

COMPILATION OF GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION FOR THE RICHTON SALT DOME, PERRY COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI



Project Description:

The Richton Salt Dome, located in Perry County, Mississippi, underlies parts of the town of Richton, Mississippi. Because the dome represents a significant, undeveloped mineral resource, the Mississippi Mineral Resources Institute has under taken a project to compile geological data that can be used to promote its economic development. This compilation should provide a source / guide to the governmental and professional literature, hydrocarbon well data, sulfur exploration well data, and wells drilled by the U.S. Department of Energy contractors.

Project Status:

Project is currently active, with a completion target date of August, 2014.

Publication Status:

MMRI Open-file Report 14-01S, July 2014 (available July, 31, 2014) and a companion set of digital data for distribution by the internet is due to be complete in August, 2014.

Important Conclusions from the Project:

- Salt has been sampled at a depth of 767 feet below the surface.
- There are an estimated 3885 acres of limestone caprock (forms above the salt) at a depth of 600 feet.
- There is an estimated 4,376 acres of salt at a depth of 2000 feet.
- Review of the literature has identified 66 significant references
 Note: Modified from Werner, 1986 to the Richton Salt Dome from governmental (State and Federal) agencies and reports found in the professional literature.
- The Carolyn Blackmon Nuclear Waste Disposal Research Collection is housed at the McCain Library on the campus of the University of Southern Mississippi.
- 16 hydrocarbon wells have been identified including wells within the producing East Apollo Field.
- 34 sulfur exploration wells have been identified in the over dome area.
- 42 characterization wells drilled by the U.S. Department of Energy have been identified.
- The Richton Salt Dome is potentially suited for : 1) conventional mining for common salt, 2) storage of liquid hydrocarbons, 3) storage of natural gas, 4) storage of hydrocarbon products, 5) development of compressed air energy facilities (electricity peak-shaving technology).

Contact:

Greg Easson, Director; e-mail: geasson@olemiss.edu; ph. (662) 915-5995

