

# **Progress Report – November, December 2007, and January 2008**

## **Gas Over Bitumen Technical Solution**

### **Industry & Government Collaboration**

---

#### **General Comments**

As directed by the Steering Committee on October 24, 2006, the Artificial Lift and Low Pressure SAGD sub committees continue to meet and make good progress in 5 priority areas; re-pressuring fluid injection types, down hole instrumentation, solvent/co-injection recovery, impact of non-condensable gas, and history matching of field data.

#### **Artificial Lift**

##### **Down Hole Instrumentation**

A workshop to update operator's experience will be held on June 26, 2008. A vendor workshop is scheduled for September 18, 2008. These activities are in pursuit of a reliable and cost effective pressure measurement device capable of service at 270 C and higher.

#### **Fluid Injection Technology**

NAOSC is sponsoring a JIP for Development of a Guideline for Choosing Injection Fluids for the purpose of Re-pressuring a Gas Over Bitumen Zone. ARC will conduct the work. The contract will be awarded once JIP participation in place. Working group will meet January 31, 2008 to finalize next steps.

#### **Low Pressure SAGD Performance**

##### **Solvent/co-injection Recovery Applications**

ConocoPhillips is the JIP sponsor with 14 participating organizations. A draft literature search report was received December 2007. The working group is currently reviewing and expects the final by February 29, 2008. The JIP is expected to end June 2008. There is potential for a further JIP based on the Phase 1 recommendations.

##### **Impact of non-condensable Gas**

Nexen is the JIP sponsor. This is a three phase JIP which will identify gaps in current industry knowledge regarding the impacts of NCG on the SAGD process. The study will focus on opportunities and strategies to maximize the benefits of naturally generated or injected NCG's during bitumen recovery by SAGD at lower pressures and in the presence of associated gas caps. A contract was awarded to THIMM for a cost of \$125,000. Nexen expects to get contracts to the subcommittee members by January 31, 2008

##### **History Matching of SAGD Field Data**

Project scope definition continues to progress.

#### **IETP Activities**

Dan McFadyen, Deputy Minister and Chair, Gas over Bitumen Technical Solution Executive Steering committee, sent out a notice dated November 5, 2007 indicating the Executive Steering Committee endorsement for the Paramount Energy Trust Corner 'C' pool IETP application. The Executive Steering Committee agrees with the technical committee that this will contribute information to the gas over bitumen issue. A more thorough review by the IETP Technical Evaluation Committee will be done to see if the project fits with IETP requirements.