

Sklar spuds Smackover wildcat in remote part of Clarke County, Alabama

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Sklar Exploration is under way at a Smackover wildcat in Alabama's Clarke County, nearly 15 miles from the nearest oil production.

WT Drilling's Rig #16 spud the 1 Dwight Harrigan "2-6" (API 01-025-20266) on August 6. The 11,100-ft wildcat is being drilled in the nw of section 2-10n-2e.

Offsetting the company's vertical test is the 1 Harrigan, which was abandoned in 1968 at a depth of 3077 ft in the Eutaw.

Deeper drilling is two miles to the west in section 4. In 1984, Champlin Petroleum's 1 Omelia "4-2" was drilled to a total depth of 11,604 ft. Log tops at the abandoned venture included the Buckner at 10,068 ft, Smackover at 10,111 ft and Norphlet at 10,159 ft.

Smackover oil production in this part of Clarke County is approximately 15 miles west of Sklar's wildcat. The 1 Mrs. Pelham "16-2" in section 16-10n-1w was drilled in 1986 to a total depth of 11,400 ft in the Norphlet. Online through May 2003, the Kelley Industries-operated discovery yielded 201,881 bbls of crude, 13.4 million cu ft of gas and 491,445 bbls of water through perforations in the Smackover at 11,190-11,198 ft. It was the lone producer in Pace Creek field.

Over the past year, Venture Oil & Gas has been active in the area surrounding the abandoned Pace Creek field well. In December, Venture's 1 McCorquodale "15-5" was abandoned at 11,500 ft. To the south is Venture's shallower 1 Harrigan Family, which was abandoned in November 2012 at a depth of 5030 ft in the Eutaw.

Venture has abandoned two other tests in the area since October 2012.

Current Smackover oil production is in far western Clarke County's Womack Hill field, which came online in 1970.

