

REINHOLD ENVIRONMENTAL Ltd.



**2013 NO<sub>x</sub>-Combustion Round Table  
& Expo Presentations**

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# Bromine Balance of Plant Study

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Reinhold NO<sub>x</sub> Combustion Roundtable  
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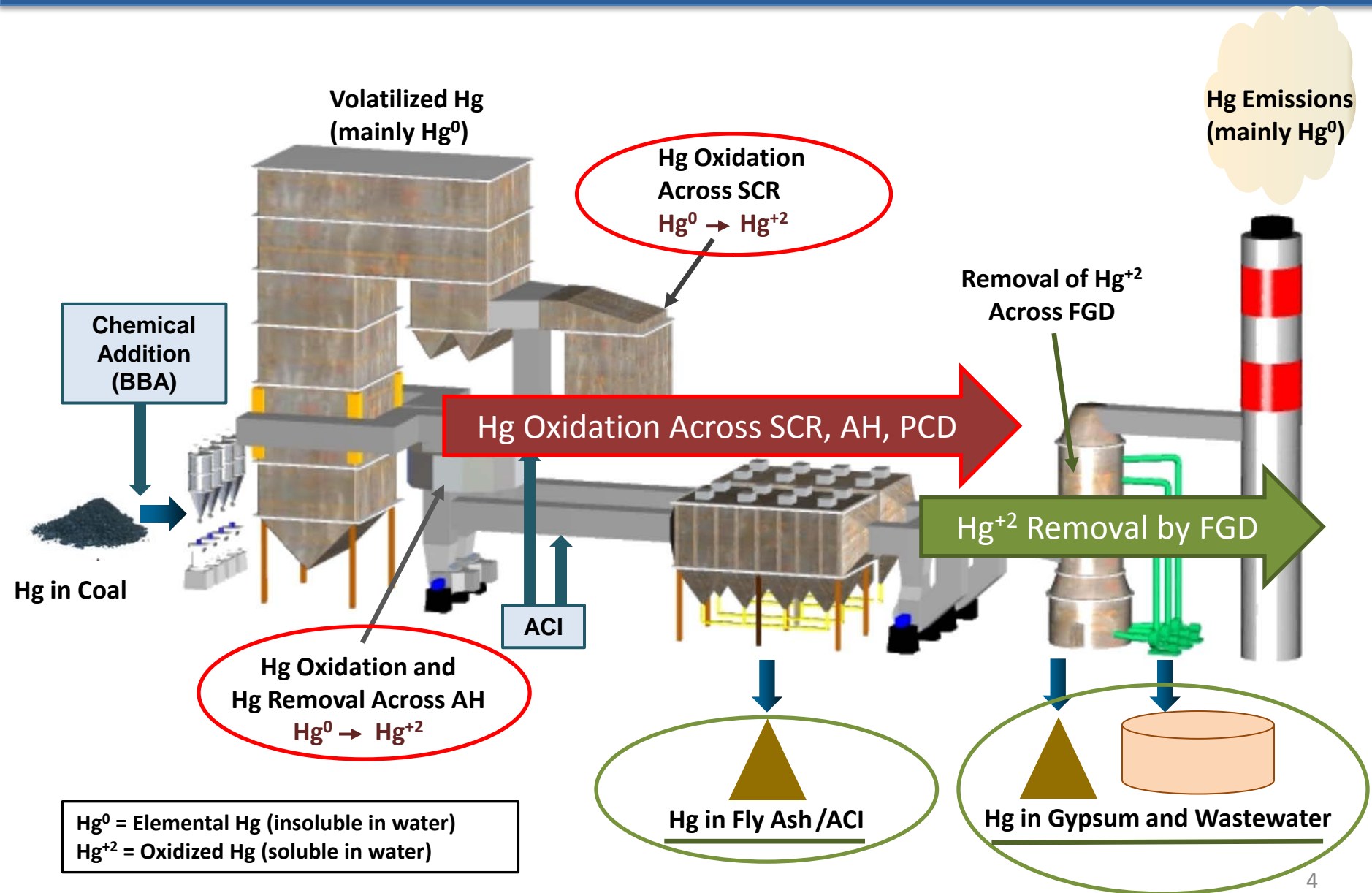
# Outline

- **Bromine based Hg control technologies**
- **EPRI Br BOP survey**
- **Fate of Br in power plant**
- **Br and Corrosion**
  - Coal handling
  - Boiler
  - Air heater
  - Duct internals
  - FGD

# Bromine Based Hg Control Technologies

- **Brominated Activated Carbon Injection (Br-ACI)**
  - Removal of Hg in particulate control device
- **Boiler Bromide Addition (BBA)**
  - Enhance oxidation of Hg for removal in scrubber
  - Enhance performance of ACI

# Fate of Mercury Across Flue Gas Path



# Unit Configurations Surveyed

Coal Type	# of Units in Survey	PCD	# of Units in Survey	NO <sub>x</sub> control	# of Units in Survey	FGD	# of Units in Survey
E.Bit	11	CSESP	35	SCR	15	W. FGD	14
W.Bit	3	HSESP	3	SNCR	4		
PRB/ PRB blend	35	FF	9				
ND Lignite	1	Venturi scrub.	4				

**EPRI seeking SD/FF units using CaBr<sub>2</sub> to participate in survey**

# Hg Emissions Limits

- **Section 45: 40% Hg reduction**
- **State regulations: vary by state**
- **MATS (Non-Lignite Coal): 1.2 lb/Tbtu**
- **MATS (Lignite): 4.0 lb/Tbtu**

## **For MATS compliance:**

Halogen Addition must be coupled with FGD, ACI and/or high LOI ash

# Balance of Plant Effects: Bromide Addition

## EPRI Bromine BOP Study 54 units participated

- **Fly ash sales** - no effects observed
  - **Opacity** - increase at one plant with SCR/FF/FGD
  - **SNCR** – negative synergy of BBA and SNCR
  - **FGD effluent** - potential areas of concern
    - Increase in Hg
    - Increase in selenium
    - Increase in bromide
    - Increase in brominated organics
- FGD discharge method has not been affected at any plants

# Balance of Plant Effects: Corrosion

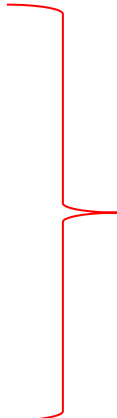
## EPRI Bromine BOP Study

- **Corrosion – potential areas of concern**

- Coal handling
- Air Heater
- Duct Internals
- FGD
- Low load operation

- **At the time of the survey**

- 27 BBA units with > 1 yr operating time
- 18 of these units had conducted inspections
- 7 of these units observed corrosion



Observations  
of AH corrosion  
for brominated  
ACI units with  
low AH exit  
temps

# Expressing Br Addition Rate

Min Reported Addition Rate	Max Reported Addition Rate	Units (all ppm values are by weight in coal)
<65	740	ppm 52 wt% CaBr <sub>2</sub> solution to as-received coal
< 40	440	ppm Br to the dry coal <b>PRB coal ≈ 25 ppm Cl, dry</b>
3.5	40	gph 52 wt% CaBr <sub>2</sub> solution for 600 MW unit

# Fate of Br in Power Plant System

## Flue gas HBr/Br<sub>2</sub> concentrations increase

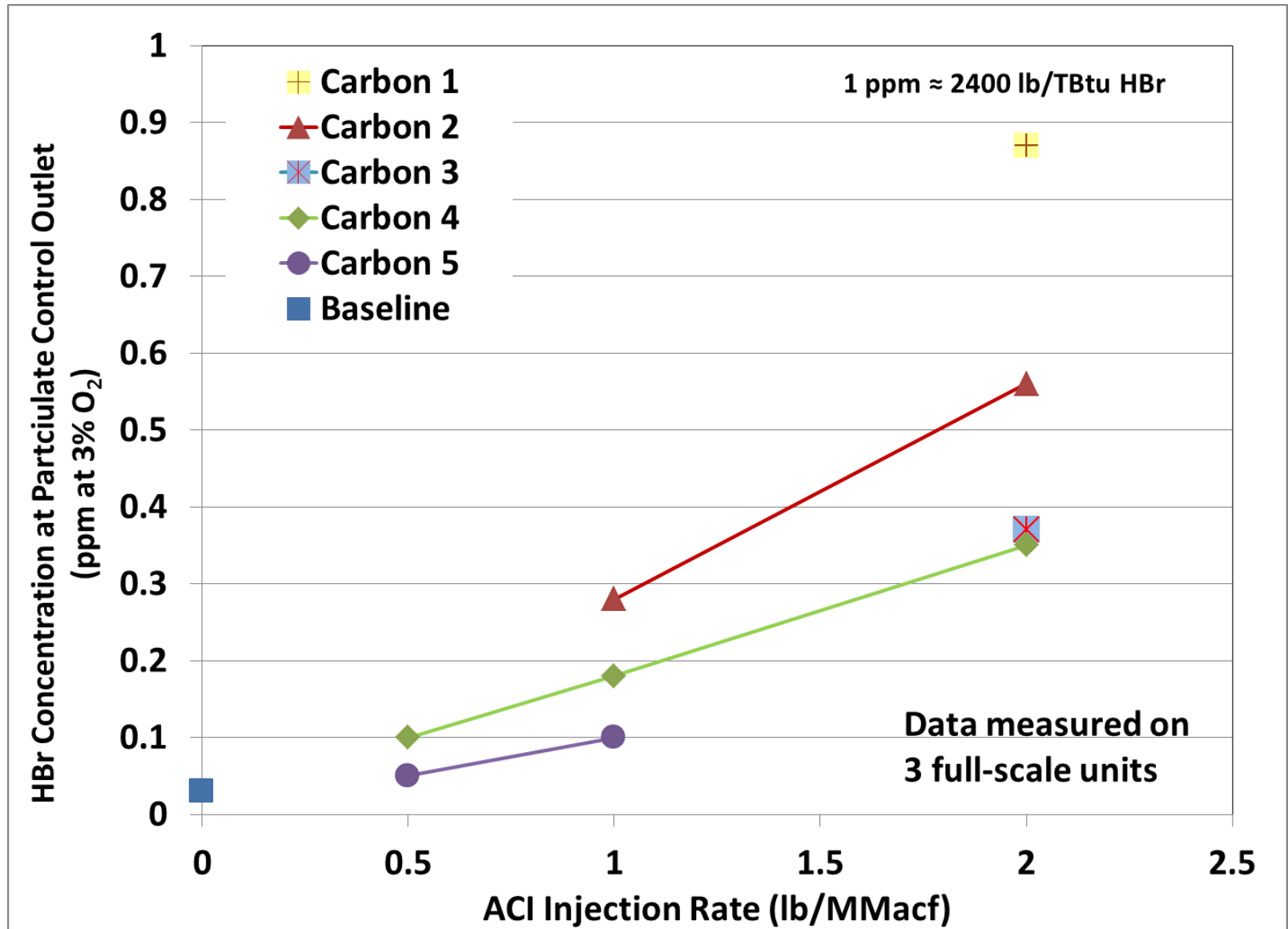
- **CaBr<sub>2</sub> Addition**

  - 10 ppm Br in coal, dry  $\approx$  0.3 ppm HBr in flue gas

- **Br-ACI**

  - Br volatilizes from carbon
  - EPRI fixed bed laboratory study to measure Br volatility from various commercial carbons
    - Effect of impregnation technique
    - Effect of halogen loading
    - Effect of temperature
    - Results available to EPRI Program 75 members this spring

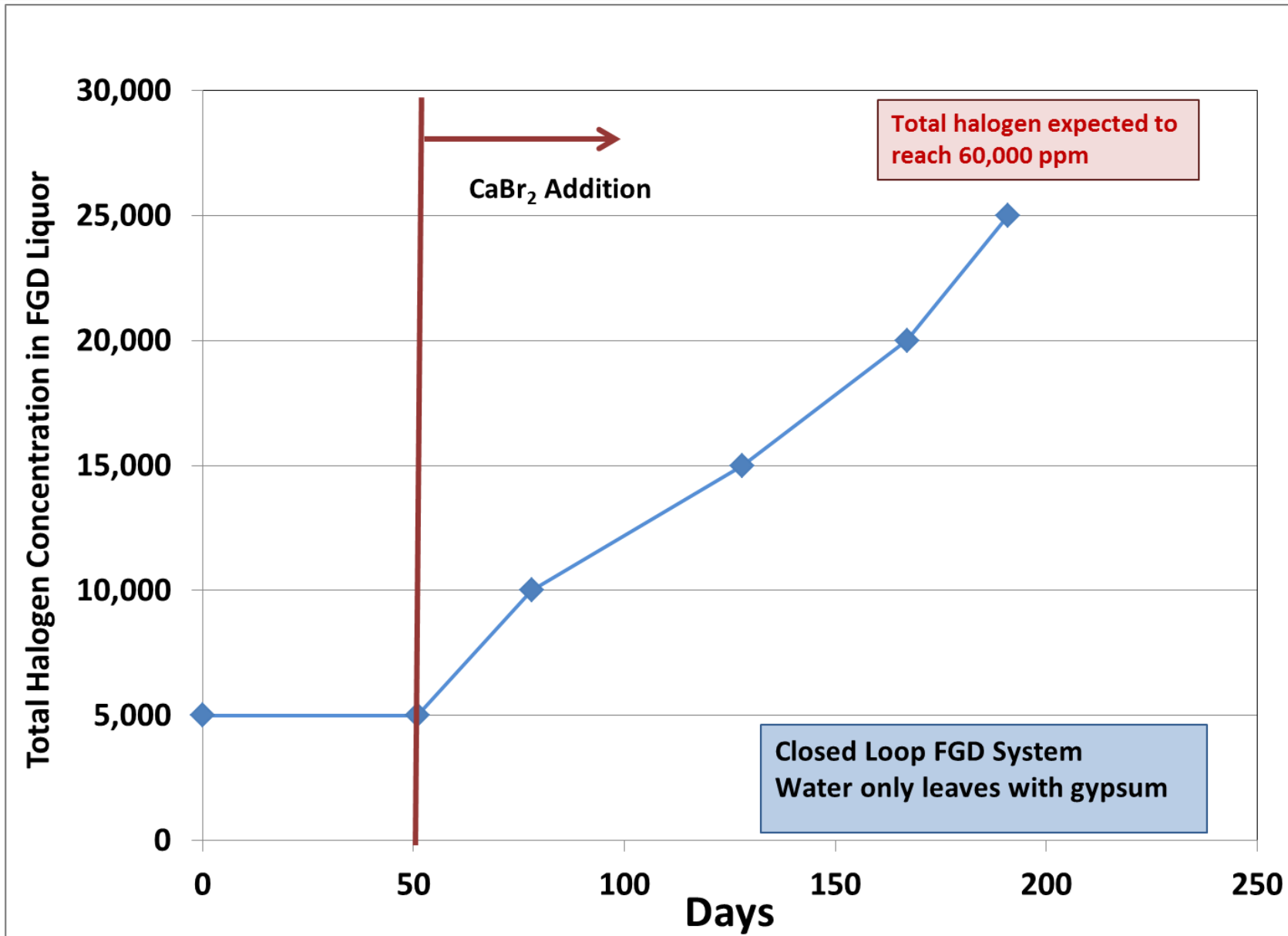
# Br Volatility from Br-ACI



# Fate of Br in Power Plant System

- **Br concentrations in fly ash**
  - Low LOI fly ash: 1% Br reports to fly ash
- **Br concentrations in FGD scrubber**
  - Br scrubbed efficiently by FGD
  - [Br] in FGD depends on
    - Br addition rate to flue gas
    - Coal sulfur
    - Water balance
  - Closed loop systems may take months to reach steady-state [Br]

# Increase in Br in FGD Liquor: Measurements from Full-scale FGD



# Cases of Reported Br Corrosion

Location	Number of Reports of Corrosion	Comments
Coal Handling	1	Pulverizer pressure frame
Boiler	0	EPRI lab tests and ICL-IP diesel-fueled boiler tests indicated low potential for corrosion
Air Heater	11	6 CaBr <sub>2</sub> units <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 units had low AH outlet gas T</li><li>• 2 units had old baskets</li></ul> 5 Br-ACI units <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4 units injected same carbon</li><li>• 4 units had low AH outlet gas T</li></ul>
Duct Internals	1	ESP corrosion on SD-ESP unit with CaBr <sub>2</sub> addition
FGD	1	CaBr <sub>2</sub> not directly implicated; absorber constructed of 2205

# Boiler Corrosion

- **EPRI laboratory tests and modeling**
  - Low potential for Br corrosion in boiler at Br addition rates needed for Hg control
- **EPRI survey**
  - No reports of boiler tube corrosion due to  $\text{CaBr}_2$  addition to coal
- **ICL-IP coupon test in diesel fuel steam boiler**
  - Corrosion rate negligible ( $< 1\text{mpy}$ ) up to 1000 ppm Br
- **Corrosion rate in coal-fired boiler**
  - Coupon tests
  - Electrochemical noise probe?

# Air Heater Corrosion

- **6 BBA units reported air heater corrosion**
  - One unit: BBA + ACI; **low AH outlet gas temperatures**
  - One unit: operated BBA for 3 years without AH corrosion; **lower operating loads in the past year**
  - Two units: old air heater baskets
  - Two units: refined coal plants
- **5 Br-ACI units reported AH corrosion**
  - 4 units operated at **low AH outlet temperatures**
    - Units did not experience severe corrosion previous to the implementation of ACI
    - Units all used the same carbon
  - 1 unit operated with a different carbon
    - Cold-end sootblowers slowed corrosion rate

## Example AH Corrosion

Cold-end baskets, 2 years old  
BBA + ACI, 1 year operation

Source: davidnfrench.com



# Possible AH Corrosion Mechanisms

- **Direct condensation of HBr on the metal**
  - Dewpoint of HBr is low
- **Absorption of HBr into condensed acid**
  - $\text{SO}_3$  has a higher dew point than HBr
  - More aggressive corrosion agent?
- **Adsorption of HBr onto fly ash**
- **Gas phase oxidation by HBr**
  - EERC lab tests at 51 ppm HBr in gas (vs. 1-10 ppm HBr typical)
  - Active oxidation of carbon-steel by HBr observed at 300°F and 150°F
  - Condensation corrosion observed at 150°F and 80°F
- **Attack by other constituents in the PAC**
  - e.g., formation of  $\text{SO}_3$  on PAC that has deposited on air heater

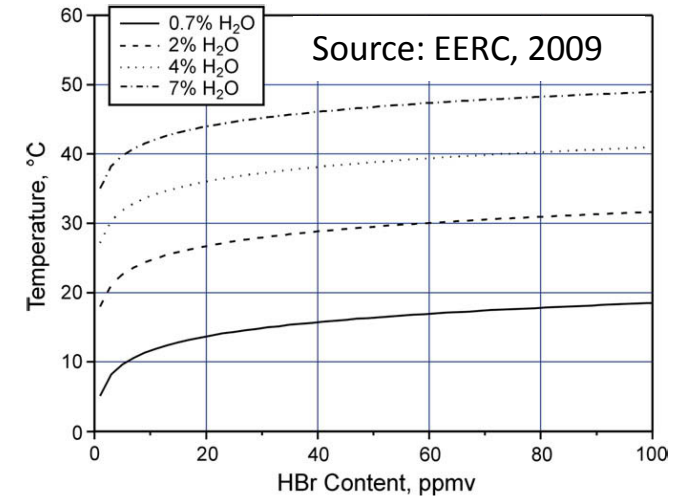


Fig. 1. Dew point behavior of HBr at various water contents of the gas, calculated from the formula of Kiang [19].

# On-going Corrosion Tests: AH

- **Site A (High-S EBit) and Site B (PRB/CAPP/EBit Blend)**
  - Br source: Refined coal use (120 ppm Br, dry)
  - Coupon location: AH rotor - basket bars
  - AH config: Horizontal and vertical shaft
  - Coupon types: (Total 5)
    - Enamel Coated LACR (element)
    - A606 (basket/element)
    - A588 (diaphragm plate)
- **Test Duration: Next outage**



# On-going Corrosion Tests: Duct

- **Site C: TxL/PRB coal**

- Br source: Refined coal (120 ppm)
- Coupon location:  $AH_{in}$  /  $AH_{out}$  /  $ESP_{out}$
- Coupon types: Basket/Duct/SCR screen
- Probes: Electric Resistance (ER) at  $ESP_{out}$

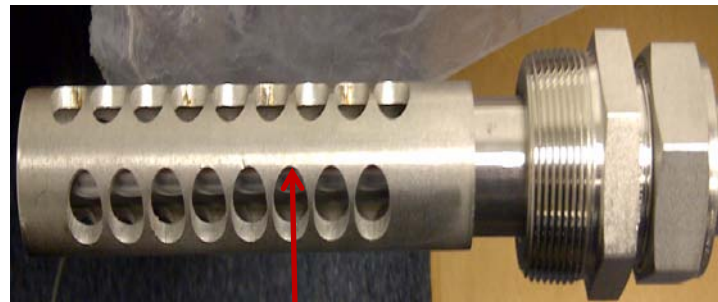
- **Test Duration: 1 month & ?**

## Electrical Resistance (ER) Probe

- Linearized signal  $\propto$  to metal loss of the exposed element
- Yearly Corrosion Rate estimated with change in corrosion film and the time between measurements
- Data logged hourly



Weight loss  
Coupons



ER probe



# FGD Corrosion

Can we replace with  $\text{Br}^-$  or  $(\text{Cl}^- + \text{Br}^-)$ ?

## Wet FGD Alloy Selection Guide

		Mild	Moderate		Severe		Very Severe			
		500	1,000	5,000	10,000	30,000	50,000	100,000	200,000	
Chlorides:										
Mild	pH - 6.5	Type 316L SS or Duplex 2304 or Duplex 2003						Nickel Alloy 625 etc.		
Moderate	pH - 4.5	316L or Duplex 2003	Type 317LMN or 22% Cr Duplex SS				6% Moly Superaust. SS			
Severe	pH - 2.0	Type 317LM SS		22% Cr Duplex SS	25% Cr Super Duplex SS			Nickel Alloy C276 etc.		
Very Severe	pH - 1.0	Type 317LMN SS	6% Moly Superaustenitic SS			Nickel Alloy 625 etc.				

Developed by the Nickel Institute (<http://www.nickelinstitute.org/>) using the PREN, lab and field coupon tests, user surveys, industrial experience, etc.

# FGD Corrosion

- **Goal: Develop equivalence function**
  - $[Cl]_{eq} = f([Br])$
  - $[Cl]_{total} = [Cl] + [Cl]_{eq}$
  - Keep  $[Cl]_{total} < [Cl]_{limit}$
- **Preliminary attempt: lab electrochemical tests**
  - Tested under ideal test conditions
    - Smooth alloy
    - Synthetic FGD liquor
  - Corrosivity of Br vs. Cl is alloy dependent
    - 2205: Br more corrosive than Cl
    - 316L: Cl more corrosive than Br



# FGD Corrosion – Lab Results

- **Critical bromide concentration to induce pitting for fixed chloride conditions**
- **Developed under ideal conditions**

Alloy	PRB Simulation	
	Cl <sup>-</sup> Concentration in FGD (ppm)	Critical Br <sup>-</sup> Concentration Range in FGD (ppm)
C276	6,400	>31,000
AL 6XN	6,400	>31,000
2205	6,400	8,000 < Br <sup>-</sup> < 31,000
317LM	5,000	6,300 < Br <sup>-</sup> < 24,200
316L	700	900 < Br <sup>-</sup> < 3,400
304L	300	>1,500

# Scaling from Lab to Field Tests to Real-world Operation

**Determine if lab tests provide predictive relationships for [Br] that translate to the field**

- More realistic laboratory tests (ongoing)
- Field tests with slipstream liquor (planned)

*fundamental*

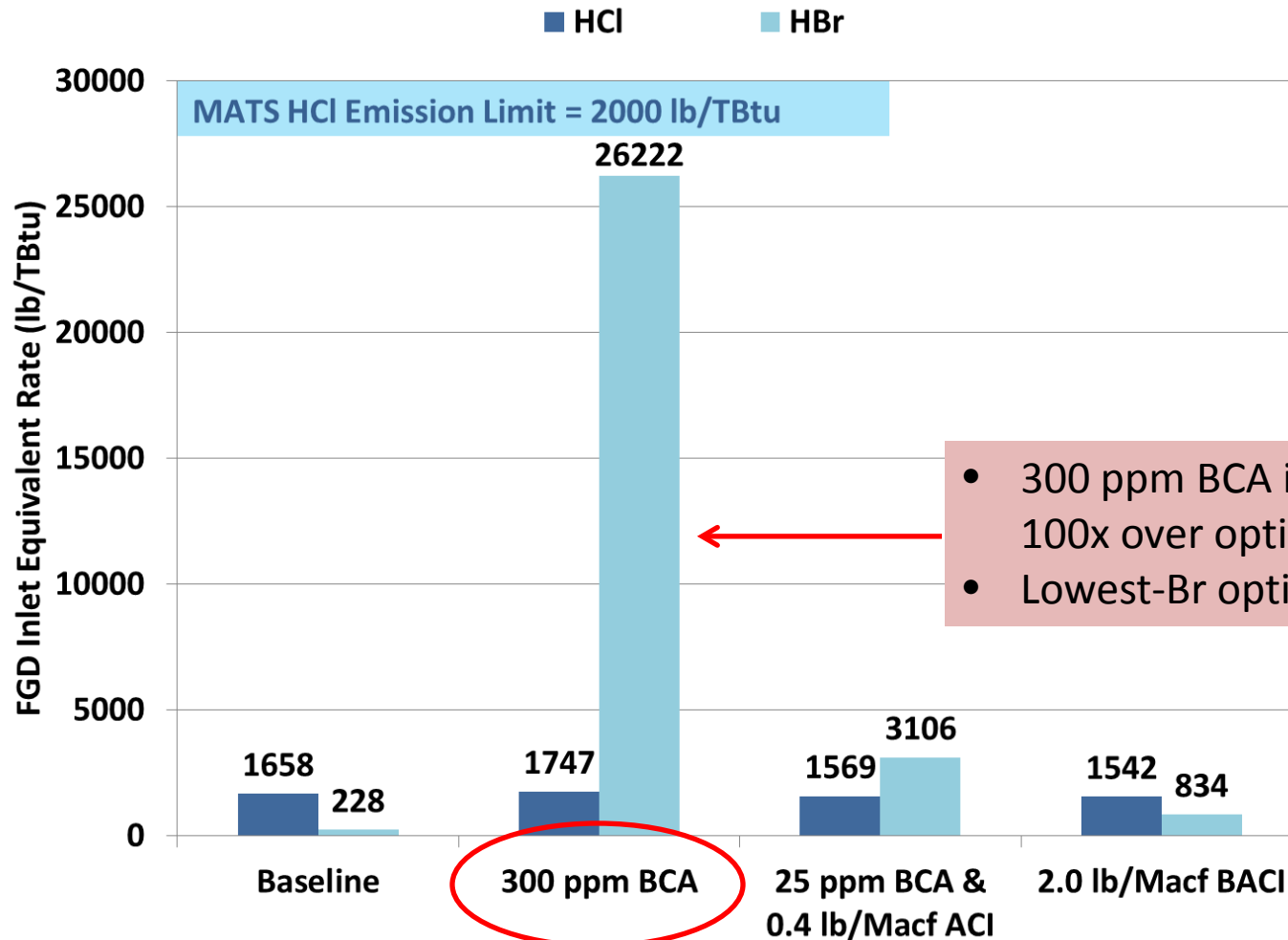
*"real" world*

# Reducing Risk of Br-Corrosion

- **Select technology that provides the required mercury removal performance with the smallest release of bromine**
- **Design  $\text{CaBr}_2$  and ACI delivery systems to be flexible**
- **Minimize sorbent usage**
  - Ensure good sorbent distribution via lance design and placement (CFD modeling)
  - On-site grinding to de-agglomerate particles
- **Adjust air heater operation**
  - Use air pre-heat
  - Employ cold-end sootblowers
  - Increase outlet gas temperature
- **If possible, blow down FGD system at higher rate to reduce [Br] in the FGD system**

# Limiting HBr Exposure with Technology Choice

## Halogens at FGD Inlet



GRE Coal Creek Station  
NDLignite/ESP/FGDw

- 300 ppm BCA increases flue gas HBr 100x over options using ACI
- Lowest-Br option will be unit-specific

Options for MATS Hg Compliance: 4 lb/TBtu

# Reducing Risk of Br-Corrosion

## Selection of CaBr<sub>2</sub> Addition Location

CaBr <sub>2</sub> Addition Location	Advantages	Disadvantages
<b>Upstream of day silos</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keeps storage and truck deliveries away from unit</li><li>• Compatible with Section 45 coal refining process</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Entire coal handling path is exposed to CaBr<sub>2</sub></li><li>• Requires larger pumps</li></ul>
<b>Upstream of pulverizers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fewer parts of coal handling train exposed to CaBr<sub>2</sub></li><li>• Option exists to not treat all coal feeders</li><li>• Better process control</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Direct exposure of weigh belt and pulverizers to CaBr<sub>2</sub></li></ul>

# Reducing Risk of Br-Corrosion

## Selection of Br-ACI Injection Location

Br-ACI Injection Location	Advantages	Disadvantages
<b>Upstream of air heater</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Possibly lower ACI rate needed due to increased residence time</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Higher Br volatility</li><li>• AH exposed to carbon and Br</li></ul>
<b>Downstream of air heater</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lower Br volatility</li><li>• AH not exposed to carbon or Br</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Possibly higher ACI rate needed</li></ul>

# EPRI Bromine BOP Activities for 2013

## Flue Gas Corrosion

- Analysis of field coupons from Sites A, B, C
- Supplemental EPRI Programs at other sites

## FGD Corrosion ( Br vs. Cl)

- Electrochemical test with FGD slipstream; spike with  $\text{CaBr}_2$
- Parallel lab study with same slurries to validate

## Lab tests

- Investigate effect of HBr in dilute  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  with coupons
- More Br-ACI volatility tests (other carbon types)

## Site Survey

- SD-FF and CDS units adding  $\text{CaBr}_2$
- Updates from original survey participants

