

Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

Petroglyph Hearing Staff Presentation December 12, 2007

David Dillon Engineering Manager

Margaret Ash Environmental Supervisor

Peter Gintautas Environmental Protection Specialist



OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- COGCC STAFF REQUIREMENTS
- HOW COAL BED METHANE RESERVOIRS WORK
- SPECIAL PROPERTIES OF LITTLE CREEK FIELD
- SPECIAL PRODUCTION METHODS TRIED BY PETROGLYPH
- GEOLOGIC INTERPRETATIONS
- CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS
- SUPPORTING DATA & EVALUATION



STAFF REQUIREMENTS

The Purgatoire River Field (aka Little Creek Field) should not return to production until:

- 1) All aquifers, water wells, and seeps impacted by gas are addressed by a monitoring and mitigation plan.
- 2) The Commission agrees that all mitigation & monitoring programs are in place & functioning as expected.



A stratigraphic trap. Oil is trapped in two sandstones which are surrounded by shale. The shale prevents the oil from escaping.

From www.cartage.org

COAL BED METHANE PRODUCTION

WATER WELL

O&G WELLBORE





LONG CYN PCW #34-28 - LONG CANYON



CBM & CONVENTIONAL GAS WELL COMPLETIONS



POTENTIAL PATHWAYS FOR COAL BED METHANE MIGRATION VIA WELLBORES IN LA PLATA COUNTY, COLORADO

Prepared by: J. Miles 60 666, March 20, 2001 Jelapted from BLM.

Not to Scale

Dewatering at CBM well producing gas up-dip.





Examples of Volcanic Dikes Huerfano County, Colorado



HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE ISSUES CBM SEEPAGE



VENTING CONFINED SPACE

> STRESSED & DEAD VEGETATION







PETROGLYPH PRODUCTION







4. On March 7, 2000, Petroglyph, by its attorney, filed with the Commission a verified application for an order to establish a unit for the production of coalbed methane gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Vermejo and Raton Formations. Water influx into the proposed unitized area from lands located to the northeast thereof is causing a high volume of water to be produced from said wells, with little measurable drop in reservoir pressure from the present production.

5. Petroglyph has proposed a Water Block Project designed to optimize the ability of the existing wells to dewater the coalbed methane reservoirs. It requires the drilling of approximately eleven (11) water-block wells. The water-block wells would be placed up-dip of the existing wells, and would greatly enhance the dewatering process for production from producing wells in the application lands.



AREA OF PETROGLYPH OPERATIONS





- Current reservoir analysis indicates the Trinidad Sandstone located below the Vermejo Coal, is the source of the high volumes of water.
- This has been called the leaky Aquifer Model.



PETROGLYPH PRODUCTION







STAFF REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Because the effects of methane go beyond the proposed remediation area, Staff recommends that that all aquifers, water wells, and seeps impacted by gas are addressed by a monitoring and mitigation plan prior to restoring the field to production.
- Because the Raton and Vermejo coals are poorly understood, Staff recommends that the Commission should agrees that all mitigation & monitoring programs are in place & functioning as expected prior to restoring the field to production.