

# **Bakken Well Economics & Production Forecasting**

**House Energy and Natural Resources  
January 9, 2015**

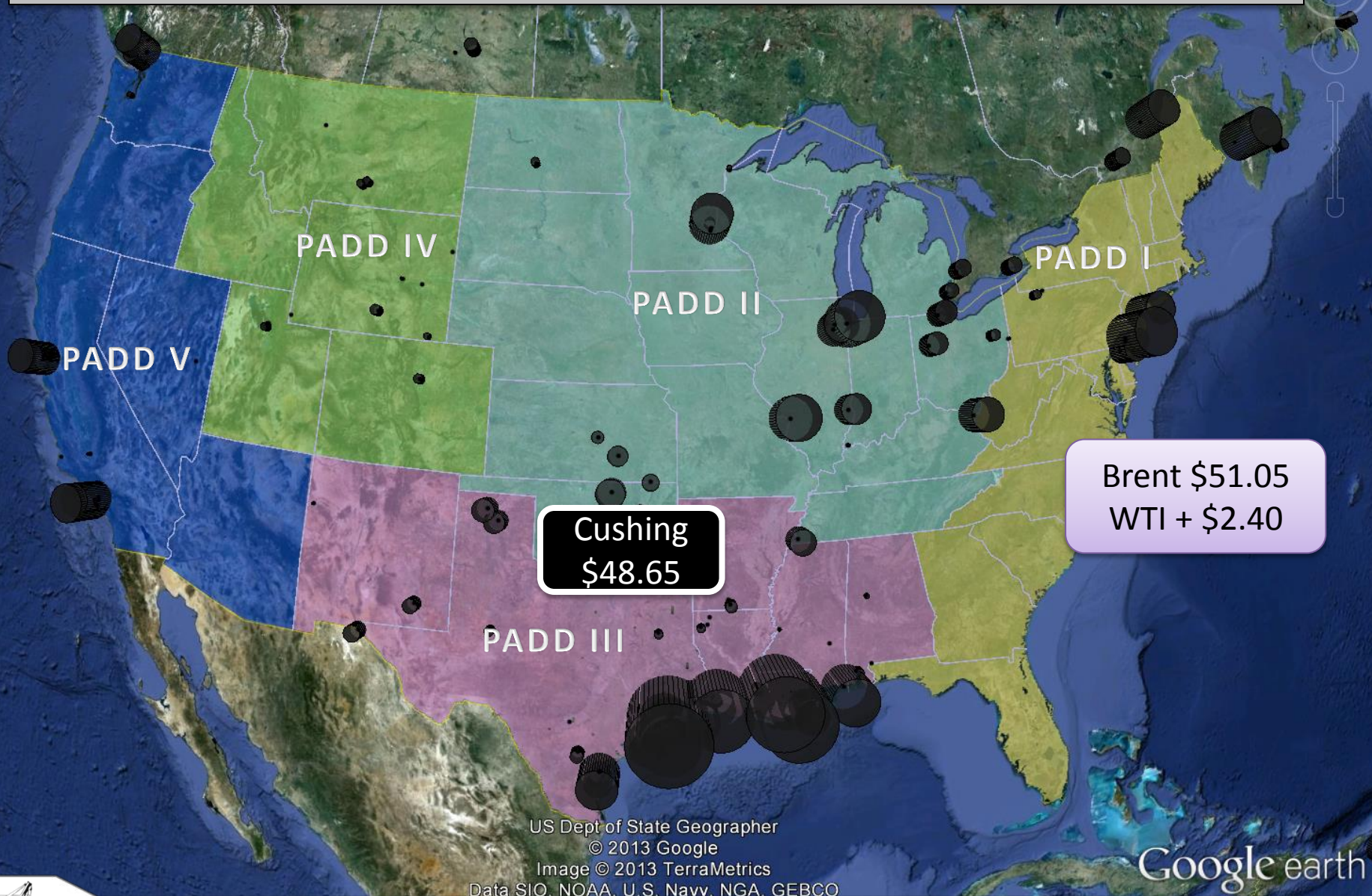
**Justin J. Kringstad**  
*Geological Engineer*  
*Director, North Dakota Pipeline Authority*



# Rebuilding Oil & Gas Forecasts to Support Midstream Development



# Crude Oil Prices – Jan. 7, 2015





# ND Pipeline Authority Web Presentation

## Bakken Well Economics



**Justin J Kringstad**

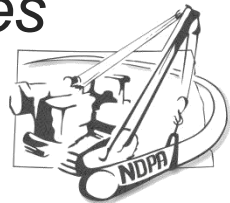
*Geological Engineer*

*Director*

*North Dakota*

*Pipeline Authority*

*Please view replay video on the Pipeline Authority website for full commentary of the following slides*



**Revised: January 1, 2015**

## **Objective**

Define where the Bakken/Three Forks system is economic in a lower oil price environment.

## **Method**

Analyze past well performance across the region and estimate well economics for various production levels.

## **Disclaimer**

The goal of this work is not to imply individual company actions or intentions. All view expressed are strictly that of Justin J. Kringstad.

Neither the State of North Dakota, nor any agency, officer, or employee of the State of North Dakota warrants the accuracy or reliability of this product and shall not be held responsible for any losses related to its use.

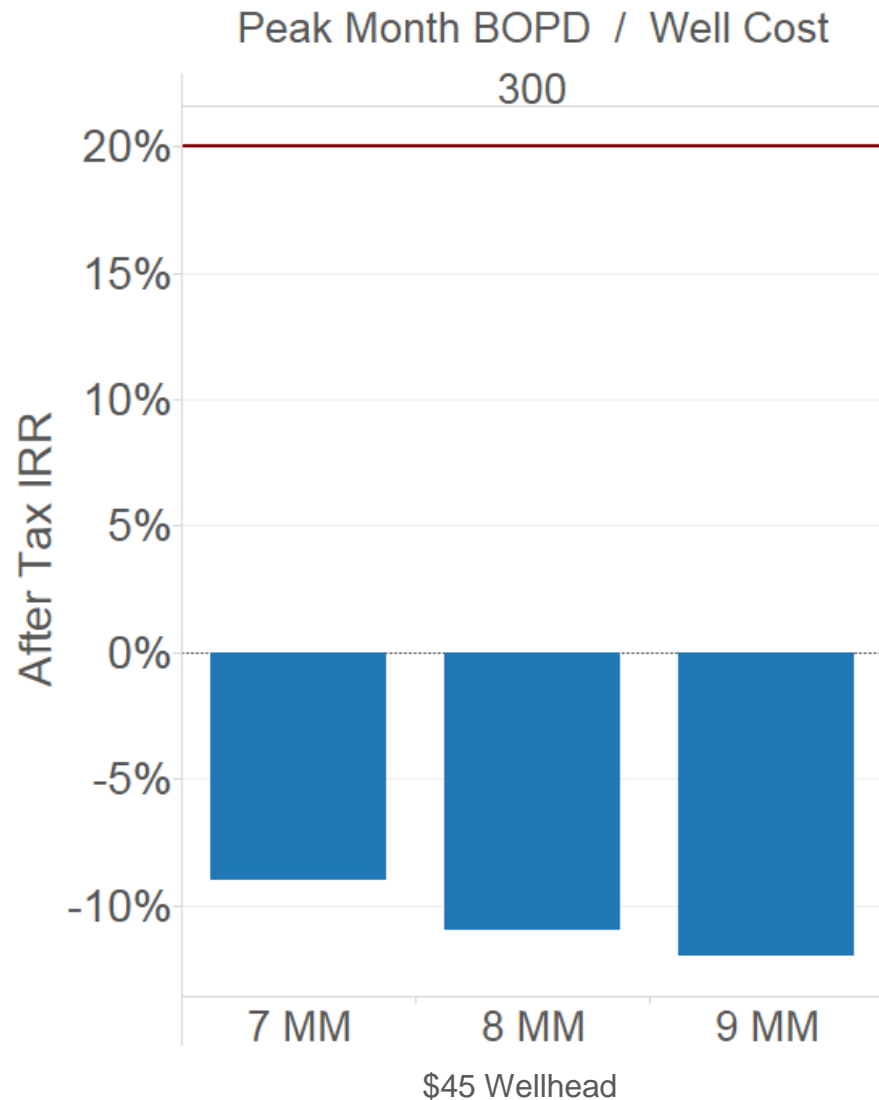
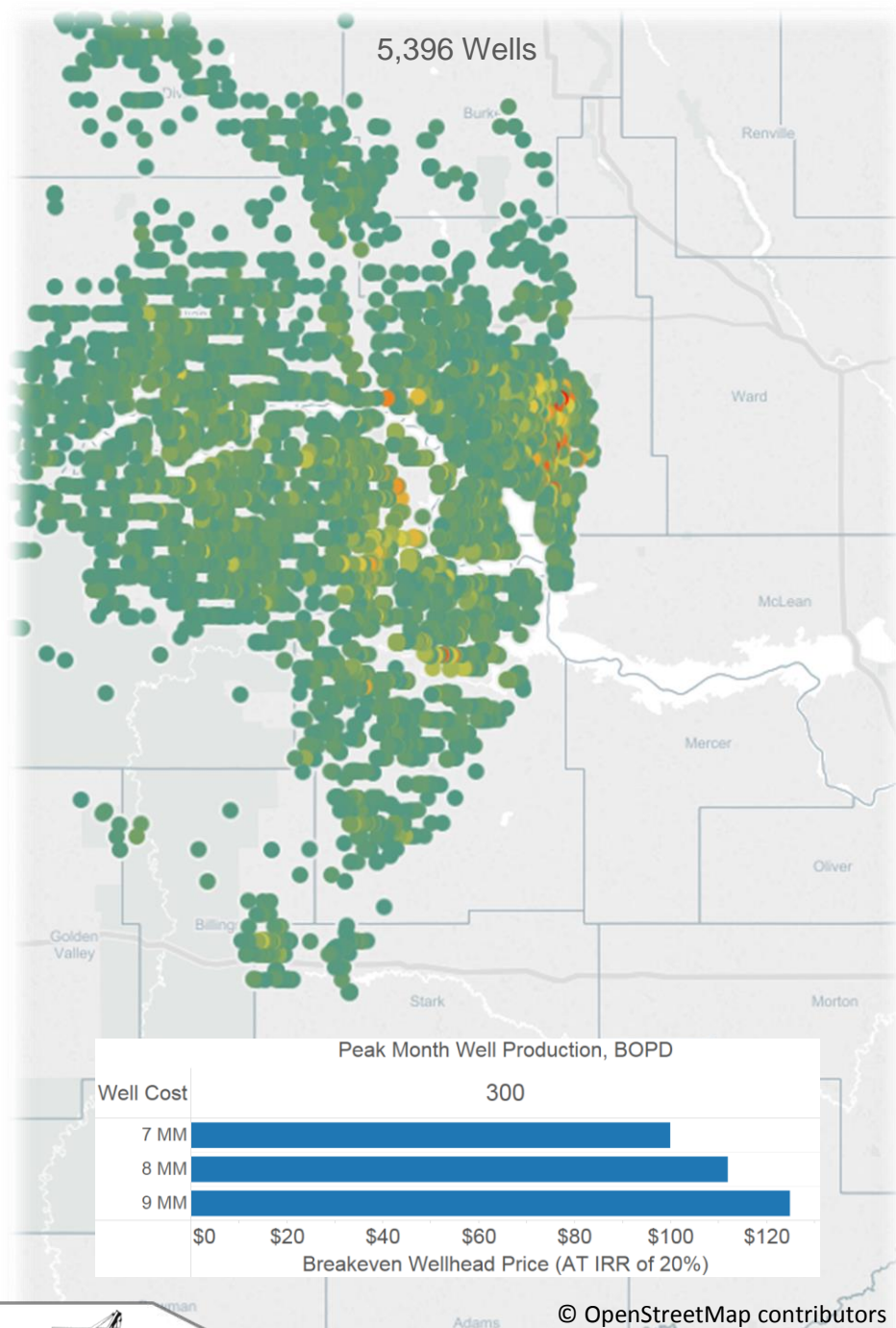


# Key Economic Assumptions

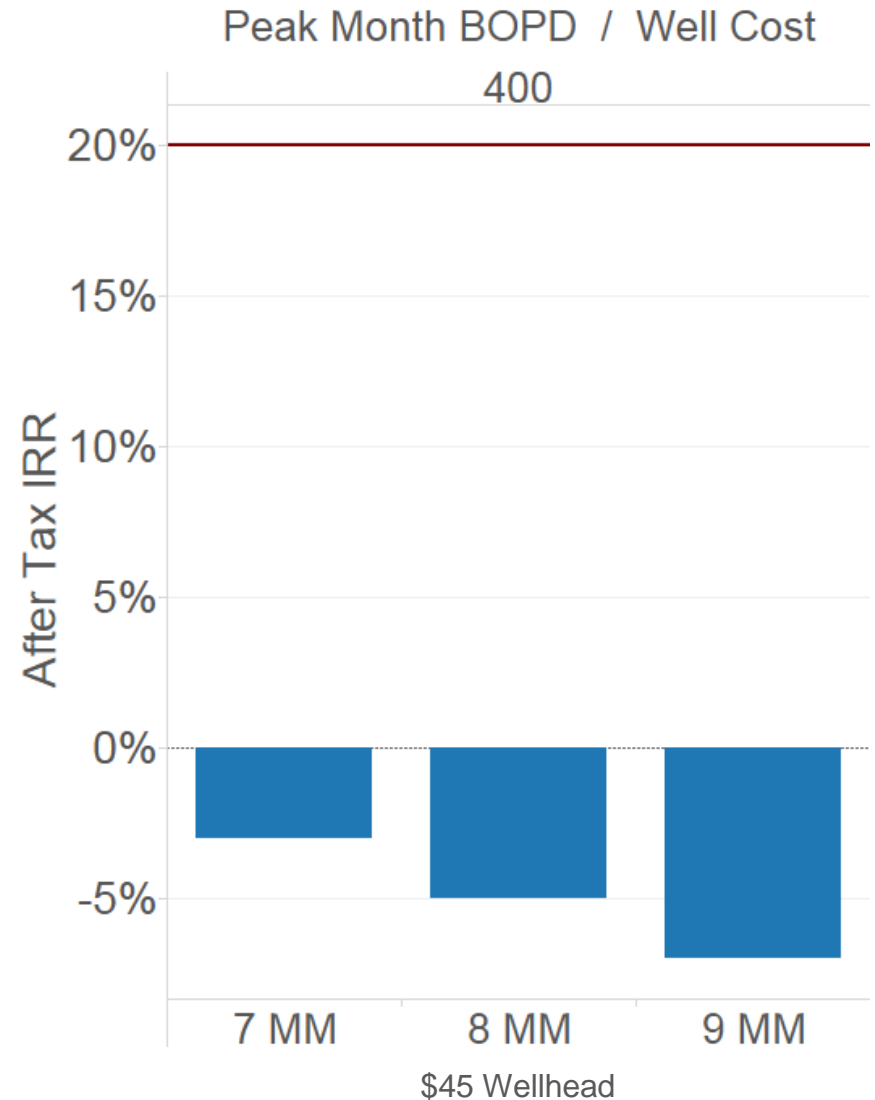
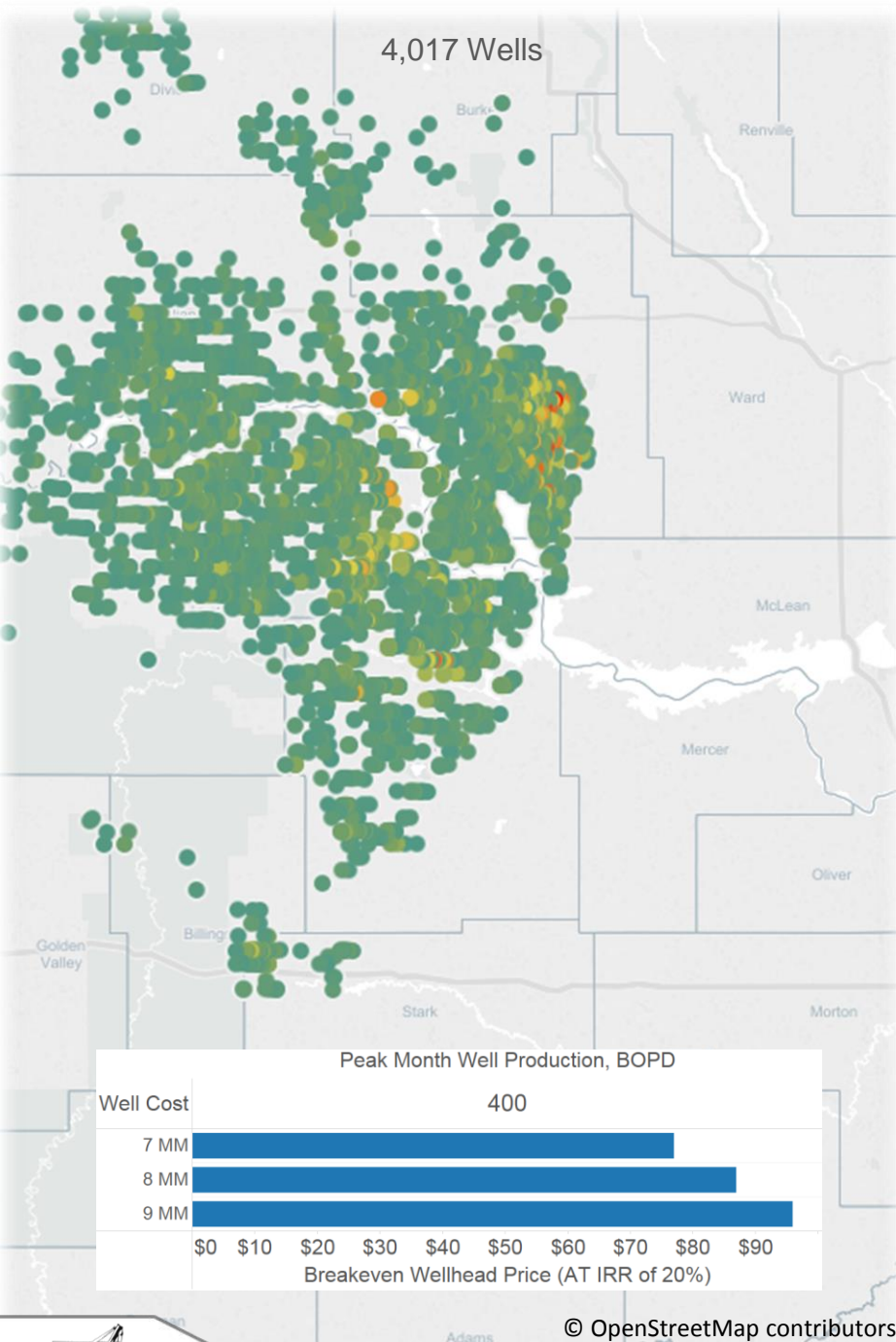
- \$7-\$9 Million Well Costs
- \$45/BBL Wellhead Pricing
- 1/6 Royalty
- Zero Flaring
- Minimum 20% IRR to drill (calculated after production taxes and royalties)
- No Tax Incentives Included
- Production rate is 30-day average
- All Bakken/Three Forks wells drilled in 2008+



# Peak Month Minimum 300 BOPD

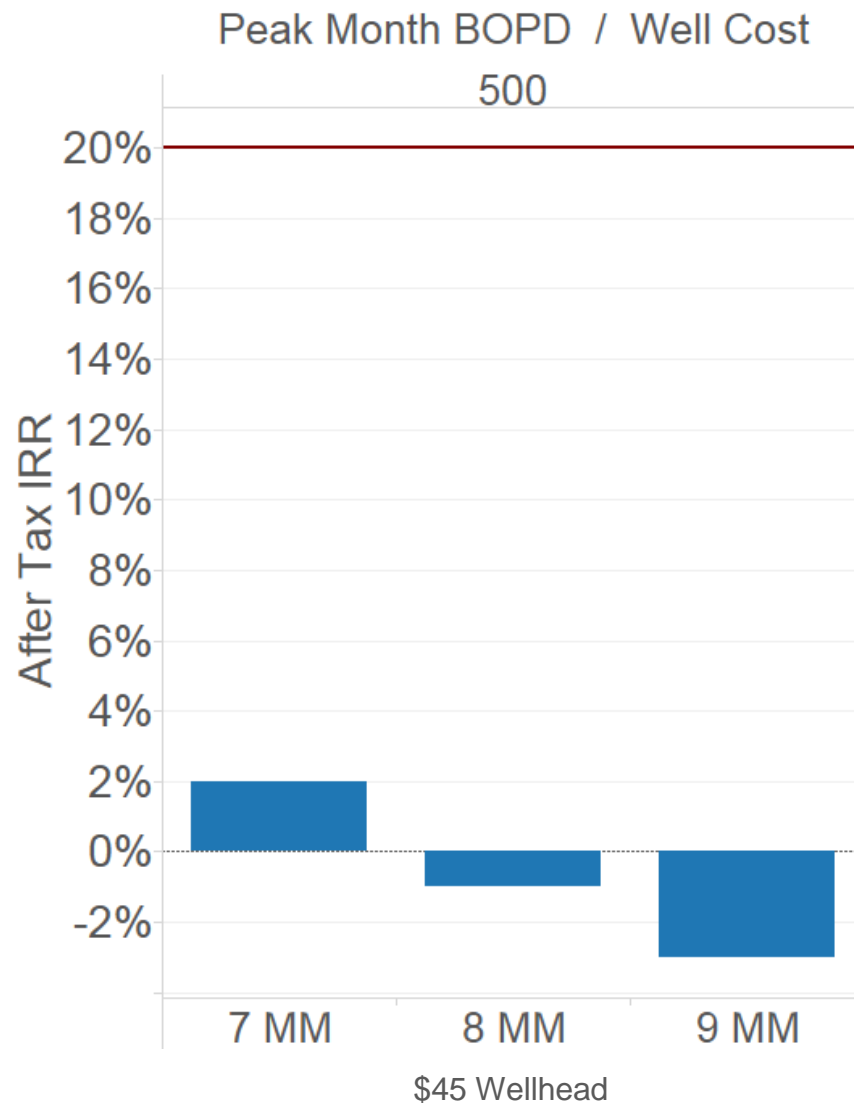
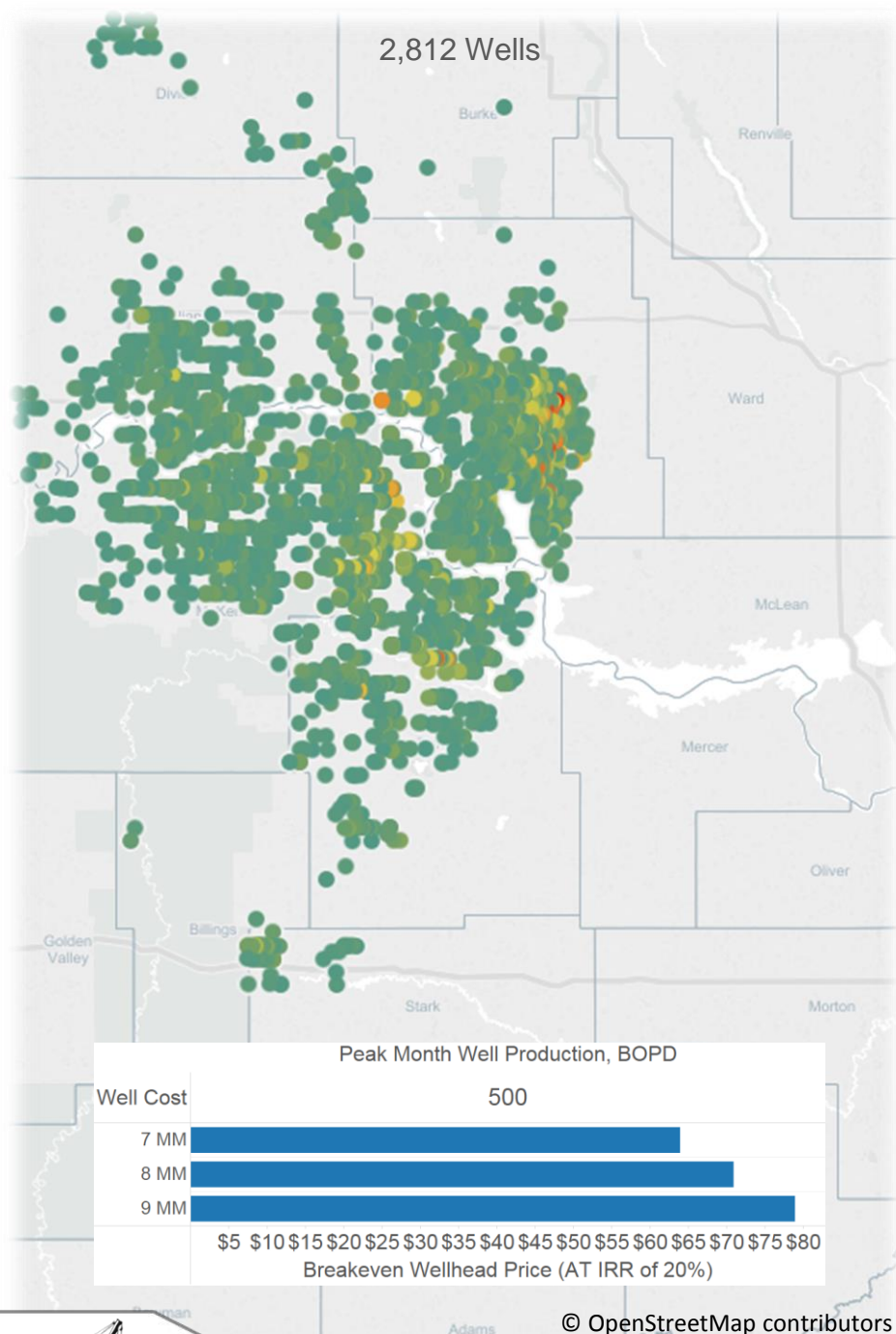


# Peak Month Minimum 400 BOPD

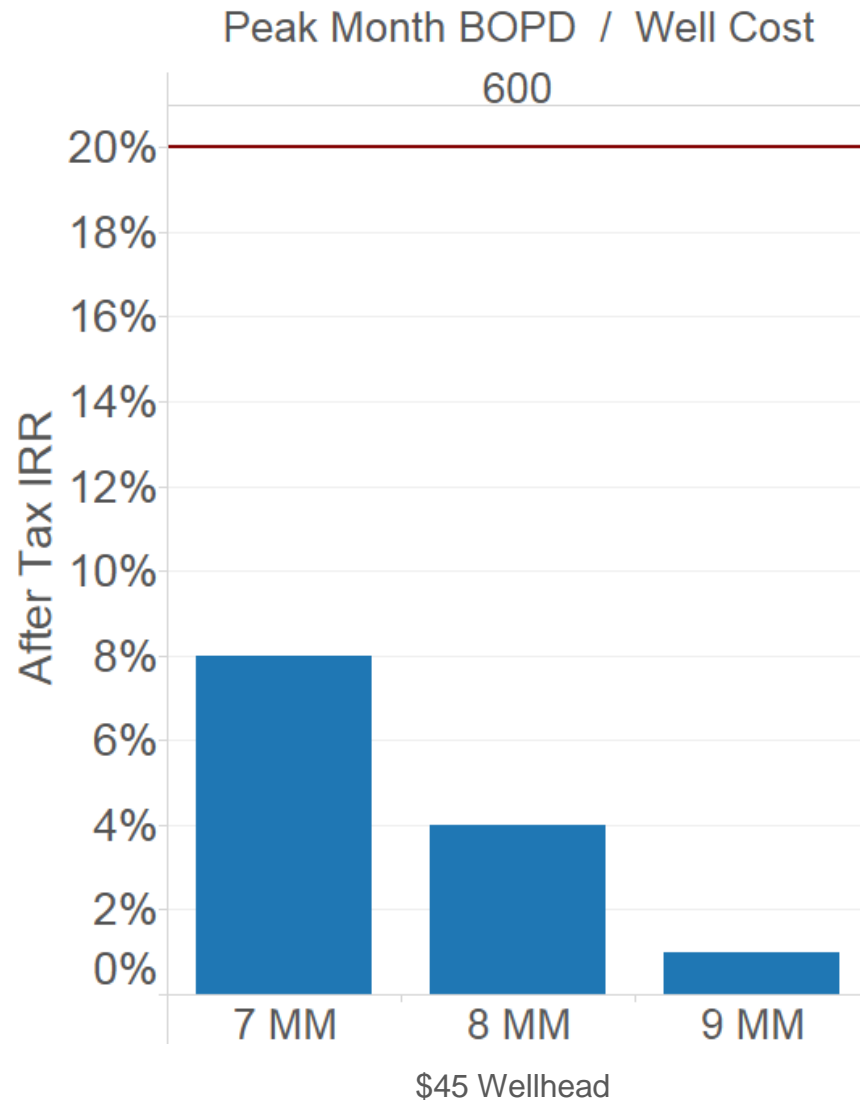
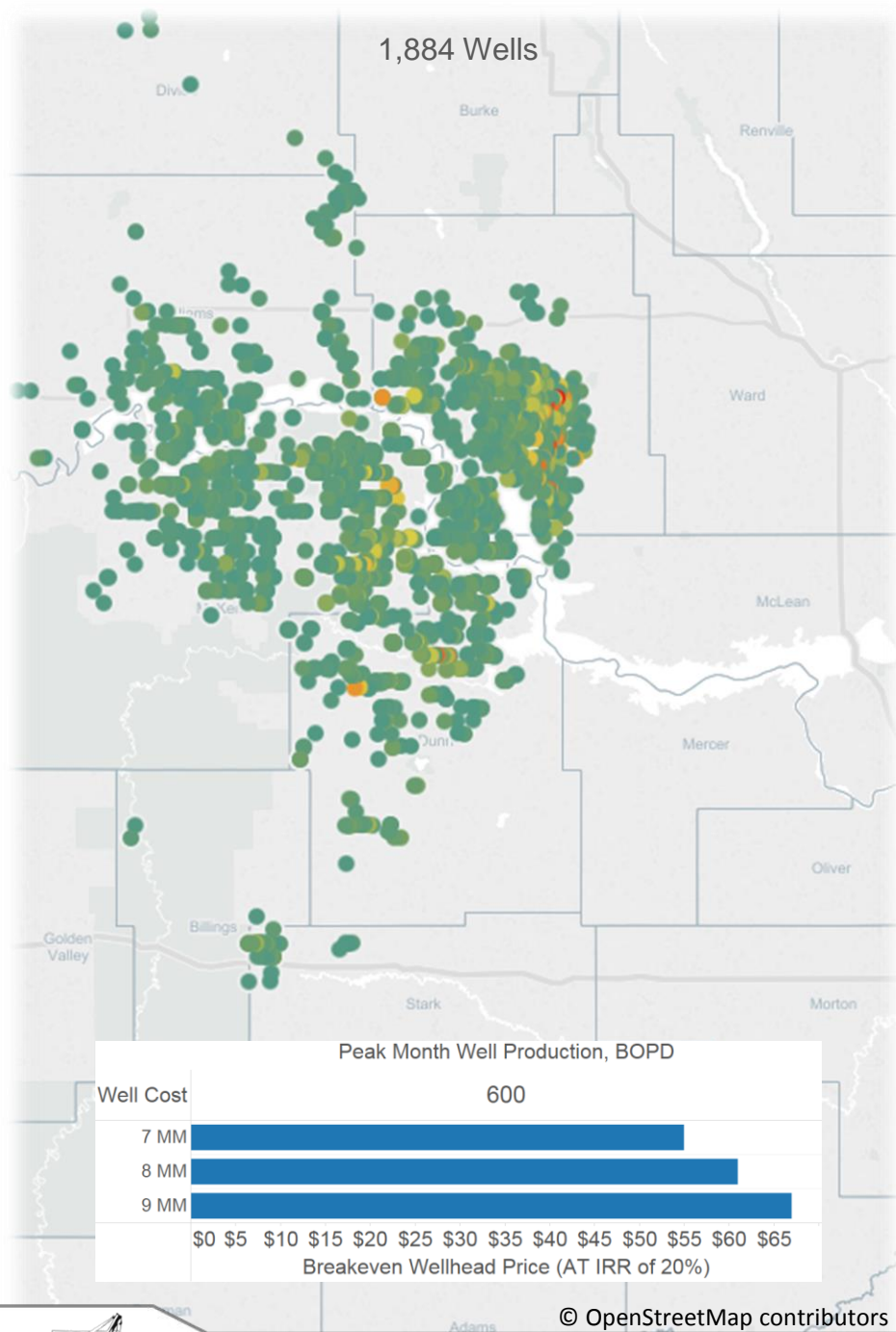




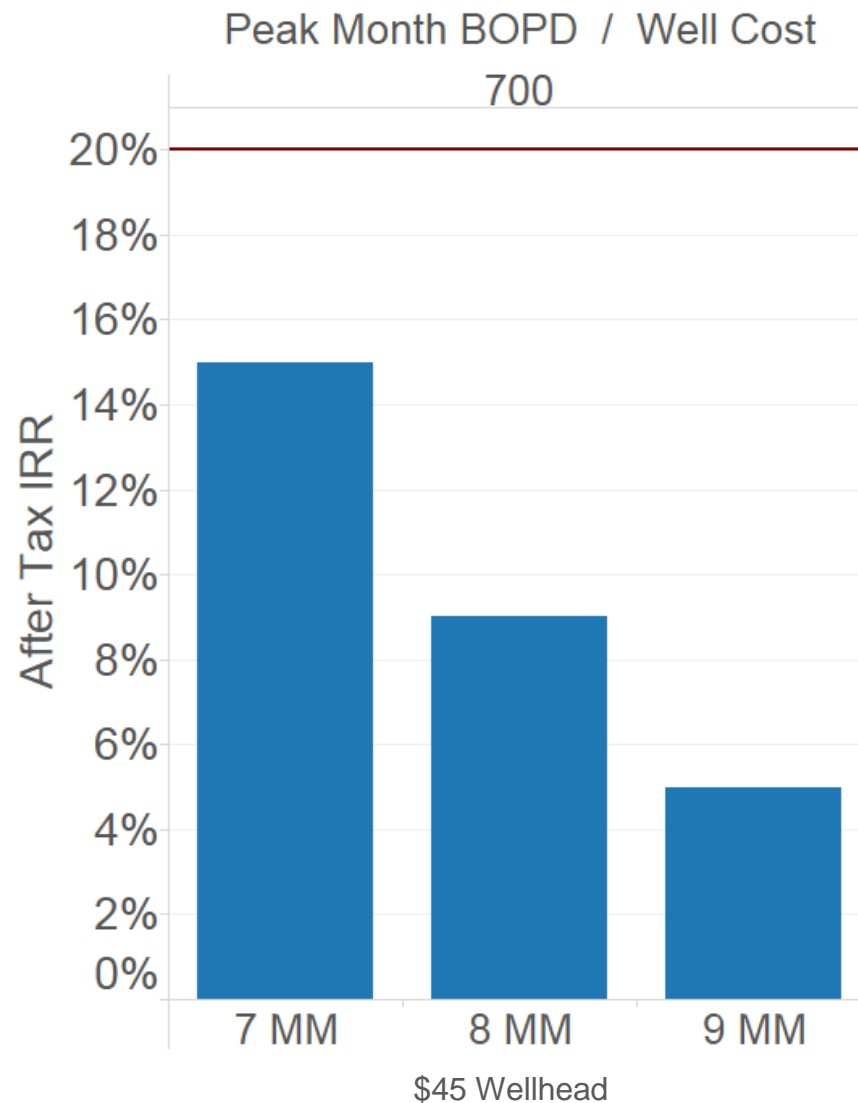
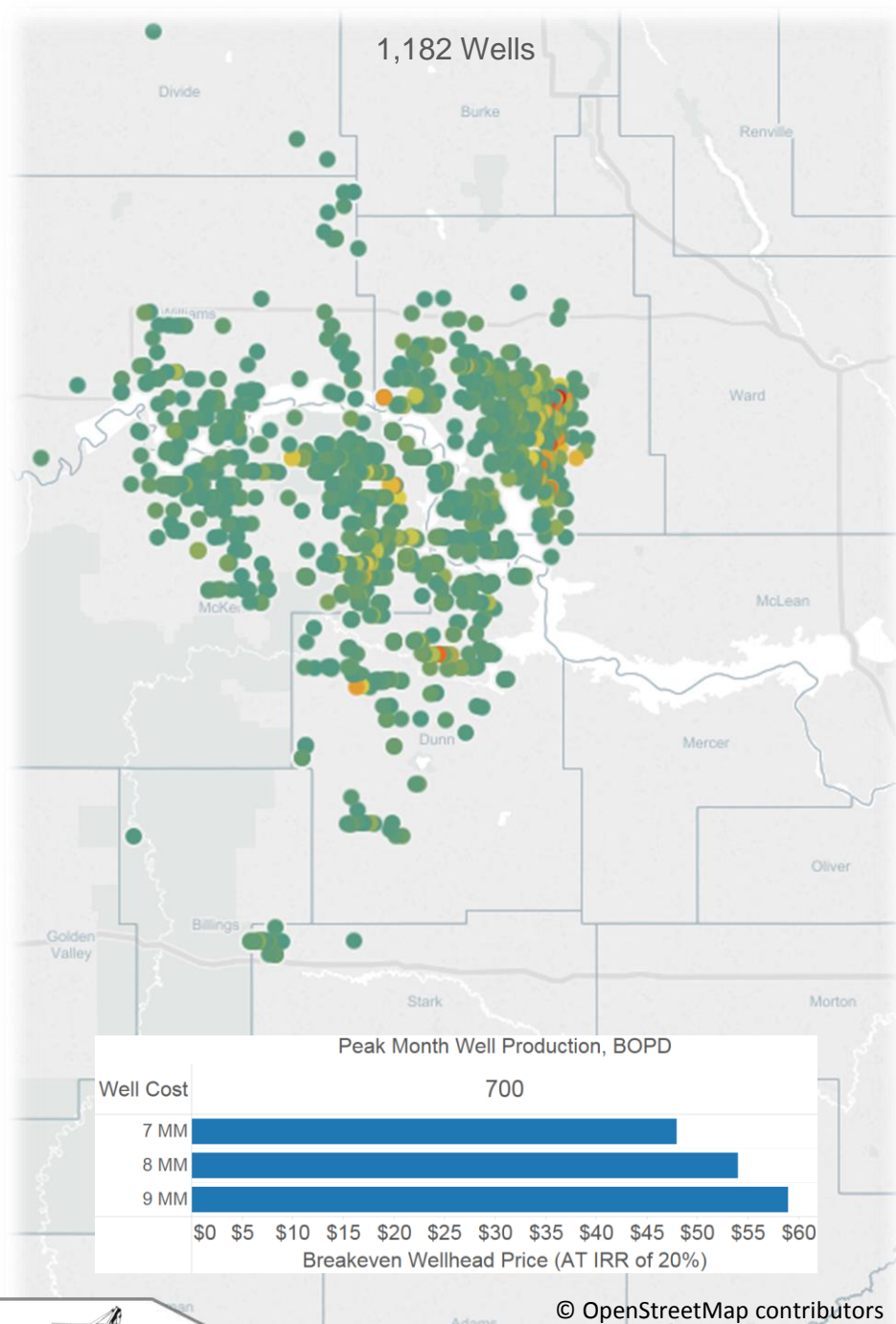
# Peak Month Minimum 500 BOPD



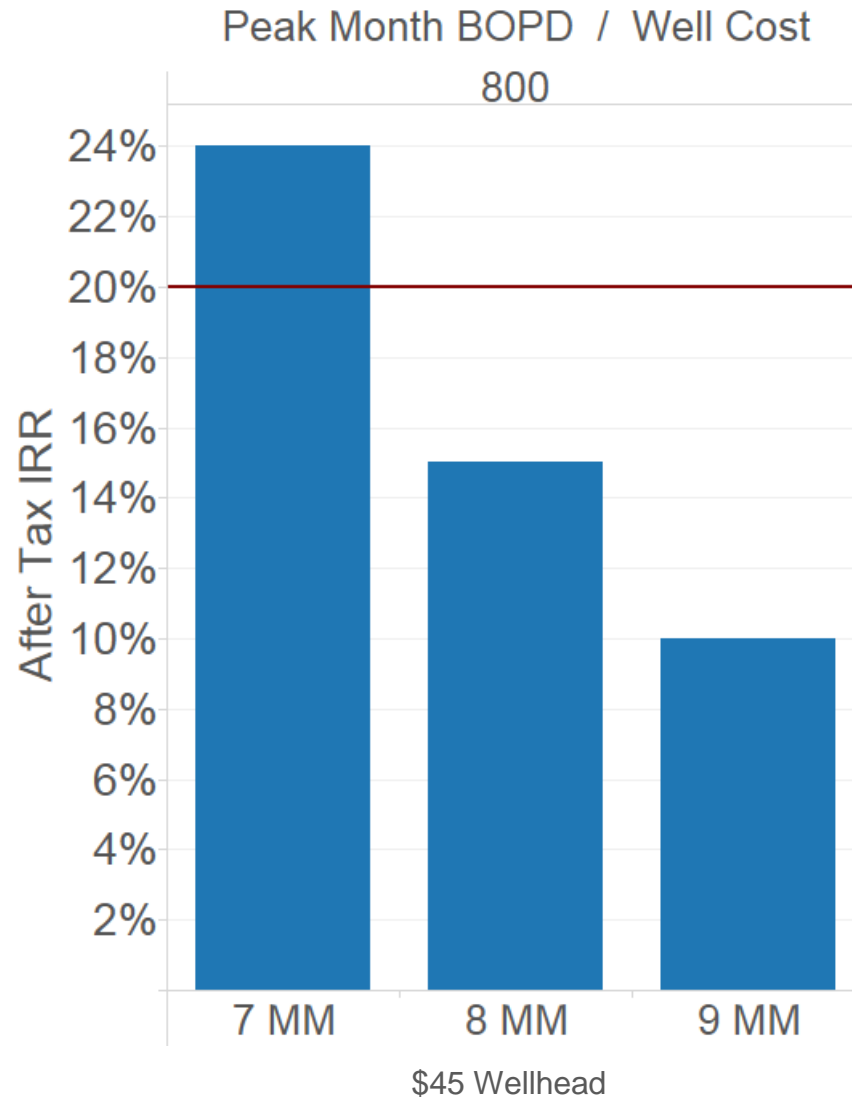
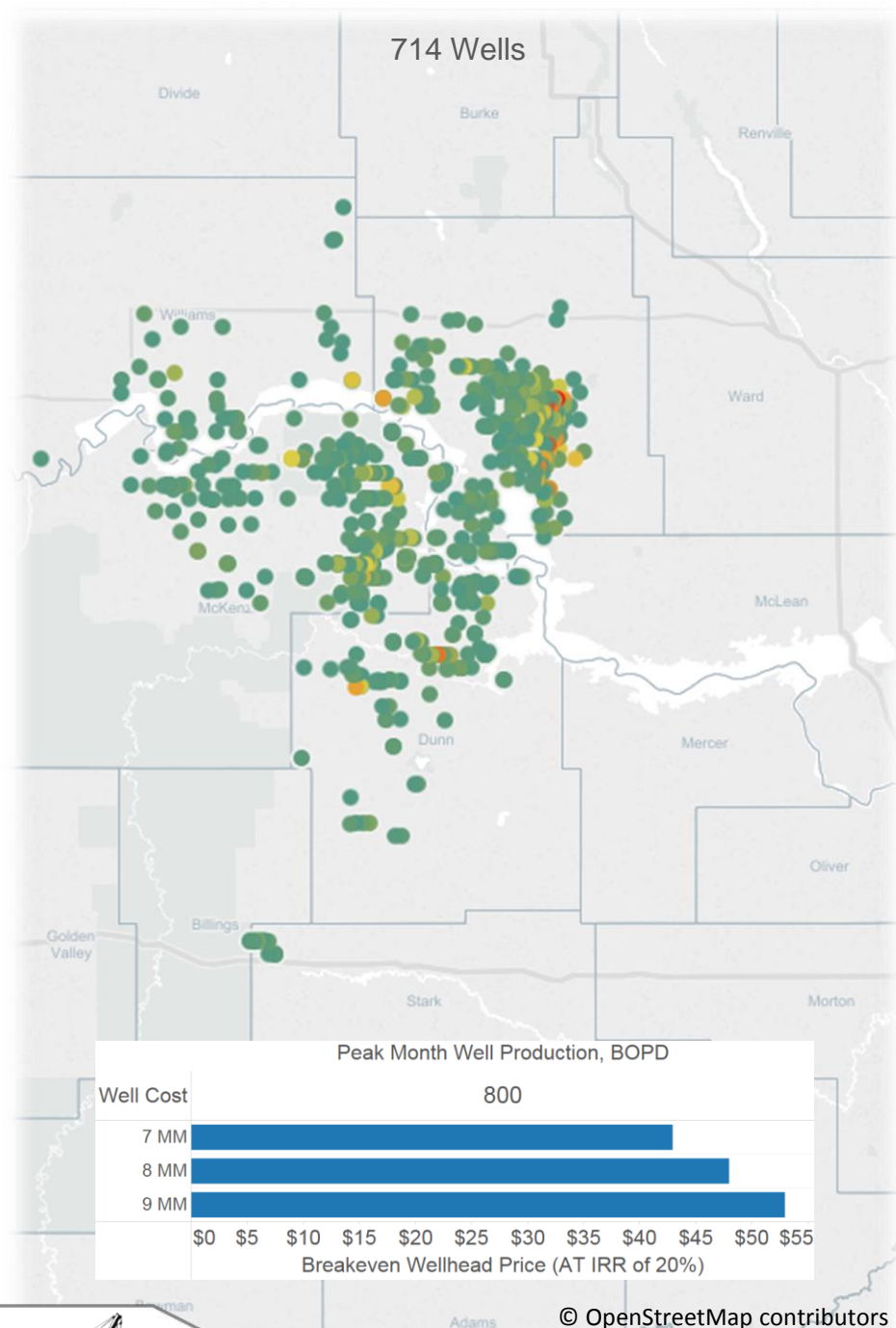
# Peak Month Minimum 600 BOPD



# Peak Month Minimum 700 BOPD



# Peak Month Minimum 800 BOPD

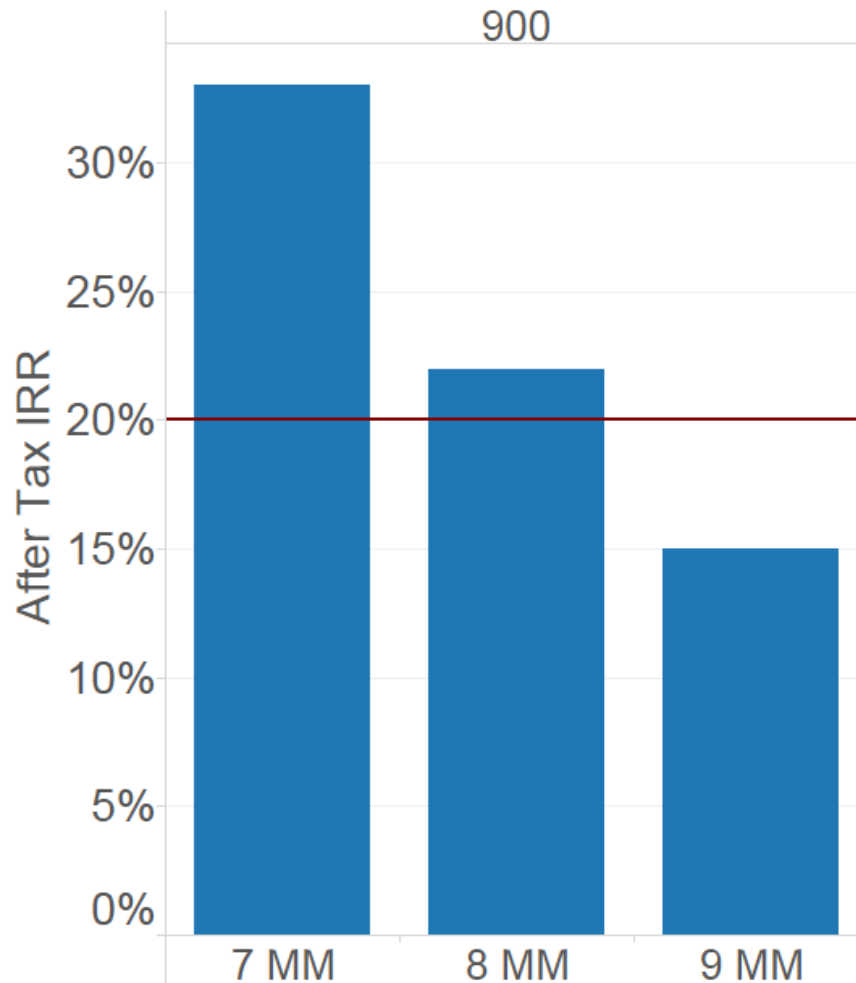




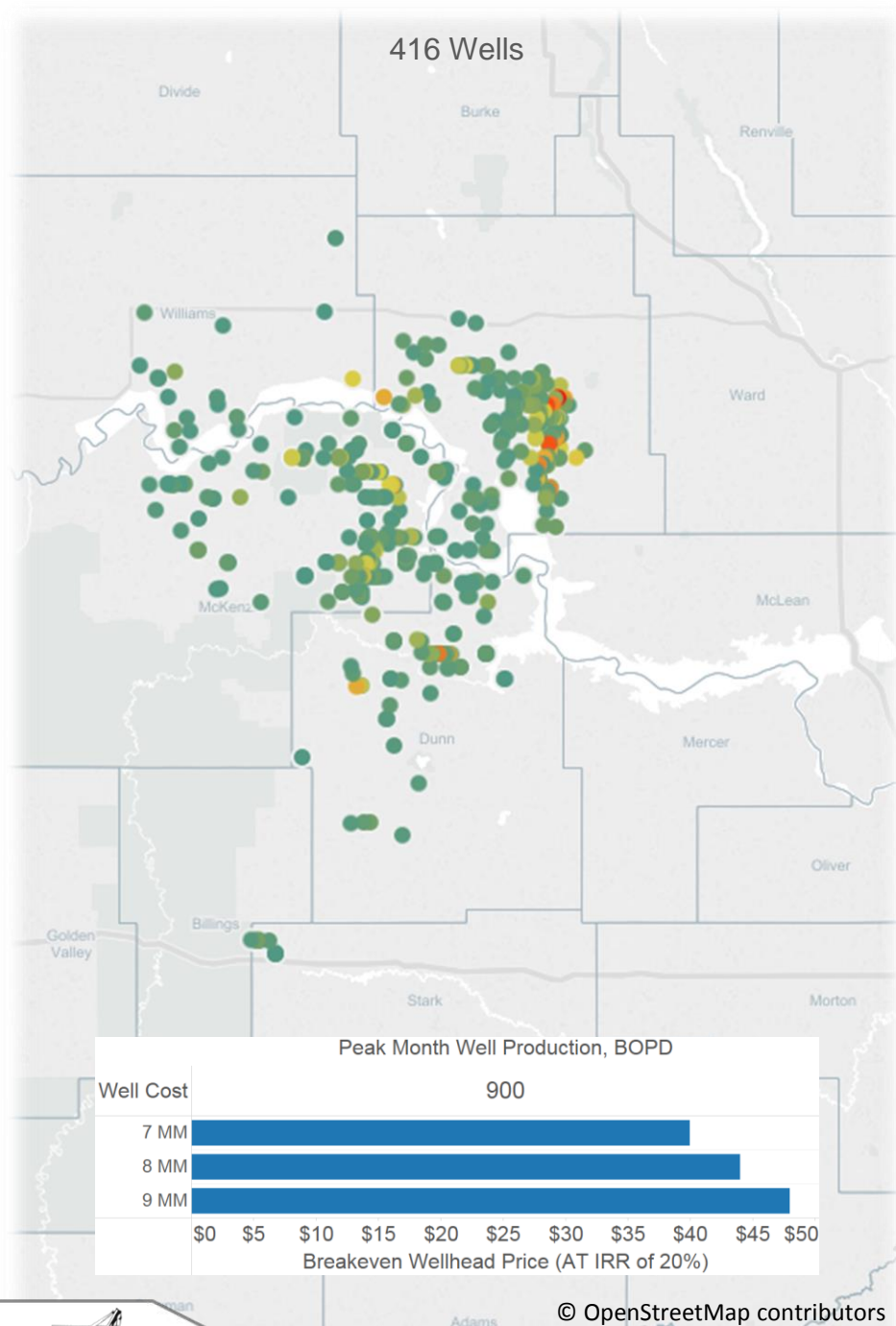
# Peak Month Minimum 900 BOPD

Peak Month BOPD / Well Cost

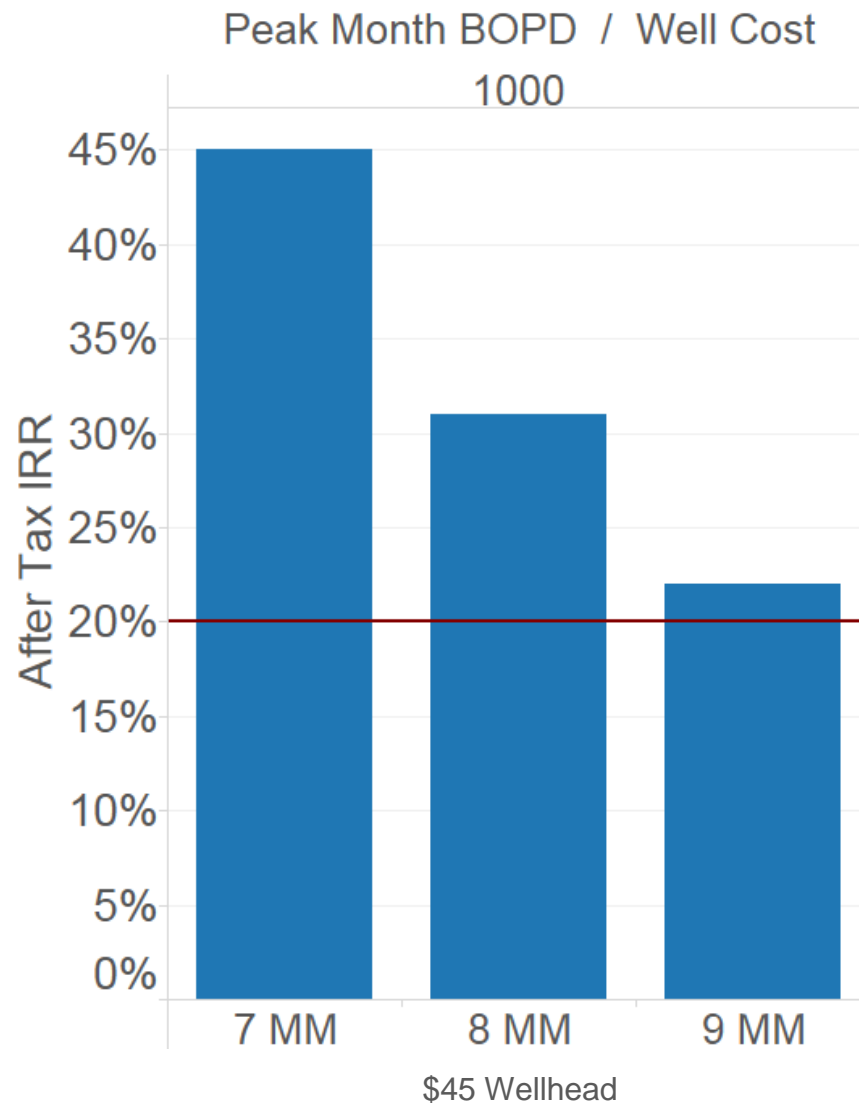
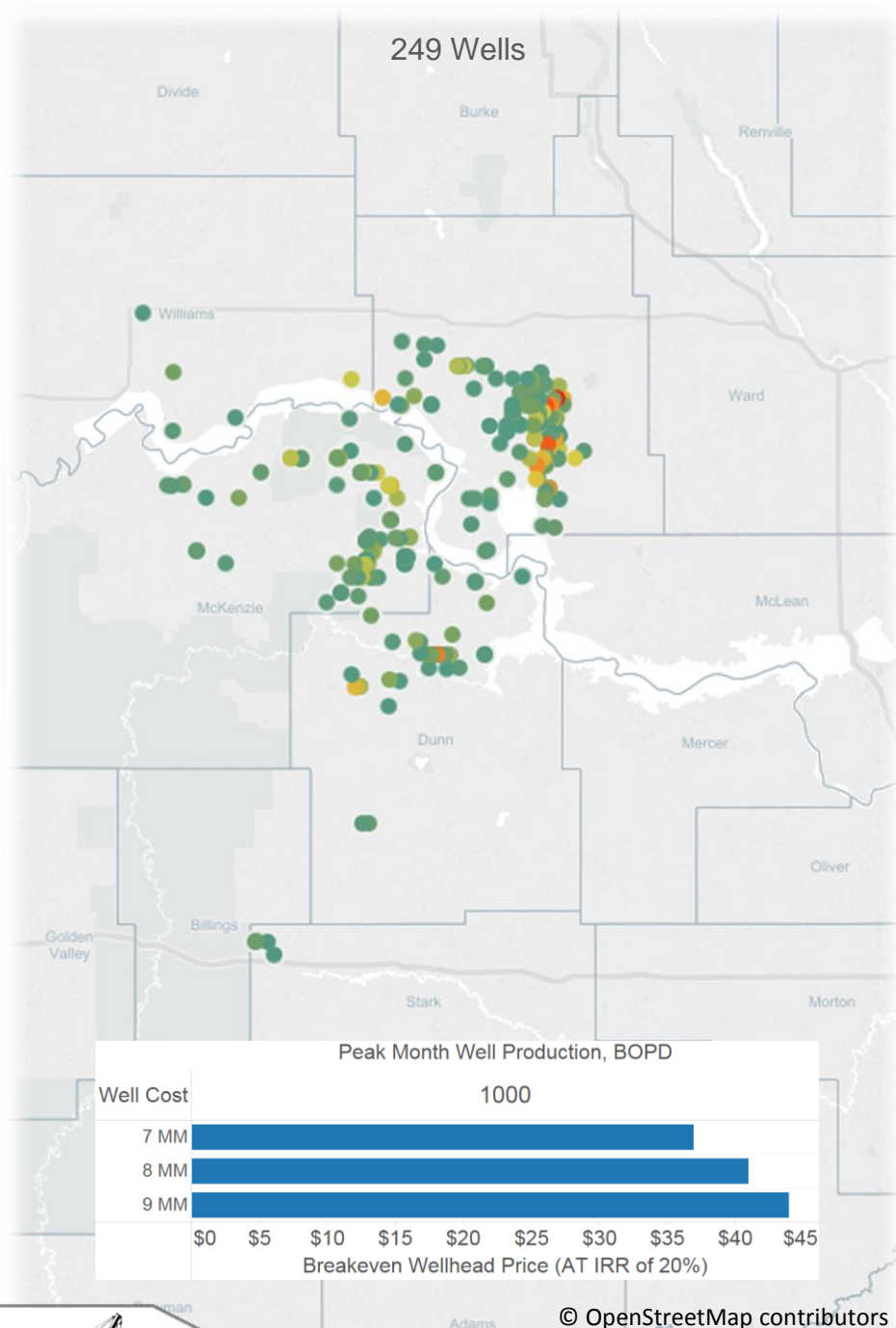
900



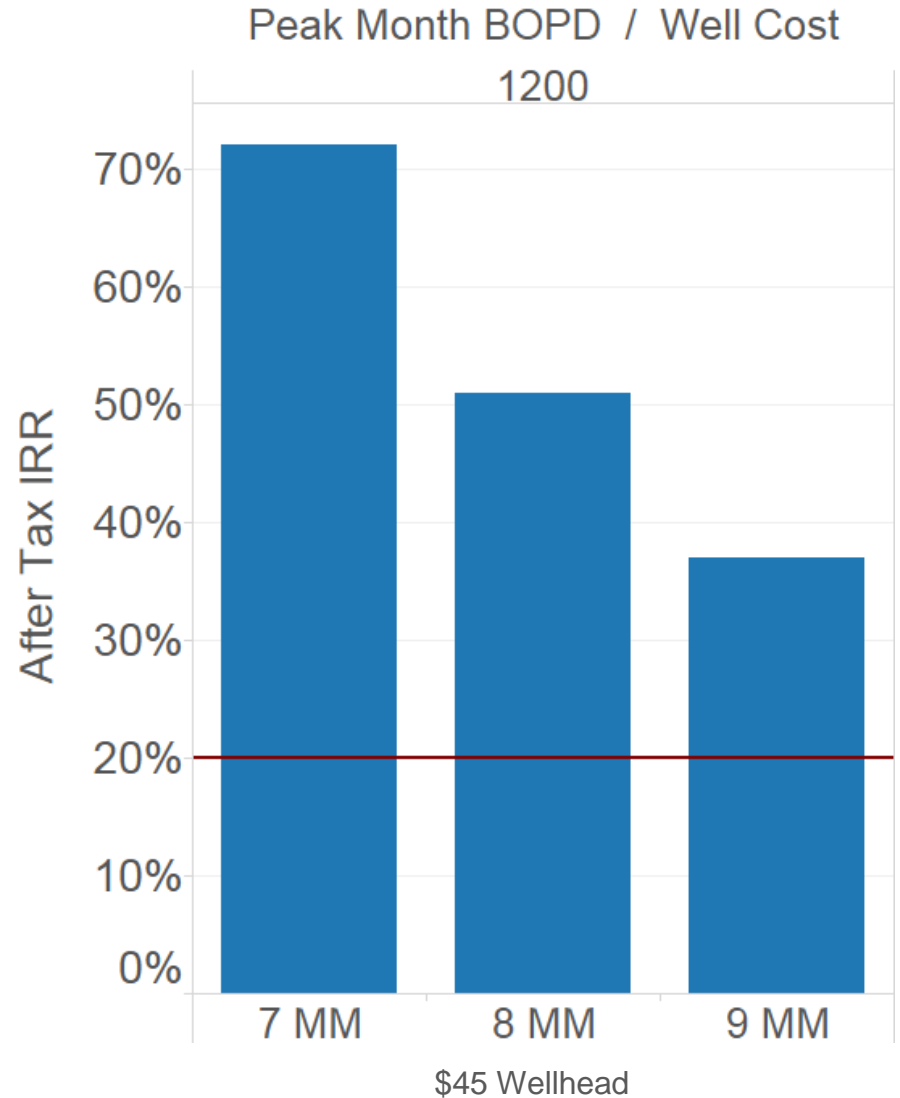
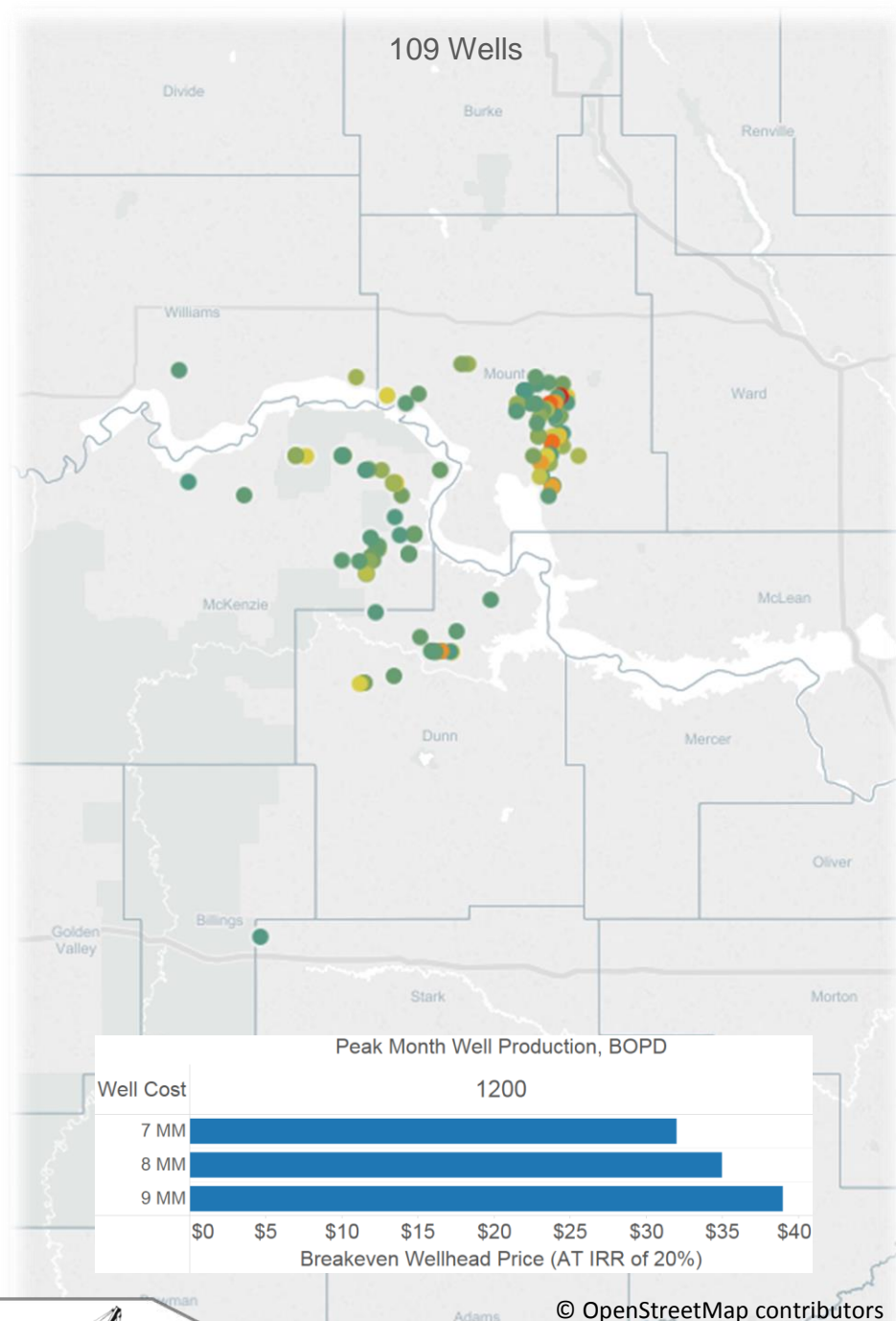
\$45 Wellhead

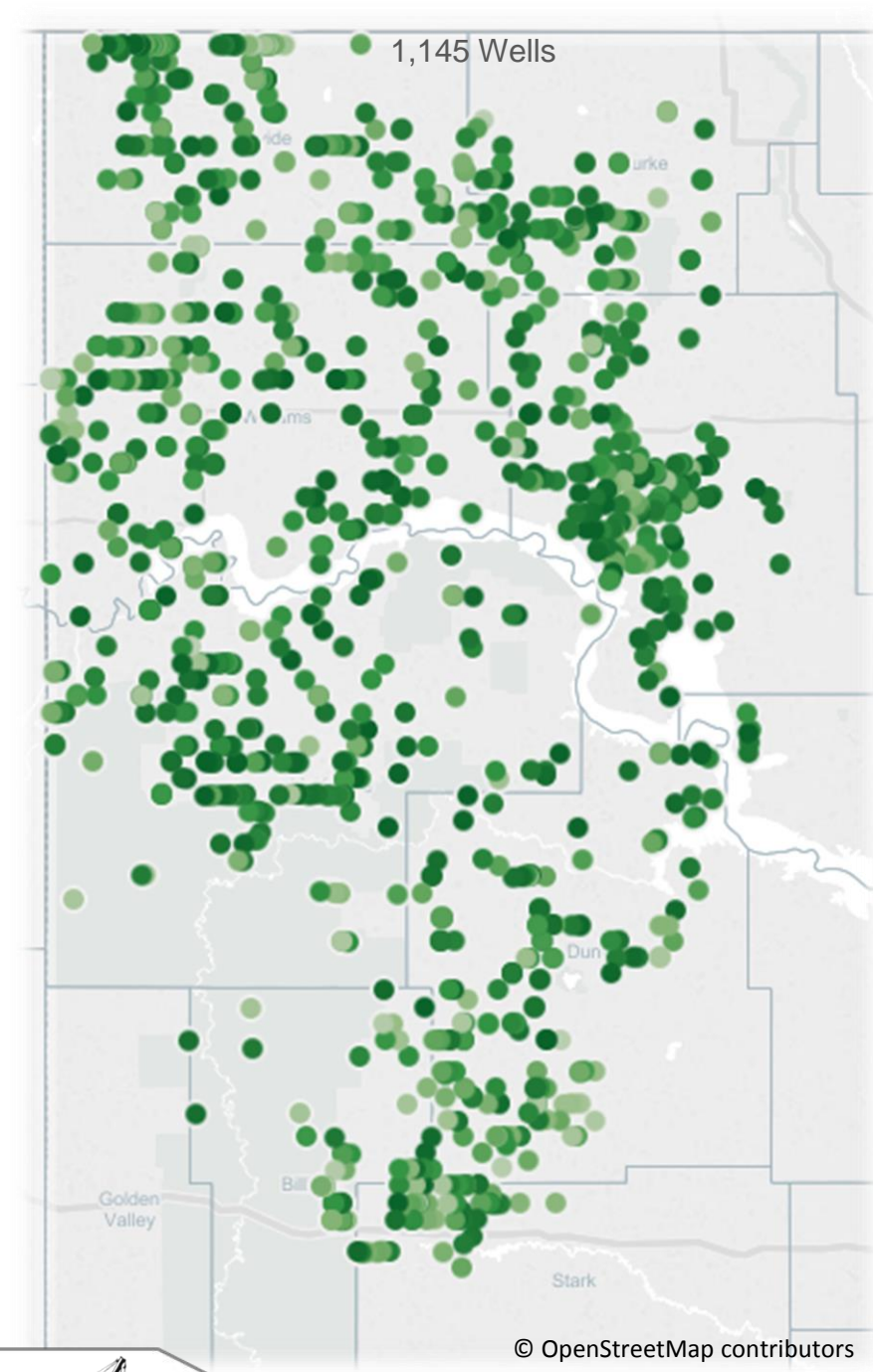


# Peak Month Minimum 1,000 BOPD



# Peak Month Minimum 1,200 BOPD





# Peak Month: 100-300 BOPD\*

\*Low production wells also occur in areas deemed “Core” or “Hot Spot”.

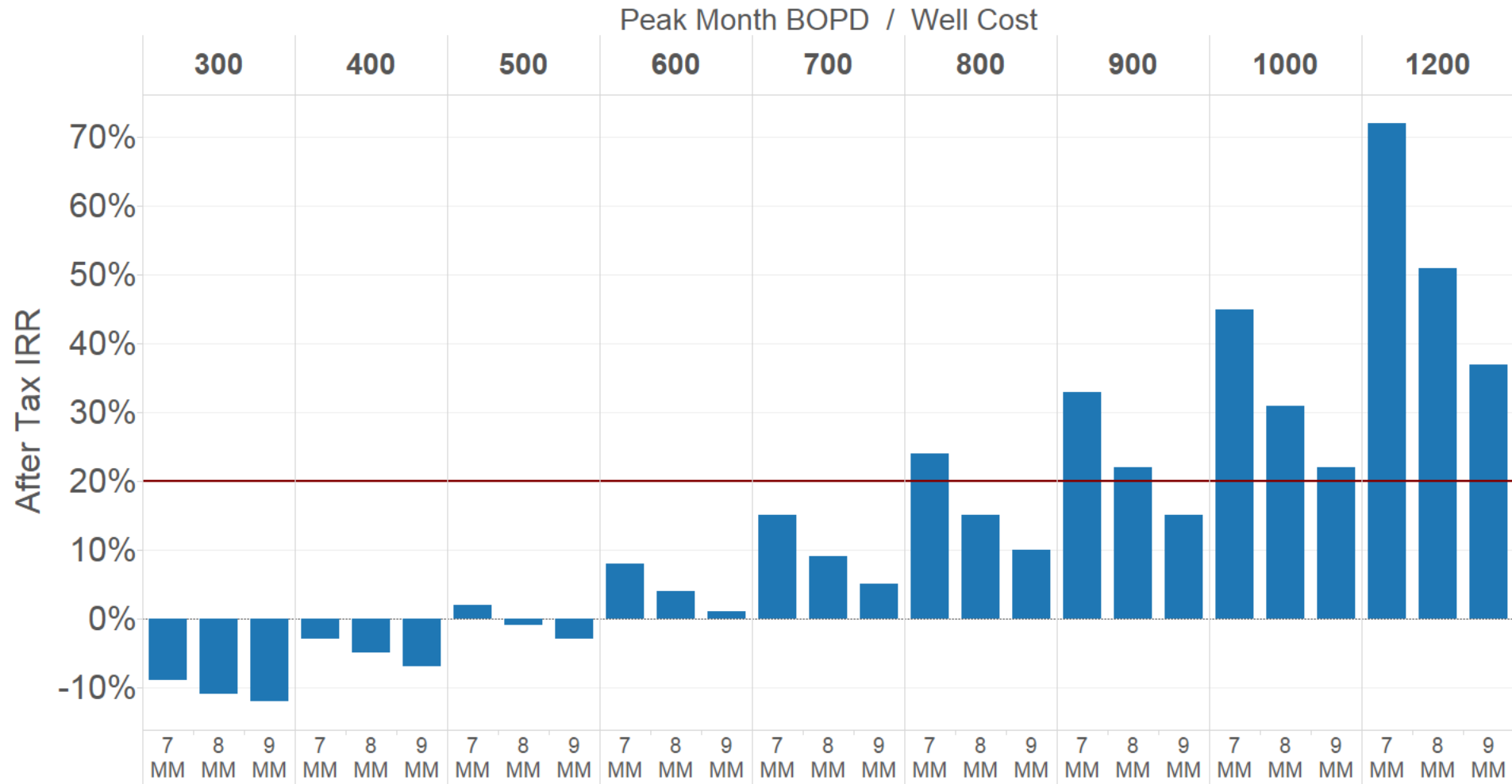
Risk is still present in most areas.

Mapped wells drilled  
2012-2014



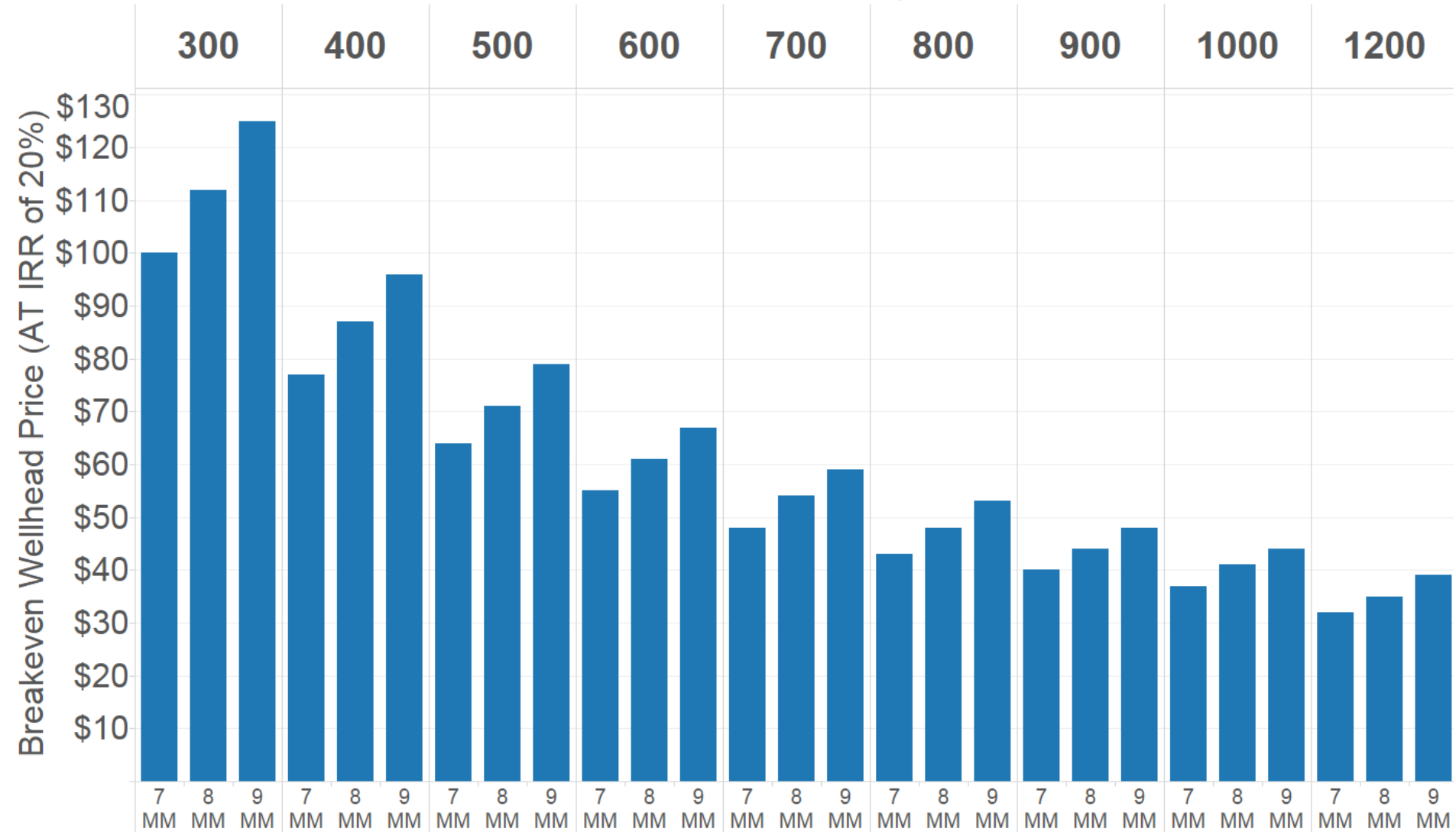


# Summary of \$45 Wellhead Oil



# Breakeven Summary

Peak Month Well Production, BOPD / Well Cost

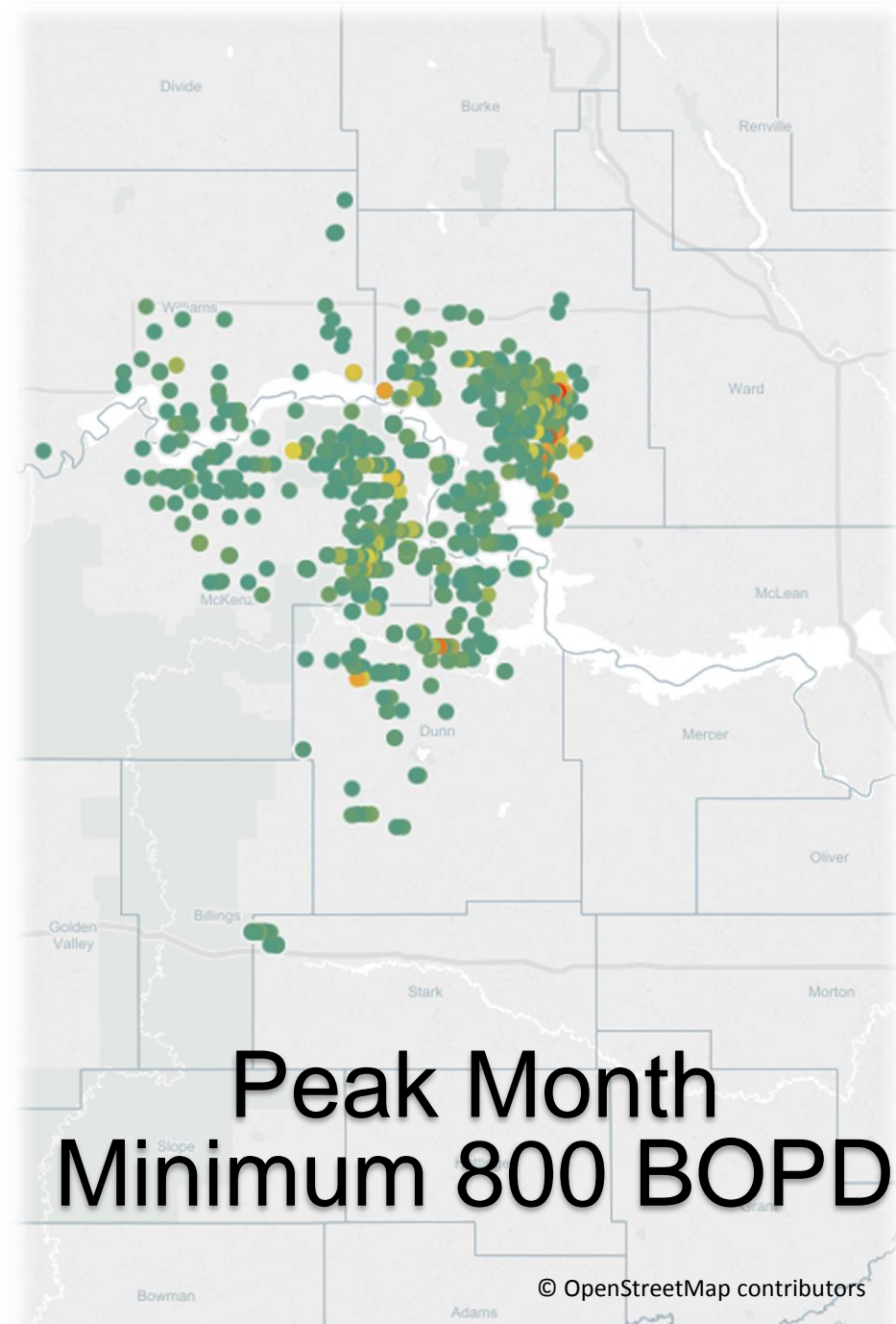


# Options for drilling outside 800 BOPD footprint:

1) Prove location is viable in low price environment (lower costs, improved IP, etc.)

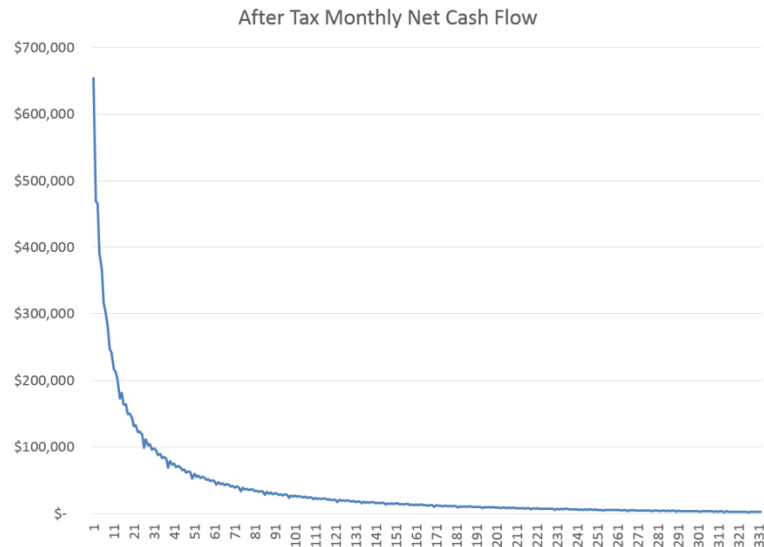
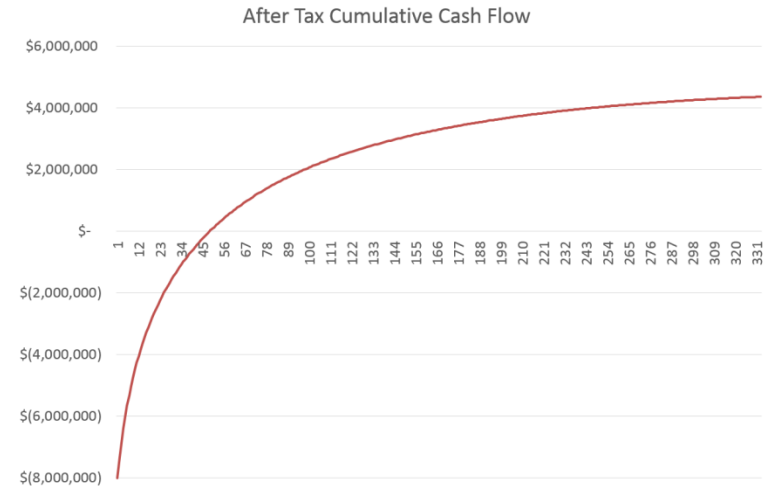
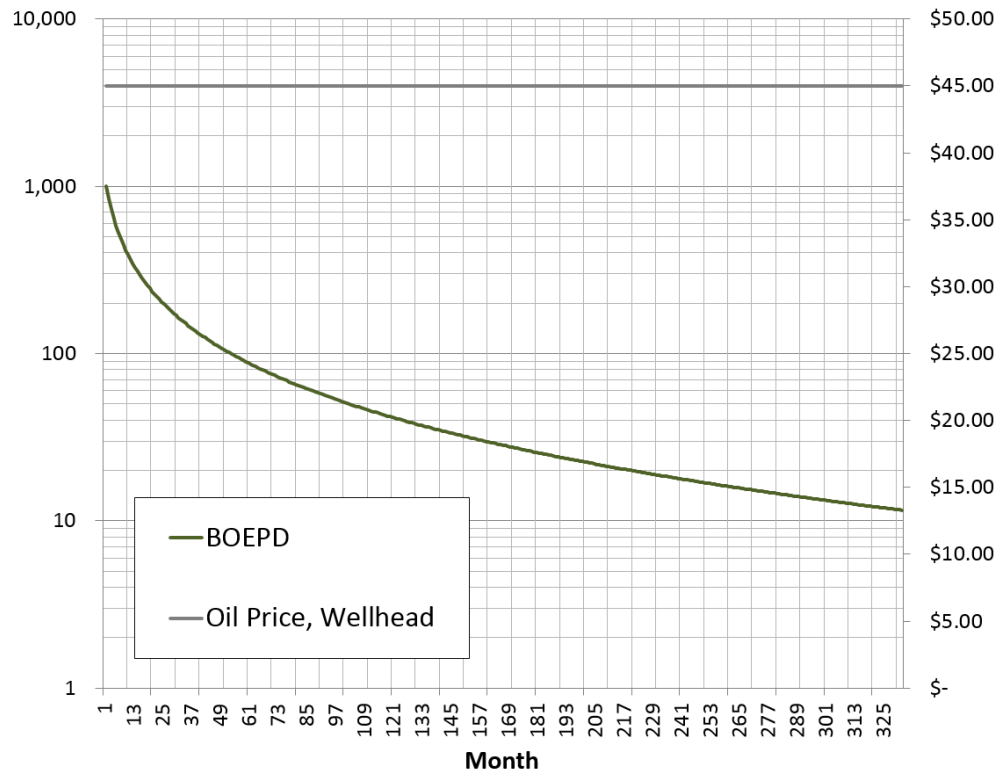
2) Move rig to better geology (inside or outside of basin)

3) Release rig



# 800 BOPD Well Example

- \$8 MM Well
- \$45/bbl oil and \$6/mcf gas
- AT IRR = 15%
- AT NPV (10) = \$0.93 MM
- Simple Payback = 4.0 Years





# Additional Considerations

- Can well costs come down further?
- Individual company budgets, cash flows, hedges, obligations, and management strategies
- Competition from other plays
- Completion technology continues to improve
  - Higher volumes of proppant and water
  - Higher density drilling success



# Arguments

- Well economic assumptions too optimistic or conservative
  - Jump to lower or higher well performance footprints
- Some rigs are not drilling Bakken/Three Forks wells
  - No economics were run on wells in other formations



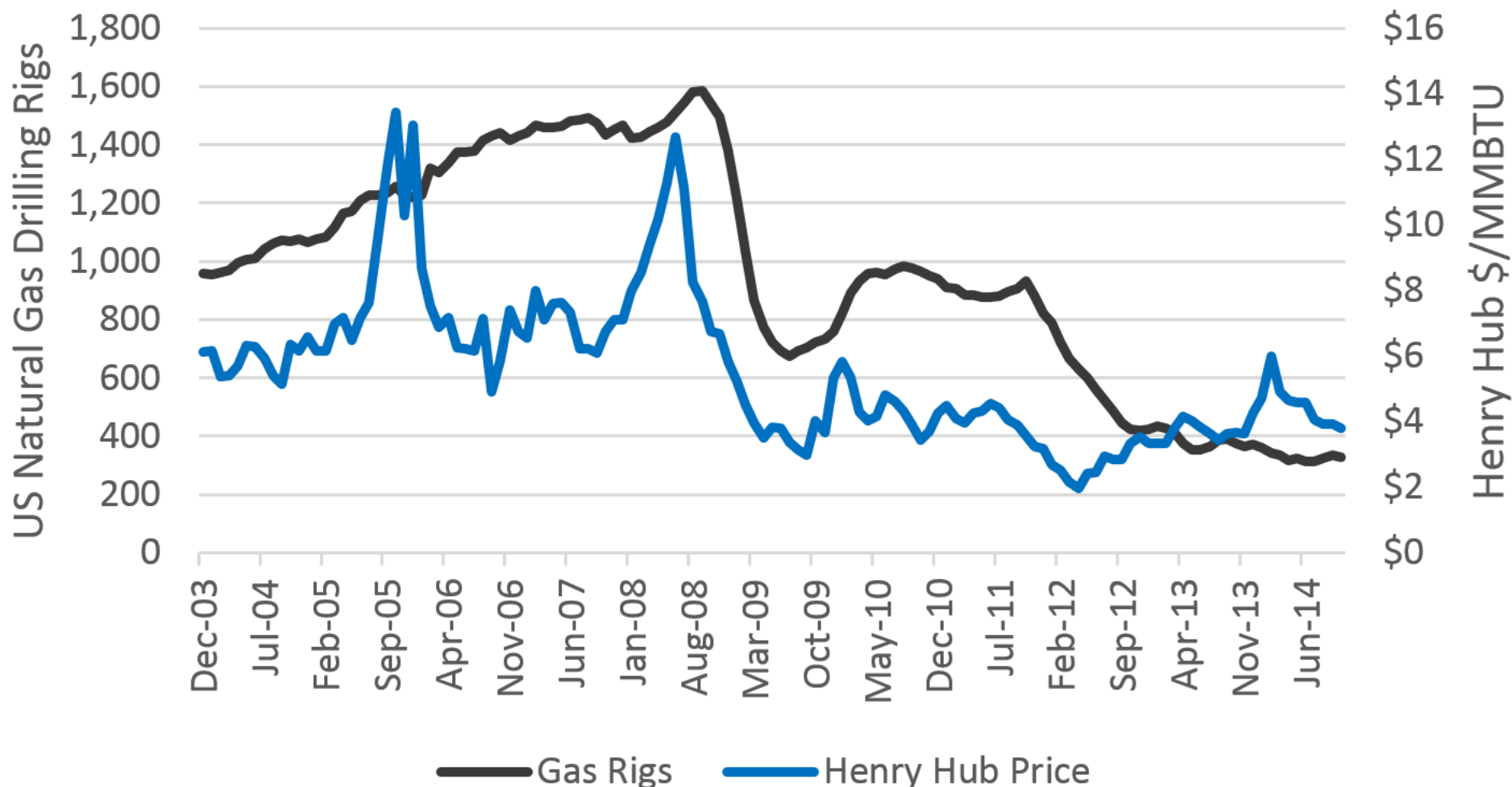
# Next Steps

- Use the findings to refine crude oil and natural gas forecasts for the region
- Continue to monitor pricing, production, and technology to further enhance our understanding of well economics in North Dakota



# Can We Learn from Natural Gas?

## US Gas Drilling Rigs / Price



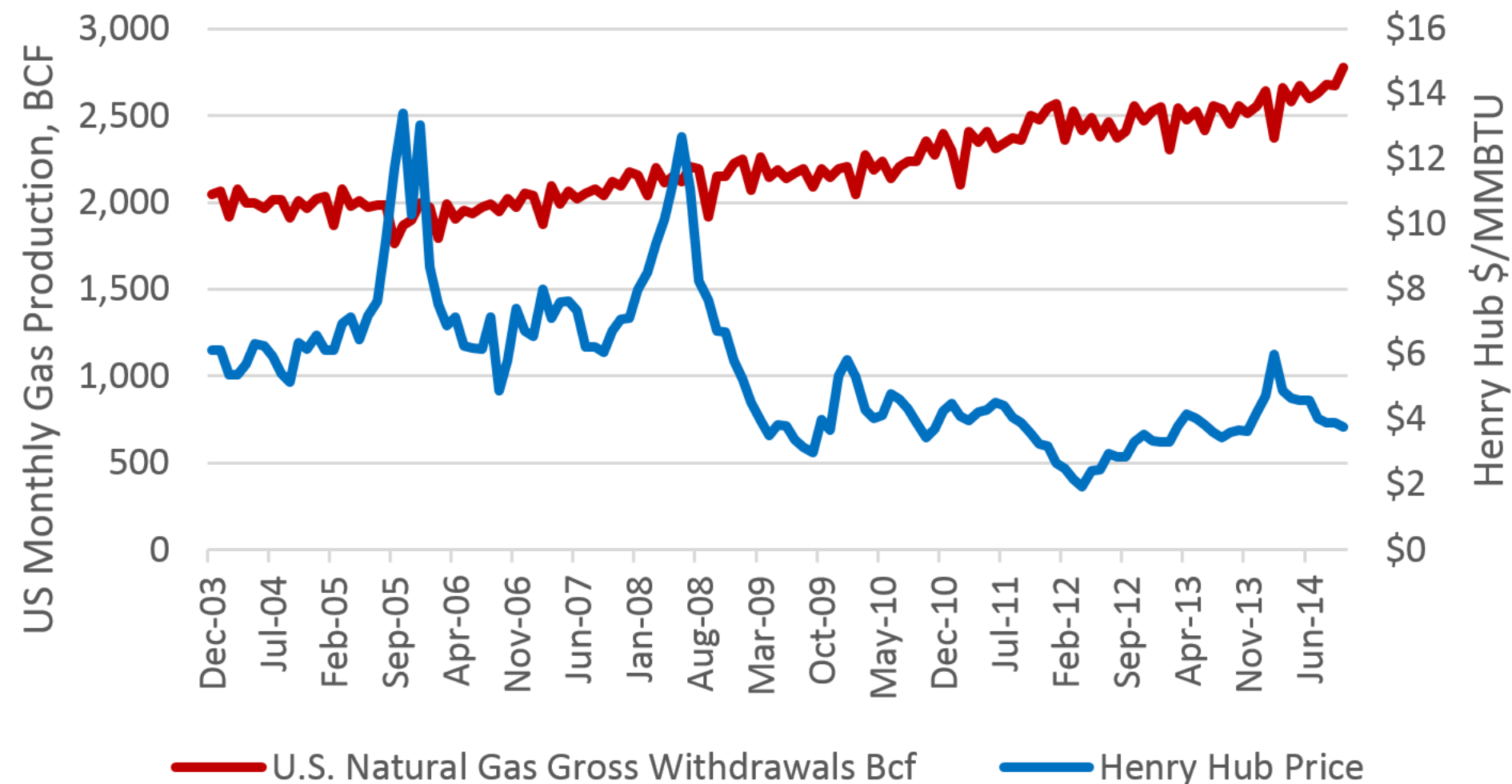
Source: EIA Data





# Can We Learn from Natural Gas?

## US Gas Production / Price



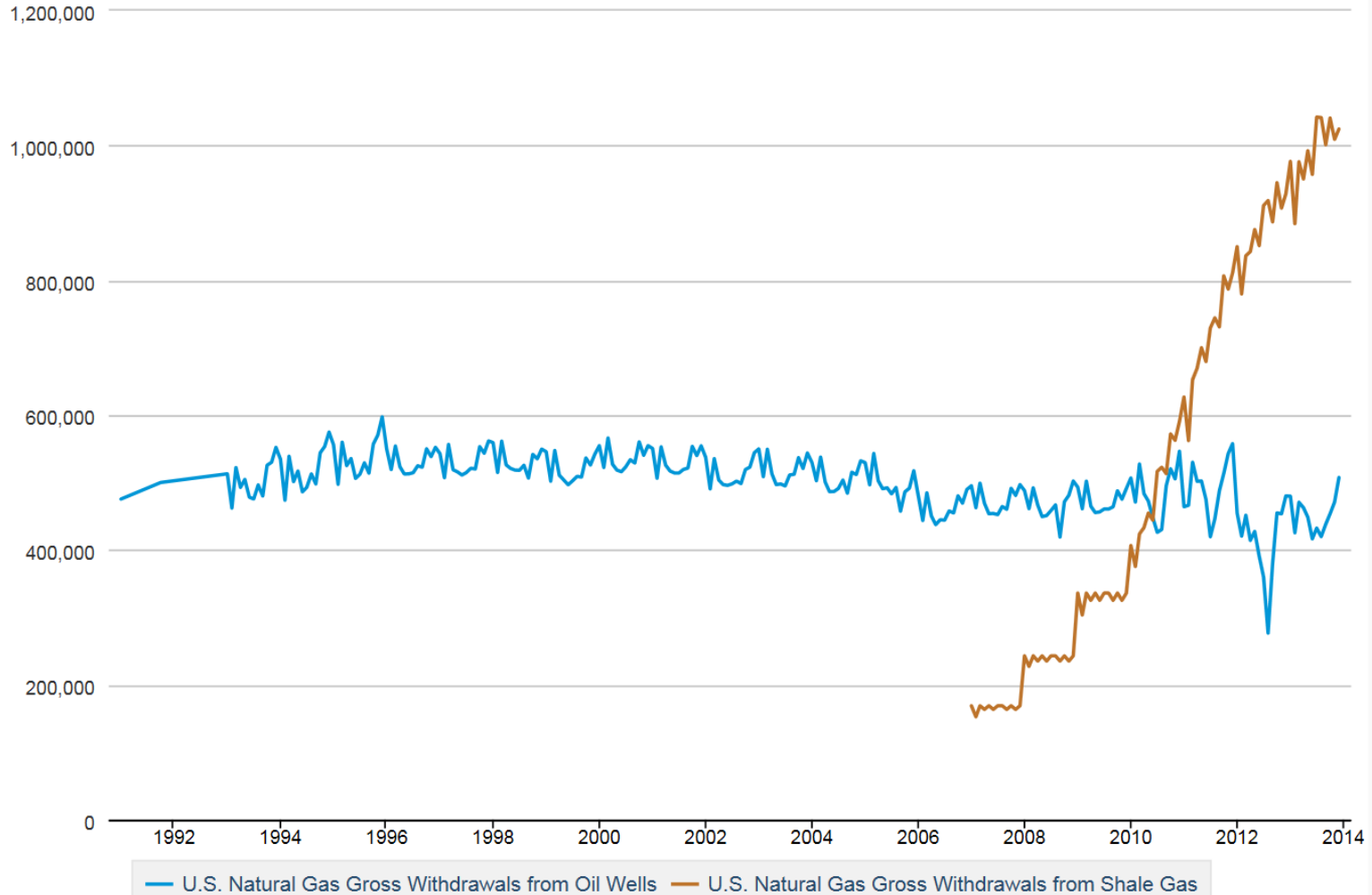
Source: EIA Data



# Can We Learn from Natural Gas?

## Natural Gas Gross Withdrawals and Production

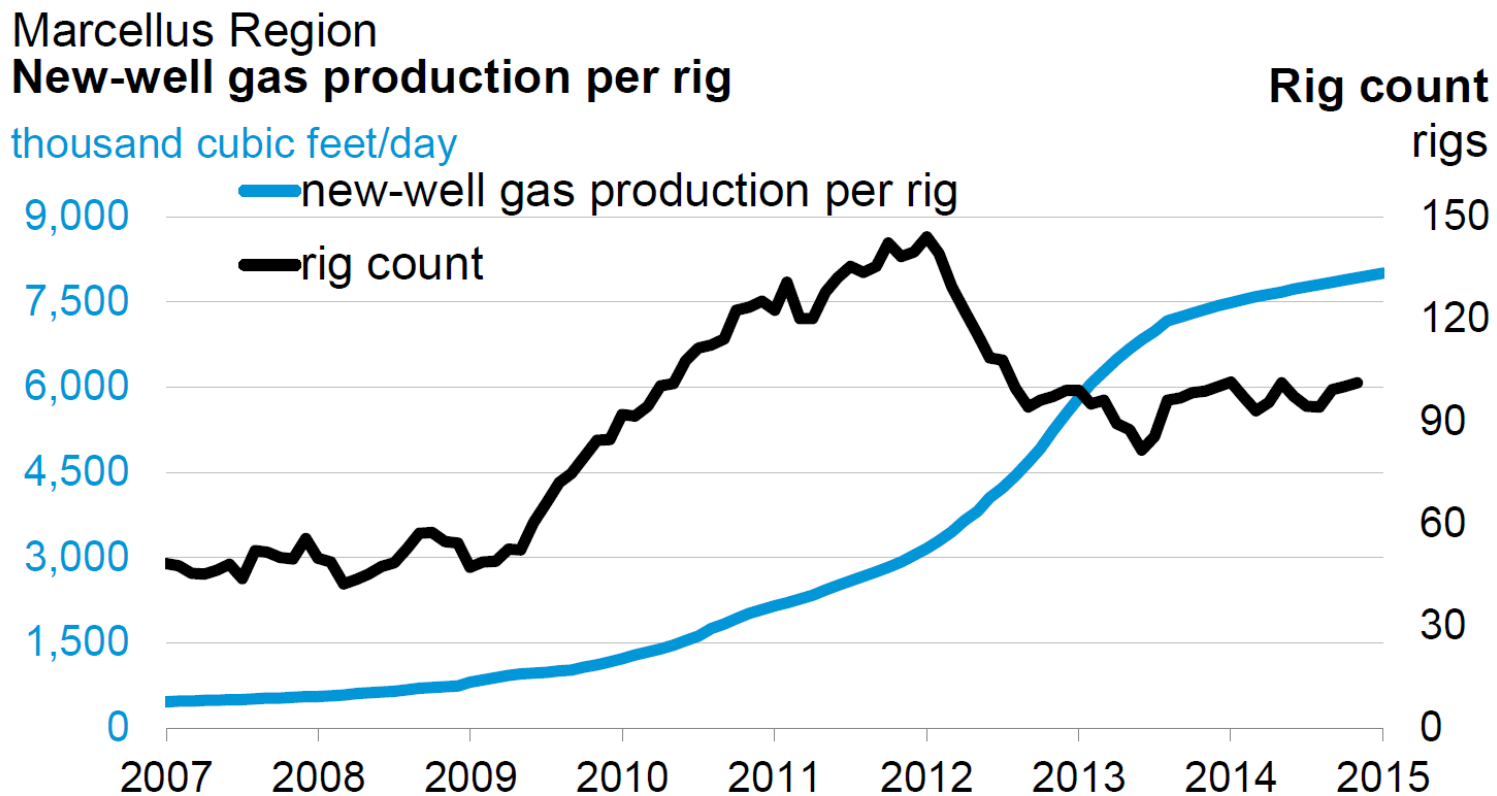
MMcf



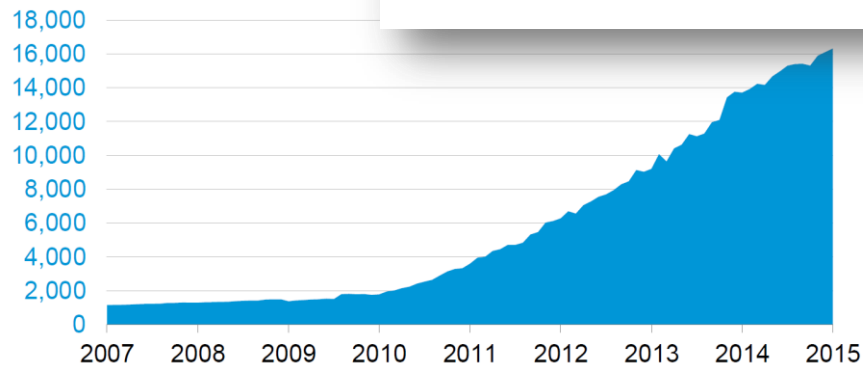
Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration



# Marcellus Reaction to Low Prices



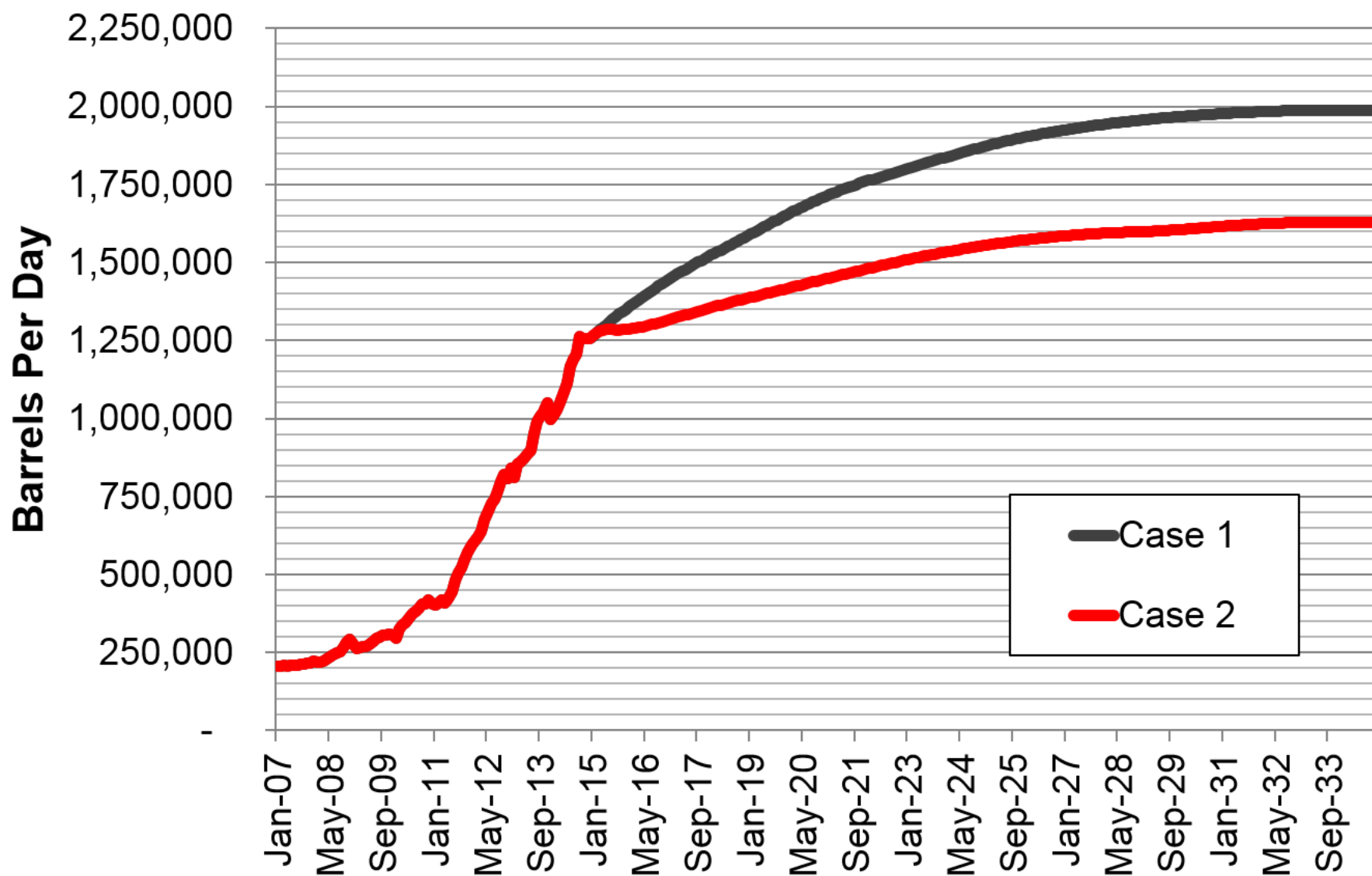
**Marcellus Region  
Natural gas production**  
million cubic feet/day



Source: U. S. Energy Information Administration | Drilling Productivity Report



# Forecasting Williston Basin Oil Production, BOPD

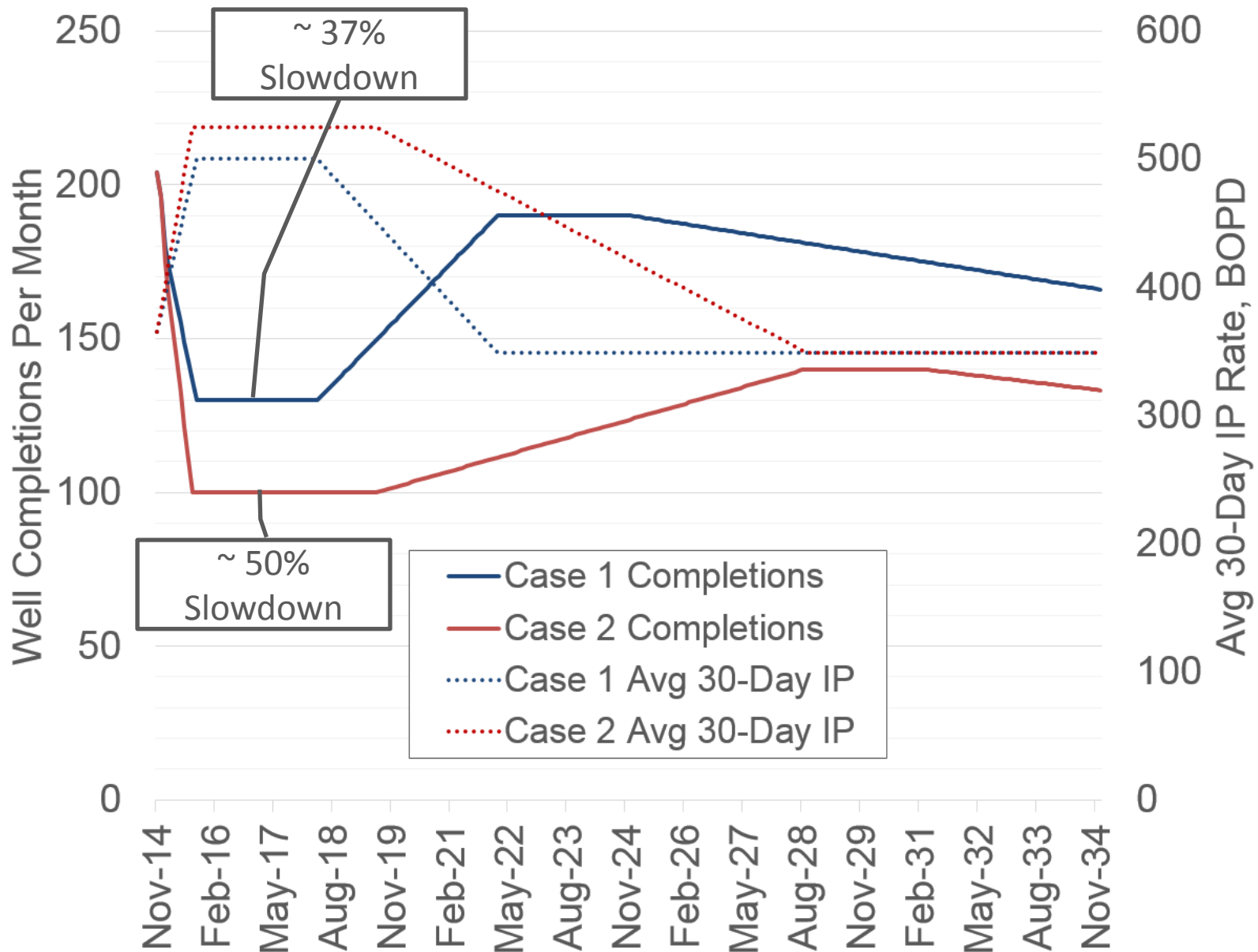


*Production forecast is for visual demonstration purposes only and should not be considered accurate for any near or long term planning.*

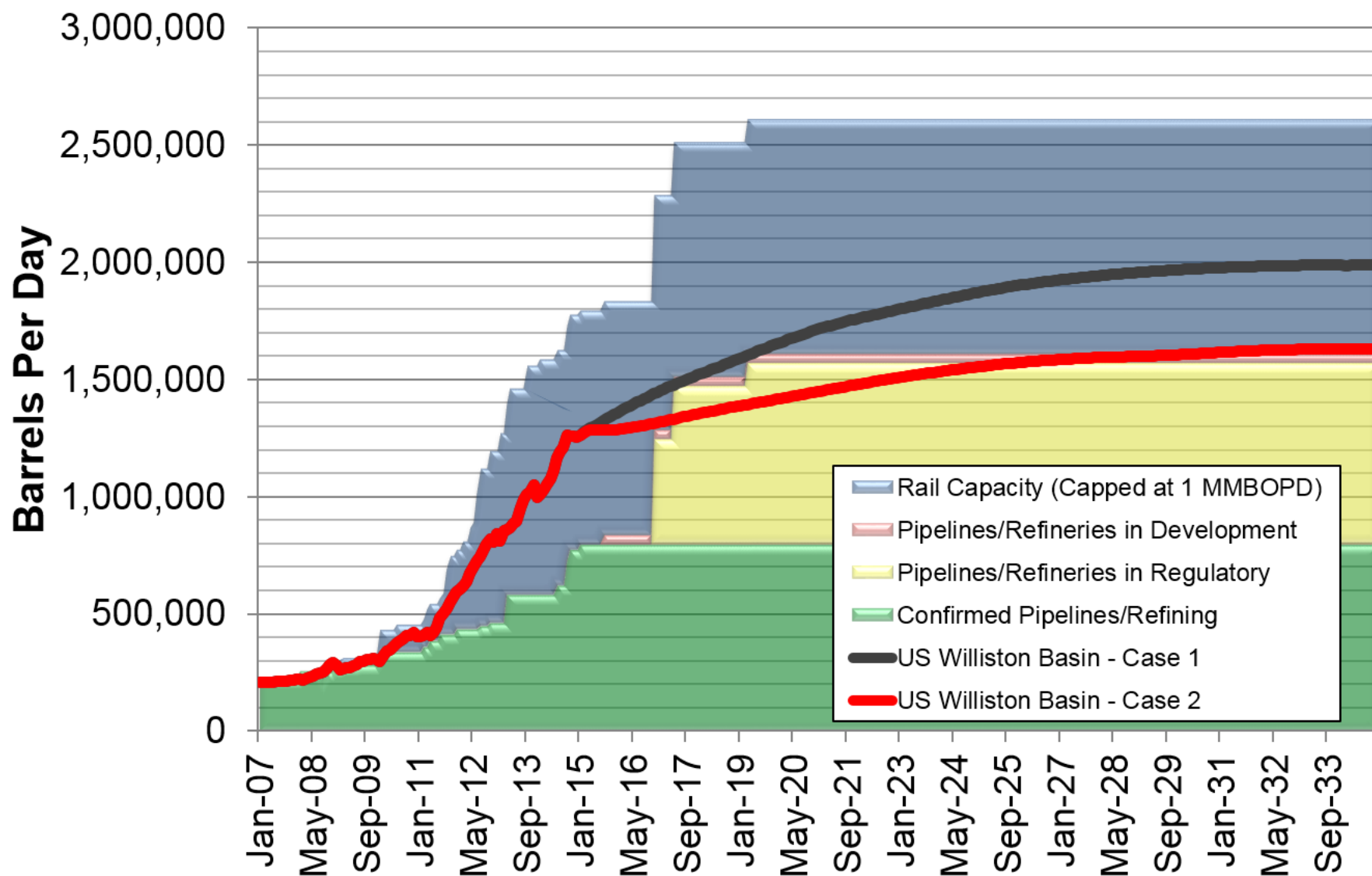




# Forecasting Assumptions



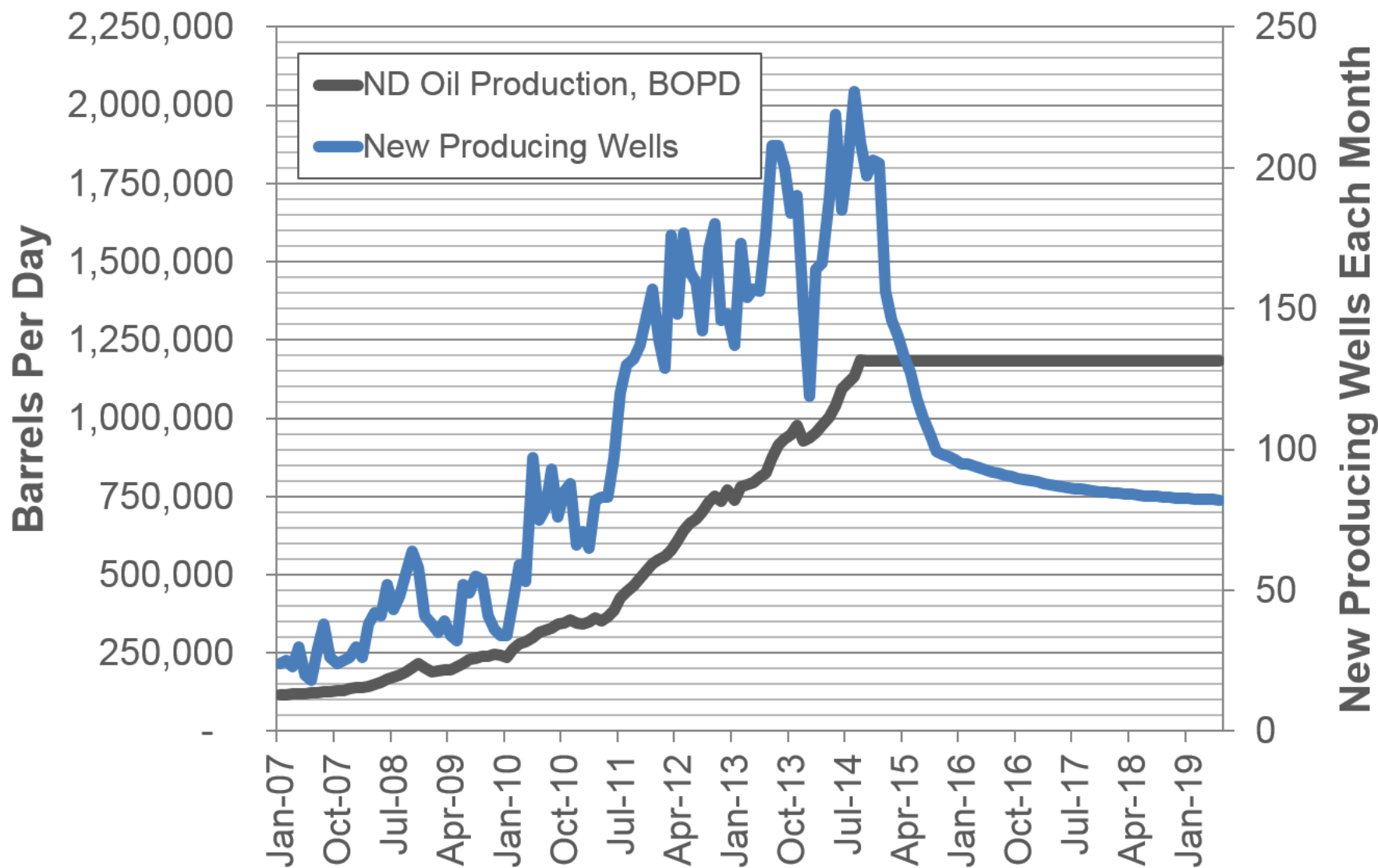
# Williston Basin Oil Production & Export Capacity, BOPD



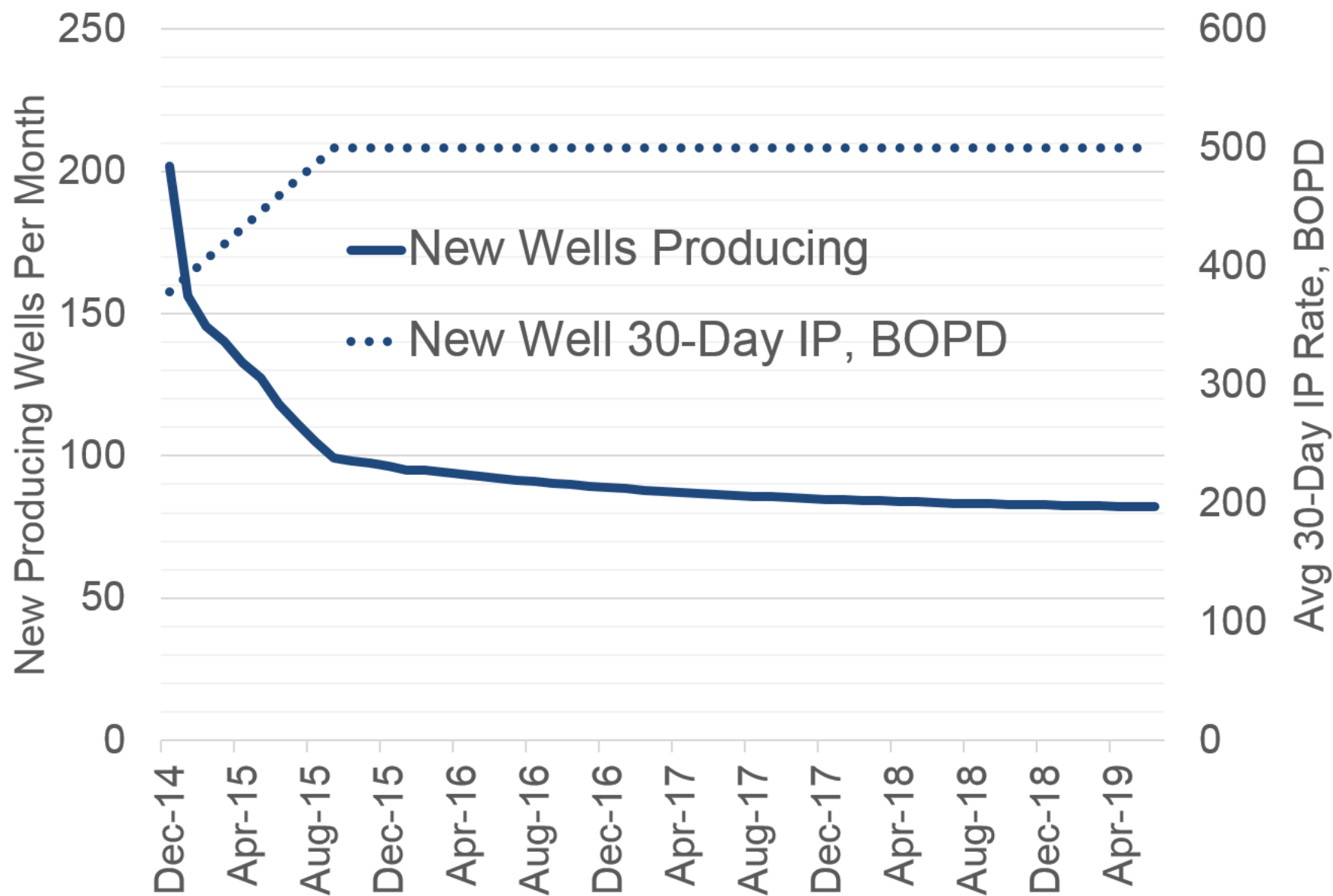
Production forecast is for visual demonstration purposes only and should not be considered accurate for any near or long term planning.



# Forecasting Exercise – Hold Oct 2014 Production

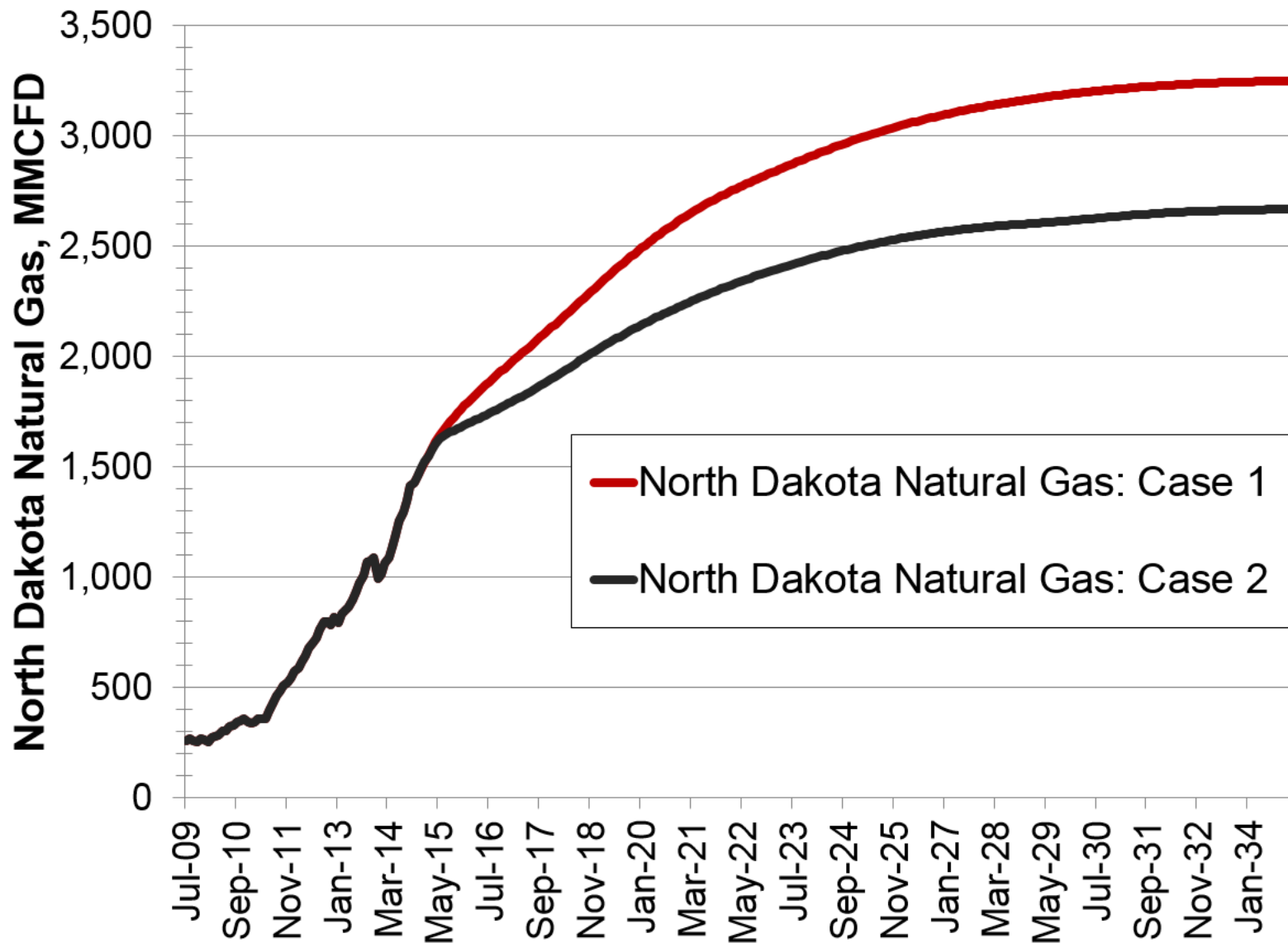


# Forecasting Exercise – Hold Oct 2014 Production





# North Dakota Natural Gas Forecast, MMCFD



Production forecast is for visual demonstration purposes only and should not be considered accurate for any near or long term planning.



# Contact Information

Justin J. Kringstad, Director  
North Dakota Pipeline Authority

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Phone: (701)220-6227

Fax: (701)328-2820

E-mail: [jjkringstad@ndpipelines.com](mailto:jjkringstad@ndpipelines.com)

Websites:

[www.pipeline.nd.gov](http://www.pipeline.nd.gov)

[www.northdakotapipelines.com](http://www.northdakotapipelines.com)



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

