

Carper Sandstone Potential in the Illinois Basin, James Blumthal, Independent Consultant, Olney, IL 62450, jblumthal@wabash.net

The Carper Sandstone has been a moderate producer in the Illinois Basin over the last 50 years. Previous production has been limited to 12 fields along the Mattoon-Louden-Salem trend of the western Fairfield Basin and minor areas on the LaSalle Anticline. Review of regional trends of sand development indicate potential for additional exploration in these areas. The sample database of the Illinois Geological Survey is an excellent source of well cuttings from old dry holes that may indicate production potential. This play may provide for significant activity in the future of the Illinois Basin.