## In full operation – the world's first VAM Power Plant



Presented at Methane to Markets Partnership Conference & EXPO in Beijing 30 Oct 07 by Richard Mattus, MEGTEC



## WestVAMP IN FULL OPERATION





- At the WestCliff Colliery of BHP Billiton in Australia
- Based on (patented) technology from MEGTEC Systems
- VOCSIDIZERs from MEGTEC are made part of the power plant steam cycle

# WestVAMP IN FULL OPERATION







- 250 000 Nm3/h (150 000 scfm) of ventilation air with
- 0.9% CH4 concentration (VAM + drainage gas) generating
- High pressure, superheated steam driving a
- <u>Conventional 6 MWe power plant steam turbine</u>

# WestVAMP HOOD CONNECTION





Open connection having no influence on ventilation system

## WestVAMP IN FULL OPERATION





- In full operation since April 2007
- Officially opened on 14 September by the honorable Morris lemma, Premier of NSW, Australia
- .. national Australian news of that date

## PRESENTATION OUTLINE



Key Topics covered:

4 Coal Mine VAM site demo's of MEGTEC

Who is MEGTEC and how did MEGTEC solve the VAM dilemma (utilizing large volumes of extremely lean gas as fuel) ?

> Why is reducing VAM emissions of high interest?

VAM Project economics

# **REFERENCES OF CONCENTRATION - CMM**



### CMM EMISSIONS – VAM vs DRAINAGE



#### **MEGTEC** Systems



.. belongs to



US industrial corporation noted on NYSE USD >2 billion (2006 Sales)

## **MEGTEC Systems**

USD >0.2 billion in sales Over 800 employees worldwide







a unit of SEQUA Corporation







**Other products** 

After Six

Aerospace

**Chromalloy Gas Turbine** 

#### **Automotive**

**Arc Automotive Casco Products** 

Metal coating Precoat Metals

**Speciality chemicals** 

**Warwick Intenational** 

**Industrial machinery MEGTEC Systems** 

# **MEGTEC** Locations Worldwide





#### MEGTEC Systems



#### **Globally leading supplier**

of emission control equipment

In house competence and experience of boilers and boiler design.

# MEGTEC VOCSIDIZER INSTALLATIONS







# MEGTEC has delivered over 800 VOCSIDIZERs in many different industrial applications, now including ...



Coal Mine Ventilation Air Methane

# **VOCSIDIZER - Principle of reaction**



Like all VOC gases, methane oxidize at  $850-900^{\circ}$ C to form mainly water and CO<sub>2</sub>.

And release Energy!

## VOC Oxidation Rate





#### The Flameless VOCSIDIZER





Flameless: No NOx: Oxidation completely in-bed. No flame. Even though temp is high, it is not near where thermal NOx is generated.

# PROVEN TECHNOLOGY





First coal mine site demonstration Thorseby Coal Mine, British Coal, UK

1994: Demonstrated *efficient VAM Abatement* 

# Efficient Energy Recovery from VOCSIDIZER bed





#### VAM FOR THERMAL USE

## PROVEN TECHNOLOGY





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#### Second coal mine site demonstration

Appin Colliery, BHP, Australia

2001 - 2002:

Demonstrated, by boiling water during 12 months,

- Efficient Heat Recovery
- Ability to handle variations in VAM concentration

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- Ability to handle variations in VAM concentration

Awarded in April 2005 as ACARP's best Greenhouse Gas Project

The Appin Project was partly Government funded by ACARP - Australian Coal Association Research Programme

#### VOCSIDIZER Energy Recovery as Superheated Steam





#### PRINCIPLE DIAGRAM FOR : VOCSIDIZER STEAM CYCLE FOR POWER GENERATION





#### VAM Power Plant - VAM AS PRIMARY FUEL FOR THE GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY





In August 2007, Highly Commended in the Excellence Awards 2007 by the NSW Minerals Council.
 In September 2007, receiving the Excellence in Energy Award by the Australian Institute of Energy

The WestCliff Project was partly Government funded by AGO – Australian Greenhouse Office

#### US VAM Project at CONSOL Energy







#### Fourth coal mine site demonstration:

Windsor mine, CONSOL Energy, USA
50 000 m<sup>3</sup>/h (30 000 scfm) of ventilation air
0.1 - 1.2 % methane (abandoned mine gas)
Unmanned operation since May 2007

#### **PROJECT DESIGN:**

Injecting high concentration mine gas into a large flow of fresh air in order to simulate various concentrations of VAM, then to evaluate abatement in the VOCSIDIZER.

The Project is partly Government funded by the US EPA and the US DOE

# VOCSIDIZER technology for VAM Energy Recovery





0.2 % methane needed to maintain oxidation. Energy of concentrations above 0.2 % can be recovered.

<u>Example:</u>	800 000 m³/h 1 % CH <sub>4</sub>	$ \longrightarrow 72 \ MW(th) \longrightarrow 21 \ MW(el) $ (at 30% efficiency)
<u>Example:</u>	800 000 m³/h	$\rightarrow 36 MW(th) \longrightarrow 10 MW(el)$
	0.6 % CH <sub>4</sub>	(at 30% efficiency)

# Cogeneration of electricity and heating – plus cooling



Cooling water from electricity generation drives absorption chiller.



# VAM Energy Recovery for District Heating / cooling





## THREE OPTIONAL VAM VOCSIDIZER CONCEPTS





# **PRESENTED IN CHINA SINCE 2004**



The technology and concept of oxidizing and utilizing VAM has been

# presented by MEGTEC at Work Shops and Conferences in China since 2004.







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# WHY ALL THIS INTEREST TO REDUCE VAM EMISSIONS ?

- What is carbon credits financing?









Atmosphere thickness to the Earth is like the skin to the apple



Some heat radiation is reflected back to Earth by the atmosphere



Human activities are emitting large quantities of gases into atmosphere.

Gases with impact on Global Warming:  $CO_2$ ,  $CH_4$ ,  $N_2O$ , CFC's ..







Gases accumulate and reflect more heat back to Earth



Green House Effect resulting in Global Warming





<u>CO<sub>2</sub> remains 100 years in the atmosphere</u>, continuously accumulating at *accelerating* rate.

- Governments of the World agree this trend must be broken

The Kyoto Protocole introduced <u>a system of emission caps for industrialized countries</u>, and <u>a system of trading</u>
 <u>emission allowances</u> – promoting investment in emission reductions <u>where investment is most efficient</u> in reducing GHG (Green House Gas) emissions. All emissions are into the same thin bubble of atmosphere.

Besides Kyoto, now also local emission reduction schemes Recent trend is companies and individuals buying Voluntary Emission Reduction credits





#### **CONCLUSIONS:**

- Structures of trading schemes of "carbon credits" (CER / ERU / VER / NGAC ..) are now established
- Trading is increasing quickly and becoming globally integrated
- Media attention as well as public awareness and concern are very high and increasing

Carbon credit financing of successful emission reduction projects is here to stay



# Green House Gas METHANE



# Global Methane Emissions - by source







#### **BIGGEST TOTAL SOURCE:**

Cows, sheep etc

#### PROBLEM:

Each source is very small

# ANNUAL GREENHOUSE EFFECT on Global Warming



**Coal mine VAM** 800 000 m3/h, 1% (50 000 t CH<sub>4</sub>/yr)

# ANNUAL GREENHOUSE EFFECT on Global Warming



# ANNUAL GREENHOUSE EFFECT on Global Warming



# Calculations of CERs





For calculation of amount to CERs, consider;

- Vocsidizer cleaning efficiency and availability
- conversion rate of CH4 into CO2e.

#### The formula will be:

[Cleaning Efficiency] x [Hours of availability] x [Volume flow of ventilation air] x [VAM concentration] x [(CH4 weight) x Global Warming factor - (CO2 weight)]

which comes to:

0.97 x [8760x0.97] x [Flow of ventilation air] x [VAM concentration] x [ 0.71 x ( 21 - 2.75)]

#### Examples:

250 000 Nm3/h @ 0.9 % VAM comes to 240 000 tonnes of CO2e 125 000 Nm3/h @ 0,9 % VAM comes to 120 000 t CO2e 125 000 Nm3/h @ 0,3 % VAM comes to 40 000 t CO2e

	0.3	0.6	0.9
125 000	40	80	120
250 000	80	160	240
500 000	160	320	480
1 000 000	320	640	960

#### Thousand tons of CO2e per year

IN ADDITION at energy recovery :

If carbon based energy is replaced, the effect on Global Warming is ~20% better.

# VAM Project Economics



ETS €15 - 20/t CO2e for 2008
CDM in China \$ 10/t CO2e
VERs 3 - 4 \$/t CO2e







- Many parameters especially for VAM Power Plants
- Each site must be evaluated separately
- The new market for carbon credits is still very volatile

#### **FOLLOWING PAGES:**

Indications to estimated levels, trends and critical values. Please note that these are indicative only.

# VAM Project Economics - indications



#### CONCLUSIONS:

- VAM should be min 0.6 %
- Carbon credits should be min 10 USD/t CO2e

.. then the straight pay back time is only a few years - provided approved

# VAM Project Economics - indications





# VAM Project Economics - indications





VAM Power Plants have higher CAPEX and higher revenues

# 4 CONCLUSIONS on VAM (Ventilation Air Methane)

1. VOCSIDIZER can abate VAM







OCSIDIZER can abate VAM

2. VOCSIDIZER <u>can convert</u> VAM into useful energy





# 4 CONCLUSIONS on VAM (Ventilation Air Methane)

OCSIDIZER can abate VAM

- 2. VOCSIDIZER <u>can convert</u> VAM into useful energy
- Project WestVAMP in Australia is the <u>World's first</u> large scale <u>VAM Power Plant</u> - using VAM as primary fuel





OCSIDIZER can abate VAM

- 2. VOCSIDIZER <u>can convert</u> VAM into useful energy
- Project WestVAMP in Australia will be the <u>World's first</u> large scale <u>VAM Power Plant</u> - using VAM as primary fuel
- A full scale VAM Power Plant can reduce annual emissions of 1 million tons CO<sub>2e</sub>
   providing significant positive impact on Global Warming



# ADDITIONAL CONCLUSION on VAM



VAM projects can have pay back time of a few years only !

## The World's first VAM Power Plant is **IN FULL OPERATION**







BHP BILLITON ILLAWARRA COAL

