

**SOUTHERN RESEARCH**  
I N S T I T U T E

*Oxy-Fired CO<sub>2</sub> Recycle for Application to Direct  
CO<sub>2</sub> Capture from Coal-Fired Power Plants*

*Thomas K. Gale, Power Systems Research Group*

# Southern Research Institute

Leading contract research organization developing technology in Life Sciences, Engineering, Energy, and the Environment

Not-For-Profit 501 (c) (3)

More than 550 employees

Corporate headquarters located in Birmingham, Alabama

Power Systems and Environmental Research (PSER) Depart.

Presence at the Power Systems Development Facility (PSDF)

Hot-Gas Cleanup, Multi-Component Syngas-Treatment (MCST) System

Pilot-Scale and Laboratory-Scale Combustion Facilities

Catalyst Development and Testing Laboratories

Biomass Fuel Studies, combustion, gasification, milling, etc.

Pollution Control Solution Provider

{ Direct Mercury Oxidation Technologies for Hg Emission Mitigation

{ Electrostatic Precipitator, Baghouse, Scrubber Evaluations

{ SCR Studies, Analytical Services, and Measurements



# Funding

National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL)

**\$864,000.00**

Southern Research Institute

\$150,000.00

DTE Energy

\$75,000.00

MAXON Corporation

\$35,000.00

BOC Gases (*Linde Gas*)

\$109,000.00

DOOSAN Babcock Energy Limited

\$100,000.00

Southern Company

\$37,000.00

**Total Funding**

**1,370,000.00**



# Project Performance Dates

} Finished Retrofit Preliminary Design: January 2007

} Finished Detailed Retrofit Design: October 2008

} Finished Physical Retrofit, including duct work, fans, oxygen tank, computer system, valves, switches, wiring, and burner: March 2009

} Finish Programming and BMS Panel Construction , Programming, and wiring: May 20, 2009.

} Shakedown Test: Last week in May, 2009

} Performance of Test Matrix Complete June 2009

} Modeling Runs Complete by September 2009

} Final Report October 2009



# Project Participants

National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL)

Management of the project

Southern Research Institute

Overall technical coordination, pilot-scale testing, reporting.

DTE Energy

Engineering support / preparation for demonstration in future.

MAXON Corporation

Burner design, manufacture, and testing, and technical support

BOC Gases (*Linde Gas*)

Provided an oxygen skid, safety training, and will run the CFD model

Reaction Engineering International (REI)

CFD model modification for the pilot facility.

CORR Systems

Design of recycle loop, modifications, and control systems

DOOSAN Babcock Energy Limited

Support CRF retrofit, technical support, and provide recommendations

Southern Company

Supporting the testing effort in the Southern Company/Southern Research pilot-scale facility



# Overall Project Objectives

The objectives of this project are to investigate, develop, optimize, and model oxygen-fired CO<sub>2</sub> recycle technology for coal-fired utility boilers by retrofitting the existing Southern Company/Southern Research 1 MW pilot-scale test facility, utilizing an advanced oxy-fired coal burner, measuring the operation and output responses to adjustable operating parameters, and comparing these responses with CFD modeling results.

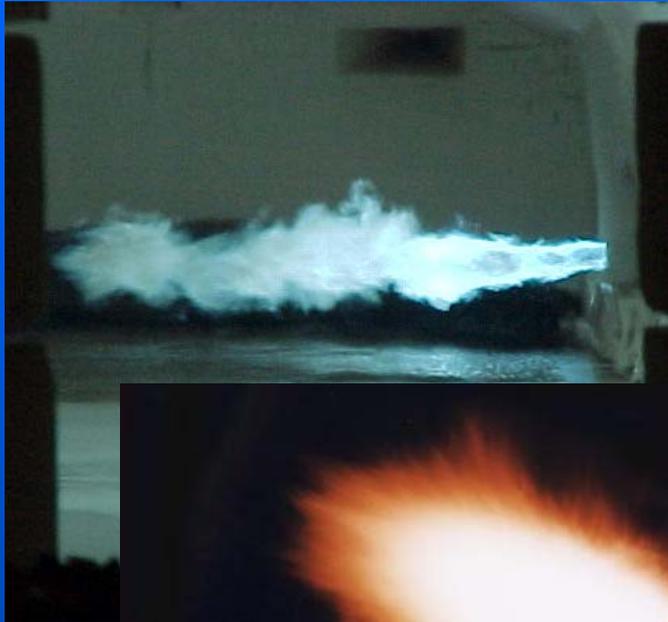


# Fundamental Science Driving Oxy-Fired Technology

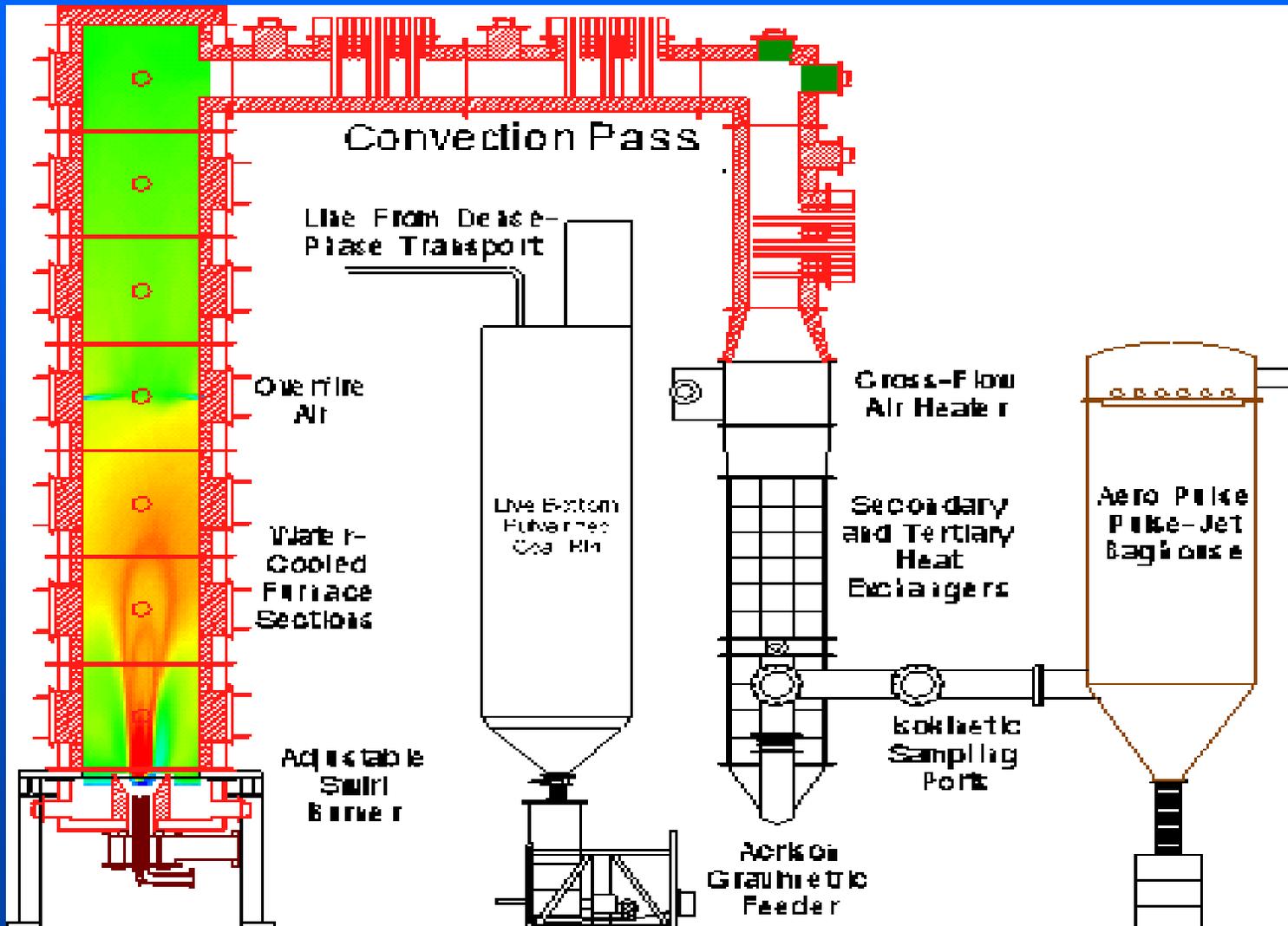
- } ~75% of Coal-Fired Flue Gas is  $N_2$
- } Oxy-Fired Flue Gas is ~1/4 the Volume
- } Flue-gas recycle is required for existing plants
  - | To avoid excessive flame temperatures
  - | Maintain flow and heat-transfer requirements in the furnace and convective sections.
- } Advanced Oxygen Burners
  - | Allow the flame shape and heat release to be controlled.
  - | Provide a stable attached flame.



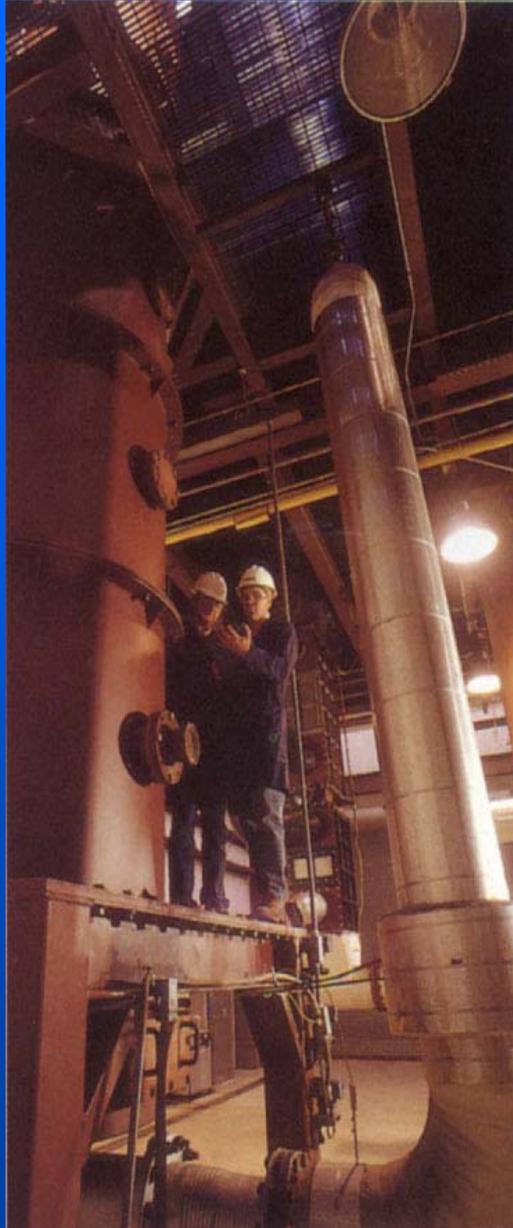
# How the Innovative Oxy-Burner Design Works



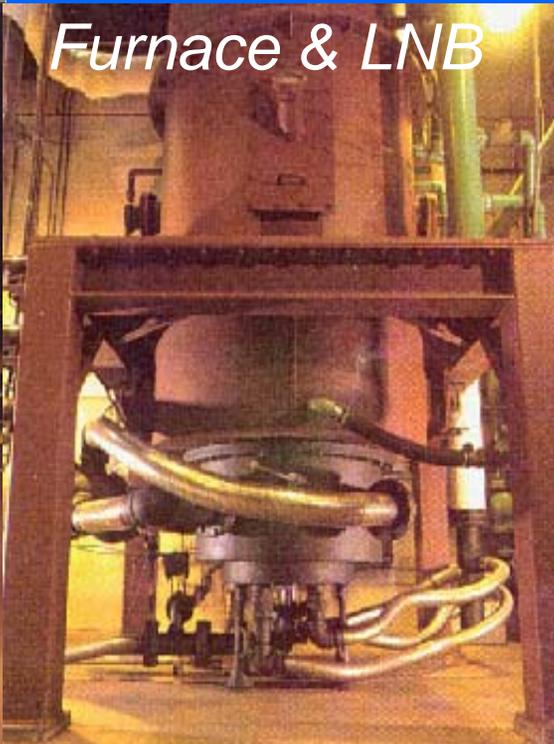
# Combustion Research Facility



# Combustion Research Facility



*Furnace & LNB*



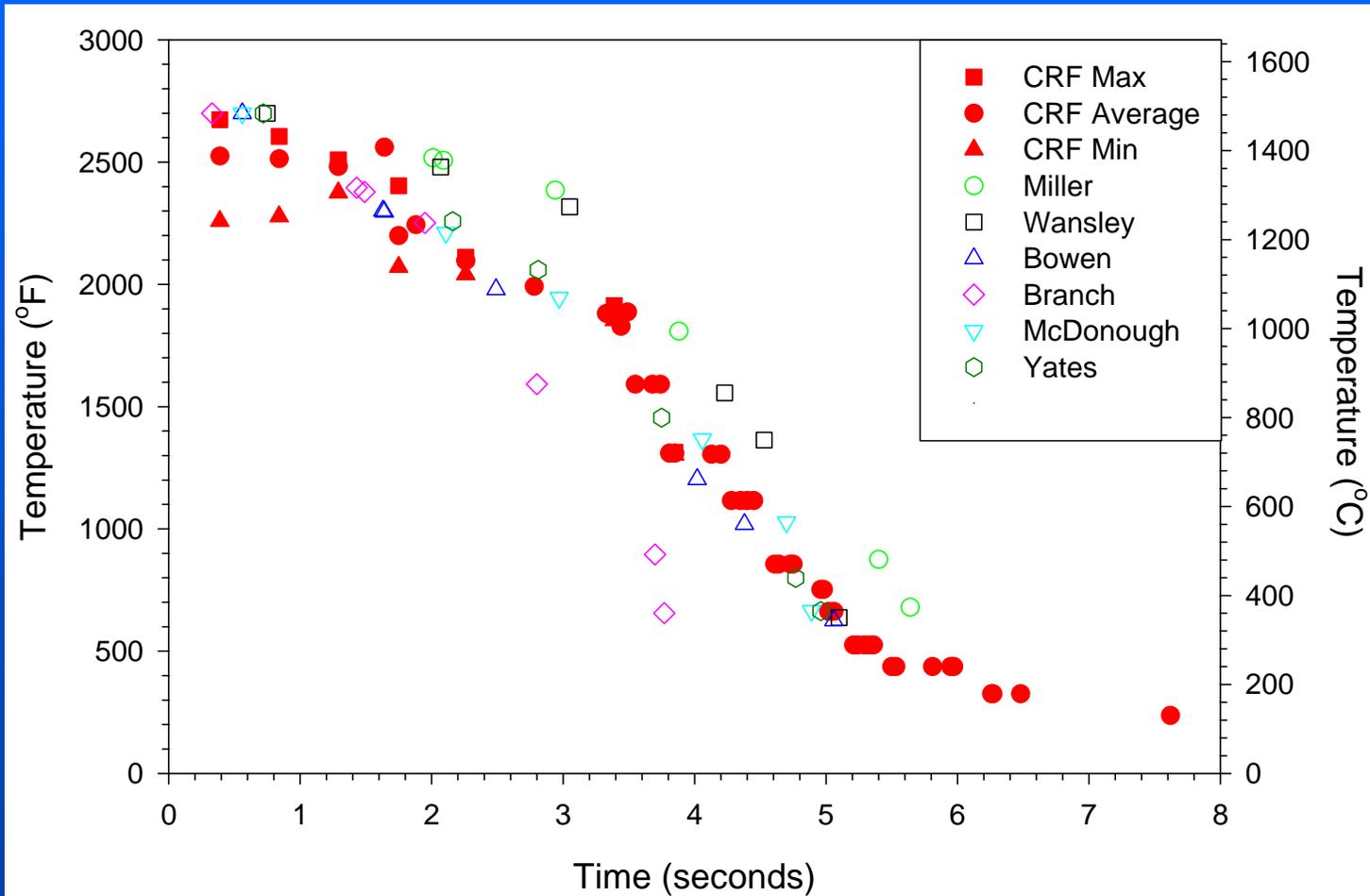
*Center Furnace Section  
Showing Overfire Air Ports*



*Control Room*

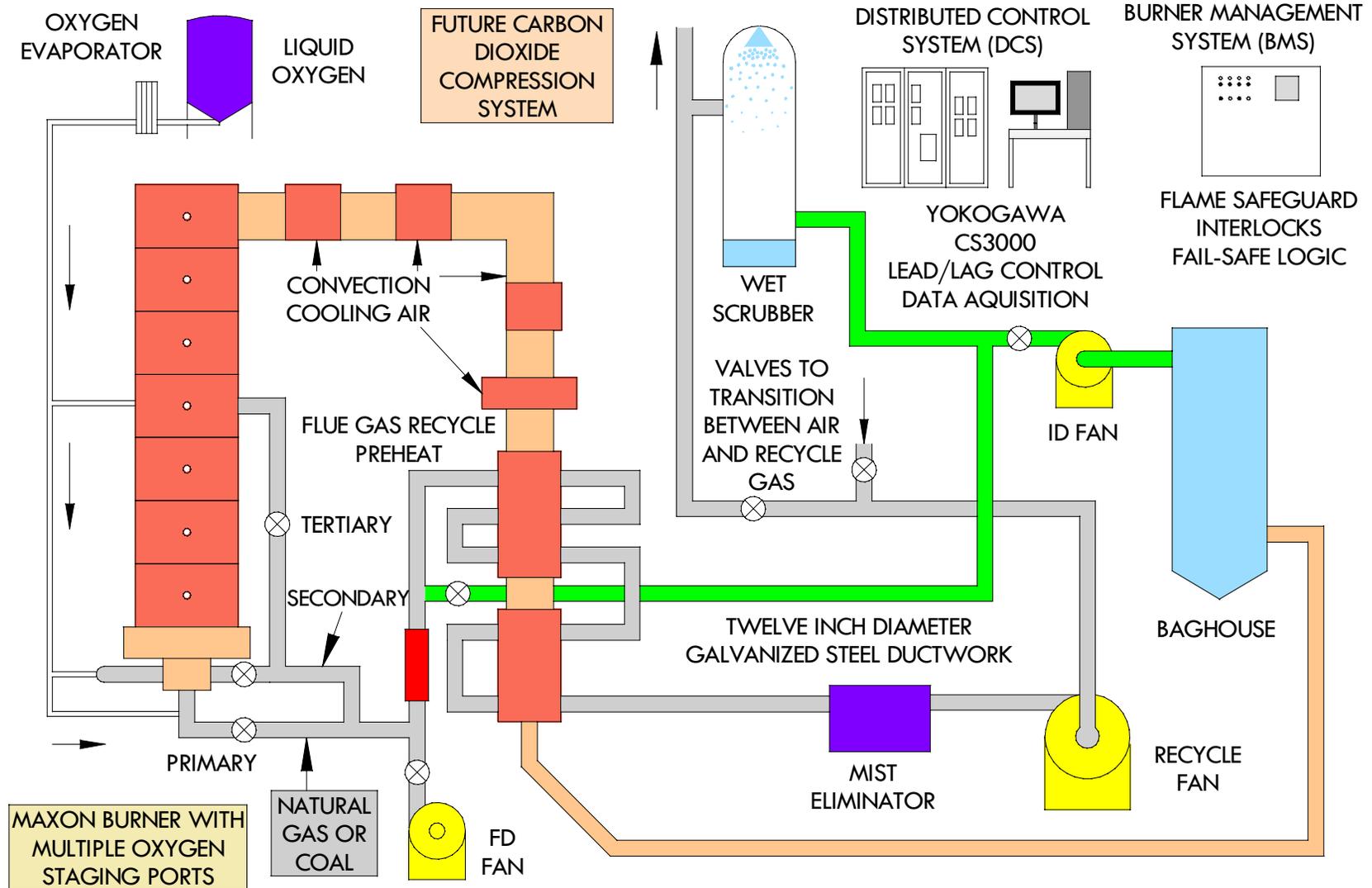


# Temperature/Time Profile of the Combustion Research Facility





# Retrofit CRF Configuration



# Main Components of the Retrofit

- MAXON Oxy-Fired Burner

- Oxygen Skid and Piping System

- DCS (Distributed Control System) Hardware Updated to Yokogawa CS3000

- New data acquisition and control system and program to modulate the flow of oxygen and recycled flue gas.

- Burner Management System

- Recycle System

  - Recycle Fan

  - Ductwork, Valves, Thermocouples, Flow Meters

- Permanent Oxygen Tank, Tank Pad, and Spill Pad

- Safety Systems

  - Procedures relative to oxygen use

  - CO<sub>2</sub> and CO monitors and alarms/interlocks



# Technical & Economic Advantages

- } Oxy-burners maintain a stable attached flame and can light off without natural-gas assist.
- } The  $\frac{1}{4}$  volume oxy-fired flue gas is much less expensive to purify and compress for carbon sequestration.
- } Recycling dry flue gas through PRB coal pulverizers eliminates concern of pulverizer fires.
- } Burners and recycle rate can be tuned to achieve low cost operation (i.e., minimize recycle) and maximum heat transfer for a given boiler type and plant configuration.
- } New Plants: Advanced Thermodynamic Cycles can recover some of the energy penalty associated with air separation.



# Technical & Economic Challenges

- } Cost of retrofit is significant for existing plants.
- } Energy penalty to produce oxygen is about 25%.
- } Additional energy penalties come from purification of CO<sub>2</sub> and compression and sequestration.
- } Concern about corrosion of low-temperature ductwork and equipment.



# Progress and Current Status

Physical retrofit is complete this month

BMS Panel is the last component needed for the control system.

Will have programming complete April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Will perform shakedown tests end of April.

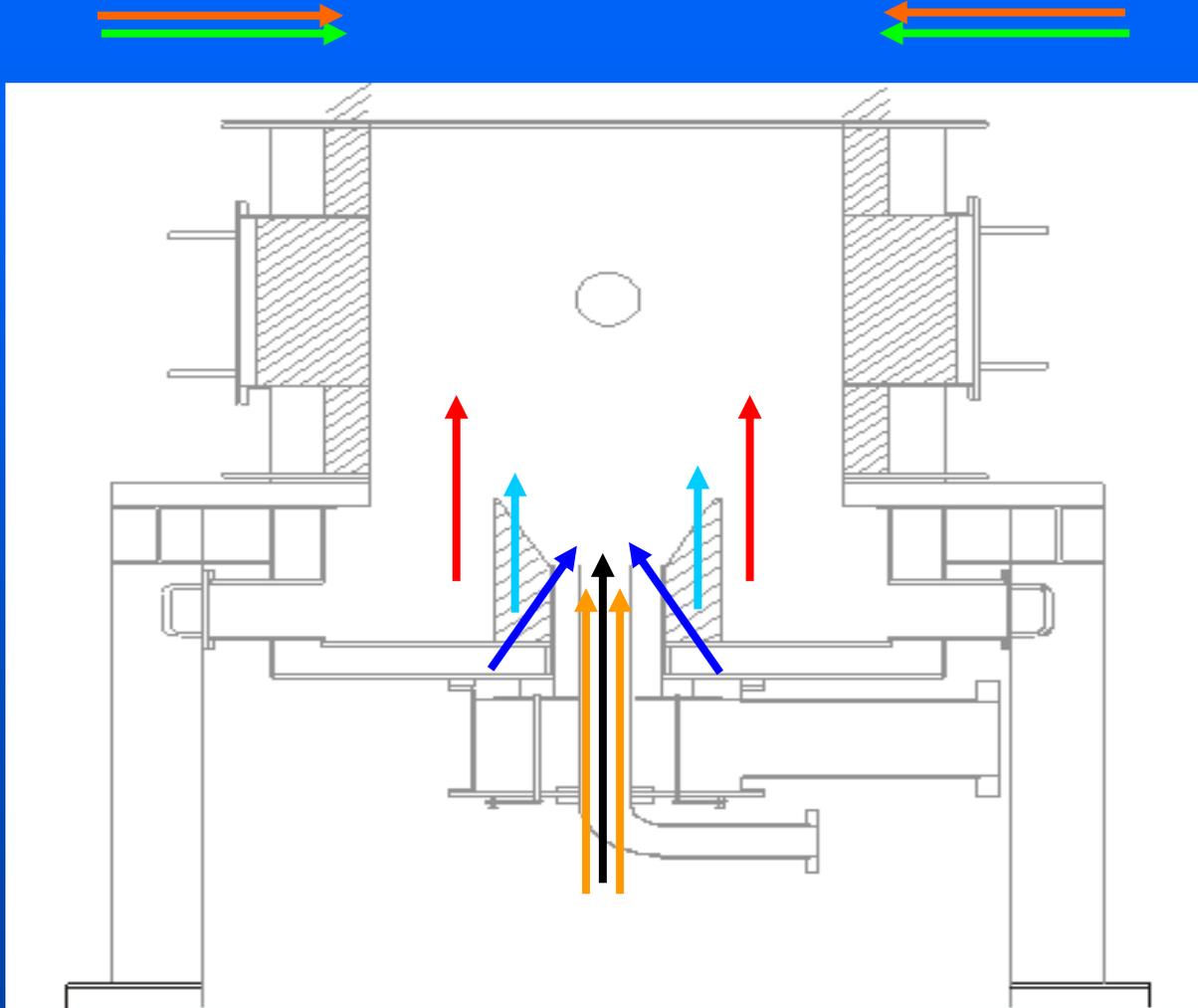
Will complete test matrix by end of June.

The burner has been tested and validated.

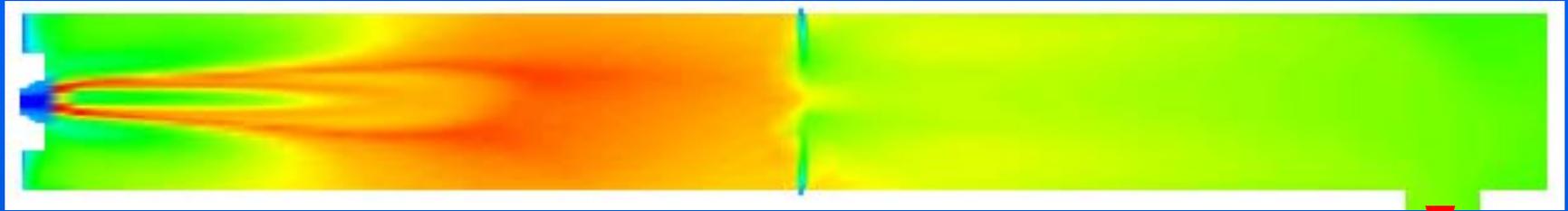
The burner and CRF furnace have been modeled with CFD and results are favorable.



# Oxy-Burner CFD Modeling by REI

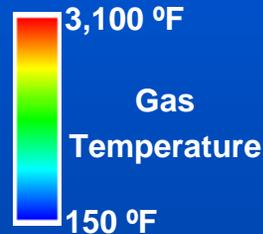


# Standard Air-Blown Case

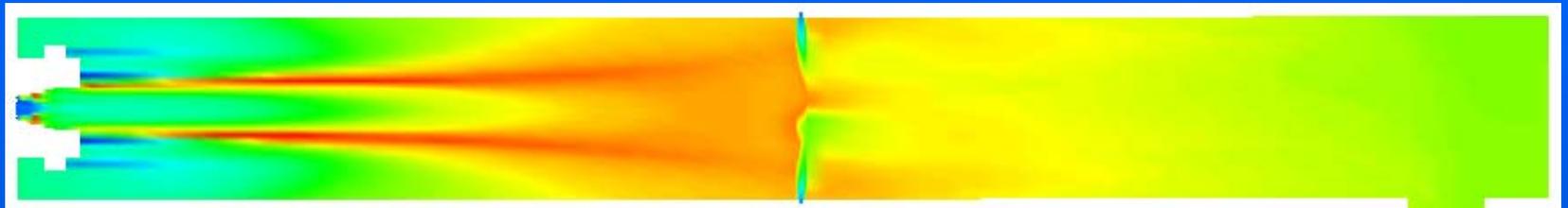


Air Blown

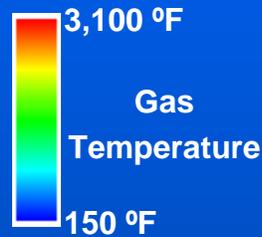
To convective section



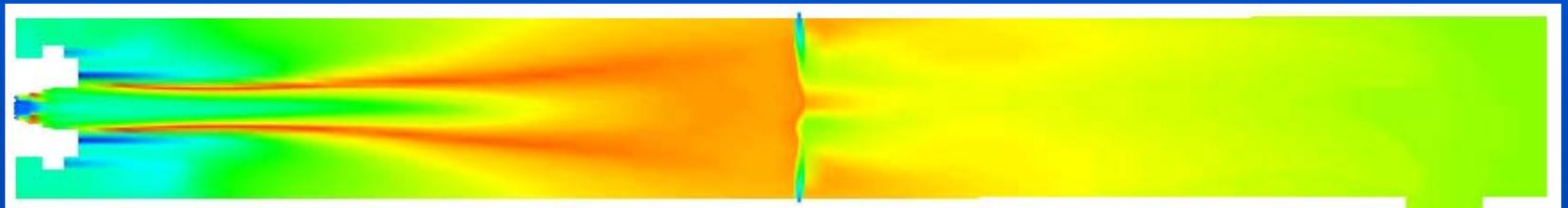
# Oxy-Fired w/Flue-Gas Recycle Predictions



12 Nozzle FGR



To convective section

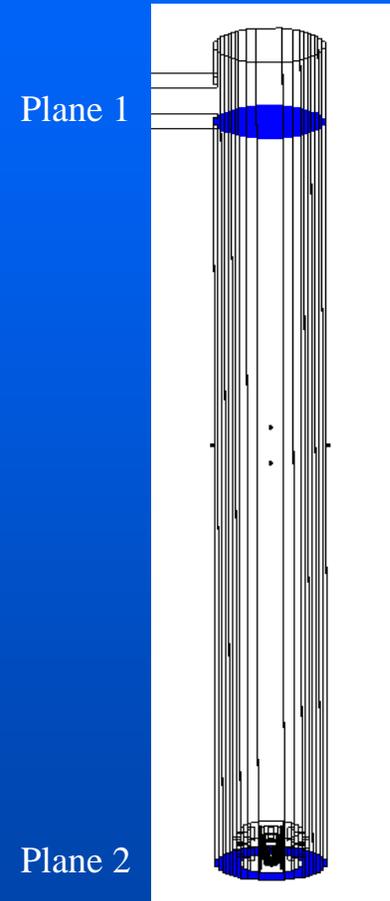
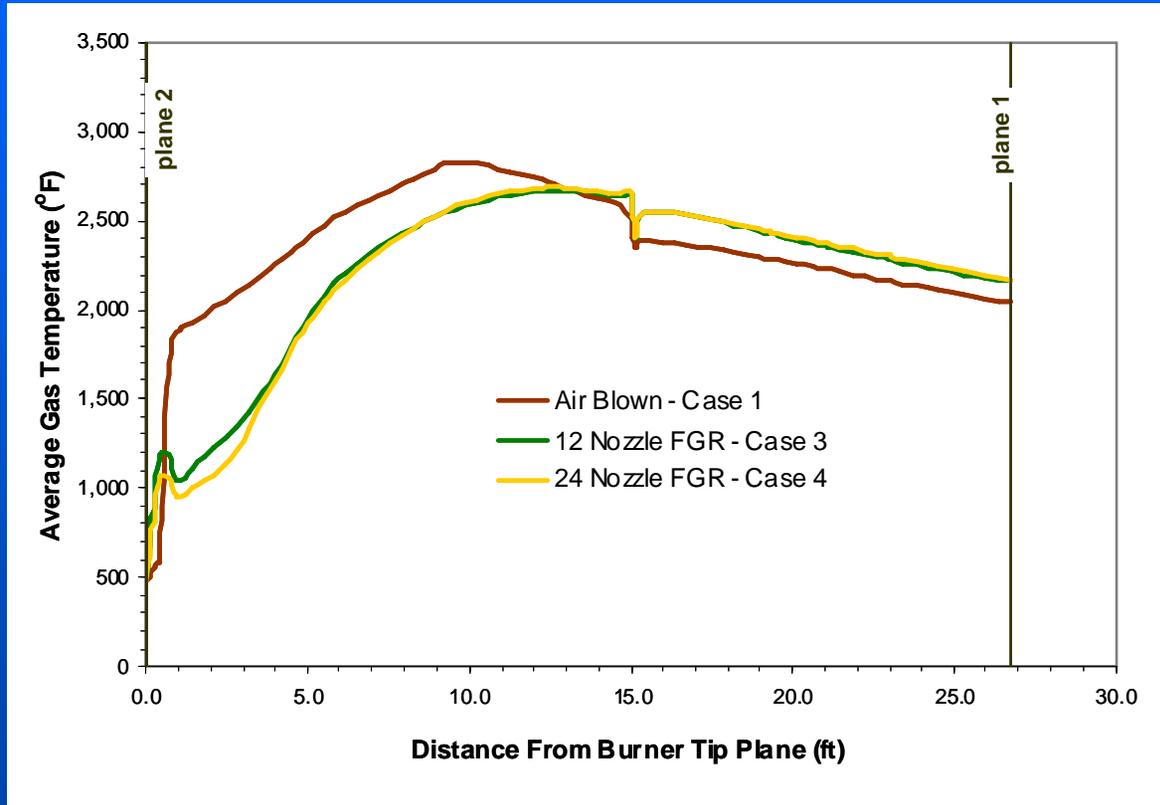


24 Nozzle FGR

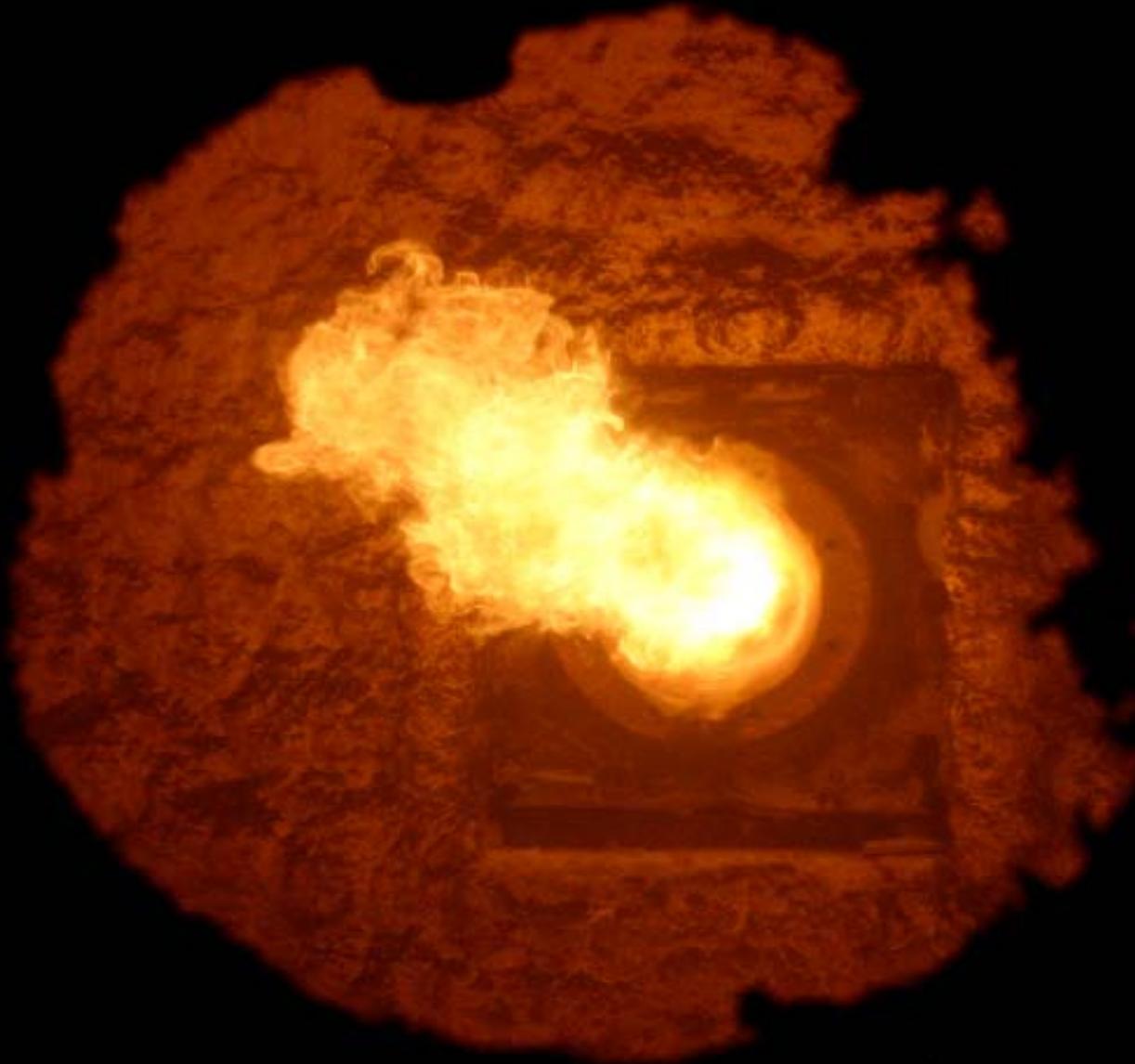
To convective section



# Oxy-Fired w/Flue-Gas Recycle Predictions



# MAXON Burner Test Results



# MAXON Burner Test Results

- } Illinois Bituminous
- } 2400 °F test chamber
- } 3% excess O<sub>2</sub>
- } Staged oxygen prototypes
- } Air conveyed = 0.3-0.4 #NO<sub>x</sub>/MM BTU
- } CO<sub>2</sub> conveyed = 0.16-0.18 #NO<sub>x</sub>/MM BTU



# MAXON Burner Test Results

- } Indonesian Coal
- } 2400 °F test chamber
- } 3% excess oxygen
- } Staged oxygen prototypes
- } Air conveyed = 0.18-0.2 #NO<sub>x</sub>/MM BTU
- } CO<sub>2</sub> conveyed = 0.08-0.1 #NO<sub>x</sub>/MM BTU



# Plans for Testing

## Variables

- Coal Type

- Firing Configuration

  - Staging

  - Percentage of Recycle

  - Oxygen Purity

## Responses

- Flue-Gas Composition and purity

- Inleakage

- Heat transfer and temperatures

- Consistency and stability of operation

- Apparent corrosion or acid-gas build up.



# Subsequent Testing Efforts

- } MAXON has developed a new oxy-fired burner that we plan to test in the facility that internally mixes the recycled flue gas with the oxygen.
- } In 2009 and 2010 will be using the facility to test a technology for treating coal and compressing and purifying CO<sub>2</sub> exhaust at the same time.
- } Looking for opportunities to work with our oxy-fired technology team to demonstrate this technology at a full-scale plant.

