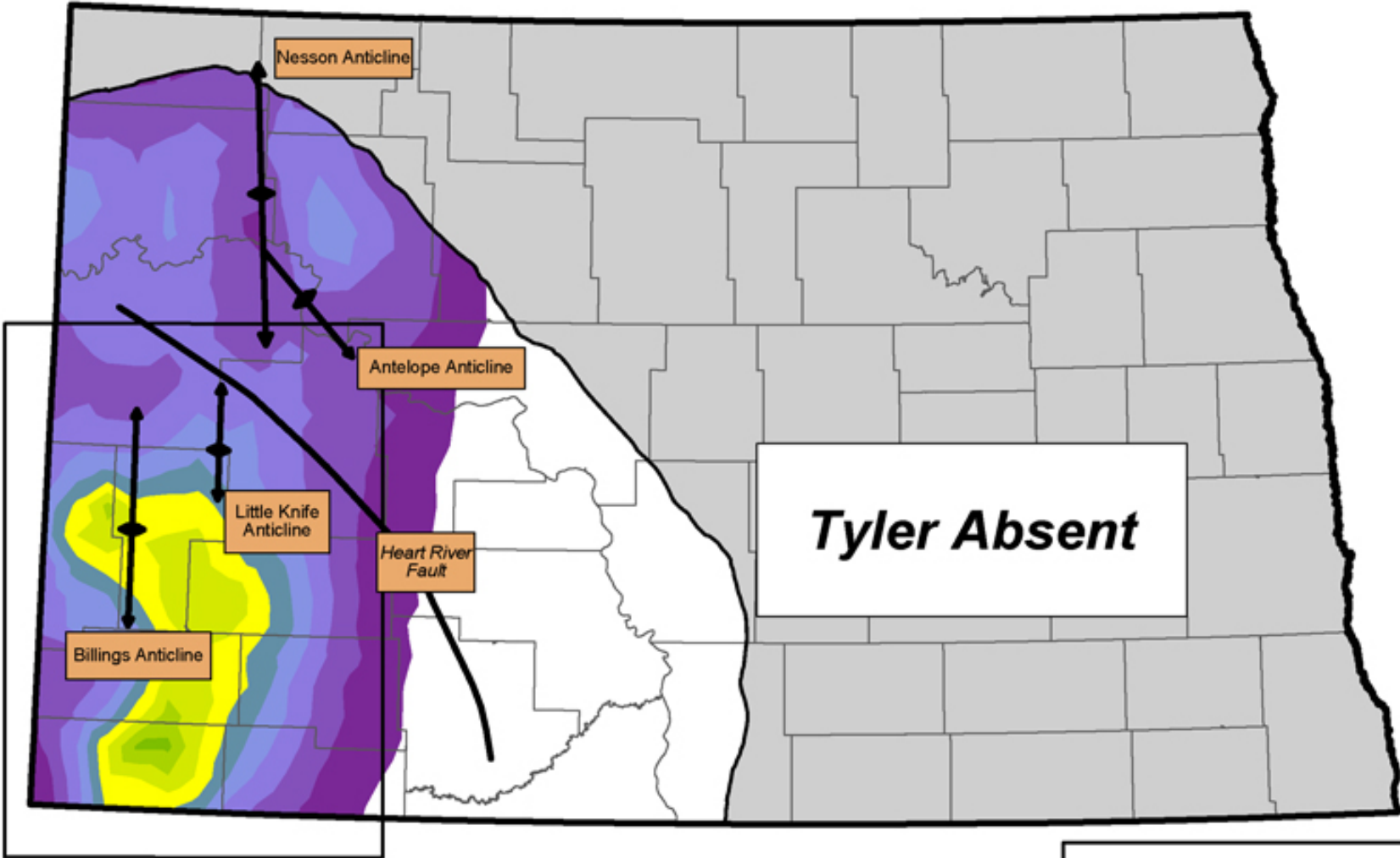
Nesson Anticline

Antelope Anticline

Little Knife Anticline

Heart River Fault

Billings Anticline





# RESOURCE POTENTIAL OF THE TYLER FORMATION

Stephan H. Nordeng and Timothy O. Nesheim

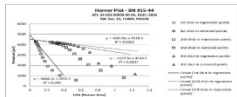


Figure 1. Horner plot of pressures measured during the shut-in periods of an open hole drill stem test (DST) of the Tyler Formation (B330-B322 ft. M.D.) in Pennington Co. A. Depo's 08075-44 (Figure 5, #6848). The extrapolated shut-in pressure (Horne, 1951) from the 2nd and 3rd shut-in periods of the DST indicate that the Tyler Formation fluid pressure is ~4525 psi at a depth of 8230 ft, which yields a pressure gradient (0.35 psi/ft) above the expected hydrostatic pressure range (0.43-0.46 psi/ft). The 1st shut-in period did not record "steady state" conditions and therefore does not yield a reliable extrapolated formation pressure. The fluid recovered in this test was 354' of gas cut mud. This well was spudded on February 2nd, 1979 (DST run on March 18th, 1979) in the Flat Top Butte field, where only one well produced (see 444,826 of oil from the Tyler-Heath Formation over a four month period in 1960 (Treas. Inc.'s Many Face #1, API: 33-053-00463-00-00; NDIC: 2667; Sec. 14, T466B; R301W). There is no record of injection within the Flat Top Butte field.

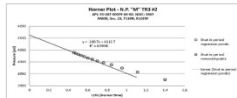


Figure 2. Horner plot of pressures measured during the shut-in period of an open hole drill stem test (DST) on the Tyler Formation (7343-7776 ft. M.D.) in Amundson Petroleum Corp.'s #17139 #2, shown on Figure 5 by #11484. Both the maximum pressure recorded (6039 psi = 0.52 psi/ft) and the extrapolated formation pressure (4137 psi = 0.53 psi/ft) are above the hydrostatic pressure range expected for the depth tested (3300-3500 psi = 0.43-0.46 psi/ft). The DST fluid recovery was 2.5 MBbls oil, reversed out 69.54 MBbls oil. Cumulative production for this well was 3,480.13 MBbls of oil. This well was spudded on May 2nd, 1965 (DST run on May 15th, 1965) in the Medora field, where initial production began in June, 1964 and initial injection in February, 1970.

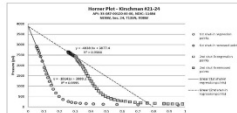


Figure 3. Horner plot of pressures measured during the shut-in periods of a conventional bottom hole drill stem test (DST) on the Tyler Formation (7540-7550 ft. M.D.) in Millennium Petroleum's Kinchman #12-24, shown on Figure 5 by #11484. The calculated fluid pressure of the Tyler formation (average of the extrapolated pressures from the two DST shut-in periods) is ~3883 psi at a depth of 7545 ft, which yields a pressure gradient (0.33 psi/ft) above the hydrostatic pressure expected for this depth (0.43-0.46 psi/ft). The DST fluid recovered was 0.028 bbls of oil and 0.48 bbls of water. Kinchman #12-24 was a wildcat well drilled outside areas of production and injection by the Tyler Formation.

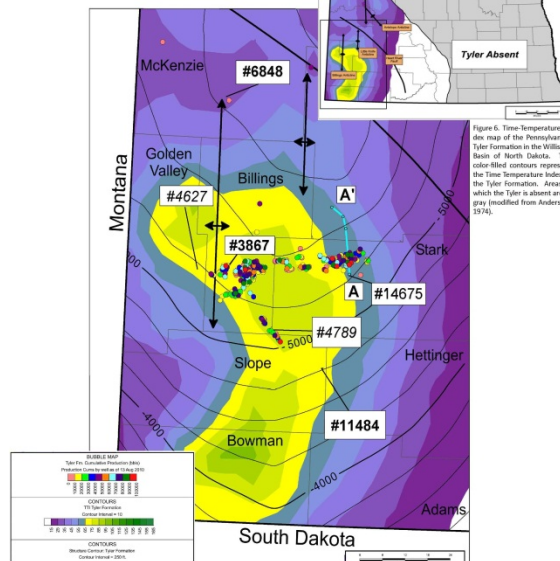


Figure 5. Detail map showing the distribution of Tyler production (Total Bbls) in North Dakota together with Time-Temperature contours and the location of wells from which pressure gradients (#6848, #3867, #11484) and Rock Eval data (#4627, #4789) were obtained. The color-filled contours represent the Time-Temperature Index of the Tyler Formation and are keyed to the color bar located in the lower left corner. Shades of yellow and green (<math>T\_{TI}</math> that correspond with the oil window.  $T_{TI}$  less than 5 and above 15 are in shades of blue and purple and represent conditions that could generate oil. This map lies within the black outline in Figure 6. Cumulative production from the Tyler Formation (Barrels oil) is represented by the color of the circles centered on the wells that have and/or are producing oil from the Tyler Formation. The solid contour lines on the detail map represent the mean sea level elevation of the top of the Tyler Formation.

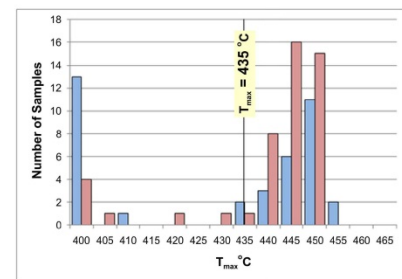


Figure 6. Time-Temperature Index map of the Pennsylvania Tyler Formation in the Williston Basin of North Dakota. The color-filled contours represent the Time-Temperature Index of the Tyler Formation. Areas in which the Tyler is absent are in gray (modified from Anderson, 1976).

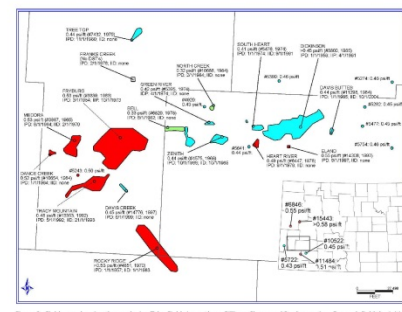


Figure 7. Field map showing the producing Tyler fields in southern Billings, Slope, and Stark counties. For each field the initial Pressure Gradient (PG), Initial Production Date (IPD), and Initial Injection Date (IID) are given. Fields with evidence of initial fluid overpressure in the Tyler are colored in red. Beds that were initially at hydrostatic pressure are colored in blue, and fields that were under-pressured prior to production are colored green. Most of the western Tyler fields all contain evidence of overpressuring prior to injection with the exception of Davis Creek. The eastern Tyler fields were at or below hydrostatic pressure, with the exception of the Heart Beer and Band fields. Field boundaries are approximate. In the bottom right corner is an inset map of North Dakota showing the Tyler DST's of interest with their NDIC well numbers that are located outside the main area of Tyler production. DST results indicate that the Tyler Formation is over-pressured in three wells and at hydrostatic pressure within two wells outside the area of main production.

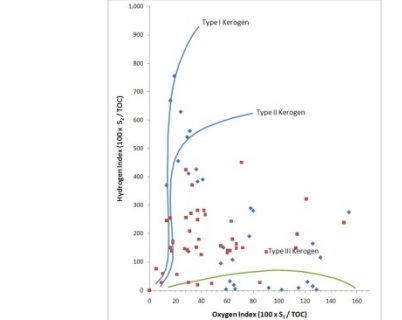


Figure 7. A frequency diagram showing that most of the samples of the Tyler Formation collected from the Government Taylor A-1 (#4627) in red, and the State of North Dakota #12-36 (#4789) in blue, have been thermally matured beyond the threshold that marks the onset of oil generation (T\_max = 435°C).

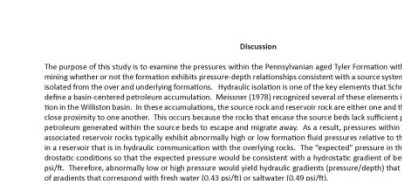


Figure 10. A modified van Krevelen diagram that classifies kerogen on the basis of the Hydrogen Index (HI) and Oxygen Index (OI) derived from Rock Eval pyrolysis data. The blue diamonds represent the data from the Government Taylor A-1 (NDIC #4627; SEIS, Sec. 5, T239A, R303W) and the red squares refer to data from the State of North Dakota #12-36 (NDIC # 4789; NE NE, Sec. 36, T137N, R300W). The data suggest that kerogen from the Tyler Formation includes oil prone Type I and Type II, gas prone Type II as well as mixtures of both oil and gas prone kerogen.

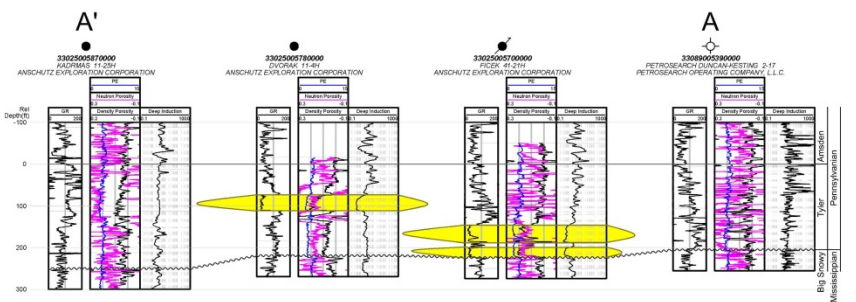


Figure 4. Cross section extending from A-A' along the light blue line in Figure 5. The bedding 3-17 (#14675 on Figure 5) corresponds to the point labeled A. Conventional sandstone reservoirs are shown in yellow. The section illustrates the discontinuous nature of the conventional sandstone reservoirs of the Tyler Formation.

## Discussion

The purpose of this study is to examine the pressures within the Pennsylvanian aged Tyler Formation with the intent of determining whether or not the formation exhibits pressure-depth relationships consistent with a source system that is hydraulically isolated from the over- and underlying formations. Hydraulic isolation is one of the key elements that Schrodner (1996) used to define a basin-centered petroleum accumulation. Missener (1978) recognized several of these elements in the Bakken Formation in the Williston basin. In these accumulations, the source rock and reservoir rock are either one and the same or lie in very close proximity to one another. This occurs because the rocks that encase the source beds lack sufficient permeability to allow petroleum generated within the source beds to escape and migrate away. As a result, pressures within the source beds and associated reservoir rocks typically exhibit anomalously high or low formation fluid pressure relative to the pressure expected in a reservoir that is in hydraulic communication with the overlying rocks. The "suspected" pressure in this study assumes hydrostatic conditions so that the expected pressure would be consistent with a hydrostatic gradient of between 0.43 and 0.49 psi/ft. Therefore, anomalously low or high pressure would yield hydraulic gradients (pressure/depth) that lie outside the range of gradients that correspond with fresh water (0.43 psi/ft) or saltwater (0.49 psi/ft).

The Tyler Formation is a regionally extensive, organically-rich, Pennsylvanian unit deposited during the earliest stages of the Abareoka Sequence. Terrestrial sediments derived from source areas south of the Williston basin are interbedded with nearshore, marine limestone and shale (Gerhard and Anderson, 1988). The Tyler Formation is bounded below by an erosional surface developed on Mississippian aged rocks formed during tectonic uplift in the Late Mississippian and Early Pennsylvanian. A variety of lithologies consistent with progradation of sediments into the basin overlie the Tyler except along the eastern margin of the basin where these rocks have been truncated by the erosional surface that marks the Abareoka - Zuni sequence boundary (Anderson, 1972; Gerhard and Anderson, 1988).

Pressure gradients were obtained from pressure build-up curves and pressure recorder depths used during drill stem tests of the Tyler Formation. Estimates of formation pressures are obtained by constructing Horner plots in which formation pressures are plotted against the logarithm of Horner time (Horner Time = Total Flow Time + 2500-in<sup>2</sup>/(2.447-in<sup>2</sup>/hr) in time). The formation pressure is determined from the Horner plot by finding the y-intercept of the best fit line that passes through the pressures recorded during the last part of the shut-in periods (see Figure 1-3).

The range of initial pressure gradients present in the Tyler Formation suggest that the formation is frequently over-pressured and in a few cases under-pressured. Several fields were initially over-pressured and prior to injection: Dance Creek, Elrod, Flat Top Butte, Fryburg, Heart Beer, Medora, Rocky Ridge, and Round Top Butte (Figure 8). Most of these over-pressured fields are located on the western side of the producing Tyler fields. Two fields may have been under-pressured prior to production, Bell and North Creek, which are located in the central area of most of the producing Tyler fields (Figure 8). These results lead to the conclusion that the Tyler Formation is not always in hydraulic communication with the units above or below it. This suggests that the Tyler may be sufficiently isolated so as to prevent the petroleum generated within the Tyler Formation to escape.

The Time-Temperature Index (TTI) map of the Tyler Formation, constructed from modern geothermal heat flow measurements (DMM Geothermal Lab, 2010) and stratigraphic interval thickness data, data from the Tyler Formation is from rocks that are mature enough to generate oil. Rock Eval data also indicates that at least some of the organic-rich rocks within the Tyler are good to excellent source rocks even though there is probably more than one type of kerogen present. The available Rock Eval data also confirms the presence of thermally mature shales in vicinity of Tyler production (Figures 5 & 7).

The limited data available today suggest the Tyler Formation is a regionally extensive unit that may contain good to excellent quantities of oil prone kerogen (Figures 9 & 10) that is sufficiently mature (Figure 8) to generate oil within a hydraulically compartmentalized environment (Figure 8). If so, then the Tyler Formation possesses the elements needed to qualify as a basin centered petroleum accumulation.

## References

Anderson, S. B., 1974, Pre-Mississippian paleogeographic map of North Dakota, North Dakota Geological Survey, Misc. Map 17, p. 1, Plate.

Dembecki, H., 2009, Three common source rock evaluation errors made by geologists during prospect or play appraisals, American Association of Petroleum Geologists Bulletin, v. 93, p. 341-356.

Gerhard, L. C., Anderson, S. B., 1988, Geology of the Williston Basin (United States portion), Sedimentary Cover North American Craton: U.S., L. L. Sloss (ed.), Geological Society of America, Boulder Colorado, p. 221-223.

Horne, D.R., 1951, Pressure build-up in wells: Proceedings of Third World Petroleum Congress, Section 8, pp. 503-531.

Missener, F., 1978, Petroleum geology of the Bakken Formation Williston Basin, North Dakota and Montana, in S. Helms, ed., 1978 Williston Basin Symposium: Montana Geological Society Billings, Montana, p. 207-227.

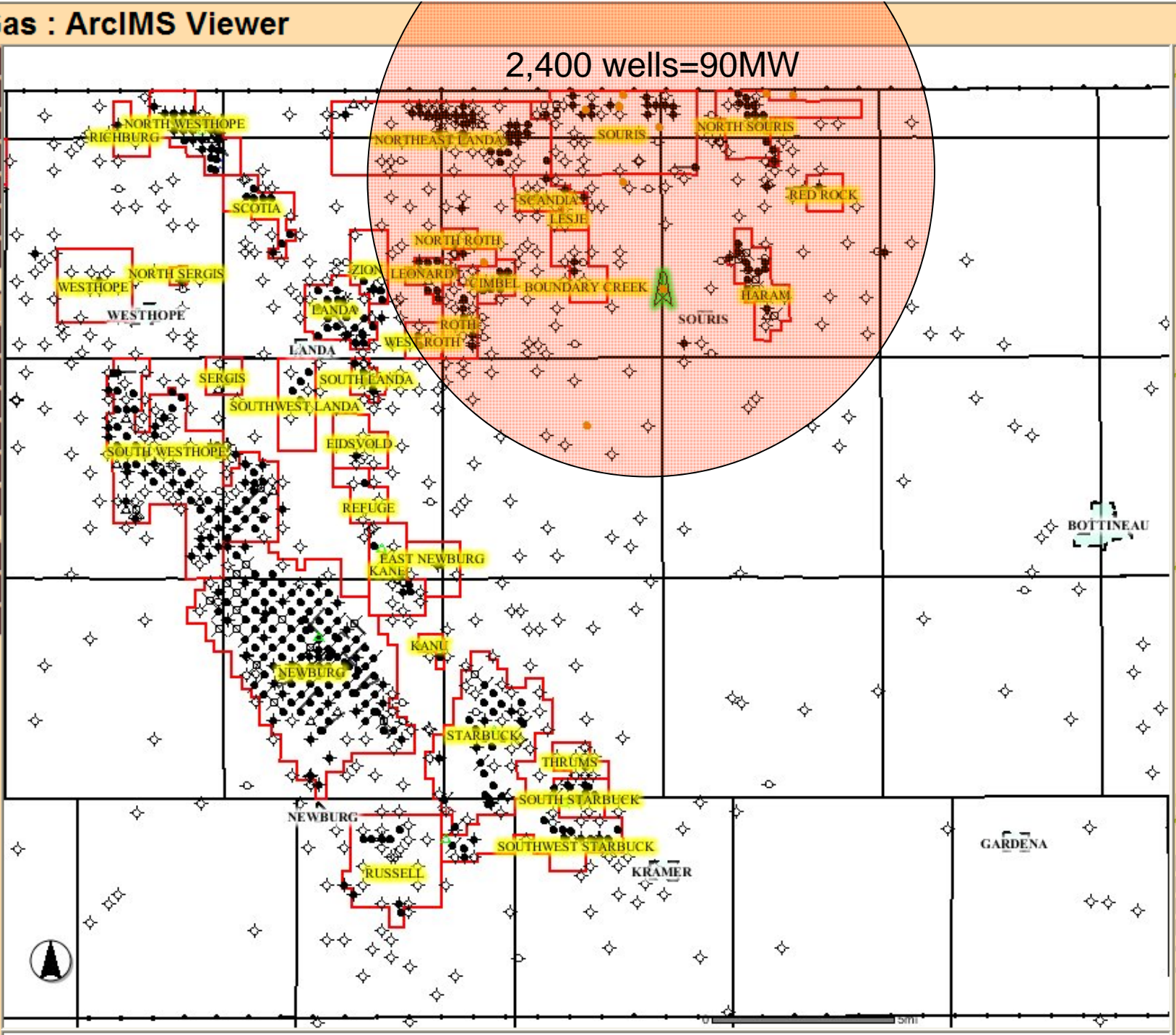
Schrodner, J.W., 1996, Method for assessing continuous-type (conventional) hydrocarbon accumulations, in Gaster, D.L., Dolton, G.L., Takahashi, K.I., and James, K.L., eds., 1995 National Assessment of United States oil and gas resources—Results, methodology, and supporting data: U.S. Geological Survey Digital Data Series 90, release 2, 1 CD-ROM.

Figure 9. A kerogen quality diagram (Dembecki, 2009) constructed from the Total Organic Carbon (TOC) minus the most oxidizing (O1) and potential (S1) hydrocarbons contained in samples of the Tyler Formation. The samples are from the Government Taylor A-1 (green circles) and the State of North Dakota #12-36 (red squares).



# Oil and Gas : ArcIMS Viewer

- Legend / Layers
- Overview Map
- View Entire State
- Previous View
- Clear Selection
- Search
- Generate PDF
- Zoom In
- Zoom Out
- Pan
- Rect Identify
- Select Object
- Buffer
- Distance
- Find Well
- Find Field/Unit
- Find Section

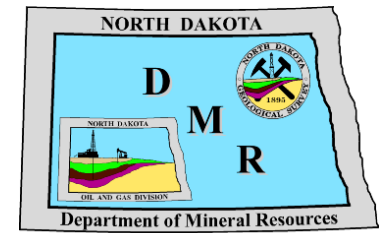




## Reclaimed Location

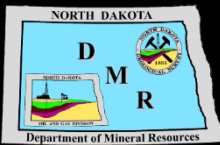
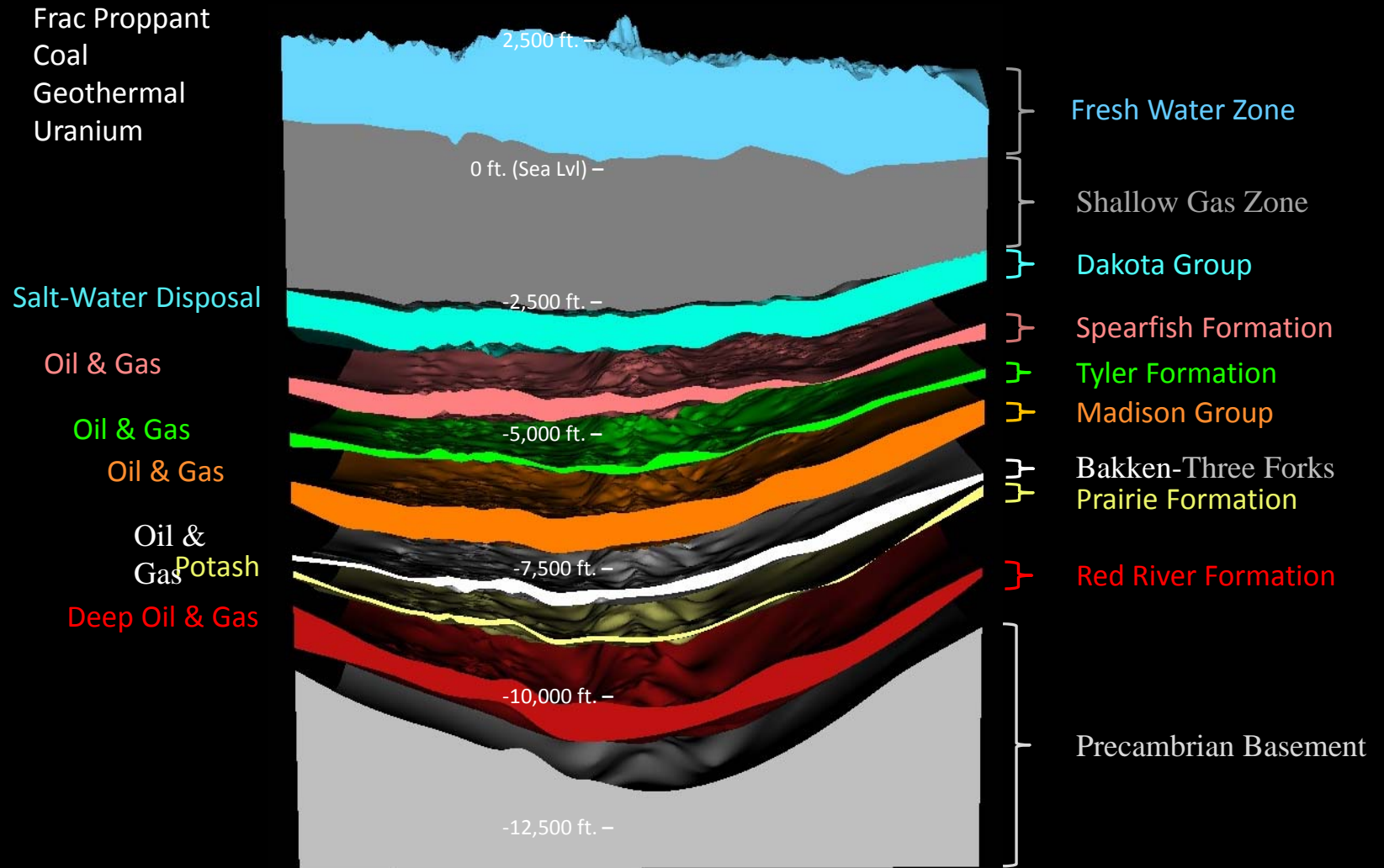
File No. 15092  
Armstrong #1-5 Hanson  
Sec 5-T155N-R102W  
Williams County, ND





# North Dakota Mineral Resources Status and Outlook

# Three-Dimensional Geologic Model of Northwestern North Dakota

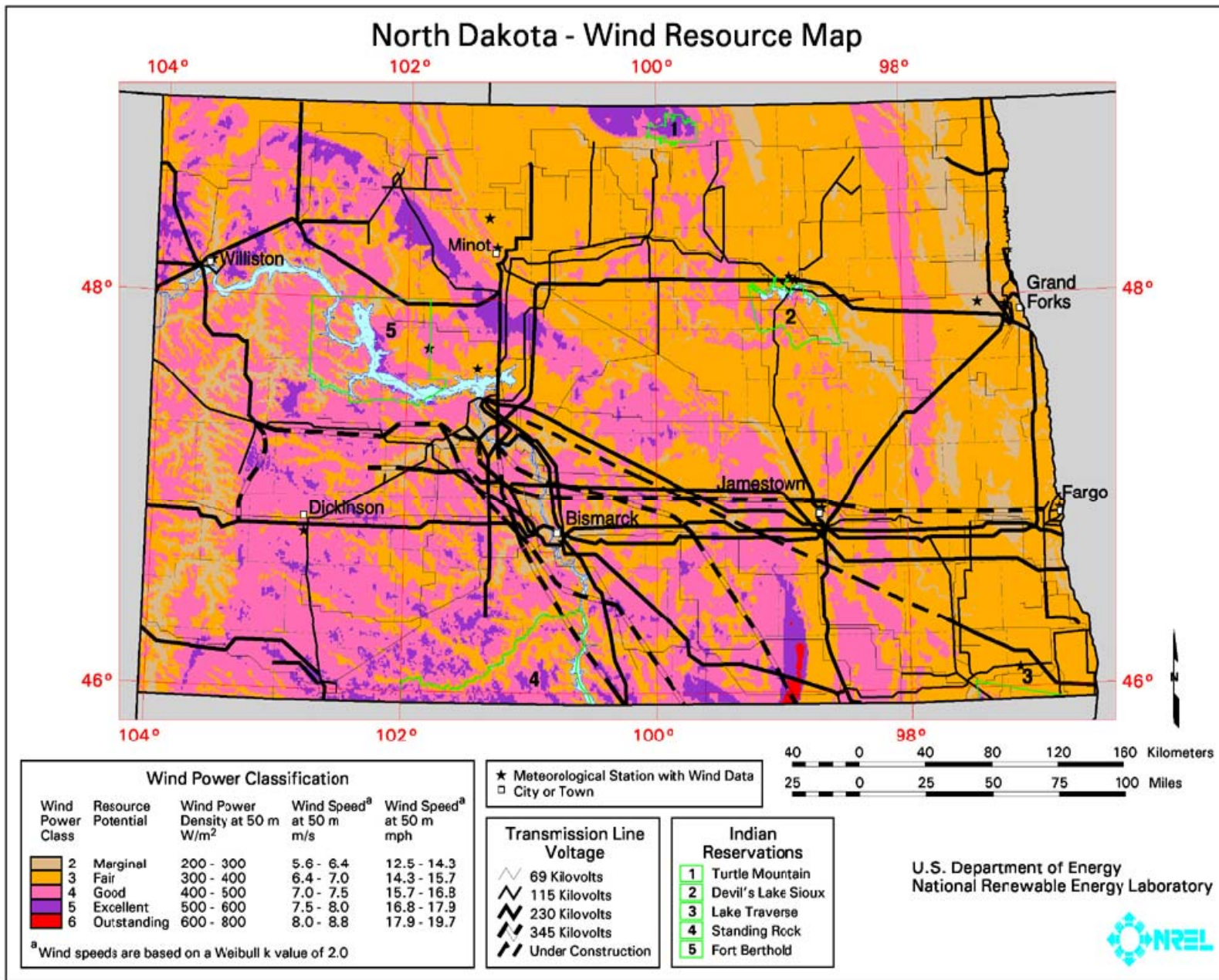


North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources

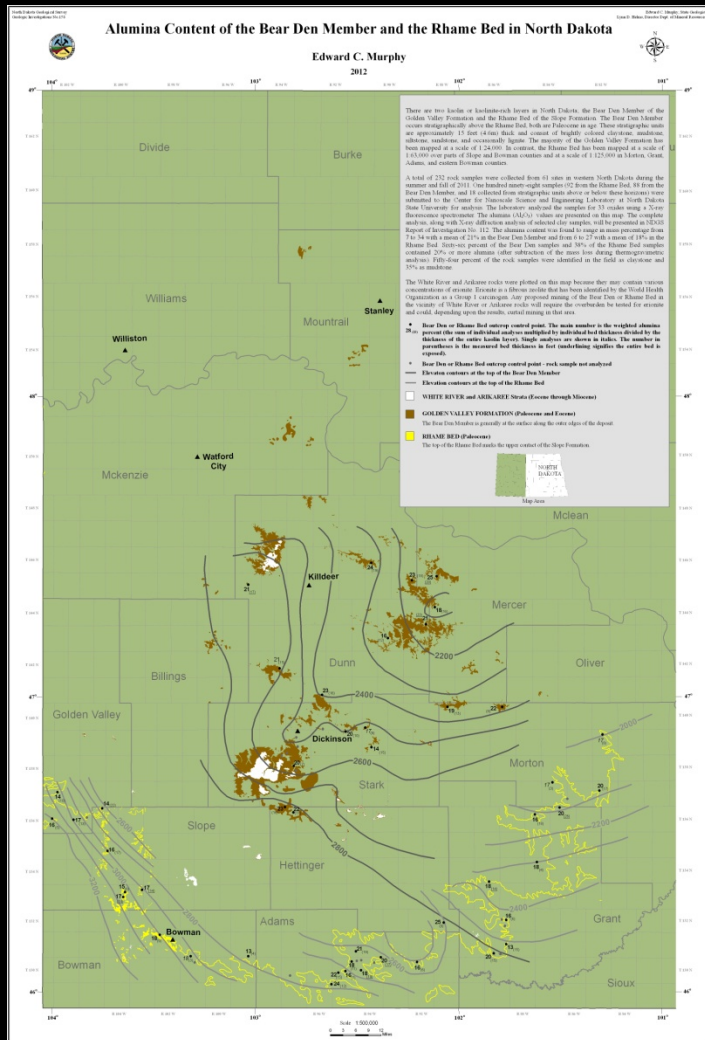
North Dakota Geological Survey



Current installed capacity 1.6 Gigawatts – Estimated potential 6 Gigawatts







Over 4 million tons of sand and ceramic proppants are used every year in the Williston Basin, part of a multi-billion dollar industry. During the 2009-2011 biennium, the Geological Survey collected 125 sand samples throughout the state in our search for deposits that could be utilized for oil and gas proppants in the well fracing process. In the fall of 2011, we collected 232 clay samples from western North Dakota to determine their suitability for the manufacture of ceramic proppant.

The Nanoscale Science and Engineering Laboratory at North Dakota State University determined the alumina content using x-ray fluorescence and is currently determining the clay mineralogy using x-ray diffraction. The alumina content of the clay samples ranged from 7 to 34% with a mean of 21% in the Bear Den Member and 18% in the Rhame Bed. North Dakota deposits could contain over 1 billion tons of mineable clay with a value of over \$50 billion.



*Seventeen feet of brightly colored clay of the Bear Den Member (Golden Valley Formation) at the base of a butte in Dunn County.*

# 1.3 Trillion Tons of Coal in North Dakota

# 25 Billion Tons of Mineable Lignite 800+ year supply

## THE LIGNITE RESOURCES OF NORTH DAKOTA

by

Edward C. Murphy, Ned W. Kruger, Gerard E. Goven,  
Quentin L. Vandal, Kimberly C. Jacobs, and Michele L. Gutenkunst

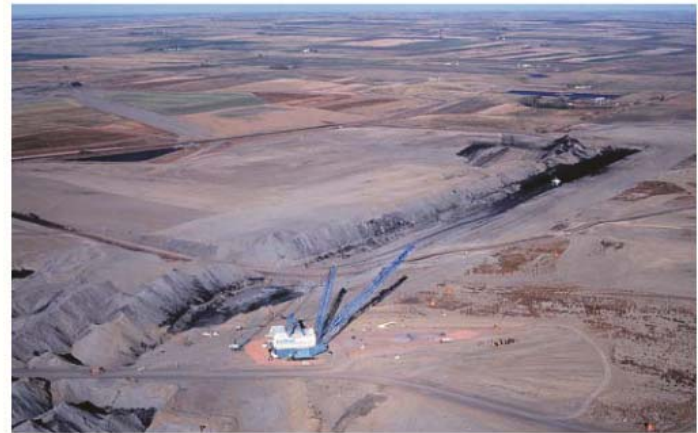


REPORT OF INVESTIGATION NO. 105  
North Dakota Geological Survey  
Edward C. Murphy, State Geologist  
Lynn D. Helms, Director Dept. of Mineral Resources  
2006

## THE LIGNITE RESERVES OF NORTH DAKOTA

by

Edward C. Murphy

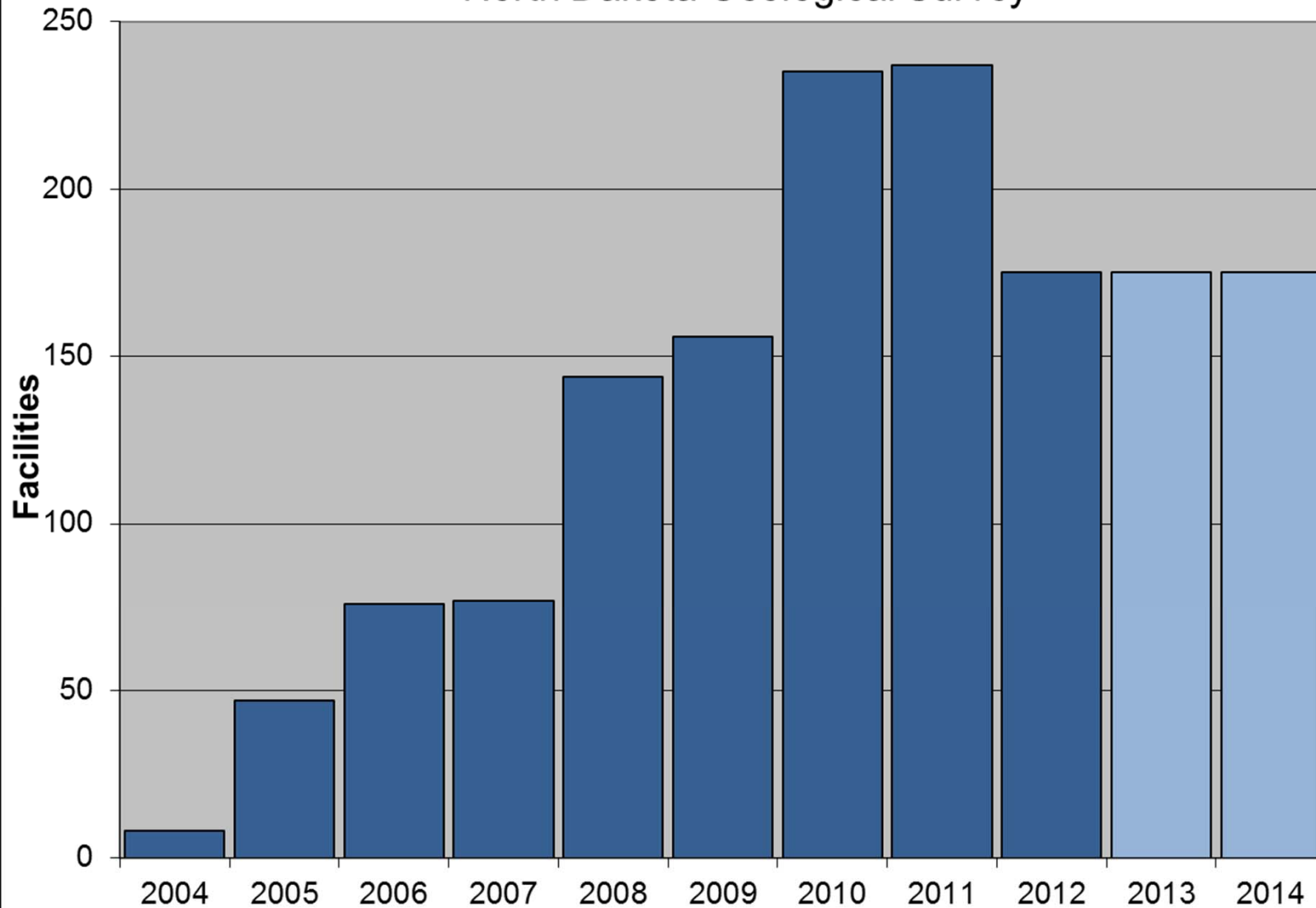


REPORT OF INVESTIGATION NO. 104  
North Dakota Geological Survey  
Edward C. Murphy, State Geologist  
Lynn D. Helms, Director Dept. of Mineral Resources  
2006



# GEOTHERMAL INSTALLATIONS

North Dakota Geological Survey

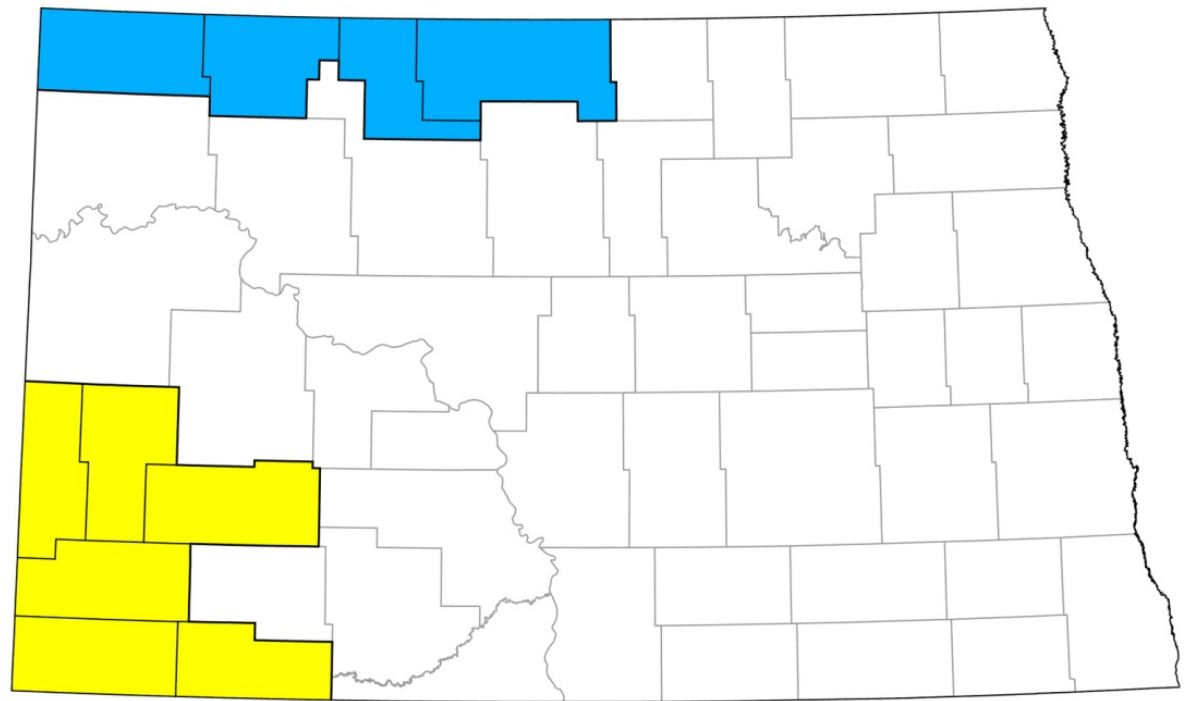


# Estimate 10-20 million pounds Mineable worth \$900 million – \$2 billion

Uranium was mined in North Dakota in the 1960s. It was heavily explored for in the 1970s, but has been of little interest for the last 30 years until the price for uranium oxide reached an all time high in June of 2007. Companies have also expressed interest in associated elements molybdenum and germanium. We are aware of three companies that are contemplating mining uranium in southwestern North Dakota.



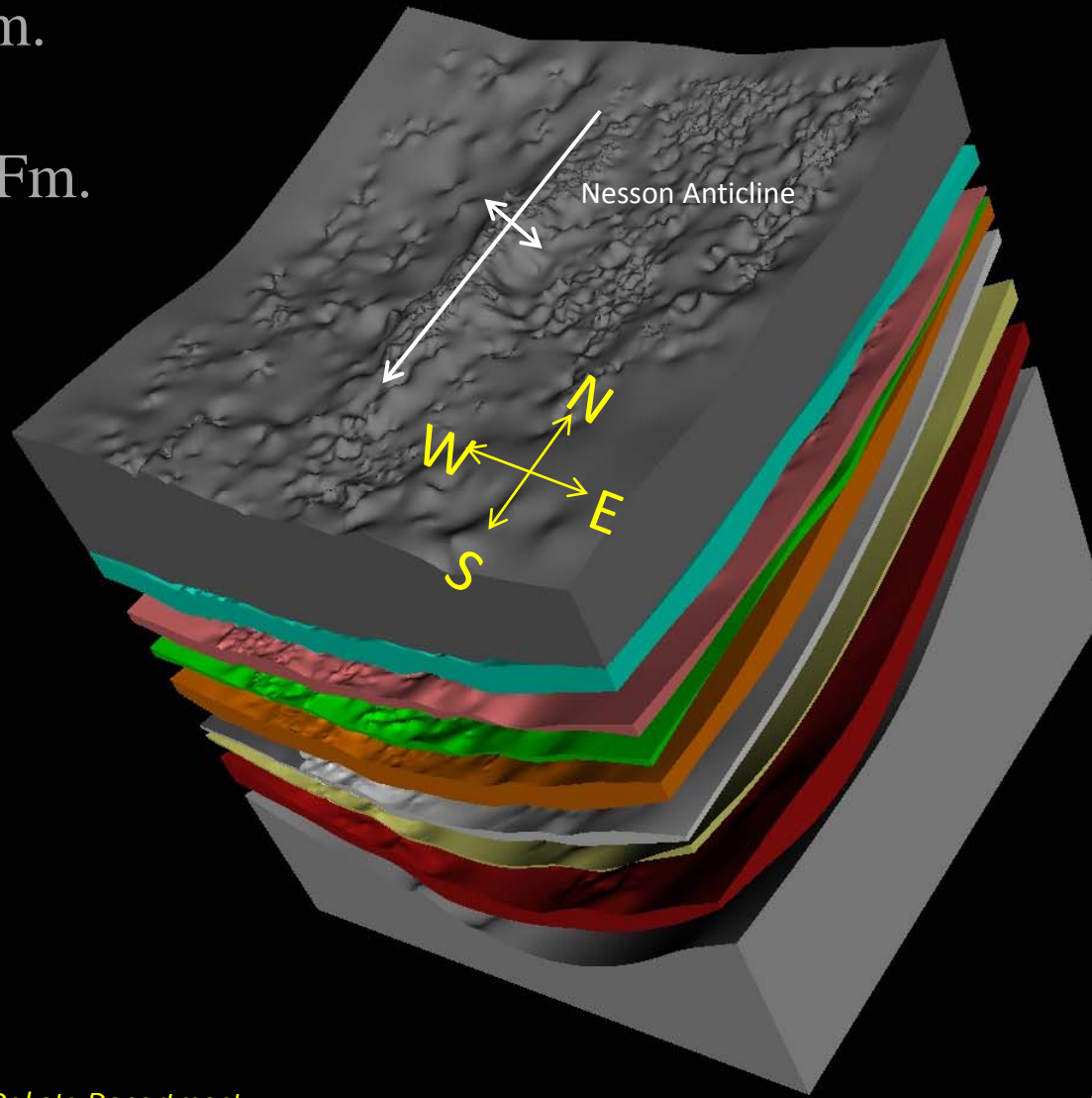
*Formation Resources drilling for uranium, molybdenum, and germanium under a subsurface mineral permit in Billings County during the fall of 2008.*



*Counties that contain uranium deposits are in yellow.*

# Shallow Gas Prospects

- Pierre Fm.
- Niobrara Fm.
- Carlile Fm.
- Greenhorn Fm.



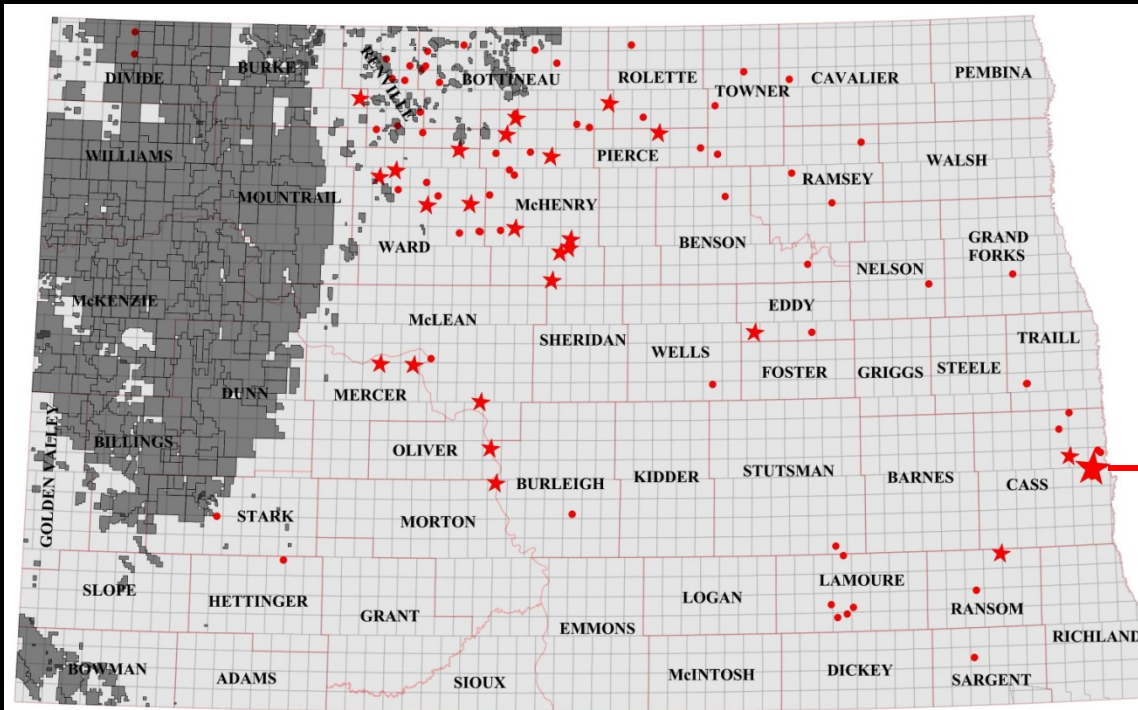
*North Dakota Department  
of Mineral Resources*

*North Dakota  
Geological Survey*



The Geological Survey recently completed phase II of a study of shallow natural gas in North Dakota. Having detected methane in 905 of the 4,325 ND State Water Commission monitoring wells tested, we turned our attention to private wells that had a history of gas. In the fall of 2012, we tested more than 100 private wells for methane and detected gas in 25.

We will be analyzing a dozen or so groundwater samples during the spring of 2013 for major ions and isotopes to enable us to determine the source of the gas and identify chemical groundwater signatures that might assist the oil and gas industry in natural gas exploration.



*Private wells with reported shows of methane are indicated with a red dot and those we were able to confirm contain methane are indicated by a star. Oil fields are shown in gray.*

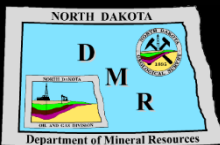
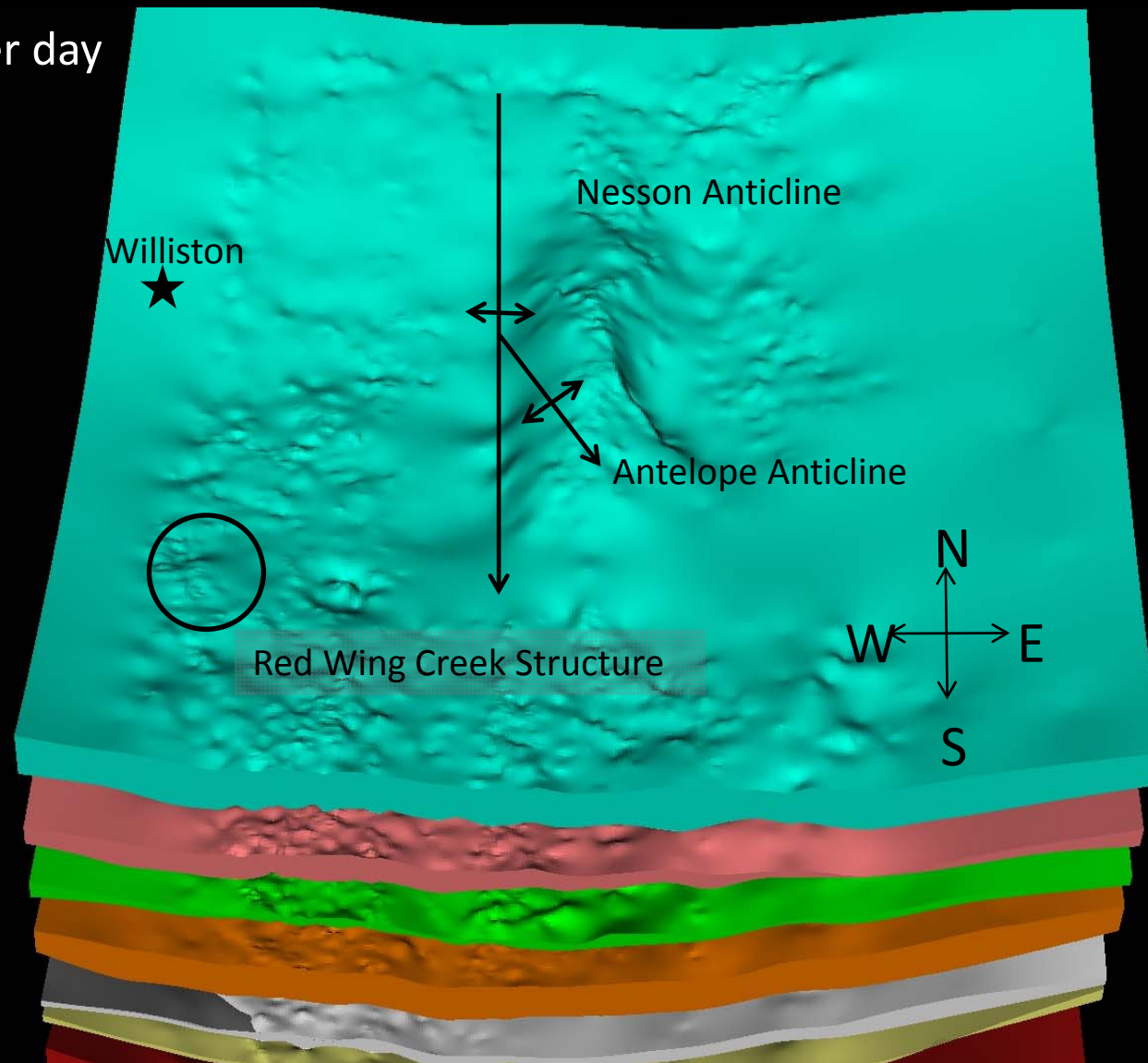
*Methane bubbles in a groundwater sample recently obtained from a private well southwest of Harwood in Cass County (large star on map).*



# Dakota Group - New Castle Fm. - Skull Creek Fm. - Inyan Kara Fm.

500 SWD wells

715,000 barrels per day



North Dakota Department  
of Mineral Resources

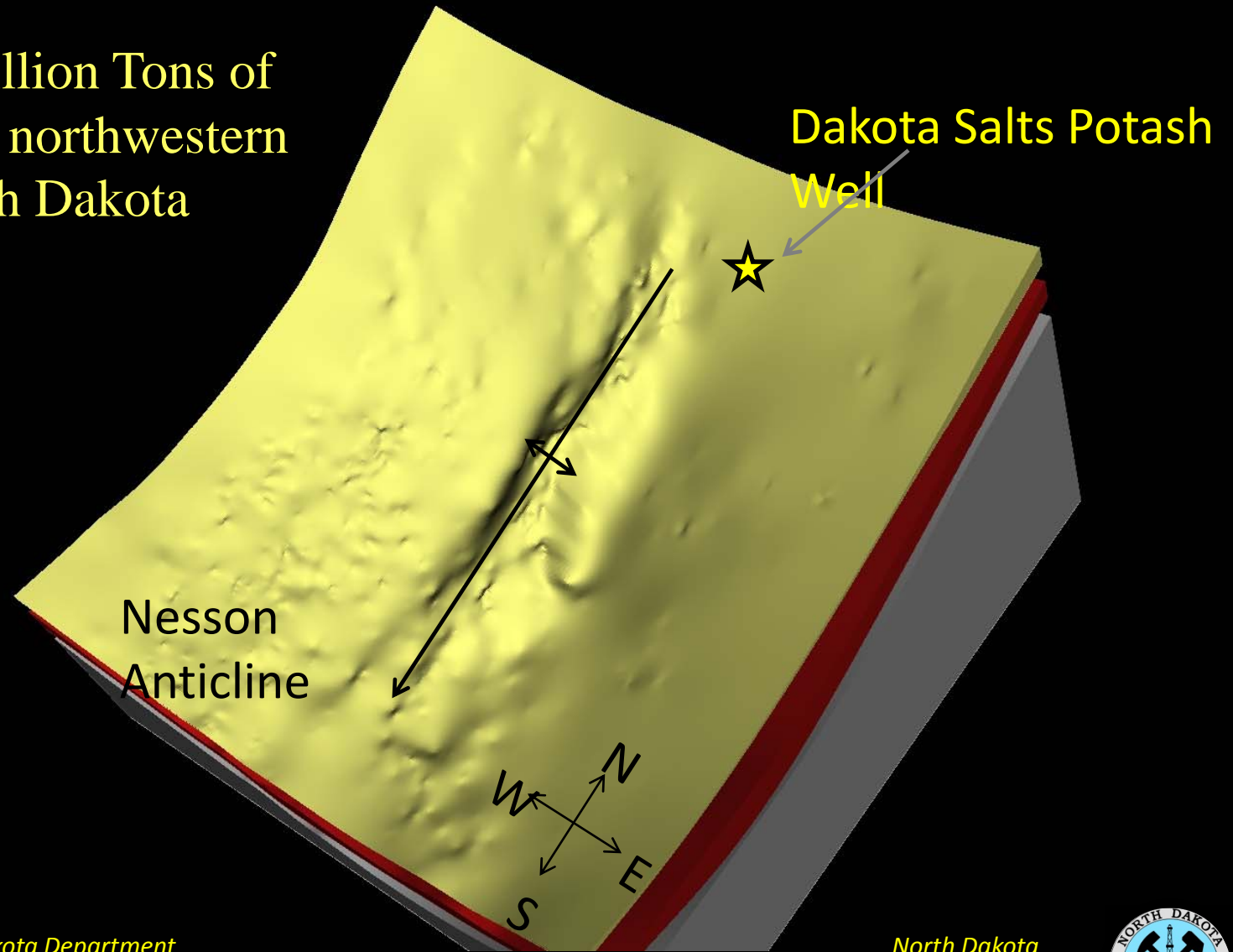
North Dakota  
Geological Survey





# Prairie Formation

20-50 Billion Tons of Potash in northwestern North Dakota



North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources

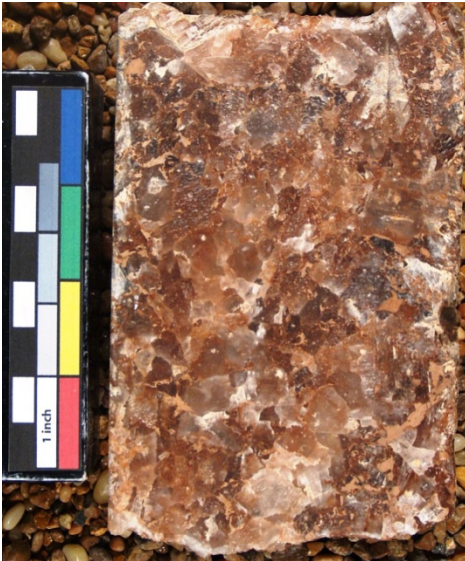
North Dakota Geological Survey



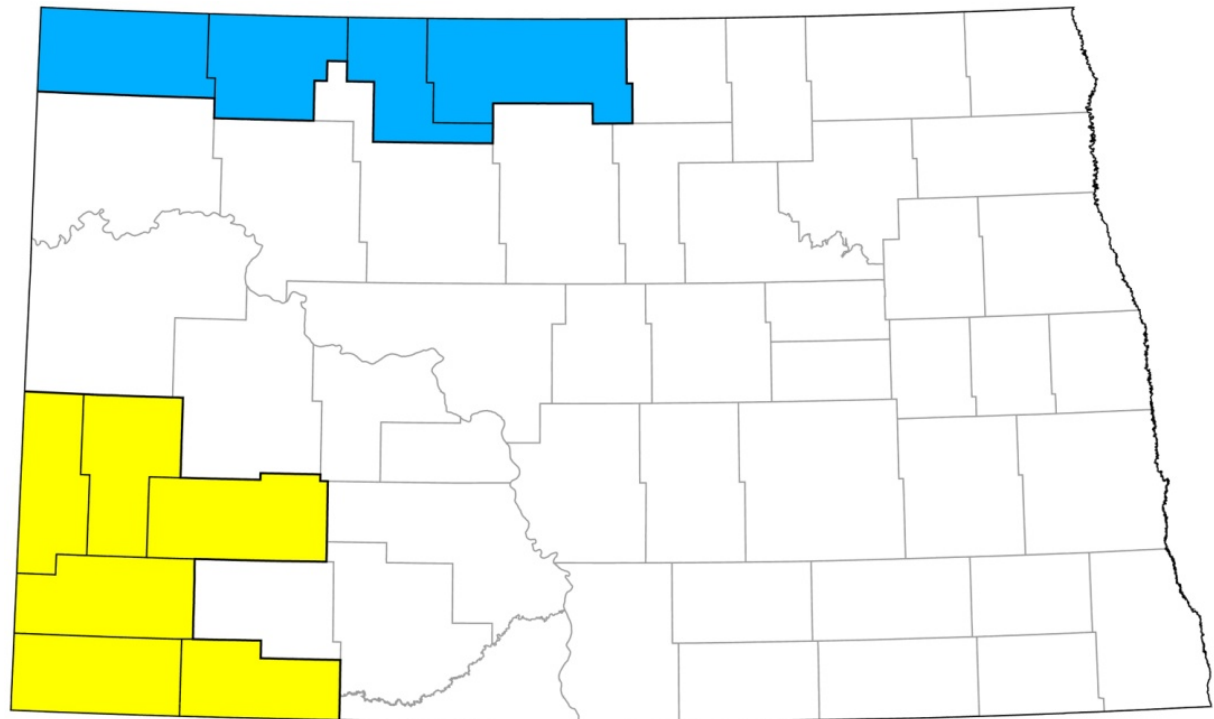
# Estimate 20-50 billion tons of ND Mineable Reserves

## \$6 trillion -15 trillion

Potash or potassium salts are primarily used in the production of fertilizer. Potash exploration took place in northwest North Dakota in the 1970s. Since the beginning of 2007, the price of potash has risen from \$190 to \$1,050 per ton based on a low supply and increasing demand. Due to the increased workload, we will need a geologist to oversee potash exploration and production if we receive a permit from either of the two companies that we know are actively pursuing potash exploitation.

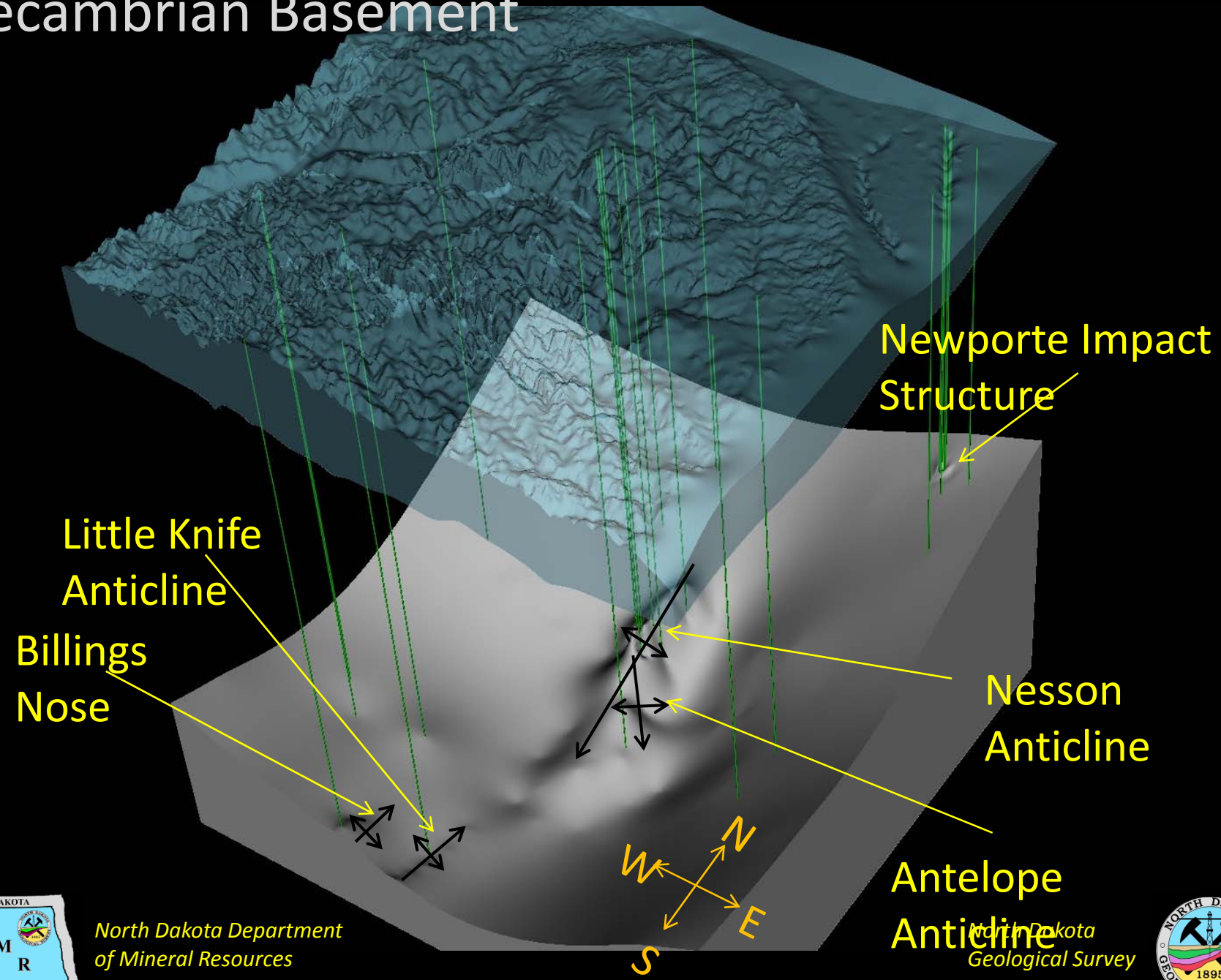


*Potash core from a depth of 9,000 feet in Burke County.*



*Counties that contain the shallowest potash deposits are in blue.*

# Precambrian Basement



North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources

North Dakota Geological Survey

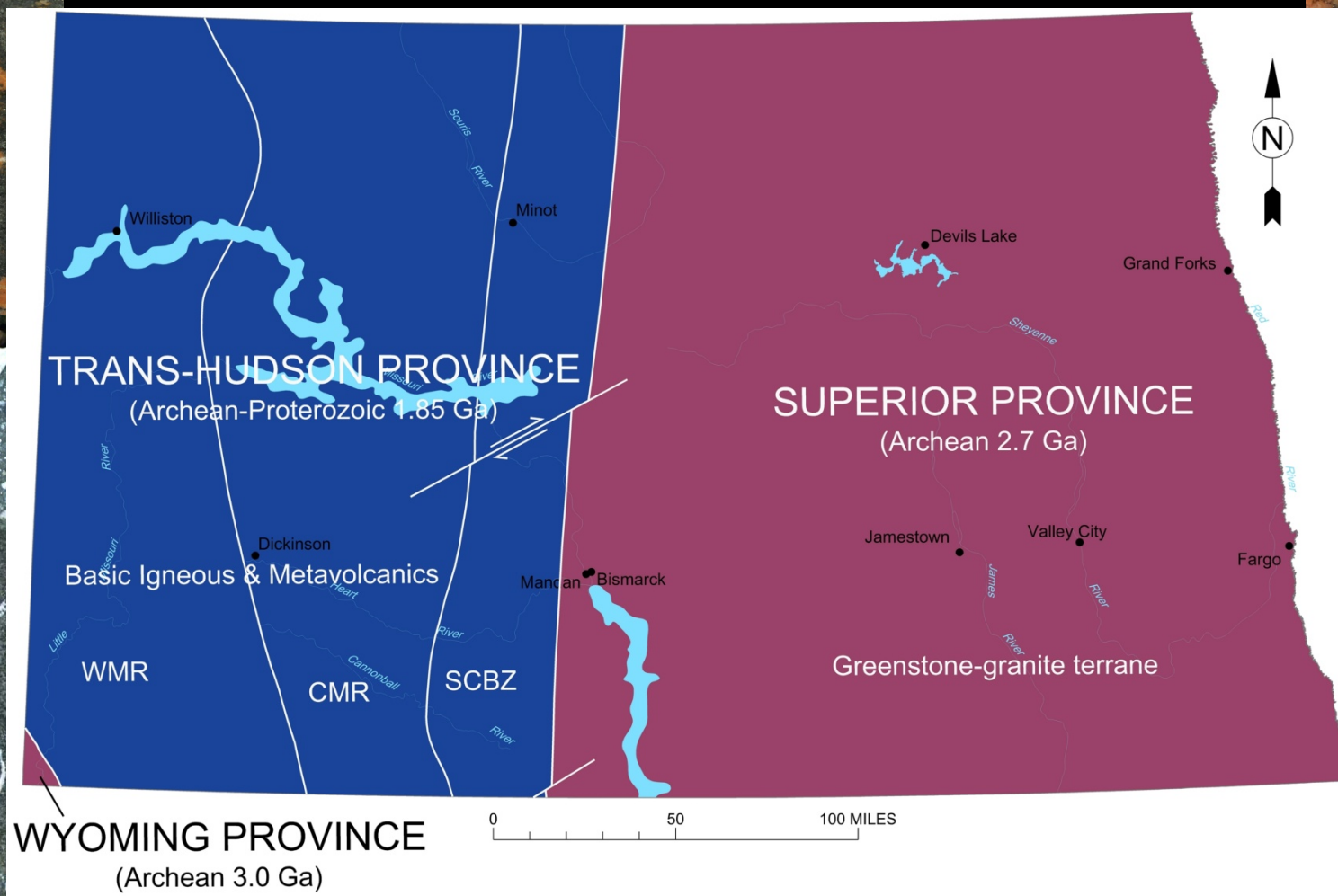




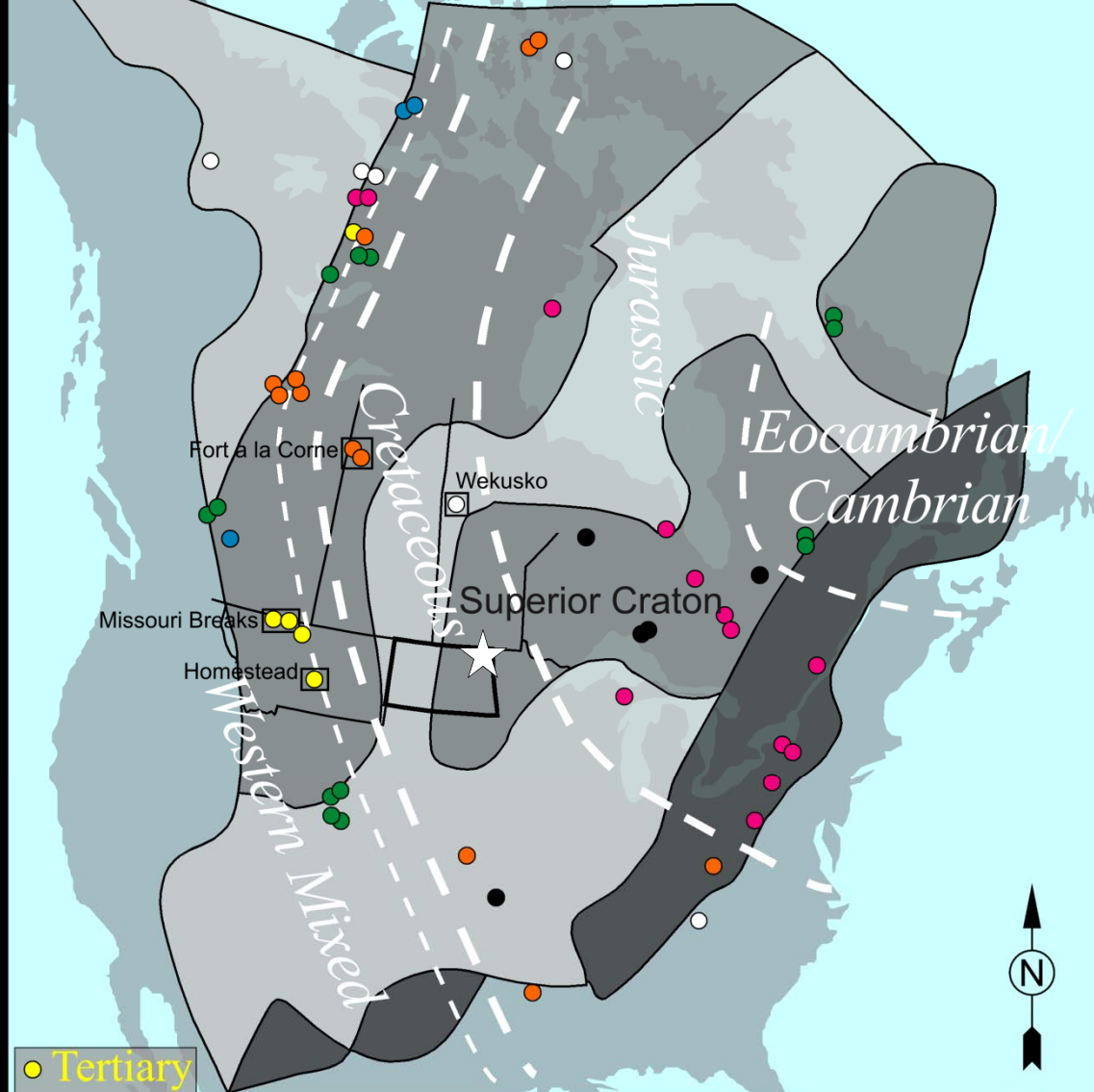
# PRECAMBRIAN ROCKS

## Trans-Hudson

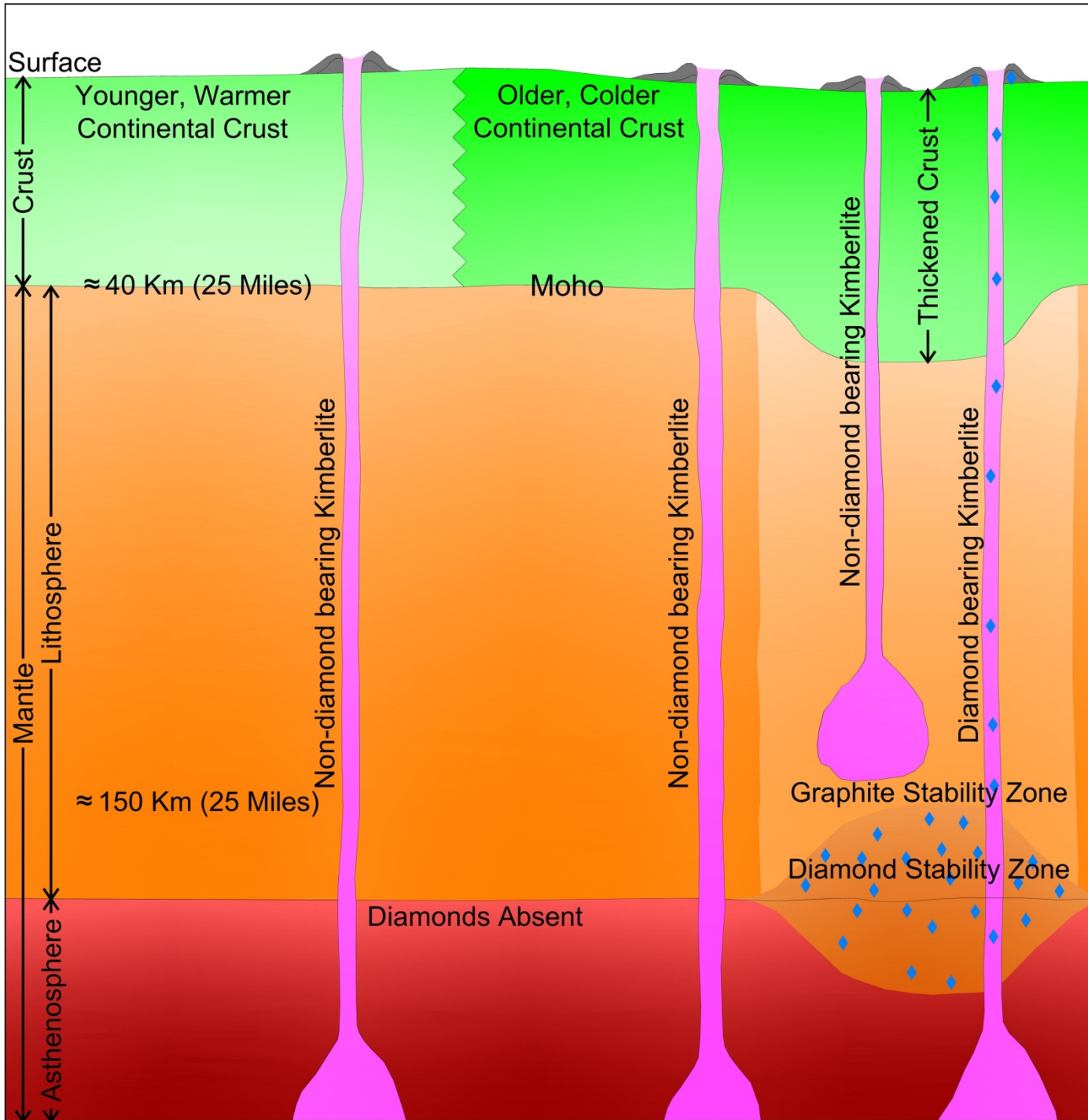
## Superior



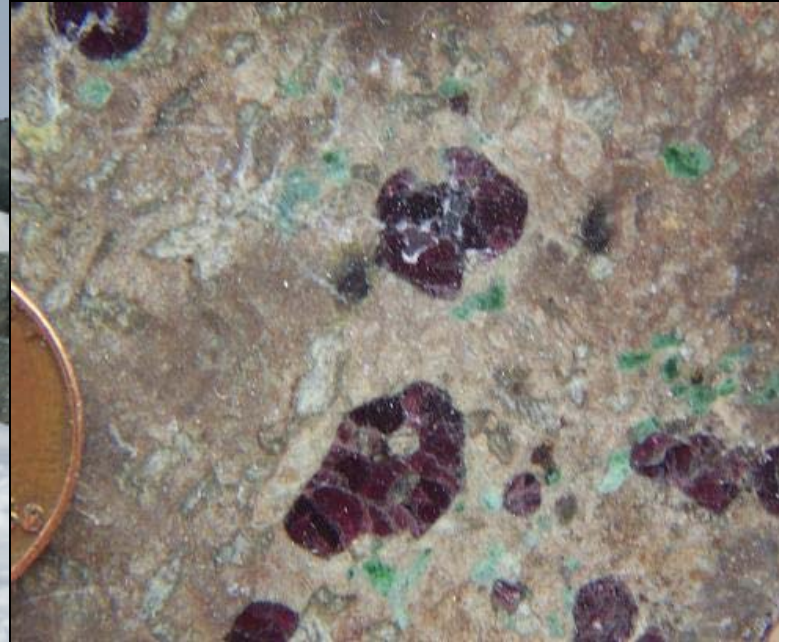
# Kimberlite and Related Rock Occurrences in North America







# Kimberlite





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