

Solution Mining Research Institute

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SMRI Request for Proposals 2001-1

Survey of Methods and Commercial Resources for Locating Abandoned Wells

Background

Numerous old abandoned wells often exist in the vicinity of proposed solution mining, hydrocarbon storage cavern, or storage reservoir projects. Locating the old abandoned wells and determining the status of any plugging in the well can be problematic. However, it appears there are many potentially applicable geophysical and other methods available for locating old abandoned wells based on a recent solicitation of the membership by the Executive Director (relative to the Hutchinson, Kansas incident). The SMRI and the Gas Technology Institute - Gas Storage Steering Committee (GTI-GSSC) believe the solution mining and hydrocarbon storage industries (both cavern and reservoir storage) would benefit from the development of a manual that describes (1) methods available for locating abandoned wells, (2) the theory behind the methods, (3) vendors or consultants who can apply the various methods, (4) the range in expected costs for applying the methods, and (5) case histories where the methods have been successfully applied.

The GTI-GSSC and/or the SMRI may fund one or more proposals submitted in response to this RFP. Further, the two organizations may jointly or individually fund a demonstration project sometime in the future for one or more of the methods identified as potentially applicable for locating abandoned wells. However, any demonstration project would be addressed with a separate Request for Proposals.

Scope of Work

The SMRI and the GTI-GSSC are interested in documenting the methods that are suitable for locating abandoned wells. Additionally the two organizations wish to compile the resources (vendors, consultants) that can properly apply the investigation methods. The study contemplated by the SMRI and the GTI-GSSC would be expected to result in a manual that describes (at a minimum):

- methods that might be suitable for locating abandoned wells
- the operational theory behind each method
- vendors or consultants that purport to have expertise and experience with the methods
- costs in applying the methods
- case histories of successful applications of the methods.

The study should address abandoned wells that might be in the vicinity of solution mining, cavern storage, or reservoir storage projects. Parties interested in submitting a proposal will be

provided (upon request) with the responses to the solicitation for methods for locating abandoned wells made by the SMRI Executive Director for the Hutchinson, Kansas incident.

Successful respondents to this RFP will be expected to develop (and deliver to the SMRI and the GTI-GSSC) a compilation of methods to be researched in the study by September 30, 2001. The SMRI and the GTI-GSSC will review the compilation of methods, add or delete methods as appropriate, and return the approved compilation of methods to the researcher by October 30, 2001, for further research.

Proposal Instructions

Respondents to this RFP should provide a brief proposal (less than 10 pages) describing the proposed technical approach, the project cost, and the proposer's qualifications for executing the effort. Proposals should include (1) an option for presenting the proposal results to the SMRI at the Spring 2001 meeting in Banff, Alberta in April, 2002 and (2) an option for presenting the project results to the GTI-GSSC at a future meeting in Chicago, IL. Proposals should be submitted in electronic form via email to Dr. Joe L. Ratigan (ratiganj@aol.com), SMRI Research Coordinator, by 5 PM (MST) June 30, 2001. Any questions relating to the RFP should be directed in writing to Dr. Ratigan. The SMRI and the GTI-GSSC will review proposals.

Contract Award

The SMRI and the GTI-GSSC (jointly) or the SMRI (individually) expect to award a fixed price contract for this effort on or before August 15, 2001, if an acceptable proposal(s) is submitted. The contract will require submittal of a compilation of methods to be researched by September 30, 2001 and a draft final report by January 15, 2002. The funding organizations will provide comments on the draft by February 28, 2002, and a final report responding to the review comments will be due April 30, 2002. Contract payment will be a lump sum payable upon acceptance of the final report by the funding organizations.