

# SAFETY AND OPERATIONAL RISK MITIGATION BY INTEGRITY LOGGING FOR A WELL ABANDONMENT ACTIVITY

20 April 2016

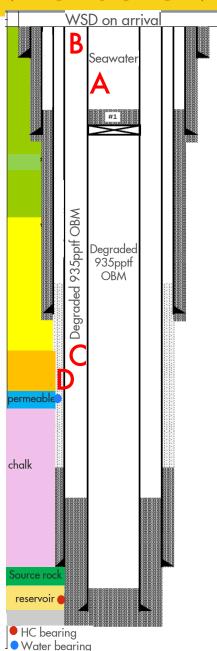
Yu Ling Wu Petrophysicist Shell

#### CONTENT

- Introduction and anticipated risks
- Planned well abandonment program and data acquisition
- What actually happened during well abandonment:
  - Verified casing integrity above plug
  - Inflow test to confirm isolation reservoir
  - Annular interpretation at planned cutting depth
  - Annular interpretation below the hanger
- Conclusions

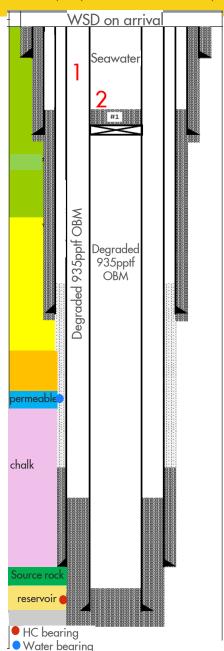
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## INTRODUCTION



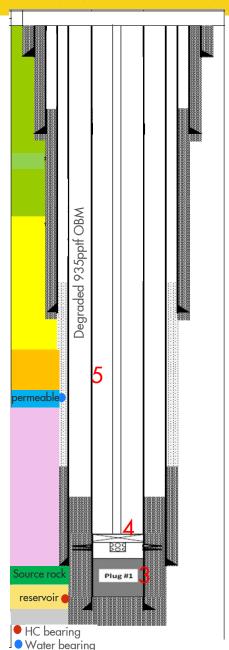
- HPHT subsea well
- Suspended
- Risk of hydrocarbons to surface in case of failure of annular cement, production casing or shoe
- Further anticipated risks:
  - A. Casing burst
  - B. Gas in annulus
  - C. Solids hampering pulling production casing
  - D. Damaging intermediate casing

# PLANNED ABANDONMENT PROGRAM (REFERENCE CASE)



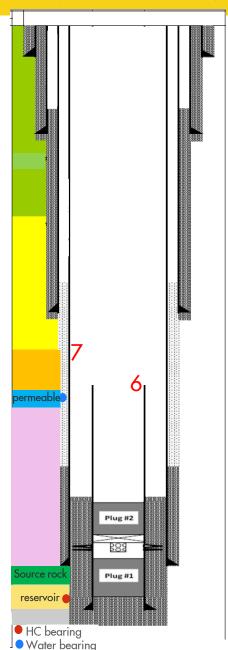
- 1. Check integrity production casing above plug and absence gas cap in annulus
- 2. Drill out shallow plug
- 3. Cement plug #1
- 4. Perforate & inflow test => no inflow
- 5. Log production casing
- 6. Cut-pull production casing
- 7. Log intermediate casing for cement
- 8. Plug #3 (section mill in case of poor cement)
- 9. Cut intermediate casings, plug #4

## PLANNED ABANDONMENT PROGRAM



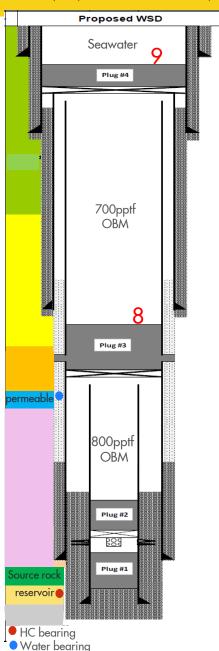
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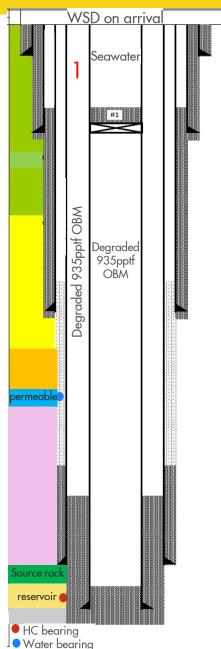
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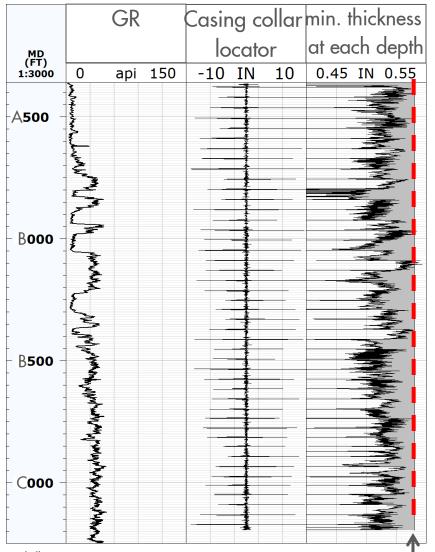
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## **EXECUTION: CASING INTEGRITY**



- 1. Check integrity production casing above plug and absence gas cap in annulus
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# CASING INTEGRITY

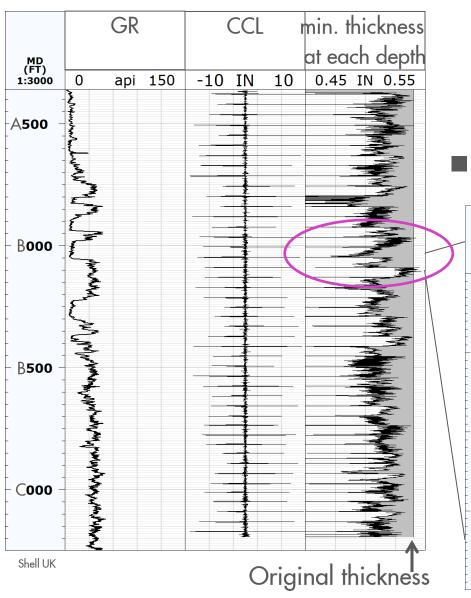


■ Objective: determine if casing is thick enough to withstand possible high pressure

Shell UK

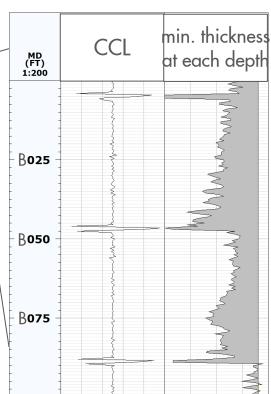
Original thickness

# **RESULTS: CASING INTEGRITY**

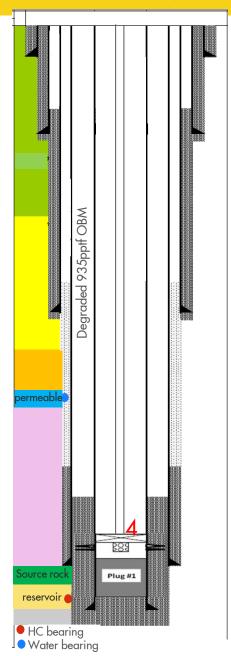


#### ■ Result:

- average 96%, minimum thickness85% of original thickness >>minimum required
- no gas in annulus
- Conclusion: Safe to drill out plug



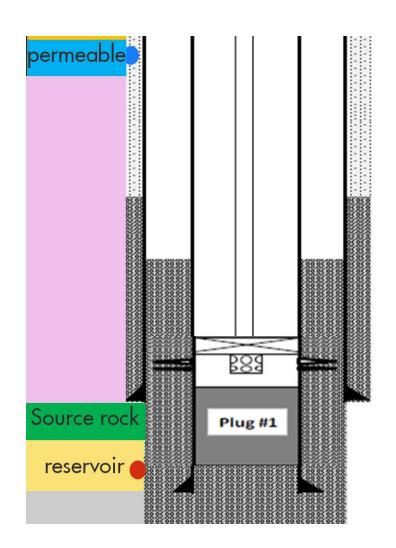
## **EXECUTION: INFLOW TEST**



- 1. Check integrity production casing above plug and absence gas cap in annulus
- 2. Drill out shallow plug
- 3. Cement plug #1
- 4. Perforate & inflow test
- 5. Log production casing
- 6. Cut-pull production casing
- 7. Log intermediate casing for cement
- 8. Plug #2 (section mill in case of poor cement)
- 9. Cut intermediate casings, plug #3, plug #4

# Objective:

Confirm isolation of the reservoir

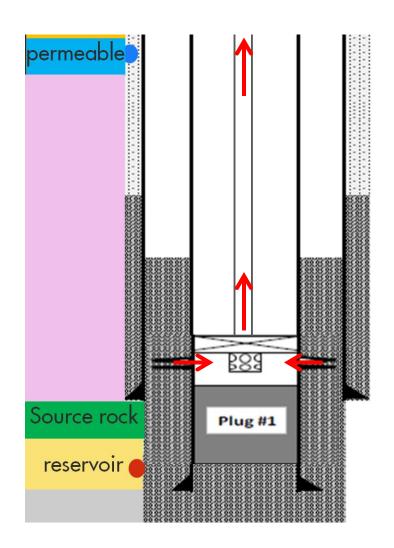


# Objective:

Confirm isolation of the reservoir

Observation:

Gas inflow



# Objective:

Confirm isolation of the reservoir

Observation:

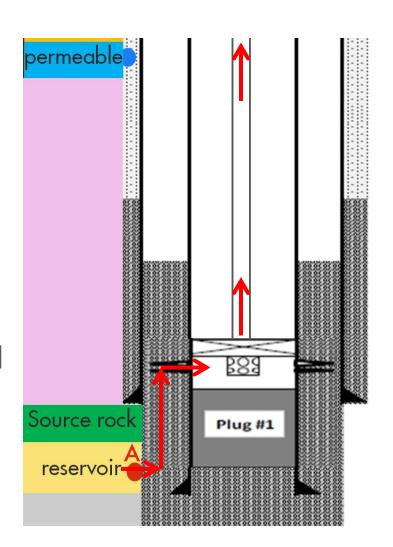
Gas inflow

Possible source A:

From the reservoir

# Consequence:

Reservoir not isolated => suspend the well and further work on how to isolate it



# Objective:

Confirm isolation of the reservoir

Observation:

Gas inflow

Possible source B:

From overlying source rock

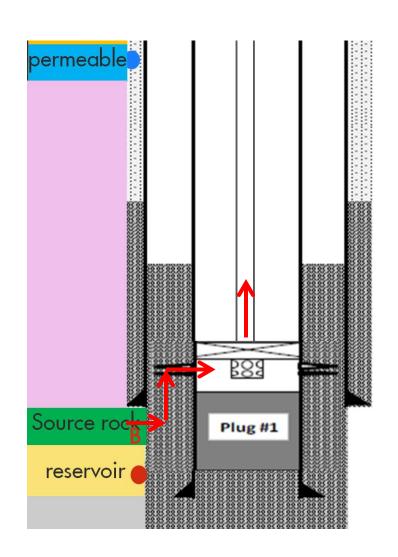
Consequence:

Limited volume

Reservoir isolated

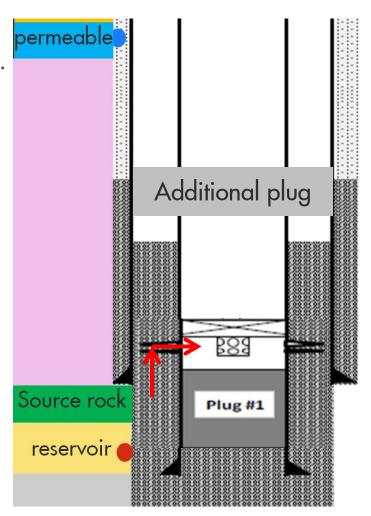
Set additional plug

=> Continue abandonment

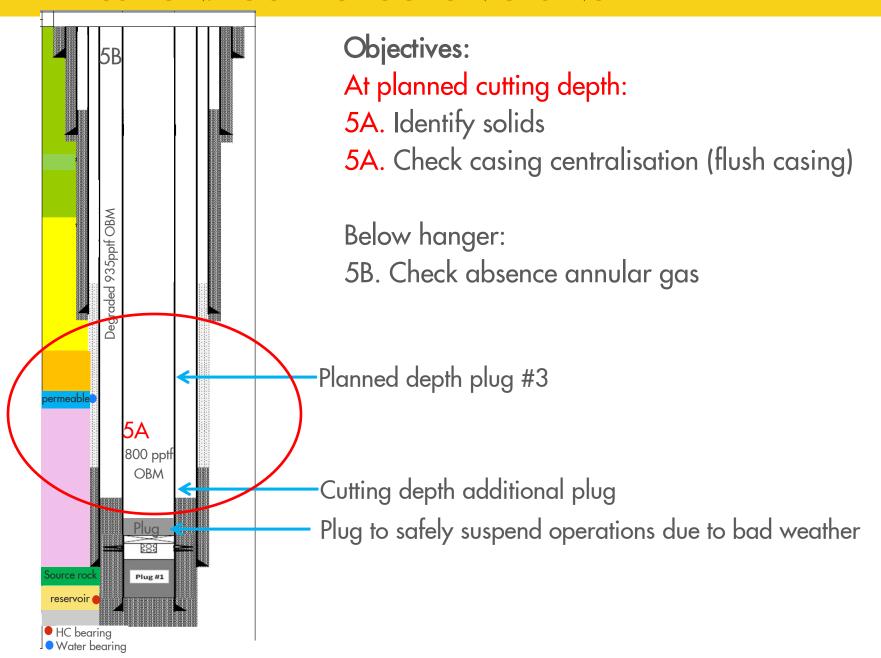


#### Distinction source A or B

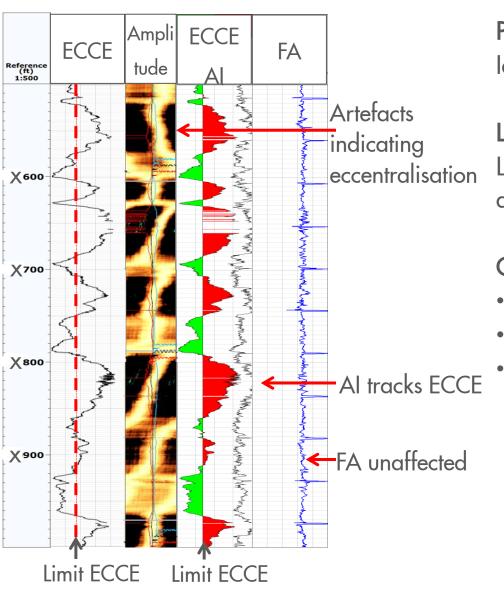
- Plug #1 prevents logging over reservoir, e.g.
   cement log or noise log
- More inflow tests:
  - Results:
    - Source inconclusive
    - Low inflow rates (0.4 l/min)
  - Decision: low flow rates manageable.
     Set additional plug
     and continue abandonment.



# EXECUTION: LOG PRODUCTION CASING



## LOG QC ISSUE



#### Primary objective:

Identify possible presence solids

#### Log QC issue:

Large interval with tool eccentricity outside acoustic impedance QC limit

#### Consequence:

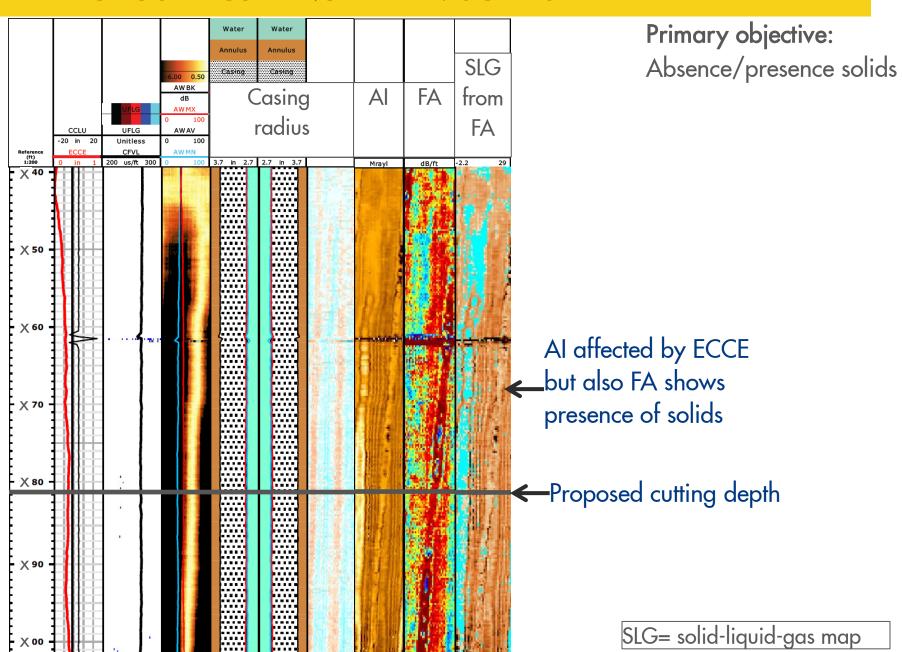
- Acoustic impedance reads too high
- False identification of solids
- FA not affected (higher tolerance)

ECCE= tool eccentricity

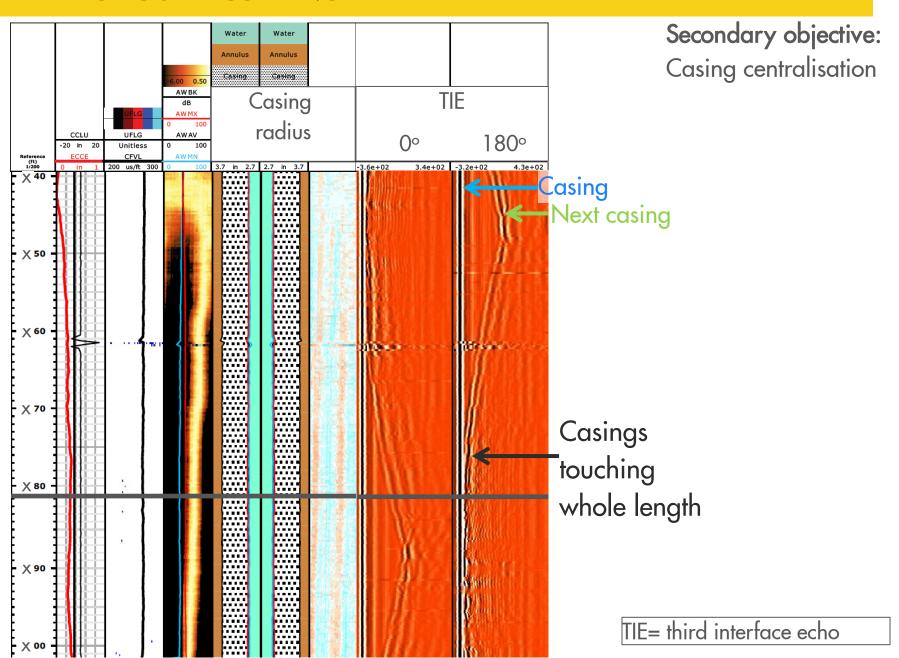
Al= acoustic impedance

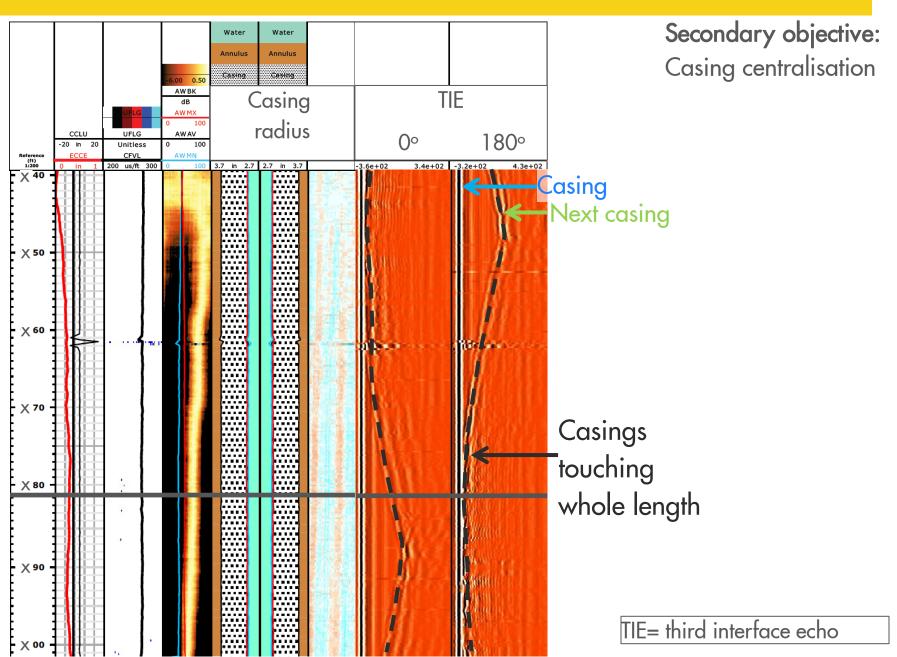
FA= flexural attenuation

# AT PROPOSED CUTTING DEPTH: SOLIDS



Secondary objective: Casing centralisation





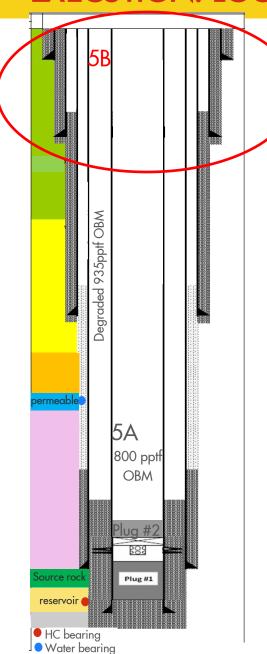
#### **Observations:**

- 1. Flexural attenuation indicates presence of solids at possible cutting depths
- 2. Production and intermediate casing in contact over large interval covering possible cutting depths

#### Consequences:

- Solids would hamper pulling the casing
- Cutting would damage the intermediate casing => exposure of formation to high mud weight => temporarily suspend the well, further work on the abandonment plan

# EXECUTION: LOG PRODUCTION CASING



# Objectives:

At planned cutting depth:

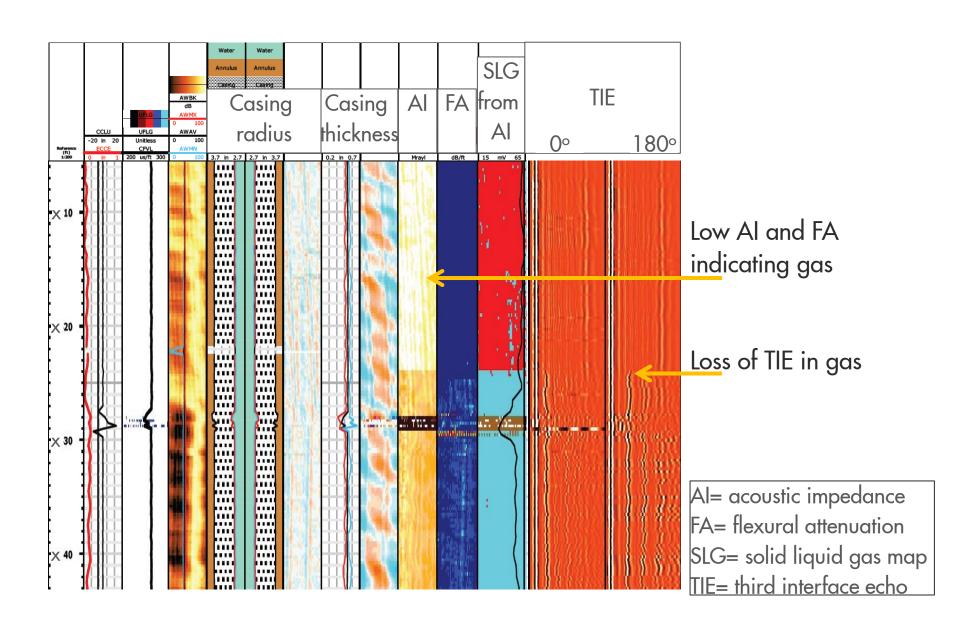
5A. Identify solids

5A. Check casing centralisation (flush casing)

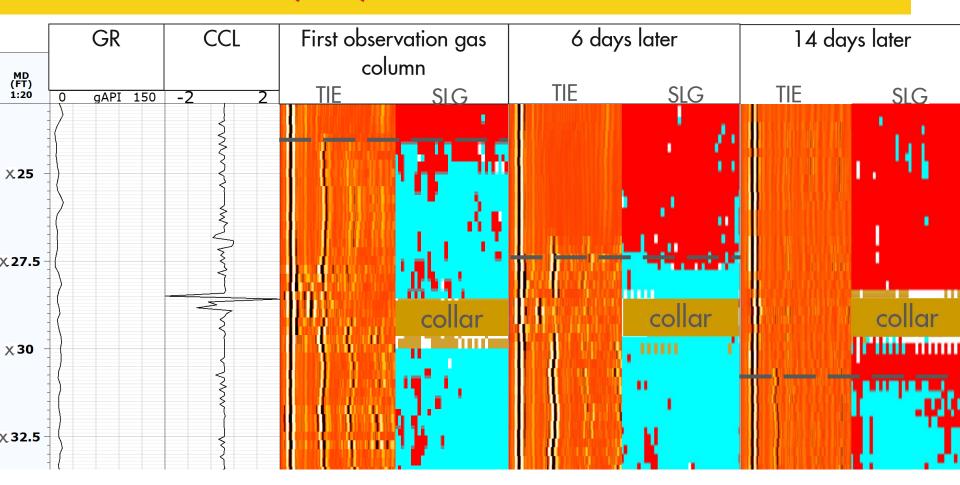
# Below hanger:

5B. Check absence annular gas

# ANNULAR INTERPRETATION BELOW THE HANGER



# CHANGE OF GAS/AIR/VACUUM COLUMN OVER TIME



Observations: No gas on rig arrival. Now, increasing gas/air/vacuum column in annulus

Consequence: Risk of exposure to gas/air

**Decision:** Temporarily suspend the well

# CONCLUSIONS

	Observation	Conclusion	Decision/action
Casing integrity above plug	85% of original casing thickness	Casing able to withstand potential high pressure	Safely drill out shallow plug
Inflow tests	Gas flow but low rate	Source unclear	Continue abandonment with additional plug
Log at cutting depth	<ul><li>Solids at proposed cutting depth</li><li>Casings in contact</li></ul>	<ul><li>Pulling casing hampered</li><li>Risk of damaging intermediate casing</li></ul>	Temporarily suspend well and further work on the abandonment plan
Log below hanger	Gas/air/vacuum below hanger	Risk of exposure to gas/air	

Cased hole logging provided vital information for identifying and mitigating safety risks, enabling us to make the right decisions.



# **RESULTS: CASING INTEGRITY**

