# Making Investment Decisions to Achieve Energy Dominance - The DOE's Approach\*

Alan J. Cohen<sup>1</sup>

Search and Discovery Article #70351 (2018)\*\*
Posted July 30, 2018

\*Adapted from oral presentation given at AAPG 2018 Annual Convention & Exhibition, Salt Lake City, Utah, United States, May 20-23, 2018

<sup>1</sup>Director of Oil and Gas Research, Department of Energy, Washington, D.C., United States (alan.cohen@hq.doe.gov)

#### **Abstract**

DOE's Office of Oil and Gas Research is focused on basic research and technology development to address onshore and offshore upstream and midstream oil and natural gas challenges that the nation is facing, with a focus on safety, environmental friendliness, and energy dominance. It builds partnerships with national laboratories, the oil industry, and academia to cover different types of long-term contracts that represent a wide range of risk sharing, funding arrangements, and transparency requirements, in order to improve efficiency, quality, and access. The Director is responsible for managing an annual budget that can vary from year to year, according to Congress, and is divided into different program buckets. The Director must help identify enabling themes and technologies, and determine which R&D projects/partners to fund and at what level. It is also critical to develop and implement a strategy and framework to integrate these seemingly-discrete projects and partners synergistically, moving effectively and efficiently from innovation toward commercialization. Input from oil companies and service companies is an important element of our process.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Datapages © 2018. Serial rights given by author. For all other rights contact author directly.

# Making Investment Decisions to Achieve Energy Dominancethe DOE's Approach

2018 Annual AAPG Meeting

Session: "The Business of Oil and Gas: The Many Pathways to Success"

Alan J. Cohen, Ph.D.

Director of Research

DOE Office of Oil and Natural Gas

May 22, 2018







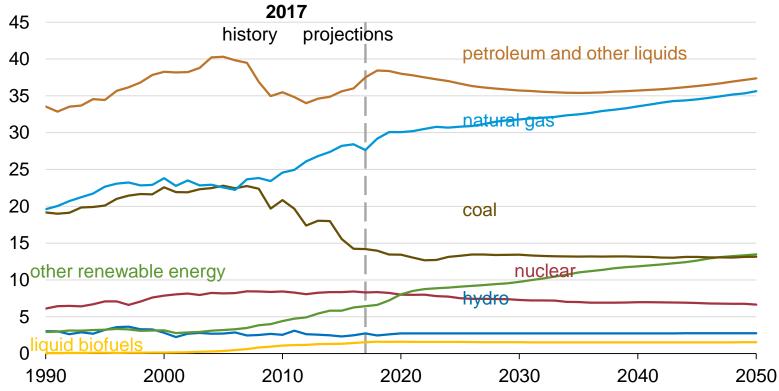




### OIL AND NATURAL GAS ARE EXPECTED TO REMAIN DOMINANT FUELS

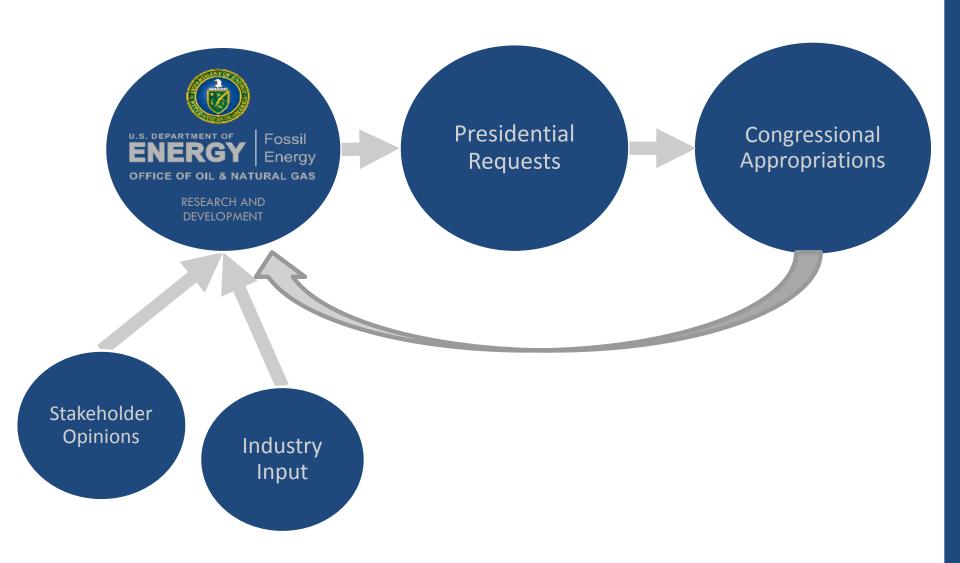
# Energy consumption by fuel (Reference case)

quadrillion British thermal units





# INPUTS, INFLUENCES, AND CONSTRAINTS





## OIL AND GAS R&D BUDGET FY 2017 - FY 2018





#### OIL AND GAS WORKSHOPS: FEBRUARY 2018

#### Upstream R&D Workshop

Topics discussed at this workshop included: increasing recovery efficiency in shale/tight oil and gas reservoirs; produced water management; novel systems and sensors; high-performance computing and machine learning; gas hydrate production; and other topics related to prudent onshore and offshore operations.

- Example industry recommendations received (non-consensus) included:
  - Continue R&D on fundamental measurements and advanced models of shale geochemistry and geomechanics to improve recovery efficiency
  - Support R&D to address aging offshore infrastructure
  - Continue cost-shared field laboratories

### Natural Gas Midstream Infrastructure R&D Workshop

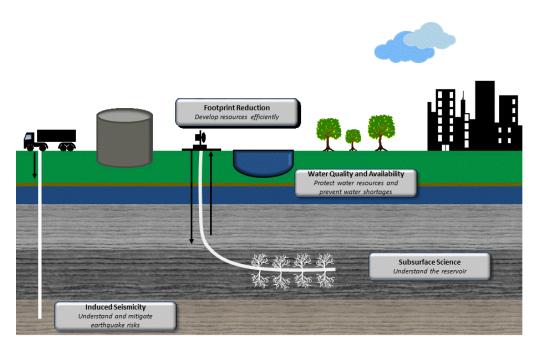
Topics discussed at this workshop included: advanced materials (pipelines), coatings and liners; data science and management (cybersecurity, HPC & sensors); pipeline inspection and repair and compressors; methane recycling— capture and recovery, recycling, direct use and methane conversion technologies; and gas hydrates.

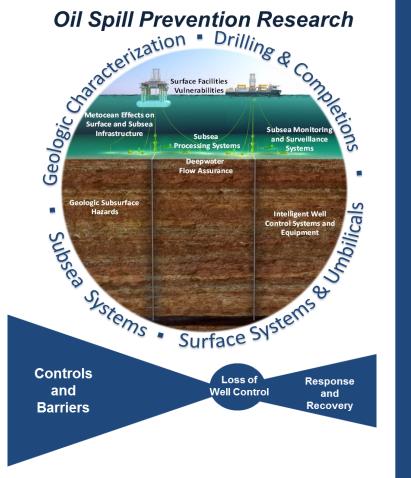
- Example industry recommendations received (non-consensus) included:
  - Develop advanced materials to enhance the pipeline deliverability of methane & mixed fuels
  - Create new predictive analytical models combined with high-performance computing for a better understanding of pipeline material properties to quickly analyze & assign priority to actions associated with observed anomalies
  - Develop technology to inspect & detect anomalies in unpiggable pipes (e.g. corrosion, cracks, dents)



### DOE UPSTREAM OIL AND GAS RESEARCH PROGRAMS

#### Onshore Recovery Efficiency

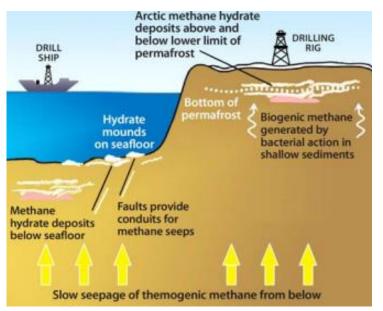






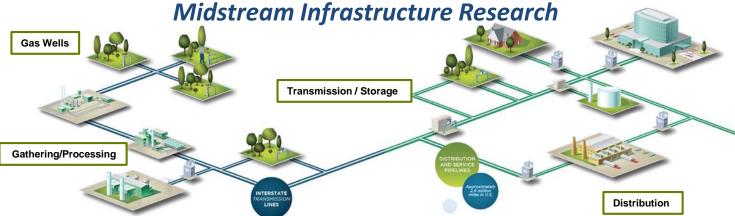
## DIVISION OF SUPPLY AND DELIVERY RESEARCH PROGRAMS

## Methane Hydrate Research

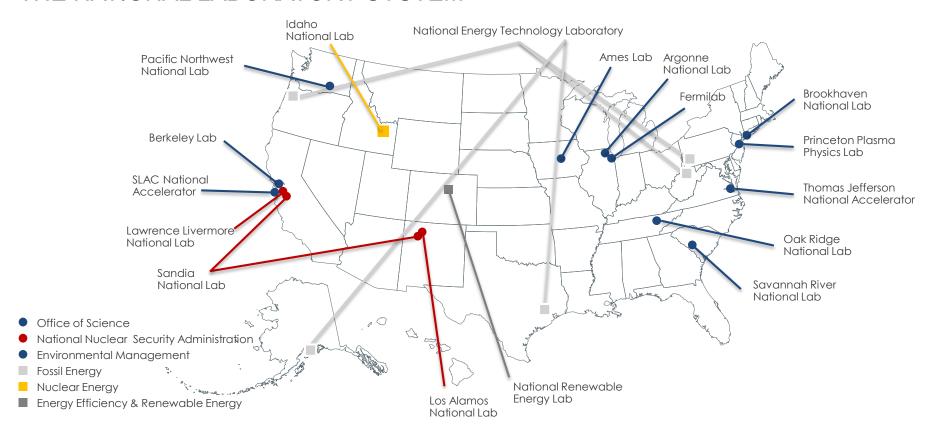


# DOE/DOT Crude Oil Research Study





### THE NATIONAL LABORATORY SYSTEM



### Fundamental Science at Nanopore scale (National Laboratory R&D)

#### LANL

- --thermodynamics at nanopore scale
- --fracture generation and hydrocarbon flow in heterolithic formations

#### LBNL

- --petrophysics of oil-rich shale
- --petrophysics of water injection on shale gas mobilization into fractures
- --geomechanics of fracture initiation and propagation and permeability evolution

#### NETL

- --geochemical analysis of core from existing Field Labs
- --air and water analysis at MSEEL

#### SLAC

--effects of chemical additives especially mineral precipitation

#### SNL

- --equations of state for CH4, CO2, and H2O
- --equations of state CO2, and H2O



# DOE FE KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM – CONTENT, COMMUNITIES, CAPABILITIES

- DOE FE developing a knowledge management system in order to connect people to information, solutions, communities, and other people
- Top priorities include:
  - User Dashboard
  - Personal Profiles
    - Resume, publications, project tracking, communities
  - Technical Communities
    - Calendars, discussion forum, chat
  - Knowledge Resources
    - High-level or opt-in news feeds
    - Wiki-style FE glossary, library, datasets





## HOW DOE DOES BUSINESS: COST SHARED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



- Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA) are typically open for 60-80 days
- Opportunities are posted on FedConnect, DOE, and NETL websites



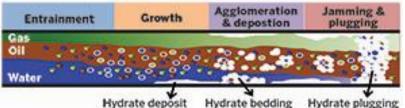
#### RECENT UPSTREAM COST-SHARED PROJECT SELECTIONS

#### In-Situ Applied Coatings for Mitigating Gas Hydrate Deposition in Deepwater Operations

Colorado School of Mines

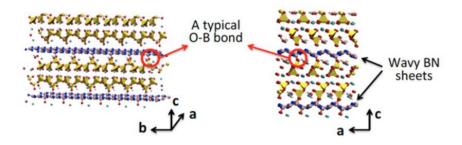






# Hexagonal Boron Nitride Reinforced Multifunctional Well Cement for Extreme Environments

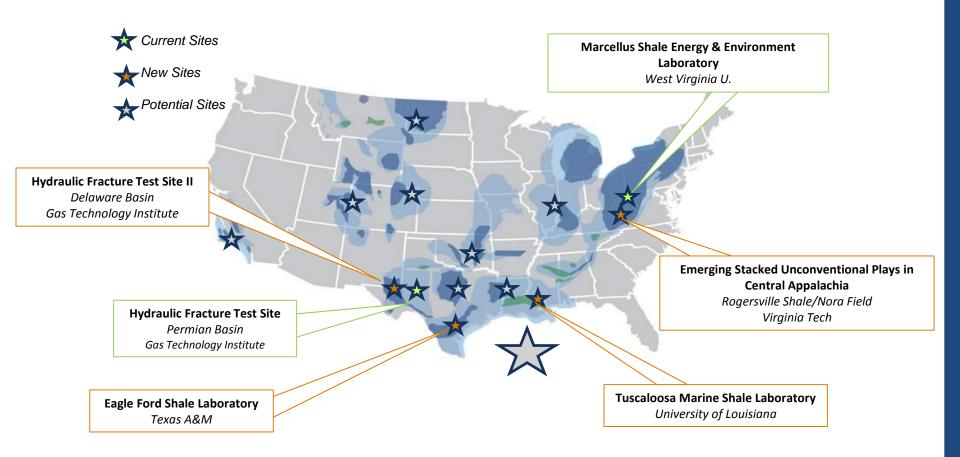
**C-Crete Technologies** 







## FIELD LABORATORIES (COST-SHARED R&D)





### THANK YOU

## QUESTIONS?

Dr. Alan J. Cohen
Director of Research
DOE Office of Oil and Natural Gas
Alan.Cohen@hq.doe.gov; 202-586-0147

For Additional Information Please Visit: energy.gov/fe/science-innovation/oil-gas-research https://www.netl.doe.gov/research/oil-and-gas

