Special Issue

Advances in Improving Oil Recovery in Low-Permeability Hydrocarbon Resources

Message from the Guest Editors

At present, about 38% of the world's oil and gas are low-grade resources, mainly of low permeability, and more than 70% of China's new proven reserves are located in low-permeability reservoirs. Low-permeability reservoirs are generally characterized by low pore size, low permeability, and strong heterogeneity. The development process generally faces the problems of difficulty in energy replenishment and the limited effect of conventional secondary oil recovery methods. How to develop such oil and gas resources economically and effectively has been an important topic in the oil and gas industry. Surfactants, nanomaterials, carbon dioxide, and other new EOR media are continually used as recovery enhancement materials, and these recovery enhancement methods show great potential to solve specific problems. In addition, artificial fracturing is an efficient means of increasing seepage capacity, but water channeling through fracture systems is a threat to its economical application. Tackling the channeling problem is also an important issue during the development of such hydrocarbon resources.

Guest Editors

Dr. Qingbang Meng

Dr. Bin Liang

Dr. Zhan Meng

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Processes
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
processes@mdpi.com

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giancarlo Cravotto
Department of Drug Science and Technology, University of Turin, Via P. Giuria 9, 10125 Turin, Italy

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