

CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF ROCK-SALT UNDERGROUND HELIUM CONCENTRATE STORAGE

*V.I. Rezunenko, V.I. Smirnov, B.N. Fedorov, Yu. T. Zhadovets,
V.A. Chernyshova, and E.A. Zhilenko*

Podzemgazprom, Moscow, Russia

Orenburg Helium Plant, for the first time in Russia, has commissioned a helium concentrate underground storage facility designed by Podzemgazprom (formerly VNIIPromgaz institute), together with Orenburggazprom and Orenburg Helium Plant. The storage has been built in rock salt deposits using dissolution through drilled wells.

Both high permeability (due to high fluidity) of, and stringent requirements to, this marketable product have become guidelines for choice of underground storage construction and operation principles. For this reason special provisions have been made for cavern spacing, hole and wellhead design, use of air as nonsolvent, concentrate loss control, etc.

©2023 – Solution Mining Institute

Full Paper is Available in the SMRI Library(www.solutionmining.org)