SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

9–11 February 2016 THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS, USA The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel and Convention Center

## Boom, Bust, and Frac: Coping With the Downturn

# "Hydraulic Fracturing to Survive in 2016"

C. Mark Pearson Liberty Resources LLC



## **Breakeven Prices for Domestic E&P Companies**



SPE Hydr Source: Company reports, Bloomberg LP and Wells Fargo Securities LLC Note: Analysis excludes companies where natural gas accounts for >75% of total production Technology configerence

Wells Fargo Securities; 2016 E&P Breakevens; January 7, 2016

### Why are we still Fracking?

- To HBP acreage
- Support Cash Flow
- Maintain Borrowing Base
- "The Boss Told Me To"

## Should we be designing the Horizontal Well Completion to maximize initial rates/cash flow, maximizing reserve recovery, or minimizing completion spend?

### Williston Central Basin (Twp 148-159N, R97-105W) - 1330 Bakken Wells

(completions since 1/15/2009, production through Aug 2013)



Slide 4

### Bakken Tier 1 Case Study: South Williams County



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

Fracking to Survive in 2016 • C. Mark Pearson

**R 99W** 

## Bakken Tier 1 Case Study: 90-day Cum Oil Bubble Plot



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference Company A Completion (the "Liberty" Slickwater Design):

- 35 Stages
- Plug and Perf
- Slickwater
- 3.7 Million lb proppant (100% ceramic)

Company B Typical Completion:

- 30 Stages
- Plug and Perf
- X-Linked Gel
- 2.6 Million lb proppant (30% ceramic; 70% sand)

### Bakken Tier 1 Case Study: 90-day Cum Oil



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

#### Bakken Tier 1 Case Study: November 2012 Update



SPE Hydraulic Fracturius Technology Conference

#### Bakken Tier 1 Case Study: Two-Year Cum Oil Update



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

#### Bakken Tier 1 Case Study: Nov. 2015 Update



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

Fracking to Survive in 2016 • C. Mark Pearson

## Bakken Tier 1 Case Study: Nov. 2015 Update



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

Fracking to Survive in 2016 • C. Mark Pearson

## Bakken Tier 1 Case Study: Nov. 2015 Update



#### Bakken Tier 2 Case Study: NW McKenzie County



#### Bakken Tier 2 Case Study: NW McKenzie County



### Bakken Tier 2 Case Study: 90-day Cum Oil Bubble Plot



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

### Bakken Tier 2 Case Study: April 2013 Update



#### Bakken Tier 2 Case Study: Nov. 2015 Update



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

### Bakken Tier 2 Case Study: Nov. 2015 Update with added wells (SE of T152N-R103W & NE of T151N-R103W)



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

Fracking to Survive in 2016 • C. Mark Pearson

#### Bakken Tier 2 Case Study: Nov. 2015 Update with added wells (SE of T152N-R103W & NE of T151N-R103W)



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

Fracking to Survive in 2016 • C. Mark Pearson

### Bakken Tier 2 Case Study: Nov. 2015 Update with added wells (SE of T152N-R103W & NE of T151N-R103W)



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

Fracking to Survive in 2016 • C. Mark Pearson

#### Bakken Historical Completions Number of Frac Stages/Well



## **Stage Count / Interval Length**

• More Stages



More Production / Recovery

- Change the Pumping Contract from "per stage" to "per increment of pumping time"
- Reduce the # of stages, but pump larger volumes to maintain designed proppant lb/ft or volume bbl/ft
- Re-design with fewer stages but having more perforation clusters go from a "stage design" to a "cluster design".



SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

## Frac Design per the IR Analysts? .....

"Current" MB180-Day Cum Oilus 1bs/ft Transformation Entire Basin - Using June 2015 NDICupdate Cun 600800 2000 1200 1400 2600 1800

## William "FracPup" Pearson



#### **Be Careful Using Linear Correlations**

SPE 179171 – E. Lolon et al; to be presented on Thursday Morning !!



Fracking to Survive in 2016 • C. Mark Pearson

## Summary

- The Horizontal Well Completion is Critical to Long-Term Recovery
- The fracs you design today will define the well's recovery over the next 30 40 years
- Beware of making cuts in the completion spend thinking it is just affecting initial production rates and early-time cumulative production
- Use the slowdown in industry activity to do a better job engineering the completion and not just using a geometric design.
- Work on "GeoEngineering" your completion

## Liberty Resources' "Fracking to Survive in 2016"

- Frac wells as needed to HBP acreage or maintain financial covenants
- Changed design to reduce costs:
  - Larger job sizes rather than more frac stages
  - Pumping higher proppant concentrations to cut fluid volumes ~10%
  - Changing from premium proppants to sand
  - Reducing the chemical additive packages to what has been proven to be needed
- Changed design to improve performance:
  - More proppant volume per lateral foot
  - More perforation clusters having less individual perforations
  - Use of diversion material during the stages
- GeoEngineering the completion

# SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

Slide 25 9–11 February 2016 THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS, USA The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel and Convention Center

## Acknowledgements

Co-workers at Liberty Resources and Liberty Oilfield Services



## **THANK YOU**

LIBERTY RESOURCES