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Solution Mining Plan for the Enlargement of an Existing Storage Cavern Capacity with an Additional Leaching Program at Mont Belvieu, Texas

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Abstract:

The purpose of this paper is to present a comprehensive study of an additional leaching program for an existing salt dome storage cavern, resulting in increased storage capacity and utilization.

The study consists of a brief scope of the work, system hydraulics, a proposed cost estimate, and timeline schedule for an additional leaching program at the existing leaching plant at Lone Star NGL Terminal in Mont Belvieu, Texas. Lone Star is owned by Energy Transfer Partners, L.P.,

This study will enable Lone Star to optimize the existing storage capacity for critical service and to maximize the return on investment of new capital. By understanding this study, other storage operators will learn about achieving maximum potential value for their own storage assets, with better utilization of their existing underground salt dome storage facilities in the forthcoming years.

Key words: Storage Enlargement, system hydraulics, leaching and timeline schedule.

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