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Lessons Learned from Fast Track Construction

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Abstract

In 2013, WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB Energy Storage Services) began working with a major energy company to plan the development of five new LPG caverns and associated solution mining and brine disposal facilities. The caverns were needed to support a larger processing and distribution program. The five caverns and the solution mining plant were to be constructed on a timeline to support startup of the larger program.

To keep pace with the construction of the larger program, it was necessary to implement fast track development methods to accelerate the design and construction of the caverns. The client engaged WSP | PB to design and construct the cavern facility and challenged the team to deliver the first three caverns in less than one year.

This is a story of extreme fast track construction that overcame many obstacles to successfully deliver the three initial caverns within 11 months of EPCM contract execution. Since that time, two additional caverns have been developed and solution mining is in progress to enlarge the initial three caverns, which will continue into early 2017.

Key words: Cavern Development, Caverns for Liquid Storage, Disposal Wells, Domal Salt, Drilling, Salt Domes, Solution Mining, Storage Cavern, Well Design, Drilling and Completion, Fast Track, EPC, EPCM

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