

Recognizing Potential in the Bitumen Saturated Dolostones of the Upper Devonian Nisku Formation Through Comparison with the Grosmont Formation

A.J. MacNeil¹, J. Russel-Houston¹ and K.A.Gray¹

¹*Osum Oil Sands*

Abstract

The Grosmont – Upper Ireton – Nisku Devonian succession in northeastern Alberta is estimated to contain 508 billion bbl (80.8·10⁹ m³) of bitumen. Pilot testing of the Grosmont is demonstrating the commercial production potential of these reservoirs, which stand to become some of the largest carbonate fields in the world. Comparison of Grosmont reservoir characteristics with Nisku reservoir characteristics, using two selected core intervals, reveals a number of important similarities and differences that are important to understand when evaluating Nisku potential.