

DISCUSSION BY INTERVAL

8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" HOLE INTERVAL (Cont'd)

General (Cont'd)

The severe mud flocculation in the open hole is thought to be associated primarily with CO<sub>2</sub> contamination with the high BHT also a contributing factor.

After logging, a wiper trip was made to condition the hole prior to running a 7" liner. 200 bbls of mud at bottoms up were flocculated. Trip gas was 25 units. On the strength of the RFT data, the mud weight was raised to 15.0 ppg. The liner was run and cemented at 9600 ft - 11,966 ft (2926 - 3647 m).

Solids Control Equipment

Due to the necessity of running a weighted mud system in this hole phase, the solids control equipment could not be run in its closed loop mode without excessive BARITE removal from the system.

Low gravity solids never rose above 45 ppb and were controlled at this figure by the use of the shale shakers with 60/60 and 80/80 mesh screens, periodic use of the mud cleaners with 200 mesh screens, and dilution. It would have been desirable to run finer shaker screens, but owing to the poor shaker performance, finer screens could not be run without excessive mud losses.

Mud Properties

For this section, a Freshwater-Low Solids-Lime mud was used. Mud properties were generally maintained within the parameters set by Amoco.

Below 10,375 ft (3162 m) it became necessary to fully disperse the mud system. Heavy Lime additions were begun to neutralise continuous carbonate contamination. The contamination combined with the necessity of raising the mud weight, caused excessive mud viscosities. Q-BROXIN had to be added to reduce the viscosity to acceptable levels.