

*CENTER FOR ENERGY STUDIES*

*LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY*

# **NEWSLETTER**

**March 1996**

**THE DOWNHOLE INJECTION**

## **SELLS OUT**

The Basin Research Institute of Louisiana State University sponsored a 3-D Seismic Conference on January 11 and 12, 1996, in New Orleans, LA. The Central Gulf Region of the PTTC (CGR PTTC) co-sponsored this event.

The seminar was titled "The Blessing--The Curse." The "curse" is that 3-D seismic techniques generate so much data it is difficult as well as costly to analyze, but the "blessing" is that the payoff is very high for those who can do so. In fact, at the seminar participants said it was getting difficult to find financing for drilling unless 3-D seismic analysis was available.

There were 245 registered participants and the conference was sold out a month before it was held. Bob Chebul from LL&E, who is chair of the CGR PTTC's Producers Advisory Group (PAG), talked about the impact of 3-D Seismic on LL&E lands and production. He said that when using 3-D technology LL&E has enjoyed a greater than 90 percent success rate in drilling wells.

The evaluation forms from the workshop showed that what operators want is case histories. Case histories of projects that worked as well as case histories of those that didn't.

Western Geophysical provided each participant with a video of the conference, and Fairfield Industries sponsored the main reception the first night. The workshop was so well received that

The first meeting in the seminar series will be on April 29. Two papers will be presented and discussed. Douglas Bohi Director of the Energy and Natural Resources Division at Resources for the Future in Washington DC, and former chief economist at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), will give a paper comparing the effects of retail and wholesale wheeling.

Under wholesale wheeling utilities compete for power supplies to wholesale customers (like other utilities or municipalities). Under retail wheeling large electricity users and other groups of users are able to shop directly for power from utility and nonutility suppliers. Professor Andrew Kleit of LSU's Economics Department will discuss Bohi's paper.

The second paper will be given by Karen Palmer, also of Resources for the Future. Palmer will talk about the implications of restructuring for environmental regulation and improvement.

Mike McDaniel of Woodward and Clyde, former Assistant Secretary for Air Quality at the Louisiana Department of

platforms are removed, will be discussed at a workshop sponsored by the Minerals Management Service, LSU's Center for Energy Studies and LSU's Coastal Marine Institute.

The workshop will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in New Orleans. A program and registration form are enclosed.

independent producers in computer usable form is going to have to go from a diskette format to a CD ROM format in order keep up with revisions and additions to regulations. During the past year the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality alone has increased the supply of relevant regulations by 100 pages. The new package will, of course, require CD ROM equipment, but users say it is a big improvement over pen and paper. For more information about this software service contact Keith Long at 504/388-4538.

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### **CGR PTTC FORCED TO GO TO CD ROM TO KEEP UP WITH OIL AND GAS REGULATIONS**

The CGR PTTC's popular program which makes Louisiana Production and Environmental Regulations available to