

Warro partners mull over options

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PARTNERS in the Warro gas project in the Perth Basin are examining their options after an isolation bridge plug did not stop inflows of water in the Warro-3 well.

Minority partner Transerv Energy said the well flowed at an initial rate of 5.6 million cubic feet of gas without water infiltrating the well bore after the isolation bridge plug was set, which was higher than recorded during the flow test program to date.

However, after nine hours of consistently strong gas flow, water began to re-enter the well bore and the gas and water flow rates returned to the levels recorded over the previous two weeks.

A second isolation bridge plug was then set in the well above the fracture stimulation zone 3, but water was again present during the flow testing, Transerv said.

According to the company, independent evaluation of the production logging test concluded that the water was coming from the lower zones of the well through a system of natural fractures existing in the lower reservoir.

The partners are continuing to evaluate the best way to remediate the water flow in the well bore, while the next phase of the program is to run a static gradient survey to evaluate the effectiveness of the seals on the two isolation bridge plugs.

The results of this survey will determine the program to eliminate the water flow. This could include setting an additional retrievable isolation bridge plug above fracture stimulation zone 5 or carrying out a cement squeeze job to eliminate the behind casing channelling of water.

Transerv said if the survey found the isolation bridge plugs had successfully sealed off the water flow in the well bore, it was likely the water was channelling behind the casing and entering the well through existing perforations above the two isolation bridges.

Should the well be successful, the joint venture between Alcoa, Latent Petroleum and Transerv could drill more than 200 wells on the field to produce an average of 100-150 million cubic feet of gas per day.

Alcoa is funding the evaluation program in return for a 65% interest in the project, while unlisted private company Latent holds a 25% stake.

Transerv owns the remaining 10%.