

# Nitrogen Rejection Unit #493



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## **1. Executive Summary**

1.1 Plant History

Built 1983 Shut down 2009

# **1.2 Production Capacity**

45 MMSCFD per train X 2 trains Each train has wide turndown capacity to accommodate a loss of flow from the production wells at any time.

## 1.3 Plant Function

The NRU is designed to produce the follow products from natural gas containing 80% nitrogen:

- Ethane-rich gas, suitable for de-methanation.
- Methane-rich gas, to be used as fuel or sales gas.
- A waste nitrogen stream, vented to atmosphere or used for rejection.

# 2. Process Description

The NRU uses methane (C1) as a refrigerant. There are 5 streams in the process: 1) Low pressure C1; 2) High pressure C1; 3) C2+ stream; 4) Feed gas; 5) Vent stream.

The pretreated natural gas enters the NRU's warm feed exchangers where initial cool down starts. From there it passes through the warm feed separator to know out some initial liquids. They are dumped into the C2+ stream going to the cold feed exchangers. Leaving here the gas heads to a CO2 column. In this scrubber column, about 96% of the N2 is removed and sent to the back end (double column box). A small amount of C1 also is sent to the D/C box. CO2 is scrubbed out of this overhead stream and sent out with the C2+ stream, this would freeze in the extream temperatures of the double column box (-290). The C2+ stream simply put is the CO2 column bottoms liquids. This C2+ stream heads out of the train exchanging temperatures with feed gas coming in. This helps to start vaporizing these liquids that are on the way to a compressor and helping to cool the inlet gas.

The N2 and C1 that goes out the top of the CO2 column heads through the D/C feed exchanger (can be bypassed around this). Next it heads to the bottom of the high pressure column where further chilling and separation takes place. From here some of the gas goes through the D/C reboiler condenser and the D/C reflux condenser. The rest of the stream goes over to the CO2 column subcooler to cool incoming refrigerant, then heads to the inlet of the NRU expanders. Here the pressure drops from about 250 # to 30 #. This action creates a lot of refrigeration by taking all of that energy out of the gas stream. This 30 # gas stream then goes through the LP

feed separator and to the LP column. This is where final separation takes place. The separated N2 goes out the top and the liquefied natural gas (LNG) goes out the bottom headed for the refrigerant Lotema suction.

The N2 heads out of the box towards the vent stack, but on its way out it provides a lot of cooling in exchangers. When there is enough vent flow established, the reinject Lotema are started. These pull suction off the vent stream and pump up the 30 # vent to about 500 # and send it to the suction of the reinject compressors.

The LP C1 (LNG) heads out of the bottom of the LP column going out of the train; this also provides a lot of refrigeration on its way out. There are LNG pumps to send this LNG out of the train, but they are currently not used. The LNG is pressure pushed out of the trains using vent backpressure. This stream vaporizes on the way to Lotema and is pumped up to 550 # and sent back to the train. Passing through the warm feed exchanger, cold feed exchangers, and to the top of the CO2 column, here after passes through the CO2 subcooler. This takes it back down from 550 # to whatever the LP C1 circuit is running. This is where it ties back in with C1 suction (this is a closed loop) headed back out of the train.

The Lotema compressors are 4-stage compressors, and 3<sup>rd</sup> stage pumps up more than 4<sup>th</sup> stage can handle. So the operation has two options: flare off the excess 3<sup>rd</sup> stage or send it to the compressor suction using PC 498 (generally it only flars when the LNG is off-spec). These Lotema compressors also have dry compressor cylinders, so lube oil cannot work its way into the train; such as with the compressors which tend to lose quite a bit of oil in the compressor cylinders. The compressor setup is really quite versatile. There are 4 Lotema compressors. Two of these are solely dedicated to refrigerant service, while the other two can run in either refrigerant or reinjection service.

There are 4 Joy compressors. All four have been piped up to run in gas plant service or reinject service. Compressor A &B will run in either service, but C & D has been turned down. The plant cannot pump up gas to the 2000 # header pressure that reinject service requires.

# 3. Highlights of Major Equipment

## 3.1 Warm Exchanger Skids (Train 1 and 2)

 Four (4) Warm Feed Exchangers: Equipment # 05.20A, B for Train 1; 05.20 C, D for Train 2 Manufacturer: Stewart Warner Corp
Type: Brazed Core Extended Surface Countercurrent
Weight (empty): 18,100 Lbs per exchanger
Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150
Design pressure: 640 psig

Warm Feed Separator (Equipment # 07.80) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 54" ID X 10'-9" S-S Weight: 12,050 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Operating temperature: °F: - 40 Design pressure, psig: 640 Operating pressure, psig: 505

Warm JPG Feed Distributor (Equipment # 07.90) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 36" ID X 7'-9" S-S Weight (empty): 4,900 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Operating temperature: °F: - 52 Design pressure, psig: 640 Operating pressure, psig: 280

#### 3.2 Cold Feed Exchanger Box

Cold Feed Exchanger Box (Equipment # 11.30) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 37' H X 12'-2" W X 12'-6" D Weight (estimated with insulation): 175,000 Lbs

Cold Feed Exchangers (Equipment # 05.22 A & B) Manufacturer: Stewart Warner Corp Type: Brazed Core Extended Surface Countercurrent Weight (empty): 19,600 Lbs per exchanger Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Design pressure: 640 psig

Cold JPG Feed Distributor (Equipment # 07.92) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 30" ID X 8' H Weight (empty): 2,580 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Operating temperature: °F: - 146 Design pressure, psig: 640 Operating pressure, psig: 280 Warm Refrigerant Distributor (Equipment # 07.95) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 42" ID X 9' S-S Weight (empty): 6,100 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Operating temperature: °F: - 236 Design pressure, psig: 640 Operating pressure, psig: 213

## 3.3 CO2 Column Box

CO2 Column Box (Equipment # 11.10) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 112' H X 12' W X 12'-6" D Weight (estimated, with insulation): 480,000 Lbs

Cold Column Condenser (Equipment # 05.27) Manufacturer: Stewart Warner Corp. Type: Brazed Core Extended Surface Weight (empty): 9,225 Lbs (Train 1); 9,250 Lbs (Train 2) Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Design pressure, psig: 640

# CO2 Column Reboiler (05.28)

Manufacturer: Stewart Warner Corp. Type: Brazed Core Extended Surface Weight (empty): 7,075 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Design pressure, psig: 640

## CO2 Column Subcooler (05.29)

Manufacturer: Stewart Warner Corp. Type: Brazed Core Extended Surface Weight (empty): 3,320Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Design pressure, psig: 640

## CO2 Column (07.01)

Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 6' ID (top) 3' ID (bottom) X 76'-6" S-S Weight (empty): 95,000 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Operating temperature: °F: - 144 to -232 Design pressure, psig: 640 Operating pressure, psig: 388 to 505

C2 Column Feed Separator (Equipment # 07.81) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 48" ID X 8'-9" S-S Weight (empty): 7,035 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Operating temperature: °F: - 100 Design pressure, psig: 640 Operating pressure, psig: 502

- Cold Feed Separator (Equipment # 07.82) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 48" ID X 8'-9" S-S Weight (empty): 7,035 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Operating temperature: °F: - 100 Design pressure, psig: 640 Operating pressure, psig: 502
- CO2 Column Reflux Accumulator (Equipment # 07.83) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 48" ID X 13'-9" S-S Weight (empty): 9,530 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Operating temperature: °F: - 232 Design pressure, psig: 640 Operating pressure, psig: 384 to 500
- CO2 Column Reboiler Separator (Equipment # 07.84) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 48" ID X 8'-9" S-S Weight (empty): 6,735 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Operating temperature: °F: - 115 Design pressure, psig: 640 Operating pressure, psig: 498
- Cold Refrigerant Distributor (Equipment # 07.93) Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 36" ID X 7'-9" S-S Weight (empty): 4,100 Lbs Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Operating temperature: °F: - 240 Design pressure, psig: 640 Operating pressure, psig: 215

# **3.4 Double Column Cold Box**

Double Column Cold Box (Equipment # 11.20)

Manufacturer: Air Products & Chemicals Dimension: 112'-6" H X 12' W X 12'-6" D Weight (estimated, with insulation): 280,000 Lbs

Double Column Feed Exchanger (Equipment # 05.23) Manufacturer: Stewart Warner Corp Type: Brazed Core Extended Surface Weight (empty): 17,300 Lbs per exchanger Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Design pressure: 640 psig

Reflux Subcooler (Equipment # 05.25) Manufacturer: Stewart Warner Corp Type: Brazed Core Extended Surface Weight (empty): 3,225 Lbs (Train 1), 3,425 Lbs (Train 2) Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Design pressure, psig: 640

Double Column Reboiler / Condenser (Equipment # 05.26) Manufacturer: Stewart Warner Corp Type: Brazed Core Extended Surface countercurrent Weight (empty): 5,150 Lbs (Train 1), 5,250 Lbs (Train 2) Design temperature, °F: - 320 to 150 Design pressure: 640 psig







