

Helium Raw Gas Processing

Helium Facility Construction

Presented by Forrest Churchill

## **EXPERTS BEYOND BORDERS**

**GASWORLD HELIUM SUPER SUMMIT 2023** 





# AGENDA

**Site Selection and Assessment** 

**Utilities** 

**Skidded Equipment** 

**Construction Standards** 





### **HELIUM PROCESSING**

#### **Capital Development**

- Financial simulation delivering Net Present Value (NPV) and Return on Investment (ROI) metrics
- Capital and operating estimates for surface development
- Revenue models based on helium purity

#### **Front End Engineering and Design**

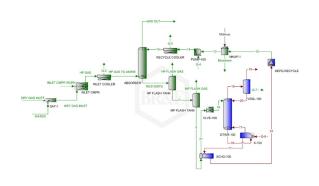
- Helium gathering plans for centralized processing
- Helium gas processing evaluation based on raw gas profiles
- Purification technology selection
- Utility planning for processing facilities

#### **Facility Construction**

- Construction design generation
- Procurement support services and vendor management
- Electrical package fabrication and site commissioning

## CANUSA EPC'S HELIUM EXPERIENCE











PLANNING AND MODELING
NORTH AMERICA

SYSTEM
CANADA

PSA EXPANSION
WITH MEMBRANES
NEW MEXICO

MULTIWELL
PROCESSING PLANT
ARIZONA



#### MOST COMMON HELIUM CHALLENGES

ECONOMIC VIABILITY/ FINANCING

MANAGING RISK WITH PRODUCTION AND PURITY

TECHNOLOGY SELECTION

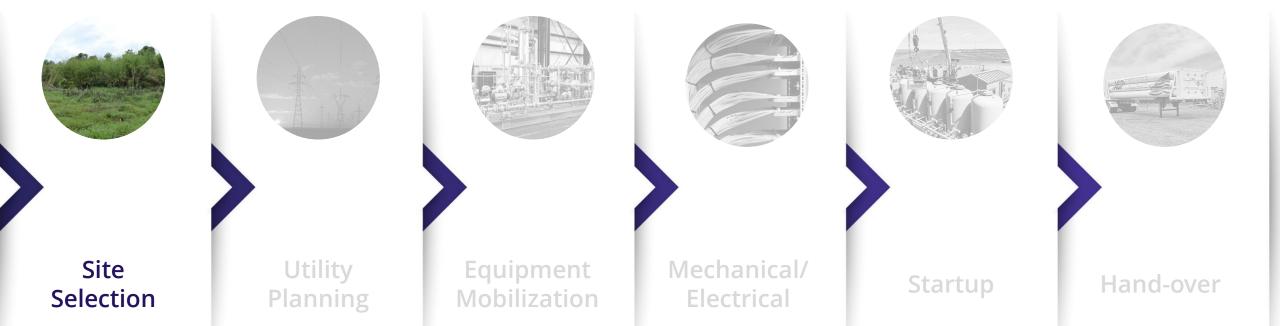
REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

DEVELOPING INFRASTRUCTURE

TRANSPORT OPTIONS

## **Construction Planning & Execution**





#### **Environmental Considerations**



**Equipment Protection** 

Self-Contained Packages

Heat Trace & Insulation - Piping



#### Arizona, USA Temp. Range

Record Low 19°F (-7°C)

Record High 119°F (48°C)



#### Saskatchewan, CAN Temp. Range

Record Low -38°F (-39°C)

Record High 110°F (43°C)

## **Features of a Quality Site**



**Utility Access** 



**Understanding Climate** 



Quality Geotechnical Report



Reasonable Permitting Requirements



Reasonable Regulation/ Code Requirements

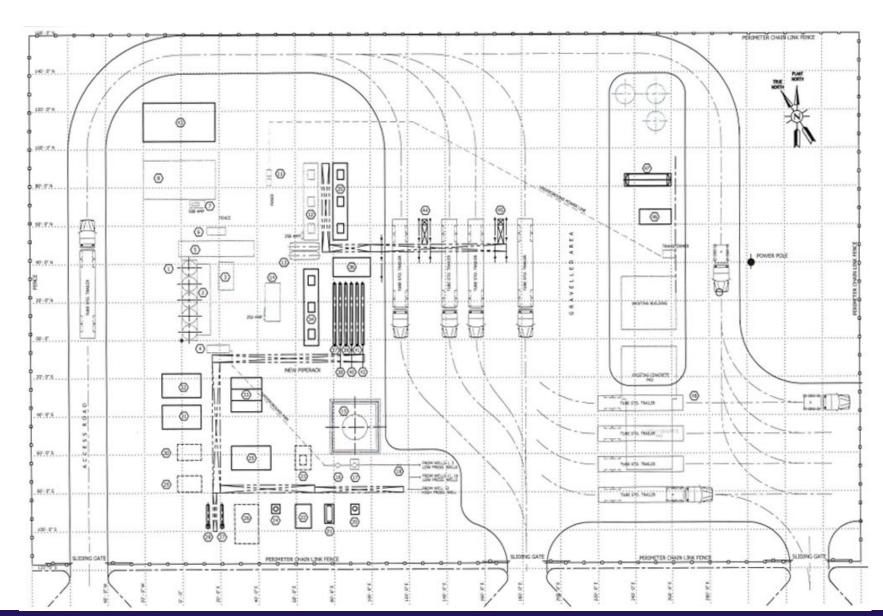


Easy Access for Trucking/Service



## **Planning Your Site Layout**





Grading & compacted soil

Fencing

Access/pull through for truck loadout

Where will the gathering system come in?

















Site Selection Utility Planning **Equipment** Mobilization

Mechanical/ Electrical

Startup

Hand-over

## **Evaluating Utility Plans**

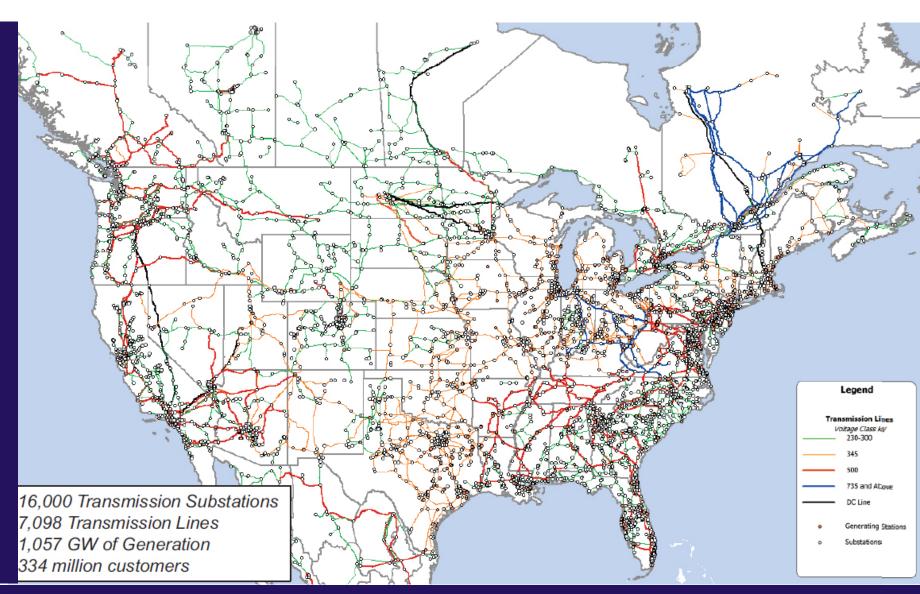


Typical site requires ~400 - 800 kW of power (Depends on compression)

Sparse grids

Development plan

Available fuel sources



## **Third Party Utility**



- Timeline
- Rate & demand charge
- Right of way

- Power lines
- Secure meter & transformer
- Utility service agreement

### **Onsite Utility**



# ONSITE POWER OPTIONS

Emissions drive options for engines

Fuel drives the economics (NG or propane)

Renewables are becoming more attractive

Option to lease or own

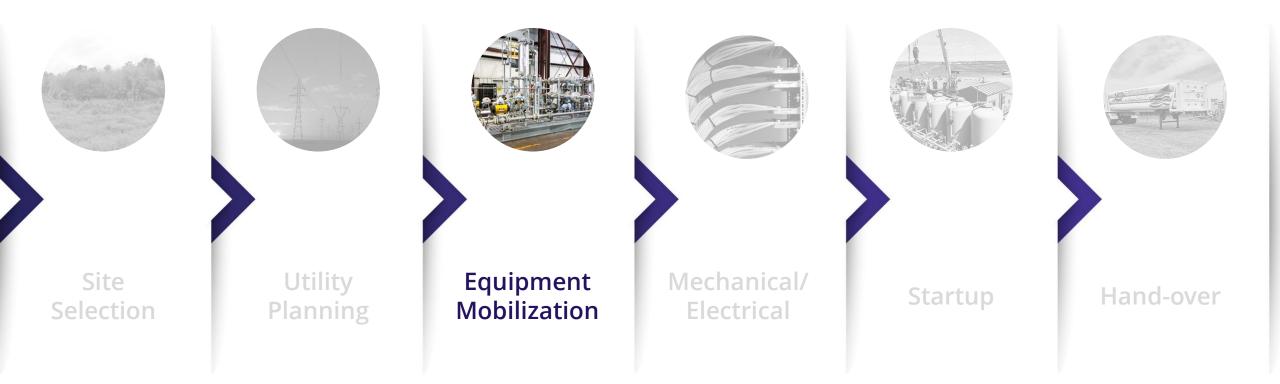


## **Title V Emissions Requirements**

Non- Attainment Area Designation	VOC or NOx	со	PM-10
Marginal	100 tpy		
Moderate	100 tpy	100 tpy	100 tpy
Serious	50 tpy	50 tpy	70 tpy







## **Approach to Skidded Equipment Deployment**

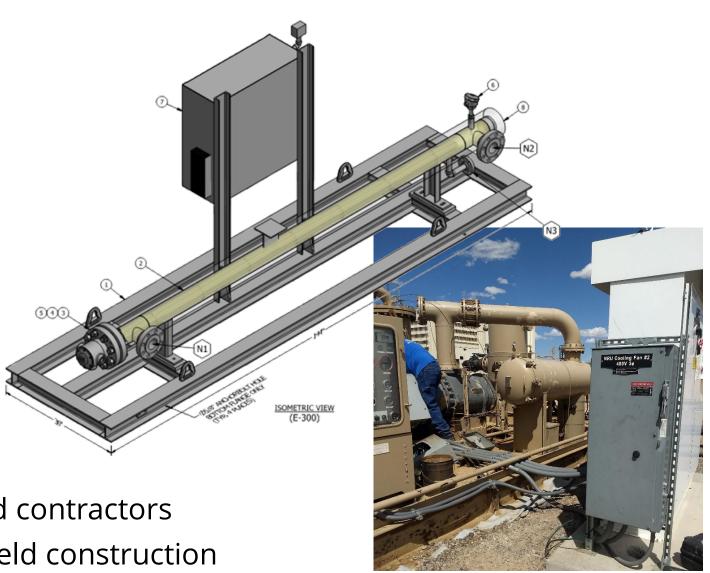


#### **Benefits**

- Shop fabricated quality
- Integrated testing
- Lessens on-site costs & safety
- Portable and modular

#### Challenges

- Planning for data handoffs
- Align construction execution and contractors
- Shifts costs to packagers from field construction

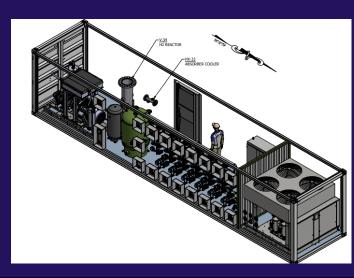


#### What Should Be Skid Based?



#### **Skidded Equipment**

Electrical building
Compressors
Membranes
PSA
Loadout Unit



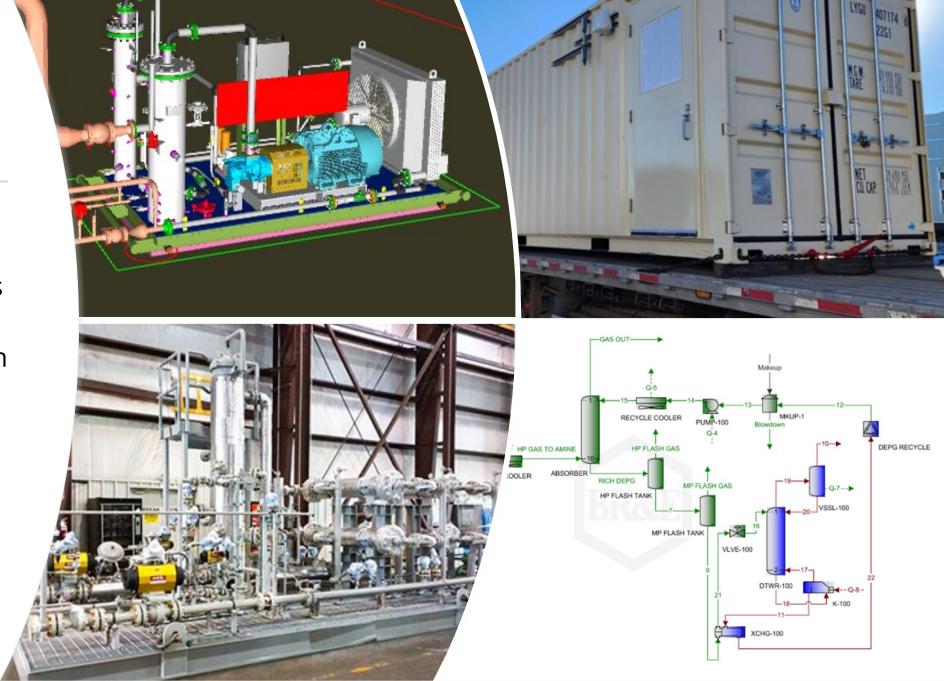
#### **Site Constructed Equipment**

Gathering risers
Valve stations
Headers
Interconnecting piping
Tubing
Filters & tanks



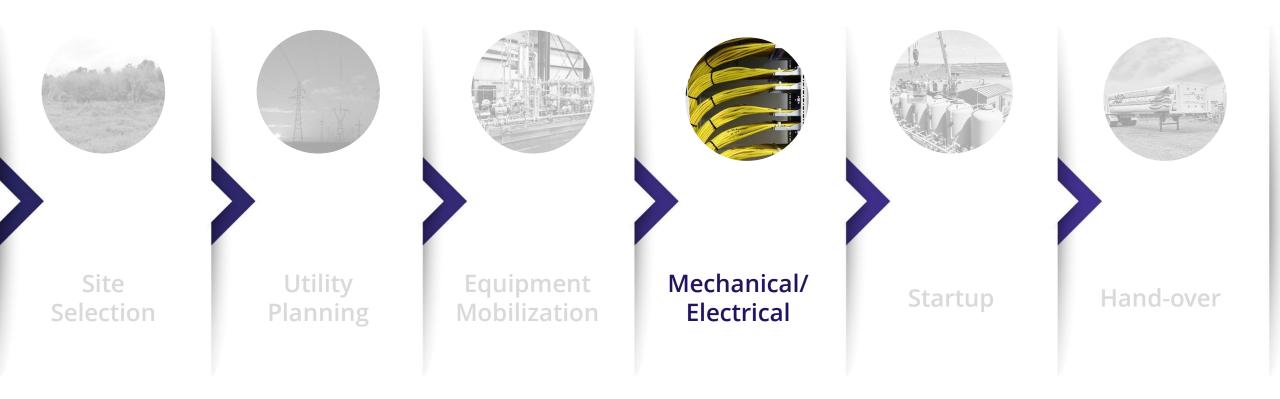
# Keys to Success with Skidded Equipment

- Specifications
  - Setting standard quality for vendors
- Planning & Design
   Construction Execution
  - Determining what should be built on-site
  - Avoiding modifications in the field
- Transport



## **Construction Planning & Execution**





## **Integrating the Equipment**

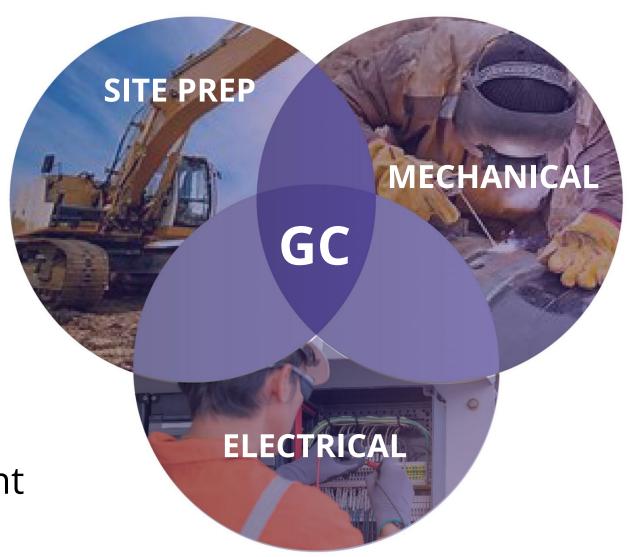


#### Contracting approach

Is the client going to manage the disciplines?

- Mechanical / Structural
- Electrical / Automation
- Vendor Communication

GC vs Construction Management



## Mechanical/ Electrical Approaches



## Typical Codes/Standards











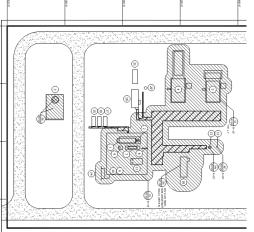


- Area Classification
  - What are cost-effective solutions in non-classified areas?











# PORTABLE PURIFICATION

#### Packaged 2.5 MMSCFD Nitrogen-Based Purification Facility

- Scalable
- Modular

#### **Target Purity of 98% Product**

• 95% Recovery

#### **Total Installed Cost ~\$6.8 Million USD**

- Process Package Cost ~\$4.3 Million USD
- Delivery of 40 weeks
- Financing options with 3<sup>rd</sup> party

HELIUM FACILITY WEBINAR WITH ARJAE & CANUSA EPC







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