

A New Approach to Optimizing Recovery PRTISP Process

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Abstract

PRTISP technology is a combination of four known heavy oil recovery processes:

- **Steam flooding:** Steam flooding is a commercially de-veloped process for heavy oil recovery.
- **Gas injection:** Gas injection is also a commercially de-veloped process but for light oil recovery; here, it is combined with steam injection in a TTH configuration, to enhance steam flood efficiency.
- **Pulse technology:** The pulse technology has been vali-dated for light and medium oils with oil viscosities up to a few hundred centipoises. It has a starting point in the ability of earthquakes to increase oil production; at this time it is almost a commercial method for stimulation of light oil reservoirs production in which no gas injection took place. It is not proven yet for very heavy oils. (Dr. Peter Roberts, Las Alamos National Laboratory.
- **Toe-to-heel short distance oil displacement:** Toe-to-heel displacement configuration has been validated through a 2.5-year successful field piloting of the Toe-to-Heel Air Injection (THAI) process by Petrobank Energy and Resources; it is not commercially validated yet.