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REVERSE CIRCULATING CEMENT TECHNIQUE FOR SUBSURFACE PIPELINE RIVER CROSSING

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ABSTRACT

In the rugged foothills of North Eastern BC are a number of river gorges that complicate conventional pipeline river crossings. This paper discusses the unique cementing requirements of Anadarko's Buckinghorse River Crossing completed in October 2004. The project involved drilling and connecting two horizontal wells on either side of the Buckinghorse River Valley. After being connected, the wells were used as a pipeline to tie in wells on one side of the river to the pipeline infrastructure on the other side of the river. Significant savings were realized using this technology compared to conventional pipeline technology. This project presented unique challenges, particularly cementing two horizontal casing strings at once with a reverse casing cement job.

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