

# Overview of Seismic Hazard Analysis Program

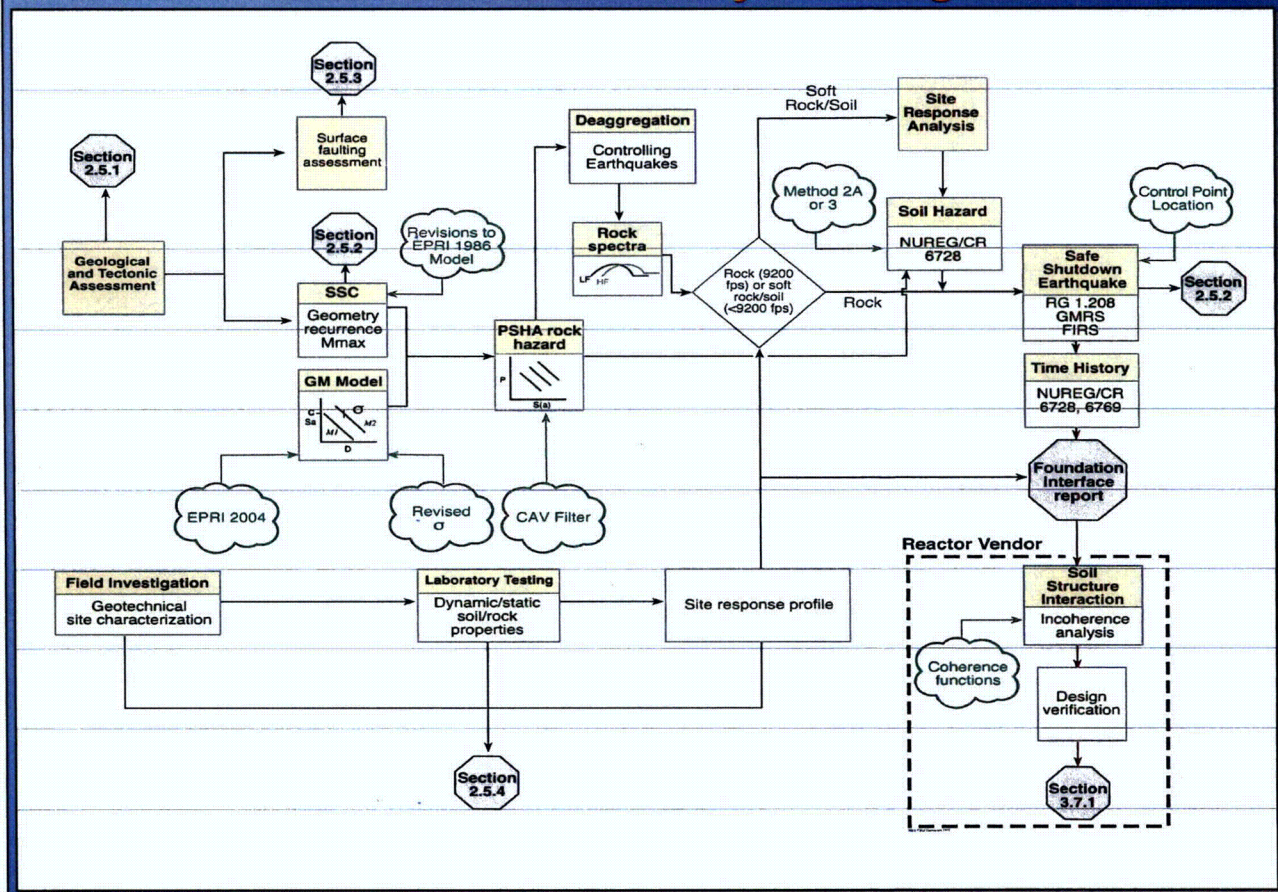
Luminant Comanche Peak COLA

**Dr. William Lettis**  
**President & Senior Principal Geologist**  
*William Lettis & Associates, Inc.*



1

## Seismic Hazard Analysis Program





# Geotechnical Site Characterization

Luminant Comanche Peak COLA

**Jeff Bachhuber**

*William Lettis & Associates, Inc.*



3

## Project Status

- Site Conditions
- Geotechnical Program
  - Field Exploration
  - Laboratory Testing Program
  - Geotechnical Analysis
- Subsurface Conditions
- Geologic Mapping



4



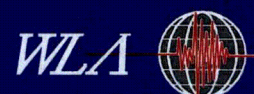
## 0.6 Mile Imagery (1994-1997)



5

## Geologic Mapping

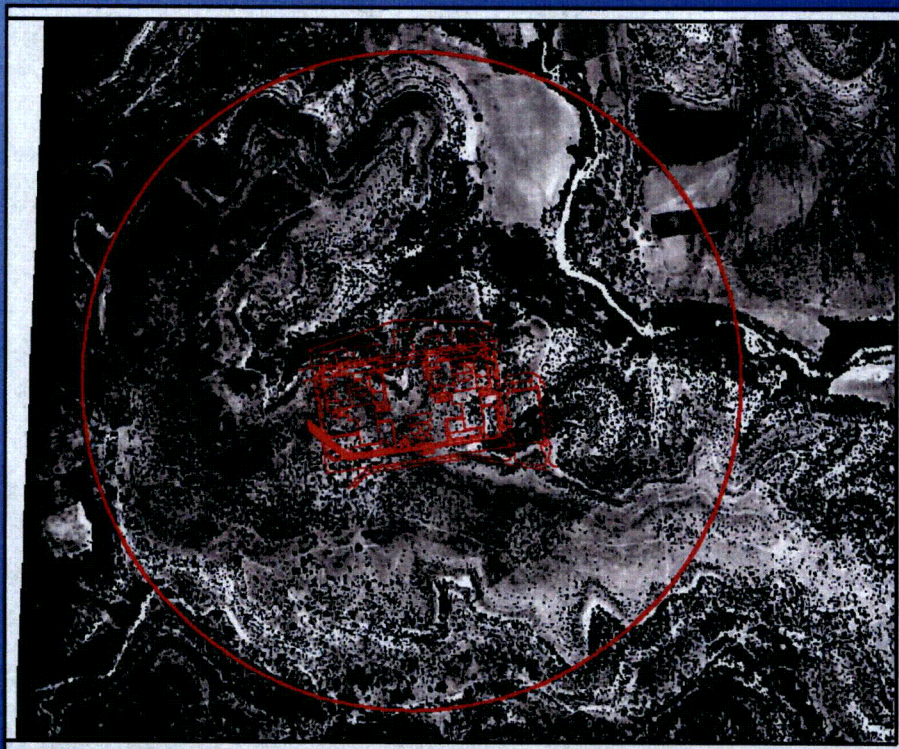
- 0.6 Mile
  - Correlation to stratigraphy noted in COLA borings and Unit 1 & 2
  - Comparison to published maps
- 5 Mile
  - Correlation to 0.6 Mile map
  - Ground check of exposed regional units
    - Discontinuities
    - Structure
    - Lithologies
    - Presence of dissolution features
- 25 Mile
  - Confirmation of regional contacts
  - Ground check of regional structural features
- 200 Mile +
  - Ground check of regional structural features



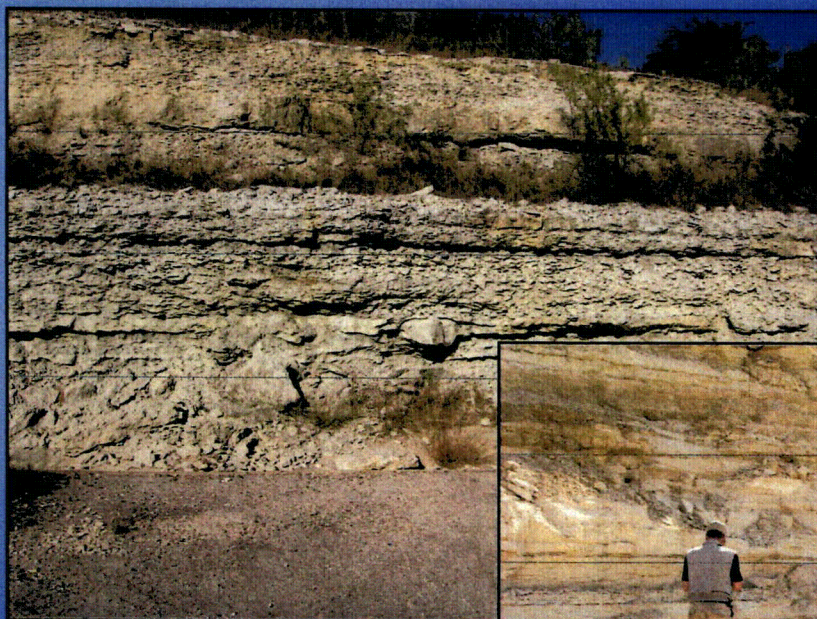
6



## 0.6 Mile Imagery (1949)



7



Glen Rose  
Exposure near  
Unit 1 & 2

Glen Rose  
Exposure ~ 5  
miles from  
CPNPP

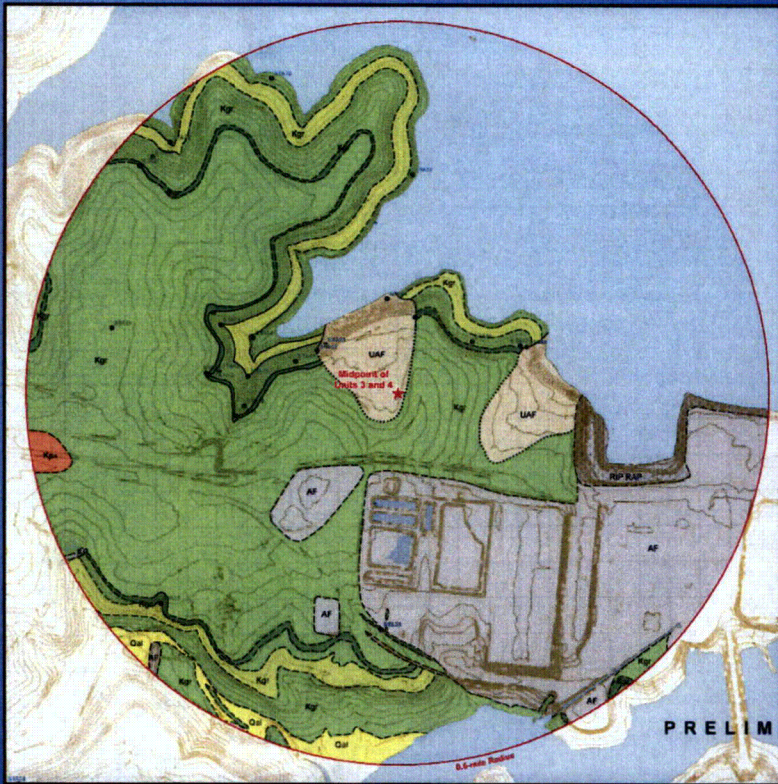


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8



## 0.6 Mile Geologic Map



### Geologic Units

Kpx	Paluxy sandstone
Kgr	Glen Rose Formation
	Sparitic Wackestone
	Wackestone
	Shaley limestone
UAF	Undocumented artificial fill
AF	Artificial fill
Qal	Quaternary alluvium



9

## Site Conditions

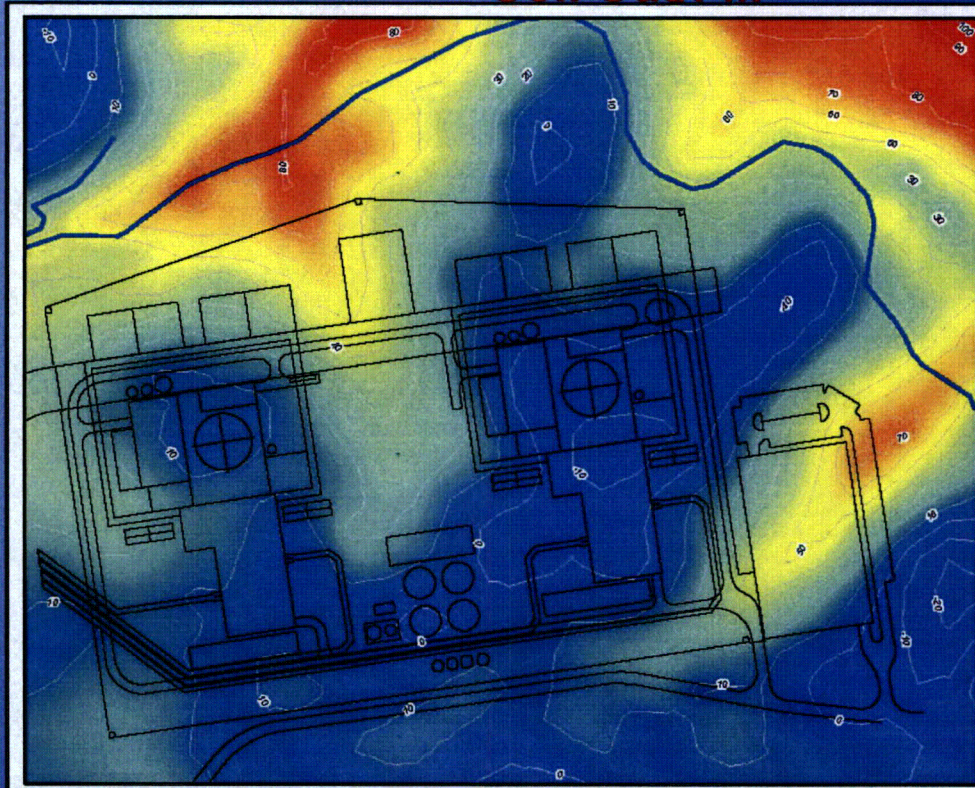
- Existing General Site Elevation
- Yard Grade - 830' MSL
- Previous grading/fill activities in the area



10



## Soil Cut/Fill



### Explanation

- CPNPP
- Water Boundary
- 50 feet
  - No change
  - 30 feet
- 10 ft contour
- ↑

↓

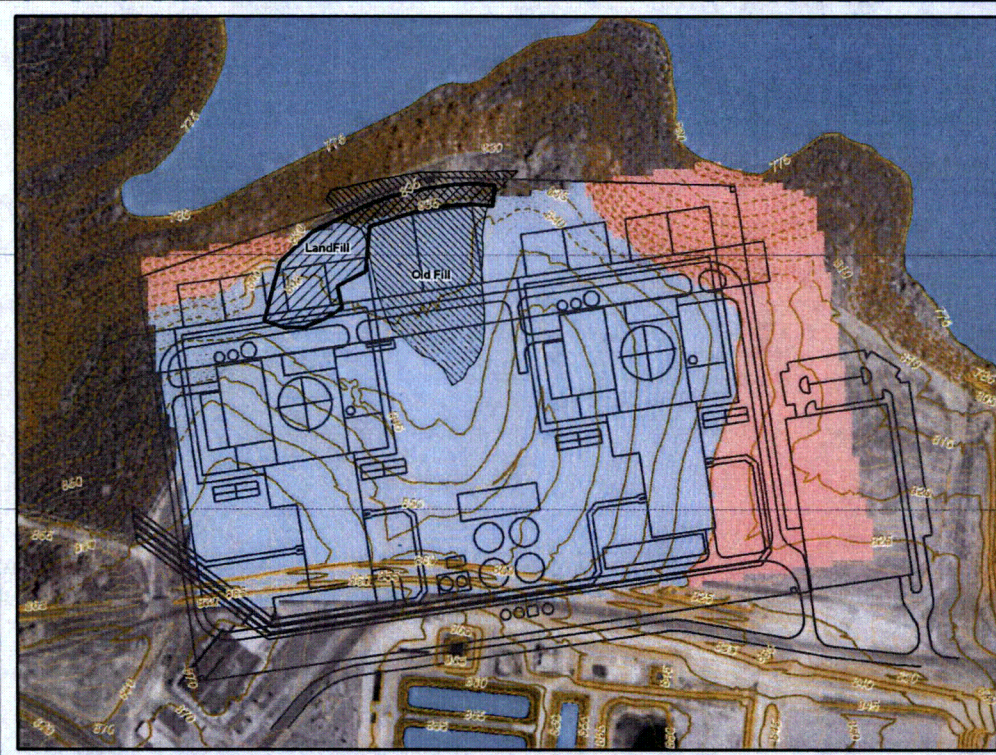
Fill

Cut



11

## Cut and Fill Analysis Plant Grade 830 ft MSL



- CPNPP
- Old Fill
- Landfill

### Topographic Contours

- Index contours
- Approximate index contours
- Intermediate contours
- Approximate intermediate contours

### Plant grade = 830' MSL cut/fill volume

- Fill = 265,212 cubic yards  
555,600 square feet
- Cut = 1,123,720 cubic yards  
1,690,800 square feet



12



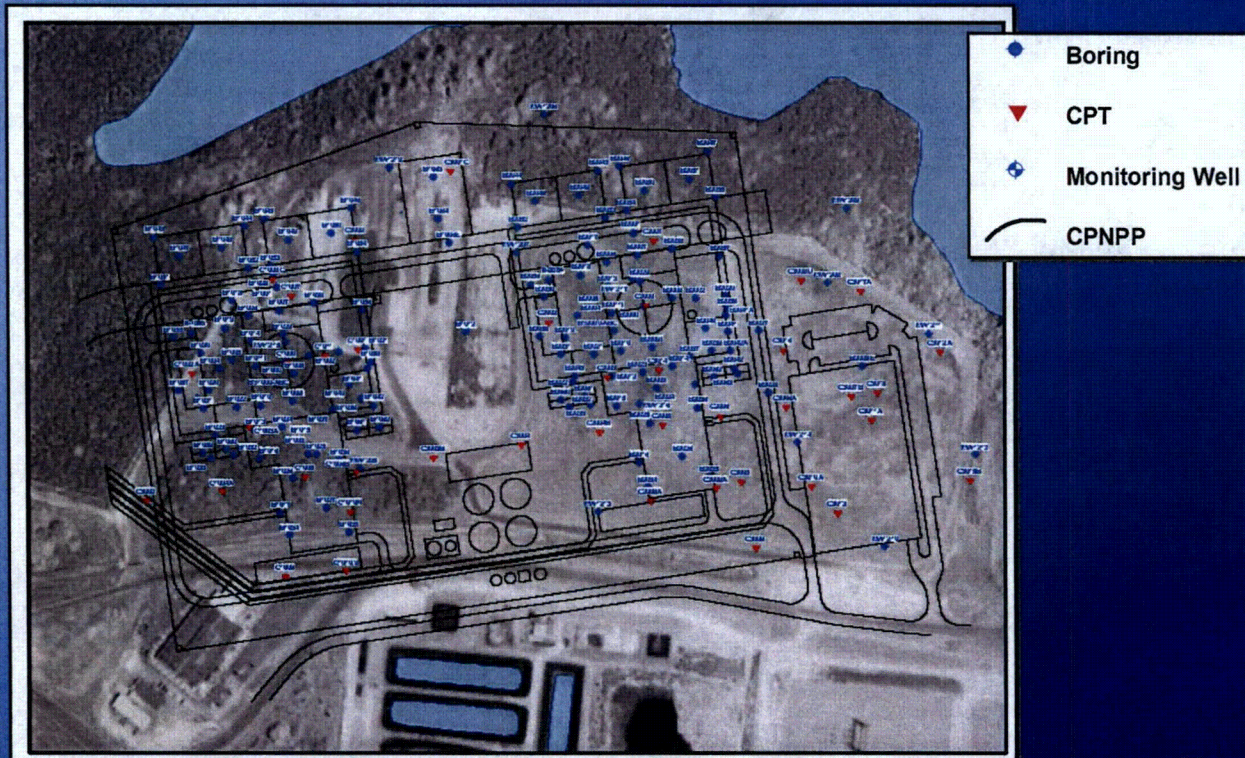
## Field Exploration

- 186 Foundation Specific Borings
- 15 P-S Suspension Borings
- 2 Down-hole surveys
- 3 SASW surveys
- 7 Pressuremeter Test Borings
- 6 Packer Test Borings
- 7540' Seismic Refraction
- 3 Test Pits
- 32 Cone Penetration Test Sounding locations

13



## As-Built Investigation Locations

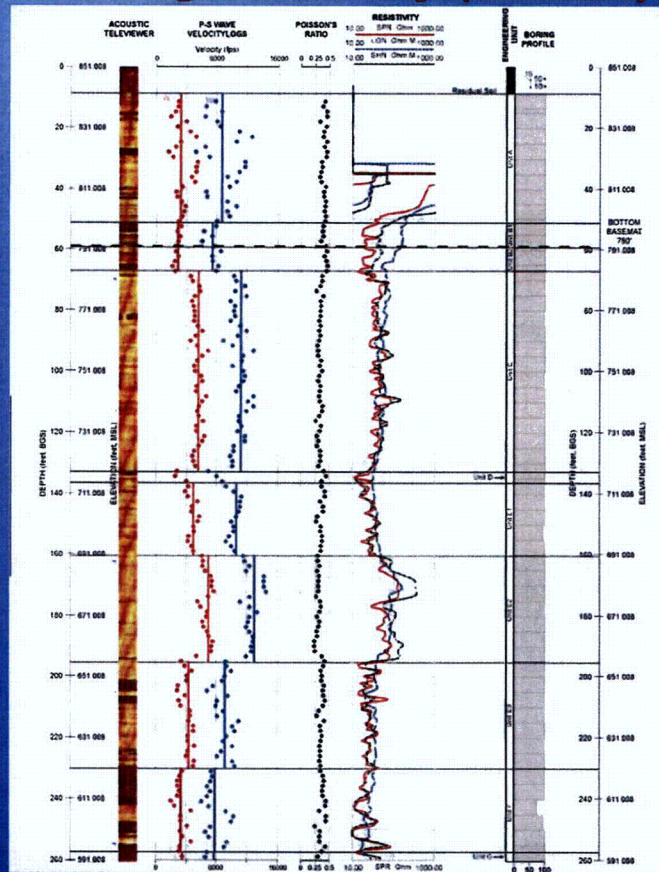


14



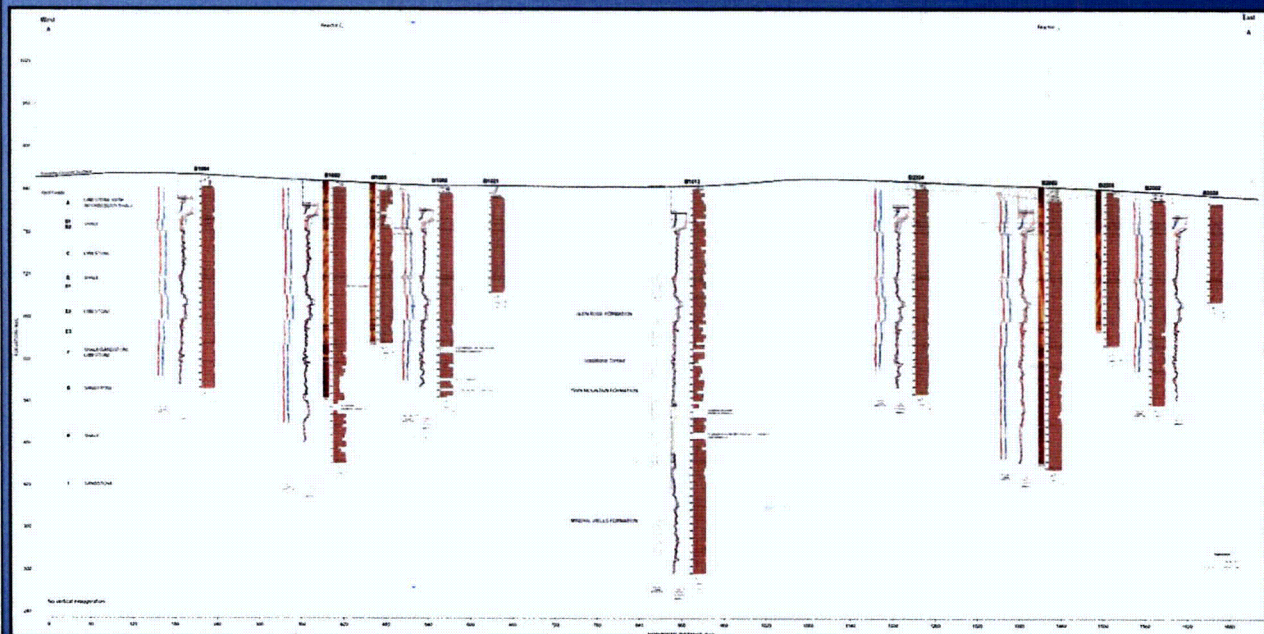


## Boring Summary (B-1000)



15


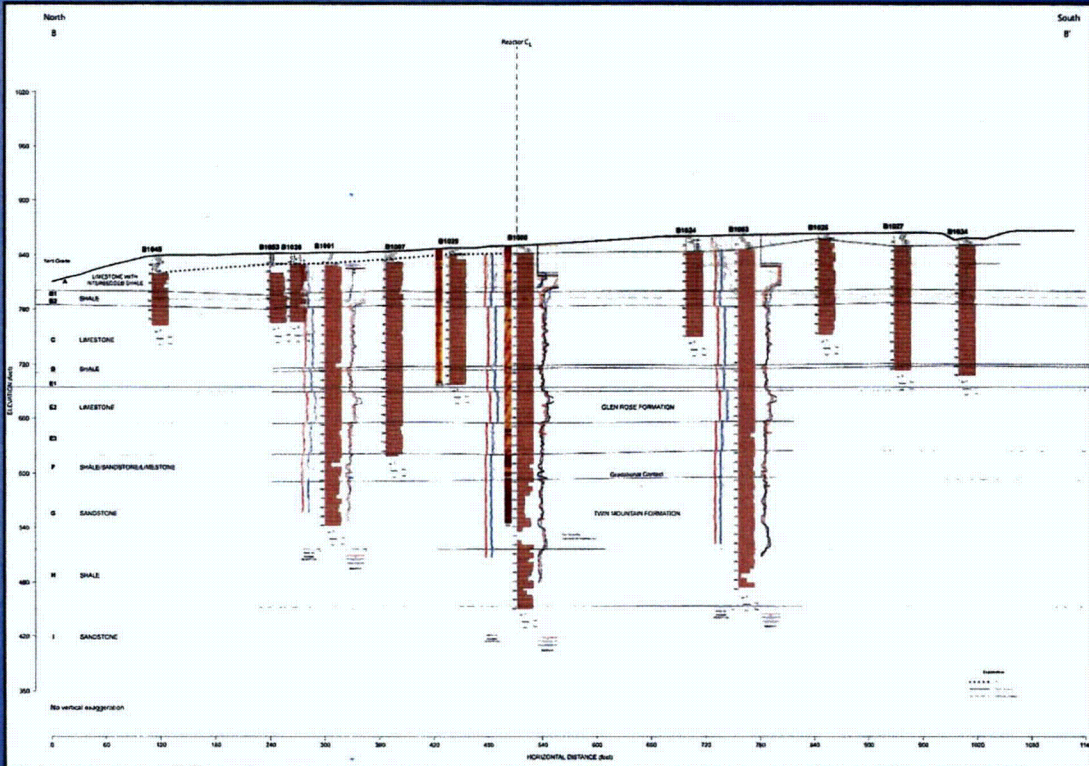
## W-E Cross Section (A-A')



16


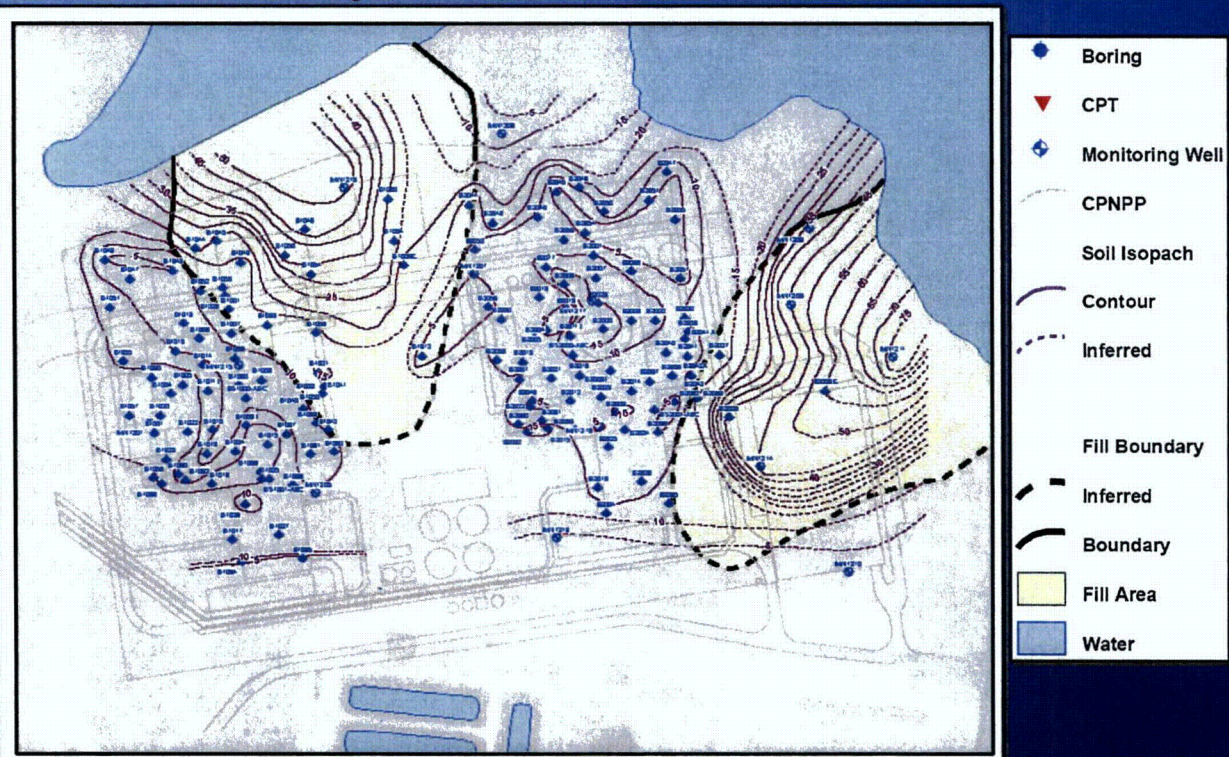


## N-S Cross Section (B-B')



17

## Soil Isopach Contours and Fill Areas



18



## Laboratory Testing Program

- Unconfined Compression (28)
- Unconfined Compression w Modulus & Poisson Ratio (24)
- Point Load (21)
- Pulse Velocity (78)
- Triaxial UU-1pt (4)
- Triaxial CU w Sat, w/o pp-1pt (2)
- Triaxial CU w/o pp- 1pt (18)
- Triaxial CU w/o pp- 3pt (4)
- Triaxial CU w pp- 3pt Staged (3)
- Direct Shear- 3pt (7)
- Consolidation (4)
- Swell (8)
- Atterberg Limits (7)
- Slake Durability (7)
- Moisture-Density (106)
- Specific Gravity (2)
- Calcium Carbonate (28)

19



## Subsurface Conditions

- Presence of a Shale Unit between 800-790 (776-786) MSL
- Thick (~65'), Competent Foundation Bearing Unit at ~ 782 MSL
- Uniform Stratigraphy
  - Flat uniform thickness and lithology laterally
  - Alternating limestone, shale and sandstone sequences
- High RQD Values and % Recoveries
- Limited discontinuities (joints and fractures)
- Few zones of noted dissolution
- Soft Rock Site
  - Vs (3200-6200 ft/sec)

20



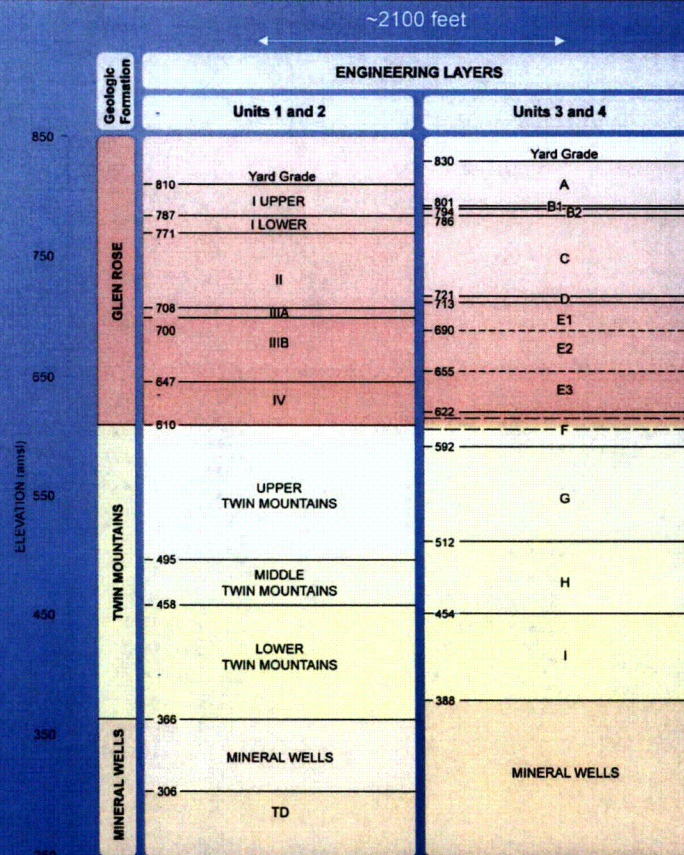


# Site Velocity Profile

- Shallow Velocity Profile
  - Velocity Measurements Techniques
    - Suspension
    - SASW
    - Down-hole
    - Cross-hole (Units 1&2)
- Deep Velocity Profile
  - Stratigraphy
  - Velocity Measurements from Regional Wells
  - Definition of Basement



21



Note: Distance from Units 1 and 2 to 3 and 4 is ~2100 ft. Regional dip is about 20 ft/mile which is about equal to the difference in unit tops between the two areas.



22

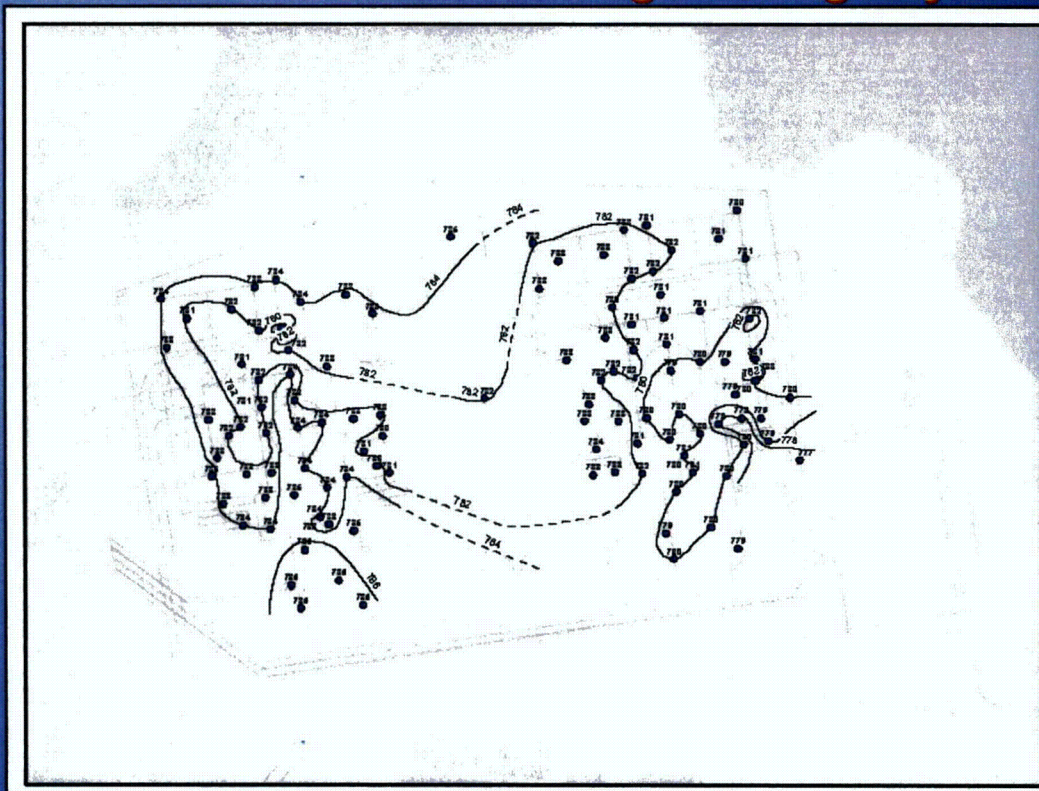


## Engineering Layers

Layer	Mean Thickness (ft)	Top Elevations (MSL, ft)			
		Mean	Max	Min	Std Dev
A	35	834	858	887	12.0
B1	8	798	802	794	1.8
B2	8	790	794	786	1.8
<b>C</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>1.9</b>
D	4	717	722	713	1.4
E1	23	714	719	710	1.6
E2	35	690	692	688	1.0
E3	33	656	658	654	0.9
F	30	622	626	618	2.1
G	80	593	598	584	4.0
H	63	513	517	507	3.5
I		451	455	446	3.3



## Structure Contours for Engineering Layer C






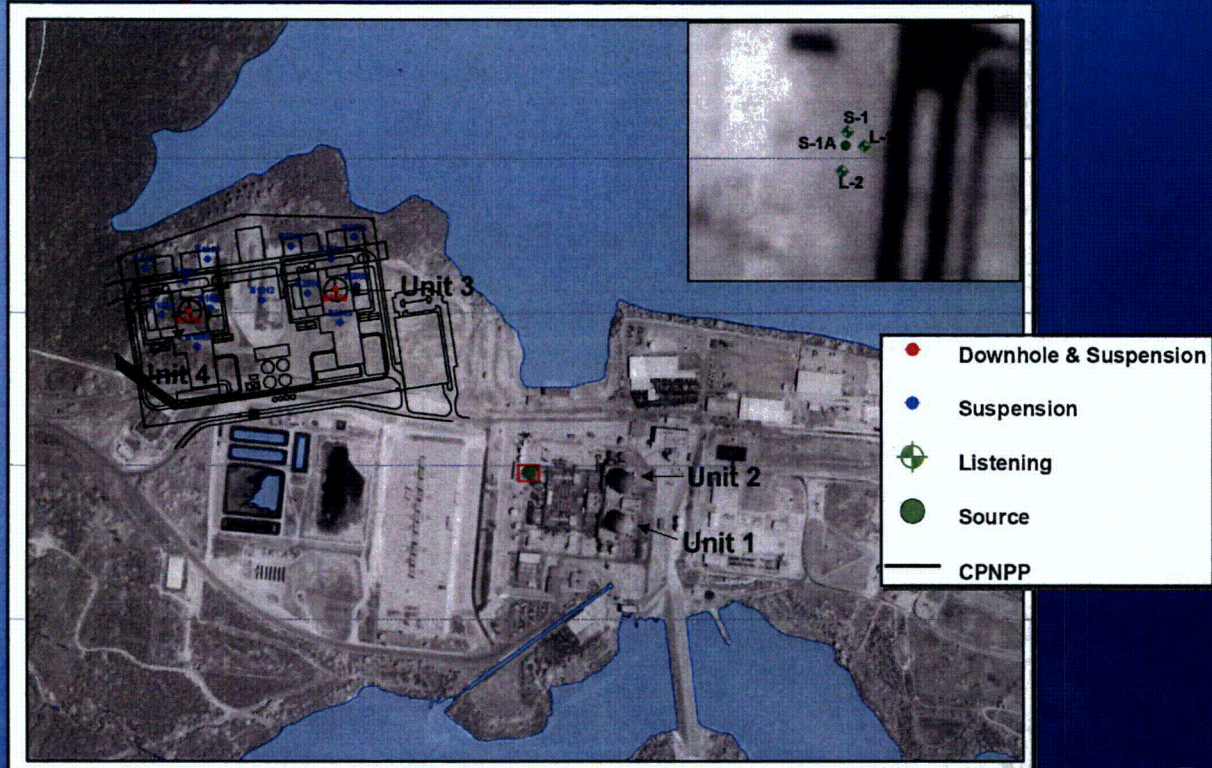
**WLA** 

Figure 1 is a geotechnical profile showing elevation (ft) on the y-axis (350 to 850) and three columns: S Wave Velocity, P Wave Velocity, and Poissons Ratio. The profile is divided into layers A through I and MW. A legend indicates: Mean velocity and 2σ (dotted lines), Unit top and standard deviation (solid line), Elevation of Yard Grade (dashed line), and Layer symbol (A).



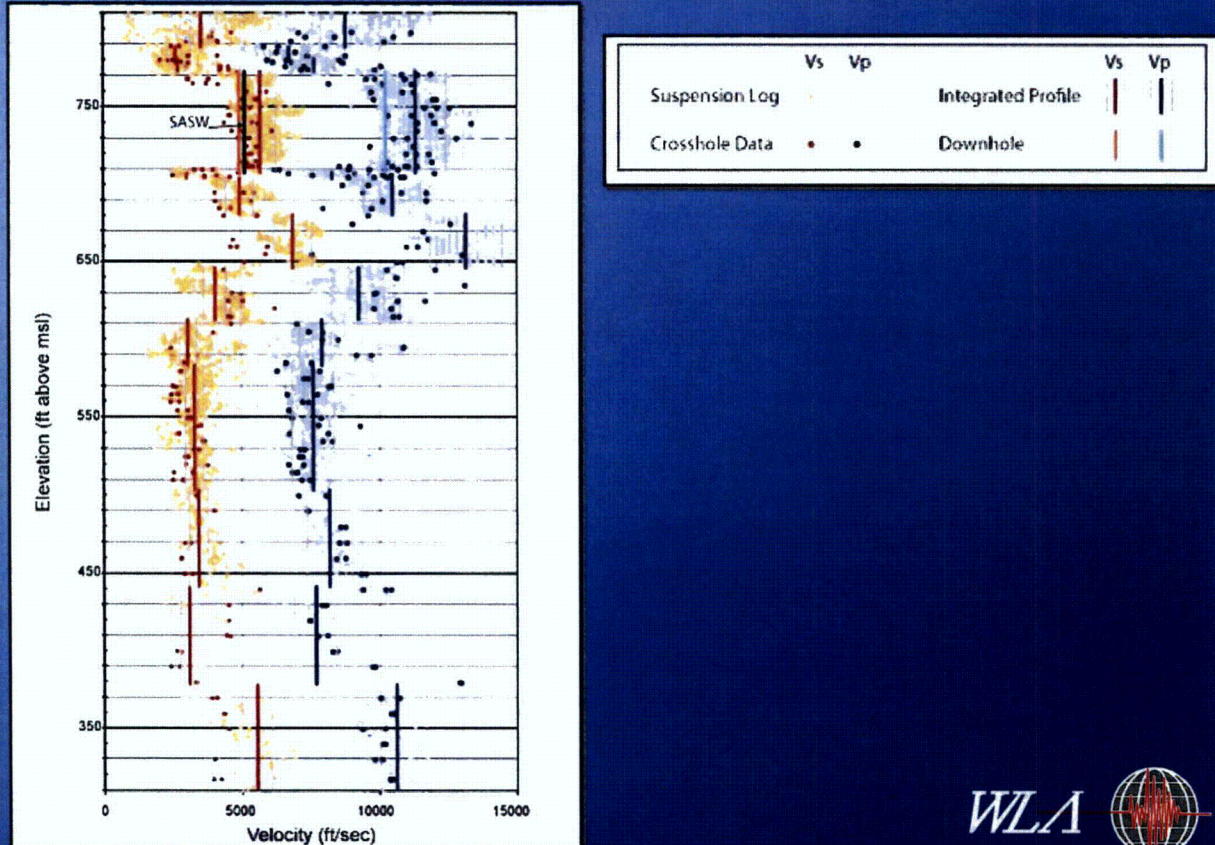


## Velocity Data for Units 3&4, Cross-hole Data for 1&2



27

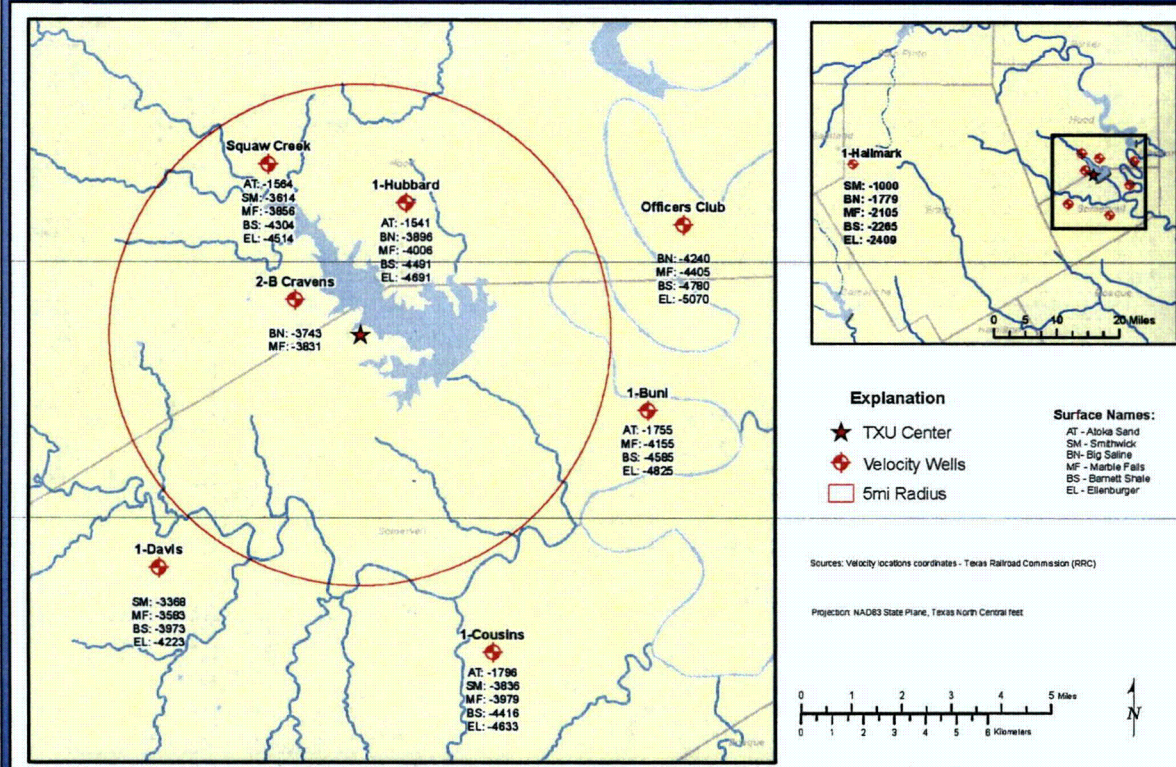
## Comparison of Cross-hole Velocities Units 1 & 2



28



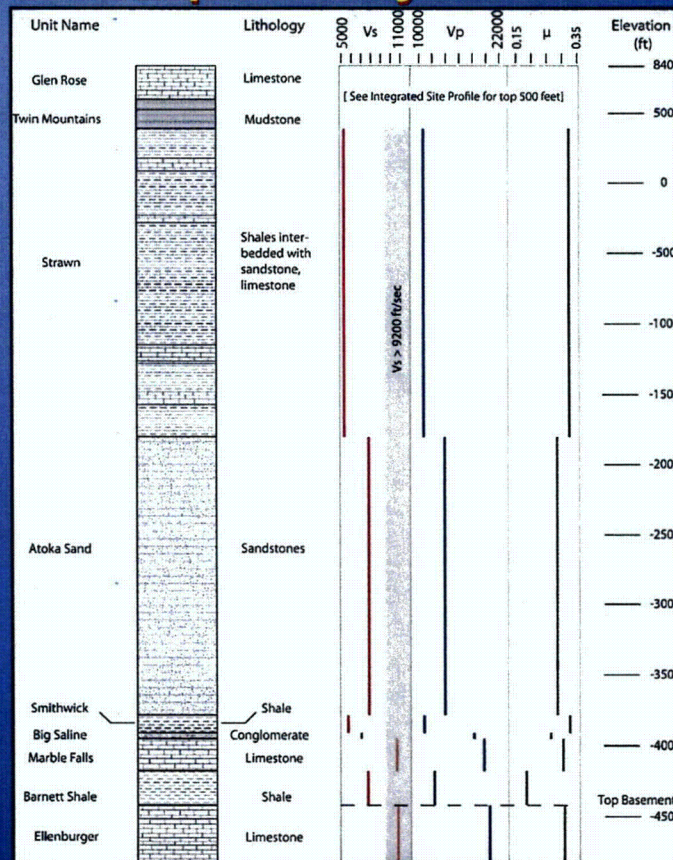
# Well Date Used for Deep Velocity Profile



29



# Deep Velocity Profile



30





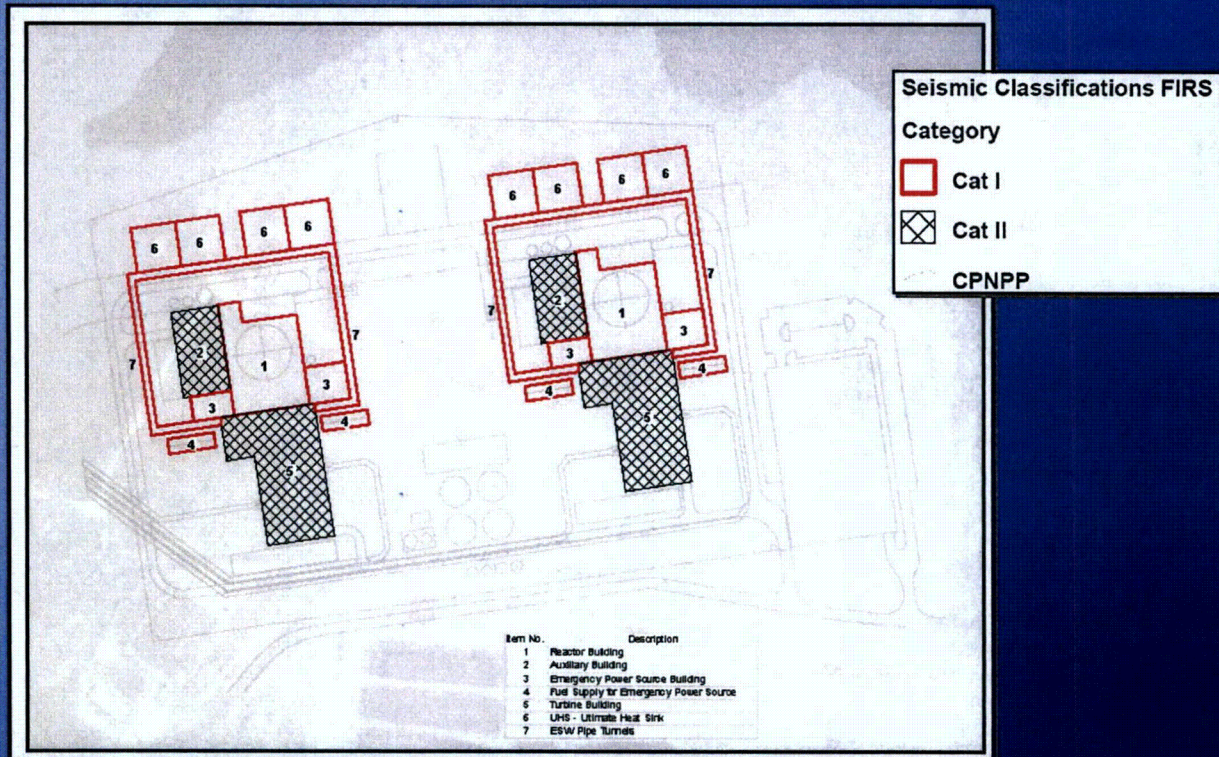
## FIRS Development

- Excavation for all Category I Structures to Remove Layer B (Shale)
- All Category I Structures to be Founded on Layer C (Limestone,  $V_s > 5685$  ft/sec) with Fill Concrete ( $V_s > 6000$  ft/sec) as required.
  - Emergency Power Source Building to be placed on ~ 16 ft of Fill Concrete
  - Duct Banks to be embedded with Structural Fill placed around structures to Yard Grade



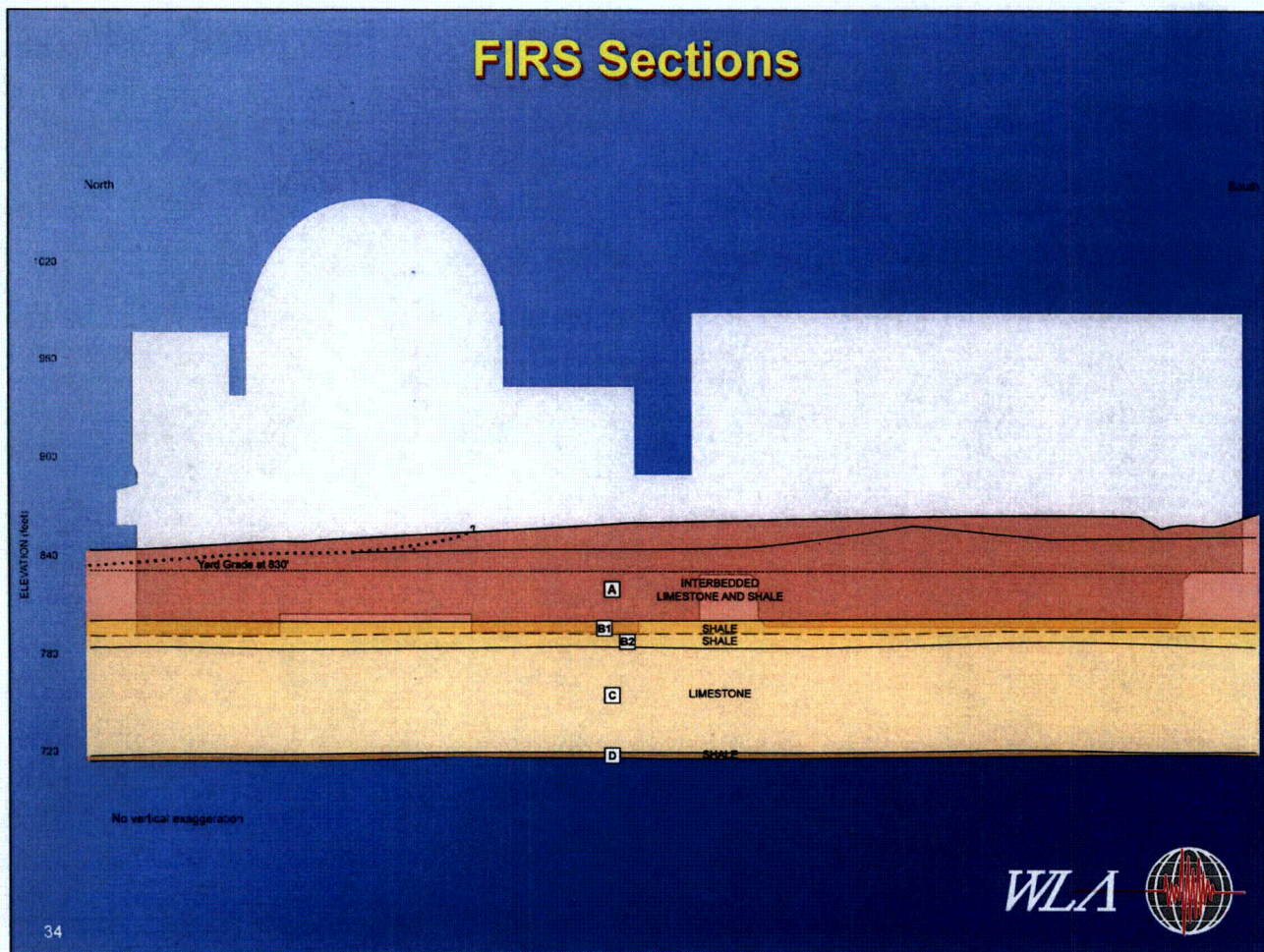
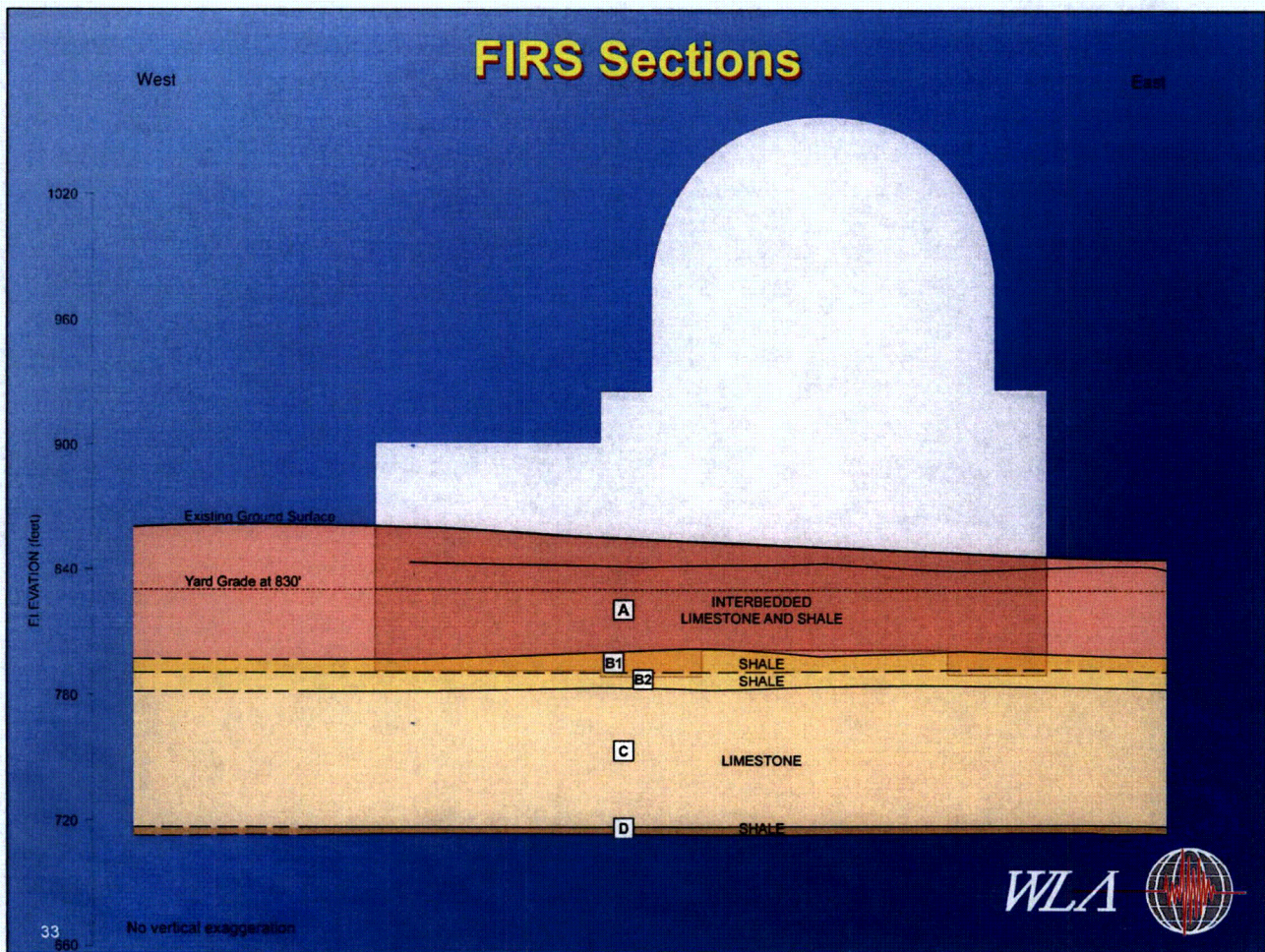
31

## Seismic Classification for Units 3 & 4



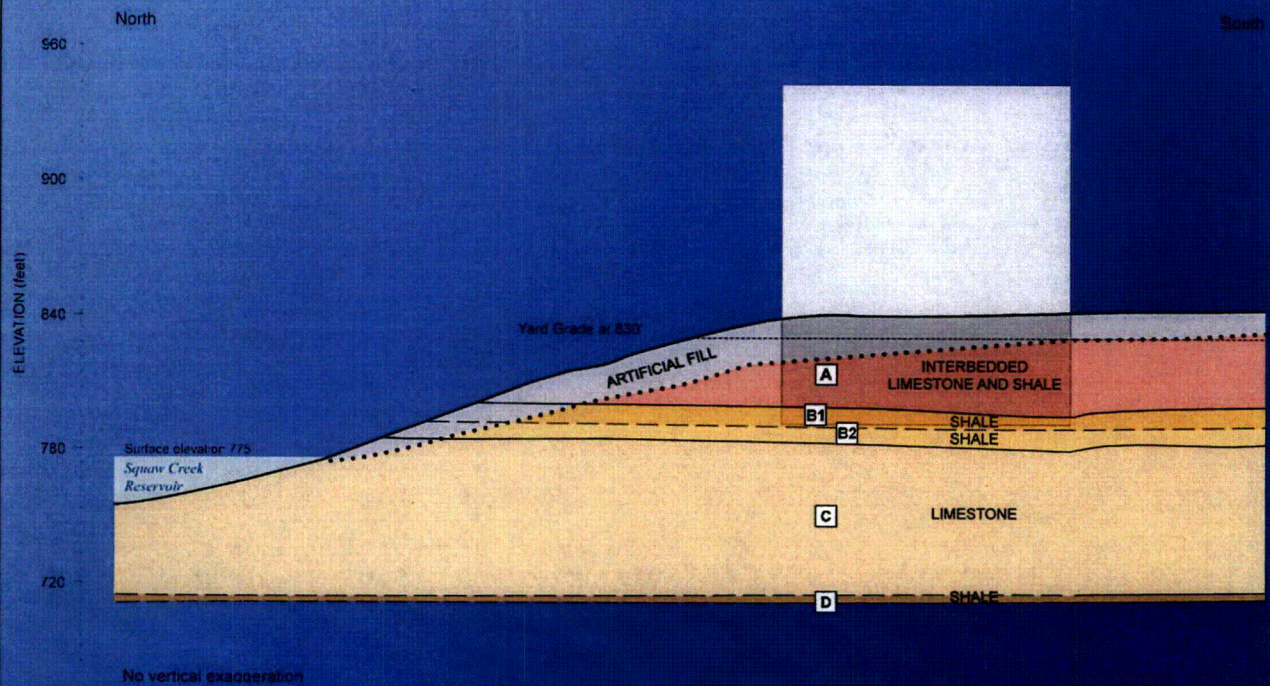
32







## FIRS Sections



35

## Summary of Geotechnical Site Characterization

- Uniform rock site with Vs 3000-7000 fps
- Competent rock foundation
  - Stable w/o significant karst or voids
  - High bearing capacity factor of safety
  - Minimal settlement
  - Linear dynamic properties



36



# Seismic Source Characterization

Luminant Comanche Peak COLA

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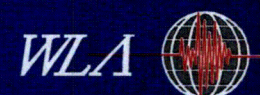
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37

## PSHA Input

- Use 1986/1989 EPRI-SOG model for Comanche Peak as base source model
- Revise existing source zones from EPRI-SOG model to reflect new (post-1986) information
- Screen for new significant seismic sources



38



# Existing EPRI-SOG Source Model for CP

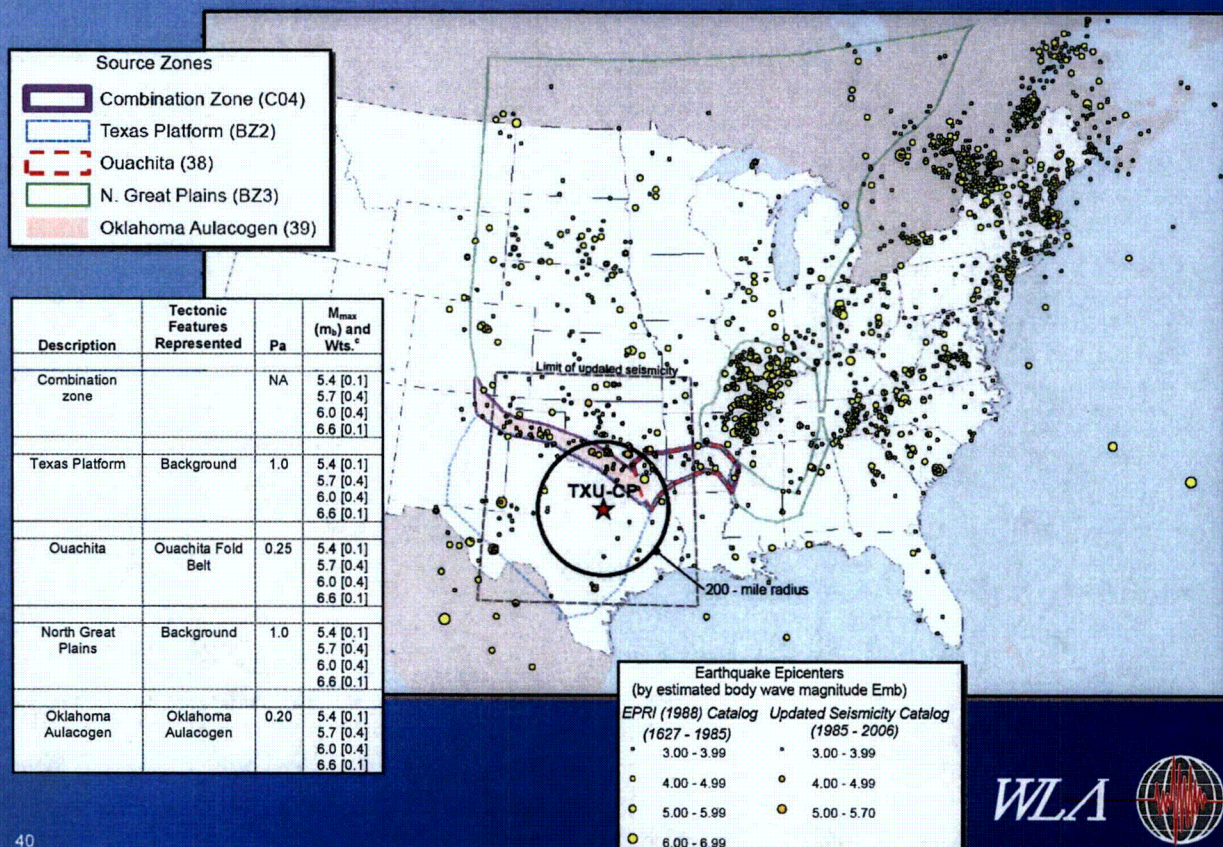
Six ESTs each with unique source zones characterized by:

- Geometry
- Maximum magnitudes
- Probability of activity
- Recurrence parameters



39

## Bechtel Group Source Zones



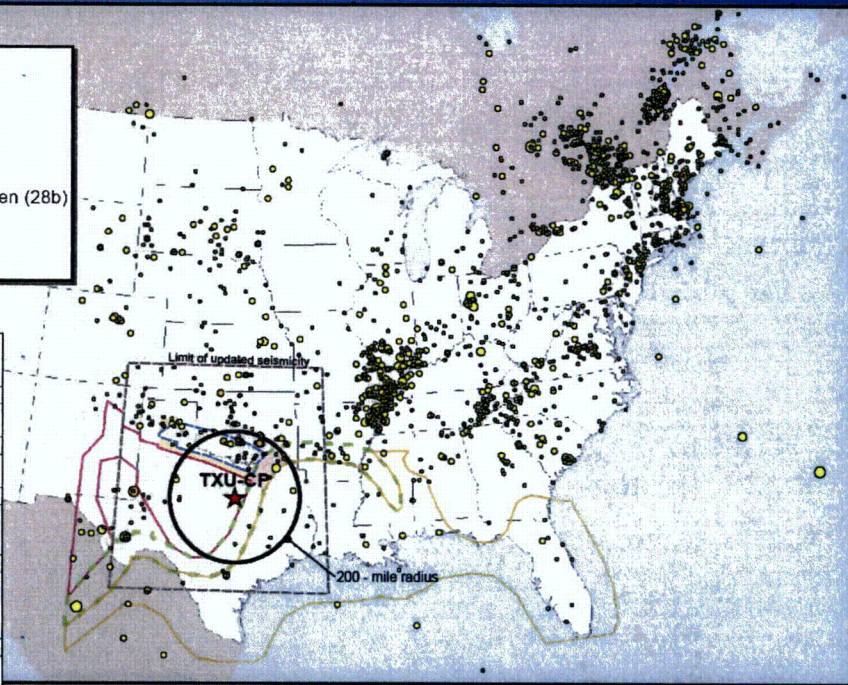
40



# Dames & Moore Source Zones

Source Zones	
	Ouachitas Fold (25)
	Kink in Ouachita Fold (25a)
	New Mexico (67)
	Default for S. Oklahoma Aulacogen (28b)
	S. Oklahoma Aulacogen (28)
	South Coastal Margin (20)

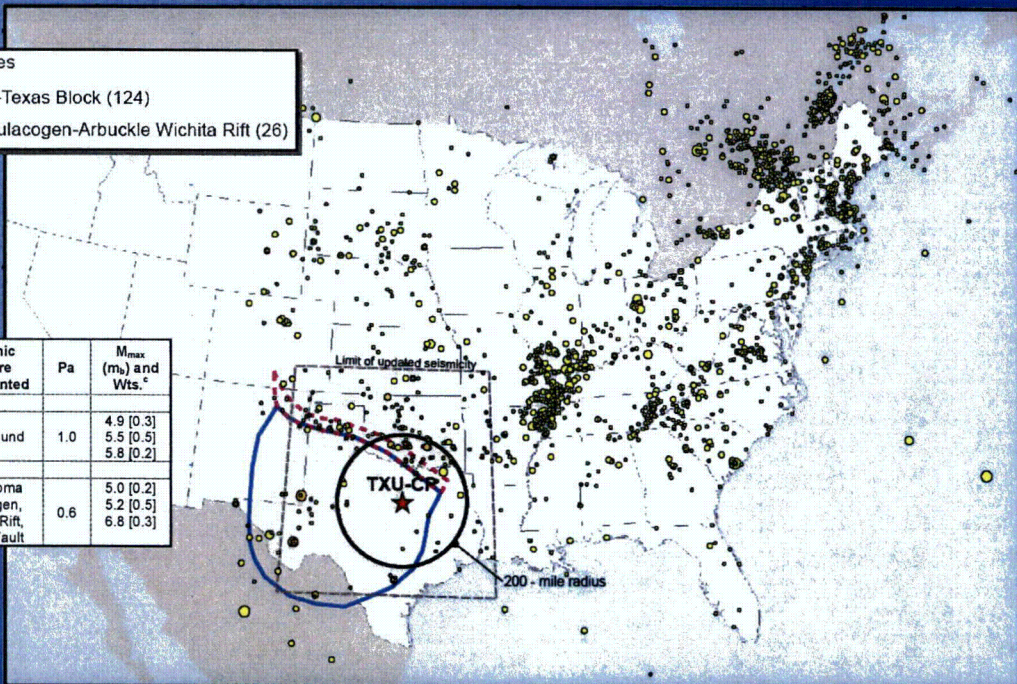
Source Zone	Tectonic Features Represented	Pa	M <sub>max</sub> (m <sub>s</sub> ) and Wts. <sup>c</sup>
Ouachitas Fold Belt	Ouachitas Fold Belt	0.35	5.5 [0.8] 7.2 [0.2]
Kink in Ouachita Fold Belt	Kink	0.65	5.7 [0.75] 7.2 [0.25]
New Mexico	Paleozoic Arches and Basins	1.0	5.5 [0.8] 7.2 [0.2]
Default for S. Oklahoma Aulacogen	Oklahoma Aulacogen	0.56	5.0 [0.8] 7.2 [0.2]
S. Oklahoma Aulacogen	Oklahoma Aulacogen	0.44	6.0 [0.75] 7.2 [0.25]
South Coastal Margin	Background	1.0	5.3 [0.8] 7.2 [0.2]



# Law Engineering Source Zones



Source Zones	
	New-Mexico-Texas Block (124)
	Oklahoma-Aulacogen-Arbuckle Wichita Rift (26)

Description	Tectonic Feature Represented	Pa	M <sub>max</sub> (m <sub>s</sub> ) and Wts. <sup>c</sup>
New Mexico & Texas Block	Background	1.0	4.9 [0.3] 5.5 [0.5] 5.8 [0.2]
Oklahoma-Aulacogen-Arbuckle Wichita Rift	Oklahoma Aulacogen, Wichita Rift, Meers Fault	0.6	5.0 [0.2] 5.2 [0.5] 6.8 [0.3]

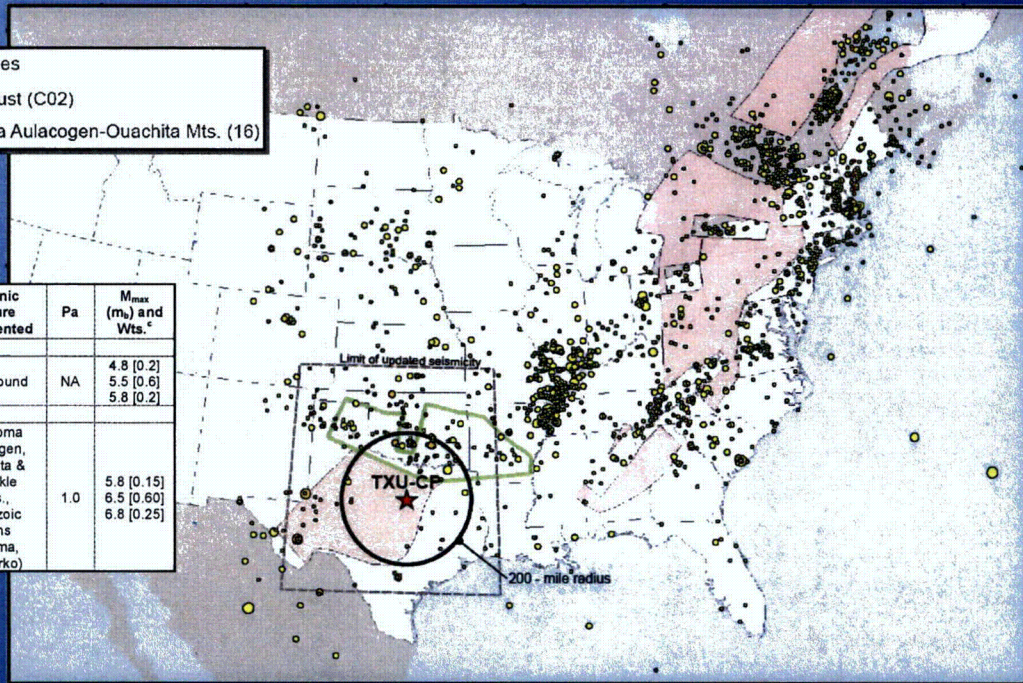







# Rondout Associates Source Zones

Source Zones	
	Grenville Crust (C02)
	S. Oklahoma Aulacogen-Ouachita Mts. (16)

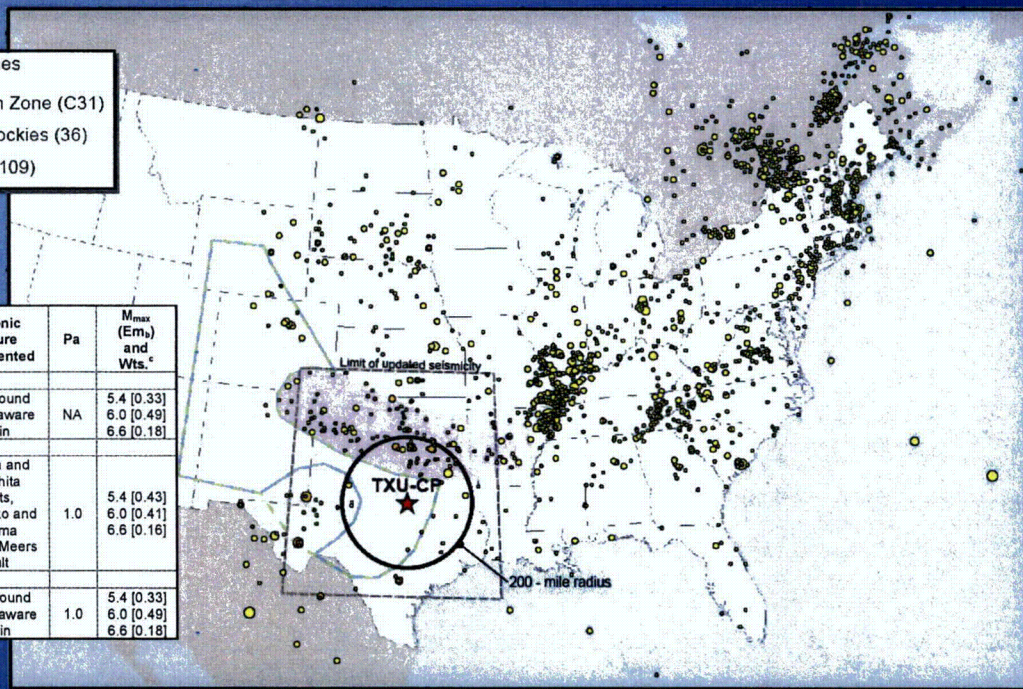
Description	Tectonic Feature Represented	Pa	$M_{max}$ ( $m_b$ ) and Wts. <sup>a</sup>
Grenville Crust	Background	NA	4.8 [0.2] 5.5 [0.6] 5.8 [0.2]
S. Oklahoma Aulacogen-Ouachita Mts.	Oklahoma Aulacogen, Ouachita & Arbuckle Mnts., Paleozoic basins (Arkoma, Anadarko)	1.0	5.8 [0.15] 6.5 [0.60] 6.8 [0.25]



# Weston Geophysical Source Zones

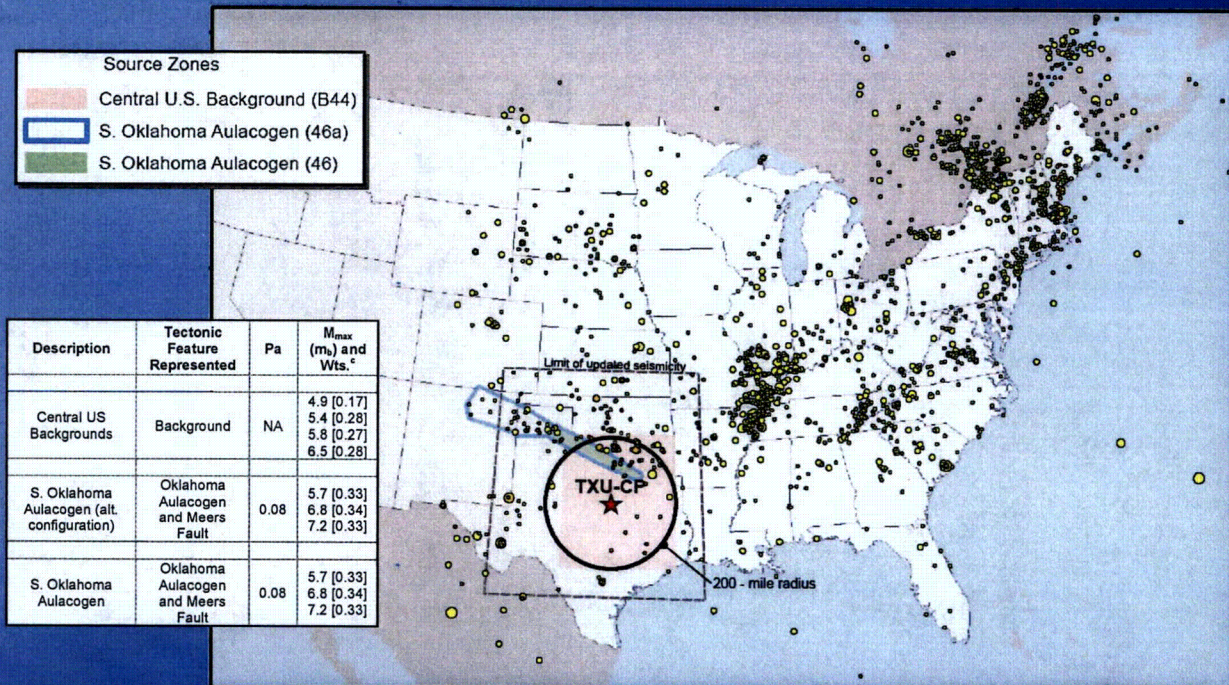
Source Zones	
	Combination Zone (C31)
	Ancestral Rockies (36)
	Southwest (109)

Description	Tectonic Feature Represented	Pa	$M_{max}$ ( $m_b$ ) and Wts. <sup>a</sup>
Combination zone	Background w/o Delaware Basin	NA	5.4 [0.33] 6.0 [0.49] 6.6 [0.18]
Ancestral Rockies	Wichita and Ouachita Uplifts, Anadarko and Arkoma Basins, Meers Fault	1.0	5.4 [0.43] 6.0 [0.41] 6.6 [0.16]
Southwest	Background and Delaware Basin	1.0	5.4 [0.33] 6.0 [0.49] 6.6 [0.18]





# Woodward-Clyde Source Zones



45



## Revisions to EPRI-SOG Source Model

No new information post-dating 1986 EPRI-SOG study to suggest revisions to contributing source zone:

- Geometries
- Probabilities of activity
- Seismicity parameters (pending results of sensitivity analysis for affects of 1985-2006 seismicity)

However:

- Earthquakes in updated seismicity catalog require updates to  $M_{max}$  for some source zones
- Seismicity parameters need to be calculated for some regions

46





# Mmax Revisions

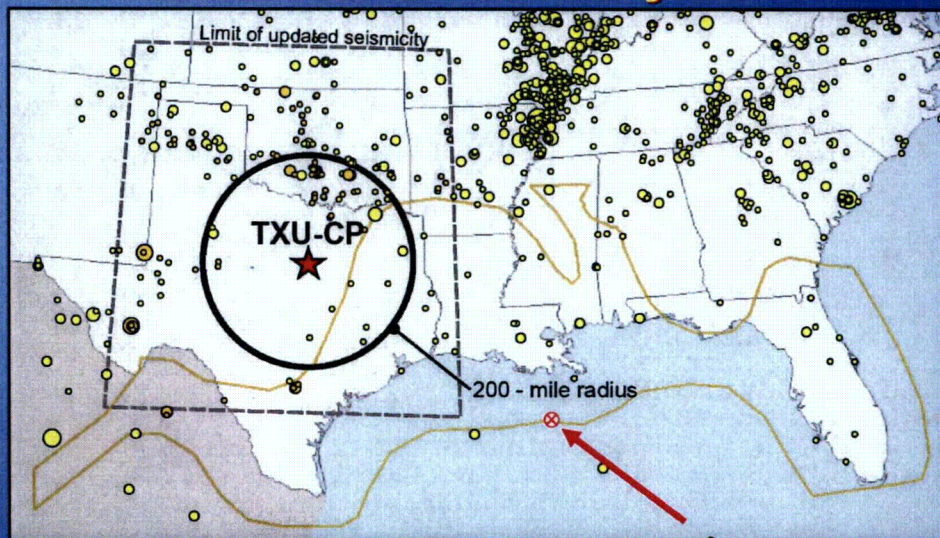
Two earthquakes with Emb greater than the lower bound Mmax for some source zones require updating Mmax values:

- Emb 5.5, 2 February 2006 in Gulf of Mexico
- Emb 5.0, 2 January 1992 in SE New Mexico



47

## Emb 5.5: 2 February 2006



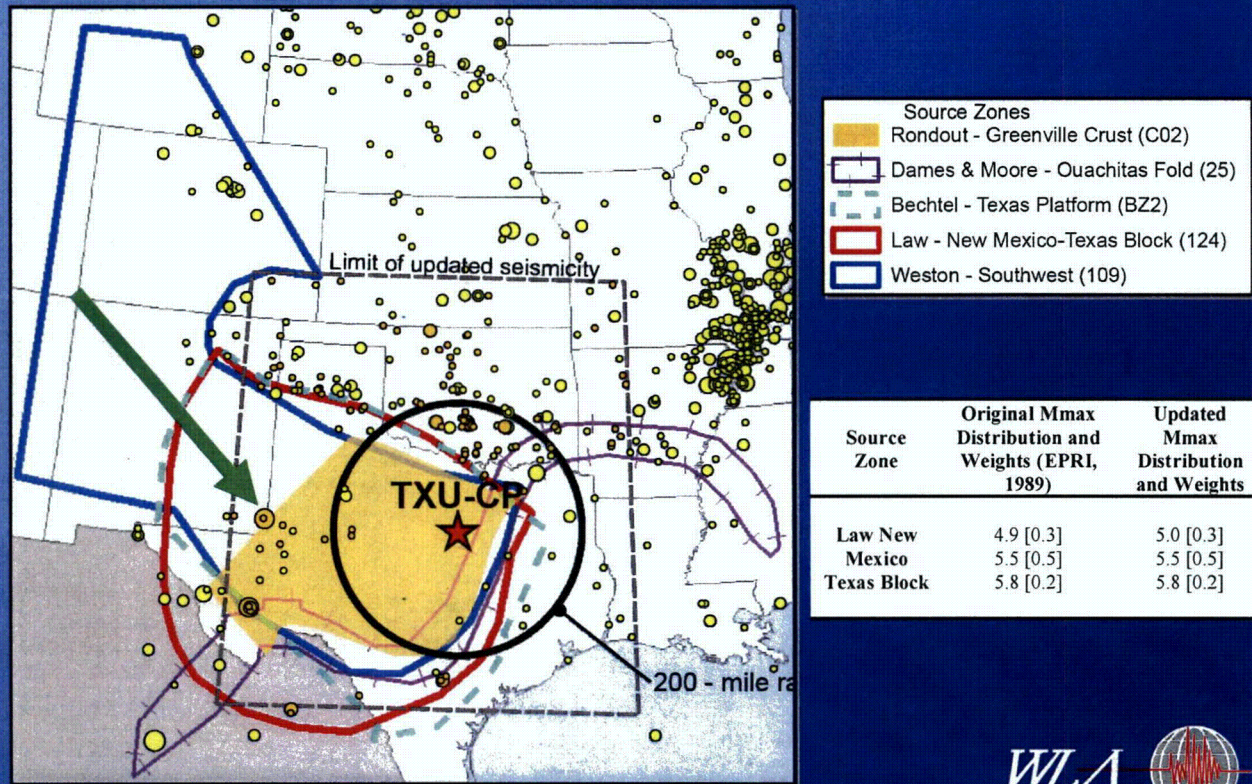
Source Zone	Original Mmax Distribution and Weights (EPRI, 1989)	Updated Mmax Distribution and Weights
Dames and Moore South	5.3 [0.8]	5.5 [0.8]
Coastal Margin	7.2 [0.2]	7.2 [0.2]



48



## Emb 5.0: 2 January 1992

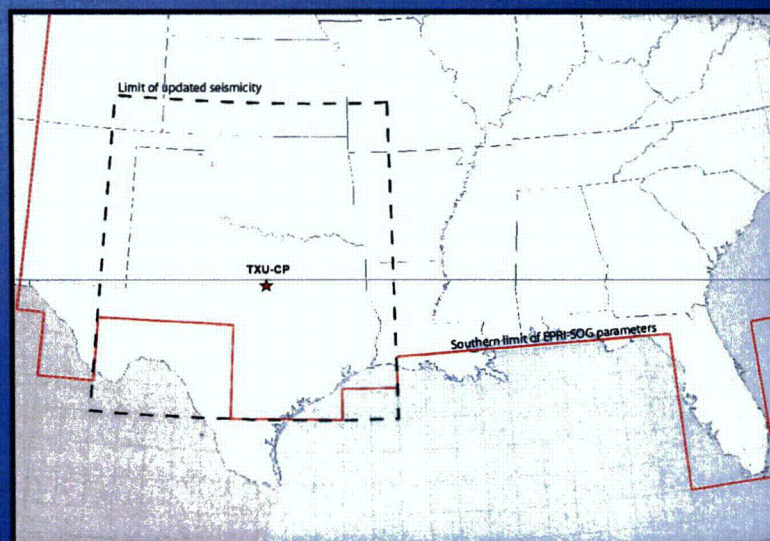


49



## Seismicity Parameter Update

- EPRI-SOG PSHA model uses seismicity parameters defined on  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  cells.
- Parameters were not calculated south of red line, so no contribution to hazard from cells south of line.
- Calculate seismicity parameters for empty  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  cells within the extent of updated catalog.

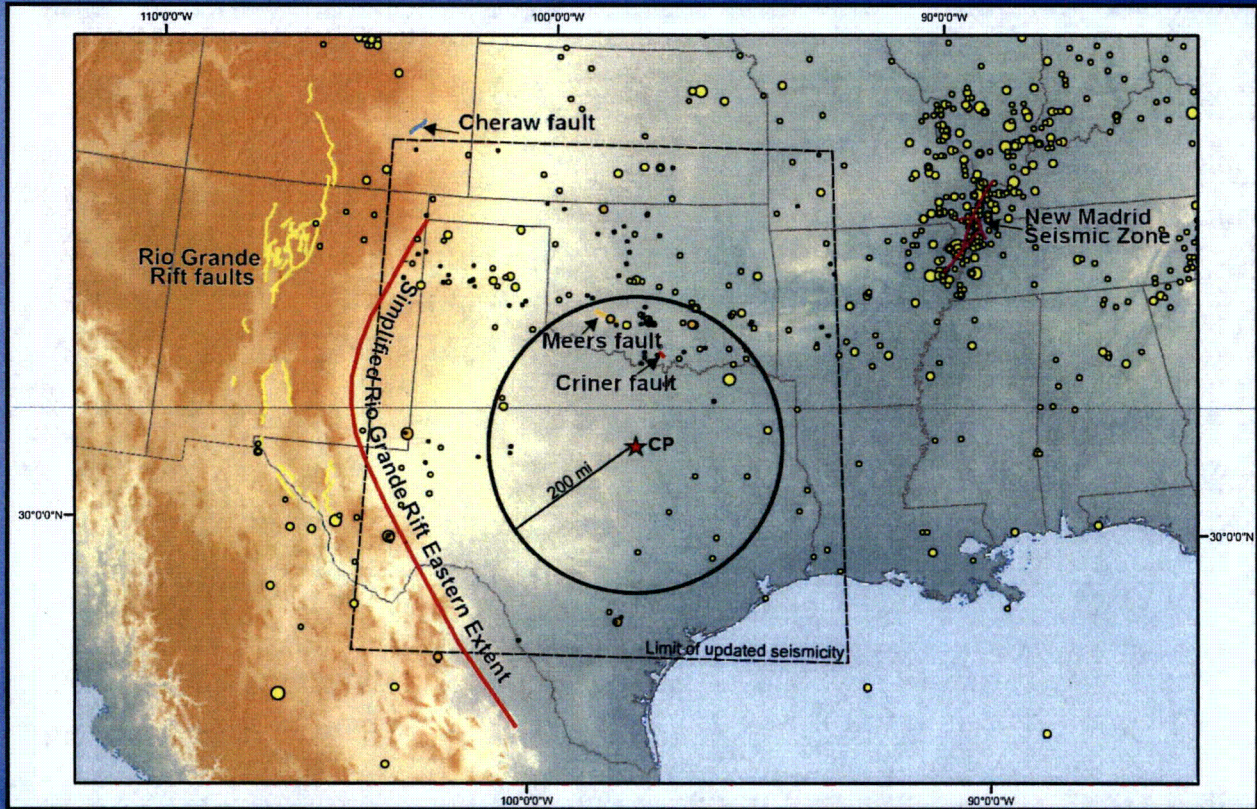


50





## New Seismic Sources for Screening Study



### Rio Grande Rift

- Only explicitly considered by one EST in EPRI-SOG study
- Post EPRI-SOG studies indicate higher activity rates and larger magnitude earthquakes
- Use two complimentary models of RGR as a seismic source



## Rio Grande Rift

### Model 1: 2002 USGS National Seismic Hazard Map faults for RGR representing discrete faults

**Model 1:** 41 faults used in USGS Seismic Hazard Maps as distinct sources.

Trace Coordinates (Lon., Lat.)	Take from Table A1
Dip, Dip Direction	90°, NA
Recurrence Model	Characteristic Earthquake
Recurrence Rate (EQs/yr)	Use USGS defined characteristic recurrence rate
Magnitude (Mw) and weights	Use USGS defined characteristic magnitude (M_CHAR) with branches M_CHAR-0.2 [0.2], M_CHAR [0.6], M_CHAR+0.2 [0.2]
Probability of Activity	1.0

53



## Rio Grande Rift

### Model 2: Conservative representation of the easternmost extent of RGR with seismicity parameters derived from bulk behavior of USGS parameterized faults. Source represents potential for EQs distal from identified faults

**Model 2:** Point source located at the closest approach of RGR morphotectonic domain as a  
conservation simplification of an aerial source zone.

Point location (Lon., Lat.)	(-102.671°, 29.796°)
Recurrence Model	Characteristic Earthquake
Return Period (yrs) and weights	14,500 [0.4], 37,500 [0.4], 119,000 [0.2]
Magnitude (Mw) and weights	6.3 [0.1], 6.65 [0.3], 6.95 [0.4], 7.3 [0.2]
Probability of Activity	1.0

54





## Cheraw Fault

- Not considered in EPRI-SOG study
- Research post-dating EPRI-SOG has shown three surface rupturing events in past ~25 ka
- Use conservative simplification of fault as described in 2002 USGS National Seismic Hazard Maps

Recurrence Model	Characteristic Earthquake
Recurrence Rate	1.148e-4 per year
Magnitude (Mw) and weights	6.8 [0.2], 7.0 [0.6], 7.2 [0.2]
Probability of Activity	1.0



## New Madrid Seismic Zone

- Not a contributor to hazard at CP in EPRI-SOG study
- Research post-dating EPRI-SOG has lead to revised maximum magnitudes, source geometry, and recurrence rates
- Use conservative simplification of model from Clinton ESP parameterization of New Madrid Seismic Zone

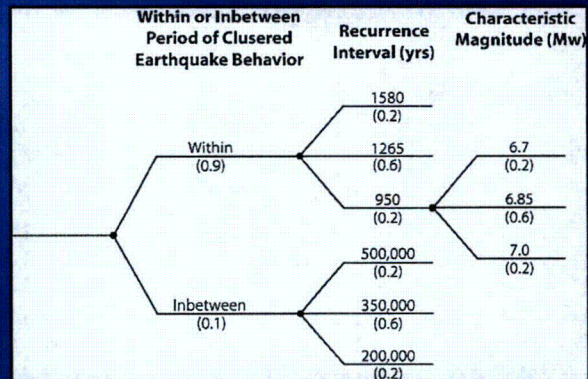




## Meers Fault

- Identified in EPRI-SOG study as tectonic feature with non-zero probability of activity
- Post EPRI-SOG research indicates need for revision of source to account for higher recurrence rates, larger Mmax, refined location of Quaternary-active segment
- Source model based on work by Geomatrix in late 80s and early 90s

Trace Coordinates (Lon., Lat.)	(-98.64°, 34.85°), (-98.29°, 34.71°)
Dip, Dip Direction	89¼, SW
Recurrence Model	Characteristic Earthquake
Probability of Activity	1.0



## Criner Fault

- Not identified as unique source by EPRI-SOG
- Research in early 1990s identified fault as potentially active
- More recent studies suggest very low probability of activity ( $P_a \sim 0.2$ )
- Source may be adequately characterized by existing EPRI-SOG area source zones





## Status of Ground Motion Analysis

- Screening studies in progress
  - Meers, Cheraw, RGR, NMSZ, Criner
- PSHA and site response to be completed
  - CAV filtering
  - Modified sigma

59



## Summary of Geotechnical and Seismic Conditions

- Excellent rock site
  - Vs 3000-7000 fps
  - Uniform horizontal layering
  - Competent rock foundation
- Low seismic environment
  - Modified EPRI-SOG SSC
  - Consistent with other applicants
  - Expected GMRS < CSDRS
- Complete Application
  - Nothing deferred

60

