



# Regional Update

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## *South Midcontinent receives PUMP award*

The Department of Energy (DOE) recently announced that the PTTC South Midcontinent and West Coast Regions will receive one of six awards in the Preferred Upstream Management Practices (PUMP) solicitations. For its share of the project, South Midcontinent will hire two mentors to work with regional producers. Plans are for one mentor to be based in Oklahoma and one in Arkansas. PTTC will gain better understanding of regional needs and problems through these mentors, who will spend a considerable amount of time in the field. PTTC will then search globally for solutions and insights to remedy the problems.

Information about preferred management practices then will be documented, packaged for different media, and aggressively transferred through personal contacts, one-on-one or small group meetings, workshops, newsletters, reports, and the Internet.

PTTC believes that the more frequent interaction between mentors and producers will help develop the confidence to implement new processes in the field. The total project cost is \$1 million, with DOE's proposed share being \$500,000.

For further information on these projects, contact Rhonda Lindsey at DOE NPTO (phone 918/699-2037; e-mail [Rhonda.Lindsey@npto.doe.gov](mailto:Rhonda.Lindsey@npto.doe.gov)). More information will be available in upcoming issues of *Regional Update* as the mentors are hired and begin work in the field.

## *Coalbed Methane Workshop, Field Trip set for Poteau on October 10 and 11*

The Oklahoma Geological Survey and PTTC will host the fifth Oklahoma Coalbed-Methane Workshop and Field Trip on October 10-11. The technical presentations will be at Carl Albert State College in Poteau, Oklahoma, on Wednesday, October 10. Some six to eight speakers will present an overview of coal as a gas-source rock and reservoir, and examine factors affecting coalbed methane (CBM) producibility, Oklahoma coal geology, Oklahoma CBM activity, and Oklahoma CBM economic potential and completion practices. A workshop manual will be included with the registration.

An optional field trip on October 11 has a limited enrollment, so register early. The trip will visit active coal mines, coal outcrops, and a CBM field operation in the southeast Oklahoma portion of the Arkoma basin.

For further information, contact Michelle Summers at the Oklahoma Geological Survey (405/325-3031; 800/330-3996; e-mail [ogs@ou.edu](mailto:ogs@ou.edu)), or check the web at <http://www.ou.edu/special/ogs-pttc>.

## Mankin, Alloway among speakers at May IOGCC

South Midcontinent PAG Chair Mac Alloway and Region Program Manager Dr. Charles J. Mankin joined forces with Mike Terry, Oklahoma Energy Resources Board (OERB), and Randy Foutch, Energy Advocate Board Member and Chair of OERB, to conduct an outreach program for public education in Anchorage, Alaska. The four were attending the recent mid-May International Oil and Gas Compact Commission meeting.

Alloway and Mankin have long used their positions to educate the public to energy needs and methods available for meeting those needs.



Photo by Corrie Smith

Dan Boyd

### Boyd joins petroleum section

Daniel T. Boyd is the newest petroleum geologist with the Oklahoma Survey. Dan joined the staff in July, coming from Dallas, Texas, where he had been geological specialist for exploration with Arco, which merged with BP Amoco.

Prior to that, Dan worked with Union Texas, spending time in Indonesia, Pakistan, and London.

Dan has a B.S. and M.S. in geology from the Univ. of Arizona.



Photo by Corrie Smith

Senator Jim Inhofe and U.S. Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham tour the Louis Dreyfus "Pelican 1" drilling rig in northern Oklahoma City on June 25.

## Inhofe and Abraham tour Oklahoma rig

Senator Jim Inhofe and U.S. Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham toured the Louis Dreyfus "Pelican 1" natural gas drilling rig in Oklahoma City on June 25, making a point of the Bush administration's support of the energy industry and helping gather support for the National Energy Plan.

Senator Inhofe introduced the Secretary to the crowd and made brief comments. He pointed out that the Bush administration understands that to reach reserves in marginal wells, producers need a change in tax policy.

"Oklahoma is leading the way by applying new technologies to energy exploration and, at the same time, preserving the environment," Abraham said. "The directional drilling work at the Pelican 1 demonstrates the ability of the industry to conduct drilling explorations in populated areas in a safe and environmentally sensitive manner."

"One recommendation calls for increased production of oil and natural gas from new and existing wells," he said, noting the importance of small independent operators in helping meet the nation's needs.

Abraham said a lack of investment capital often limits smaller operators' ability to get into the field, an issue that he and Interior Secretary Gale Norton intend to address by promoting new technologies to benefit small producers.

The Secretary also said that domestic exploration and improvements to America's energy infrastructure (from natural gas pipelines to electricity transmission) are needed to help solve the energy crisis.

Abraham said in the next 20 years, an additional 263,000 miles of distribution pipelines and 38,000 miles of new transmission lines are necessary to meet consumption and serve new geographic areas of demand. Natural gas consumption is expected to rise 50 percent during that time, he said.

## OCGS library and offices move up

The Oklahoma City Geological Society has moved—you won't find them in the basement any more. The Library and offices of the OCGS now are located one block east of the old location on the 9th floor of the center building of First National Center. The new address is: 120 North Robinson, Ste. 900 Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102.

Find the new offices and library by taking the "C" elevators located midway on the mall to the 9th floor. Telephone and fax numbers remain the same, as well as the web site at: <http://www.ocgs.org/>

# Upcoming Events

## September

- 9/6-7 Mapping Oil & Gas Data ArcView Software (GIS), Oklahoma City, \*GIS, PTTC
- 9/7 Well Operations—Engineering and Geology, Tulsa, \*MWC, PTTC
- 9/14 Field Operations—Pumpers & Cost Controls, Ardmore, \*MWC, PTTC
- 9/21 Field Operations—Pumpers & Cost Controls, Pawhuska, \*MWC, PTTC
- 9/24 Advisory Council Long Range Conference/MWC Commission Meeting, Texoma, \*MWC
- 9/26 Field Operations—Pumpers & Cost Controls, Oklahoma City, \*MWC, PTTC

## October

- 10/5 Field Operations—Pumpers & Cost Controls, Tulsa, \*MWC, PTTC
- 10/10-11 Coalbed—Methane Workshop and Field Trip, Poteau, \*OGS, PTTC
- 10/11-12 NRIS Web/Mapping Workshop (GIS), Broken Arrow, \*GIS, PTTC
- 10/12 Plugging: The Last Resort, Ardmore, \*MWC, PTTC
- 10/19 Plugging: The Last Resort, Pawhuska, \*MWC, PTTC
- 10/26 Plugging: The Last Resort, Oklahoma City, \*MWC, PTTC

## November

- 11/2 Plugging: The Last Resort, Tulsa, \*MWC, PTTC
- 11/8 Springer Play Field Trip, Ardmore, \*OGS, OCGS, PTTC
- 11/9 Soil Remediation, Ardmore, \*MWC, PTTC
- 11/9 Mapping Oil & Gas Data, ArcView Software (GIS), Broken Arrow, \*GIS
- 11/15 MWC Commission Meeting, Norman, \*MWC
- 11/16 Soil Remediation, Pawhuska, \*MWC, PTTC
- 11/30 Soil Remediation, Oklahoma City, \*MWC, PTTC

## December

- 12/14 Soil Remediation, Tulsa, \*MWC, PTTC

\*OGS=Oklahoma Geological Survey, 405/325-3031 or 800/330-3996

\*MWC=Marginal Wells Commission, 405/366-8688; 800/390-0460

\*GIS=Geological Information Systems, 405/325-3131



Photo by Connie Smith  
Tammie Creel, OGS secretary, helps one of the attendees get checked in and get his packet.

## Underbalanced Drilling hits the mark!

The OGS/PTTC Underbalanced Drilling Workshop hit the mark with those attending the session in Norman on July 11. William A. Rehm, presenter of the workshop, pointed out some of the implications of underbalanced drilling: No lost circulation, no differential sticking, faster drilling rate, less formation damage, and simple completions—all leading to cost savings and improved rate of return.

Rehm is Drilling Engineering Consultant for Maurer Technology, Inc., and is considered one of the world's leading experts in underbalanced drilling, with more than 50 technical articles in leading journals and five patents on drilling equipment.

## Springer Gas Play book and guidebook

A book and guidebook from the recent Springer Gas Play Workshop help clear up some of the confusion about Springer and Morrow reservoirs, which commonly are stacked upon one another, and examines the correlation of informal subsurface units between the Anadarko and Ardmore basins.

"Springer sandstone bodies with excellent hydrocarbon potential are continually being found," Rick Andrews, OGS geologist and one of the authors of both publications, said.

"Some of the most recent high-volume gas wells are being developed in the Cement field area and along the Mountain View Fault where the Springer is overturned."

The new publications are: Special Publication 2001-1, *Springer Gas Play in Western Oklahoma*, and a companion book, Guidebook 32, *Stratigraphy and Depositional*

*Environments of the Sandstones of the Springer Formation and the Prinrose Member of the Golf Course Formation in the Ardmore Basin, Oklahoma.*

In addition to the text, SP2001-1 contains 76 figures, 17 tables, and 11 oversized plates in a separate envelope. It is \$20, plus \$4 shipping.

The guidebook continues this study with a brief general geology section and detailed descriptions of six field-trip stops near Ardmore, Oklahoma. The book shows how important correct interpretation of depositional environments and facies is to predicting the potential of a reservoir rock, according to LeRoy A. Hemish, a retired OGS geologist and co-author with Andrews.

The 38-page Guidebook 32 contains 40 figures in addition to the text, and is available from the OGS for \$5, plus \$2 shipping.



Photo by Corina Smith

## Rocks and rolls

*Rocks (actually core samples on display) and rolls (huge cinnamon rolls and muffins) proved to be very popular items at the Springer Gas Play workshop held in Norman last spring. A total of 167 people attended the workshop, which was held on April 4, then repeated on April 5. If you haven't been coming to these informative meetings, see what you're missing? If you couldn't attend, both the meeting publication, SP2001-1, and field-trip guidebook, GB 32, are available from the OGS at the addresses, e-mail, and phone numbers listed on the front page.*

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the National Petroleum Technology Office (NPTO) and Strategic Center for Natural Gas (SCNG) within the National Energy Technology Lab (NETL).

## Cost-Effective P&A Technique set for September 18 by DOE

A DOE-sponsored workshop planned for September 18, 2001, with the cooperation of the Osage Nation and Cementing Solutions Inc., will demonstrate a simple, fast, and economical way to plug and abandon wells. The workshop begins at Osage Tribal Headquarters in Pawhuska, Oklahoma at 9:00 a.m., and then moves to a selected well site in Osage County where the demonstration will take place.

Cementing Solutions Plugging Process (CSPP) is a new technique that simplifies the plugging process and involves filling the entire well-bore with cement or placement of discrete plugs in the casing. The use of common construction cement equipment eliminates the need for complex mixing equipment, high-pressure pumping equipment, and a workover rig.

When the mixed slurry is transported to the location, it is discharged from the ready mix truck into a holding tank and transferred to the well via low-pressure pump. Once in the well, the increased hydrostatic pressure exerted by the cement column forces the well fluid into the formation, allowing the cement plugs to be placed at the appropriate locations.

The CSPP integrates regulatory requirements for plug placement and performance; well data (casing sizes, depths, perforations, and well fluids); and formation parameters (pore pressure, breakdown pressure, and permeability). The process is applicable to a wide range of well types, including stripper wells. Register by mail, fax, or e-mail by September 15. A registration form is available from the NPTO at <http://www.npto.doe.gov> or contact Virginia Weyland at 918/699-2041; by fax at 918/699-2005; or e-mail Virginia.Weyland@npto.doe.gov.