

SUI GAS FIELD - A CASE HISTORY

Suhail Qadeer and Nusrat K. Siddiqui

Pakistan Petroleum Limited

The Sui Gas Field is located in the Balochistan Province about 50 miles north-north-east of the town of Khairpur. The field was discovered, by Pakistan Petroleum Limited in 1952, as a result of drilling over an exposed anticline. It was the first major gas discovery in Pakistan and remains the largest with reserves over 9.0 Tscf (0.255 Tscm). Commercial production commenced in 1955 at a rate of about 35 MMscfd (1.0 MMscmd). As the demand for the gas increased, the production rate was enhanced by development drilling. A total of 86 wells have been drilled on the structure so far. By mid 80s Sui was capable of delivering at a maximum rate of about 850 MMscfd (24 million cubic meters per day). The field is producing gas from two reservoirs i.e. Sui Main Limestone (SML) and Sui Upper Limestone (SUL). A gradual decrease in the pressure of the SML Reservoir necessitated installation of compression facilities to maintain the flow rate at contractual pressure. The field compression facilities were commissioned in 1986. The compression facilities for the SUL have been commissioned during 1997-98. It is currently planned to enhance the compression capacity at Sui field by installing second stage compression to increase the plateau period and the ultimate gas recovery. The gas discovery at Sui has played a major role in the development of all phases of the natural gas infrastructure in Pakistan and has provided an essential resource for the industrial growth .