

SOUTH LOUISIANA CRETACEOUS TUSCALOOSA TREND FALSE RIVER FIELD

Joe Adams¹ and F. W. Harrison, Jr.²

ABSTRACT

On August 14, 1975, Chevron Oil Company spudded the No. 1 Alma Plantation, in Section 87, Township 6 South, Range 11 East, Pointe Coupee Parish as a Cretaceous test, with an objective total depth of 22,500 feet. This became the discovery well for False River Field and has touched off a play that stretches from the Texas-Louisiana line in Vernon and Beauregard Parishes, easterly and southeasterly to St. Tammany and St. Bernard Parishes at the Louisiana-Mississippi state line. In addition to wells that are being drilled at False River Field, permits for thirty-four wells have been granted along the trend. In excess of 1.8 million acres have been leased along the trend and False River Field is being rapidly developed.

To date five wells have been completed in the False River Field from the Tuscaloosa Formation of lower Upper Cretaceous age at a depth of 19,800 feet. In addition, four wells are currently drilling and testing. The No. 1 Alma Plantation, which is the discovery well, flowed at the rate of 20 MMCF gas per day with a flowing tubing pressure of 11,600 psig and initial shut-in reservoir pressure was 16,806 psig. From subsurface and seismic data the structure appears to be buried below the base of the Austin Chalk. The structure is twenty miles long and ten miles wide at a depth of approximately 19,000 feet and is situated along and south of a Cretaceous hinge line extending from Lake Borne northwesterly across south central Louisiana into southern Vernon Parish. A study of the structure and stratigraphy of the False River Field provides an analogy which should be applicable to locating other prospective areas along the hinge line.

¹Senior Offshore Geologist, La. Dept. of Conservation, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

²Independent Consulting Geologist, Lafayette, Louisiana