



# SlipStream™\*

## BP Pilot — Project Review

\* *Patents Pending*

# BP Background

- BP Canada operates in AB and NE BC.  
>90% of its production is natural gas.
- Compressor combustion emissions are our #1 emitter. Fugitives are #2.
- Significant push for quantifying and reducing its fugitive and vented emissions.
- BP Canada has over 250 compressor engines.  
~20% have **REMVue**® control panels, most with Air Fuel management control.

# BP Canada E&P Operations



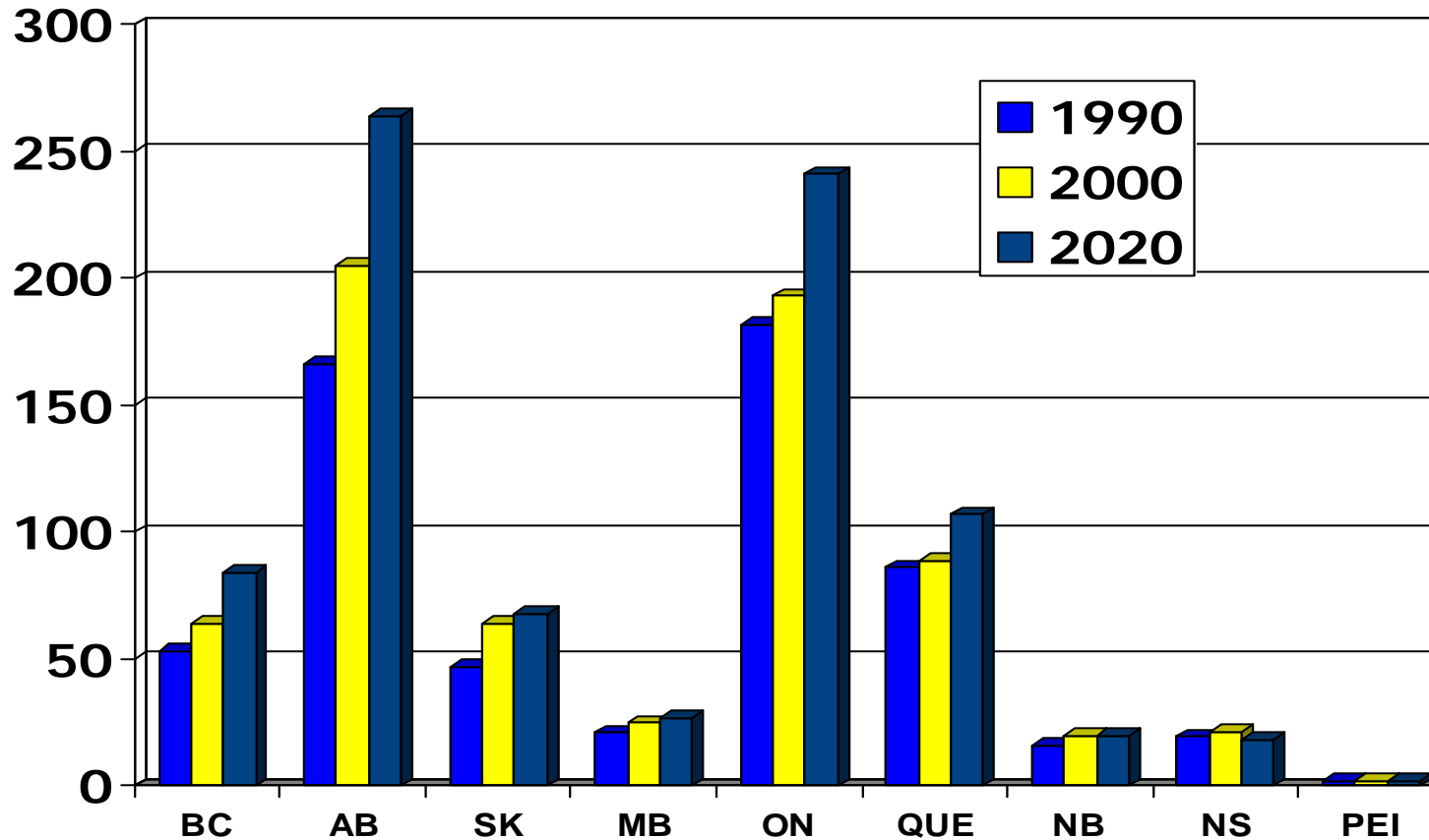
760 miles

bp



720 miles

# Emission Projections Provincial



<http://environment.gov.ab.ca/info/library/5892.ppt>

# SlipStream™

- SlipStream™ is the REM Technology product\* designed for utilizing **vented hydrocarbons** as a supplementary fuel source for natural gas engines

# Design Objectives for SlipStream™

- Develop a technology that would allow vented hydrocarbons to be used as supplementary fuel for natural gas engines
- Must not reduce performance or reliability of engine
- Must be scaleable from low volumes of supplementary fuel to high volumes
- Must be able to compensate (*Air-Fuel Ratio and Governor*) for variable flow and BTU value of the supplementary fuel
- Must be able to handle diluted and undiluted sources
- Must be safe — ***Safety First***

# Pilot Site Selection

- Engaged workforce
- Has a source that can be easily captured
- Site with existing **REMVue**® AFR control Panel
- Minimally affect production during testing and commissioning

# Initial Site Details

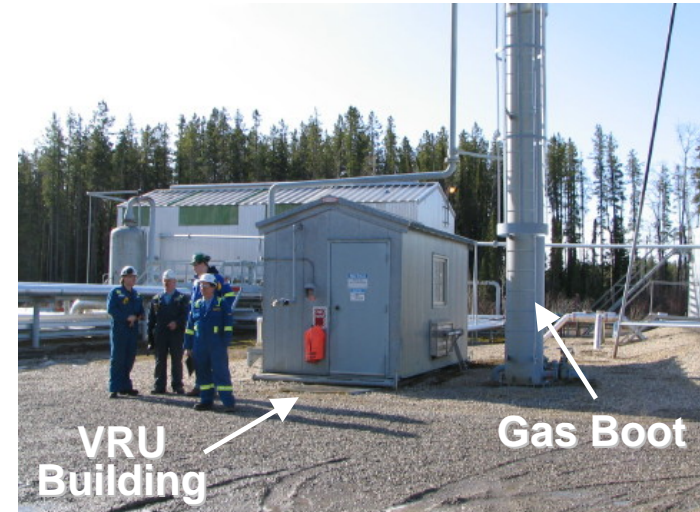
## SlipStream™ Sources:

### ■ Packing Vent Gas (*Diluted*)

- Available from 3 units
- Includes packing/distance piece vents and drains
- Process gas is sweet natural gas
- Headers located in main building adjacent to compressors

### ■ VRU Gas (*Undiluted*)

- Flash gas collected from Gas Boot feeds 1<sup>st</sup> stage suction of VRU (more than 2x btu value)
- Make-up gas system supplements VRU when there is insufficient gas from the Gas Boot
- VRU building located  $\approx$  45 m from Waukesha compressor building
- Existing pipe and pipe rack





# Initial Site Details



Unit 2 – Waukesha 9390 GSI with **REMVue®** Rich-to-Lean AFR

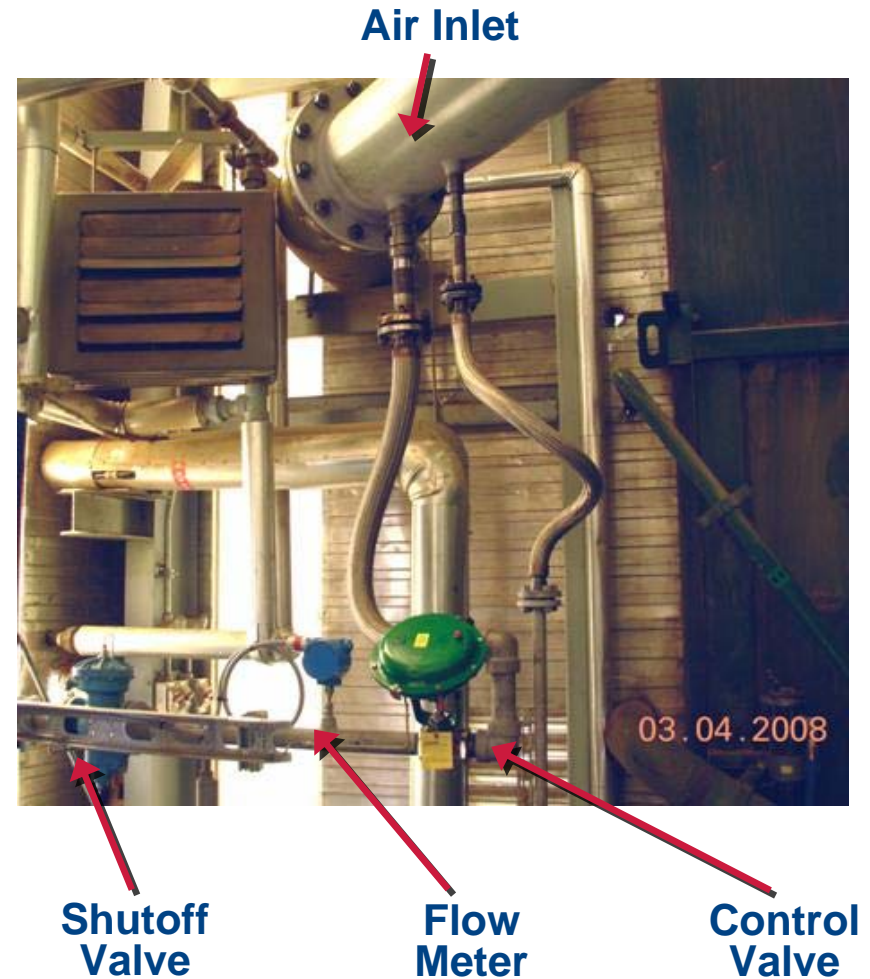
- Three Waukesha 9390 engines (2× GSI, 1× GL)
- Two units running continuously ≈ 50–60 % loaded
- Third unit functions as backup
- Adjacent White-Superior no longer used
- Pre-existing **REMVue®** – *500/AS* system on Unit #2

# Installation Details

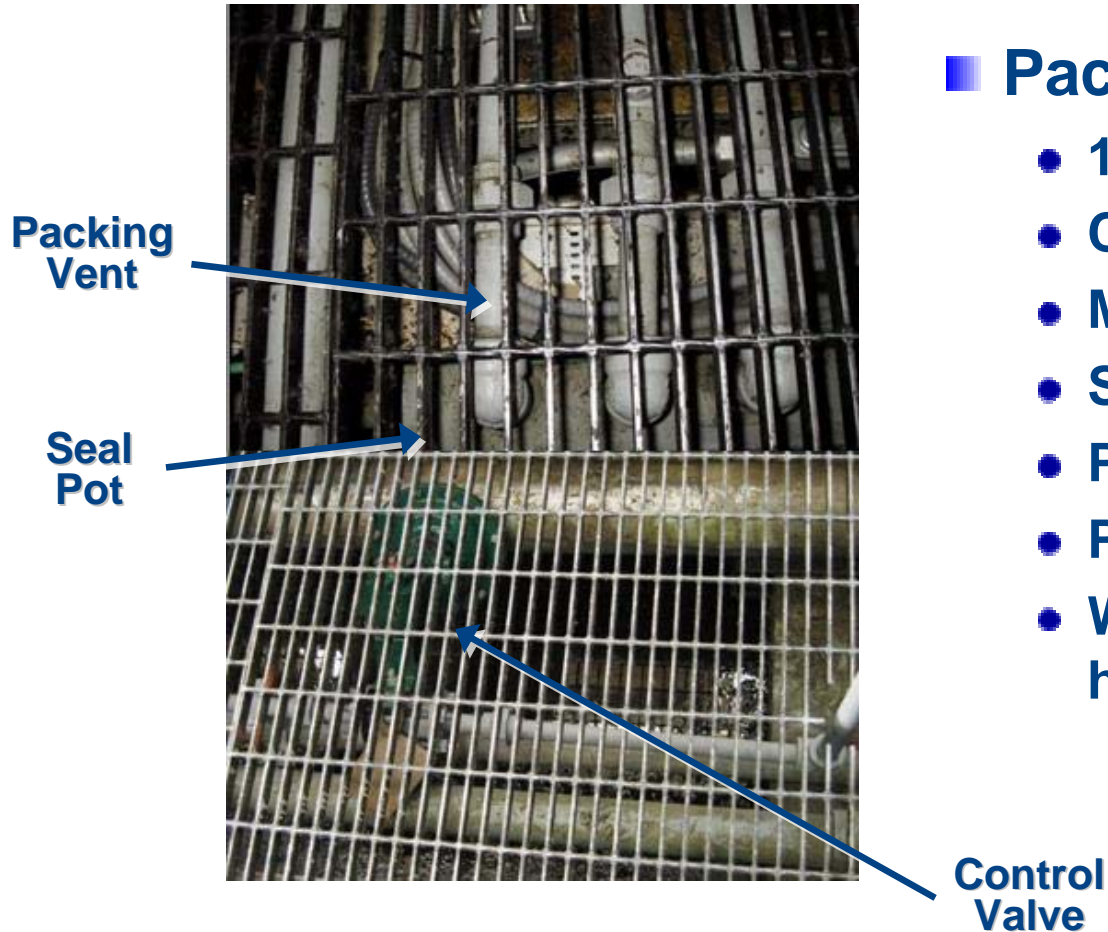
# Installation

## ■ VRU Gas

- 2" Sch. 80 pipe
- Liquids drop out vessel
- Manual isolation valves
- Control valve and I/P
- Shutoff valve and solenoid
- Pressure transmitter
- Flow meter
- Screen
- Sampling ports
- Low point drain



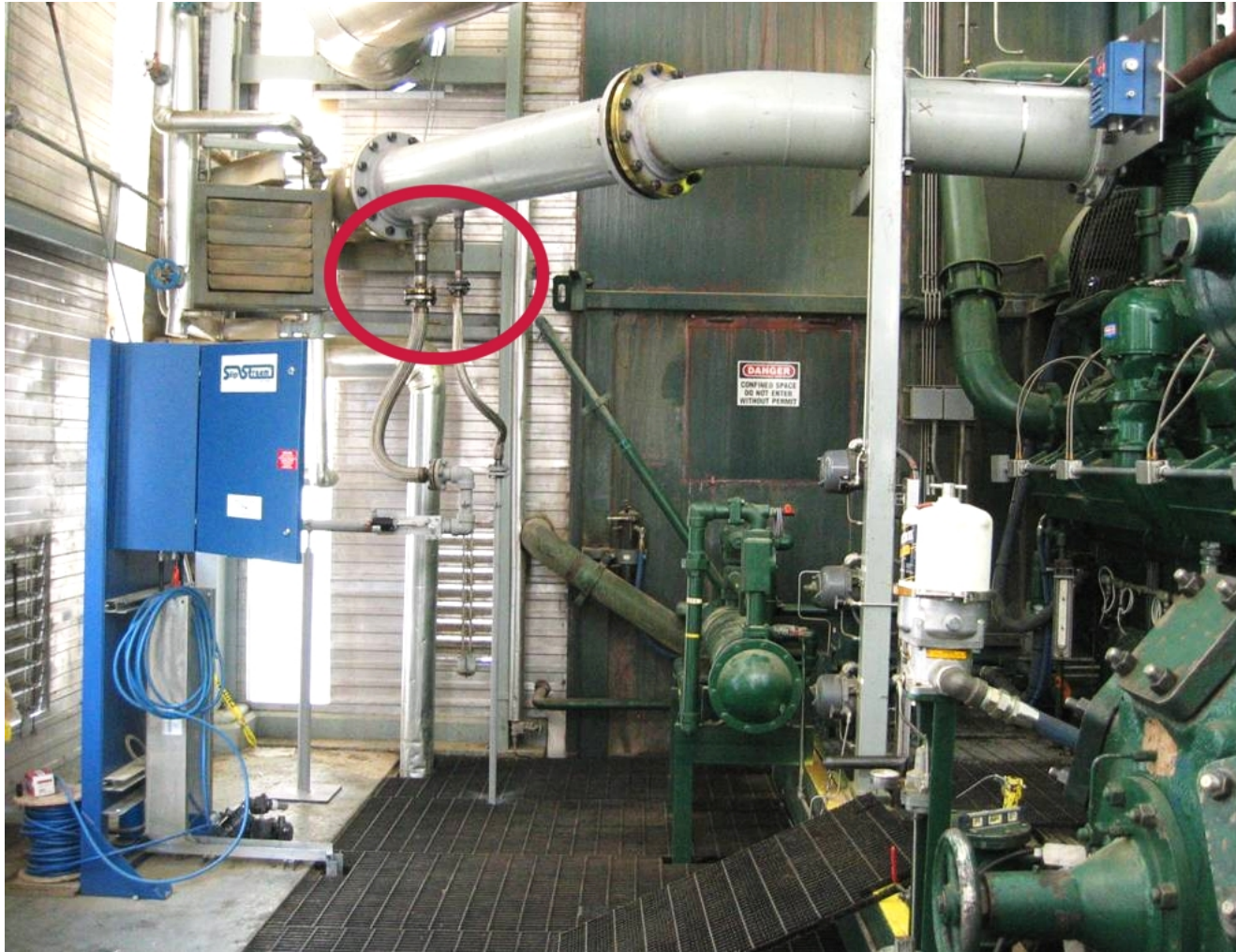
# Installation



## ■ Packing Vent Gas

- 1" Sch. 80 pipe
- Control valve and I/P
- Manual isolation valve
- Sampling ports
- Packing vent filter (*optional*)
- Packing vent thermocouple
- Wide range lambda sensor hardware

# Installation



# Safety Review

# Safety

- Any given SlipStream™ system may have one or more undiluted and/or diluted sources that may interface with any number of existing site processes and associated equipment.
- Given the diversity of processes and equipment in the field, it is crucial that a site-specific HAZOP is conducted.
- The complexity of the SlipStream™ design will depend on the type of SlipStream™ system, amount of flow, gas quality, expected process fluctuations, upstream equipment, etc.
- The safe operation of the SlipStream™ System is the primary design objective.



# Safety

## Gas Concentration

- If the air-fuel mixture remains below the Lower Explosive Limit for that mixture, an explosion can not occur.

## Combustion

Fuel + Oxidizer + Energy Source

### Lower Explosive Limit

*The minimum percent by volume of a gas in air which forms a flammable mixture at normal temperatures and pressures.<sup>2</sup>*

Table 1 Gas Mixture and LEL Percentages

FUEL	FUEL SPECIFIC GRAVITY (REL. TO AIR)	STOICHIOMETRIC % OF FUEL IN MIXTURE	LEAN ( $\lambda = 1.5$ ) % OF FUEL IN MIXTURE	LEL <sup>1</sup> %	SLIPSTREAM % OF FUEL IN AIR LEVEL 3 – 50% OF ENGINE FUEL
Methane	0.56	10.1	6.7	5	3.4
Ethane	1.04	5.3	3.6	3	1.8
Propane	1.52	3.7	2.4	2.2	1.2
Butane	2.02	2.75	1.8	1.8	0.9

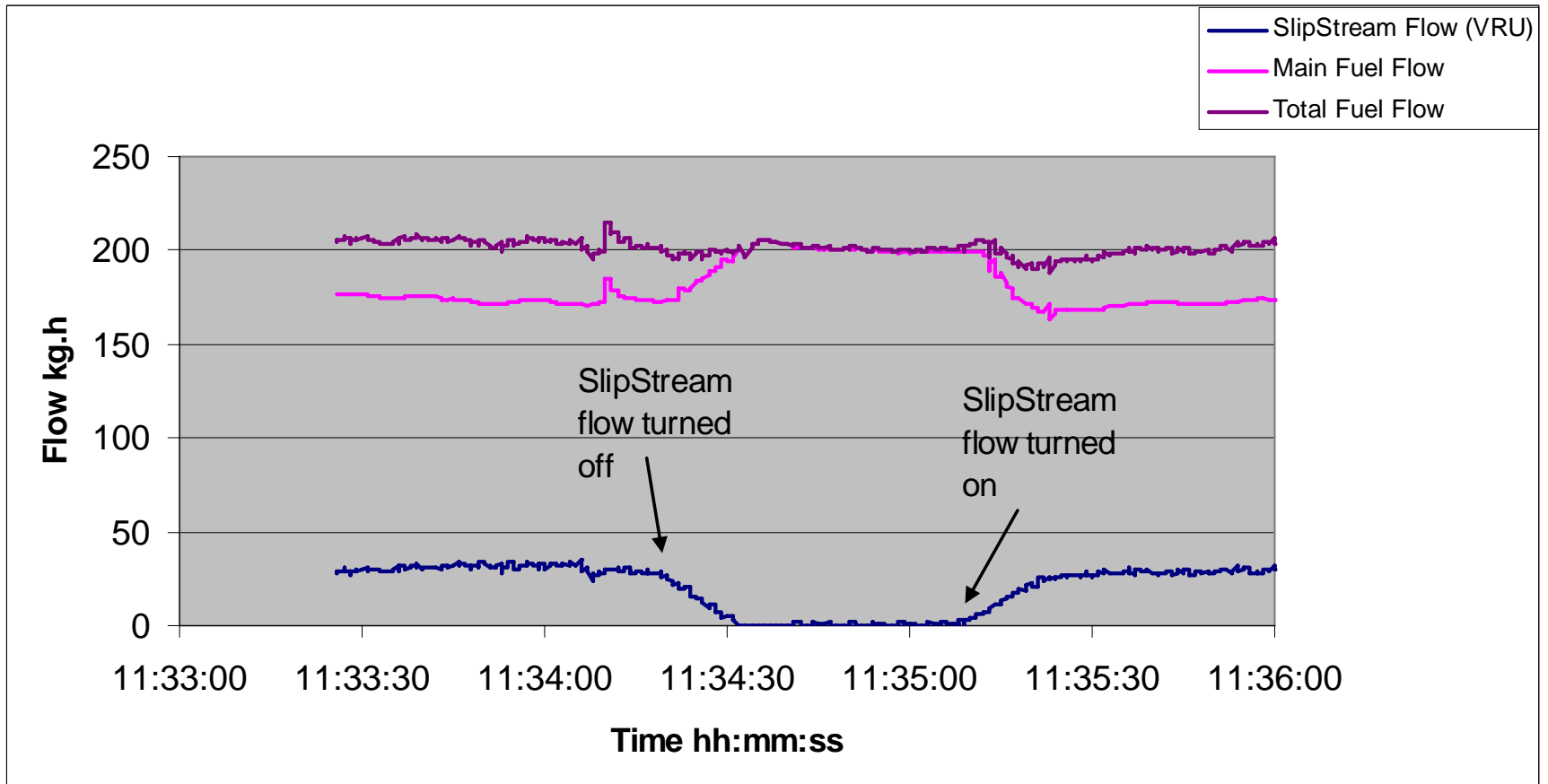
1. LEL from *CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*, 72nd edition; CRC Press; Boca Raton, Florida; 1991; ISBN 0-8493-0565-9 and MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) from [www.msdssearch.com](http://www.msdssearch.com)
2. "Glossary of Specialty Gas Terminology," 2002, AIR LIQUIDE GROUP.  
<http://www.airliquide.cl/medias/pdf/business/industry/laboratories/glossary.pdf>



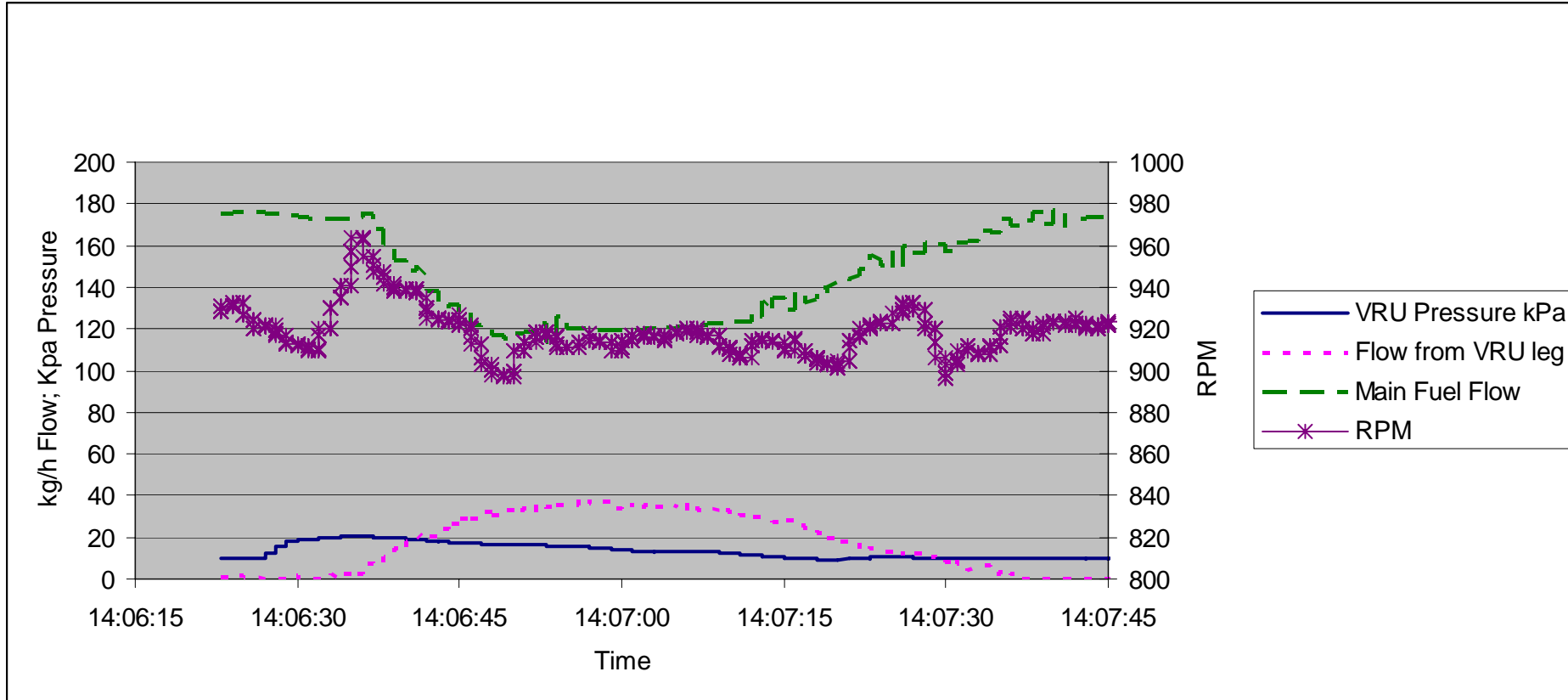
# BP SlipStream™

## PRELIMINARY RESULTS AND LESSONS LEARNED

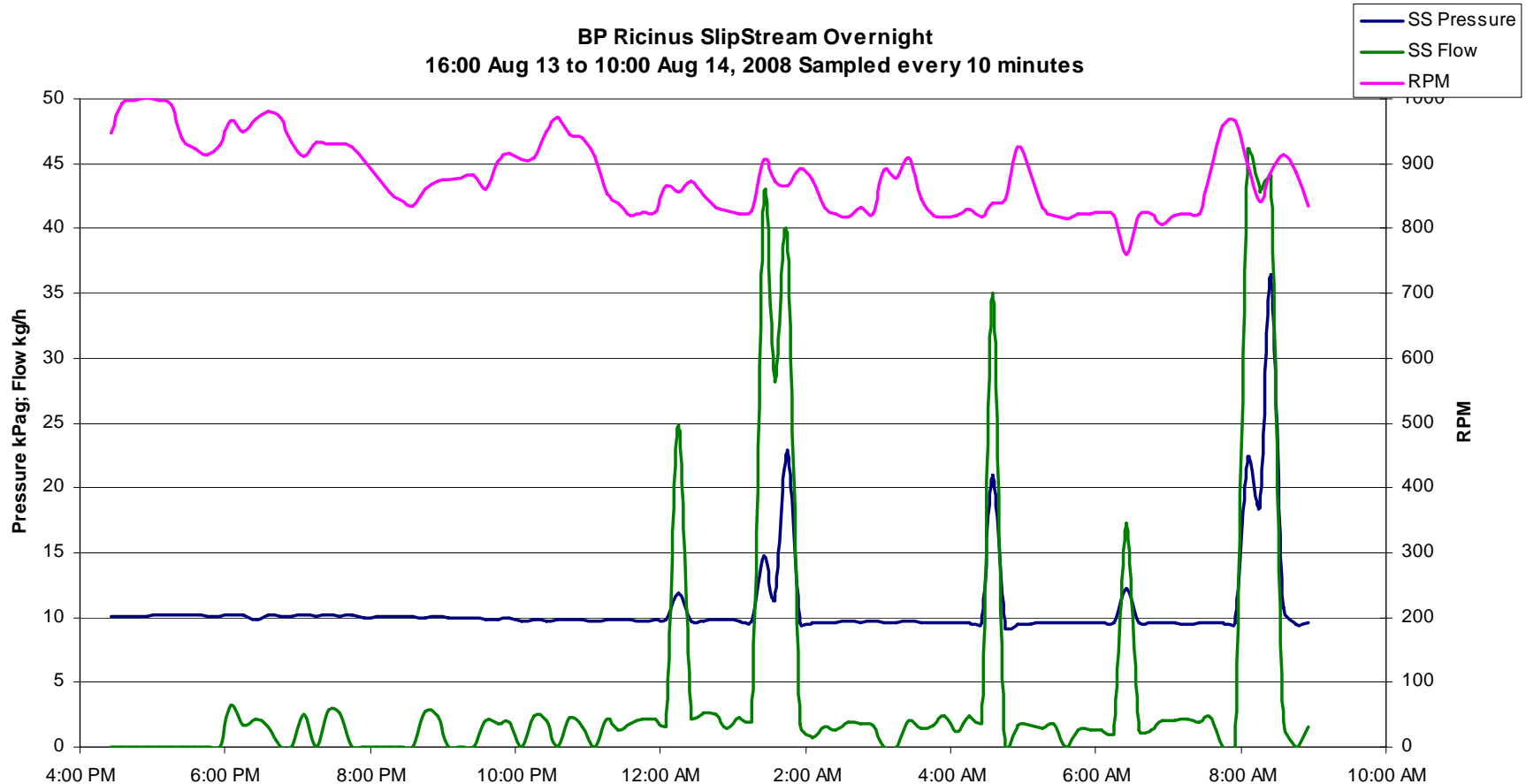
# Engine Fuel Flows



# RPM Under Capacity Control



# VRU Excess Gas Capture



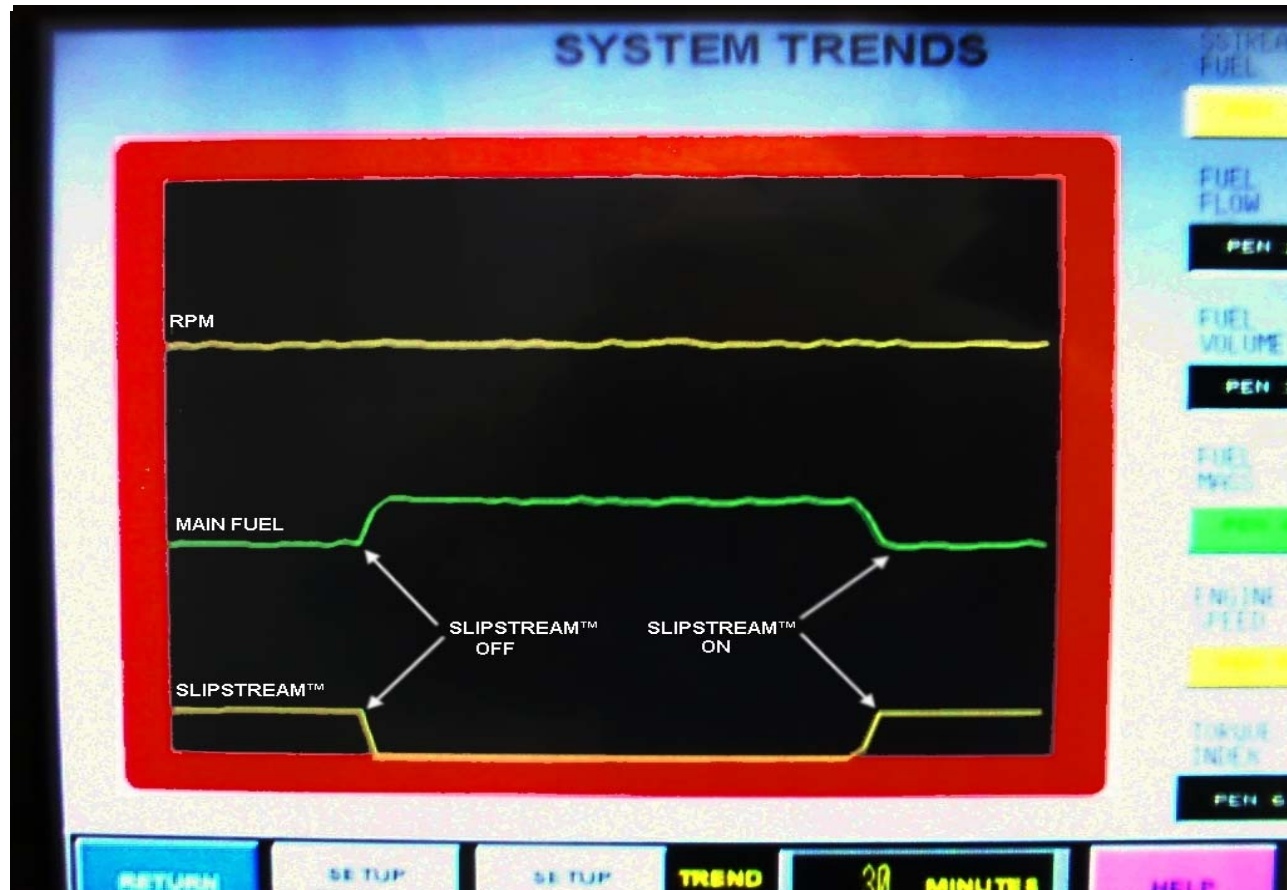
Overnight run shown above for the VRU overflow (anything causing the suction pressure before the VRU to exceed 12 kPa). The make-up gas regulator opens to supply the VRU at 10 kPa

# Control Test Results

(from first SS installation at another CDN gas company)

- This next graph shows a trend of the engine RPM, SlipStream™ Flow and main fuel flow
- The SlipStream™ flow is turned off and on abruptly to observe how the **REMVue**® control system handles this sudden change in fuel to the engine
- In addition to the trend graph, two videos of these events were taken with a FLIR infrared camera
- The videos show the vent pipe at the top of the engine building when the SlipStream™ Flow is turn on and off per the trend graph
- This FLIR shows methane leaks that are invisible to the naked eye.

# SlipStream™ Results



■ Full vented flow turned off abruptly, then on abruptly

■ Minimal engine RPM change

# Control

- SlipStream™ uses advanced control algorithms to anticipate changes in SlipStream flow and adjusts the governor and air-fuel ratio control accordingly
- The result — no impact to engine reliability or speed from:
  - Load changes
  - SlipStream™ Flow
  - Fuel gas or SlipStream™ gas BTU swings
  - Ambient air temperature or pressure





# BP Preliminary Results

- AFR upgrade and SlipStream™ installation complete
- AFR Control
  - Relocation of governor control, addition of a DVC, and the implementation of new tuning techniques have led to significant improvement in engine governor response
- Packing Vent Gas
  - Diluted flow control implementation is a success!
  - By collecting the packing vent gas from only one unit, **4 kg/hr** or approximately **2%** of the engine's normal fuel flow was saved
  - Equates to approximately **\$11,000/yr** in potential fuel cost savings and a reduction of **625 tonnes CO2(e)/yr**
- VRU Gas
  - SlipStream fuel rates of up to **50 kg/hr** or approximately **25%** were achieved using gas from the VRU suction
  - Equates to approximately **\$137,500/yr\*** in potential fuel cost savings

# Lessons Learned

- An audit of each unit's "*as found*" operational and health issues is required prior to SlipStream™ implementation
- Need for improved site coordination and project documentation during system installation
- SlipStream™ source characteristics — amount, pressure, BTU content, etc. must be clearly understood
- More specific pipe routing instructions are required to minimize flow restrictions
- Fast governor response is necessary to minimize speed upsets due to SlipStream™ transients
- Main fuel flow meter selection — Thermal vs. Coriolis
- SlipStream™ flow meter placement and control valve selection

# What's Next for BP and SlipStream™

- Identify SlipStream opportunities in BP fleet
- Develop business proposal to management for SlipStream deployment
- Participate in new PTAC study to quantify impact of SlipStream deployment on upstream Canadian gas industry

*Thank You*