

AER Thermal In Situ Solvent Reporting

Jurisdiction	Release/Revision Date	Location of Change in this Document	Comment
AB	June 5/24		Initial Release

Audience: All Alberta Heavy Oil Operators

Purpose:

To notify Alberta (AB) stakeholders that effective June 6, 2024, new thermal in situ reporting functionality for AB heavy oil operators will come into effect and allow operators to track underground inventories of injected and recovered solvent at subtype 344 (In situ Oil Sands) and 345 (Sulphur Reporting at Oil Sands) batteries and associated subtype 506 (In situ Oil Sands) injection facilities. The AER's [Manual 011: How to Submit Volumetric Data to the AER](#) will be updated with details of this new functionality in the next revision. A Petrinex learning module will also be available soon to help operators understand how to use this new reporting functionality.

Background:

The Petrinex Industry Benefits Committee requested enhancements in Petrinex to make heavy oil reporting more transparent and accurate by allowing the recovered injected solvent to be reported separately from oil production. Heavy oil operators will now be able to differentiate between solvent (COND) recovery and native oil production. The functionality is optional and is *not* a new heavy oil reporting requirement.

Key Principles:

New activities are available for reporting for SAGD wells linked only to 344, 345 & 506 subtypes as follows:

- ISINVOP In situ solvent inventory opening
- ISINVCL In situ solvent inventory closing
- ISINVADJ In situ solvent inventory adjustment
- ISINJ In situ solvent injection
- ISREC In situ solvent recovery

Operators will be able to use the ISINJ activity at the well level to report the injection of solvent (COND) at SAGD wells linked to the associated injection facility. Operators will be able use the ISREC activity at the well level to report the recovery of the injected solvent at SAGD wells linked to the associated



TIP

battery. Unrecovered injected solvent inventory will be kept at the battery level for all linked wells. This means that the injected solvent recovered at each linked well could be higher than the injected solvent volume at the same well; however, the total recovered injected solvent across all linked wells cannot exceed the total available for the month at the battery.

Monthly total available unrecovered injected solvent volume =

Total solvent injected (ISINJ) at all wells linked to the associated injection facility for the month.

+

Opening inventory (ISINVOP) of unrecovered injected solvent tracked at the associated battery.

+

Injected solvent inventory adjustments (ISINVADJ) for the month.

When operators choose to use this new reporting functionality, it will include a new chargeable VME0064 error, which will be generated if the total recovered injected solvent volume exceeds the amount available to be recovered for the month – see the [AER Error Message Identifier Description and Associated Fee table](#). There will be a six-month shadow billing period (ending October 2024 production month) where any VME0064 errors will appear on the volumetric deficiency invoice but will not be charged, for operators using the new thermal in situ functionality. Following this six month period, any outstanding errors that have not been fixed will be charged on the next AER volumetric deficiency invoice.

More information:

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