APPLICATION OF LONG-REACH DIRECTIONAL DRILLING

for gas drainage of adjacent seams in coal mines with severe geological conditions

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Methane in the Context of the Transition of the Coal Sector 27-28 September, 2021















COAL PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES



*Source: https://yearbook.enerdata.net/coal-lignite/coal-production-data.html

GLOBAL CMM EMISSIONS



Source: https://www.epa.gov/cmop/frequent-questions

TOTAL GAS RELEASED DURING MINING OPERATIONS IN POLISH UNDERGROUND HARD COAL MINES

(about 819.6 mln m^3) 803.8. mln m^3 in 2019



MITIGATION OF CMM EMISSIONS:

- CBM opeations (ahead of mining)
- Underground drainage
- Utilisation of VAM



Fortman Clean Energy Technology Ltd VAM Abatement Project, Gaohe Mine, Shanxi Province, China



Biothermica VAMOX™, Blue Creek Mine #4 Mine, Alabama, USA

*EPA-430-F-19-023 Ventilation Air Methane (VAM) Utilization Technologies, July 2019









Swick Mining Services Limited

MOTIVATION

Reduce GHG emissions Improve safety and productivity

Hard Coal Production and Methane Outburst Accidents in Polish Coal Mines total number of fatalities 320



CMM released and captured during mining operations in 2018 Methane drainage efficiency 34.6%



	Year												
Specification	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		
Absolute methane bearing capacity (million m ³ /year)	834.9	828.8	828.2	847.8	891.2	933.0	933.8	918.7	916.1	803.8	819.6		
Methane drainage (million m ³ /year)	255.9 30.65%	250.2 30.19%	266.7 32.20%	276.6 32.63%	321.1 36.03%	338.97 36.33%	342.1 36.64%	324.9 35.37%	317 34.60%	301.6 37.50%	302.8 37.00%		
Amount of economically utilized methane (million m ³ /year)	161.1 19.30%	166.3 20.07%	178.6 21.56%	187.7 22.14%	211.4 23.27%	197.09 21.12%	195.0 20.88%	209.1 22.76%	203.1 22.1%	189.4 23.5%	187.9 23.0%		
Number of the hard coal mines	32	31	31	30	30	30	23 (34 plants)	21 (27 plants)	20 (30 plants)	20 (30 plants)	17 (23 plants)		
Hard coal output (Mt)	76.1	75.5	79.2	76.5	72.5	72.2	70.4	65.8	63.4	61.6	54.4		

METHANE DRAINAGE CONSIDERATIONS

Geologic characterization

Reservoir characterization

Source of gas emissions

Mining technique

Operation time schedule/mining activity

Drainage approach/techniques



METHANE CONTROL STRATEGIES

- dilution to safe concentrations with the ventilation system
- capturing in boreholes gas drainage galleries

The strategy for gas control varies among different mines. In some coal mines the methane release at the operating longwall can be effectively managed using a ventilation air system. In gasses coal mines, however usually a combination of drainage and ventilation must be used.



LONG REACH DIRECTIONAL DRILLING

LRDD can operate in-seam cross a seam or be a combination of both

Drilled above the coal panel into the fractured zone (inside coal or sandstone) but above strata relaxation zone and gob zone

The rate of methane release in disturbed strata depends on:

- gas content
- thickness of disturbed coal seams
- strength of coal-bearing strata
- coal seam permeability
- rate of coal production
- the geometry of mine workings
- and mine design
- geology



DD-MET PROJECT GANTT CHART

				9				28	.09.2	021									
		1 st Year			2 nd Y ear			3 rd Year				1	4 th Y ear			5 th Y ear			
Work packages	Work packages' title	ш	IV	I	п	ш	IV	I	п	ш	IV	I	п	ш	IV	I	п	ш	IV
WP 1	COORDINATION AND REPORTING	1							-	11									
Task1.1	Administration																		D1
Task 1.2	Technical Co-ordination		D2	1.1.1															
Task1.3	Co-ordination and partnership level													-			_		
Task 1.4	Co-ordination of knowlage management			a		1						1	1. I	1	1.0				
WP 2	LABORATORY AND FELD EXPERIMENTS (Characterisation of coal seams and rock)				M1				M2			M3 M4							
Task2.1	Evaluation of the initial conditions of the analyzed coal seam taking into account mining activity in its							D	3			D							
Task2.2	Characterisctics of the nas-coal system											Bé							1
Task 2.3	Laboratory experiments	-															<u> </u>	1	<u> </u>
Task2.4	Measurement of prevailing stress and geomechanical parameters	-								1 (a)		De							
WP 3	NUMERICAL MODELING AND SIMULATION S					(M5			Mő		
Task 3.1	Geological data integration and interpretation		1		-	- A.		5		al and a		-					1		<u> </u>
Task 3.2	Development of structural models and 3D models of petrophysical and geomechanical properties				1								-87						
Task 3.3	Development of geomechanical models of stress fields and resulting deformations													1	De				3
Task3.4	Construction, initialization and calibration of dynamical simulation models																		1
Task 3.5	Assessment of the drainage strategy performance and optimization of																100		
WP 4	FIELD SCALE DEMONSTRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION					0										M7 M8		M9	
Task4.1	Technology development, Technical design and drilling of long directional													DNO					<u> </u>
Task42	Evaluation of neomechanical stability	-	-	S												Dit	-		-
Task 4.3	I ong-term monitoring and assessment					10						-						Dt	
WP5	RISK ASSESSMENT																	-	
Task5.1	Potencial failure mode analysis			· · · · · ·		0		1					M 10	Dt			-		
Task 5.2	Environmental risk assessment																	E) 14	
WP6	PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY, LCA ANALYSIS AND ECOEFFICIENCY ANALYSIS																	M11 M12	
Task6.1	Data inventory													D15					
Task 6.2	Pre-feasibility study																	D16	
Task 6.3	Life cycle assessment (LCA)																-	D37	
Task6.4	Ecoefficiency analysis																	D:18	
WP7	CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND DISSEMINATIONS																		M13
Task7.1	Dissemination workshop															1			Dat
Task7.2	Lessons learned document																		D2
Task7.3	Publications			1	1					1									

AREA OF INVESTIGATION



le. 1 Segment of the geological cross-section A, - ** through lot C, including the longwell I-C.

The value of the calculated criterion methane bearing capacity is lower than the estimated absolute methane bearing capacity for the longwall progress 6.0/day, the maximum value of which is 26.07 m³ CH₄/min, which implies the use of methane drainage

Mine experience acquired during the operation of coal panels in the IV category of methane hazard

AREA OF INVESTIGATION



Horizontal resolution 25 x 25 m

Structural model of the strata between 610 and 414 coal seams

LOCATION AND TRAJECTORIES OF METHANE DRAINAGE BOREHOLES

"Fractures' rose" diagram





Borehole	Vertical output angle	Total length (m)	Length in coal (m) (% of total length)	Maximum production rate (m ³ /min)	Face position vs maximum production rate
TM1a	+ 16°	402	42.0 (10.4)	2.0	1
TM2	+ 8°	401	39.1 (9.8)	7.1	24 m behind the faceline
TM4	+ 16°	302	18.3 (6.1)	5.2	56.5 m behind the faceline
TM3	+ 6°	300	29.3 (9.8)	4.1	29 m behind the faceline
TM5	+ 16°	301	10.5 (3.5)	4.9	18 m in front of the faceline

PERFORMENCE OF LRDD WELLS







Gas Flow, CH₄ Flow and Longwall Advance - TM3



Gas Flow, CH₄ Flow and Longwall Advance - TM4



Gas Flow, CH₄ Flow and Longwall Advance - TM5



PERFORMENCE OF LRDD WELLS





Measured Gob Gas Production Period — Methane Flow — Gas Flow — Concentration



METHANE CONCENTRATION IN CROSS-MEASURE BOREHOLES





DRAINAGE EFFICIENCY

Conventional: 763 588.8 m³ CH₄ (30.1%) LRDD: 1 773 100.8 m³ CH₄ (69.9%) SUM: 2 536 689.6 m³ CH₄



Comparison between conventional and LRDD drainage efficiency 5 monts period



COAL PROPERTIES

SORPTION ISOTHERMS (selected samples)



- Methane-bearing capacity test
- Chromatographic analysis
- Physico-chemical parameters
- (hygroscopic moisture content Wh, ash content A, volatile matter content Vdaf)
- Sorption isotherms
- (sorption capacity, sorption capacity in reference to daf, effective diffusion coefficient, and half-time sorption)

The sorption isotherms for the indicated pressures are similar, which is also reflected in similar pore structure of the analyzed coal samples



COAL PROPERTIES PORE STRUCTURE





The total porosity for clastic rock is moderate with median at about 10%. For coal samples the median of total porosity is about 6%.

Clastic rocks are dominated by macropores (2-10 um) while coals are almost completedy dominated by nanopores (<0.1um)

COAL PROPERTIES FILTRATION PROPERTIES



1 \	P total
	krg krw
	23
No. of Street,	53
	10

0.20

0.00

40 50 Sw

Sw	Krg	Krw
0.00	1.00	-
23.26	0.36	0.000
51.66	0.11	0.006
53.02	0.06	0.010
100.00	-	0.139

conditions. Such type of curves suggests conditions which will facilitate gas flow

GEOLOGICAL MODELLING LITOTHYPES

Geostatistical analysis



3D model of lithotypes occuring in the drainage area



Horizontal resolution 25 x 25 m

Horizontal resolution 1 x 1 m

GEOLOGICAL MODELLING PHI/K



3D permeability model in the drainage area



3D porosity model in the drainage area

GEOLOGICAL MODELLING 3D models of geomechanical properties



Parametr						Shale				andy shale		Sandstone			
	Q+III	Conglomerate	Coal	Goaf	Coal shale	Westfal	Namur	Namur	Westfal	Namur	Namur	Westfal	Namur	Namur	
		(Jacobsen, 1943)			Malkowski,	A	С	В	A	С	В	Α	С	В	
					2008	CS 300	CS 400	PCS 500	CS 300	CS 400	CS 500	CS 300	CS 400	CS 500	
	0.8		2.08		5	1.424-6.79 av 4.69			3.94	-6.89 av. 5	5.14	4.09-8.18 av 5.73			
E [GPa]	Zhu et	41	WP2	1.77	Malkowski,	(KWK-M-S archival data)			(KWR	-M-S archival	data)	(KWK-M-S archival data)			
	al., 2019				2008										
	0.35		0.29		0.28	0.07-0.37 av 0.16			0.0	6-0.3 av 0.	14	0.07-0.2 av 0.12			
PR	Zhu et	0.25	WP2	0.27	Malkowski,	(KWK-M-S archival data)			(KWK-M-S archival data)			(KWK-M-S archival data)			
1.51.531	al., 2019				2008										
UCS	6.9		24.6		28.78	°						39-56.3			
[MPa]	Zhu et	40	WP2	12.3	Malkowski,	22.6-	31.7	-61.8	8-31.7 24.8-47.6			14-36.1 (KWK-M-S archival		rchival data)	
	al., 2019				2008	51.4									
TENSILE			0.6	1.23	2.88	0.29	-4.42 av 1	.47	1.2	3-3.82 av 2	.15	1.15-4.55 av 2.82			
	0.69	4	WP2			(KWK	-M-S archival	data)	(KWR	-M-S archival	data)	(KWK-M-S archival data)			
DENS	Well log	Well log	WP2	1.14	2.14	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	
PORO	Well log	Well log	WP2	30	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	Well log	
	28	35	22	-	33.5	46.5	33.5	46.5	37.5	46	37.5	57	53	55.5	
EA	(Ortuz,	(Jacobsen, 1943)	(Szott et	30	(Godula,	(Godula,	(Godula,	(Godula,	(Godula,	(Godula,	(Godula,	(Godula,	(Godula,	(Godula,	
FA	1986)		al., 2018)		1984)	1984)	1984)	1984)	1984)	1984)	1984)	1984)	1984)	1984)	
BIOT	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	

Based on well log data; KWK M-S archival data; WP2 data; Zhu et al., 2019; Ortuz, 1986; Jacobsen, 1942; Szott et al., 2018; Malkowski, 2008; Godula, 1984)

GEOLOGICAL MODELLING calculation of stress and strain field in mining conditions affected by the mining activity







CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE PLANS

- The preliminary results of pilot wells proved that LRDD technology is an effective tool for improving safety and productivity during coal extraction and helps reducing GHG emissions in SW CM
- The obtained high CH₄ drainage efficiency for LRDD wells could be a coincidence of high coal CH₄ content and good reservoir properties for barren rocks such as high permeability, moderate porosity, high uniaxial compressive strength – UCS
- Also, the location of LRDD wells with the favorable regime of the primary and secondary fracture system seems to play an important role in drainage efficiency
- This hypothesis is being verified using laboratory tests and geological modeling tools







Longwall Panel II-C, ZGRII LRDD Boreholes without Cross-Measure Boreholes.



Longwall Panel II-C (160 x 1390 m)

C

- Borehole placed at 20 m above Coal Seam 501 🔴 Borehole placed at 23 m above Coal Seam 501 - 🔿 Borehole placed at 25 m above Coal Seam 501 - 🔴
- Borehole placed at 30 m above Coal Seam 501 🔵
- Borehole placed at 35 m above Coal Seam 501 🔵

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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