Selection and Treatment of Stripper Gas Wells for Production Enhancement in the Mid-Continent

Award No. DE-FG26-00NT40789

Quarterly Technical Report

Period: 10/1/2002 – 12/31/2002

Scott Reeves

March, 2003

Advanced Resources International
9801 Westheimer, Suite 805
Houston, Texas 77042

Disclaimers

U.S. Department of Energy

This report was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither the United States Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof.

Advanced Resources International

The material in this Report is intended for general information only. Any use of this material in relation to any specific application should be based on independent examination and verification of its unrestricted applicability for such use and on a determination of suitability for the application by professionally qualified personnel. No license under any Advanced Resources International, Inc., patents or other proprietary interest is implied by the publication of this Report. Those making use of or relying upon the material assume all risks and liability arising from such use or reliance.

Abstract

Stripper gas wells are an important source of domestic energy supply and under constant threat of permanent loss (shut-in) due to marginal economics. In 1998, 192 thousand stripper gas wells produced over a Tcf of gas, at an average rate of less than 16 Mcfd. This represents about 57% of all producing gas wells in the onshore lower-48 states, yet only 8% of production. Reserves of stripper gas wells are estimated to be only 1.6 Tcf, or slightly over 1% of the onshore lower-48 total (end of year 1996 data). Obviously, stripper gas wells are at the very margin of economic sustenance. As the demand for natural gas in the U.S. grows to the forecasted estimate of over 30 Tcf annually by the year 2010, supply from current conventional sources is expected to decline. Therefore, an important need exists to fully exploit known domestic resources of natural gas, including those represented by stripper gas wells.

The overall objectives of this project are to develop an efficient and low-cost methodology to broadly categorize the well performance characteristics for a stripper gas field, identify the high-potential candidate wells for remediation, and diagnose the specific causes for well underperformance. With this capability, stripper gas well operators can more efficiently and economically produce these resources and maximize these gas reserves. A further objective is to identify/develop, evaluate and test “new and novel,” economically viable remediation options. Finally, it is the objective of this project that all the methods and technologies developed in this project, while being tested in the Mid-Continent, be widely applicable to stripper gas wells of all types across the country.

The project activities during the reporting period were:

- Continued coordinating the final selection of candidates and field implementation with Oneok. Oneok plans on performing the operations early in 2003.

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Experimental	1
Results and Discussion.....	2
Conclusions	3
References	4

Experimental

For the subject period, the following activities were performed:

- Continued coordinating the final selection of candidates and field implementation with Oneok. Oneok plans on performing the operations early in 2003.

Results and Discussion

The project is largely on-hold pending the outcome of the field remediation activities.

Conclusions

There are no technical conclusions for the reporting period.

References

None.