Water Disposal in the Upper Elk Point Carbonates under the Athabasca Oil Sands Area, N.E. Alberta, Canada

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Abstract

Water disposal is an essential part of any SAGD project. Understanding the reservoir characteristics is a vital part of drilling, completing and long-term usage of any disposal well. The Upper Elk Point Group carbonates in NE Alberta are suitable water disposal targets but their long and complicated history means that a thorough geological understanding is required to make a successful project. The core display will present a depositional facies model and show examples of subsequent diagenetic overprints that ultimately affect the success of water disposal schemes in the Upper Elk Point Group carbonates.