

WESTCARB Regional Partnership

Samples for Analyses of Mineralogy and Dissolved Gas

Mark Conrad, Head, Geochemistry Dept.

Earth Sciences Division, LBNL

WESTCARB Annual Business Meeting Bakersfield, CA

October 15–17, 2012

West Coast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership



Samples for Analyses of Mineralogy and Dissolved Gas



Mark Conrad, Head, Geochemistry Dept. Earth Sciences Division, LBNL

Mineralogy Samples - To help design CO_2 flood experiments for use with geochemical models of CO_2 -rock interaction.

Polished thin sections were made from ends of sidewall cores competent enough to allow sectioning.

- 1. Point counts to determine mineral contents of sidewall cores. Complete
- 2. Electron microprobe analyses of select mineral phases to determine precise chemical composition of minerals. Planned

Dissolved Gas Samples - To determine gas chemistry of associated fluids to help inform models of water-rock interaction.

Core samples collected in canisters, evacuated and allowed to sit for 8 months to allow gas to diffuse out of cores.

- 1. Noble gas isotopic compositions and concentrations. Underway
- 2. δ^{13} C and concentrations of CO₂ and C₁-C₅ alkanes. CO₂ analyses complete, other analyses underway.



West Coast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership

2

Citizen Green Mineralogy



West Coast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership

3



Citizen Green Mineralogy



H&T Sandstone 1915 m depth

Plane-polarized light



Cross-polarized light



Carbonate cement



West Coast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership

Citizen Green Mineralogy



West Coast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership



Carbon Isotope Composition of Dissolved CO₂







6