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TE02 SALT CAVERN 8 YEARS OF ABANDONMENT TEST

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Abstract

The salt cavern TE02 is the first gas storage cavern operated in France. It was leached from 1968 to 1969, gas filled in 1970 and operated until 2005. Its initial free volume was 93 500 m³ at 1400 m deep.

In 2005, the cavern was chosen to realize a real size abandonment experiment. The cavern was refilled with water and prepared for a long period of observation. Probes were installed inside the cavern and at the wellhead. During this period, the pressure increased regularly and the cavern needed regular bleed off.

This paper presents a point after 8 years of observation. Real data is compared to results of specifically developed models.

These results confirm that the SMRI concept of abandonment of salt caverns is applicable to the caverns of the Tersanne site.

Key words: Abandonment, Caverns for Gas Storage, Computer Modeling, Rock Mechanics, France.

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