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Almaguer

(54) TECHNIQUES FOR HYDRAULIC FRACTURING COMBINING ORIENTED PERFORATING AND LOW VISCOSITY **FLUIDS**

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- (52) U.S. Cl. 166/308; 166/297
- (58) Field of Search 166/308, 297, 166/298, 300, 55

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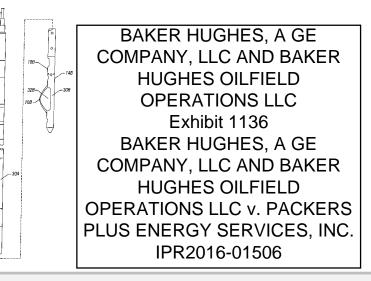
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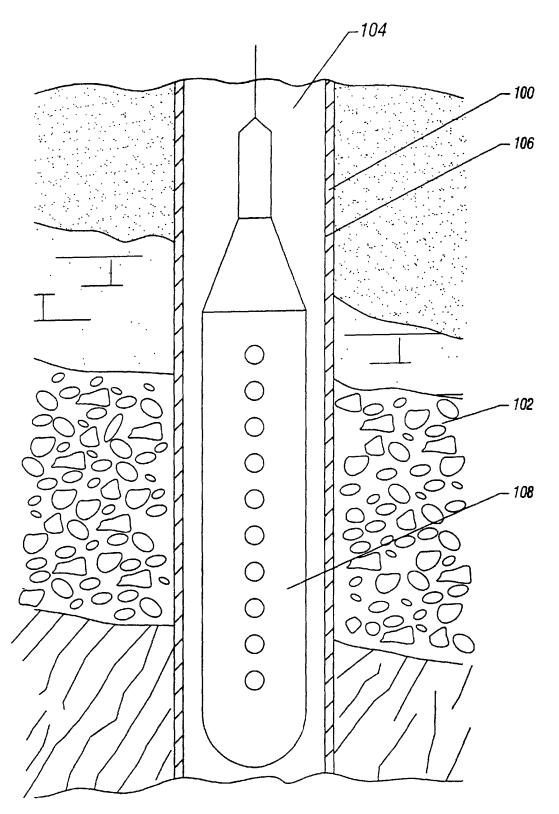
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(57)ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to novel methods to stimulate a hydrocarbon-bearing formation; in particular, techniques are disclosed for shooting perforations aligned with the direction of probable fracture propagation; this is followed by fracturing using a low viscosity fluid, preferably a viscoelastic surfactant-based fluid; the combination yields surprising results with respect to optimized fracture efficiency (i.e., ideal height, and half-length more closely approaches the true fracture length due to superior clean up properties of the fluids).

20 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



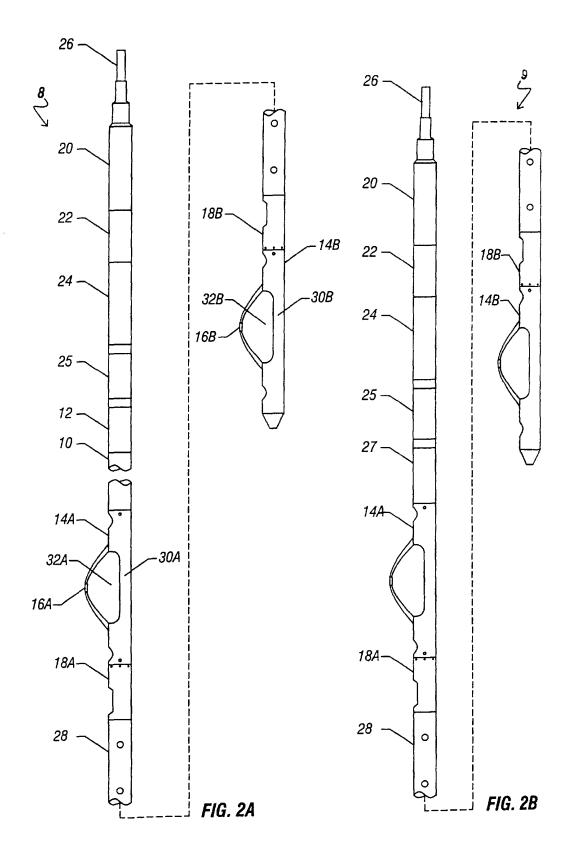




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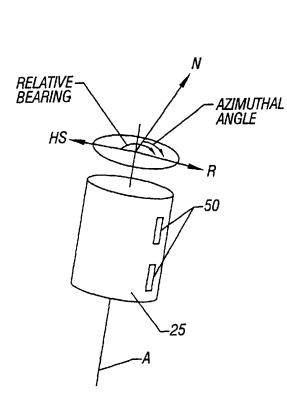
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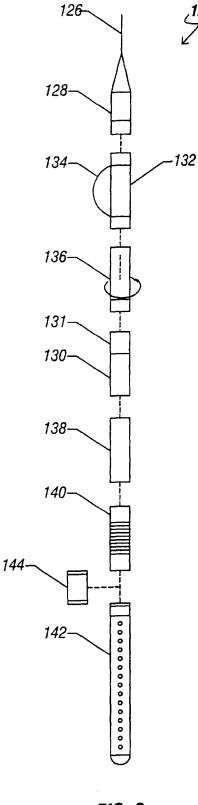


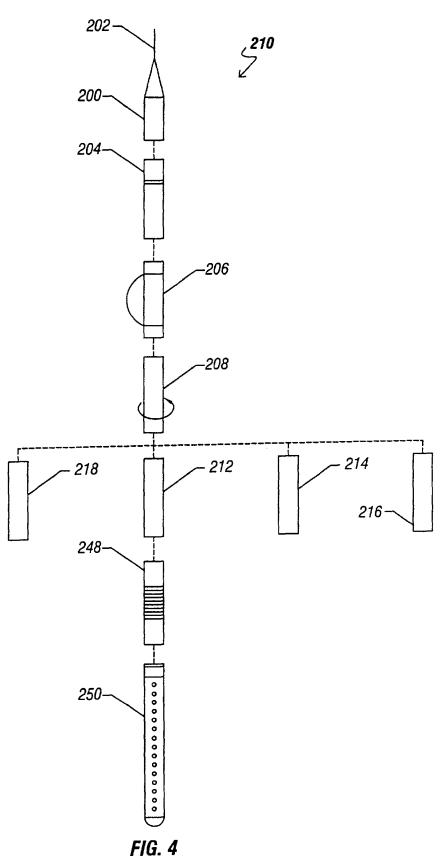
FIG. 7

FIG. 3

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