

## **Petroleum Technology Research Centre and Illinois State Geological Survey Announce Collaborative Agreement**

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**For Immediate Release**

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The Petroleum Technology Research Centre (PTRC) and the Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS) today signed a collaborative research and development agreement on measurement, monitoring and verification (MMV) for carbon capture and storage.

PTRC manages Aquistore, Canada's first dedicated CO<sub>2</sub> storage project – a \$45 million research program monitoring the injection and storage of CO<sub>2</sub> from SaskPower's Boundary Dam integrated carbon capture facility. ISGS manages the research and monitoring associated with the Illinois Basin – Decatur Project (IBDP), a large-scale demonstration project that has stored just under 1M tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> from Archer Daniels Midland's bio fuel processing plant in Illinois. A full, industrial-scale injection project will begin at Decatur in 2017. This collaboration agreement formally brings together two of the largest dedicated and monitored CCS projects in the world.

"Aquistore and the Decatur Project share many common goals," said Ken From, PTRC's Chief Executive Officer, speaking at the Greenhouse Gas Technologies conference in Lausanne, Switzerland. "Projects like Decatur and Aquistore provide fact-based data to regulators, industry and the general public, allowing for informed decisions around CCS as a solution for reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

"The demonstration phase of the Decatur project has shown that large volumes of CO<sub>2</sub> can be injected safely into a brine and sandstone formation," noted Steve Whittaker, Director of Research at the ISGS. "Aquistore injects into a similar geologic formation, and this agreement allows for the development of a collaborative approach for getting North American knowhow on CO<sub>2</sub> geological storage to the world."

PTRC and ISGS have been linked in the past through the United States Department of Energy's (USDOE's) Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships. The ISGS, as managers of one of those regional partnerships (the Midwest Geological Sequestration Consortium) has encouraged knowledge sharing between different projects, including by the PTRC at its annual meetings. This formal collaborative agreement will expand the relationship between PTRC and ISGS beyond knowledge sharing to the possibility of joint research proposals, exchanges of scientists and technical personnel, and expansion of the reach of both organizations to other jurisdictions implementing CCS.

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Images:

Aquistore site available for use upon request.

**BACKGROUND**

**Aquistore** is an independent research and monitoring project which intends to demonstrate that storing carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) deep underground (in a brine saturated sandstone formation), is a safe, workable solution to reduce greenhouse gases. Globally, deep saline aquifers have the potential to store centuries' worth of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

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Based in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, PTRC is a not-for-profit corporation. It is a world leader in the development of more efficient and environmentally sustainable technologies for enhanced oil recovery, and is a world-leader in the study of the geological storage of carbon dioxide through the *IEAGHG Weyburn-Midale CO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring and Storage Project* and the *Aquistore Project*.

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The Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS) is part of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The ISGS is a premier state Geological Survey serving the needs of Illinois with earth science information relevant to the State's environmental quality, economic vitality, and public safety. Some 200 scientists and technical support staff conduct basic and applied research in geology, compile geologic maps, and gather and manage the state's geological data to provide information to industry, governmental agencies and the public about the geology and mineral resources of Illinois.

Visit [www.ptrc.ca](http://www.ptrc.ca) and [www.aquistore.ca](http://www.aquistore.ca) and <http://isgs.illinois.edu/> and <http://sequestration.org/>