# Tertiary Oil Recovery Project Advisory Board Meeting

### **Arbuckle Polymer Jobs**

University of Kansas Kansas Union November 15, 2002



**Rich Pancake** 



## **Presentation Outline**

Status of Arbuckle Polymer Treatments

- TORP's Efforts in Evaluating Polymer Treatments
- Future TORP/PTTC Activities Related to Polymer Treatments

- +/- 100 MARCIT technology polymer jobs pumped in the Arbuckle since 2000
  - +/- 60 by TIORCO
  - +/- 40 by Gel-Tec
- Treatment locations
  - +/- 60 % of jobs pumped in Bemis-Shutts Field
  - Remainder pumped in Marcotte, Star Northwest, Northampton, Jelinek, Ogallah, Trapp, Geneseo-Edwards, and other fields



Courtesy of the Kansas Geological Survey



### **Polymer Treatments in Bemis-Shutts**



Courtesy of the Kansas Geological Survey

#### Well selection criteria

- Well drilled up structure
- Well originally had high, water-free IP
- Well at its economic limit because of high WOR
- Well has very high fluid level
- Well has high calculated flow potential

### Treatment design criteria

Vender 1

- For high fluid level wells, pump 2x well's daily production, up to 4000 bbls.
- For low fluid level wells, pump 1x well's daily production.
- Surface treating pressure not to exceed 200 psig.

#### Vender 2

- Gel volume pumped to be near well's calculated maximum inflow, up to 4000 bbls.
- Surface treating pressure to be between 200 and 400 psig.

- Typical treatment design
  - Pull pump & tbg. Sand pump well. RIH w/ tbg & packer. Set pkr +/- 100 ft above interval.
  - Acidize well w/ between 250 & 1500 gals 15% HCI.
    - Recent trend appears to be towards the larger, 1500 gal acid jobs.
  - Pump polymer down tbg.
    - Small job 1000 to 1600 bbls.
    - Large job 3000 to 4100 bbls.
    - Larger jobs are typically in Bemis.
    - Recent trend may be to pump even larger jobs.

- Typical treatment design (cont'd)
  - Pump polymer down tbg (cont'd).
    - Gel loadings increase in 3 to 4 stages 3500, 4000, 5000, and 6500 ppm.
    - Recent trend appears to be to increase gel loading at end of job to 7500 or 8500 ppm.
  - Flush tbg w/ oil or water.
    - Typically 100 bbl water flush.
    - Typically 50 to 80 bbl oil flush.
    - Philosophy of oil or water flush varies among operators.
  - Shut-in well 7 to 14 days. Return well to production.

### **Polymer treatment examples**

Murfin's Hadley BC #10 Polymer Job August 14-18, 2001 (3806 bbls gel, 100% of job treated on a vacuum, 0 psig max treating press)



Murfin's Peavey A-6 Polymer Job August 10-13, 2001 (3806 bbls gel, 64% of job treated on a vacuum, 446 psig max treating press)



Murfin's Jorgensen #4 Polymer Job August 6-9, 2001 (3805 bbls gel, 58% of job treated on a vacuum, 102 psig max treating press)



Murfin's Johnson B #3A Polymer Job August 2-3, 2001 (1621 bbls gel, 97% of job treated on a vacuum, 51 psig max treating press)



#### **Example of Poorer Response**

Vess's Colahan A #41 Polymer Job August 18-21, 2001 (2988 bbls gel, 8.2% of job treated on a vacuum, 923 psig max treating press)



#### **Example of Poorer Response**

Vess's Colahan A #2 Polymer Job August 26-30, 2001 (4093 bbls gel, 29% of job treated on a vacuum, 591 psig max treating press)



#### **Example of Poorest Response**

Murfin's Glathart #1 Polymer Job

December 8-9, 2001

(1007 bbls gel, 0% of job treated on a vacuum, 200 psig max treating press)



#### Job costs

- Gel cost
  - \$30 M to \$35 M for larger jobs (4,000 bbl)
  - \$15 M to \$20 M for smaller jobs (1,500 bbl)
- Rig & acid costs
  - \$5 M to \$10 M depending on rig time & volume acid

#### Total costs

- \$45 M for large jobs
- \$20 M for very small jobs

- **Pay-out** (based only on incremental oil recovery)
  - 3.8 months for average performing jobs (4 wells)
    <u>Assumptions</u>
    - +/- 3200 bbl/well net incremental oil recovery over 6 months (+/- 18 bbl/day/well incremental for 6 months)
    - \$22/bbl oil price
    - \$45 M job cost
  - Three poorest performing jobs did not pay-out <u>Assumptions</u>
    - +/- 1120 bbl/well net incremental oil recovery over 6 months (+/- 6 bbl/day/well incremental for 6 months)
    - \$22/bbl oil price
    - \$45 M job cost



Murfin's Hadley A #3 Polymer Job



TIORCO's Polymer Injection Equipment



TIORCO's Polymer Mixing Hopper



Gel-Tec Polymer Job on an Elysium Well



Pumping into well



Tri-plex pump and crosslinker storage



**Computer Monitors** 

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• Future TORP/PTTC Activities Related to Polymer Treatments

### **TORP's Efforts**

- Objective help operators maximize gel polymer treatments.
- Develop comprehensive database by which to compare all Arbuckle gel polymer treatments.
  - Hope to spot trends that lead to improved treatments.
  - Have contacted several operators requesting information on gel polymer treatments.
  - Getting some positive feedback and information.

### **TORP's Efforts**

- Conduct and analyze pre and post-treatment build-up tests using TORP's computerized Echometer.
  - Measure formation kh and skin.
  - Determine if reservoir flow is linear (through fracture) or radial (through matrix).
  - For pre-treatment build-ups, attempt to predict how much polymer a well will take.
  - Have performed pre-treatment build-ups on 7 Arbuckle wells.

**5** in Bemis-Shutts

2 in Geneseo-Edwards



Build-up Test on Vess Oil's McCord A #4



View from Vess Oil's Colahan A #8

### **TORP's Efforts**

- Analyze bottom-hole pressure (BHP) surveys that are to be run on 4 wells.
  - Bottom-hole pressure to be measured (via pressure bomb on slickline) before, during, and after gel treatment.
  - Hope to gain insights into the gel/rock interface, which should help in sizing treatments and setting maximum treating pressures.
  - Hope to determine a friction coefficient for pumping gel down tubing.
  - 3 BHP surveys have already been run in Bemis-Shutts.



#### Trilobite Testing's Slickline Trailer at Vess Oil's Hall B #4

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### Future TORP/PTTC Activities

- Conduct post-treatment build-ups on same 7 wells.
  - Hope to document how reservoir changes after treatment.
- Sponsor operator forum for those operators who have pumped jobs.

- Possibly in late January 2003.

• Put gel polymer database online.