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# A Strategy to Reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> Footprint of SAGD Oil Sands Recovery

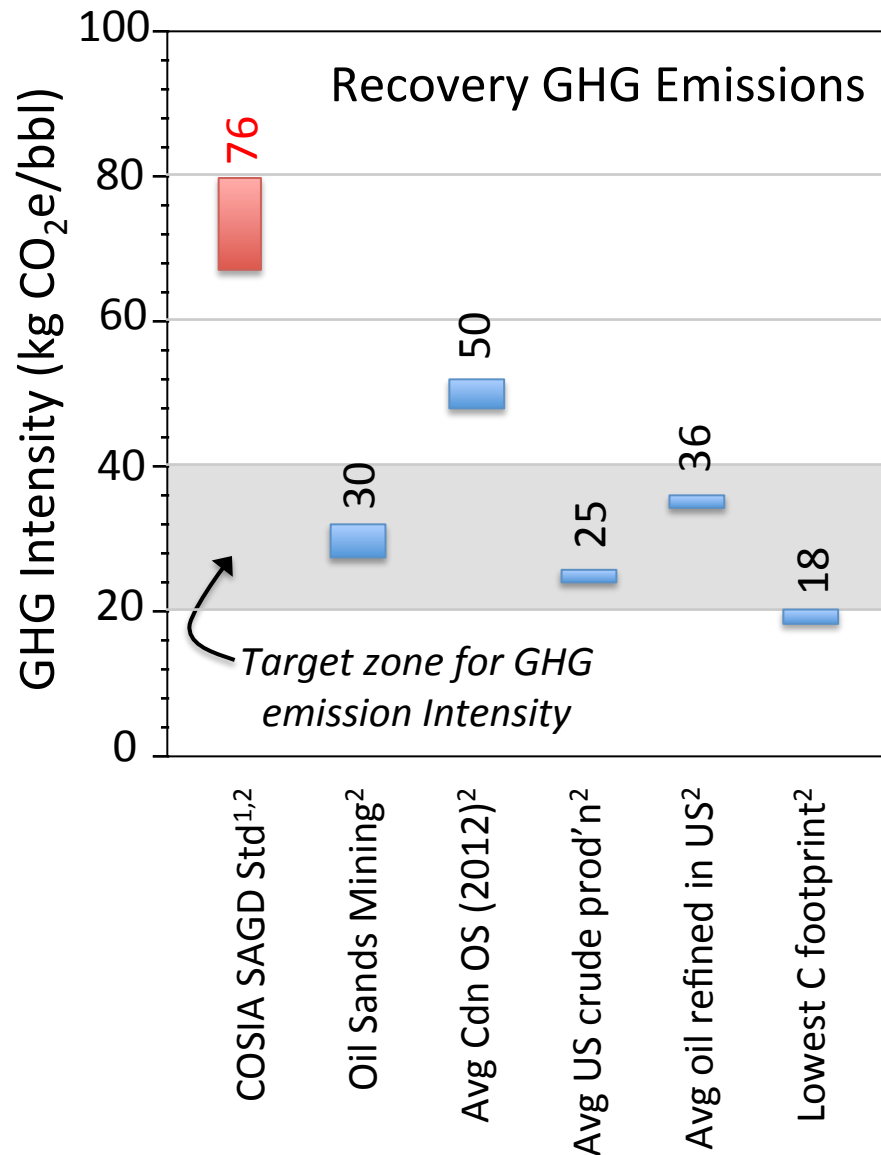
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Presentation at the CHOA – Slugging it out XXIV Conference  
Calgary, AB - April 5, 2016

# Steam Assisted Gravity Drainage (SAGD) is GHG Intense



Differential has undermined public support for :

- Oil sands development
- Pipelines needed for market access

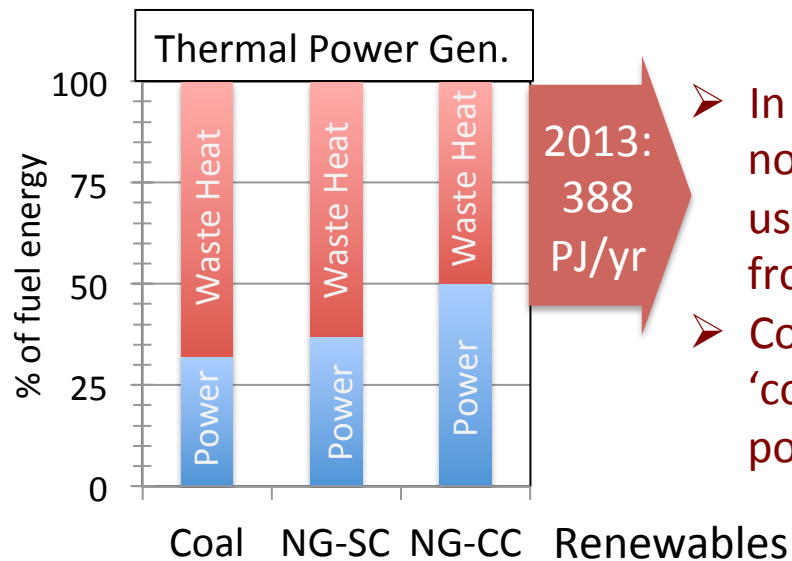
*Cost-effective technologies  
are needed to reduce  
the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint  
of SAGD oil sands recovery;*

<sup>1</sup> COSIA Challenges 2014

<sup>2</sup> IHS Energy. 2014. Comparing GHG intensity of the oil sands and the average US crude oil

# Proposal:

## SAGD 'Greens' the Alberta Grid (& Itself), Gaining Economic & Environmental Benefits



- In most jurisdictions, no industries could use the waste heat from power gen.;
- Considered to be the 'cost' of thermal power generation

### Not in Alberta:

- SAGD heat demand:
  - 227 PJ/yr in 2013
  - 469 PJ/yr in 2020
- Plus heat demand for CSS, OS mining / upgrading

**- SAGD could help & benefit -**

Coal NG-SC NG-CC Renewables

*Default Strategy for  
Transforming the  
Alberta Grid*

### The Time to Act is Now

- ✓ Carbon Price increases;
- ✓ 'Off-Coal' Policy (by 2030);
- ✓ 30% Renewable target (by 2030);
- ✓ Policies will be set within 6 months.

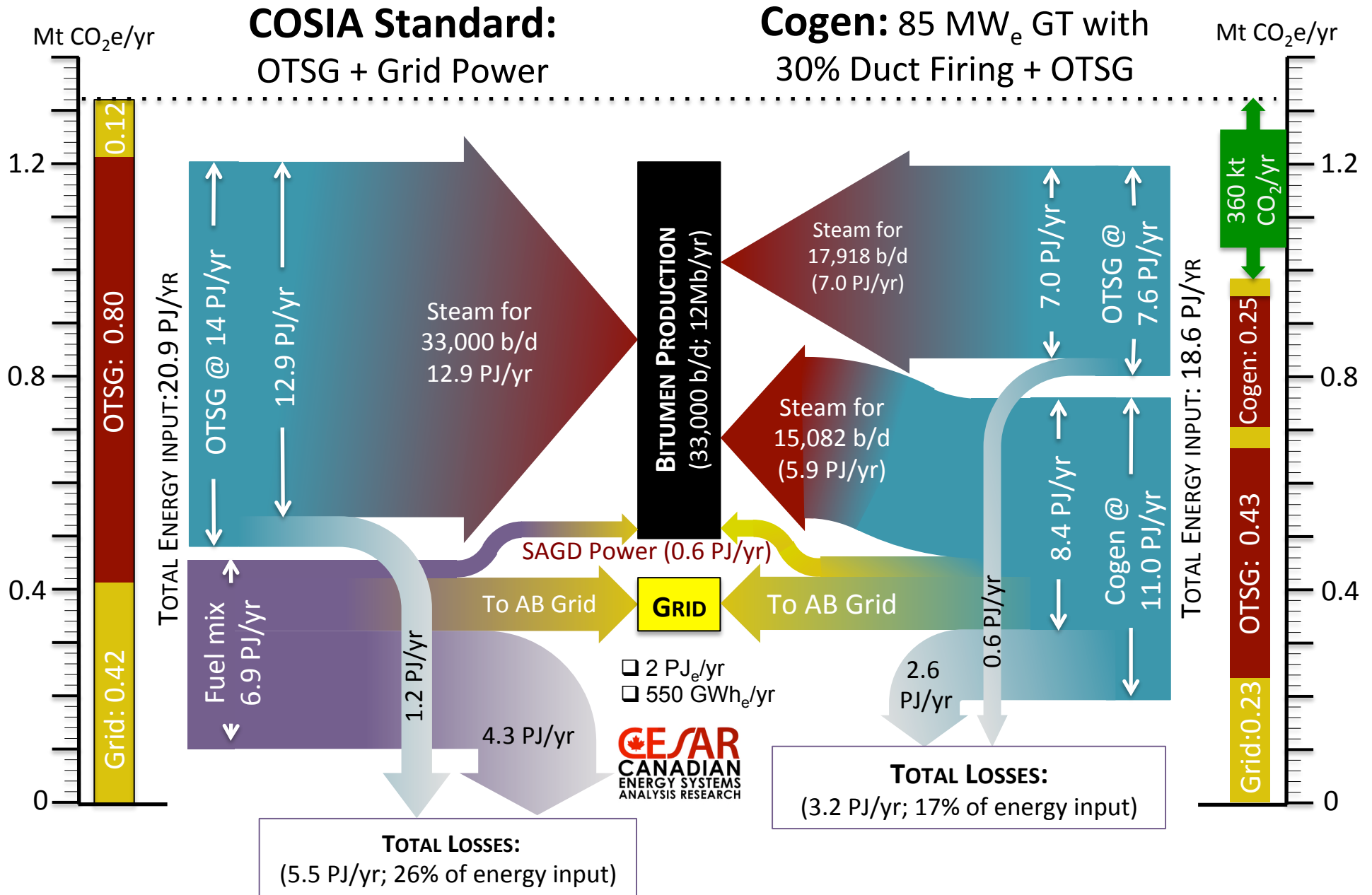
# Cogeneration

- Already important in many OS facilities;
- Potential to dramatically increase deployment, especially on SAGD facilities:
- For a ‘typical’ 33,000 b/d facility:

# GE Frame 7 Gas Turbines	Duct Burning?	SAGD (33,000 bpd)		Contribution to ‘Public’ Grid		GHGs
		% Power	% Heat	GWh / yr	%	ktCO <sub>2</sub> /yr
One	Yes	100%	~50%	Up to 590	~1%	-360
Two	Yes	100%	100%	Up to 1300	~2%	-800

- There is also potential to modulate SAGD heat & power output to provide low-cost backup for renewables while maintaining SAGD production.

# Two Ways to Produce 33 kbbl SAGD/d + 550 GWh<sub>e</sub>/yr to Grid



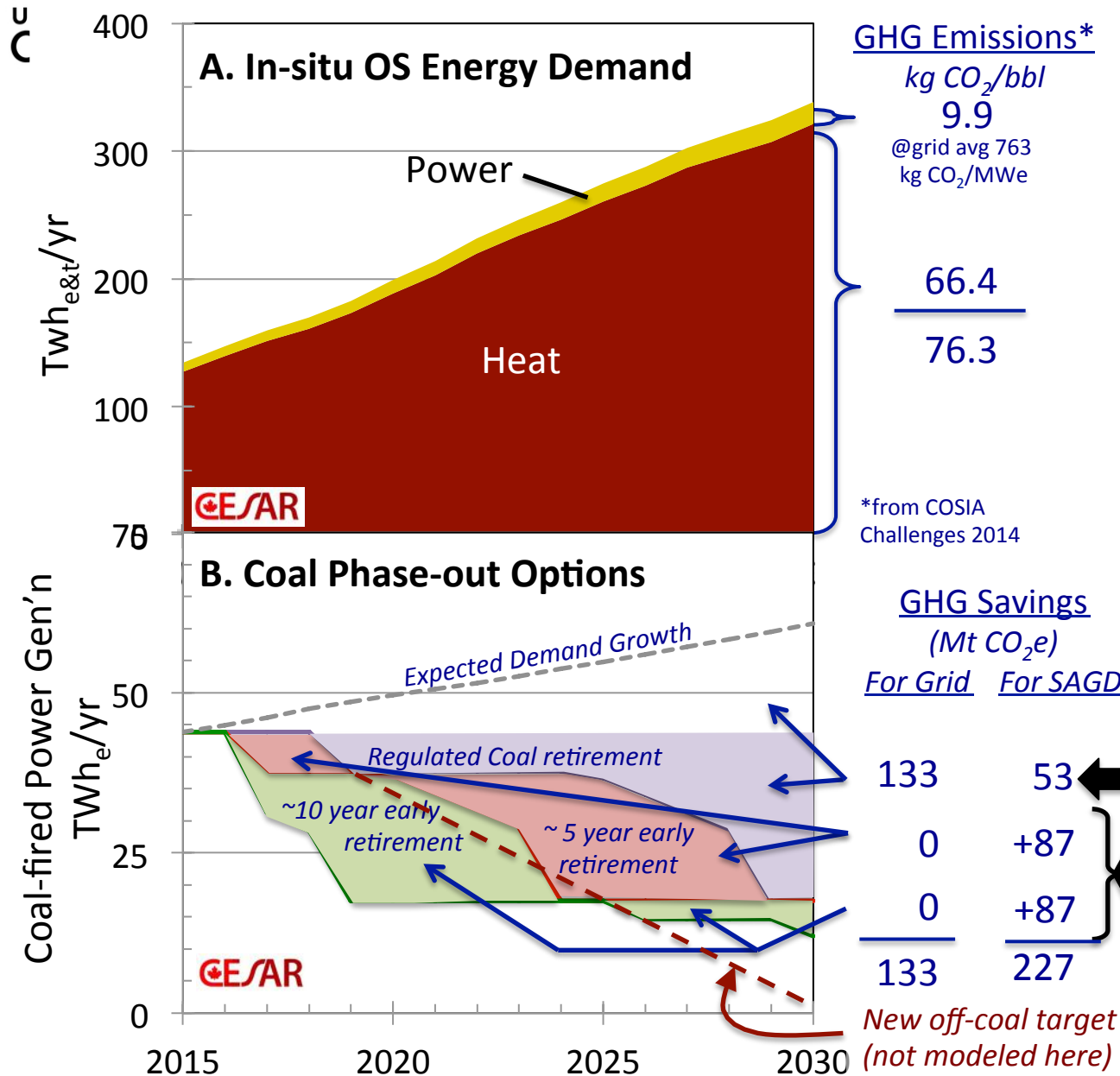
# *Exploring the Potential in Alberta*

## **Preliminary Scenario Models (2015-2030):**

### **Assumptions:**

- High Oil Sands Growth Future
  - Cogen: One 85 MW Gas Turbine / 33ktpd SAGD with duct firing
  - No major growth in renewables
  - Five Scenarios:
    1. *Status Quo (continue with Coal)*
    2. *NG-CC to meet off-coal regulations*
    3. *SAGD-Cogen to meet off-coal regulations*
    4. *SAGD-Cogen exceeds off-coal regulations by 5 yrs*
    5. *SAGD-Cogen exceeds off-coal regulations by ~10 yrs*
- SAGD operations  
not affected*

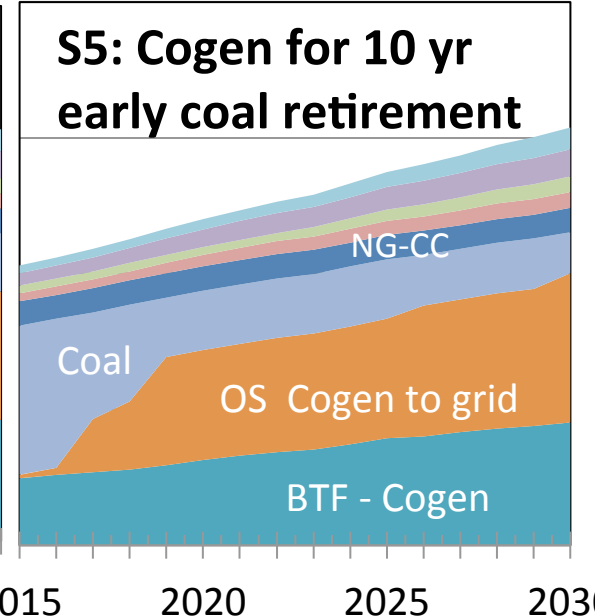
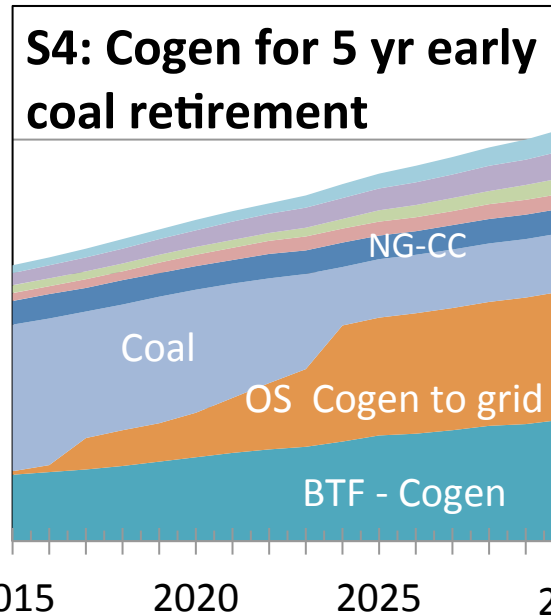
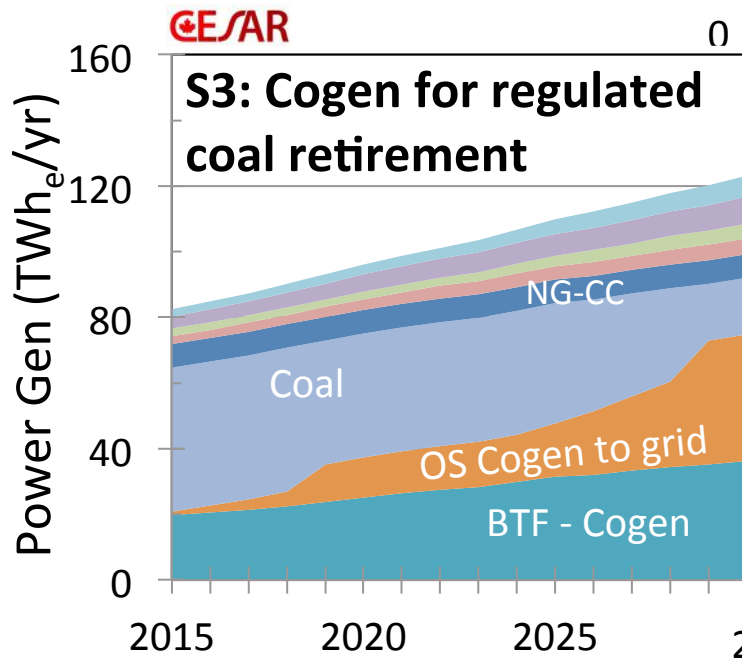
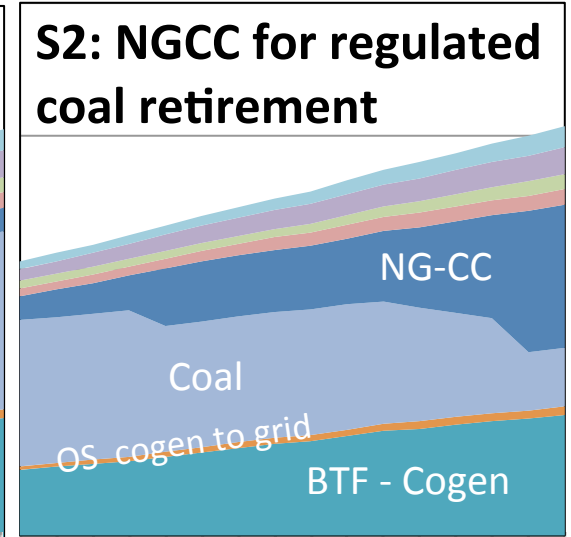
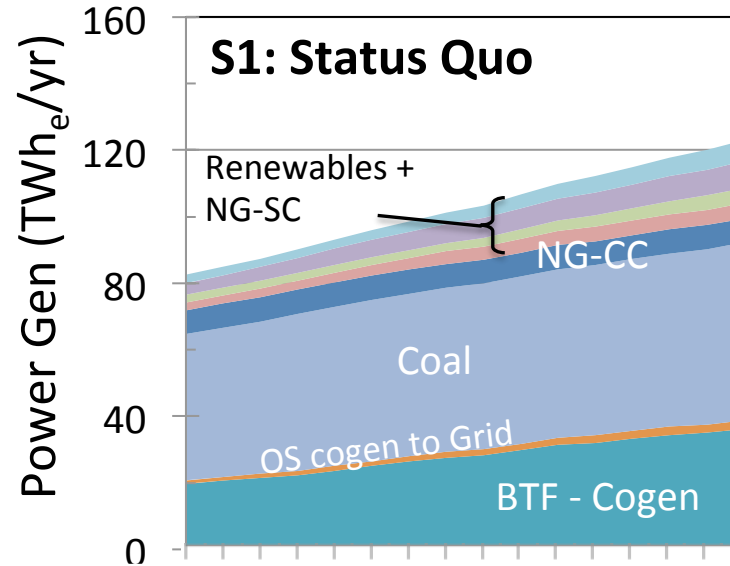
# The Next 15 Years in Alberta...



**The Cogen Opportunity for SAGD Production**

- Replace regulated coal retirements + new demand & get GHG benefits for both the AB Grid + SAGD.
- Go beyond regulation and claim the additional GHG benefits for SAGD.

# Power Generation

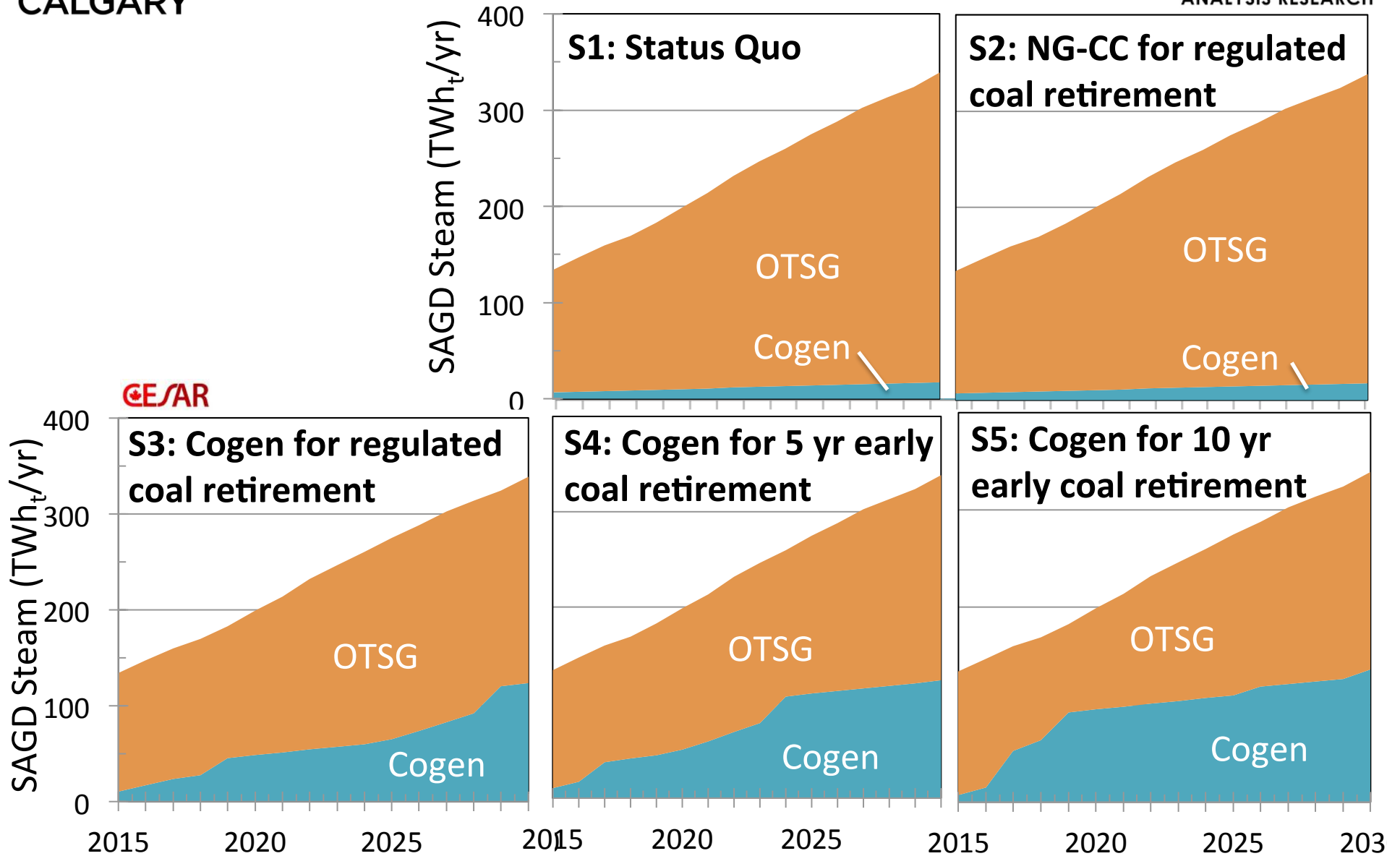






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# Source of Heat for SAGD Steam



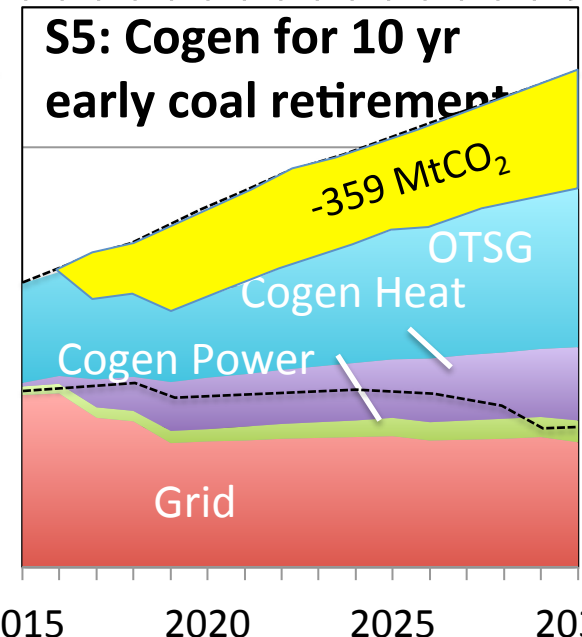
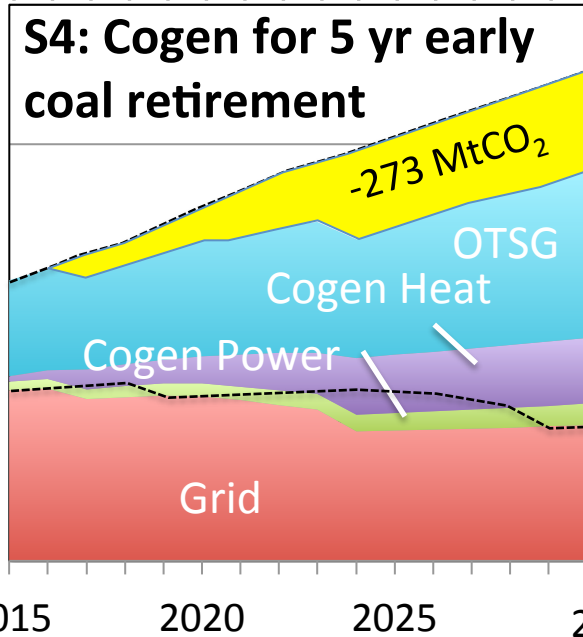
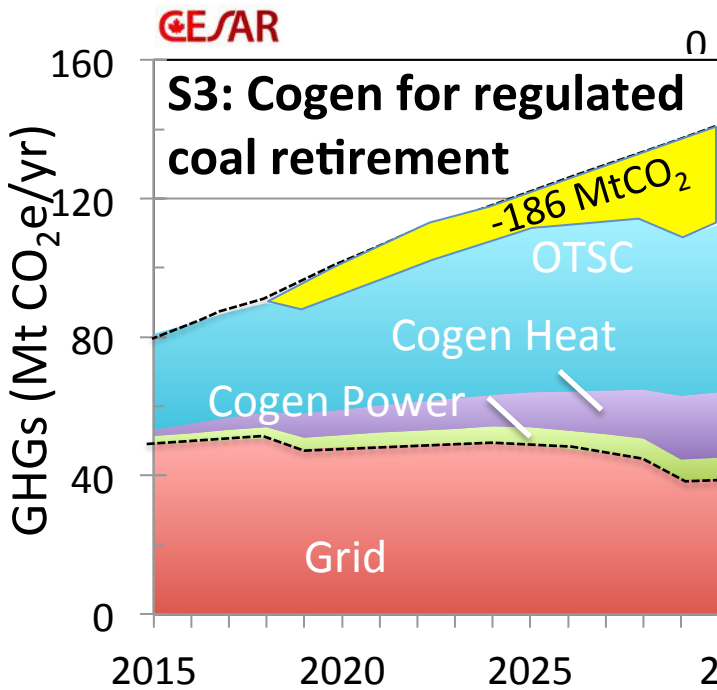
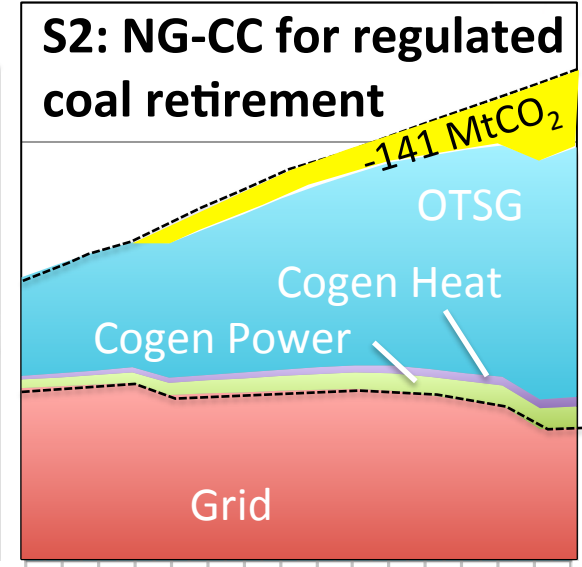
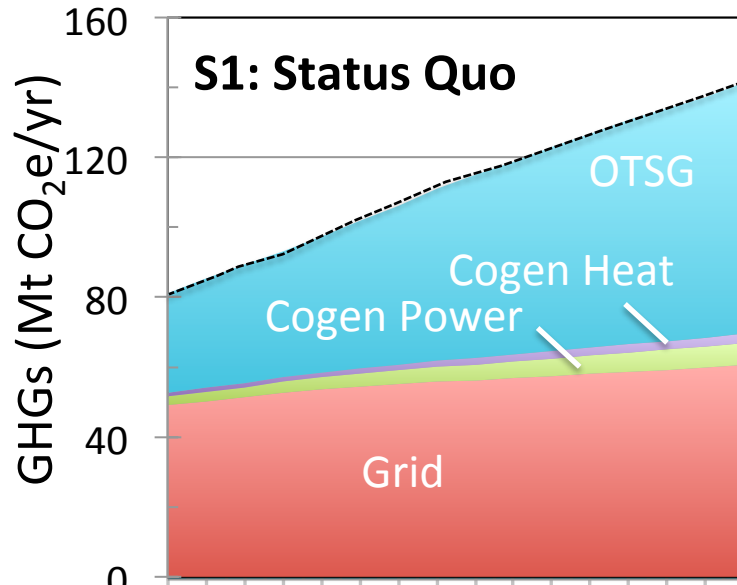


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# GHG Emissions from Grid + SAGD



**Note:** the lower GHGs in S3 than S2 is due to the better efficiency of Cogen than NG-CC.



2015 2020 2025 2030

# Overview of GHG Scenarios (2016 to 2030):

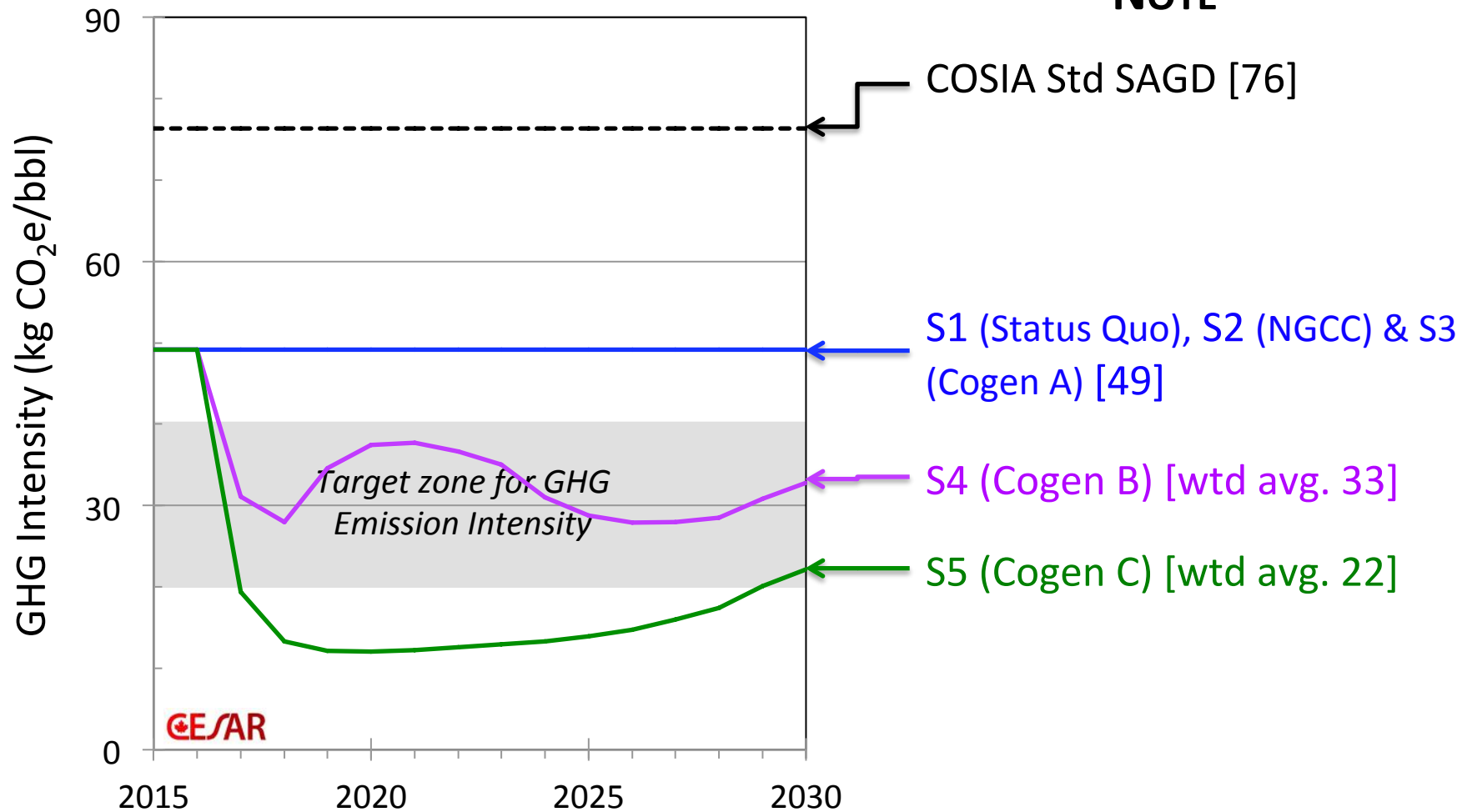
**CESAR**

Scenario Change	Cumulative GHG Benefit (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> e)		
	TOTAL	GRID	SAGD
Coal Dom. Grid to <b>NGCC</b> to meet regulations, no change in SAGD (S1 → S2)	141	141	0
Coal Dom. Grid + SAGD (COSIA) to <b>Cogen</b> to meet regulations (S1 → S3)	186	133	53
More SAGD Cogen to retire coal plants ~5 yrs early (S3 → S4)	87 87	68 [0]*	19 [87]*
More SAGD Cogen to retire coal plants ~10 yrs early (S4 → S5)	87 87	68 [0]*	19 [87]*
<b>TOTAL BENEFIT of Cogen Alternatives (S1 → S3 → S4 → S5)</b>	<b>359</b> <b>359</b>	<b>269</b> <b>[133]*</b>	<b>90</b> <b>[227]*</b>

*\* Assumes that GHG benefits of initiatives which go beyond regulations (e.g. early coal retirement) can be assigned by proponents to areas of their choice (i.e. SAGD)*

# GHG Intensity for SAGD Bitumen from Cogen Heat

## NOTE



# Conclusions

*By deploying cogeneration (with duct burning)  
at SAGD facilities between 2017 and 2030,  
Alberta could simultaneously:*

- Reduce reliance on coal-fired power, with associated air quality / health benefits;*
- Consume less natural gas (reduce price risk);*
- Eliminate **359 Mt GHG emissions** (133 Mt from Power generation; 227 Mt from SAGD operations);*
- Produce SAGD bitumen with a GHG footprint equivalent to / better than conventional crudes;*
- Create a second source of income from SAGD facilities;*
- ...with little or no increase in either the cost of power or bitumen recovery.*

# Next Steps

- *New Context:*
  - *Low Oil Sands Growth Future*
  - *Complete decommission of coal power by 2030*
  - *Up to 30% Renewable Power by 2030*
  - *Assume Retrofit of SAGD with 1 or 2 GT per 33,000 bpd facility*
- *Compare Cogen energy efficiency and GHG intensities during 'normal' operation & when 'modulated' to provide backup for renewables*
  - *Compare various water treatment and power generation technologies to optimize SAGD production, grid power supply and backup capacity for renewables*
- *Looking for an industry partner to develop site specific CAPEX & OPEX estimates to evaluate project economics and CO<sub>2</sub> avoidance costs.*