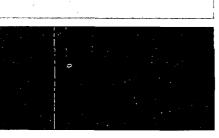


Central Vacuum Unit & Vacu Grayburg San Andres Unit – earing to modify Injection (



BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Consolidated Case No.'s 14401 & 14402 Exhibit No.
Submitted by:
CHEVRON U.S.A. INC.
Hearing Date: December 3, 2009 Exhibit No. 1

### CVU & VGSAU Three Parts to the Hearing Application



- Applying to amend current injection orders in 3 areas:
- Injection well completion requirements: reason injectors approved by District don't comply with current injection orders (casing/tubing annulus can't be monitored) 9
- <u>'</u>2 Injection packer setting requirements: reason - desire ability to set inj packer higher but still within unitized interval
- <u>ω</u> Verbiage around maximum CO<sub>2</sub> injection pressure: reason-desire to reference avg maximum BH injection pressure rather than maximum surface inj pressure in order to respond to reduced injection iid density

#### standard verbiage **CVU & VGSAU Injection Orders**



tubing installed in a packer set within approximately 100 feet of the uppermost injection determine leakage in the casing, tubing or packer. a gauge or approved leak-detection device shall be attached to the annulus in order to perforations or casing shoe; the casing-tubing annulus shall be filled with an inert fluid and WAG injection operations shall be accomplished through internally coated

at the current maximum surface injection pressure, provided however, such pressure may be maximum surface injection pressure for water is less than 1500 psi (as shown on applicant's the current maximum surface injection pressure for water, provided however, such CO; to inject CO2 and produced gases at a maximum surface injection pressure of 350 psi above in the fracturing of the injection formation or confining strata, and shall be further authorized administratively increased by the Division upon a showing that such increase will not result Exhibit No. 12), the applicant is hereby authorized to inject water into each of these wells injection shall not occur at a surface injection pressure in excess of 1850 psi For those injection wells within the "EOR Project Area" whose current W

internally coated tubing installed >> a packer set within approximately 100 feet of the uppermost injection perforations or casing shoe; the casing-tubing annulus shall be filled annulus in order to determine leakage in the casing, tubing or packer. with an inert fluid and a gauge or approved leak-detection device shall be attached to the Enhanced tertiary injection operations shall be accomplished through 

by the Division upon a showing that such increase will not result in the fracturing of the injection pressure in excess of 1850 psi. Such pressure may be administratively increased provided however, such CO2 and produced gas injection may not occur at a surface pressure of 350 psi above the current maximum surface injection pressure for water, result in the fracturing of the injection formation or confining strata. The applicant is administratively increased by the Division upon a showing that such increase will not maximum surface injection pressure, provided however, such pressure may be applicant is hereby authorized to inject water into each of these wells at the current with a current maximum surface injection pressure for water of less than 1500 psi, the injection formation or confining strata. further authorized to inject CO2 and produced gases at a maximum surface injection For those injection wells within the enhanced oil tertiary recovery project

 $\mathbb{Q}$ 

# 1) Injection well completion requirements



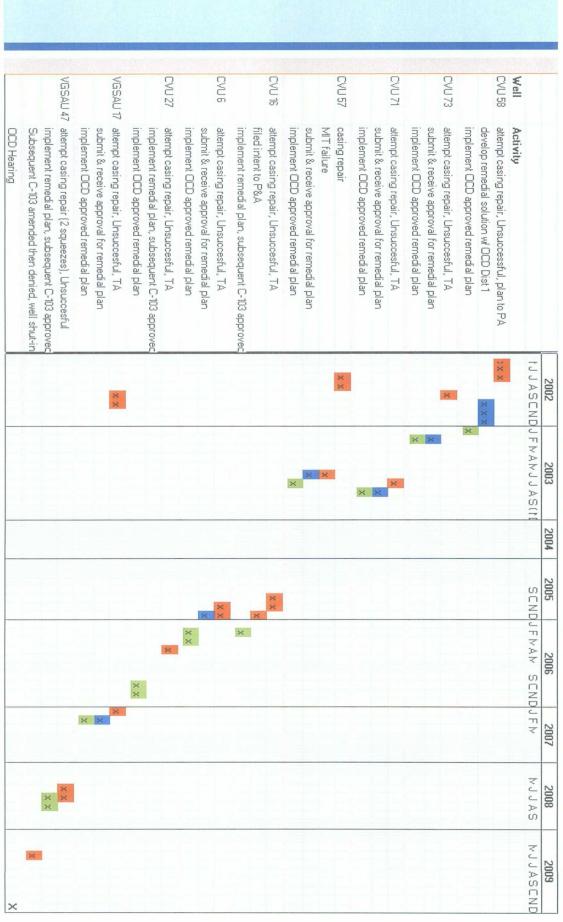
a gauge or approved leak-detection device shall be attached to the annulus in order to the casing-tubing annulus shall be filled with an inert fluid and determine leakage in the casing, tubing or packer."

- ☐ Issue around injectors with tubing cemented in place first surfaced in late May, 2009 with VGSAU 47
- CVU 58 First well remediated this way (2003) after 7 unsuccessful squeeze attempts, CVX and OCD District supervisor met and developed remedial plan and District personnel approved this plan and all subsequent C103's until the VGSAU 47
- OCD Santa Fe (7/15/09) conveyed position that OCD District offices "aren't authorized to grant a variation that violates an OCD order"
- Recent research found a total of 9 New Mexico Chevron injectors completed this way, all at Vacuum following CVU #58

S

#### Chevron - Vacuum Field Cemented Tubing Timeline





#### Losing wellbores Remedial Options & Consequence of



#### ☐ Remedial Options

- 0 Due to the existing string size (7 wells - 2 7/8" and 2 wells - 2 3/8") remedial options are limited & would reduce injection by ~50% and are prohibitively costly
- 0 Chevron invested >\$1.0MM remediating these wells per OCD District office approved plans

## Consequences of Losing wellbores

- 0 Losing the use of these wellbores would result in a loss of  ${\sim}485$  BOPD, 2,210 MBO proved reserves
- 0 Loss of ~\$19MM in State revenue at \$70 BBL
- 0  $\sim \!\!\! \$15 \text{MM}$  cost to replace 9 wells. Due to economic and budgetary constraints most wells would not likely be replaced.

#### Proposal to Assess & Verify Mechanical Integrity of Injection Wells With **Cemented Tubing**



- ☐ Test wells to prove mechanical integrity at 5 times the currently required OCD frequency via annual blanking plug tests.
- ☐ Monitor for changes in the inj rate versus inj pressure data daily with SCADA
- Generate alarms prompting human response & evaluation
- Valid alarms will require shut in
- Will not resume injection until MIT is confirmed
- ☐ Proposed approach fully complies with EPA UIC requiations
- Approved method in other jurisdictions

### 2) EPA 40 CFR 146.8



### § 146.8 Mechanical integrity.

- (a) An injection well has mechanical integrity if:
- (1) There is no significant leak in the casing, tubing or packer, and
- casing, tubing or packer, and
  (2) There is no significant fluid movement into an underground source of
  drinking water through vertical channels adjacent to the injection well
  bore.
- (b) One of the following methods must be used to evaluate the absence of significant leaks under paragraph (a)(1) of this section:
- (1) Following an initial pressure test, monitoring of the tubing-casing annulus pressure with sufficient frequency to be representative, as determined by the Director, while maintaining an annulus pressure different from atmospheric pressure measured at the surpheric pressure measured at the sur-

- (2) Pressure test with liquid or gas; or
- (3) Records of monitoring showing the absence of significant changes in the relationship between injection pressure and injection flow rate for the following Class II enhanced recovery wells:
- (i) Existing wells completed without a packer provided that a pressure test has been performed and the data is available and provided further that one pressure test shall be performed at a time when the well is shut down and if the running of such a test will not cause further loss of significant amounts of oil or gas; or
- (ii) Existing wells constructed without a long string casing, but with surface casing which terminates at the

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## **Current Operational Overview**

- Aging infrastructure
- Varied construction and maintenance practices
- Corrosive fluids and gases
- ☐ Historical legacy events
- Significant exposure in total fluid production, transportation and processing
- 300,000 BPD Total Fluid
- 225,000 MCFD
- Systematic elimination of undesirable events

0

- Standards in design
- Facility consolidations and reconstruction
- Flowline inspections and testing
- Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) deployment and leak detection development
- Trunk line evaluation, testing and inspection

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## **Current Operational Overview**



- Secondary and Tertiary floods
- Wells range in age up to 70 years old
- 140 injectors (CVU & VGSAU), 57 in CO<sub>2</sub> service
- Data acquisition

SCADA deployed in late 1980s

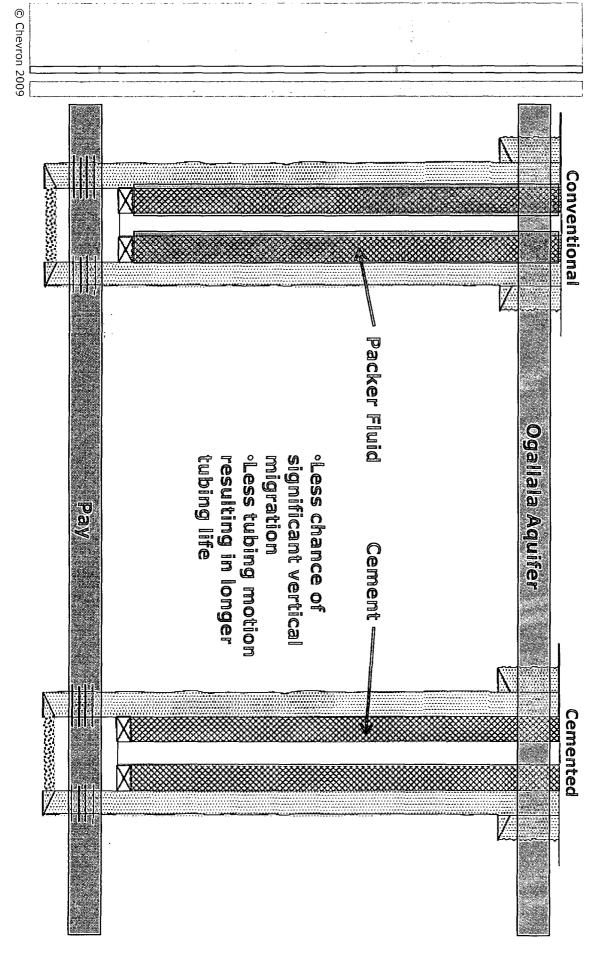
- 0 Limited control
- Currently assess mechanical integrity by:
- Monitor annular pressure monthly
- 0 Annual OCD witnessed Braidenhead testing
- 5 year OCD witnessed MIT

### **Cemented in Place** Chevron - Vacuum Wells With Tubing



				Cemented		
well Location	tion Surface csg	Prod csg size &	Tubing size &	tubing	₹.	2009 tubing MIT test
name (S-T-R)	-R) size & depth	depth	depth	date	Packer?	results
-	8 5/8" @ 405	4 1/2" @ 4800'	2 7/8" DL @ 4281'			10/9 - tested to 2500
CVU 58 36-179	36-17S-34E circ cement	circ cement	circ cement	Jan-03	yes	psi with good chart
	9 5/8" @ 409	4 1/2" @ 4800'	2 7/8" DL @ 4281'			10/21 - tested to 2000
CVU 73 36-179	36-17S-34E circ cement	circ cement	circ cement	Feb-03	yes	psi with good chart
	8 5/8" @ 399	4 1/2" @ 4800'	2 7/8" DL @ 4289'			10/14 - tested to 1750
CVU 71 36-179	36-17S-34E circ cement	circ cement	circ cement	Aug-03	yes	psi with good chart
	8 5/8" @ 396	4 1/2" @ 4800'	2 7/8" DL @ 4204'		:	10/9 - tested to 2500
CVU 57 36-179	36-17S-34E circ cement	circ cement	circ cement	Sep-03	yes	psi with good chart
	8 5/8" @ 413	4 1/2" @ 4870"	2 7/8" FL @ 4345'			10/9 - tested to 2500
CVU 16 30-179	30-17S-35E TOC @ 11'	circ cement	circ cement	Feb-06	yes	psi with good chart
7.	8 5/8" @ 410	4 1/2" @ 4830'	2 7/8" FL @ 4396'			10/9 - tested to 2500
CVU 6 30-179	30-17S-35E circ cement	circ cement	circ cement	Mar-06	yes	psi with good chart
	8 5/8" @ 420	4 1/2" @ 4800'	2 3/8" FL @ 4341'			10/12 - tested to 2000
CVU 27 25-179	25-17S-34E circ cement	circ cement	circ cement	Nov-06	yes	psi with good chart
	8 5/8" @ 364	4 1/2" @ 4800'	2 3/8" FL @ 4319'			10/12 - tested to 2000
VGSAU 17 2-18S-34E	34E circ cement	TOC @ 2706'	circ cement	Feb-07	yes	psi with good chart
	8 5/8" @ 355	4 1/2" @ 4800'	2 7/8" FL @ 4204'			10/14 - tested to 2000
VGSAU 47 2-18S-34E	34E circ cement	TOC @ 2460'	circ cement	Jul-08	yes	psi with good chart

### Wellbore Comparison





### **Mechanical Integrity Testing**



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- Rigged up pump truck and flushed tubing with fresh water
- Rig up Slick Line Unit and run in hole with gauge ring to profile nipple verifying no restrictions.
- Run in hole with blanking plug on slick line. Set plug in profile nipple
- Opened well to pump truck to bleed off pressure on tubing to verify plug is set (tubing pressure bleed off to zero)
- Perform pressure test of tubing. Test pressure varied. Initial wells were tested at 2500 PSI. Reduced targeted test pressure to 2000 PSI.
- ☐ Ran charts to document test results.
- Retrieve blanking plug
- Return well to normal operations
- Issues: CO<sub>2</sub> in Tubing – Check Valve Failures – No Local Isolation Valve – Risk of damaging liner or Profile Nipple

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### **\_essons Learned From** Blanking Plug MIT



- Wells that are on  $CO_2$  will need to be wagged to water for several days prior to testing.  $CO_2$  cannot be effectively swept out of the tubing with a single flush
- Test fluid should be fresh water
- Existing wellhead installation will need to be modified to include an isolation valve, figure eight blinds and local bleed off valves on both sides of isolation valve. Modification will eliminate leaking check valve issues that were identified during initial testing.
- Schedule and execute tests of all project wells during same test period to enable efficient utilization of service company and site supervision
- Attempt to schedule same service company personnel with each test.

## **Proposed MIT Test Procedure**



# **NMOCD District Office Notification and Witness Opportunity Required**

0								
Chart the test as per NMOCD process guidance (default will be 24 hour chart and 96 minute clock). Obtain signatures of tester and witnesses.	Perform pressure test of tubing and profile nipple seal to appropriate pressure based on differential pressure and gradient correction.	Open tubing and attempt back flow to pump truck (tubing should bleed off)	Run in hole with blanking plug and set in the profile nipple.	Rig up pump truck and flush the tubing with fresh water. Pump 150% tubing displacement.	Rig up Slick Line Unit and run in hole with appropriate sized gauge ring and bailer. Tag PBTD and document depth to top of fill. Stroke bailer to obtain fill sample.	Close isolation valve and position the figure eight blind in the closed position	Document normal operating injection pressure prior to initiation of test	Ensure well has been on water injection for minimum of five days prior to test date

Return well to normal operations

Return figure eight blind to open position

Retrieve blanking plug

## Typical Injection Header and Programmable Logic Controller





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# Surveillance – Alarm Monitoring – Initial



☐ Daily review of SCADA pressure and flow rate trend da	

- ta for the project wells
- Operating condition inclusion in daily alarm report ("Normal / Alarm")
- Call out alarm if deviation triggers have been exceeded for determined time period not to exceed 24 hours.

#### Alarm Response

- Review trend data with Operations Supervisor (OS) or Production Team Lead (PTL) the same day as alarm is received
- Conduct on sight investigation to verify integrity of measurement equipment (*Priority Level 1 Response ... same as reportable spill to surface*)
- Conduct on sight investigation to identify if surface leak may exist (*Priority Level 1 Response ... same as reportable spill to surface*)
- Shut well in and make notifications to OS if subsurface leak is suspected based upon investigation findings.
- OS will provide notification to NMOCD District office of Possible loss of mechanical integrity (Priority Level 1 Response ... same as reportable spill to surface)
- OS will having blanking plug installed and conduct mechanical integrity as per procedure including NMOCD witness.

### Slimhole injection wells Proposed plugging program - 2 7/8"



- 1. Evaluate and prep location.
- MIRU Sunset Well Service, Inc. plugging equipment. RIH with 2-1/16" workstring and spot cement from original production casing shoe or top perforation to TOC  $\pm 2,700$ ' on original production casing. WOC & TAG, displace hole w/MLF.
- ω RIH w/wireline and perforate 100' below Base of Salt. POH w/wireline. Establish injection rate. Cement squeeze 200' inside 2-7/8" liner and 200' outside original production casing. WOC & TAG.
- 4 RIH w/wireline and perforate 100' below Top of Salt. POH w/wireline. Establish injection rate. Cement squeeze 200' inside 2-7/8" liner and 200' outside original production casing. WOC & TAG.
- <u>.</u> RIH w/wireline and perforate 100' below surface casing shoe. POH w/wireline. Establish injection rate. Cement squeeze from surface and circulate cement to surface outside original production casing.
- <u>ა</u> RDMO Sunset Well Service, Inc. plugging equipment
- Install dryhole marker, clean location and turnover for surface remediation operations.

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### Slimhole injection wells Proposed plugging program - 2 3/8"



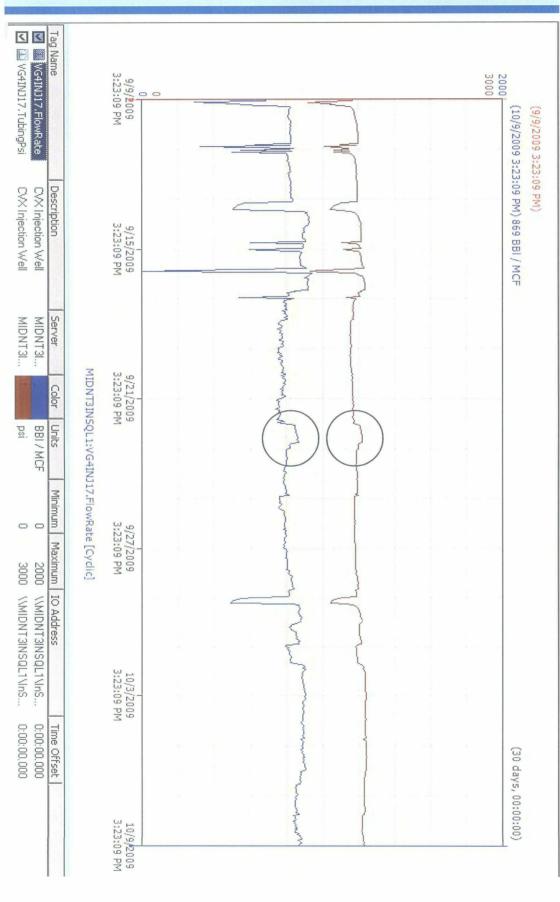
- Evaluate and prep location.
- MIRU CTU. RIH w/1-1/4" CT and spot cement plug from original production casing shoe or top perforation to TOC  $\pm 2,700$ ' on original production casing. WOC & TAG, displace hole w/MLF.
- က Pressure test 2-3/8" liner to 2,000 psig. RDMO CTU. MIRU Sunset Well Service, Inc. plugging equipment.
- 4. RIH w/wireline and perforate 100' below Base of Salt. POH w/wireline. Establish injection rate. Cement squeeze 200' inside 2-3/8" liner and 200' outside original production casing. WOC & TAG.
- <u>ა</u> RIH w/wireline and perforate 100' below Top of Salt. POH w/wireline. Establish injection rate. Cement squeeze 200' inside 2-3/8" liner and 200' outside original production casing. WOC & TAG.
- g RIH w/wireline and perforate 100' below surface casing shoe. POH w/wirleline. Establish injection rate. Cement squeeze from surface and circulate cement to surface outside original production casing.
- RDMO Sunset Well Service, Inc. plugging equipment.
- Install dryhole marker, clean location and turnover for surface remediation operations.

NOTE: If 2-3/8" liner does not test and requires cement squeeze or cement spot plug then work will be done w/1-1/4" jointed tubing.

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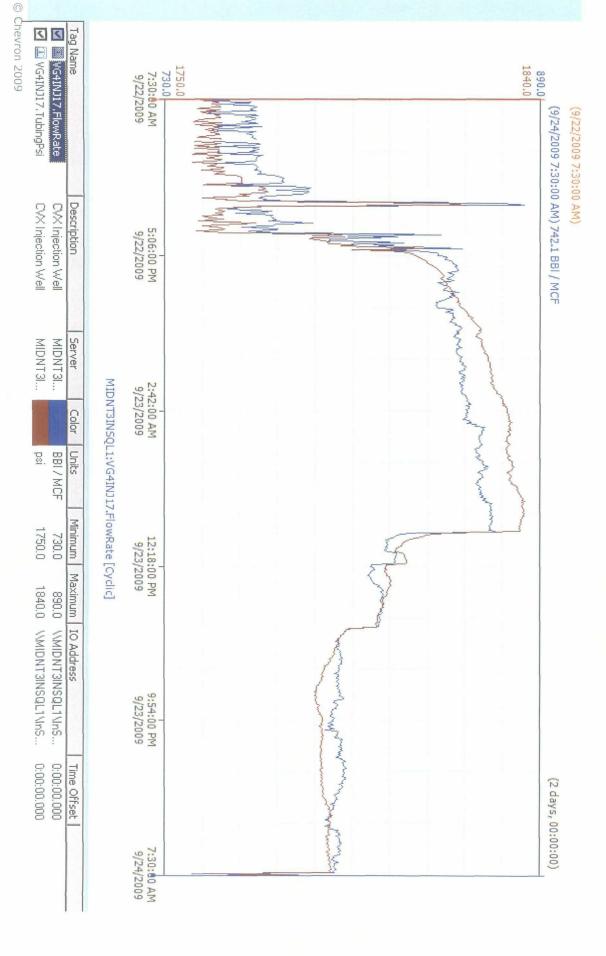
# VGSAU 17 30 Day Rate and Pressure





## VGSAU 17 2 Day Rate and Pressure

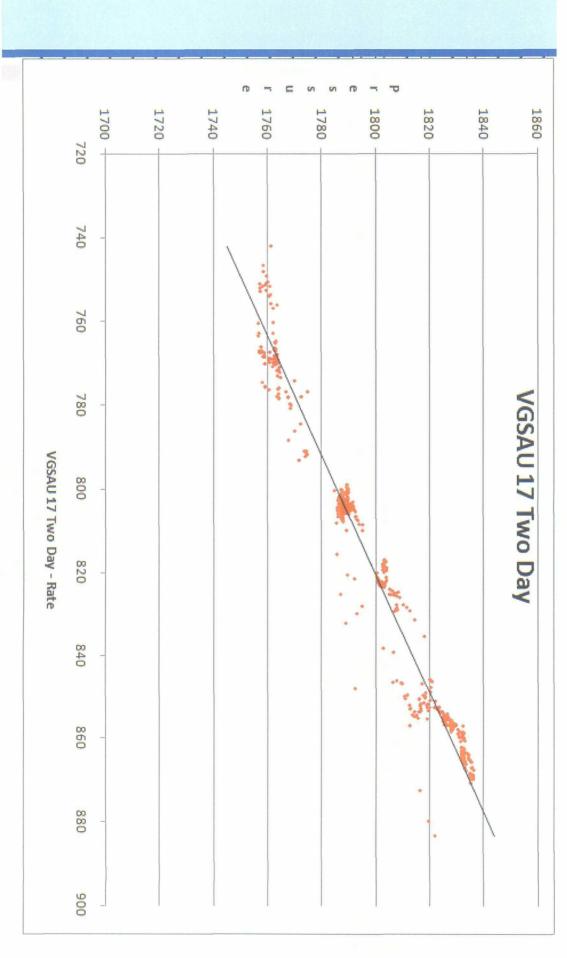




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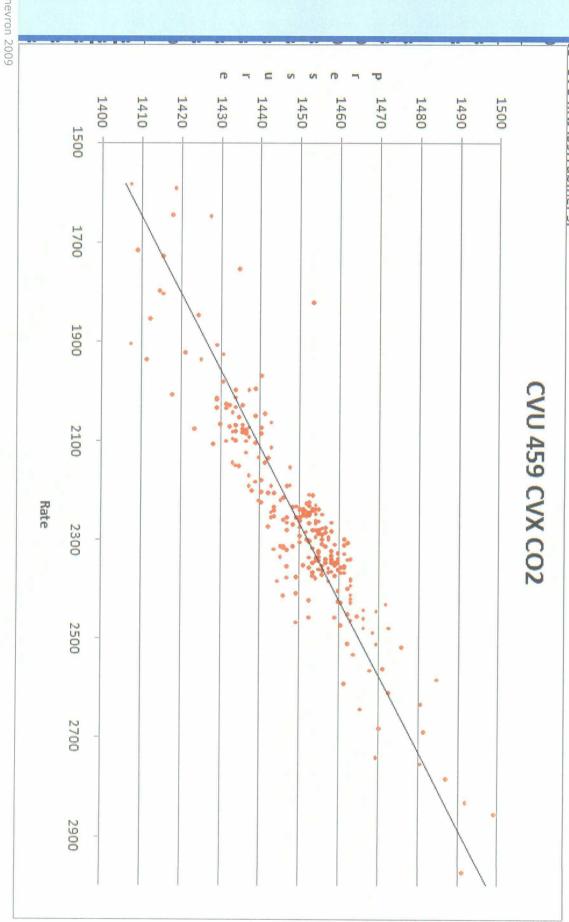
# **VGSAU 17 2 Day Rate Versus Pressure**





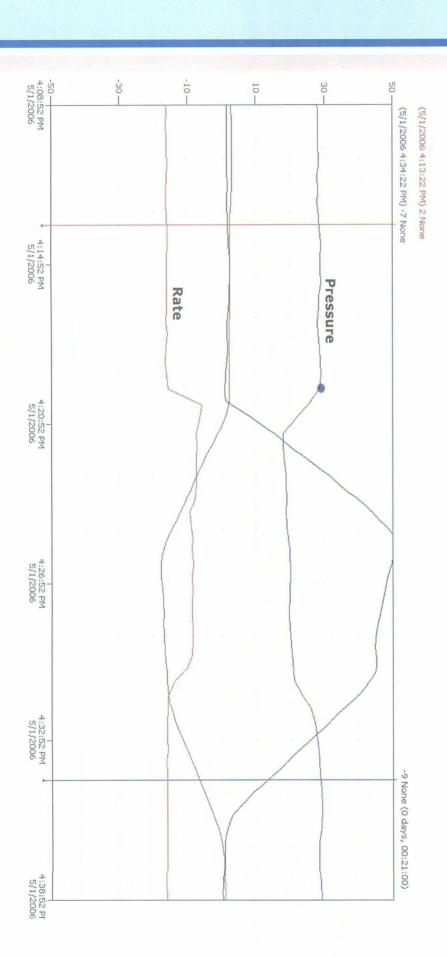
# CVU 459 2 Day Rate Versus Pressure





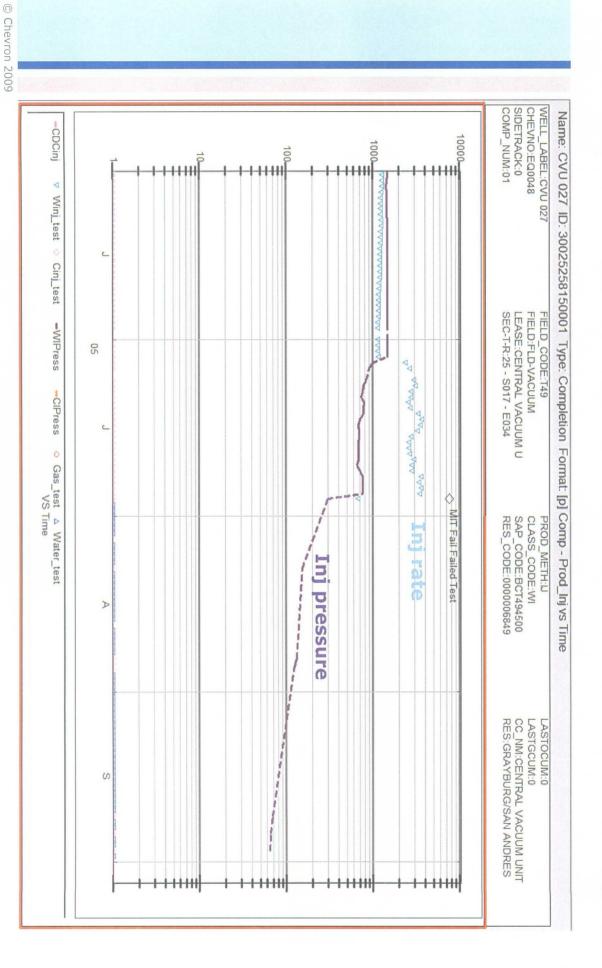
## Typical Leak Profile Rate Rising – Pressure Falling





#### CVU 27 MIT Failed





# 2) Injection packer setting requirements



perforations or easing shoe; " tubing installed in a packer set within approximately 100 feet of the uppermost injection "WAG injection operations shall be accomplished through internally coated

- Unce an injection packer is released for remedial actions, we often can't regain a packer seat at the same depth due to corrosion, must reset packer higher: This often requires the packer to be greater than the approved "100' of top perf"
- As a result, practical practice has evolved to the Operator shutting down operations, contacting the District office and asking for a waiver, which are commonly granted (verbal or written).
- This delay costs time & money and based on July 15th Santa Fe communication the District offices can't approve anyway

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### high packers 2) Chevron CVU & VGSAU wells with



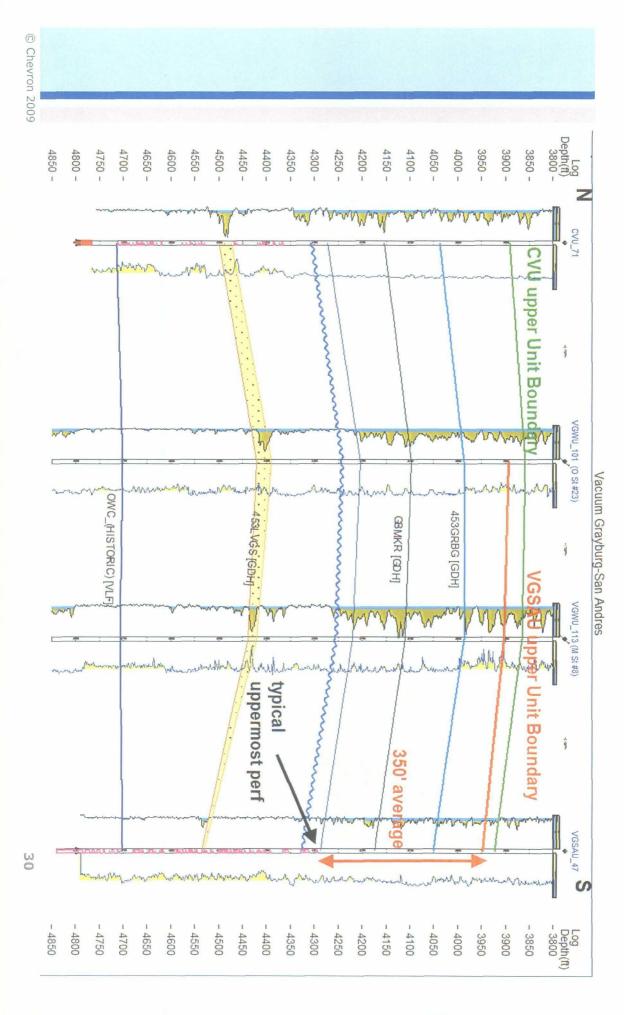
VGSAU 233	VGSAU 148	VGSAU 65	VGSAU 60	VGSAU 59	VGSAU 45	VGSAU 34	VGSAU 31	VGSAU 30	VGSAU 29	VGSAU 19	VGSAU 15	VGSAU 14	VGSAU 4	CVU 160	CVU 158	CVU 156	CVU 155	CVU 146	CVU 134	CVU 133	CVU 115	CVU 93	CVU 83	CVU 82	CVU 70	CVU 56	CVU 46	CVU 31	CVU 28	CVU 14	well	
233 105	148 101	65 121	60 106	59 121	45 193	34 165	31 212	30 252	29 164	19 211	15 294	14 103	4 123	0 104		5 102	5 285	6 120	4 190	3 165	5 193	118	121	143	103	151	121	108	139	136	top perf	Packer height above
							The state of the s					The state of the s																			er -	
297	213	288	299	228	207	208	126	96	218	270	106	202	256	358	198	369	184	352	296	376	283	270	310	317	397	332	373	341	406	442	packer	Unit top height above

□ 31 wells with packers>100' above top perfor casing shoe

□ 38 more injectors with packer from 75′ to 100′ above top perf; next well work will likely result in packer being >100′ above top perf.

#### **Unit Boundaries** 2) Vacuum Field **N-S Cross Section with**





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# 2) Injection packer setting requirements



perforations or easing shoe; " tubing installed in a packer set within approximately 100 feet of the uppermost injection WAG injection operations shall be accomplished through internally coated

- □ Since CVU & VGSAU upper Unit boundaries are ~350′ above top perf, propose to amend verbiage to allow setting the injection packer "as close as possible to the uppermost". injection perforations or casing shoe, so long as it remains within the unitized interval"
- This change will still fully protect other formations and correlative rights
- Fed UIC regulations do not limit injection packer setting depths, they even allow injection without a packer

### 2) EPA 40 CFR 146.8



### § 146.8 Mechanical integrity.

- (a) An injection well has mechanical integrity if:
- (1) There is no significant leak in the casing, tubing or packer; and
- (2) There is no significant fluid movement into an underground source of drinking water through vertical channels adjacent to the injection well bore.
- (b) One of the following methods must be used to evaluate the absence of significant leaks under paragraph (a)(1) of this section:
- (1) Following an initial pressure test, monitoring of the tubing-casing annulus pressure with sufficient frequency to be representative, as determined by the Director, while maintaining an annulus pressure different from atmospheric pressure measured at the surface.

- (2) Pressure best with liquid or gas;
- (3) Records of monitoring showing the absence of significant changes in the relationship between injection pressure and injection flow rate for the following Class II enhanced recovery wells:
- a packer provided that a pressure test has been performed and the data is available and provided further that one pressure test shall be performed at a time when the well is shut down and if the running of such a test will not cause further loss of significant amounts of oil or gas; or
- (ii) Existing wells constructed without a long string casing, but with surface casing which terminates at the

# 3) Maximum CO2 injection pressure

and shall be further authorized

injection shall not occur at a surface injection pressure in excess of 1850 psi. the current maximum surface injection pressure for water, provided however, such  $CO_2$ to inject CO<sub>2</sub> and produced gases at a maximum surface injection pressure of 350 psi above



Similar verbiage for our Units would allow Operations to mitigate BHIP drops created by injection stream density reductions due to Hc gas contamination, which greatly reduces our effective BHIP (impact is ~400 psi @ 87% CO2).



# 3) Buckeye Plant Recycle Gas Analysis



MOBILE ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES, INC.

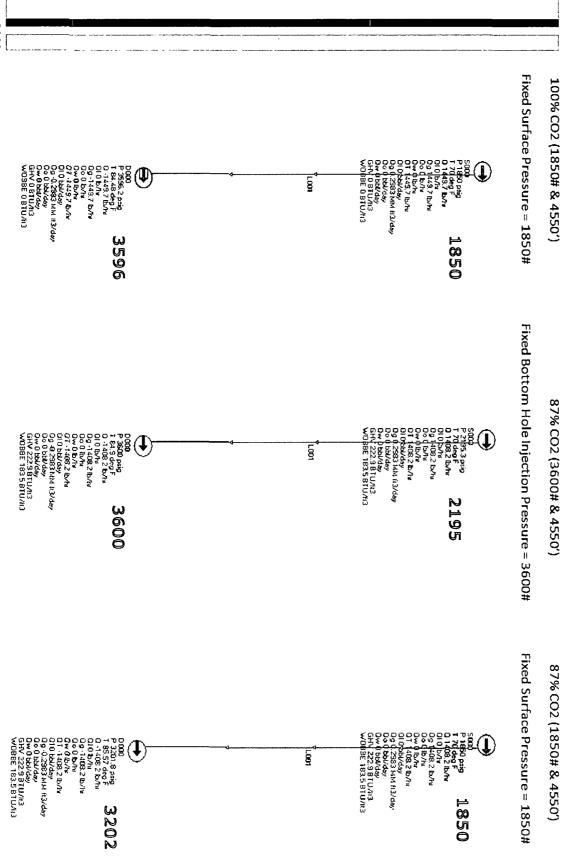
P.O. BOX 69210 ODESSA, TEXAS 79769 PHONE (432)337-4744

#### FRACTIONAL ANALYSIS

DISTRIBUTION: MR. MARK GARNER	CALC. SP.GRAVITY 1.486	TOTALS	H28	HEXANES PLUS	N-PENTAME	ISO-PENTANE	N-BUTANE	ISO-BUTANE	PROPANE	ETHANE	METHANE	CARBON DIOXIDE	NITROGEN		COMPONENT
NOTE	BTU/CU CA CA	100.000	0.415	0.641	0.299	0.294	0.816	0.281	1.726	2.506	4.208	87.032	1.782	1 1 1 1 1 1 1	WOT &
notes :	BTU/CU. FT. [14.650 CALC. GROSS WET CALC. GROSS DRY	2.313	0.000	0.278	0.108	0.107	0.256	0.091	0.473	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	ដ្	GPM
	WET 222 DRY 226	0.493	0.000	0.278	0.108	0.107	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Ç	Маб
	DEG. F)	<b>.</b>	J	_	_	•	_		_						



## 3) Pipephase calculation table





### Recycled CO2 Bottom Hole Pressure



0	ו ס ס	0	
Surface Pressure, Psi	1,850	1,850	2,195
% CO2	100	87	87
Bottom Hole	3,596	3,202	3,600
Pressure, PSI			

the tertiary recovery of hydrocarbons from these Units: with recycled CO2, allowing Chevron to efficiently manage To maintain the desired & permitted bottom hole pressure

- Chevron requests a CO2 average (mid-perf) maximum bottom hole injection pressure of 3600psi,
- pressure to 2200psi (an increase of 350 psi over the or an increase in the maximum surface injection current limit)