ATCO Study to Determine the Feasibility of Developing Salt Caverns for Hydrocarbon Storage in Western North Dakota

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Overview

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ATCO – One Company, Infinite Possibilities

Established in 1947, with approximately **6,000 employees** and assets of **\$23 billion**, ATCO is a diversified global corporation delivering service excellence and innovative business solutions in:

- Structures & Logistics workforce housing, innovative modular facilities, construction, site support services, and logistics and operations management
- Energy Infrastructure electricity generation, transmission, and distribution; natural gas transmission, distribution and infrastructure development; energy storage and industrial water solutions; and electricity and natural gas retail sales
- Transportation ports and transportation logistics
- Commercial Real Estate









ATCO'S Energy Storage Experience

- ATCO has developed and operated salt caverns in the Alberta Industrial Heartland for over 30 years
- We currently operate 6 natural gas caverns and 4 natural gas liquids caverns
- We have the potential to develop many more caverns





The Big Picture

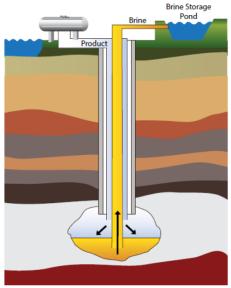


Salt Cavern Storage Uses

Salt cavern storage is reliable and cost-effective for **storing large volumes** of gases and liquids.

Commercial uses for salt caverns include:

- Hydrocarbon storage
- Storage of other industrial gases
- Waste disposal
- Energy Storage



Liquid Injection and Brine Removal



Study Purpose & Expected Results

PURPOSE

- Establish the technical and economic viability of developing salt caverns in western North Dakota
- In particular, the viability of hydrocarbon storage to support a large petrochemical facility
- Petrochemical development will require affordable large capacity hydrocarbon storage in the form of salt caverns

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Confirm the suitability of western North Dakota as a location for the economic development of salt cavern storage
- Determine locations in western North Dakota that salt cavern development is viable
- Establish the optimum size of cavern that can be developed
- Develop a cost estimate for developing the caverns to assess economic feasibility

ATCO

Value to the State

- This study would provide significant value to the state on the feasibility of commercial salt cavern storage in western North Dakota, for a variety of uses.
- This study will specifically provide the State:
 - Improved understanding of its geology and natural resources and of the potential to develop its salt resources
 - Full access to comprehensive and detailed technical information about the **potential opportunities for commercial development** of its salt resources
 - Baseline technical and economic information and knowledge that can directly support economic growth by attracting petrochemical and other new industries which require bulk storage
 - Enhanced marketability of its salt formations





Incremental Value to the State

- Should the petrochemical industry be enabled by a positive outcome for the development of salt caverns, **additional benefits to the State** are enormous and include:
 - **Preservation of existing oil and gas jobs** by preventing oil production curtailment due to pipeline constraints or flaring restrictions
 - **Creation of new jobs** in new value-add industries which require cavern storage
 - Continued or increased oil production royalties
 - Increased tax revenue from economic growth
 - **Expand local economies** in the area around any developments



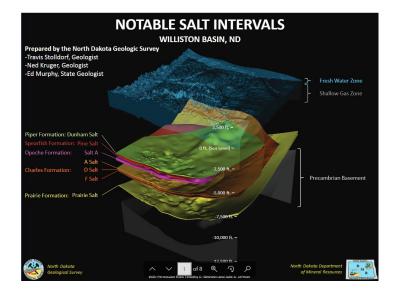


ATCO's Research in North Dakota To Date

Prior to making our application, **ATCO conducted a preliminary assessment** including:

- Review of existing papers and research
- Independent geological interpretation
- Preliminary cavern development assessment
- Preliminary assessment of access to required surface infrastructure

This preliminary feasibility study indicated **potential to develop salt caverns** in Western North Dakota



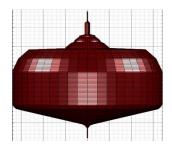


Salt Cavern Feasibility Study Overview

Based on these results, and to further advance this preliminary assessment, ATCO is proposing to:

- Conduct a detailed study to confirm the potential to develop commercially viable salt caverns using a team of specialists and local expertise
- Conduct our study in 2 Phases:
 - 1. A **theoretical assessment** based on 'typical' salt and rock characteristics
 - 2. Validation based on 'actual' salt and rock properties

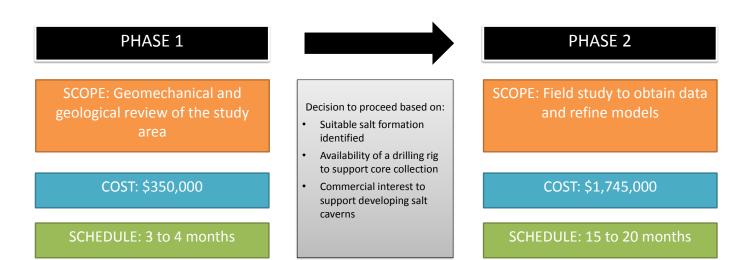
Funding match requested is 50% of the total cost







Study Summary



Phase 1

The initial phase of the study will include:

- Detailed geological review of the suitable salt and disposal formations
- Preliminary geomechanical engineering assessment of cavern stability
- Preliminary cavern development engineering
- Overall cavern development assessment (by integrating results of the above studies)
- Interim report

Phase 1 Expected Results

- Mapping showing primary potential cavern development locations based on salt thickness
- Preliminary assessment of cavern size and stability
- Preliminary cavern development timeline and cost
- Identify most probable cavern development locations for further study in Phase 2

Phase 2

The second phase of the study will use the results of the initial phase and will include:

- Selection of target location to obtain core (working with producers)
- Seismic to validate salt formation
- Collection of core samples of salt and surrounding rock zones
- Testing on salt and rock samples
- Geological, geomechanical and cavern engineering results updates
- Final assessment and report

Phase 2 Expected Results

- One location selected for detailed evaluation
- Detailed mapping of the selected location using seismic data
- Mechanical properties for the salt zone(s) and surrounding rock layers determined via core
- Detailed modeling of cavern size and stability
- Detailed modeling of cavern development and timeline

Determination of feasibility of potential to economically develop caverns

Salt Cavern Study – Confidentiality

- ATCO requests that the materials developed through the study be kept confidential for a period of four years from the start of the study
- The results of the study will provide the technical and economic roadmap to developing salt caverns in North Dakota
- Four years of confidentiality will allow ATCO the opportunity to earn a return on its investment in the study

