

NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR UNLOADING GAS WELLS

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SWC Co-funding: \$ 75,000

Objective. Evaluate the performance of a variety of devices for lifting liquids from stripper gas wells.

Motivation. Removal of water and hydrocarbon liquids from gas wells is increasingly recognized as an important topic for mature gas reservoirs.

Specific Directions. The four tasks proposed below describe briefly the specific directions for this study.

1. *Baffle Assembly for Boosting Liquid Production.* Use the flow loop in the High Bay Lab at CSM to experimentally study performance of baffle assemblies for boosting liquid production rate of stripper gas wells.
2. *Vortex Performance.* Resolve the discrepancy between lab performance and field performance of vortex tools, focusing on their effect on liquid transport through the tubing-casing junction. Explore a variety of flow rates and pressures up to 60 psia.
3. *Transient Design Simulation of Gas Well Loading and Unloading.* Use commercial flow line simulating software to investigate the effect of condensation, transient fluid flow, and transient heat transfer on performance of stripper gas wells.
4. *Gas-Flow Powered Pump.* Test a prototype unit that uses a small amount of the available energy in the flowing gas stream to drive a pump that will lift liquid to the surface.
5. *Liquid-Lifting Short Course.* Continue one-day short courses on lifting liquids from gas wells using the CSM Flow Loop for hands-on demonstrations.