

# **SOLUTION MINING RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

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**MEETING  
PAPER**



## **CAVERN SAMPLING in the STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE**

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## **CAVERN SAMPLING IN THE STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE**

### **1.0 Introduction**

The oil stored in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve must meet industry specifications for crude oil so that private industry can, in an appropriate emergency, convert the crude oil into the fuels and other products needed during and after that emergency. There is an constant program in effect to procure, sample, analyze and evaluate the oil quality to be sure it will meet those needs.

After the crude oil has been sampled, tested then procured, it is stored in the salt dome caverns and mine. The oil in each cavern is sampled every five years using a wireline sampling method. Other samples are taken annually for special cavern sampling by wireline methods and from the surface facilities as the oil is moved out of the caverns for various reasons including drawdown exercises.

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