The Emerging Estate of "Produced" Water: The Intersection of Ownership, Disposal, Pore Space and Storage



50th Annual Ernest E. Smith Oil, Gas and Mineral Law Institute



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Topics Discussed

WHAT IS PRODUCED WATER?

WHO OWNS PRODUCED WATER? CURRENT CASE AT THE TEXAS SUPREME COURT PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

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What is the big deal with Produced Water?

The trash has now become the treasure:

• Millions of Dollars can be earned from treating Produced Water

4 billion barrels per year (~511,000 ac-ft) including:

- · Lithium, Cadmium, other rare earth minerals
- Useable non-potable water

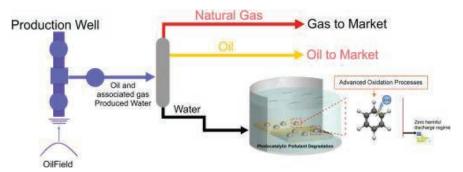
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What is Produced Water?

• Fluid byproduct brought to the surface during fracking operations/exploration



Kingsley Tamunokuro Amakiri, Anyela Ramirez Canon, Marco Molinari, Athanasios Angelis-Dimakis, Review of oilfield produced water treatment technologies, Chemosphere, Volume 298, 2022, 134064, ISSN 0045-6535, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2022.134064.

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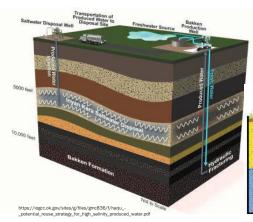


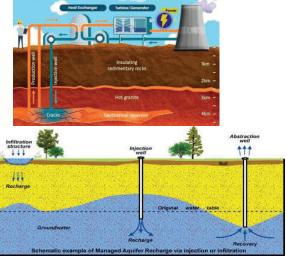
Emerging Produced Water Technologies

• GHCR: Geologic, Homogenization, Conditioning, and Reuse

• Geothermal Energy

Aquifer Recharge*





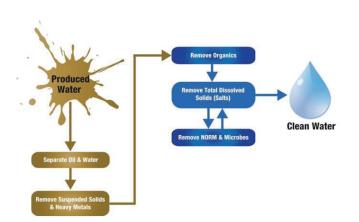
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How Value is Created?

- Operator does not have to pay for groundwater
- Operator then uses groundwater for operation
- Treats produced water
- Sells or Reuses treated produced water



https://www.oil-gasportal.com/produced-water-treatment/?print=print

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