



January 2017

LOS ANGELES BASIN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

January 26 (Thursday) – 11:30 AM

Katherine (Katie) Kovac
Jonah Energy

THE JONAH GAS FIELD, SUBLETTE COUNTY, WYOMING: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Abstract

The Jonah Field is a world-class, tight-gas unconventional reservoir located in Sublette County, Wyoming. It lies in the southeastern portion of the Hoback Basin, a northwestern extension of the Greater Green River Basin. The principal target in this field is the Lance Formation, a 2,000 to 3,000 foot thick, fluvial-dominated Cretaceous-Tertiary interval. This field was one of the largest onshore U.S. natural gas discoveries of the 1990s. Jonah Energy and its predecessors (McMurray Oil Company, Alberta Energy, and Encana Corporation) have been continuously drilling there since 1998.

As of 2015, it is the second-largest gas producing field in Wyoming, and the fourth-largest oil field there due to its condensate yield, 2,399,459 bbl. Despite recent commodities price fluctuations, Jonah Energy has continued successfully infill drilling 5-8 acre spaced wells. In fact, in 2016, Jonah Energy's percentage of the Wyoming drill rig count increased to currently 25 percent. Several key advances have shaped this progress, in both economics and reservoir characterization. Costs have dropped from May 2014 to May 2016 due to efficiencies in reduced drilling cycle times, completions efficiencies, and general cost reductions.

Recent advances in reservoir characterization have enabled continued infill development. Due to the lenticular, stacked fluvial packages that dominate the Lance Pool, sand body geometries and the lack of key correlation markers complicate the stratigraphy in the Jonah Field. The implementation of a proportional depth curve to bracket the Lance Pool into consistent

intervals better highlights the field's depositional trends, allowing for more efficient completions strategies. The creation of an algorithm to estimate reservoir pressures during early flowback, in combination with early production performance, assists in understanding reservoir productivity. These current advances and others for the Jonah Field will be discussed.

Speaker's Biography

Katherine (Katie) Kovac is a Senior Geologist at Jonah Energy in Denver, Colorado. She has 15 years professional experience as a geologist, mostly in California. Currently, she is working the Jonah Gas Field in Wyoming and A&D projects. Previous to Jonah Energy, she worked at Occidental Petroleum in Long Beach for 5 years. Originally an East Coaster, from New Jersey, she has spent her geologic career out West, with positions in Salt Lake City, Bakersfield, Long Beach, and Denver.

Her expertise is in the energy industry, with experience in Geothermal, Oil, and Natural Gas. She received both a B.S. and M.S. in Geology (Thesis: *Geologic Framework and Paragenesis of the Coso Geothermal Field, CA*) from the University of Utah. After moving from Bakersfield to Long Beach, Katie founded the Los Angeles/Orange County Chapter of the AWG (Association for Women Geoscientists) in 2012 in Long Beach. She has previously served as LABGS Vice President and Program Chair. By serving as AWG President-Elect 2017, Katie hopes to give back to and champion AWG and its members and to promote its LA/OC Chapter!

Meeting Time, Place, Cost and Reservations

When:

Thursday, January 26, 2017

Meeting Agenda

Lunch Served: 11:30 AM to 12:00PM
Announcements: 11:45 AM to 12:00 PM
Guest Speaker: 12:00 PM to 12:45 PM
Questions/Close: 12:45 PM to 1:00 PM

Place:

The Grand at Willow Street Conference Center located at 4101 East Willow Street, Long Beach, CA (562-426-0555). Take Lakewood Boulevard south from the San Diego Freeway (I-405), turn west onto Willow Street, and turn right onto Grand Avenue at the sign for the Center. Park for free in the multi-level garage structure.

Cost:

Lunch and Speaker: \$25.00 *with reservations*
\$30.00 *without reservations*

Retired: \$20.00

Student: \$5.00

PAYMENTS IN CASH OR CHECK ONLY

Meeting Reservations:

We encourage you to make your reservations using the LABGS web site, at www.labgs.org

Otherwise, call Ryan Weller at (562) 637-6019, or e-mail ryweller@gmail.com.

Reservations must be made by:

10:00 AM Tuesday January 24th to receive the discount price noted above.

As always, walk-ins are welcome.

Student Sponsorship

Looking for Student Lunch sponsors:

If you or your business/organization would like to become a Student Lunch Sponsor please let us know.

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Announcement: PS-AAPG has asked its member Societies, including the LABGS, to consider submitting nominations for the *Young Professional Distinguished Service Award*, the *Distinguished Service Award*, and the *Honorary Life Member Award*. If you know of a deserving individual, please submit your nominee's name and respective supporting data, with emphasis on AAPG/Section efforts, to Bob Lindblom (RGLGEO@aol.com) by January 25, 2017.