

# **Unconventional Overview: The Impact on Emerging Shales of the Evolution of Operational and Reservoir Practices in the Barnett and Fayetteville Shale**

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## **Introduction**

As our industry increasingly focuses on shale gas plays, we can benefit substantially from our emerging plays by integrating the lessons learned in the original shale gas plays to minimize risks, costs, and time to development. For example, consider that over the past decade, Barnett Shale operators managed to increase the amount of natural gas extractable from a given section of land on average by a factor of over 5 times. Similarly, in just the past few years, Fayetteville Shale operators have increased natural gas production rates by a factor of over 3 times.

## **Presentation Description**

Operational and reservoir evaluation practices in US shale gas plays have evolved substantially over the past several years. This presentation will:

1. Provide a detailed overview of the evolution and impact of past and current operational and evaluation practices in the Barnett and Fayetteville Shales
2. Suggest how we can utilize those practices to enhance our understanding of the most effective life-cycle operational planning and evaluation skills needed to maximize value from an emerging shale gas play.

## **Application**

Enhanced operational planning and reservoir management throughout the life cycle of an emerging shale gas play to maximize value creation.

## **Conclusion**

Operational practices in the Barnett and Fayetteville Shales have undergone considerable change over time and are observed to adapt to the stage of development. Applying these best practices early in the life of any emerging shale opportunity could reduce risk and maximize value creation.