

Gas-Over-Bitumen: Where Are We Going?

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Summary

The EUB made a series of decisions in the late 1990's and early 2000's that lead to the shut-in of various associated natural gas pools. These decisions concluded that production of associated gas would negatively impact SAGD production of bitumen. Arguably, the Board did not fully address the impact that bitumen production could have on shut-in natural gas pools such as the evolution of water, carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulphide from bitumen steam chambers, or the repressurization of depleted pools by the bitumen owner. This presentation will discuss recent interventions by associated gas owners opposing SAGD applications and possible outcomes if these matters were addressed by the ERCB in a public hearing.

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