

Global Methane Forum, Washington DC
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CMM Drainage Methods and their Implication on Optimization of Safety, Economic Benefit from Coal Production and Beneficial Use of Methane, with Complimentary Reduction of Greenhouse Gas

Why do we drain methane?

| Coal Mined per Face/Annum | 1,000,000 tonnes | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Low Market Price per Tonne | 40 | \$ |
| Low Turnover of Face | 40,000,000 | \$/annum |
| High Market Price per Tonne | 70 | \$ |
| High Turnover of Face | 70,000,000 | \$/annum |
| Drainage | 30 | m ³ /min |
| Power Generation Capacity | 7,000 | kW |
| Hours | 6,570 | Hrs/annum |
| Low Market Price of Electricity | 0.05 | \$/kWhr |
| Low Revenue from Electricity | 2,299,500 | \$ |
| % of Low Market Face Turnover | 6 | % |
| % of High Market Face Turnover | 3 | % |
| High Market Price of Electricity | 0.20 | \$/kWhr |
| High Revenue from Electricity | 9,198,000 | \$ |
| % of Low Market Face Turnover | 23 | % |
| % of High Market Face Turnover | 13 | % |

Cost of safe drainage

Opportunity cost of not utilizing gas for heat or power

Cost of loss of production

(\$1 million dollars per week?)

Cost of loss of life

(human cost + reputational loss + cost for each life)

Gas explosions often cause dust explosions

Barbara Experimental Mine, Poland



Drainage Techniques – geology/depth dependent

- Mine Ventilation – Use of suction or pressure mine air fan

- Surface vertical or guided horizontal in seam pre-drainage

- Surface guided horizontal fracked in seam pre-drainage

- Underground in seam pre-drainage

- Surface gob well post-drainage

- Underground roadway post-drainage

- Underground cross measures post drainage

How do we optimize gas drainage?

1

Do what you do already, but do it better!

Improve physical installation of pipework (find leaks and fix them)

Improve sealing at points of connection

Measure suction and concentration at each point of drainage and reduce suction where drainage is effective*

Review mine management

2

Your engineers know their mine's geology and their drainage technique better than anyone – widen their breadth of experience!

Take your internal expertise and allow them to travel and see how other mines using similar techniques control their gas

Take experience from other parts of the world, with incremental improvements to your existing arrangements

3

Systematic fundamental review of gas drainage

New Project

Internal Review team

Change Management

National Academia

Government Regulation

International Experience

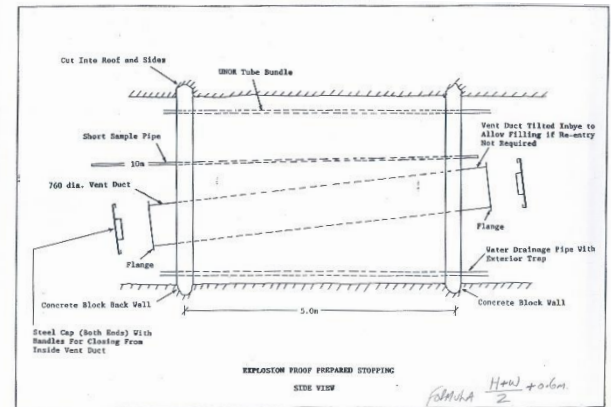
Manufacturers/Drillers

How to Fund?

*including sealed waste areas

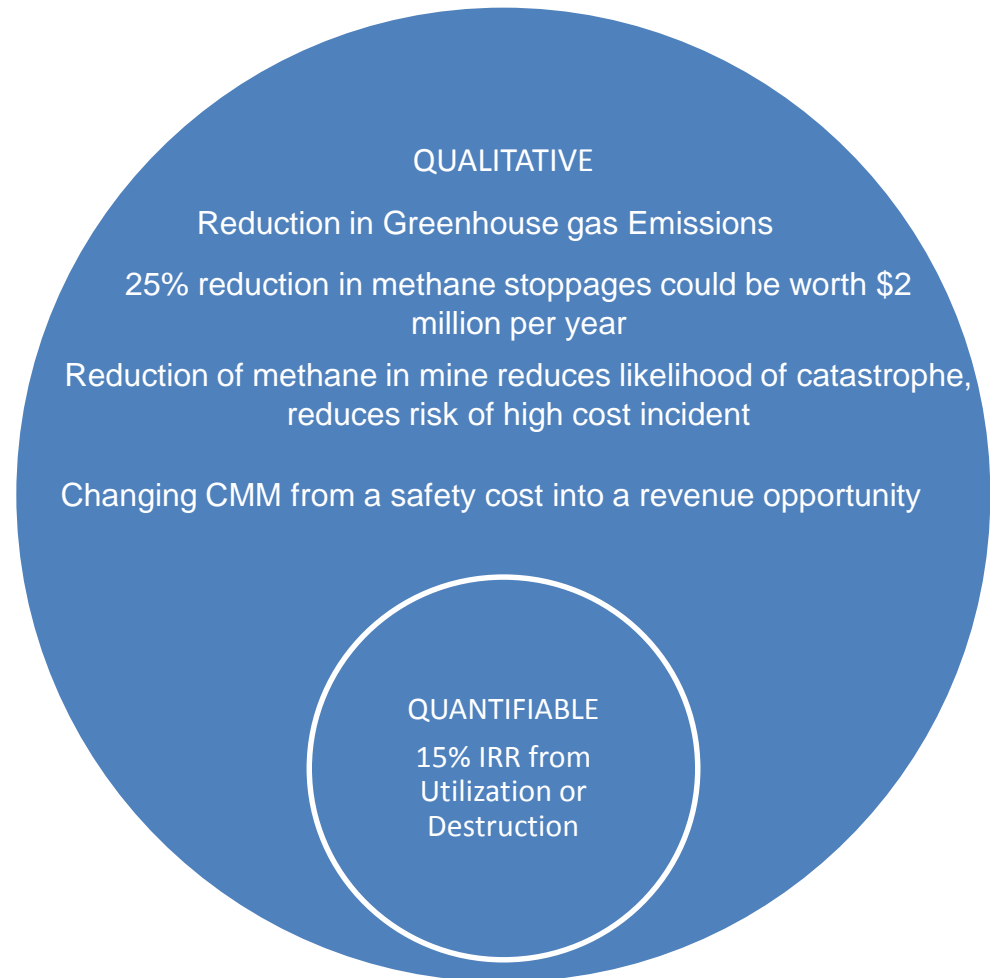
Sealed Areas as a Gas Reservoir Source

- Gas not being drained from a sealed area enters the mine roadways and makes the mine less safe
- Gas being drained from a sealed area is kept out of the mine roadways, makes the mine safer, and raises the concentration of CH₄, making transportation safer
- Can be done either from underground or from the surface
- Automatic control is straightforward – CH₄ concentration can be used to control an air actuated control valve

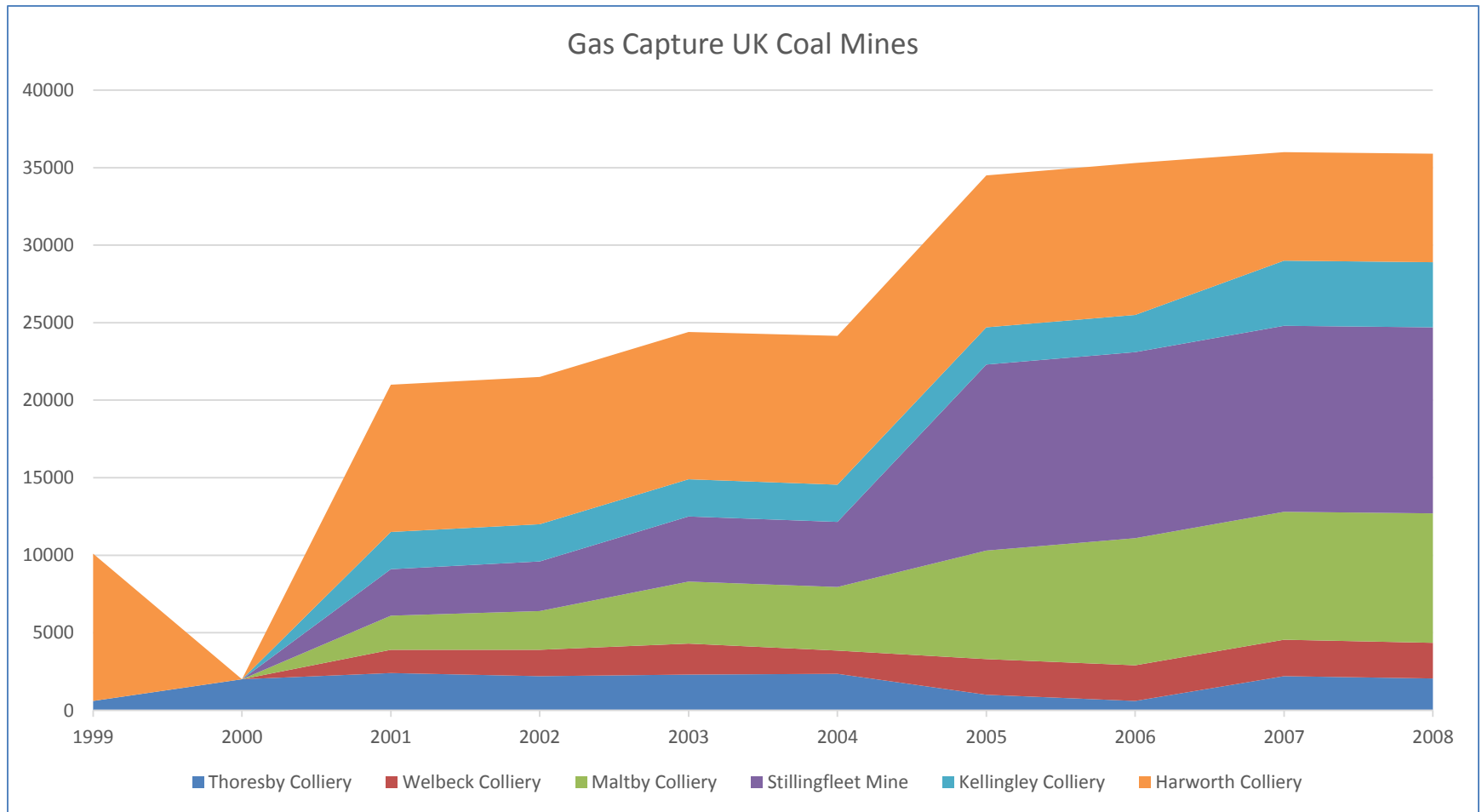


How do we make a better business case for CMM development?

- It is clear that turning CMM drainage from a cost centre to a revenue centre increases mine focus on drainage
- Increased attention to capture improves the safety of the mine
- Revenue generation enables investment in new safety/drainage infrastructure
- Need for more quantitative methods of coal mining business improvement analysis



Gas Optimization Results – Linear Improvement in Gas Safety, Financial Performance and Reduction in Greenhouse Gases



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