



**ConocoPhillips**

Workshop 6-7 Nov 2013

# CO<sub>2</sub> for EOR Ekofisk CO<sub>2</sub> Study

FORCE - EOR Competence Building Seminar  
November 2013



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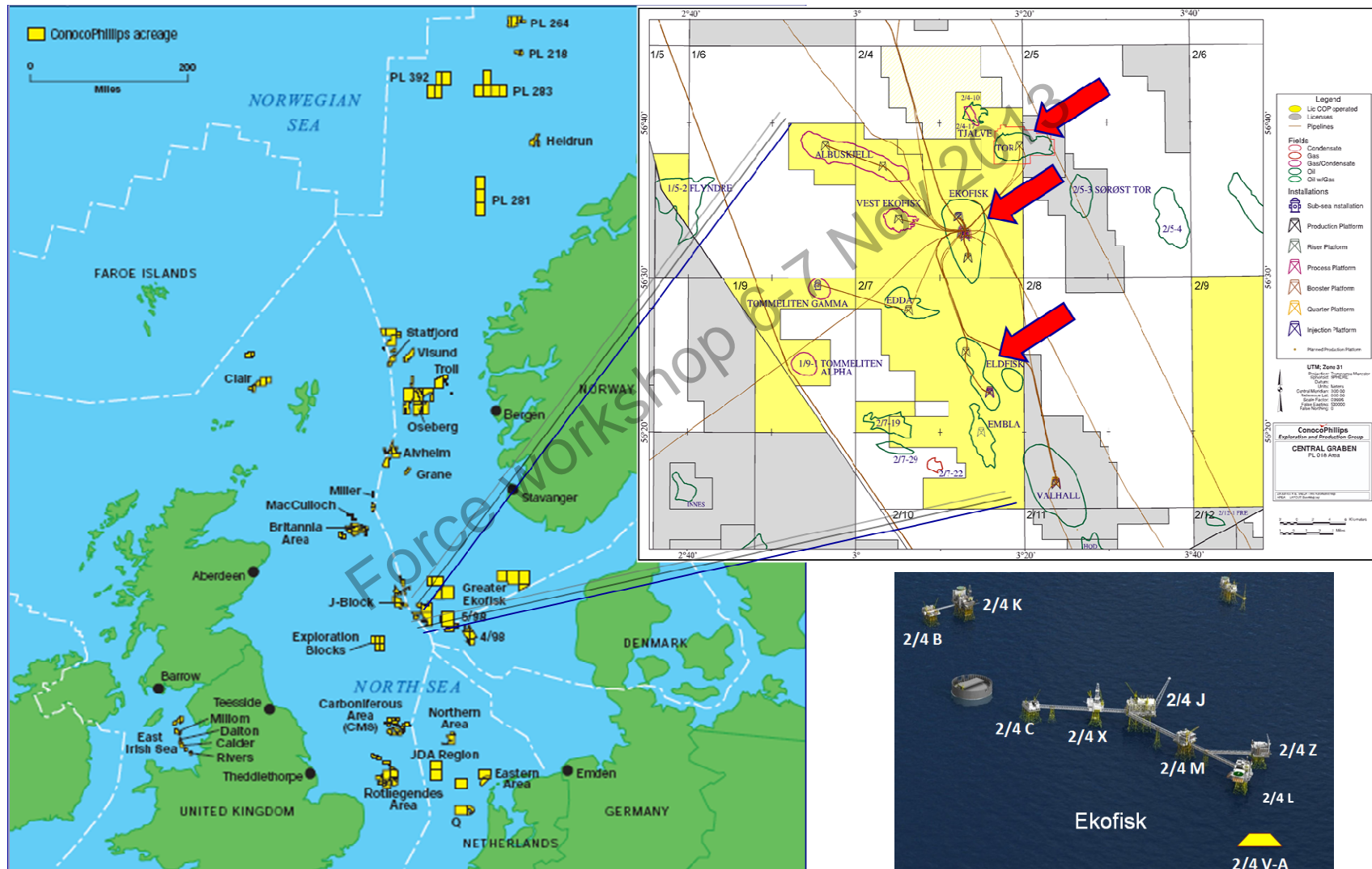


# Agenda

- Introduction Ekofisk
- CO2 Mechanisms Subsurface
- CO2 Scenario Studies
- Summary

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# Ekofisk Field



# Facts Ekofisk

**LOCATION: CENTRAL GRABEN,  
NORWEGIAN NORTH**

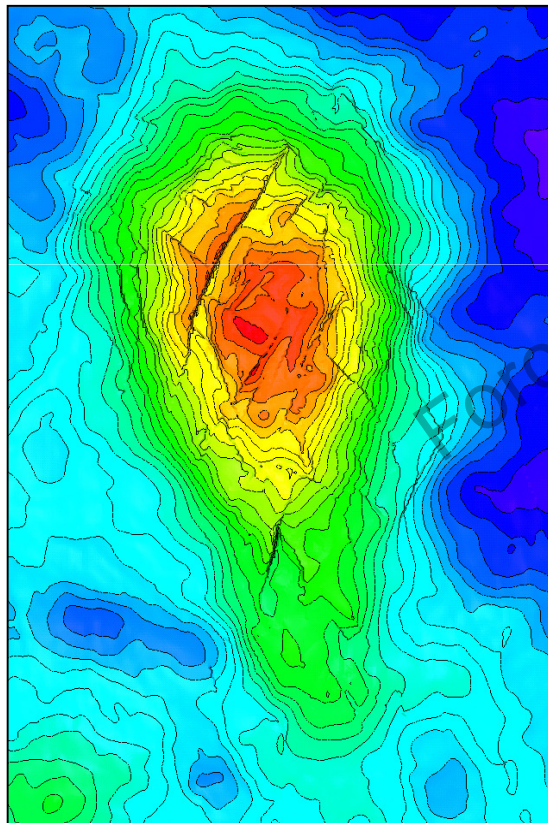
**SEA**

**DISCOVERED: 1969**

**START-UP: 1971**

**OOIP: 7.1 MMMSTB**

**PRODUCED: 3.7 MMMSTB**



0 1 km

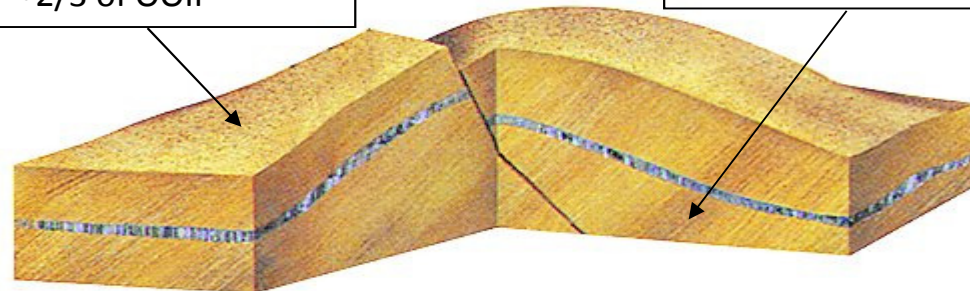
## RESERVOIR:

### FRACTURED CHALK

- EKOFISK FM: DANIAN (EARLY PALEOCENE)
  - TOR FM: MAASTRICHTIAN (LATE CRETACEOUS)
- PAY THICKNESS: 1000 feet**  
**DEPTH: 9500 - 10800 feet**  
**POROSITY: 25 - 40%**  
**PERMEABILITY: Matrix: 3 - 10 mD**  
**Effective: 3 - 100 mD**

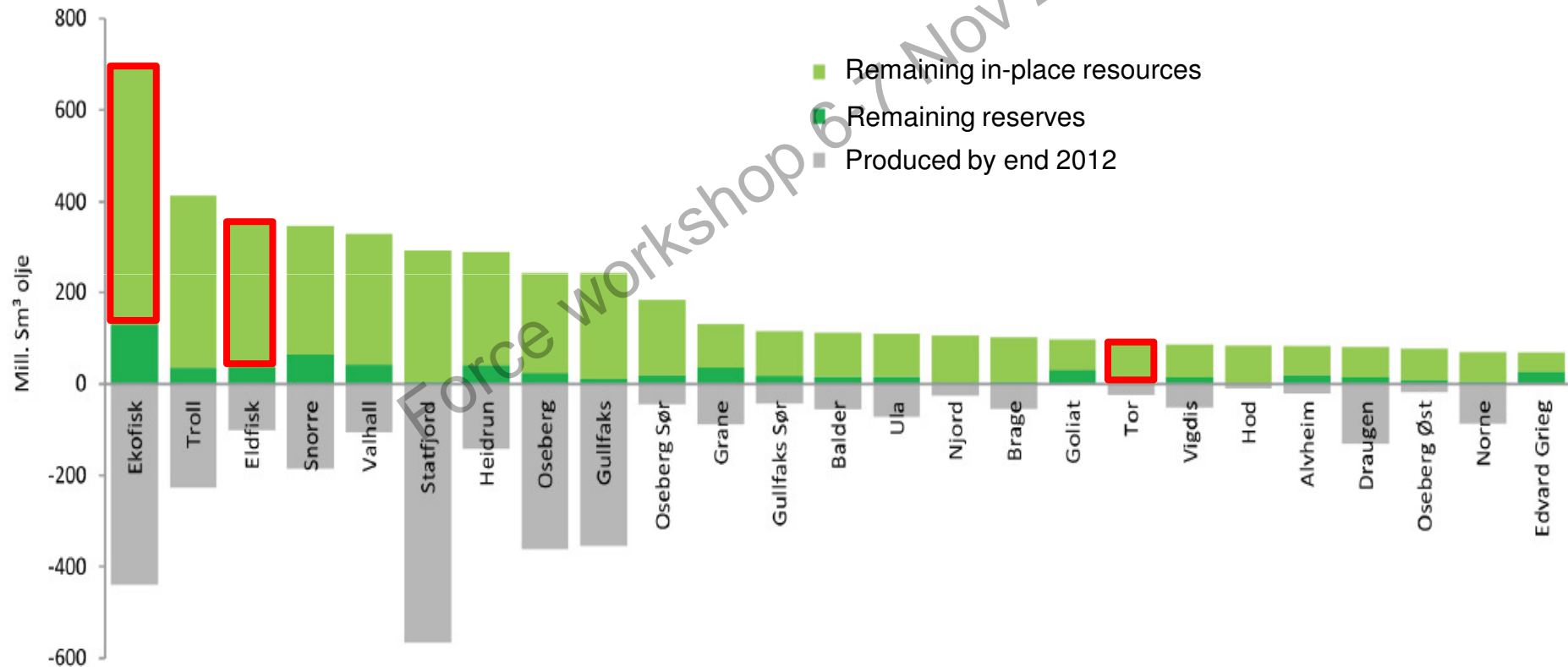
- Ekofisk Formation
- 300 - 500 ft thick
  - 2/3 of OOIP

- Tor Formation
- 300 - 500 ft thick
  - 1/3 of OOIP



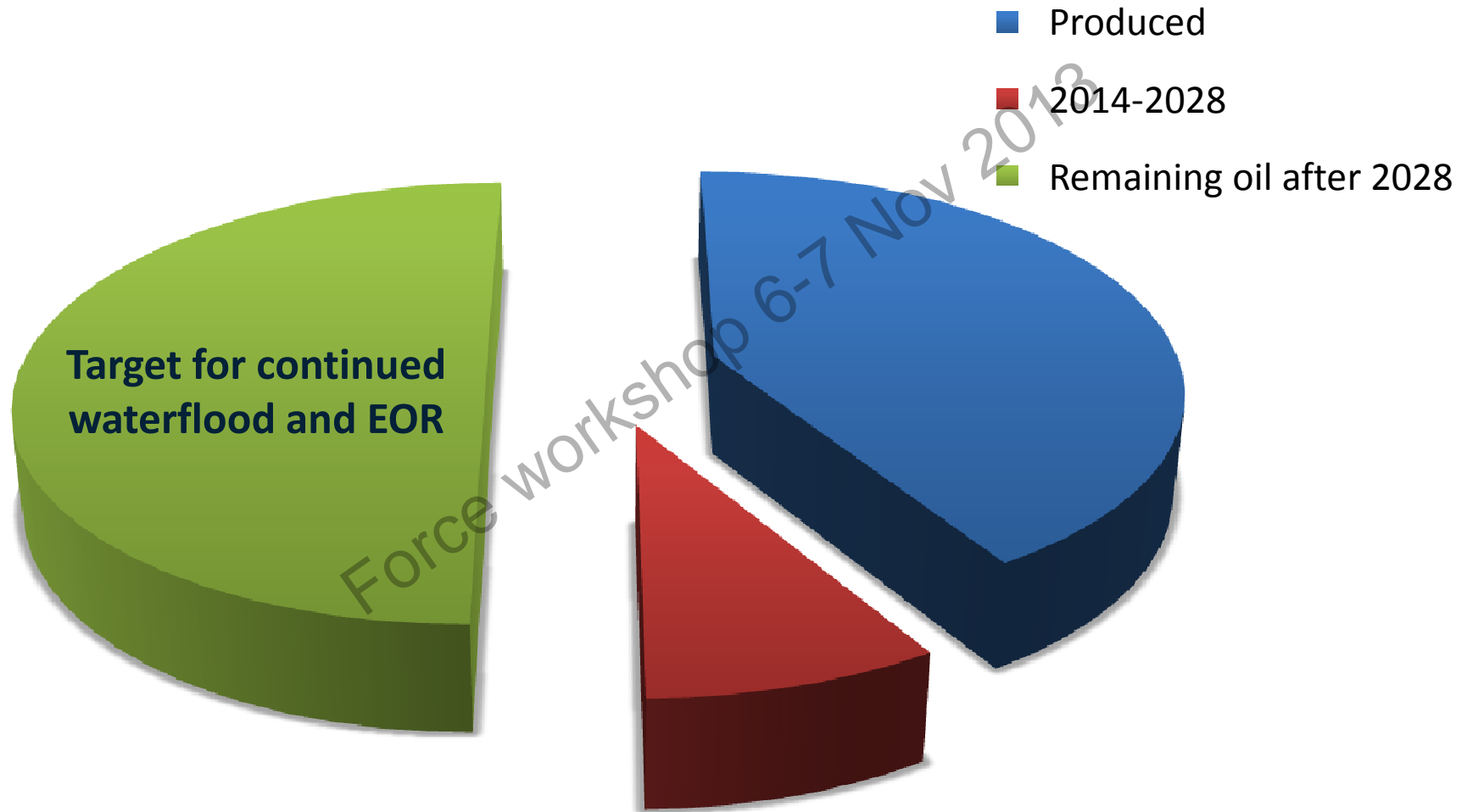
# MOTIVATION - WHAT WE LEAVE BEHIND

## Oil Resources and Reserves in Norwegian Fields



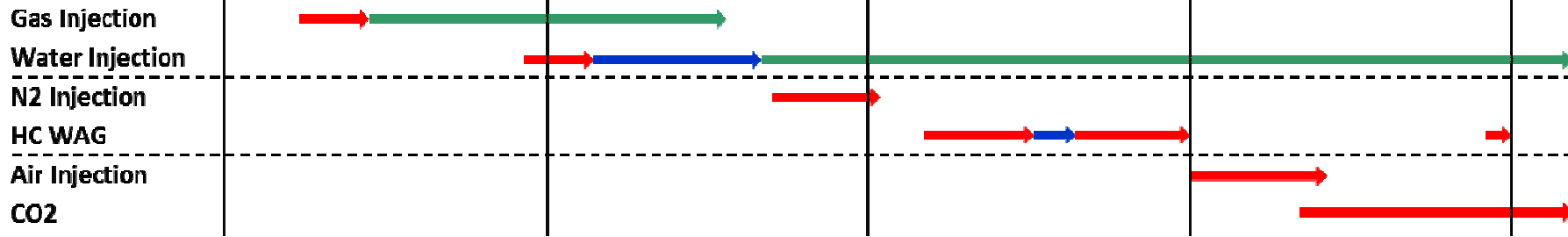
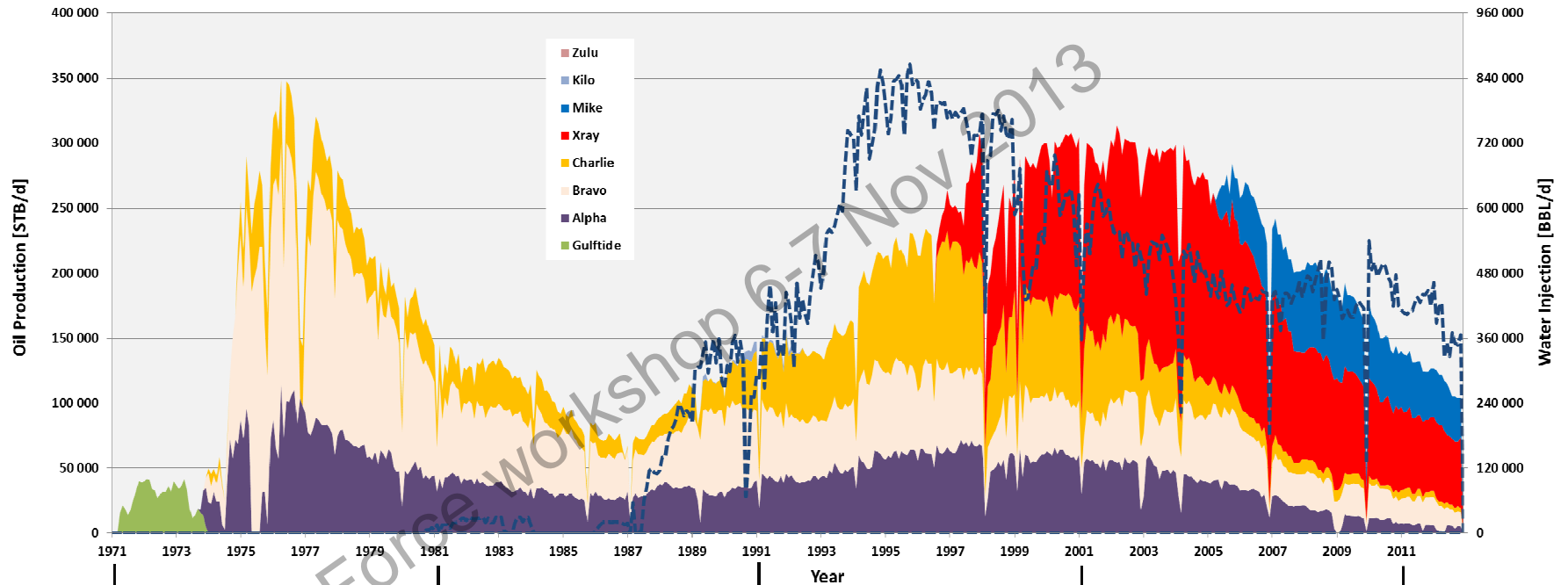
\* Source: Norwegian Petroleum Directorate

# Ekofisk EOR Target



**+1% incremental RF ~ 80 MMBOE**

# Historical Gas Based EOR Studies



**Legend:** → Studies → Pilot → Execution



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# CO2 has been extensively studied for the past 10 years

## ➤ Subsidence & Compaction

- CO2 compaction impact
- Well failure potentials
- Full field subsidence/compaction forecast

## ➤ CO2 Transport Mechanisms

- Injection schemes (Pure, WAG, Carbonated Water)

## ➤ CO2 Displacement Mechanisms

- Fracture/Matrix interaction
- Diffusion, Gravity, Viscous Displacement

## ➤ CO2 Recovery Mechanisms

- Swelling, Vaporization, Miscibility

## ➤ Other Issues

- CO2 Solubility in Water
- Asphaltene formation
- Hydrate Formation

## ➤ Res. Simulation

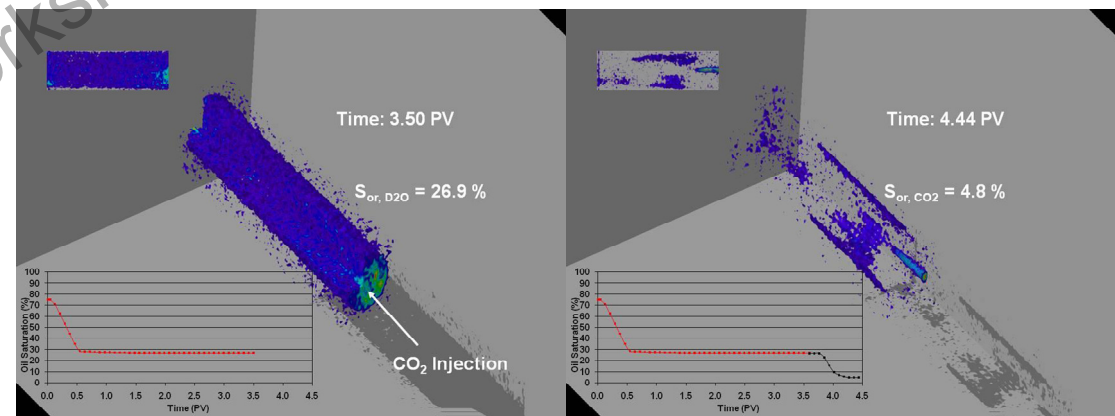
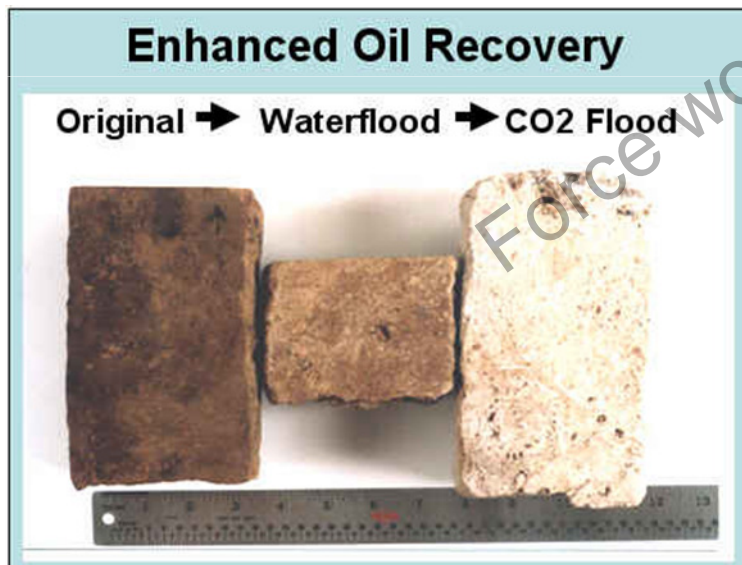
- Model Mechanisms
- Upscale to full field

### Project(s) Status:

- Completed
- Ongoing
- Need more work

# CO2 as an EOR Method

- **CO2 can be a very efficient EOR method in homogeneous chalk**
  - Potential for reducing  $S_{or}$  to less than 10% within 1 PV CO2 injected
- **Miscible displacement can be achieved at reservoir conditions**
  - Miscibility is a bigger challenge for HC- and N2-gas



Laboratory test of waterflooded outcrop chalk with CO2 as EOR (University of Bergen)

- Residual oil saturation after waterflood
- Residual oil saturation after CO2 injection

# Challenges of CO2 in North Sea Chalk Reservoirs

- **Most of the chalk fields are naturally fractured reservoirs**
  - Slower recovery and potentially higher Sor after CO2 flooding
  - Early CO2 breakthrough
    - ⇒ Cycling of CO2 - close to CO2 self sufficient after some years
- **Injection temperature**
  - Potential risk of losing injectivity due to hydrates

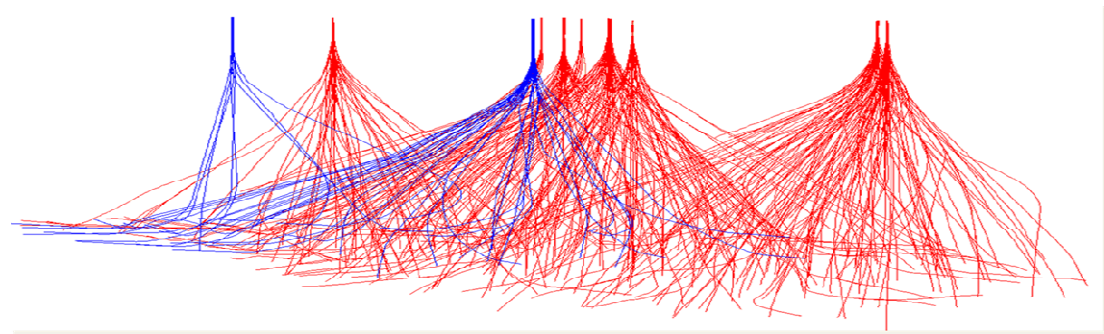
# Challenges of CO2 in North Sea Chalk Reservoirs

## ► **Compaction/Subsidence**

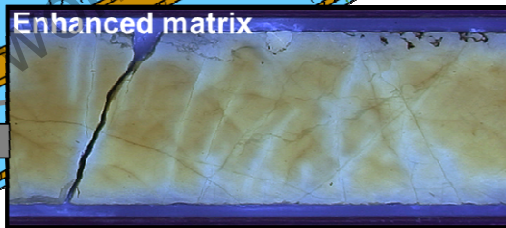
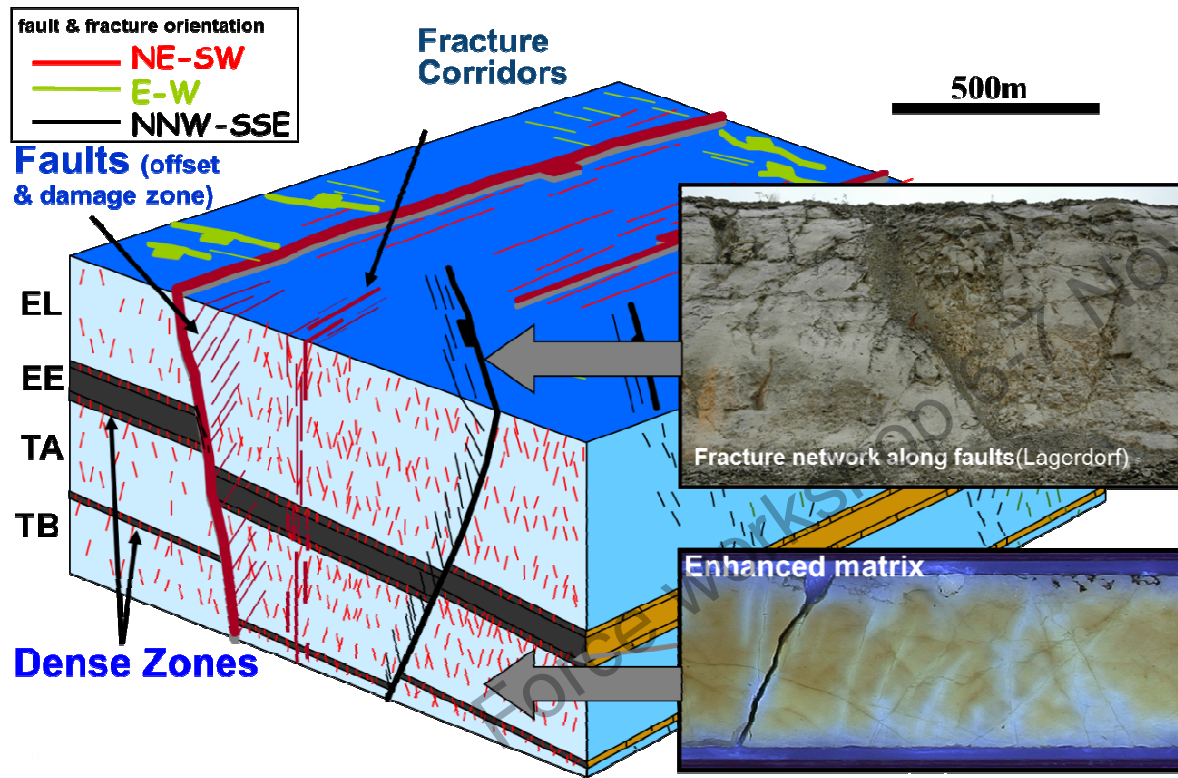
- Potential for increased compaction/subsidence with CO2 injection
  - ⇒ Increased potential for well failures
  - ⇒ Top side integrity
  - ⇒ Increased risk for leakage

## ► **Containment**

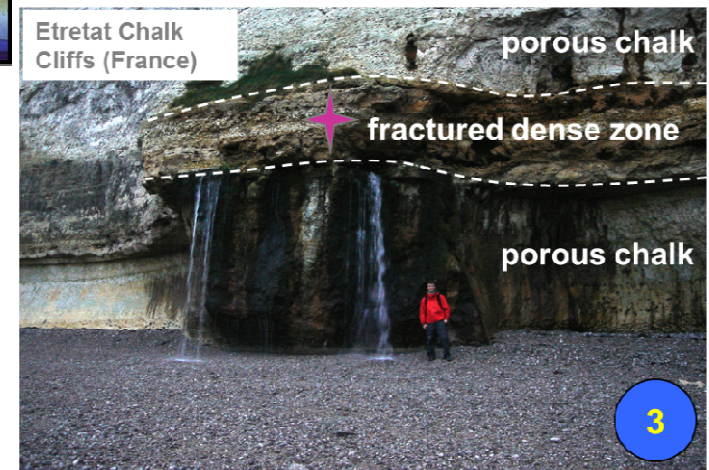
- More than 400 wells drilled during the 40 years of production
  - High potential for CO2 leakage
- Need for a safe aquifer as storage



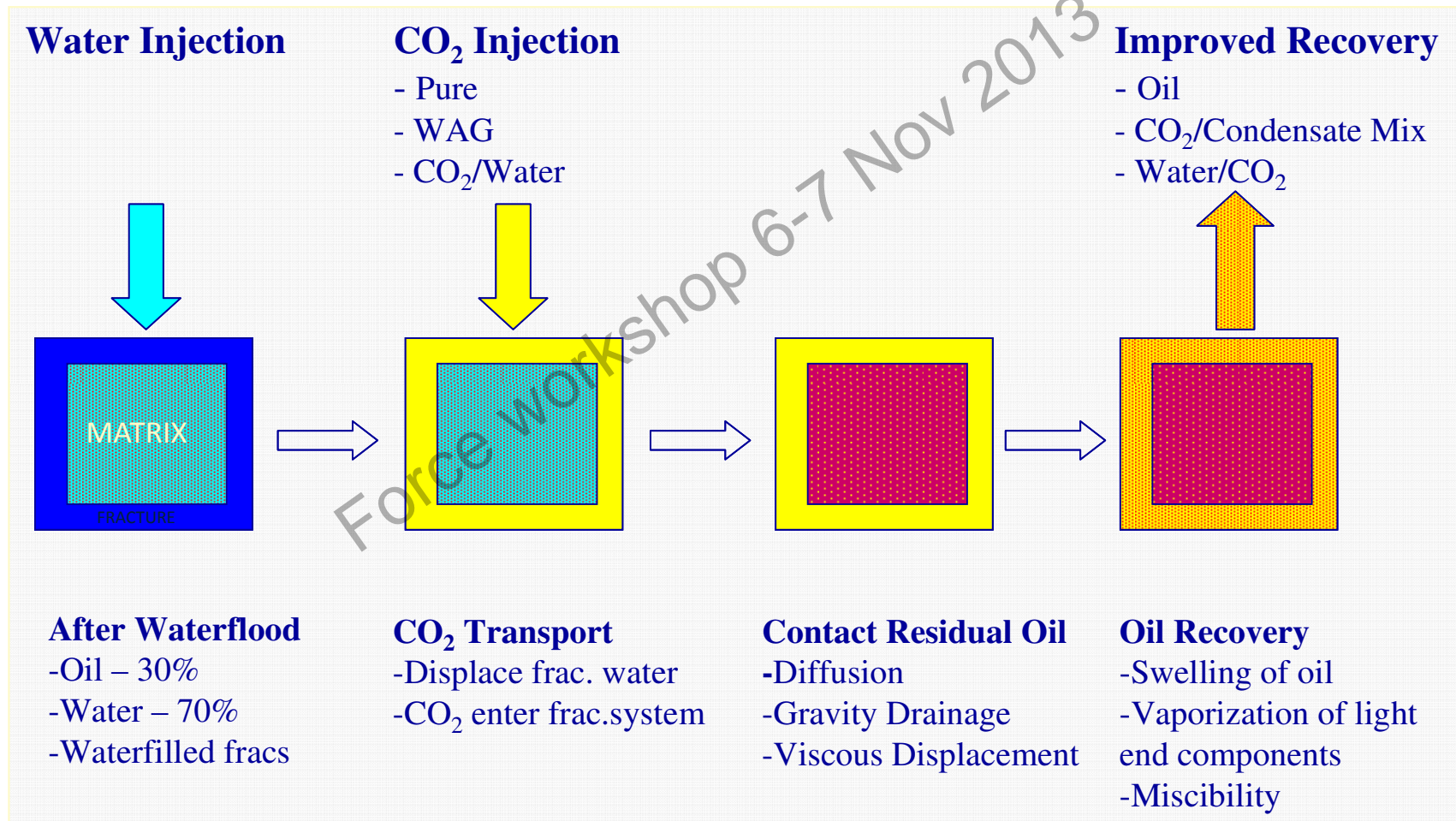
# Fractured Chalk



2013



# Fractured Chalks: CO<sub>2</sub> Transfer Mechanisms?



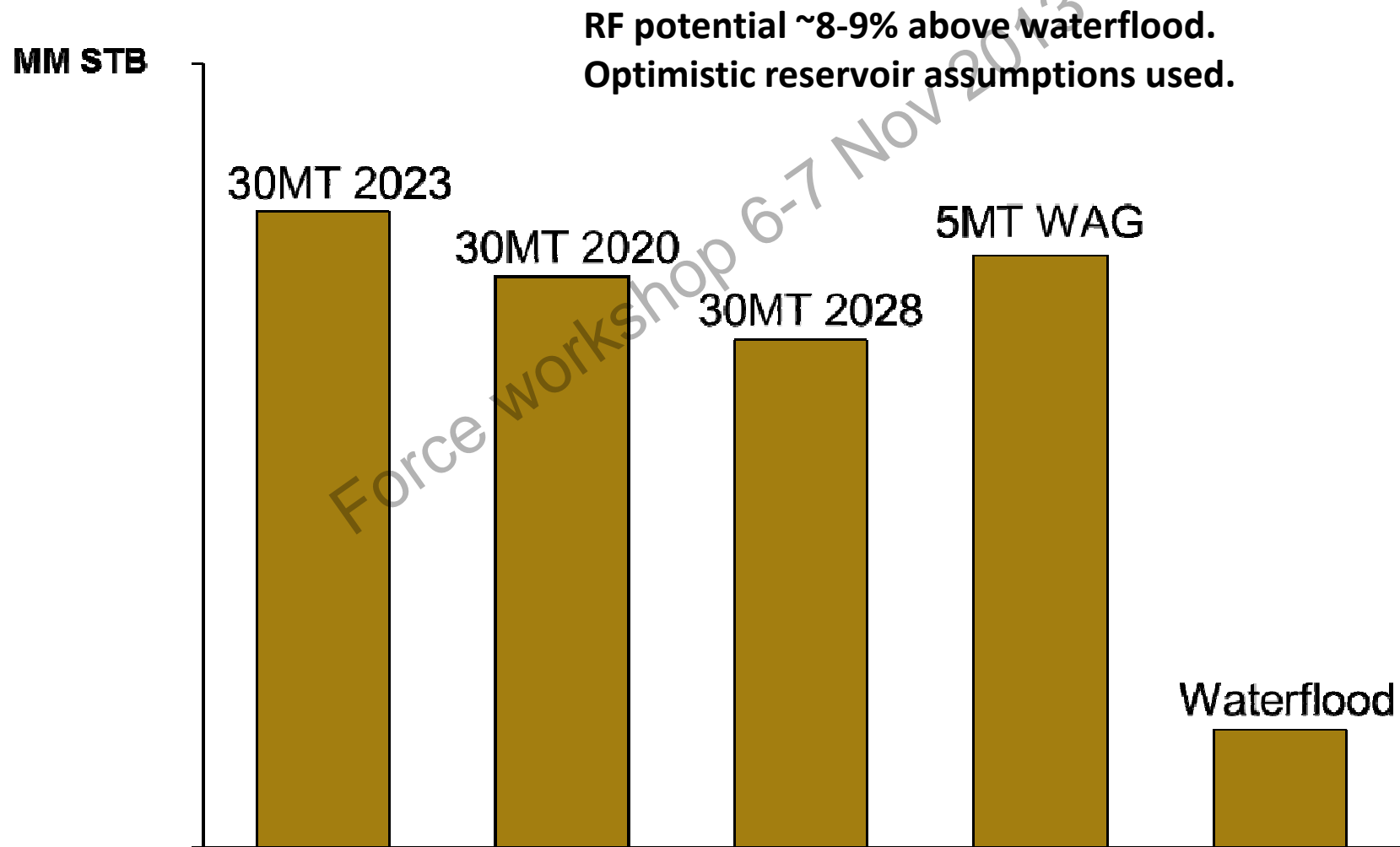
# Simulation Study: Premises for the Incremental Recoveries

- **In 2008 a larger simulation study was conducted**
- **Full field scale CO2 injection**
- **Two CO2 injection scenarios were evaluated**
  - Continuous CO2 injection – 30MT CO2 pr year, with start-up in
    - 2020
    - 2023
    - 2028
  - CO2 WAG scenario with start-up in 2023 – 5MT CO2 pr year

*Optimistic reservoir assumptions used in the simulation study.  
Most knowledge of the fracture network and impact on recovery has been  
obtained in the past 5 years.*



# Simulation Study: Incremental Recovery above Waterflood



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# Surface related CO2 Challenges

## ➤ Logistics

- CO2 source
- Transportation

## ➤ Regulatory, HSE and containment

## ➤ High cost due to facility modifications

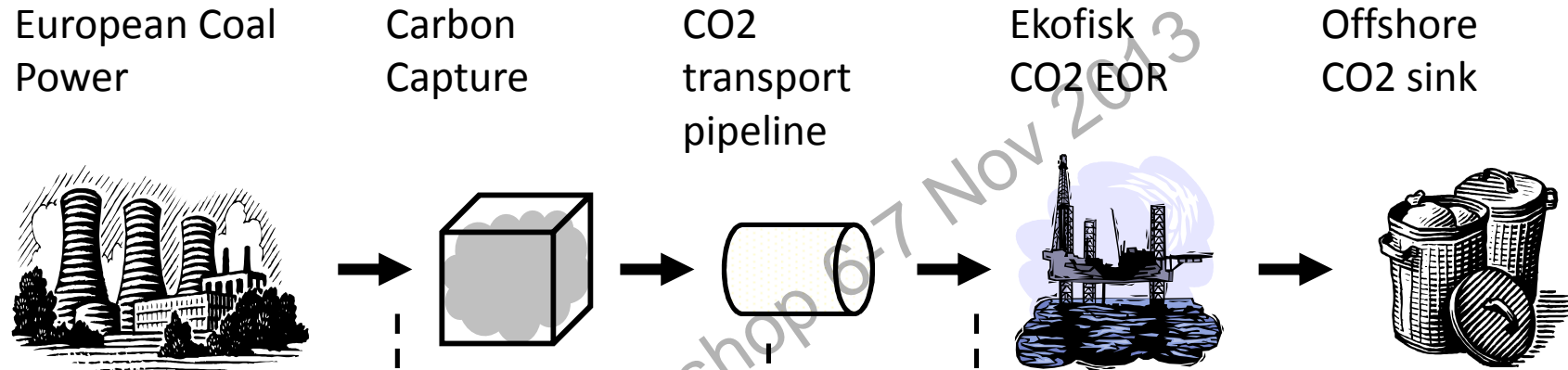
- Compression
- Upgrade Wells for CO2 Service
- CO2 separation
- Pipelines

⇒ Expected need for a full re-development of the field

## ➤ A multi-well pilot will be required before a full field implementation

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# Value chain - 3 cost scenarios for delivered CO2

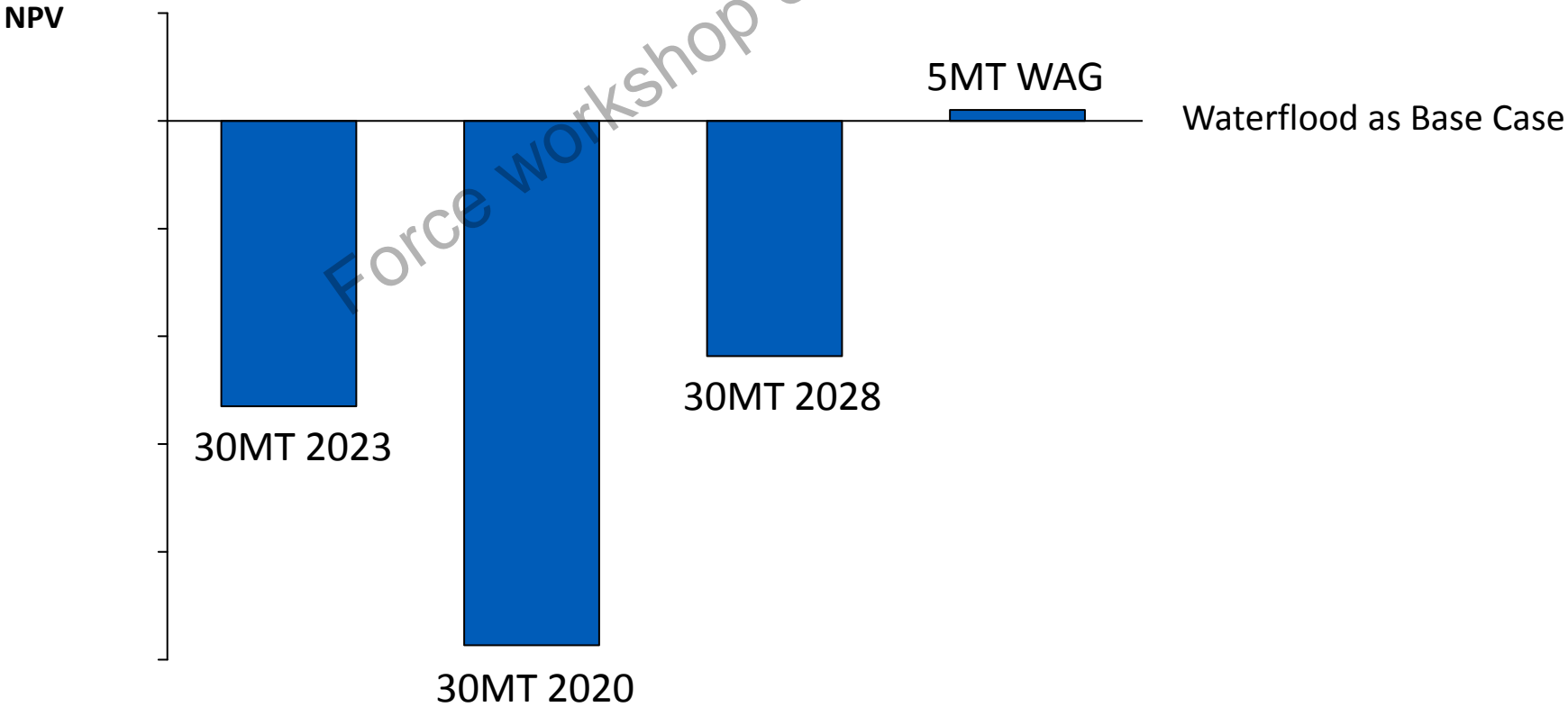


(1) As-is Base Case	↔	EOR project pays for full CO2 value chain and 'receives' carbon credits as an avoided operating cost	
(2) Regulations force / incentivise power plants into CCS but they have alternative onshore storage		↔	EOR project pays incremental transport cost to supply to Ekofisk vs onshore alternative
(3) Power plants are forced into CCS as above with no alternative storage available			↔ EOR project gets free delivered CO2

# Economical Screening of CO2 Scenarios

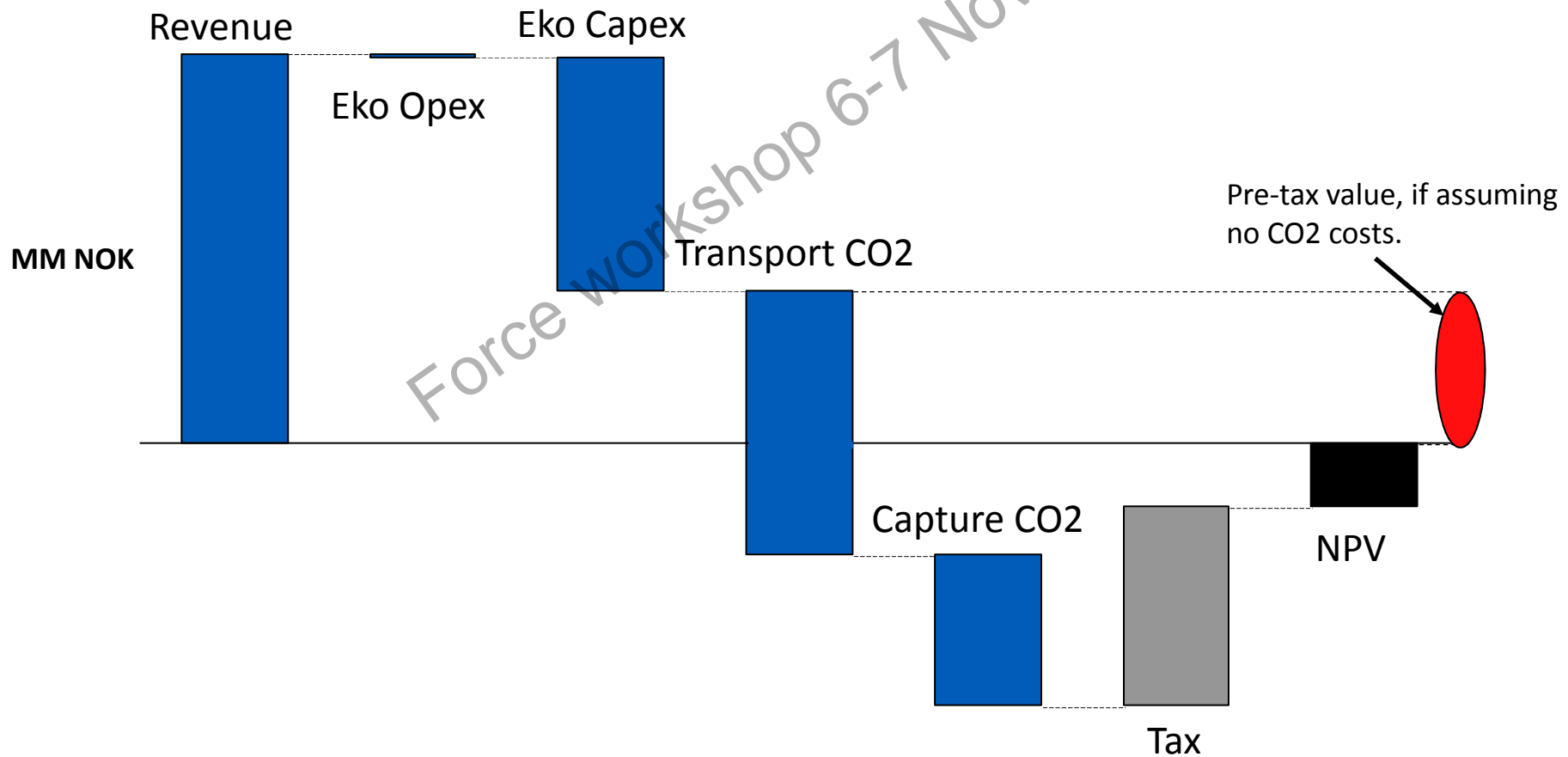
- High Upside Investments
- High Risk on Potential Recovery

*Even with optimistic reservoir assumptions, screening economics are not very attractive.*



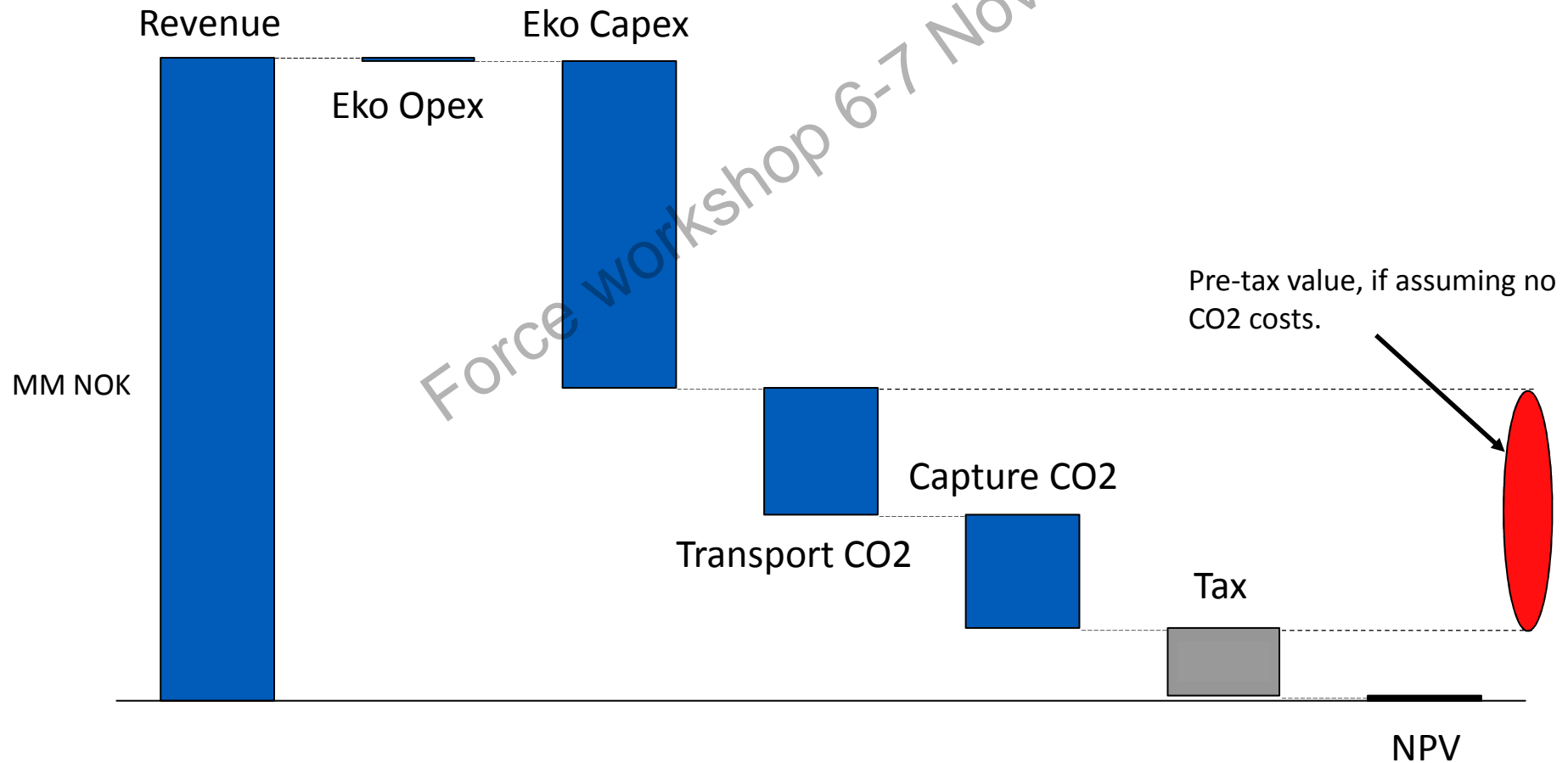
# Difference in value 30MT case vs continued waterflood

The increased revenues over waterflood are not enough to pay for the CO2 costs in the 30MT case

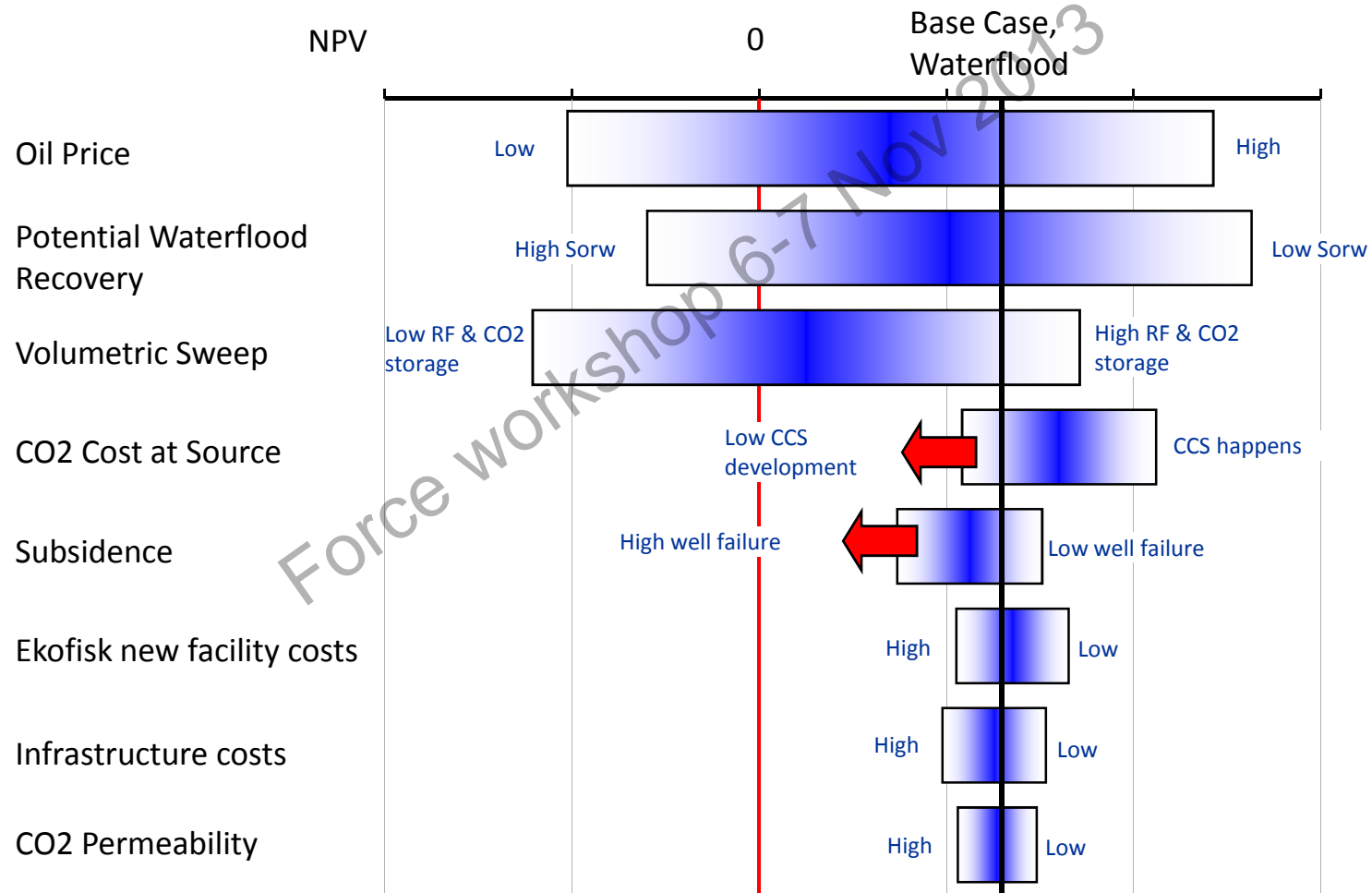


# Difference in value 5MT case vs continued waterflood

Paying for the CO2 supply makes the 5MT case a marginal project under base assumptions



# Difference in value 5MT case vs continued waterflood





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# Summary

- **In un-fractured chalk, CO<sub>2</sub> is a very effective EOR method**
- **Key challenges (potential show-stoppers) related to North Sea chalk fields**
  - Most of the chalk fields are naturally fractured reservoirs
  - Compaction/Subsidence
  - Injection temperature
  - Logistics
  - Regulatory, HSE and containment
  - High facility cost
  - A multi-well pilot will be required before a full field implementation

## ► Economics

- Even with optimistic reservoir assumptions, screening economics are not very attractive
- The cost of CO<sub>2</sub> can significantly affect the economics
- The main economical uncertainties with base assumption of CO<sub>2</sub> cost are
  - Oil Price
  - The size of the EOR target
  - Volumetric sweep efficiency

# Acknowledgements

**Acknowledgement goes to the PL018 partnership for their support and permission to publish this presentation. This includes:**

**Total E&P Norge AS,  
ENI Norge AS,  
Statoil Petroleum AS,  
Petro AS.**

