



November 12, 2018

Reference No. 11135250-14

Ms. Maria Pruett  
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division  
Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department  
District 2  
811 S. First Street  
Artesia, New Mexico 88210

**Re: 2018 Remediation Work Plan  
Avalon Compressor Station Release (2RP-4848)  
Eddy County, New Mexico**

Dear Ms. Pruett:

## 1. Project Information

The Site is located on land owned by the State of New Mexico in Unit K, Section 20, Township 26 South, Range 28 East, approximately 14-miles south of Malaga, in southern Eddy County, New Mexico. ETC submitted an initial C-141 Form to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (NMOCD) dated July 9, 2018 describing a release of approximately 5.0 barrels of condensate and 2.0 barrels of water. The release was determined to have originated from a closed tank equalizing valve tank hatch.

## 2. NMOCD Closure Requirement Criteria for Soils

Subsurface investigation activities were completed in accordance with the revised and reissued Guidelines for Remediation of Leaks, Spills, and Releases Rule 19.15.29 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) from the NMOCD issued on August 14, 2018. The following criteria from Table 1 (below) within NMAC 19.15.29.12 was utilized to determine site-specific screening limits:

Minimum depth below any point within the horizontal boundary of the release to ground water less than 10,000 mg/l TDS	Constituent	Limit*
≤ 50 feet	Chloride**	600 mg/kg
	TPH (GRO+DRO+MRO)	100 mg/kg
	BTEX	50 mg/kg
	Benzene	10 mg/kg
* Numerical limits or natural background level, whichever is greater.		
** This applies to release of produced water or other fluids which may contain chloride.		



Localized depth to groundwater was estimated at a depth of approximately 15 to 20 feet below ground surface (bgs) based on depth to water records available on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) National Water System Information map. The nearest well to the site is approximately 1.38 miles to the west. Information available from various sources including the Petroleum Recovery Research Center (PRRC) Mapping Portal and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Current Water Database for the Nation concludes:

- a) the depth to groundwater at the Site is less than 50-feet bgs;
- b) the site is not within 300 feet of any continuously flowing watercourse;
- c) the site is not within 200 feet of any lakebed, sinkhole or playa lake;
- d) the site is not within 300 feet of an occupied permanent residence, school, etc.;
- e) the site is not within 500 feet of a spring or private, domestic fresh water well;
- f) the site is not within 1,000 feet of any fresh water well or spring;
- g) the site is not within incorporated municipal boundaries or within a defined municipal fresh water well field;
- h) the site is not within 300 feet of a wetland;
- i) the site is not within an area overlying a subsurface mine;
- j) the site is not within an unstable area and;
- k) the site is not within a 100-year floodplain.

*Consequently, the anticipated site-specific screening limits to be applied to this location by the NMOCD based on the revised Rule are 10 mg/kg for benzene, 50 mg/kg for total benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, total xylenes (BTEX), 100 mg/kg for total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) including gasoline range organics (GRO), diesel range organics (DRO), and oil range organics (MRO), and 600 mg/kg for chloride.*

Per 19.15.29.13, Restoration, Reclamation, and Re-vegetation, the impacted area must be remediated a minimum of 4-feet bgs with non-waste containing, uncontaminated, earthen material with chloride concentrations less than 600 mg/kg. Soil cover must consist of topsoil at a thickness comparable to background topsoil thicknesses, or one foot of suitable earthen material capable of establishing and maintaining vegetation at the site. Reclamation is considered complete when all disturbed areas have established vegetative cover with a life-form ratio of plus or minus 50 percent of pre-remedial levels, and plant cover of a minimum of 70 percent of previous levels, excluding noxious weeds.

Evaluation of the analytical data obtained from soil assessment and delineation activities performed from 2018 indicate horizontal and vertical delineation of petroleum hydrocarbon and chloride impacts have been achieved at the Site to support remediation activities (excavation of the area).



### 3. 2018 Scope of Work

The scope of work for this project in 2018 will involve soil remediation activities inclusive of excavation, sampling, backfilling, and restoration (re-seeding of off-pad areas if applicable) of the impacted area (see Figure 1).

Petroleum hydrocarbon and chloride impacted caliche well pad material and soil will be excavated accompanied by confirmation soil sample analysis. Field screening of soils for BTEX, TPH, and chloride will be performed in order to guide excavation activities. Subsequently, the area will be backfilled with clean caliche material and soil, graded and contoured to ensure proper surface area drainage, and the soil (off-pad areas) fertilized and re-seeded. The following outlines basic project details that will be completed by GHD and GHD subcontractors.

#### ***Field Program***

- Prior to mobilizing excavation equipment to the Site, a New Mexico 811 utility notification will be made at least 48-hours prior to mobilization.
- Underground utilities in proximity to the proposed excavation area will be day-lighted via hydroexcavation prior to remedial excavation activities.
- GHD anticipates that pipeline operators will not allow excavation within 10 feet of any pipelines, therefore remediation within these areas will be deferred until operations of the pipelines cease.
- Approximately 300 cubic yards (cy) of pad material and soil will be excavated (Figure 1). Impacted soil in the affected area will be excavated until field screening indicates that volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are at background concentrations and chloride is below 600 mg/kg.
- Field screening for VOCs will be conducted with a photoionization detector (PID) calibrated to isobutylene.
- Soils will be field screened for chloride during excavation activities utilizing Hach chloride test strips.
- Sidewall and bottom confirmation samples will be collected from the excavated area prior to backfilling and analyzed for chloride by EPA Method 300, BTEX by EPA Method 8021B, and TPH by EPA Method 8015 Modified.
- The excavated area will be backfilled with clean soil following evaluation of the confirmation samples.
- Any disturbed off-pad areas will be fertilized and re-seeded with a Bureau of Land Management-approved seed mix.

#### **Quality Assurance/ Quality Control**

Confirmation soil sampling will be completed in accordance with our standard Quality Assurance/ Quality Control procedures designed to minimize cross-contamination between samples and to provide reliable laboratory results.



## Reporting

A report summarizing remediation activities will be submitted. The report will include a Site description, project history, description of field events, a discussion of results, and recommendations (if any).

The report will include:

- A scaled Site plan showing the locations of the excavation and other Site features;
- Tabulation of field screening and laboratory analytical results; and
- Geotagged photographic documentation of field activities.

## Vegetation Monitoring

Following completion of soil remediation activities at the Site, and as required by the New Mexico State Land Office (NMSLO), GHD will conduct vegetation monitoring visits to the Site if any off pad areas are restored. The status of vegetative growth within the remediated area will be documented with photographs and in field notes during each visit. A closure request report will be completed following one year of monitoring for submittal to NMSLO.

## 4. Work Plan Approval Request

GHD is prepared to initiate the scope of work immediately. If you have any questions or comments with regards to this work plan, please do not hesitate to contact our Albuquerque office at (505) 884-0672. Your timely response to this correspondence is appreciated.

Sincerely,

GHD

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Christine Mathews", is written over a faint, light blue circular stamp.

Christine Mathews  
Project Manager

CM/ji/1

Encl.

Attachment: Figure 1 – Proposed Excavation Map



11135250-14  
Nov 8, 2018

FIGURE 1