

Devonian Karst Aquifer Induced Vertical fluidization Structures in Lower McMurray Formation (Aptian) Deposits of the Northern Athabasca Oil Sands

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Abstract

Episodic salt dissolution collapse structuring of the central Bitumont trough during and prior to accumulation of lower McMurray Formation (Aptian) strata induced ascent of the Middle Devonian karst aquifer into overlying Upper Devonian strata. These flows fingered upward along the collapse-fracture network that cross-cut the Upper Devonian strata underlying the central