How to Drill a Well and Get It on Production

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Abstract

The Saskatchewan portion of the Williston Basin has been a prime beneficiary of the use of new technology over its history, bringing overall production volumes from virtually nil when the first commercial oilwell was discovered at Lloydminster in 1943, to over 432,000 barrels of oil per day in 2011. This talk presents a step-by-step pictorial view on what it takes to drill, complete and equip a well for production in southeastern Saskatchewan, including a review of some of the new and novel technologies that are now routinely used to unlock new production from previously unexploited reservoirs like the Bakken and Torquay formations. Topics discussed will include lease construction, rig moves, rig-up, the horizontal drilling process, completion of a well, equipping a well for production, and the costs associated with getting a well ready to produce. This presentation targets an audience unfamiliar with the processes involved in drilling a well, and is intended to provide an overview for the general public.

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