

SOLUTION MINING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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MEETING
PAPER



REVIEW OF U.S. STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE PROGRAM

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*Manchester, UK
October 1982*

SPE 10167
EXPANSION OF SOLUTION CAVERN STORAGE TECHNOLOGY

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This paper was presented at the 56th Annual Fall Technical Conference and Exhibition of the Society of Petroleum Engineers of AIME, held in San Antonio, Texas, October 5-7, 1981.

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ABSTRACT

The U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve being created along the Gulf Coast will provide the largest inventory of crude oil of any nation in the world. Unique engineering has been employed to solve the problems presented in creating large volume underground caverns rapidly and for handling the high flow rates required during oil withdrawal. This paper discusses the design considerations (criteria), development schedules and methods used to meet the objectives of the program.