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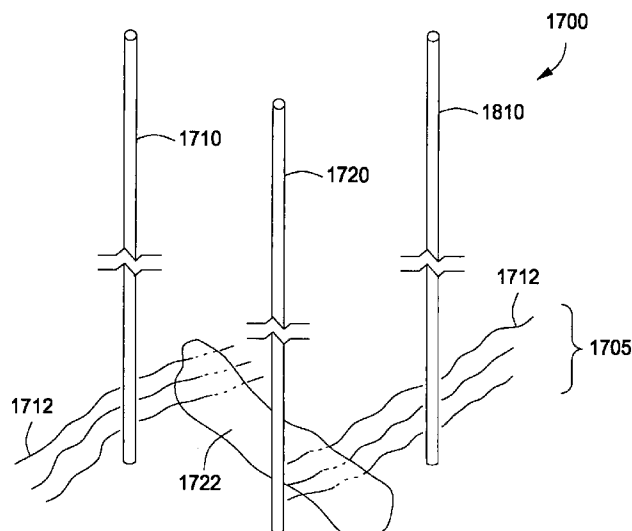
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ENHANCED SHALE OIL PRODUCTION BY IN SITU HEATING USING HYDRAULICALLY FRACTURED PRODUCING WELLS



(57) Abstract: A method for enhanced production of hydrocarbon fluids from an organic-rich rock formation such as an oil shale formation is provided. The method generally includes completing at least one heater well in the organic-rich rock formation, and also completing a production well in the organic-rich rock formation. The method also includes the steps of hydraulically fracturing the organic-rich rock formation from the production well such that one or more artificial fractures are formed, and heating the organic-rich rock formation from the at least one heater well, thereby pyrolyzing at least a portion of the organic-rich rock into hydrocarbon fluids. Pyrolyzing the organic-rich rock formation creates thermal fractures in the formation due to thermal stresses created by heating. The thermal fractures intersect the artificial fractures. As an additional step, hydrocarbon fluids may be produced from the production well. Preferably, the organic-rich rock formation is an oil shale formation.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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USPC - 166/271, 272.2, 272.6

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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USPC - 166/271, 272.1, 272.2, 272.6

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

MicroPatent

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X -- Y	US 3,501,201 A (CLOSMANN et al) 17 March 1970 (17.03.1970) entire document	1-4, 6, 7, 10-13 ----- 17-25
X -- Y	US 3,500,913 A (NORDGREN et al) 17 March 1970 (17.03.1970) entire document	1, 2, 4-7, 9, 13, 15, 16 ----- 17-25
X	US 3,613,785 A (CLOSMANN et al) 19 October 1971 (19.10.1971) entire document	1, 2, 8, 14
A	US 4,754,808 A (HARMON et al) 05 July 1988 (05.07.1988) entire document	1-25
A	US 4,265,310 A (BRITTON et al) 05 May 1981 (05.05.1981) entire document	1-25
A	US 4,005,750 A (SHUCK) 01 February 1977 (01.02.1977) entire document	1-25

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