

Upgrader Options: Mined Versus In-situ Bitumen Production

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ABSTRACT

The optimal configuration for an upgrader is largely influenced by the associated bitumen production methodology. The most attractive upgrader configuration for processing bitumen derived from a nearby in-situ facility can be significantly different compared to an upgrader processing mined bitumen.

This presentation describes the major issues that need to be addressed during conceptual design studies. These issues include: selection of upgrader conversion technology, capacity, upstream/upgrader integration, by-product utilization, waste disposal, etc. The relative importance to the upgrader of each of these considerations is explored for the two bitumen production methods.