Produced Water Reuse and Recovery in Kansas: Assessing our Options

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Produced water volume and quality



Main components of produced water:

- Dissolved formation minerals (salts and heavy metals) and anions (chloride, sulfate, carbonate)
- Dissolved and dispersed oil (hydrocarbons)
- Production chemical compounds (e.g. formation solids, anti-corrosion and antiscale products)



The Anadarko Basin

We estimate that 113 billion gallons of PW per year were generated from 2011-2019 (Echchelh at al, *in preparation*)





PW Generation



- PW volumes generally tied to price of oil
- PW generation peaked in 2014 at 519 million m³ (137 billion gallons)
- KS PW volume more consistent from year to year
 - 21% of total basin production
- 12 counties (2 in KS) generated more than 10 million m³/yr



KS PW Generation by County in 2019 (barrels)



~ 50% of statewide PW generation occurs in the Anadarko Basin



Produced Water Salinity



Echchelh et al., in preparation

Based on data from USGS (2017)



Identifying Reuse Pathways





Beneficial Reuse Options: PW Volumes as a Percentage of Irrigation and Livestock Water Use





Ratio of produced water volume to irrigation water withdrawals volume by county

 \sum Echchelh et al., in preparation

Ratio of produced water volume to livestock water withdrawals volume by county

Produced water desalination targets

• Irrigation limits are crop-dependent

| | | Сгор | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|---------|
| | | Wheat C | Corn S | Sorghum | Soybean S | Sunflower (| Cotton A | Alfalfa |
| METALS AND IONS | Units | | | | | | | |
| Boron (B) | mg/L | 1 | 4 | 6 | No data | 1 | 15 | 6 |
| Iron (Fe) | mg/L | 5,0 | 5,0 | 5 <i>,</i> 0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 |
| Zinc (Zn) | | 2,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 |
| ACIDITY AND ALKALINITY | , | | | | | | | |
| рН | | 6.0–9.0 | 6.0–9.0 | 6.0–9.0 | 6.0–9.0 | 6.0–9.0 | 6.0–9.0 | 6.0–9.0 |
| MICROBIOLOGY | | | | | | | | |
| Coliform, fecai | cfu/100mL | ≤200 | ≤200 | ≤200 | ≤200 | ≤200 | ≤200 | ≤200 |
| SALINITY AND SODICITY | | | | | | | | |
| TDS (approx.) | mg/L | 2500 | 700 | 3000 | 2000 | 2000 | 4000 | 800 |
| Electrical conductivity | dS/m | 4.0 | 1.1 | 4.5 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 5.1 | 1.3 |

Based on data from FAO (1994)

 TDS threshold for cattle is 5,000-7,00 mg/l (USDA-NRCS)



Treatment Scenarios

Primary treatmentremoval of of solids, hydrocarbons, sulfur, hardness

Secondary treatmenttrace organics and hardness, metal oxides

Tertiary treatmentdesalination

Maximum recovery option included recovery of some waste concentrates







Echchelh et al., in preparation

NSAS

Treatment Cost Comparison





Treatment cost for 'average' TDS water in each county with A) standard desalination (RO), B.) improved desalination (RO+MVC), and C.) advanced desalination (RO+MVC+MD). Dashed lines show range of estimated disposal costs.

Energy Use Comparison





Energy use to treat 'average' TDS water in each county with A) standard desalination (RO), B.) improved desalination (RO+MVC), and C.) advanced desalination (RO+MVC+MD). Dashed lines show range of estimated energy use for disposal.

Anadarko Treatment Estimates

| | PW Recovered | Energy Required (kWh/m³) | Operating Expenses (\$/m ³)* |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Disposal | 0% | 3.6-5.5 | 3-16 |
| RO | 11-23% | 0.1-5.8 | 0.6-1.3 |
| RO+ MVC | 33-58% | 0.4-30.7 | 2.2-5.3 |
| RO+ MVC+ MD | 86-93% | 18.7-306 | 3.1-7.0 |

*- Estimated expenses do not include waste disposal, water conveyance, or storage

RO treatment volume is < 1.5% of irrigation water use, but 20-42% of livestock water use



Water Demand Met By Treatment **Scenarios**



Industry Reuse: Brine Exchange for Enhanced Oil Recovery





Test Study: Brine Exchange for Enhanced Oil Recovery

Brines used in this study

| Variable | Arbuckle | LKC |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| TDS | ~ 20,000 ppm | ~ 170,000 ppm |
| Calcium | 1052 mg/L | 6064 mg/L |
| Magnesium | 324 mg/L | 2309 mg/L |
| Sulfate | 1391 mg/L | 864 mg/L |
| Barium | BDL | BDL |



Brine exchange follows the salinity gradient for our two reservoirs



Brine Mixing in Presence of LKC Solids: Dissolved Ca Results



Calcium concentration (mg/L) of Liquid-Liquid-Solid brine mixtures plotted against time alongside predicted equilibrium data calculated by PHREEQC; mixing ratio of 50% low salinity brine (left) and 90% low-salinity brine (right), shown



Coreflooding Experiments



Ca concentration of coreflooding effluent obtained through ICP-OES; other ions analyzed exhibited similar trends



Estimating Brine Exchange Costs



Viable Parameters for Brine Exchange Operations



Heatmap depicted Net Benefit of project as a function of flowrate and distance between reservoirs. Models were developed using WaterCOSTE method (left) and industry estimates (right).



Possible Limitations for Brine Exchange

- Brine incompatibility and scale formation
- Salinity effects on production chemicals
- Co-location of suitable formations with salinity gradients.
- Waterflooding requirements vs. generated PW volumes



Summary

- PW reuse is not "the" solution to water scarcity issues in this region
 - But is could be part of 'a' solution, along with other proposed and ongoing actions
- Desalination for beneficial reuse could be viable for a significant portion of Anadarko produced water
 - Mostly RO treatment, some MVC
- Livestock watering is a more promising reuse target than irrigation
 - Better match to volume and treatment requirements
- More research needed on secondary components and treatment requirements, especially organics
- 'Low-salinity' waterflooding can be economically viable and increase industry reuse



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Irrigation and SAR



