HYDROFRAC GRADIENTS IN TWO U.S. SALT DOMES

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INTRODUCTION.

The Solution Mining Research Institute (SMRI) has sponsored two related hydraulic fracturing field-tests Projects in U.S. Gulf Coast salt domes over a time period spanning around the past six years. The first-phase Project was concluded in 1988 with the issuance of an SMRI Report on work performed in the Rayburn's dome in north Louisiana (Thoms and Gehle, 1988). The field-tests for the second-phase Project were carried out in the McIntosh dome in south Alabama this past March, 1990; and the associated Report will be available shortly.

A brief outline of findings, based mainly on the March '90 tests, was presented to SMRI Members during the '90 Spring Business Meeting in Austin, Texas. Our purpose with this Paper is to present a summary of the findings from both Projects, along with a discussion of their significance, to the attendees of this 1990 SMRI Fall Meeting.

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