

Stratigraphic Control of Upper Pondaung Sandstone, Letpando Oil Field

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ABSTRACT

Lepando oil field is located in northernmost part of Salin Sub-Basin of the Central Myanmar Basin. Historically recorded highest flowing rate but short producing time of thick crude oil has been tested and produced in the Letpando area from the Mid-Eocene fluvial Pondaung sandstone reservoir which was encountered by first exploration well in 1974, many appraisal wells (total of 15 wells) drilling were being followed periodically to delineate the reservoir extent during the last 3-4 decades. All wells encountered very high pressure shale in the Yaw Formation before reaching the target Upper Pondaung reservoir and drilled with high density mud to overcome it. Wells are permitted run only a basic log suite in that condition. Well condition also leads to poor cement bonding in final casing setting in most of the wells. MOGE also discovered lighter oil potential prospects in shallower depths in consequence, the Lower Oligocene Shwezettaw Formation (SZT) sandstone which is more favorable and gave priority to develop commercially in later stages. Intensive infill wells were located mainly for SZT sandstone target for major production today. Last attempt of Upper Pondaung targeted wells was drilled successfully with high mud weight in 2012, but testing results show only formation water flowing with high pressure.