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AMSO's Colorado oil shale RD&D lease tract: Progress and plans

Roger Day

American Shale Oil, Rifle CO, United States

American Shale Oil LLC (AMSO) is one of three companies developing U. S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Research, Development, and Demonstration (RD&D) oil shale lease tracts in Colorado's Piceance Basin. Over the last year, AMSO completed numerous exploration and baseline hydrology wells as part of its site characterization program in preparation for a Pilot Retort Test scheduled to start in August 2009. The target of the retort test is illite rich oil shale within the R-1 interval within the Garden Gulch Member of the Green River Formation. The Pilot Retort Test has evolved to a single heater-producer well traversing the R-1 at 60 degrees from vertical. Retort growth will be monitored by various means including geophysical tomographic methods.