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Plug and abandonment practices and trends: A British Columbia perspective

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We present a review of Plug and Abandonment (P&A) practices in onshore wells, with a particular focus on British Columbia (BC). Regulatory and operational practices are reviewed as well as data on the wells of BC. This data set (of approximately 25,000 wells) has wider significance as it consists most recently of pad-drilled unconventional gas wells, with significant horizontal extent, multi-stage fractured. The oldest of these wells and other vertical/deviated well stock are currently being abandoned. The data reveals a large wave of abandonments coming in the next decade and a significant increase in reported Surface Casing Vent Flow (SCVF) over the past decade, which will lead to rising P&A costs.

Speaker Biography

Majid Bizhani was awarded with Ph.D. in petroleum engineering from the University of Alberta in Canada. He is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the University of British Columbia. Majid's research experience and interests are closely related to different aspects of Drilling & Completion engineering. He studied hole cleaning during his Ph.D. and M.Sc. studies. For the past two years, Majid has been working on projects related to wellbore cementing. Primary cementing is his main research area; however, he is also actively engaged in research pertaining to Plug & Abandonment activities.

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