

A GEOLOGIC STUDY OF THE POTENTIAL TO BUILD AN APPALACHIAN STORAGE HUB

- 1. Data collection and project database development
- 2. Stratigraphic correlation of key units
- 3. Mapping thickness and structure of key units
- 4. Studies of reservoir character
- 5. Develop ranking criteria
- 6. Recommendations
- 7. Project Management and Technology Transfer

GEOLOGIC INTERVALS OF INTEREST

Mined-rock caverns

• Greenbrier Limestone (>40 ft thick at depths in excess of 1,800 ft; suitable for mining)

Salt caverns

• Salina Group salts (>100-ft thick preferred; suitable for solution mining)

Gas reservoirs

- Keener sandstone to Berea Sandstone
- Upper Devonian sandstones
- Oriskany Sandstone
- Clinton-Medina Group through Tuscarora Sandstone
- Rose Run and Upper Sandy Member of the Gatesburg Formation

WHAT IS A RESERVOIR, AND WHY DO WE NEED TO CHARACTERIZE IT?

- RESERVOIR a subsurface volume of porous and permeable rock in which oil or gas has accumulated; a subsurface rock that is saturated with water
- RESERVOIR CHARACTERIZATION consists of many steps, from data gathering and basic interpretation to data analysis and 3-D models of geologic stratigraphy, structure, petrophysics and fluid flow
- Examples:
 - Lithology, depth, thickness and extent of geologic units
 - Contact with seals
 - Porosity, permeability, pressure

EXISTING PUBLISHED RESOURCES

- The Atlas of Major Appalachian Gas Plays (1996)
- Midwest Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership Geologic Characterization Reports (2005, 2009, 2012)
- Geologic Carbon Sequestration Opportunities in Pennsylvania (2009)
- A Geologic Playbook of Trenton-Black River Exploration (2006)
- Appalachian Basin Tight Gas Reservoirs Project (2008)
- A Geologic Playbook for Utica Shale Appalachian Basin Exploration (2015)
- Subsurface Brine Disposal Framework in the Northern Appalachian Basin (2015)

UPPER DEVONIAN SANDSTONES

- Shallow sandstones (~2,000 3,000 ft deep)
- Drilled by conventional operators in the Area of Interest (AOI) for more than 100 years
- Multiple (stacked) gas and oil-producing zones
- Individual intervals are limited in extent



ORISKANY SANDSTONE GAS PLAYS

- Regionally extensive sandstone that correlates across the basin
- Well known by operators and has been researched by many workers
- Produces gas in different areas of the basin through different mechanisms
- DOP, DOC and DHO Oriskany plays are relevant to our area of interest



DOP – UPDIP PERMEABILITY PINCHOUT PLAY

- Left A typical quartz arenite
- Right A sandy limestone



- Both are considered "Oriskany Sandstone" but each have their own mineralogy and porosity characteristics
- Moving westward (updip), connectivity of the reservoir (permeability) decreases

DOC – COMBINATION STRUCTURAL/STRATIGRAPHIC TRAPS PLAY

- Some of the porosity in this combination play is due to structural controls, other to stratigraphic controls
- Primary intergranular and secondary dissolution porosity is visible here – intergranular porosity
- Porosity textures include moldic (M), oversized (O), and enlarged intergranular (I).



DHO – FRACTURED HUNTERSVILLE CHERT AND ORISKANY SANDSTONE PLAY

- In this play, the Oriskany Sandstone and overlying Huntersville Chert are hydraulically connected through fractures.
- Right fracture fill in core sample; fractures have been largely filled with calcite, quartz and pyrite



 Left – thin section photomicrograph of medium-grained quartz arenite cemented by quartz overgrowths and calcite



OTHER EXAMPLES OF RESERVOIR DATA



Oriskany Porosity Data ¹		
County	Field	Average Core
	Name	Porosity (%)
	Canaan	
Tucker	Valley	7
Kanawha	Elk-Poca	8
Jackson	Elk-Poca	8
Jackson	Rockport	17
Putnam	Elk-Poca	8
	Randolph/	
Randolph	Tucker	9
	Randolph/	
Tucker	Tucker	9
Wood	Rockport	17

