### **Performance Presentation for In-Situ Oilsands**

Experimental Scheme Approval No. 11825 November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016



# AER Directive 054 - 2016 Performance Presentation



Section 3.1.1

Subsurface Issues Related to Resource Evaluation and Recovery

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- Geology
- Drilling and completions
- Artificial lift
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# Background



Nsolv is an in-situ technology that uses warm solvent to extract bitumen from oil sands efficiently and sustainably:

- Up to 75% reduction in GHGs compared to SAGD
- In-situ upgrading → downstream GHG benefits
   Currently observing upgrade from 8 to 14 API
- Zero process water usage

### How it works





# Background – BEST Pilot Plant



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- <u>B</u>itumen <u>Extraction</u> <u>Solvent</u> <u>Technology</u>
- Purpose: demonstrate commercial viability of the Nsolv process in a field setting
- 1 x 300 m HZ well pair
- 7 x vertical observation wells
- 238.5 m<sup>3</sup>/d (1500 bpd) solvent delivery capability
- 79.5 m<sup>3</sup>/d (500 bpd) oil processing capability

# Background – BEST Pilot Plant



3.1.1.1

- Ability to use either propane or butane
  - In order to minimize any potential for solvent losses to the bitumen reservoir, the solvent chamber is kept in balance with the native reservoir pressure
  - The ideal operating temperatures are between 35-75 °C as this provides an adequate rise in the bitumen temperature to significantly reduce the bitumen viscosity
  - Choice of solvent is therefore based upon the solvent whose vapour pressure between 35 to 75 °C is balanced with the native reservoir pressure
  - Butane was chosen since at 60 °C its vapour pressure is ~600 kPag

# Background – Project Location



3.1.1.1



3.1.1.1

### **Project Location**





Section 18, Twn. 93 Rng. 12W4

# BEST Pilot Plant – Commissioned Summer 2013





# **Volumetrics** (Based on ~35m drainage radius)



**Volume Calculation** 

- Drainage Area = 24,313m2
- Pay Thickness = 13m above producer
- So=75%, Porosity=33.4%
- 79,175m3 Exploitable PIIP
- Recoverable Bitumen
  - 10° drainage angle (~24% reduction)
  - 75% chemical yield
  - 45,130m3 (57% recoverable)
  - 15,242 m3 bitumen recovered as of Aug 30th, 2016
  - 34% of recoverable
  - 19% of exploitable PIIP



PIIP=Area\* Pay thickness above producer\* Oil Saturation\* Porosity

### Average Reservoir Parameters



Porosity	33.4%
Effective Porosity	29%
Oil Saturation	75%
Horizontal Perm Petrel	6500mD, (3670 breccia)
Vertical Perm Petrel	5370mD, (2400 breccia)
Horizontal Perm Core Data	6817mD
Vertical Perm Core Data	5300mD (arithmetic ave)
Exploitable Pay	13m
Net Pay	18m
Depth to top of Pay	123.5m
Native Reservoir Pressure (Top of Pay)	600kPag
Native Reservoir Temperature	7°C

### **Geology – Gross Pay Interval**



### **Geology – Net Bitumen Pay**



3.1.1.2c

### **Geology – Top Pay Structure**



### **Geology – Devonian Structure**



### **Geology – McMurray Structure**



# **Geology – Wab C Sand Structure**



### **Geology – Wabiskaw Structure**





EL metres 420

ICP

110/15-18-093-12W4



MAN W

3.1.1.2e



108/15-18-093-12W4



545

660

1005

558 22 m

NWW-V

#### 3.1.1.2e



650

655

660

662.24m

670

675

104/15-18-093-12W4

705 Maximum Continuo Minimum Continuo Average Continuous

71

700

aon

695

3.1.1.2f



# Geology

### Cored Wells:

- •OB 13 •OB 08 •OB 04
- •OB 11
- Routine analysis
  Bitumen characterization
  N + S + metal contents



3.1.1.2h







### 3D Seismic March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Reshot March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016



Area of 0.5km2 868m x 632m 32 receiver lines E-W 21 source lines N-S 2315 receivers 2084 source points

12.8 million data points



# **Operating Pressure**



As per AER Bulletin 2014-03

MOP=0.8 x caprock fracture closure gradient x depth to base of caprock

Caprock fracture gradient = 21 kPa/m\* Shallowest Wabiskaw D shale is in well OB-3 (102/15-18-093-12W4) @105m MD

MOP = 0.8 x 21 kPag/m x 105m = 1,764 kPag

Our current operating window is 570-600 kPag or ~ 34% of MOP as per AER bulletin 2014-03.

\*From Suncor MacKay River mini frac analysis



# **Completions – MTM PCP**



#### 3.1.1.3b

# Completions – MTM PCP (2) nsolv



Removal of dummy liner/packer/FSV assembly and shortening of tailpipe was intended to have 2 effects – minimizing pressure losses within the wellbore and adjusting the withdrawal point away from the toe, towards a less productive area closer to the heel. Overall performance improvements were difficult to quantify as the replacement PCP run life was short and the well was subsequently re-completed with an ESP (see subsequent slide) 28

# **Completions – ESP**





# **Artificial lift**



- Production well was equipped with metal PCP pump (Project start – 1 Apr 2015):
  - Capacity: 300 m3/ day / 100 RPM @ 100% efficiency
  - Rated lift: 600 m of water column
  - Pump efficiency: degraded over time down to 10%, exacerbated by low viscosity fluid
- PCP was changed to an ESP (15 Apr 2015 September 2015), increasing lift capacity.
   – Capacity: 400 m3/ day
- ESP failure in September 2015. ESP was replaced and has been operating from September 2015 to present

# Instrumentation



- Each HZ well is equipped with the same instrumentation package:
  - Heel and toe thermocouple
  - Heel, mid and toe bubble tubes
    - Ethane used for bubble tube gas instead of methane reduction in potential introduction of non-condensable gas into the reservoir which could hinder oil flux rates
  - Fiber optic temperature sensor (700 m)
- Production well monitoring at the pump intake for P&T
- Observation wells equipped with:
  - 26 point thermocouple bundle
  - 2-3 piezometers per well

# **Seismic Objectives**



- To map the extent of the Nsolv vapour chamber using an integrated quantitative interpretation workflow.
- Facies mapping and how the facies affect chamber growth.



# Seismic & Well Data

- Time-lapse (2015 and 2016 monitors), multicomponent (3C) seismic surveys (Mackay 3D).
  - $_{\circ}$  2015 survey acquired on March 15<sup>th</sup>
  - 2016 survey acquired on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- AVO complaint pre-stack time migrated and 4D processed
  - PP (Compression)

- PS (Compression & Shear)
- 6 observation wells with thermocouples, 3 of them with RST (Reservoir Saturation Tool) logs.
- Temperature falloff data for injector and producer wells
- 29 vertical wells, 15 wells have sonic & density, no shear logs available in the survey.
- 5 dipole sonic wells outside the survey (within 1 km) were used to estimate shear information.



# 2016 Seismic Chamber



3.1.1.6b

64k Geobody >25% Gas Sat.

The 64k m3 geobody is the best match to the production data as well as the existing RST and thermocouple data.



3.1.1.6b

# **Plan View of Chamber**





- Plan view of the solvent chamber showing lateral growth of up to 70+m near the toe
- Average growth rates of ~2.8 cm/d determined from seismic cross sections and OBS well measurements

# 2015 vs 2016 Chamber



3.1.1.6b

- Vertical chamber growth intersecting top of pay in most areas
- Axial growth at toe beyond where we have DTS data
- Chamber migration at heel (OB8 temperature fluctuations)


### Scheme Performance – Timeline



3.1.1.7



2013							2014							2015			2016		
Mar	Apr	Мау		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	•••	Dec	Jan		Dec	Jan		Aug
Pre- heating		Warm-up			Displacement		Dilution	Solv Inj & Drain		Production Phase									



3.1.1.7

- Pre-heating:
  - Pre-heating occurred prior to the facility being fully constructed with electrical heaters in each well
  - Heating of injector well started later than the production well due to delivery timing of the heating strings



- Warm-up:
  - Conductive heating of the reservoir to raise centerline temperature to 55°C
  - Electric heater pulled from the production well and run into the injection well for dual heaters
  - Electric heaters in the Injector, hot diesel circulation in the Producer with downhole pump
  - Circulation in the injection well instead of electrical heating in this phase was initially envisioned, however electrical heating performance to date was good enough to justify eliminating this expense and using existing equipment on hand



- Displacement:
  - Induce inter-well fluid communication with increasing differential pressure between the wells
  - Targeting minimum 50% conformance
- Dilution & Cool-down:
  - Reduction of sub-surface temperatures for solvent injection (allow for condensing action to occur)
  - Reduction of startup fluids viscosity to facilitate drainage



3.1.1.7

### Warmup



#### **Displacement**



### Scheme Performance – Cumulative Fluid Volumes



3.1.1.7a



- 100% diesel recovery achieved in February 2015
- 34% recoverable bitumen recovered 19% of exploitable PIIP bitumen recovered (Refer to Slide 11 (Volumetrics) for calculation details)

3.1.1.7a

## Scheme Performance – Solvent Balance





### Scheme Performance – Solvent Balance



3.1.1.7a

- Design Solvent Oil Ratio (SvOR) of 5:1 or less
- Currently around 8:1 cum. SvOR at the BEST pilot

   there are several reasons why it is higher than
   originally anticipated:
  - Heat losses: 5:1 ratio was idealized and did not account for heat losses to the overburden and underburden
  - Conformance: Additional heat is currently being lost heating regions of non-conformance – increasing conformance should lead to a reduction in SvOR as those areas start to contribute to bitumen production

### Scheme Performance – Solvent Balance



3.1.1.7a

- Gas Coning: Evidence of some solvent vapour being drawn directly into the producer without condensing and liberating oil, thus increasing SvOR
- Reduced pay thickness: Original pay height was expected to be 18.5 m however the average pay thickness was reduced to 12.8 m when the wellpair was raised up to avoid a shale plug encountered while drilling OB 08.

### Scheme Performance – Fluid Rates





### Scheme Performance – Well Pair Conformance



3117h

- Well pair conformance monitored by:
  - DTS data
  - temperature fall-off data
  - Seismic data
- Conformance is approximately 60% or 180m of the 300m wells.
  - This was overestimated in 2015

### Scheme Performance – Well Pair Conformance



3.1.1.7b





- Overall chamber growth monitored by thermocouples, RST logs at observation wells, and seismic data.
- Solvent chamber has intersected all observation wells except OB9 (15m offset) at the heel.
  - Top of pay reached
  - Growth rates of ~2.8cm/d on average
  - Chamber width has reached 40-60m in most areas

### Scheme Performance – Chamber Growth



#### 3.1.1.7b











### Scheme Performance – Chamber Growth

Offset From Inj Well





**OB11** Thermocouple Readings









# **Chamber Growth Around Baffles**

27

26

- Seismic results and thermocouple data show that we are above top of pay picked for OB12 (no core photos).
- RST logs show solvent chamber has reached 127.5m at OB4 which is above a few significant IHS beds.





ns

# Reservoir Saturation Tool Results (RST Logs)

RST logs ran on OB-11, OB-4, and OB-8 on March 18-19<sup>th</sup> of 2015 and again on Mar 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016.



Cumulated variable v/v

VUWA\_OH

YCLC

VQUA

CDV G/C3

WATER

PIGN QE

VUWA 15

V/V VUWA\_13 V/V VXWA V/V

#### **OB-08 Heel** SUNCOR OB-NS-8 DOVER 15-18-93-12 Approximately 3m interval of increased WTEF gas saturation developing just below top WATER PIGN QE SIA 125 unifiers NCOR of pay. mm m3/m VUWA HCAL 00WA m3/m3 VUWA\_15 V/V VXWA 125 375 mm 0.6 m3/m3 NPOR SAN 0.6 m3/m3 TPHI 2015 0.6 m3/m3 m3/m3 SO 2015 gAPI SIGM Reference (m) 1:240 0.5 SUNCOR OB-NS-8 DOVER 15-18-93-12 ELAN OH VUWA\_OH WATER WATER PIGN PIGN BS COR STK RS mm NN ٧V HCAL OR STK R VUWA 2013 VUWA\_ELAN NELC m3/m3 SG 201 5 v/v VXWA 2015 0.5 m3/m3 mm NPOR SAN 0.6 m3/m3 TPHI 2013 VXWA 2013 VQUA 0.5 m3/m3 VUWA 2013 0.5 ٧V (m) 1,240 VUWA 2015 125 Top of Pay --



OB-04 Mid

Chamber has grown significantly since last year. ~4m up and 1m down. It has also reached the top of the reservoir at this location.

Small interval of gas saturation shown at the producer level in 2016 log.





#### <u>OB-11 Toe</u>

2016 RST log shows chamber growth vertically to the top of the reservoir as well as conformance between injector and producer in this area.





# Scheme Performance – Solvent delivery



- Currently operating solvent chamber ~595 kPag and 58 deg C
- Solvent vapourizer temperature setpoint is adjusted to target vapour conditions downhole
- Solvent purity, non-condensables (C1 and C2) injection maintained below 0.03 mol %

### Scheme Performance – Bottom Hole Pressures



3.1.1.7d

#### **Monthly Average Bottom Hole Pressures**



# Scheme Performance – Bottom Hole Temperatures Solv

#### **Monthly Average Bottom Hole Temperatures**



# **Key Learnings**



- Able to manage the chamber at or below initial reservoir pressure with no issues
- No issues achieving high solvent recycle rates
- Asphaltenes have not been an issue
- Oil / water separation achieved without chemical usage
- Significant amount of in-situ upgrading occurring
- Water cut varies with chamber pressure

# **Key Learnings**



- Chamber able to recover after extended outage due to wildfire without issue
- Artificial lift
  - MTM PCPs struggle low viscosity fluid
  - Viton stators work well with solvent, but are challenged with any solids production
  - ESPs appear to be a good choice

### **Future Plans**



- Continue testing of operational parameters:
  - Superheat testing: assess the impact of bottom hole temperatures on solvent demand
  - Solvent purity testing: assess the impact of noncondensable gases in the injected solvent stream
  - Solvent hold-up optimization
  - Chamber wind-down
  - Solvent recovery/blowdown from chamber at end of life
- Potential additional 4D seismic shots
- Potential testing of new surface equipment
- Potential coring of solvent chamber

### AER Directive 054 - 2015 Performance Presentation



**Section 3.1.2** 

Surface Operations, Compliance, and Issues not related to Resource Evaluation and Recovery

## **Table of Contents**



- Facilities
- Central Processing Facility (CPF) Performance
- Measurement and Reporting
- Water, Production, Injection and Use
- Sulphur Production
- Environmental Performance
- Future Plans



### **Facilities – Plot Plant**



### Facilities – Production Schematic



3.1.2.1b



# **Facilities Modification**



2016

• No significant facilities modifications in 2016
# **CPF Performance**



- Facility is operating very well
- Able to maintain an average up-time of 96.1% since August 2015, excluding workover and the wildfire, despite limited redundancy
- Fluid separation without chemicals
  - Oil with only trace water
  - Very clean produced water
- No issues maintaining solvent purity

## **CPF Performance**



nsolv

# **CPF Performance**



# **CPF Performance – Bitumen Treatment**



3.1.2.2a

• Able to produce dry oil without use of separation chemicals or external diluent

# **CPF Performance – Bitumen Treatment**



3.1.2.2a



## **CPF Performance – Bitumen Treatment**



3.1.2.2a



# **CPF Performance –** Water Treatment



3.1.2.2h

- No water treatment required on-site
- Residual oil is recovered in the Skim Tank

# **CPF Performance – Solvent Treatment**



3122h

- Solvent purity is critical to the Nsolv process
  - Defined in terms of non-condensables (C1, C2) mol%
  - C3 to C5+ is considered solvent
- Solvent is purified in a distillation column
  - Target non-condensables mol%: < 0.03</p>

# **CPF Performance – Power**



- Power imported from ATCO
- Emergency backup provided by 500 kW generator

3.1.2.2d



# **CPF Performance – Power**



3.1.2.2d



### **CPF Performance – Power**



# **CPF Performance – Gas**



- Fuel gas imported from Suncor
- Produced solution gas is flared
- Solution gas production commenced with recycle of injected solvent on 5th April 2014

# **CPF Performance – Gas**





# **CPF Performance – Gas**





# CPF Performance – Green House Gas Emissions Solv

- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions YTD: 3,651 Tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equiv.
- Total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 16,023 Tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equiv.
- GHG factors:
  - Power: 820 kg/MWh
  - Fuel gas production and transport: 0.29 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
  - Solvent production and trucking: 121 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
  - Solvent flaring: 1.91 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

# CPF Performance – Green House Gas Emissions Solv



# CPF Performance – Green House Gas Emissions Solv



# Measurement & Reporting nsolv

- Single well pair facility:
  - All production attributed to the production well
  - No individual well testing required
- Facility Codes associated with Suncor BEST Approval 11825:
  - AB BT0126919
  - AB IF0126920

# Water Production



- 21% water cut on average
- Water is hauled off-site to disposal a Newalta facility:
  - ABWP0000688
- Produced water is sampled and analyzed by third party lab:
  - Avg. TDS: 17,036 mg/L
  - Avg. pH: 8.13
  - Avg. Na: 6,609 mg/L
  - Avg. Cl: 9,793 mg/L
  - HCO3: 1,433 mg/L

### Water Production





## Water Production





# **Sulphur Production**



- Produced gas is sampled and analyzed by third party lab
- H2S is below measurable limits

#### **BEST Regulatory Summary**

- AER Experimental Scheme Approval No. 11825 issued May 8, 2012
- EPEA Amending Approval No. 705-02-01 issued May 17, 2012
- Measurement, Accounting & Reporting Plan approved September 29, 2012
- Facility License F-45241 issued October 12, 2012
- Well License 0445932 (NS-S1) issued May 16, 2012
- Well License 0445946 (NS-P1) issued May 17, 2012
- RMWB Development Permit 2012-DP-00991 issued August 3, 2012
- AER Directive 051 approval for both wells issued February 7, 2013
- Production of Surface Casing Vent Flow Approval issued July 29, 2014

Suncor Energy Inc. is in compliance with all regulatory approvals, decisions, regulations and conditions as described in Experimental Scheme Approval 11825



#### **BEST Environmental Summary**

- Disturbance: no new disturbance in current reporting period
- Stormwater: surface run-off from the project is contained on the site through the use of a stormwater pond. Water is sampled & released if it meets EPEA requirements.
- Domestic Wastewater: wastewater is contained & trucked to an approved treatment facility
- Spill Containment: consists of storage & secondary containment that complies with Directive 055 requirements. Other measures include: collection of surface run-off; spill prevention & loss control systems; groundwater monitoring; proper maintenance, operating procedures & inspections; spill contingency & response plans.
- Air Emissions: monitoring & sampling as per the EPEA approval requirements
- Groundwater: monitoring & sampling as per the EPEA approval requirements
- No reportable releases or enforcement actions are associated with the project to date.

