

Conservation of Associated Gas in Southeastern Saskatchewan (A Research Study for the Ministry of the Economy)

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Abstract

Facilities that produce crude oil in Southeast (SE) Saskatchewan often produce associated gas that is rich in natural gas liquids. Due to the lack of gathering or processing facilities in the area, it was well known that on a regional basis a significant amount of this valuable resource was being wasted. In order to characterize the extent of the practice by producers in the area to flare and vent this associated gas and to identify options to conserve this non-renewable resource, the Government of Saskatchewan commissioned a research study in the fall of 2012. This study, which looked at the emissions of each facility in the area, was completed by the author in March 2013.

In addition to the economic loss associated with the venting and flaring practices by producers, the Government of Saskatchewan is presented with the accompanying environmental, public safety and health issues. The study summarizes the dimension of the gas flaring and venting issue in SE Saskatchewan, the opportunities and challenges that this issue presents, as well as some management strategies and options..

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