# (19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 2 May 2008 (02.05.2008)

CT (10) International Publication Number WO 2008/051831 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification: *E21B 43/24* (2006.01) *E21B 43/30* (2006.01)
- (21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2007/081905

- (22) International Filing Date: 19 October 2007 (19.10.2007)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:

60/853,096 20 October 2006 (20.10.2006) US 60/925,685 20 April 2007 (20.04.2007) US

- (71) Applicant (for SM only): SHELL OIL COMPANY [US/US]; One Shell Plaza, P.O. Box 2463, Houston, Texas 77252-2463 (US).
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SHELL INTERNATIONALE RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V. [NL/NL]; Carel van Bylandtlaan 30, NL-2596 HR The Hague (NL).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): MILLER, David Scott [US/US]; 23106 Crossbend Drive, Katy, Texas 77494 (US).

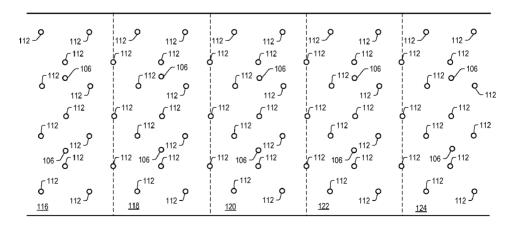
- (74) Agent: CHRISTENSEN, Del S.; Shell Oil Company, One Shell Plaza, P.O. Box 2463, Houston, Texas 77252-2463 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

### **Published:**

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

[Continued on next page]

#### (54) Title: HEATING HYDROCARBON CONTAINING FORMATIONS IN A LINE DRIVE STAGED PROCESS



(57) Abstract: A method for treating a hydrocarbon containing formation is disclosed. The method includes providing heat to a first section of the formation with one or more first heaters in the first section. First hydrocarbons are heated in the first section such that at least some of the first hydrocarbons are mobilized. At least some of the mobilized first hydrocarbons are produced through a production well located in a second section of the formation. The second section is located substantially adjacent to the first section. A portion of the second section is provided some heat from the mobilized first hydrocarbons but is not conductively heated by heat from the first heaters. Heat is provided to the second section with one or more second heaters in the second section to further heat the second section.



#### 

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 6 November 2008

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US07/81905

	CITIO ATION OF GUIDIFOT MATTER			
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC: E21B 43/24(2006.01),43/30(2006.01)				
USPC: 166/245,272.1,302 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) U.S.: 166/57, 60, 245, 258, 272.1, 302				
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)				
C. DOCT	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	propriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	
X	US 2002/0062052 A (Rouffignac et al) 23 May 2002 [0612], [0613], [0704]-[0711].		1-3	
A	US 7,066,254 A (VINEGAR ET AL) 27 June 2006 (2	7.06.2006), Figure 138.	1-3	
Ä	US 3,794,113 A (STRANGE ET AL) 26 February 1974 26.02.1974, Figure 1.		1-3	
A	US 3,599,714 A (MESSMAN ET AL) 17 August 1971 (17.08.1971), see entire document		1-3	
A	US 3,150,715 A (DIETZ) 29 September 1964 (29.09.1964), see entire document.		1-3	
A	US 3,132,692 A (MARX ET AL) 12 May 1964 (12.05.1964), see entire document.		1-3	
A	US 3,097,690 A (TERWILLIGER ET AL) 16 July 1963 (16.07.1963), see entire document.		1-3	
Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.				
* Special categories of cited documents: "T"  "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of		"T" later document published after the inte date and not in conflict with the applic principle or theory underlying the inve	ation but cited to understand the	
particular relevance  "X"  "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date		"X" document of particular relevance; the considered novel or cannot be conside when the document is taken alone	claimed invention cannot be red to involve an inventive step	
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)		"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination		
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		being obvious to a person skilled in th	e art	
priority date claimed		"&" document member of the same patent	· 	
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report		
14 July 2008 (14.07.2008)  Name and mailing address of the ISA/US		Authorized officer.	19	
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US		GEORGE SUCHFIELD JULY		
Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450		Telephone No. 571-272-3600		
	exandria, Virginia 22313-1450 o. (571) 273-3201			

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2007)

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US07/81905

Box No. II	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)		
This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:			
1.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:		
2.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:		
3.	Claims Nos.: 4-21 because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).		
Box No. II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)		
This Internat	ional Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:		
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:		
4.	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is		
restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:			
Remark on	Protest  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.  No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.		

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of first sheet(2)) (April 2007)