

Gaffney, Cline & Associates

Carbon Pricing and Its Potential Impact on Reserves

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Image source: https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/global-carbon-emissions-remained-static-in-2016-58775

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Global Warming and Climate Change

These two terms refer to two different physical phenomena

Global warming" is the increase in Earth's average surface temperature due to rising levels of greenhouse gases

- "Climate change" is a long-term change in the Earth's climate, or of a region on Earth
 - Changes to precipitation patterns and sea level are likely to have much greater human impact than the higher temperatures alone





Historical Weather Discussion

Titania, A Midsummer-Night's Dream, Shakespeare (1595)

"And thorough this distemperature we see The seasons alter: hoary-headed frosts

Fall in the fresh lap of the crimson rose,

And on old Hiems' thin and icy crown

An odorous chaplet of sweet summer buds

Is, as in mockery, set. The spring, the summer,

The childing autumn, angry winter, change

Their wonted liveries, and the mazed world

By their increase now knows not which is which."



Edwin Landseer, Scene from A Midsummer Night's Dream, National Gallery of Victoria

Titania's allusions to seriously bad weather show Elizabethans' perplexity at these seasonal disorders, which ruined crops, causing food shortages, which, in turn, resulted in hunger, inflation and disease

□ What are greenhouse gases (GHG)?

□ What is the greenhouse effect?

□ How are GHG emissions measured?

Sources of GHG emissions: worldwide and oil and gas industry

Carbon pricing

Potential impact on reserves

- A greenhouse gas (abbreviated GHG) is a gas that absorbs and emits radiant energy within the thermal infrared range
- The primary greenhouse gases in Earth's atmosphere are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone
 - They are all naturally present in the atmosphere
 - Without greenhouse gases, the average temperature of Earth's surface would be about -18 °C (0 °F), rather than the present average of 15 °C (59 °F)

Other GHGs are synthetic chemicals that are emitted only as a result of human activity



- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the most important greenhouse gas because it exists in the highest quantity in the atmosphere
- Other gases have a much higher greenhouse effect, but exist in much lower concentrations
 - Methane has 25 times the effect of an equivalent volume of CO₂, but there is only about 1/225 as much
 - The current concentration of CO₂ is about 400 parts per million (ppm), up from ~230 ppm in the pre-industrial era
- Combustion of methane $CH_4 + 2O_2 = CO_2 + 2H_2O$

	Greenhouse Gas	Global Warming Potential (GWP)
1.	Carbon dioxide (CO ₂)	1
2.	Methane (CH ₄)	25
3.	Nitrous oxide(N ₂ O)	298
4.	Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)	124 - 14,800
5.	Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)	7,390 - 12,200
6.	Sulfur hexafluoride (SF ₆)	22,800
7.	Nitrogen trifluoride (NF ₃) ³	17,200

- Carbon dioxide burning fossil fuels, removed by plants
- Methane livestock and coal, oil and gas industry
- Nitrous oxide anesthetic ("laughing gas") and fertilizer
- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) used in air conditioning and as refrigerants
- Perfluorocarbons (PFCs) used as refrigerants, solvents and anesthetics
- Sulphur Hexafluoride magnesium production and filling for double-paned windows
- □ Nitrogen trifluoride used as an etchant in microelectronics

What are Greenhouse Gases?

- Greenhouse gases are measured and reported in terms of the effect of an equivalent volume of CO₂ according to their <u>global</u> <u>warming potential</u> (GWP)
 - Grams of carbon dioxide equivalent (gCO₂e)
- That is why we talk about "carbon emissions", even though not all GHGs contain carbon
- Carbon intensity is a measure of the carbon equivalent emission compared with the industrial activity
 - Grams of carbon dioxide equivalent released per megajoule of energy produced (gCO₂e/MJ)
 - Kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent released per barrel of oil produced (kgCO₂e/bbl)

Gas	Chemical formula	Half-Life (years)	Global warming potential for given time horizon			
Gas			20-yr	100-yr	500-yr	
Carbon dioxide	CO ₂	30-95	1	1	1	
Methane	CH₄	12	72	25	7.6	
Nitrous oxide	N ₂ O	114	289	298	153	

Carbon intensity of selected fuels

kilograms CO2 per million British thermal units



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Monthly Energy Review and Carbon Dioxide Emissions Coefficients / http://www.world-agriculture.net.

G For the oil

Crude oil has a density of around 850 kg/m³ (35 °API)

[range <800 (light) to >920 kg/m³ (heavy)]

- Crude oil consists of 83% to 87% carbon (by weight)
- Assuming a density of 850 kg/m³, one barrel of oil (159 liters) would weigh 135 kg, which contains at 85% carbon (at the mid-point) 115 kg of carbon

For the carbon dioxide

Carbon atomic weight: 12.0 g/mol Oxygen atomic weight: 16.0 g/mol Carbon dioxide: carbon = 12 plus 2 x oxygen = 2 x 16 = 32 => Total: **44 g/mol** (mass of carbon: 12/44 = 27.27% of carbon in CO₂)

Mass of carbon dioxide: 115 kg carbon / 0.2727 = 422 kg CO₂ / bbl

- Burning 100 MMbopd => $1.54 \times 10^{10} \text{ tCO}_2 = 15.4 \text{ GtCO}_2$ a year
- **Total world emissions are about 37 GtCO₂ a year**

What is the Greenhouse Effect?

- The Sun emits electromagnetic radiation that peaks in the visible region—corresponding to a temperature of ~5,500 K
- Emissions from the Earth vary, but always peak in the infrared
- The position and number of absorption bands are determined by the chemical properties of the gases present
- Water vapor is the most significant of these greenhouse gases, followed by carbon dioxide and various other minor greenhouse gases
- Collectively these processes capture and redistribute 25-30% of the energy in direct sunlight passing through the atmosphere
- By contrast, the greenhouse gases capture 70-85% of the energy in up-going thermal radiation emitted from the Earth's surface



What is the Greenhouse Effect?

The Earth's surface, warmed by the Sun, radiates heat into the atmosphere

- A. Some heat is absorbed by greenhouse gases and then radiated to space
- B. Some heat makes its way to space directly
- C. Some heat is absorbed by greenhouse gases and is then radiated back towards the Earth's surface

With more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere later this century, more heat will be stopped by greenhouse gases, warming the planet



Temperature and CO2 for Last 400,000 Years





How do Greenhouse Gases Work?

- The major GHGs are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone
- These gas molecules all are made of <u>three or more</u> <u>atoms</u> which are held loosely and can vibrate when they absorb heat
- Eventually, the vibrating molecules release the radiation, which will likely be absorbed by another greenhouse gas molecule
- □ This process keeps heat near the Earth's surface
- Most (99%) of the gas in the atmosphere is nitrogen and oxygen – both of which are molecules made of two atoms
- The atoms in these molecules are bound together tightly and unable to vibrate, so they cannot absorb heat and contribute to the greenhouse effect





Carbon Emissions of Oil and Gas

What are the GHG emissions associated with the supply (not use) of oil and gas?



"The extraction, processing and transportation of oil and gas is responsible for nearly 15% of global energy sector GHG emissions today"

Carbon Pricing



https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2016/06/29/a-look-at-carbon-pricing-and-competitiveness

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What is Carbon Pricing?

- Carbon pricing captures the external costs of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and ties them to their sources through a price, usually in the form of a price on the carbon dioxide (CO₂) emitted
 - The costs of emissions that the public pays for, such as damage to crops, health care costs from heat waves and droughts, and loss of property from flooding and sea level rise, etc.
- A price on carbon helps shift the burden for the damage from GHG emissions back to those who are responsible for it and who can avoid it
- Instead of dictating who should reduce emissions where and how, a carbon price provides an economic signal to emitters, and allows them to decide to either transform their activities and lower their emissions, or continue emitting and paying for their emissions

- A carbon tax puts a direct price on GHG emissions and requires entities to pay for every ton of carbon pollution emitted
- An emission trading system (ETS)—also known as a cap-and-trade system—sets a limit ("cap") on total direct GHG emissions from specific sectors and sets up a market where the rights to emit (in the form of carbon permits or allowances) are traded
- Under a crediting mechanism, emissions reductions that occur as a result of a project are assigned credits, which can then be bought or sold
- Under a results-based climate finance (RBCF) framework, entities receive funds when they meet pre-defined climate-related goals, such as emissions reductions
- Under internal carbon pricing, entities assign their own internal price to carbon use and factor this into their investment decisions

Carbon Policy & Regulations

Carbon pricing is the preferred method for an orderly energy transition

20% of global emissions are covered by carbon prices with an average carbon price = $7 / tCO_2e$

- Prices range from \$1 to \$139 / tCO₂e
- 46 national and 24 subnational jurisdictions covered

\$3 trillion has been spent on incentivizing renewable energy technologies

- Costs have dropped by 80%
- Over half of all new energy-generation capacity is now renewable

More capital is now spent on electricity than oil and gas supply

Investment in electrification of transport and heating continues to grow



ETS or carbon tax under consideration

ETS implemented or scheduled, carbon tax under consideration

Potential Carbon Pricing Impact on Reserves

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Purpose of Study

- Emissions regulations in the form of carbon pricing may soon become commonplace around the world
- In this carbon-conscious era, a price on carbon may well affect project economics in the oil and gas industry and would likely impact reserves estimates



ETS implemented or scheduled for implementation
Carbon tax implemented or scheduled for implementation
ETS or carbon tax under consideration



ETS—emissions trading systems

- The impact of carbon pricing can be assessed using normal cash flow techniques
- However, the big question is: "How much should it be?"
- There are two parts to the answer:
 - The amount of CO₂ equivalent that is released during a particular operation
 - The cost (or "price") incurred as a result of those emissions
- To answer the first question, we used a public-domain program released by Stanford University to estimate the carbon emissions related to oil and gas operations
 - Oil Production Greenhouse gas Emissions Estimator (OPGEE) is designed to estimate lifecycle emissions based on a static description for a set of fields





Carbon Emissions Profile Modelling

The OPGEE program considers emissions from all parts of an oilfield's lifecycle ("wells-to-wheels")

- Exploration
- Drilling
- Production
- Processing
- Upgrading
- Maintenance
- Waste
- □ VFF (vent, flare and fugitives)
- Miscellaneous
- Transport



- Selected production, processing and VFF
 - Ignored effects of exploration, drilling, transport, etc.

Carbon Emissions Profile Modelling—OPGEE

The program is designed to consider life of field emissions for multiple fields

Instead, program was modified to profile one field on a year-by-year basis

Used OPGEE model defaults for several parameters

Resulting unit lifecycle CO₂e emissions were applied to the annual production volumes to create a carbon profile

Prepared simple before-tax notional economic functionality to carry out economic limit test

Note: we did not review the mechanics or assumptions of the OPGEE model

Oilfield Properties for Study

- Illustrative mature onshore oilfield in production decline
- Current oil rate 1,500 bopd
- Exponential decline at 10% per year
- Constant total liquid rate
- □ Water cut starts around 80%
- 8 producers and 5 water injectors (produced water reinjected)
- Constant GOR 1,000 scf/bbl
- Gas is flared at 200 scf/bbl (20% model default)
- Inputs for fluid properties, processing practices and others kept the same as model defaults



Emissions Profile



The increase in the emissions intensity over the 20 year span is attributed mainly to the production-related emissions at higher water cuts

Field Economics and Reserves

Prices

- Oil \$50/bbl
- Gas \$3/Mcf
- Simple cost assumptions
 - Fixed opex \$5MM/year
 - Variable opex \$3/boe
- When no carbon tax is in place, the economic limit (EL) is reached in year 17 and reserves would be 4.6 MMbbl
- Carbon tax levels analyzed
 - \$50/tonne CO₂e
 - \$150/tonne CO₂e



At $50/tCO_2e$, production would stop in year 16 and reserves drop by 0.1 MMbbl



At $150/tCO_2e$, production would stop in year 15 and reserves drop by 0.4 MMbbl

Two additional cases (3 and 4) were run to illustrate the effect of flaring 90% of gas produced (instead of 20% as in prior case) on field economics

At \$50/tCO₂e, production would stop in year 15 and reserves drop by 0.4 MMbbl



At \$150/tCO₂e, production would stop in year 12 and reserves drop by 0.7 MMbbl



Summary of Cases and Resulting Reserves and Cash Flows

Case	Annual Flare (MMscf)	Carbon Tax (US\$/tCO ₂ e)	EL Year	Reserves (MMbbl)	Reserves Drop %	Cum. CF (US\$MM)	NPV10% (US\$MM)
Base	44	-	17	4.6	-	139	93
1	44	50	16	4.5	2%	130	87
2	44	150	15	4.2	9%	112	75
3	276	50	15	4.2	9%	105	74
4	276	150	12	3.9	15%	62	48

Avoid emissions

 Eliminate flaring, venting & fugitives through produced gas re-injection/conversion, alternative valve actuators, surveillance, etc.

Reduce inefficiency

 Increase energy efficiency design of pumps/compressors/heaters, cogeneration of power and heat, improve flare tip/system design, increase electrification

Replace with alternatives

 Integrate low carbon options such as renewables (biomass, wind and solar)

Offset elsewhere

 Reforestation, land-use protection, farming practices, renewable energy

Sequester captured CO₂

Carbon capture, use and storage (CCUS)



What Companies are Doing

- Exxon Mobil Corp. is putting \$1 million into a political campaign that, if successful, would effectively spawn a tax tied to the company's core products
 - https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-10-09/exxon-puts-1-million-into-quest-for-carbon-tax-and-rebate-plan
- Royal Dutch Shell's support for carbon pricing models is a sign that the company is ready to make climate change concessions, according to environmental experts
 - https://www.cbc.ca/radio/day6/shell-backs-a-carbon-tax-amsterdam-benefits-from-brexit-veep-s-jonah-ryan-canada-s-dwindling-caribou-more-<u>1.5084280/shell-s-support-for-a-carbon-tax-is-environmentally-conscious-and-financially-savvy-says-researcher-1.5084295</u>

Shell Oil Quietly Urges Lawmakers to Support Carbon Tax

- The company sees carbon pricing as an essential policy tool to tackle climate change
- https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/shell-oil-quietly-urges-lawmakers-to-support-carbon-tax/

Exclusive: Oil giant ConocoPhillips backs carbon tax push

https://www.axios.com/conocophillips-backs-carbon-tax-push-a0c47c65-7a0e-4ec6-85c6-771687849a97.html

BP Says Some of Its Oil 'Won't See the Light of Day'

https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-07-02/bp-says-some-of-its-oil-won-t-see-the-light-of-day

Conclusions

□ 20% of worldwide production covered by current carbon pricing

Let may not be long before implementation is global

□ There <u>will</u> be an impact on reserves and resources estimates

□ As evaluators, we must be ready

□ PS: our meals today probably "cost" 3-4 kg CO₂ each, equivalent to driving your car 10 miles



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Questions?

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