

ACID GAS INJECTION ELIMINATES SULFUR RECOVERY EXPENSE

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Because sulfur recovery from produced gas has little value at this time, an alternative is to compress the acid gas (H_2S , CO_2 , or a mixture of both) and inject it into a suitable underground zone, similar to produced water disposal.

Sour natural gas containing sulfur in the form of hydrogen sulfide (H_2S) presents a double cost to producers. First, the gas has to be sweetened with a solvent, and second, most of the H_2S has to be converted to sulfur. Both processes are expensive.

Acid gas reinjection eliminates sulfur compounds and carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions into the atmosphere. This compression and injection process has been rapidly developed and adopted in Western Canada for handling acid gas streams from sour gas sweetening facilities.