Westlake US 2 Received 12/13/2024

## SNT Satellite Update InSAR Subsidence December 9, 2024

#### Lonquist comment:

The SNT satellite (12-day revisit) passed by Sulphur on Monday December 9. We received the dataset Wednesday and verified that none of the point groups within the review area are showing deviation from their respective trends. The attached report has been prepared for reference.

Submitted by: Nathaniel Byars (Lonquist)

## **SNT Satellite Update**

# Continuous InSAR Monitoring of Ground Displacement At Westlake Caverns and Western Dome Flank

## **Sulphur Mines Salt Dome**

Prepared for: Westlake Chemical

Prepared by:
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8591 United Plaza Blvd., Suite 280
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Dataset			
Satellite Source			
Sentinel-1 (SNT)			
Most Recent Image Date			
Monday, December 9, 2024			

**Analysis Report Date:** 

December 13, 2024

Dataset Information						
Satellite Source	Sentinel-1 (SNT)					
Revisit Frequency	12 days					
Most Recent Image Date	Monday, December 9, 2024					
Dataset Image Count	215					
Dataset Time Range	October 4, 2016 - December 9, 2024					
Dataset Length	8.18 Years					
Satellite Line-of-Sight (LOS)	43° West of Vertical (Viewing site from the West)					

## Analysis Methodology

#### **Time Series Charts**

Trend lines were calculated for the averaged displacement values within each AOI. Quadratic regression was used to determine Velocity and Acceleration of LOS displacement. Trends calculated for the AOI point groups are depicted for each AOI in the Time Series section of this report.

#### **Contour Maps**

A quadratic trend was also calculated for each individual measurement point across the analysis region. Trend values for each point were used to generate Velocity and Acceleration contour maps to depict the spatial distribution of the movement trends. Negative velocity values indicate subsidence or eastward movement. Negative acceleration values indicate increasing rates of subsidence, increasing eastward movement, or slowing westward movement and positive acceleration values indicate slowing rates of subsidence, slowing eastward movement, or increasing westward movement. Maps depicting the individual data points colored by these trend values are also included in the last section of the report.

#### **Recent vs. Historical Data**

The multi-year SNT dataset timeframe allows for Recent data to be evaluated separately from Historical data and for trends from the two timeframes to be compared. The change in the velocities and accelerations from the two timeframes are provided in the Time Series and Contour Map sections. Velocity values are calculated for the final date in either the Recent or Historical datasets.

#### **Observations**

To-date there have been <u>no acute deviations</u> from established subsidence trends in the areas investigated.

The comparison of Recent to Historical trends in the SNT data does imply a minor increase (≥ -0.10) in the negative velocity and/or negative acceleration of LOS displacement in 3 of the 15 AOI point groups. This suggests that marginal increases in subsidence rates may be occurring in these areas in recent years with the greatest velocity increases (in descending order) occurring in AOI 8 (PPG 22), AOI 10 (PPG2), and AOI 15 (PPG 20).

The mapped contours of the change in recent vs. historical subsidence velocity and acceleration mostly display minor fluctuations around 0, intermittently distributed within the AOIs. Some concentrations of negative rate change can be observed that generally support the observations in the above mentioned AOIs.



Date Signed: December 13, 2024 Austin, Texas

Nathaniel L. Byars, P.E. Principal Engineer Louisiana License No. 40697

Dataset: SNT (12-09-2024).xlsx Page 2 of 26 Analysis Date: 12/13/2024

#### **InSAR Data Sources**

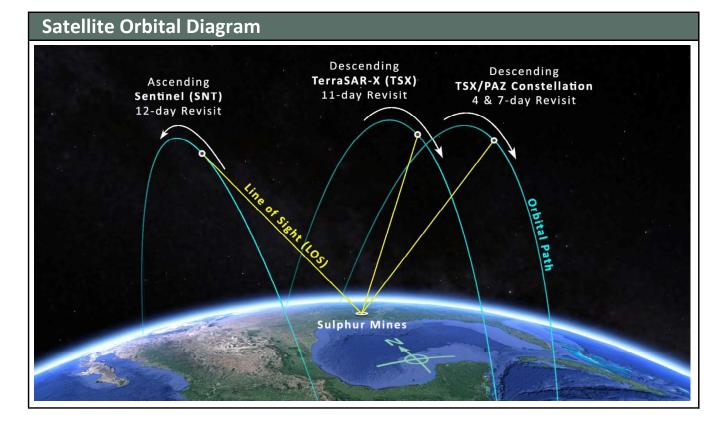
#### **InSAR Data**

Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR) is the most well established method to continually evaluate small, normally undetectable, ground movement over a large area. Radar imagery collected via satellites over successive orbital passes is used to identify and define measurement points on the ground. Objects or ground features providing a stable reflection of radar energy such as buildings, roads, and infrastructure produce the highest quality measurement points. InSAR analysis identifies the change in distance between the satellite and each measurement point over time relative to a stable reference point within the imaged area.

#### **Satellite Sources**

Two InSAR datasets are being used to evaluate subsidence over the Sulphur Mines Salt Dome. These datasets provide Line-of-Sight (LOS) displacment measurements from both ascending and descending orbits. An ascending orbit denotes the satellite's longitudinal course from south to north as it passes over the site, while a desceding orbit denotes the satellite is moving from north to south.

The first dataset comes from a low-resolution Sentinel-1 (SNT) satellite on an ascending orbit that captures data from the west of the site on a 12-day frequency. The second comes from a pair of high resolution satellites that share the same descending orbit and capture data from east of the site. These are a TSX satellite and the PAZ satellite (TSX/PAZ constellation), both with an 11-day revisit frequency. Their orbits are offset with the PAZ satellite passing over the site 4 days after the TSX satellite. Prior to May 2023, data was captured from a different high-resolution TerraSAR-X (TSX) satellite on a descending orbit that captured data from the east of the site on an 11-day frequency. The transition was made for the increased data frequency that resulted from a 4 and 7-day revisit period. The image below depicts the orbital paths of the satellites in relation to the Sulphur Mines Salt Dome.

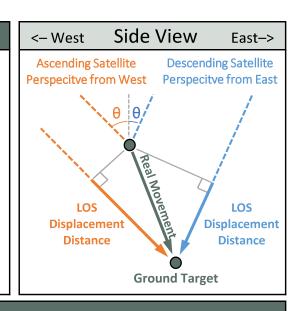


± 0.03 in

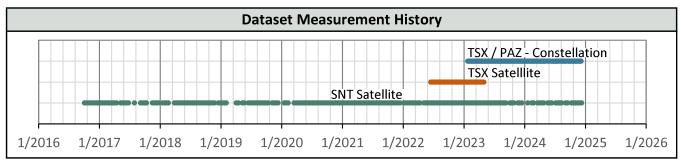
Measurement error range

### InSAR Line-of-Site (LOS) Data

LOS displacement measurements refer to a change in distance between the satellite sensor and the ground target. Measurement positions on the west side of the Sulphur Dome are are known to be experiencing some eastward movement toward the dome center due to the geometry of the subsidence basin. The InSAR satellites view the site from eastward and westward positions so LOS measurements are understood to convey a movement distance that is not purely vertical. The diagram to the right illustrates the geometric relationship between the theoretical Real movement of a ground target and LOS displacement measurements from two different satellite viewing directions.

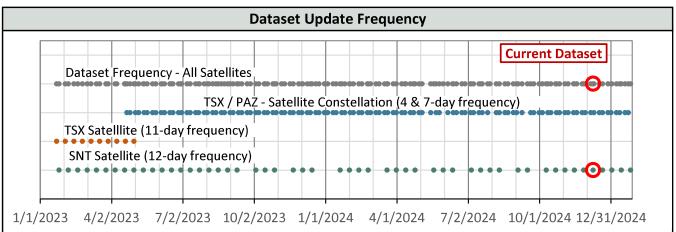


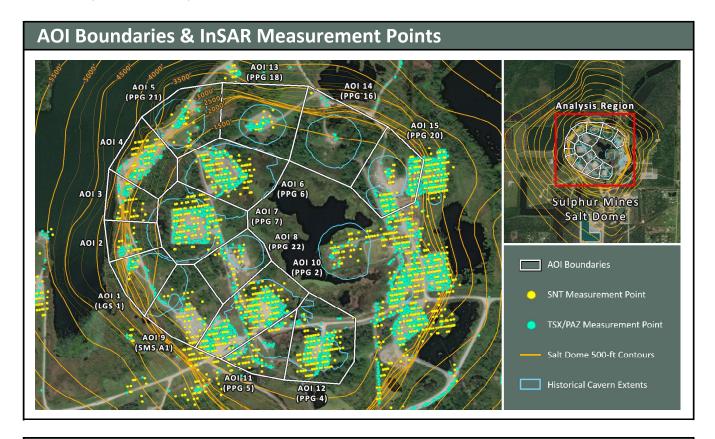
#### Satellite Properties & Image Frequency **Satellite and Data Properties SNT TSX TSX/PAZ Constellation** Band (Wavelength) X-band (1.22 in) C-band (2.20 in) X-band (1.22 in) **Track** T29 T136 T67 & T120 **Pixel resolution** 3 x 3 ft 65 x 16 ft 3 x 3 ft **Revisit frequency** 12 days 11 days 4 & 7 days Descending (17°) Orbit (LOS Angle, $\theta$ ) Ascending (43°) Descending (37°) **Data Start Date** 6/16/2022 10/4/2016 1/24/2023



± 0.03 in

± 0.20 in





## **Subsidence Monitoring Areas of Interest (AOIs)**

To visually convey and evaluate trend consistency for the displacement time series of each ground target, measurment points were grouped and their displacement values were averaged. The point groups are referred to as Areas of Interest (AOIs) in this analysis and their boundaries are depicted on the above map. The below table lists the trend values calculated in each AOI for the dataset evaluated in this report.

AOI Name	SNT (12/9/2024)	LOS Velocity (in/yr)			LOS Acceleration (in/yr <sup>2</sup> )		
	<b>Point Count</b>	Historical	Recent	Change	Historical	Recent	Change
<b>AOI 1</b> (LGS 1)	14	-0.82	-0.72	+0.10	+0.03	+0.13	+0.09
AOI 2	15	-0.79	-0.53	+0.27	+0.05	+0.38	+0.33
AOI 3	29	-0.65	-0.40	+0.25	+0.03	+0.28	+0.25
AOI 4	62	-0.79	-0.78	+0.01	-0.00	-0.02	-0.02
<b>AOI 5</b> (PPG 21)	25	-0.65	-0.60	+0.05	+0.02	-0.04	-0.05
AOI 6 (PPG 6)	134	-0.86	-0.92	-0.06	+0.05	-0.05	-0.10
<b>AOI 7</b> (PPG 7)	139	-0.99	-1.02	-0.03	+0.06	+0.09	+0.03
AOI 8 (PPG 22)	20	-1.06	-1.22	-0.16	+0.10	+0.05	-0.04
AOI 9 (SMS A1)	58	-0.85	-0.84	+0.01	+0.07	+0.03	-0.04
<b>AOI 10</b> (PPG 2)	233	-0.90	-1.02	-0.12	+0.08	+0.01	-0.07
<b>AOI 11</b> (PPG 5)	52	-0.87	-0.83	+0.04	+0.06	+0.06	+0.01
<b>AOI 12</b> (PPG 4)	120	-0.74	-0.63	+0.11	+0.05	+0.04	-0.00
<b>AOI 13</b> (PPG 18)	12	-0.58	-0.58	+0.00	+0.04	+0.06	+0.01
<b>AOI 14</b> (PPG 16)	1	-0.15	+0.39	+0.54	+0.07	+0.72	+0.65
<b>AOI 15</b> (PPG 20)	71	-0.30	-0.37	-0.07	+0.04	-0.04	-0.08

