



Metadata Citation Information

Title: Mallik Gas Hydrate Production Research Program
Weekly Science Report #3
February 5 - 11, 2008

Author: Scott Dallimore

Status: Final report

Affiliation: Natural Resources Canada
9860 West Saanich Road
P.O. Box 6000
Sidney, BC
V8L 4B2

Prepared for: General distribution

Submission date: February 11, 2008

Review status: R. Bowen/S. Dallimore
Unedited technical report as provided by lead NRCan
scientist. It is included here as background program
documentation only.

Distribution: Public



PROJECT STAFF ON SITE

INUVIK

NRCAN- F. Wright, M. Nixon

AURORA - A. Applejohn, A. Taylor, A. Jenks

K. Martin, G. Serrano

JOGMEC- M. Numasawa, J. Tomomoto

MALLIK

AURORA- J. McEachern

+26 hearty souls at weeks end continuing to build our lease.

WEEKLY WEATHER

The weather has been stable for most of the week, warming slightly on the coast to a comfortable -30 to -35°C during the day at Mallik. Temperatures in Inuvik were colder this which is unusual. With temperatures about -40°C during the evenings, Al Taylor was housebound at Aurora Lodge during this year's annual lantern ski at the Inuvik Ski Club. For those who don't know Al, he is easy to recognize on the ski trails as he has the longest skis north of 60.

We are now in the mobilization phase of our program and thus we are keeping a close eye on trucks transporting our equipment from southern Canada to Mallik. As of Feb 11, eyes are on weather in the Richardson Mountains as the Dempster Highway is closed at Eagle Plains. The Environment Canada weather forecast can be cryptic at times leaving the user to do some guess work. Today's alert seems clear however with the weather reasonable in most places in the Inuvik area, except the Richardson mountains!

Issued 11.00 AM PST Monday 11 February 2008

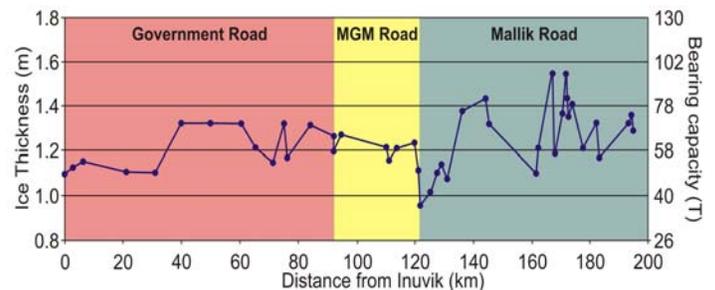
Blizzard warning in effect.

Today: Flurries, except blizzard near the Richardson mountains. Wind east 40 km/h except 70 gusting to 90 near the Richardson mountains. Temperature steady near minus 28. Extreme wind chill minus 52. Frostbite in minutes.

Tonight: Flurries except blizzard near the Richardson mountains. Wind east 40 km/h, except 70 gusting to 90 near the Richardson mountains. Temperature steady near minus 28. Extreme wind chill minus 50. Risk of frostbite.

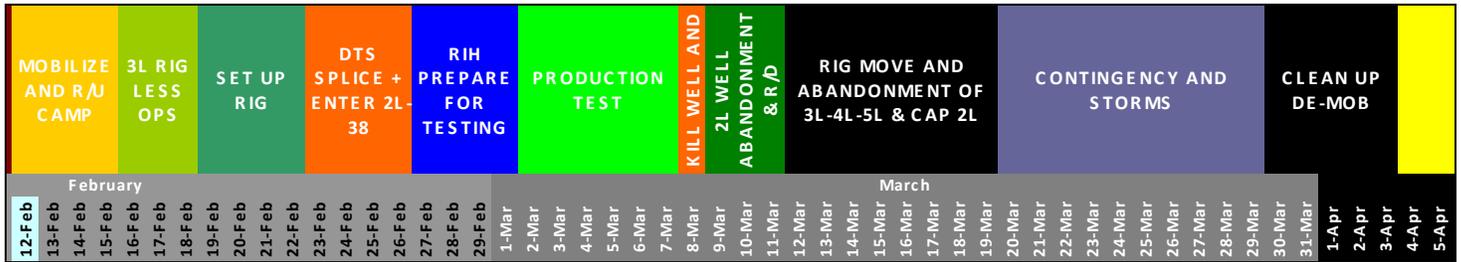
FIELD OPERATIONS

MALLIK ICE ROAD - One of the strategies to optimize field work this year was to choose our start date as late as possible to allow for natural ice growth. Many of you will have seen Michelle Côté's weekly email weather recaps and estimates of ice growth based on a calculated freezing indices. This week we were able to check her predictions by carrying out a 197 km long radar survey of our entire ice road between Inuvik and Mallik. As shown in the figure below, things have shaped up very well with more than a metre of ice along the entire Mallik road allowing us safe transportation of up to 40,000 kg loads.



Radar profile from Inuvik to Mallik collected on February 8th

MALLIK LEASE - E. Grubens Transport deserves a great deal of praise for their excellent work on the Mallik ice pad. Their equipment is running well, their crews are motivated and well supervised. The GSC has a fair bit of experience building ice roads and pads, and frankly Mark and Scott were really worried about getting this task done on schedule. A word of thanks also to Jerry McEachern our Aurora logistics manager, Fred, Kevin, and Gerrardo who have all been keeping an eye on progress and helping Garfield keep on track.



Mallik weekly planner... to be taken w it with a large grain of salt!

NEXT WEEK AT MALLIK

The next week will see the start of full field operations, with mobilization of our 65 drill camp and re-entry activities on the Mallik 3L water injection well and the Mallik 2L production well. The weekly activity planner given above is very much from an operations point of view, working on the most optimistic timelines assuming all tasks fall into place without impediment. With a research and development program like ours, there is always an inevitable tension between operations folks (and our accountants) who are task-oriented and frankly looking to get to the end of the program on time and on budget. R&D folks on the other hand are looking at the big picture and for us the big picture is to optimize testing. So our job will be to work closely together to solve problems and reach our mutual goals successfully. A pragmatic reality check is always handy however. Scott got one last year when our well site supervisor Bill reminded him that scientists should always keep in mind the well known reverse correlation between the number of post-graduate degrees and common sense.

Inuvik Contact Info

Land lines

ARI Mallik Operations 867-777-3298 Ext 27 and 29

IPM Mallik Operations 867-777-3298 Ext 33

Fax 867- 777-5328

Cellular phones

Al 867-678-0854; Doug 867-678-5341;

Scott 867-678-5346; Fred 867-678-5344