

## **Thermo Chemical Simulation of a Coal Gasification Process (Applying waste captured CO<sub>2</sub> either from combustion or gasification)**

JC van Dyk

African Carbon Energy, South-Africa

Effectiveness and carbon efficiency of gasification, or specifically UCG, can further be improved by applying CO<sub>2</sub> gasification / recycling waste captured CO<sub>2</sub> as gasification agent, replacing part of the oxygen and steam, and with optimal operation. The most important reaction during any gasification process is the reduction or Boudouard Reaction where  $\text{CO}_2 + \text{C} \rightarrow 2\text{CO}$ , preferably  $>850^\circ\text{C}$ , without combustion, with a controlled amount of oxygen and/or steam. Technical advantages may include, but not limited to:

- o CO<sub>2</sub> reduction of at least 14 mass % from the gasification block in raw gas, together with lowering the operating temperature of the syngas production to  $<850^\circ\text{C}$ .

- o A reduction of minimum 5 mass % ton of in-situ coal mined (gasified) to produce the same amount of CO + H<sub>2</sub> in raw gas, based on a 20% CO<sub>2</sub> recycle.

- o A high(er) heating value gas (if needed) and can be controlled by the operation of the CO<sub>2</sub> recycle cycles and feed into the reduction process.

- o CO<sub>2</sub> capture in-situ on active mineral components in the coal seam, roof and floor, etc. Ca, Mg to form carbonates.

CO<sub>2</sub> Gasification, and specifically applied to an Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) process, is a practical solution to improve both carbon efficiency and lower the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint.

This paper will endeavour to illustrate how a thermo equilibrium approach can be applied to theoretically quantify the advantages of this concept.