

MADDEN DEEP UNIT - MADISON DRILLING

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ABSTRACT

Five 25,000 foot Madison wells have been drilled in the Madden Deep Unit in Fremont County, Wyoming. Monsanto Oil Company, BHP Petroleum, Inc., Louisiana Land and Exploration Company, and Burlington Resources drilled them from 1982 to 2000. The last two wells have incorporated significantly different casing programs that have resulted in decreased drilling days. A review of Madison wells drilled in the Madden Deep Unit will be presented with specific discussion on design and operational issues.

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LESSONS LEARNED, LESSONS LOST: REVIEW OF SELECTED COALBED METHANE PILOTS

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ABSTRACT

Coal gas plays usually progress from rank wildcat wells, through multi-well pilot stage, then sometimes on to commercial production. Coalbed methane plays differ from conventional gas plays in that the time consuming and costly middle step of pilot testing is crucial to determination of commercial viability. Consequently, pilot tests have been conducted in several U.S. coal basins over the past 30 years. To increase pilot interpretability and reduce time and cost of future pilots, a review of past pilot tests in selected coal basins is presented. Pilot parameters such as the number of wells, well spacing, completions, and production life as well as characteristics of the target coal deposits are considered. The definition of dimensionless time from conventional gas reservoir engineering led to an equation for the minimum production time required for a given pilot to experience interference.

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