# Middle Bakken Play Technical Problems and Questions Possible Solutions



**Lynn D. Helms NDIC Dept. of Mineral Resources** 



Julie A. LeFever North Dakota Geological Survey

- A little girl complained to her mom that her stomach hurt really bad.
- Her mom told her that was because it was empty and she had to put something in it to make it stop hurting.
- She had a snack and her stomach ache went away.
- That night her mother's boss and his wife came over for dinner.
- Before they sat down to eat the boss complained that he must be getting sick. His head was killing him.
- The little girl told her mom's boss, "My mom says that's because your head is empty. You have to put something in it to make it quit hurting."

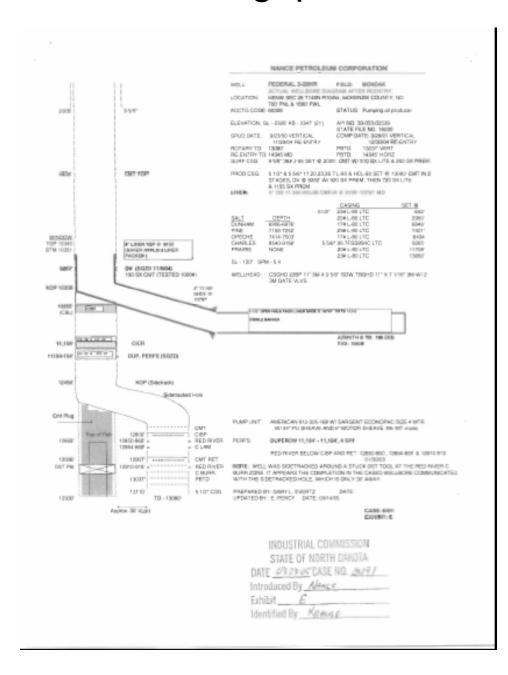
## Non-confidential Drilling Results to Date

- Ten (10) wells total
- Single lateral Open hole re-entry (1)
- Re-Entry Open hole Lodgepole liner uncemented (1)
- Dual lateral OH or perforated liners Lodgepole liner uncemented
   (4)
  - Proppant fractured (3), Unstimulated (1)
- Single lateral Perforated liner (4)
- Dual lateral Co-planar Perforated liners (0)

## Non-confidential Drilling Results to Date

- Single lateral Open hole re-entry (1)
  - IP 332 BO / 34 BW / 95 MCFD
  - Proppant Fractured almost immediately
    - 87 BO / 146 BW / 150 MCFD
  - Current 43 BO / 10 BW / 89 MCFD
  - 25,000 cumulative BO
  - Breakeven at \$22/BO
  - Problems and Questions
    - 1<sup>st</sup> ND attempt marginally successful
    - Hole stability in upper shale?
    - Proppant fracture growth into Lodgepole?

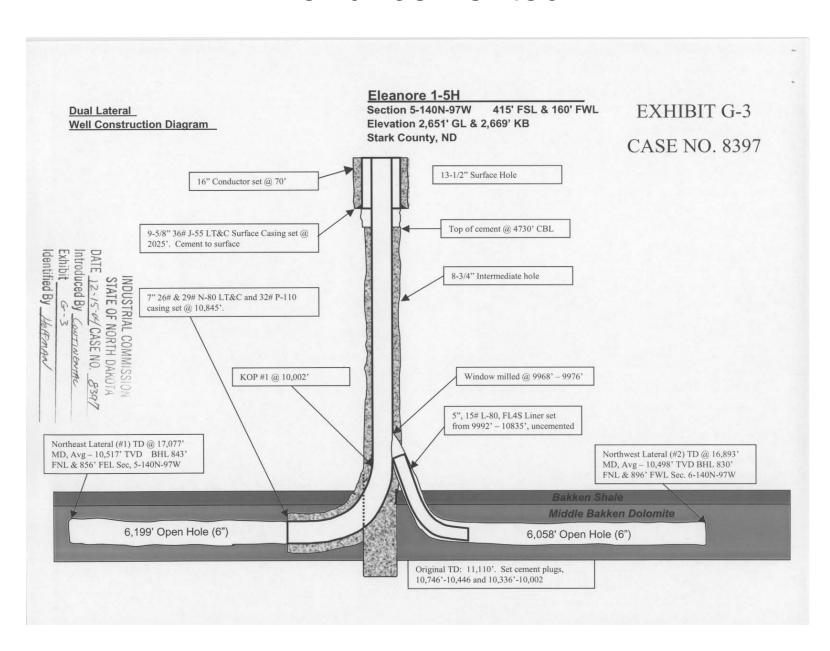
### Re-Entry – Open hole – Lodgepole liner uncemented



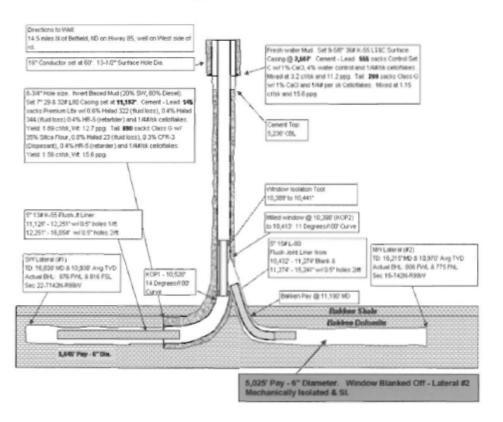
## Non-confidential Drilling Results to Date

- Re-Entry Open hole Lodgepole liner uncemented
  - IP 263 BO / 0 BW / 177 MCFD
  - Proppant Fractured after 4 months and 19,000 BO
    - 304 BO / 0 BW / 172 MCFD
  - Current 304 BO / 0 BW / 172 MCFD
  - 23,000 cumulative BO
  - Problems and Questions
    - This worked!
    - Liner maintained hole stability?
    - Liner hanger packer kept proppant fracture in zone?
    - Pressure drawdown kept proppant fracture in zone?
    - Good rock?

## Dual lateral - OH or perforated liners – Lodgepole liner uncemented



#### CONSTRUCTION DIAGRAM LOGOSZ 44X-15



INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

DATE 03-23-05CASE NO. 84//
Introduced By Herrows Tom
Exhibit G

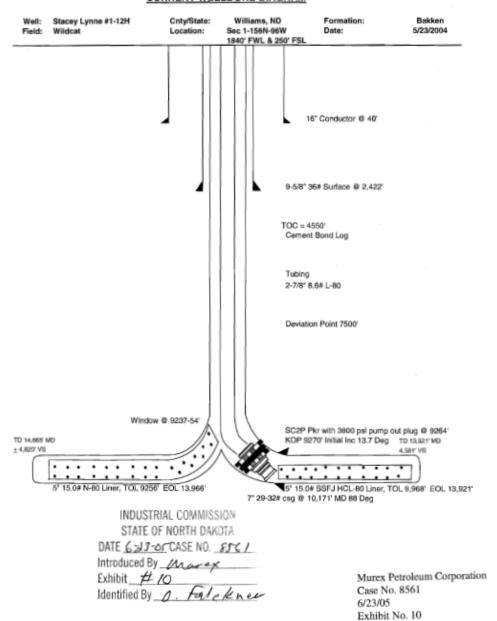
Identified By Tim Lesinger

HEADINGTON Identified By Tim LEGHALE EXHIBIT 6

## Non-confidential Drilling Results to Date

- Dual lateral OH or perforated liners Lodgepole liner uncemented
  - IP 51 BO / 171 BW / 44 MCFD
  - Proppant Fractured immediately to after 1 month
    - 134 BO / 179 BW / 125 MCFD
  - Current 32 BO / 37 BW / 72 MCFD
  - 11,000 cumulative BO
  - Breakeven at \$45/BO
  - Problems and Questions
    - This has not worked!
    - Liner maintains hole stability?
    - Proppant fracture growth into Lodgepole?
      - One well has water salinity and H<sub>2</sub>S indicative of Mission Canyon
      - 2 wells have isolated the lateral the uncemented through the Lodgepole leg (what to do with spacing?)
    - Only the best rock and more pressure drawdown to keep prop fracture in zone?

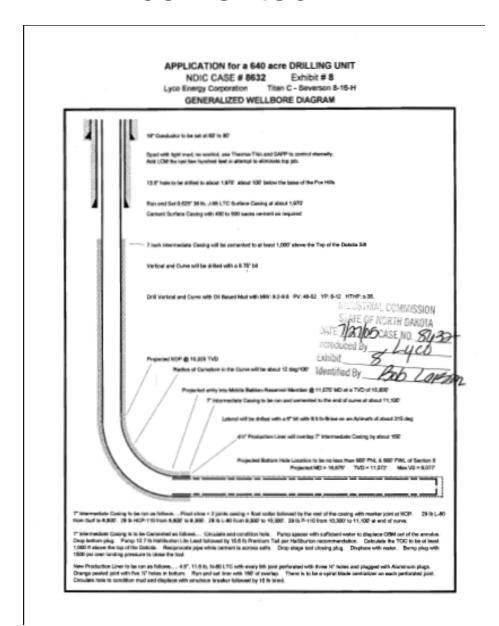
#### CURRENT WELLBORE DIAGRAM



## Non-confidential Drilling Results to Date

- Dual lateral OH or perforated liners Lodgepole liner uncemented
  - IP 463 BO / 12 BW / 512 MCFD
  - Not proppant fractured yet (planned to wait MECHANICAL)
  - Current 172 BO / 0 BW / 166 MCFD
  - 22,000 cumulative BO
  - Breakeven at \$18/BO
  - Problems and Questions
    - This worked (sort of)
    - Liners maintaining hole stability?
    - Complicated mechanically?
    - Good rock?
    - Pressure drawdown may keep proppant fracture in zone?
    - Mechanical problems may prevent proppant fracturing?

## Single lateral - perforated liner – Lodgepole cemented



## Non-confidential Drilling Results to Date

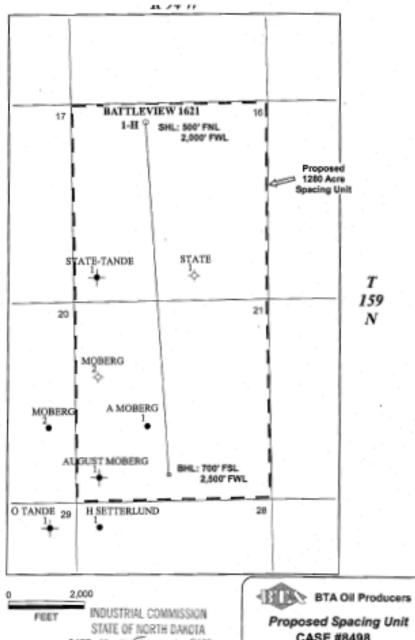
- Single lateral perforated liner Lodgepole cemented
  - IP 275 BO / 107 BW / 264 MCFD
  - Proppant Fractured immediately to after 3 months
    - 179 BO / 110 BW / 183 MCFD
  - Current 83 BO / 20 BW / 126 MCFD
  - 12,000 cumulative BO
  - Breakeven at \$25/BO
  - Problems and Questions
    - This has worked (fairly well)
    - Casing maintains hole and stops fracture growth into Lodgepole?
    - Mechanically simple?
    - Good rock?
    - More pressure drawdown to improve keep proppant fracture in zone?

### Conclusions

- ND bottom hole temperature is higher
- ND is clastic versus carbonate
- ND bottom hole pressure is higher (.50-.58 psi/ft)
- Bakken shale open hole is not stable
- Rock properties (Julie)
  - Naturally fractured
  - Oil wet
  - Swelling and migrating clays

## Planar and Co-planar Designs

- BTA, JMG, Black Rock
  - Long Single lateral 1280
- Murex
  - Coplanar 1280
- Headington, Ansbro, Burlington, Missouri Basin, Stephens
  - Coplanar 1280
- Continental
  - Coplanar 1280
- BR & Denali
  - Coplanar 640
- Nance, Amerada, EOG, Tri-C, Lyco, Hunt, Sam Gary, Headington, Stephens
  - Single lateral and coplanar 640

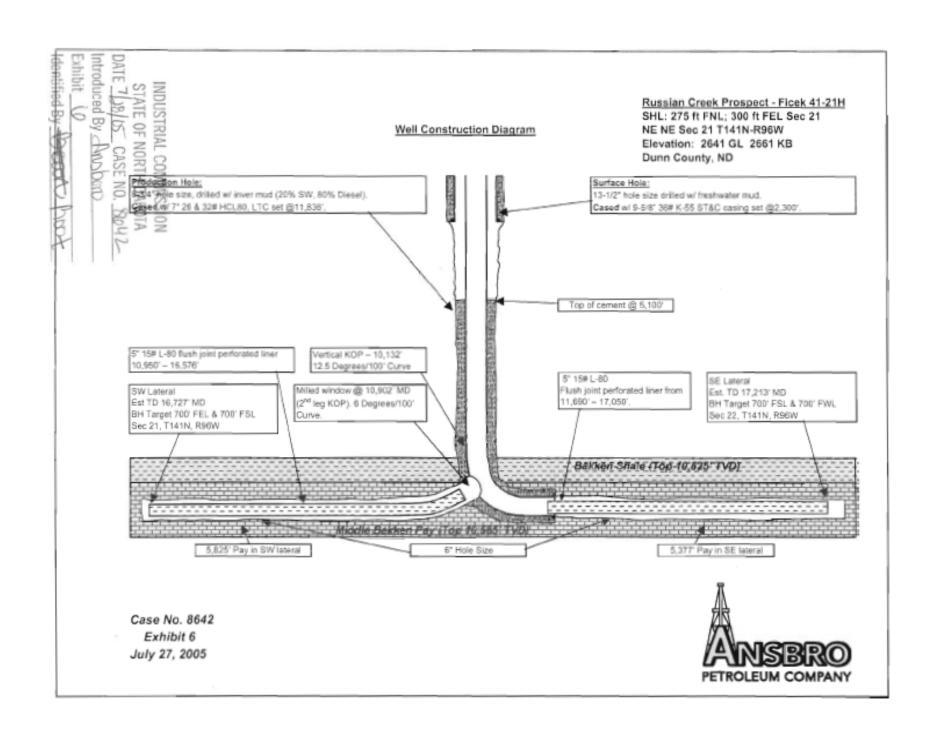


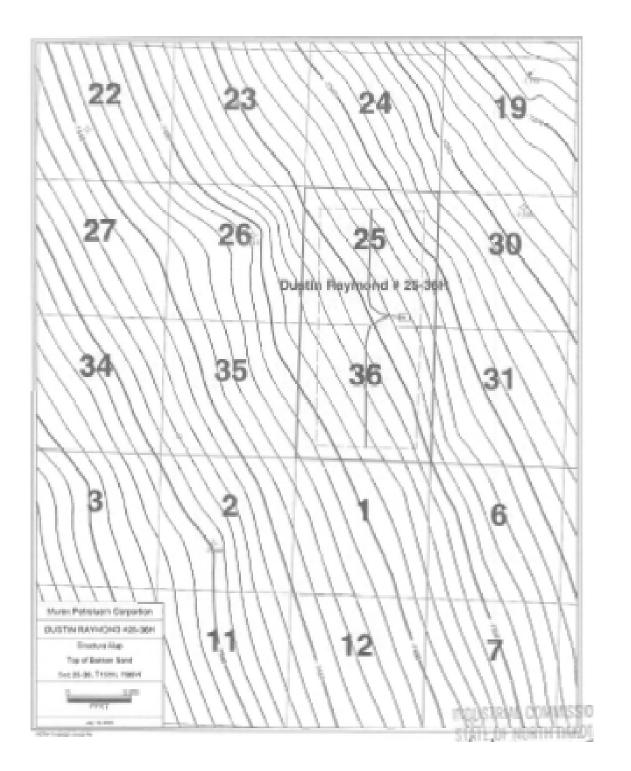
DATE 03-29-65 CASE NO. 6485 Introduced By 1374 On Browning Exhibit

Identified By Jim Kennis

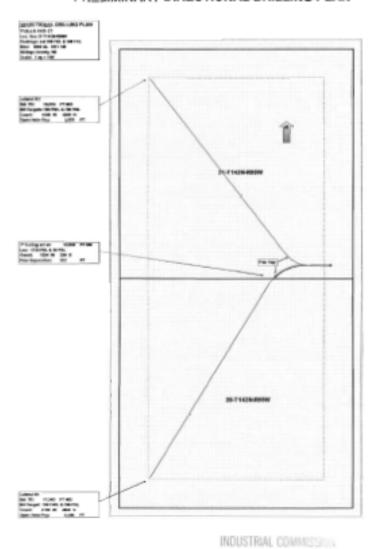
CASE #8498 Exhibit 1

March 23, 2005





#### PRELIMINARY DIRECTIONAL DRILLING PLAN

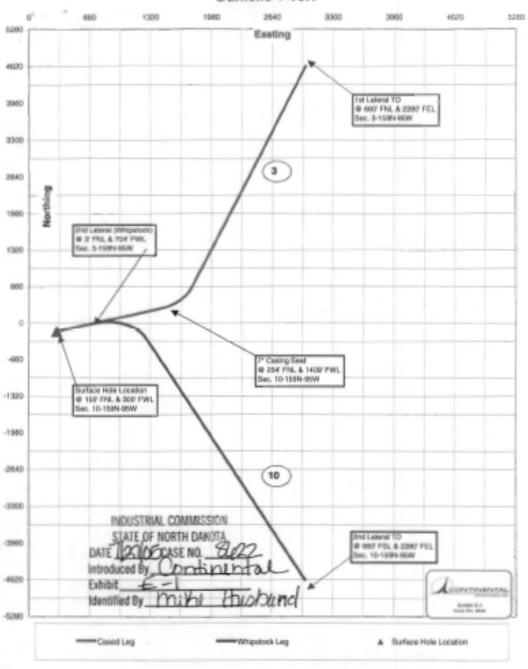




STATE OF NORTH DAKGLA HEADINGTON DATE 325-05 CASE NO. 6469 EXHIBIT 7 Exhibit 7

Identified By Lecuses



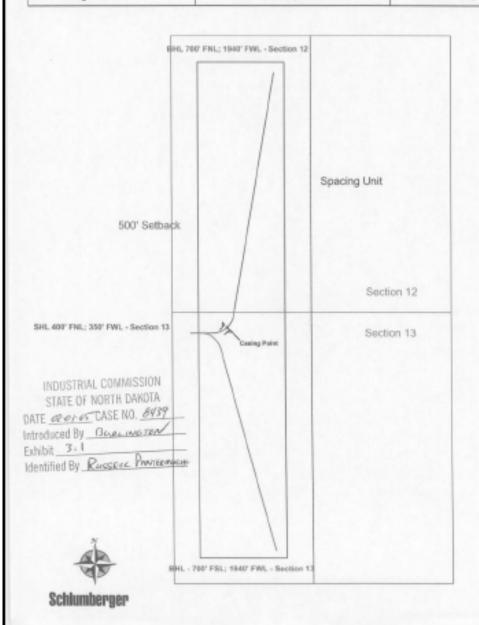


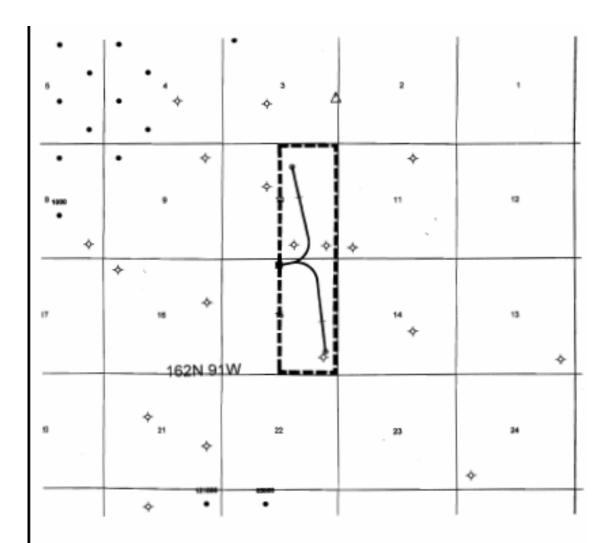
### **Burlington Resources**

BR Fed Angle 11-13H

McKenzie County, North Dakota

Case# 8439, Exhibit# 3.1





INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

DATE OF STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

DATE OF OF NORTH DAKOTA

DATE OF OF NORTH DAKOTA

Exhibit L-2

Idea (1924-3) Secure

Denail Oil of Gas
PROPOSED SPACING UNIT
Case # 85 87

Exhibit L2

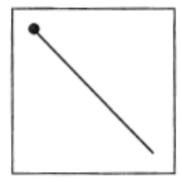
June 23, 2005

#### ALTERNATIVE NO. 1



DUAL HORIZONTAL BAKKEN LATERAL

#### ALTERNATIVE NO. 2



SINGLE HORIZONTAL BAHKEN LATERAL

CASE NO. 8626 EXHIBIT NO. D

STATE OF NORTH DANGIA

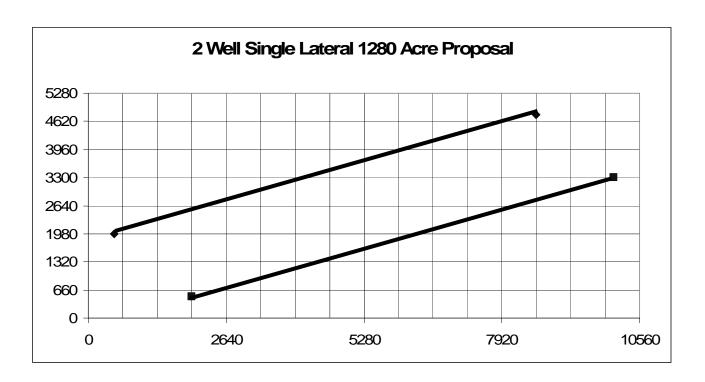
PATE 04-20-05CASE NO. 8520

Exhibit D

Identified By Lacer Kenuse

## Planar and Co-planar

- Long Single Planar Lateral \$2,900,000
  - Less mechanical risk
  - Simpler more effective re-frac
- Coplanar \$3,500,000 if nothing goes wrong
  - \$4,000,000+ and no proppant frac if liner or tool problems
  - Ability to re-frac?



- Can evaluate spacing unit for \$2,900,000 (8550' lateral \$340/ft)
  - Less mechanical risk and simpler more effective frac and re-frac
  - \$5,800,000 total development cost if 2<sup>nd</sup> well justified (17,100' of lateral)
  - Wells are just 500' closer than if drilled down quarter section lines
- Coplanar \$3,500,000 if nothing goes wrong
  - 9,600-13,000' lateral \$265-366/ft)
  - \$4,000,000+ and no proppant frac if liner or tool problems (\$303+/ft)
  - Ability to re-frac?
  - \$7,000,000 total development cost if 2<sup>nd</sup> well (20-21,500' of laterals \$327/ft)

## The Basics Bakken Formation in North Dakota

- **\*\*Upper & Lower Black Shale** 
  - **World Class Source Rock** 
    - **TOC's as high as 40%**
    - # HC Generation 200 to 400 BBbls of Oil
- **\*\* Clastic Middle Member** 
  - **5** Lithofacies
    - **Primarily Sandstones and Siltstones with Interbeds of Dolostone and Limestone**
    - Low Porosity & Permeability

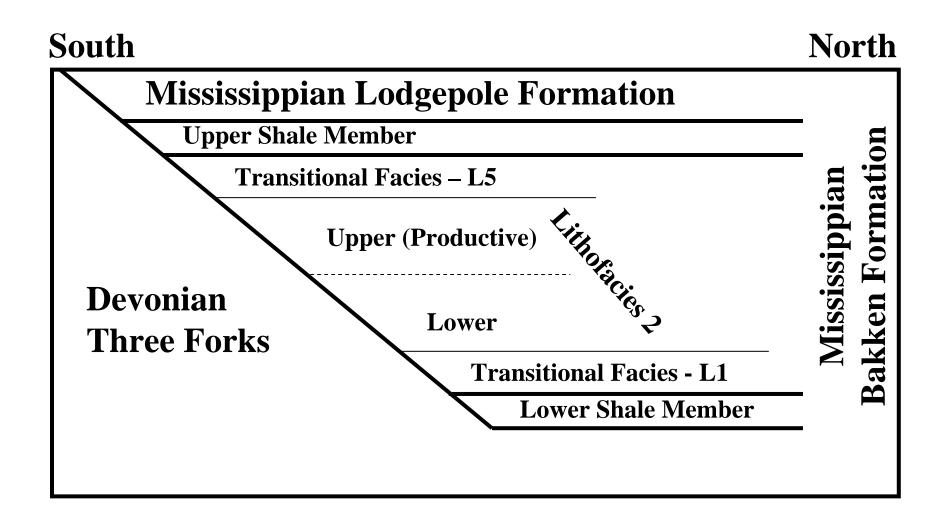
## Stratigraphy

#### **Central Bakken Basin in North Dakota**

South	Mississippian Lodgepole Formation North	
	Upper Shale Member	on .
	Transitional Facies – L5	an atic
	Lithofacies 4	Mississippia kken Forma
	Lithofacies 3  Central Basin	issippi Rorm
	Lithofacies 2 Facies	Missi Bakken
	Transitional Facies - L1	M akl
	Lower Shale Member	B
Devonian Three Forks		

## Stratigraphy

#### **Bakken Limit in North Dakota**



## Upper Shale Lithofacies 5

**Lithofacies 4** 

Lithofacies 3

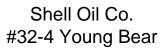
Lithofacies 2

**Lithofacies 1** 

Lower Shale









Conoco, Inc. #17 Watterud "A"

#### Upper Shale

#### **Lithofacies 5**

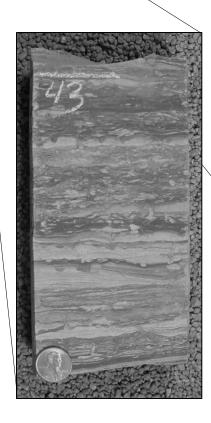
Lithofacies 4

**Lithofacies 3** 

Lithofacies 2

**Lithofacies 1** 

Lower Shale



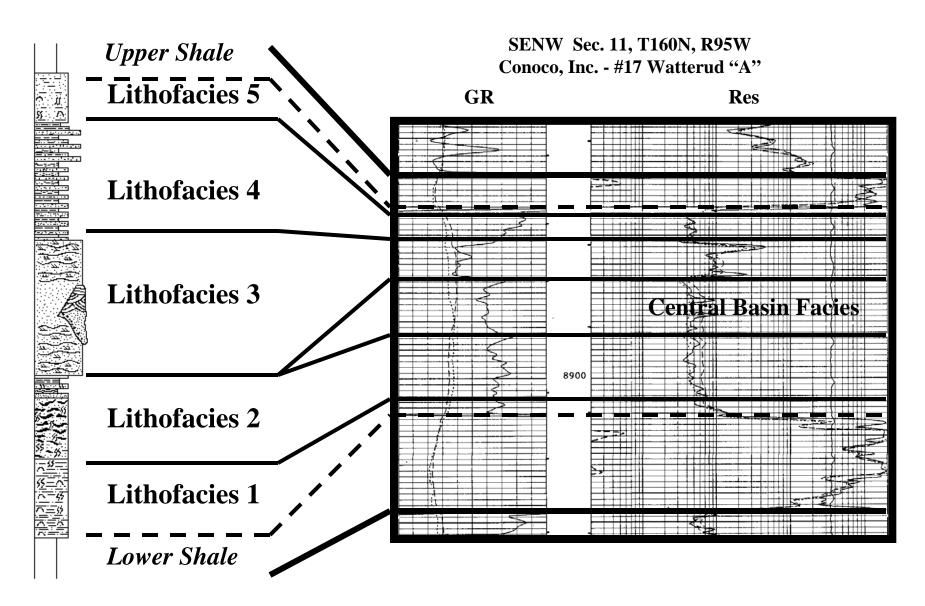




Meridian Oil, Inc. #44-27 MOI

Shell Oil Co. #32-4 Young Bear

#### Lithofacies of the Middle Member



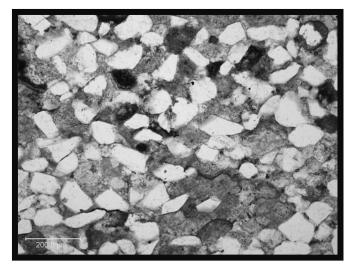
(From LeFever and others, 1991)

## Middle Member Bakken

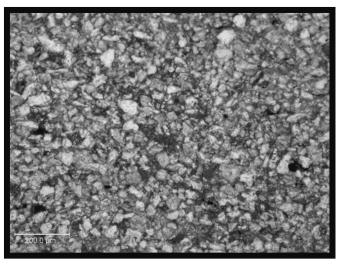
### **Porosity Types**

- **Clastic Sequence with Carbonate Interbeds**
- **Primary Porosity** 
  - **\*\* Interparticle to Intercrystalline**

#### Interparticle



#### Intercrystalline

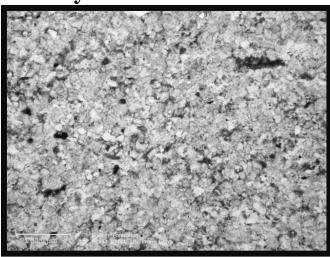


## Middle Member Bakken Porosity Types

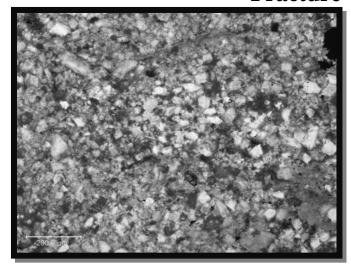
- **Secondary Porosity** 
  - **Dolomitization** 
    - **Matrix**
    - **Cement**

- **Fractures** 
  - **Regional**
  - **# HC Generation**

**Intercrystalline** 



**Fracture** 

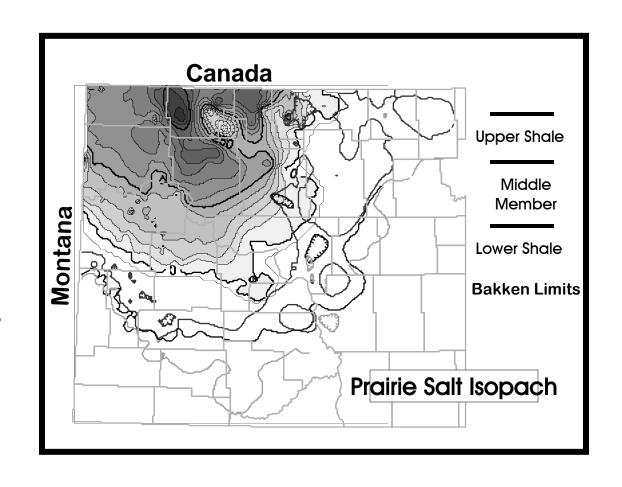


## **Tectonic Fracturing**

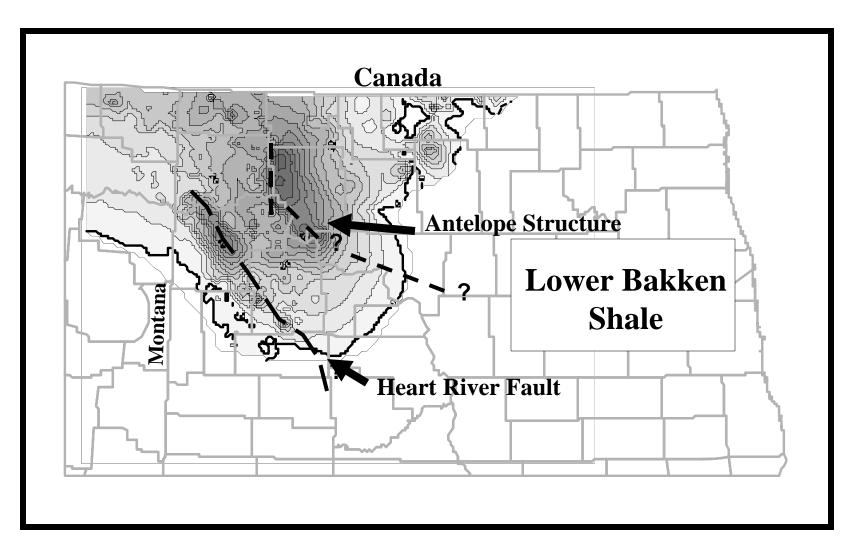
#### **Salt Dissolution**

## Complete or Partial Dissolution of the Prairie Salt

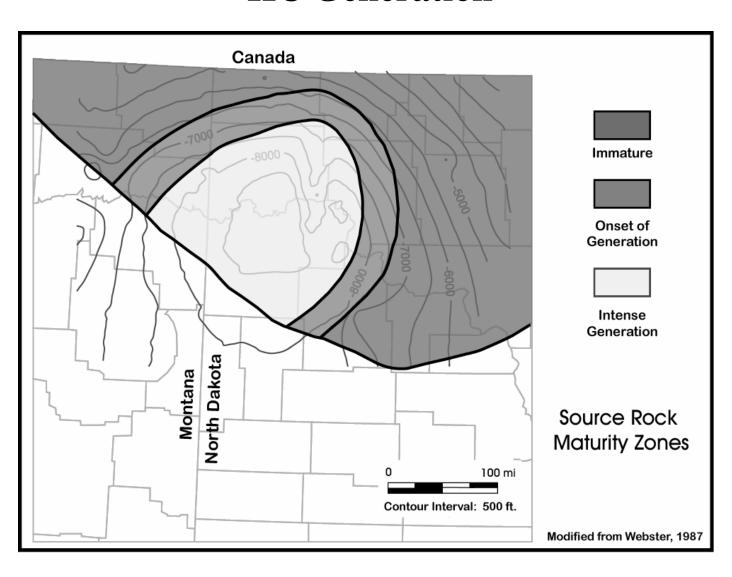
- Depositional Edge
- OverlyingBasement Structures
- Other Geologic Features

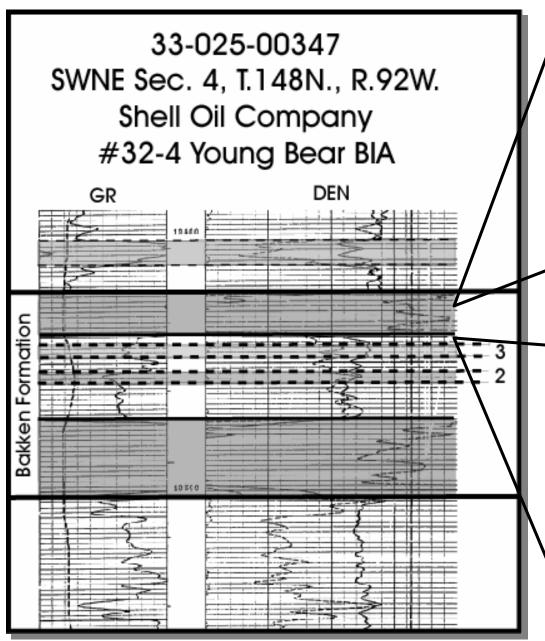


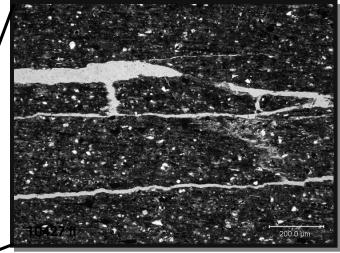
## **Tectonic Fracturing Regional Fractures**



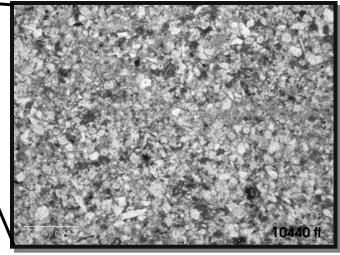
## Fractures HC Generation







**Upper Bakken Shale** 



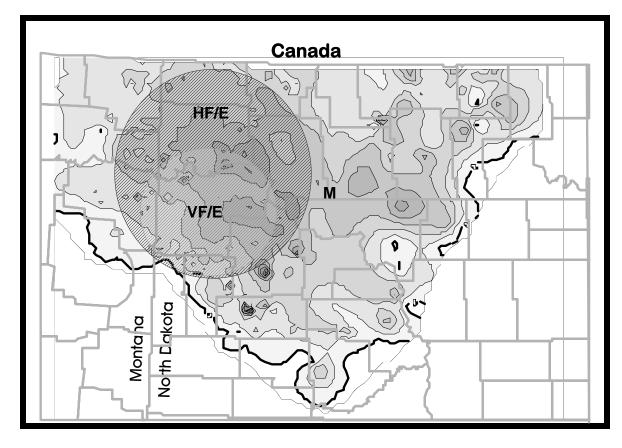
Lithofacies 4

## **Non-Tectonic Fractures**

### **HC Generation - Upper Bakken Shale**

Texaco, Inc - #1-5 Thompson





## **Implications Fractures**

- Necessary for Production?
  - Natural
  - **Artificial** 
    - **Enhances Existing**  $\phi$  **and K and Fractures**
    - Production pathway for the Shales
- **Result in an Increase in Production** 
  - \*\* Providing a Conduit for Oil to the Borehole resulting in High Production Rates

## **Implications**

#### **Fractures**

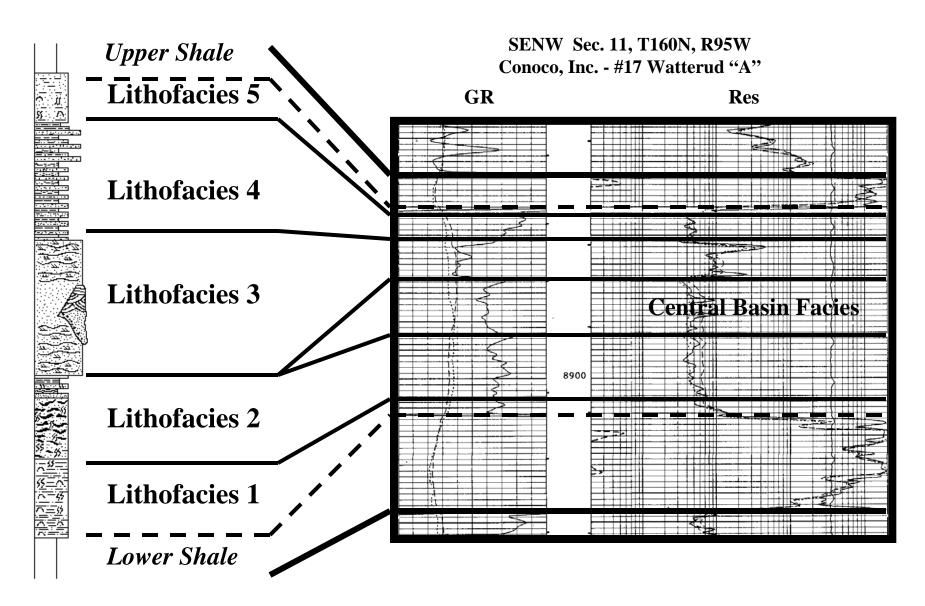
- **Problems** 
  - **Result in Borehole Stability Problems**
  - **# High Potential for Damage of Micro-fractures** 
    - **\*\*** Over-balanced muds
    - **Rapid Pressure Drawdown**
    - **Water-blocking (Bakken is "Oil-Wet")**
  - **\*\* May Influence the direction of the Fracture- Stimulation Treatment**

### Middle Member Bakken

#### **Accessory Minerals**

- **Pyrite** 
  - Iron Oxides
    - **Response to Acid**
    - **Wireline Log Effects**
- **Clays** 
  - # Illite, Chlorite & mixed-layer Clays
    - **Response to Acid**
    - **Response to Water**
- Organic Material
  - # TOC's > 0.5%
    - **\*** Wireline Log Effects

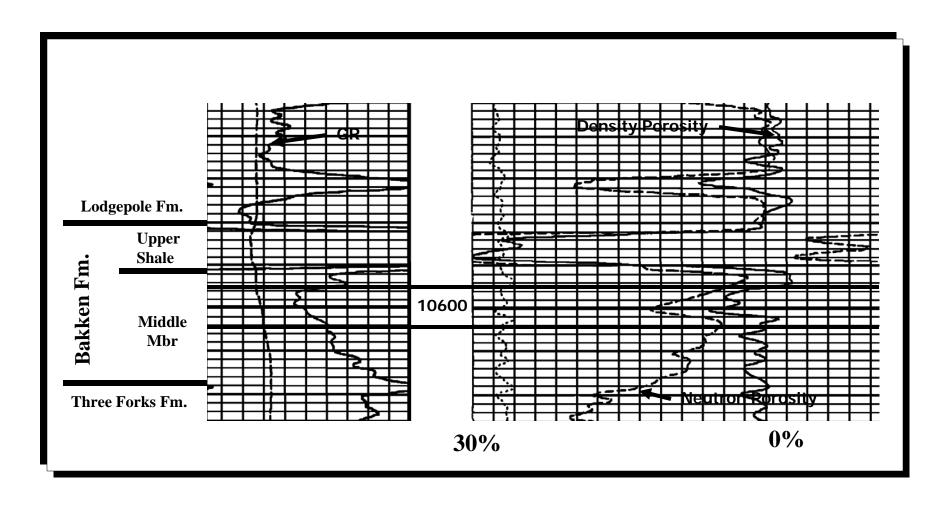
#### Lithofacies of the Middle Member



(From LeFever and others, 1991)

## Shell Oil Company - #12-6-44 U.S.A.

**SENWNW Sec. 6-T.148N.-R.104W.** 



### **Conclusions**

- **The Lithofacies are present basinwide.**
- \*\* Primary reservoir porosity may be enhanced by diagenesis, tectonic fractures, and/or fractures from HC generation.
- **Porosity enhancement is not restricted to a single lithofacies within the Middle Member.**
- **Type of fluid used while drilling may have adverse effects on production.**
- **The presence of vertical fractures in areas of intense HC generation may affect the outcome of stimulation treatment.**

### **Conclusions**

- **Barnett Shale, Texas is a good analog to the Bakken** 
  - Low Porosity/Low Permeability Source Rock
  - **Gelled-water vs. Slick-water Fracture Stimulation Treatment**
  - **Success with Multiple Fracture Treatments**