2R - 40

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

YEAR(S): 1995

MARTIN YATES, III 1912 - 1985 FRANK W. YATES 1936 - 1986



105 SOUTH FOURTH STREET
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO 88210
TELEPHONE (505) 748-1471

S. P. YATES
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
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TREASURER

May 31, 1995

RECEIVED

JUN 26 1995

Mr. William C. Olson, Hydrogeologist Environmental Bureau New Mexico Oil Conservation Division 2040 South Pacheco Santa Fe, NM 87505 Environmental Bureau
Oil Conservation Division

Re:

Dunnaway Draw Spill Report

Dear Mr. Olson:

This letter is submitted to the NMOCD to request that the agency reconsider the April 14, 1995 request to Yates Petroleum Corporation to provide to NMOCD a work plan for determining potential groundwater impacts related to the Dunnaway Draw (Martha Creek) produced water spill. Yates wishes to respond to comments made in your April 14 letter, re-emphasize several conclusions made in our February, 1995 report on the incident, and point out several additional facts not included with that report. Taken in total, the evidence indicates it is unlikely that groundwater has been impacted, or, if spill constituents have reached groundwater, their impact on the natural system is minimal.

Your letter lists six reasons why the NMOCD disagrees with the conclusions in our February, 1995 report. These have been reviewed, and our response to each point is provided below:

- 1. The OCD asserts the volume of the unrecovered fluid was a minimum of 800 to 900 barrels and not the 150 barrels as reported. The OCD figure was arrived at by making an estimate of the maximum depth of water (using water marks on the rocks) and the length (by pacing) of three ponded areas. The total volume of pooled water (1,000 to 1,122 barrels) was calculated by OCD, assuming a rectangular-shaped channel. However, the channel bottom cross-section is not rectangular, but could more accurately be described as a segment of a circle or parabolic. Either of these cross-section configurations will contain less of an area than a rectangle. Since calculation of the area of a segment of a circle requires additional information (i.e. circle radius and sector angle) not easily obtained, estimation using the area of a parabola will more accurately reflect the channel volume, and reduces the pooled volume by one-third (667 to 750 barrels). However, these calculations do not take into account the irregular bottom, nor do they include water displacement due to rocks and boulders in the pools which would further reduce estimates of the volume of water in the pools.
- 2. OCD suggests that the majority of their estimate of unrecovered fluids were lost to the Queen formation through direct contact with rock outcrops due to the lack of alluvial cover. Though cover is lacking on vertical rock faces, some of which are present on the south side of the arroyo, a thin

veneer of alluvial sediment and soil exists along much of the channel bottom and on the north side of the channel. During collection of samples by hand auger, auger refusal was experienced between 3 and 8 inches into the surface. Even on ledge outcrops a thin layer (1/8 to 1/4 inch) of clayey silt covers the nearly flat surface and conceals the joints.

The soil material is fine grained, mainly clayey silt and silty clay, and was very dry at the time of the spill. The shallow dry soil absorbed some volume of the water and, due to the short time of ponding (less than one day), most likely released most of the moisture back to the atmosphere. A rough calculation using the width and length of the ponded areas, and assuming a soil thickness of 6 inches and a dry soil porosity of 0.4, shows the soil likely absorbed approximately 160 barrels. This further reduces the OCD loss estimate to between 508 and 588 barrels. Deducting the 200 barrels recovered from the pooled area, this leaves an unrecovered water volume between 308 and 388 barrels. Although these estimate numbers are approximately twice the estimate of 150 unrecovered barrels provided in our spill report, the numbers are well within the range of loss estimates commonly made at locations with varying topographic and soil environments where estimation of fluid volumes is difficult due to these circumstances.

3. The OCD states that the fractured dolomite of the Queen formation is a direct conduit to underlying groundwater in the area. While the Queen is present at the surface and may be fractured, a number of additional factors need to be considered for groundwater at a depth of greater than 100 feet to be impacted from seepage during the short duration of water from the release was ponded. The number of joints and fractures have to be of adequate density and their openings of sufficient size to allow a significant amount of water to migrate during the short period water was available for infiltration. Inside tributaries to a major drainage, such as Rocky Arroyo, this is not always the case. For example, a short distance up Dunnaway Draw, a semi-permanent pool of water could be seen from the access road approaching the spill site. The pool is situated against a north cliff face at a bend in the arroyo (SW/4 Sec. 36, T-21S, R-23-E) and most likely is present due to scouring action which has created a depression in the same type of bedrock which is present at the spill site.

Even if a small amount of water did infiltrate through rock joints at the location of the pooled water, there are additional subsurface impediments to direct downward migration of fluids beneath the site. In fractured and stratified sediments, surface joints may decrease in size or not be continuous in the subsurface. They can be clogged with fine grained material which greatly reduces the rate at which water percolates downward. Lithologic changes can cause flow to move horizontally along bedding planes prior to resuming downward movement. The presence of low permeability clastic sediments (e.g. clay or silts or their derivatives) can interrupt or delay downward fluid movement.

All of these mechanisms play a part in controlling the amount and rate of recharge to the subsurface. In this type of environment, for recharge to be significant, it must occur over a longer reach of channel or exist for greater than a few hours. For groundwater to be significantly impacted, if at all, unrecovered release volumes would need to be significantly greater than the produced water lost in this incident.

4. The OCD asserts that the concentration of benzene in the spilled produced water was greater than 200 times the NM Water Quality Control Commission groundwater standard. While the sample value of 2.1 milligrams per liter (PPM) was obtained from the pipeline several weeks prior to this release, this value was likely in the concentration range of benzene in the produced water at the time of release. However, once released to the environment, the amount of benzene in the produced water decreased rapidly.

Benzene in water is very volatile; it is the most volatile of the aromatic hydrocarbons with a vapor pressure from 3 to 11 times those of the other volatile aromatics, and 4 times that of fresh water. During the first 15 to 20 minutes of the spill, water from the pipeline was observed to be sprayed 40 to 50 feet in the air and then flowed a distance greater than 500 feet on the surface down a side tributary to Dunnaway Draw. During that time and during the time the water was pooled prior to being recovered, benzene and other volatiles were being released to the atmosphere. Unfortunately, no samples were taken to determine benzene concentrations in the pooled water, but a significant amount of benzene was no doubt lost to evaporation during movement of the water from the break location to the pooled area. Because benzene was present in the aqueous phase in the pipeline and little or no condensate was present, concentrations in the produced water drop quickly once exposed to the atmosphere in the absence of an oil phase.

Water entering the subsurface will also lose benzene due to volatilization during transport and due to biodegradation. If movement in the subsurface is through joints and fractures as postulated by the OCD, volatilization will be enhanced since water movement in the subsurface above and below the water table will be under conditions of turbulent flow versus the laminar flow found in granular sediments such as sands, silts, and clays. Biodegradation is an important factor in reducing concentrations of benzene. Such degradation is commonly very fast in an aerobic environment where oxygen concentrations are not depleted due to excessive levels of hydrocarbons. Severely elevated levels of hydrocarbons, commonly found where condensate or other hydrocarbon product has been released to the subsurface, overwhelm the ability of the natural system to replenish oxygen used in chemical and biological transformation and degradation of the hydrocarbons. This is not the case at the current site because of the limited volume of the spill and the lack of hydrocarbon product to be transformed.

Values for the length of time for biodegradation to occur in soil, surface water, and groundwater in the <u>absence</u> of other mechanisms (such as the transport mechanisms of volatilization and adsorption, and dilution due to any flow recharge) have recently been compiled in the "Handbook of Environmental Degradation Rates" (Lewis Publishers, 1991). Rates of degradation are commonly expressed as half-lives which is the time for one-half of the initial concentration to biodegrade. This time is independent of the beginning concentration value. Half-lives for the types of media at the site are presented as a range of values in the table below.

Media	Low Half-life	High Half-life	Comment
Soil	5 days	16 days	Based on unacclimated aqueous aerobic biodegredation half-life
Surface Water	5 days	16 days	Based on unacclimated aqueous aerobic biodegradation half-life
Ground Water	10 days	32 days	Rate is for aerobic environment and based on unacclimated aqueous aerobic biodegradation half-life: rates for anaerobic conditions (e.g. where hydrocarbon product predominates) are significantly higher (112 days to 24 months)

All three methods of biodegradation occur in the subsurface in a fractured rock environment. In the vadose zone, some fine grained soil material has migrated into the joints and fractures. Water

seeping down through these zones flows, drips, and seeps much the same way as does surface water which allows for continued replenishment of the oxygen. After reaching the water table, and in the absence of any of the other mechanisms of attenuation, biodegradation consumes the remaining benzene in the saturated groundwater. The amount of time for aerobic biodegradation alone to degrade benzene in groundwater from 2.12 mg/l to less than the state WQCC standard of 0.010 mg/l would range from 80 to 256 days (2.7 to 8.5 months).

However, all of the mechanisms discussed above were at work to degrade benzene in the produced water. Volatilization occurred from the running and pooled water; adsorption occurred into the soil along the route of flow and at the temporary pools. Finally, biodegradation of the remaining benzene occurred in the soil sediment. The effectiveness of these processes in removing benzene were demonstrated by results of the soil sampling at the site (Table 1, p. 6 of the investigation report). None of the five soil samples, collected 18 days after the spill, showed benzene to be present at concentrations as low as 0.001 mg/kg.

Enclosed are some photographs of the site that were taken on June 6, 1995. The spill area is clearly shown and more specifically the exposed rock area where infiltration would occur. As can be seen in these photos, there is a pool of water in the depression that held the spill. This particular water happens to be storm runoff water that, at the time of the photograph, had been ponded in this depression for at least eight days. Even at the date of this letter there is still some water remaining in this pool. Considering that the immediate aeration that occurred at the pipe rupture, the length of run through the silt lined natural channels, and the short duration of exposure in the rocky creek bottom, it is highly unlikely that any significant infiltration of benzene or other petroleum product occurred. The weight of the evidence presented above demonstrates that benzene has been sufficiently attenuated such that it is not a problem at this site.

- 5. OCD comments that groundwater in the Queen in this area is of exceptionally good quality. Yates agrees that protection of groundwater is important in this semi-arid region. Our actions in responding to the spill and performing immediate remedial action demonstrate our commitment in this area. We commissioned a report that investigated the potential for groundwater contamination and possible impact on a Marathon monitor well and concluded that there was at worst a minimal likelihood of spill impact on this well. The Marathon well is approximately 3000 feet from the spill site. The nearest downgradient water supply well is over 13,000 feet (2.5 miles) away and on the opposite side of Rocky Arroyo from this spill site. The distance from this small-volume spill to the well location insures that no impacts will be observed at this well.
- 6. OCD's final comment repeats a portion of our report conclusion that groundwater may have been impacted. Yates continues to believe that it is unlikely that groundwater has been or will be affected by the spill given the size of the spill and response actions taken, but made calculations as if such impact had occurred. The calculations concluded that if such impact did or will occur, the effect will only be in the immediate vicinity of the spill. To evaluate a possible impact, calculations presented in the report assumed all the unrecovered spill volume reached the groundwater and estimated that an area of approximately 250 feet by 129 feet to a depth of 5 feet could have groundwater with a chloride concentration in excess of 250 mg/l, the state WQCC standard. Unlike benzene, chloride is a conservative groundwater constituent. Benzene from the spill will be attenuated above and below the subsurface as discussed in our response to OCD Comment 4 above.

The report and the above discussion have highlighted how different this incident was from a release of fluid containing petroleum product hydrocarbon. The major difference between produced water and

fluid containing hydrocarbon product is that the original source of the hydrocarbon is not present to continually replenish benzene and other hydrocarbons lost to the mechanisms of attenuation listed above. Additionally, this incident was detected almost immediately after it commenced and fluids removed within only several hours. All the actions taken by Yates were designed to prevent the spill release from having a significant impact on the environment.

During the preparation of the investigative report on this spill, we reviewed the collected sample data and site information on groundwater depth and location of nearby water wells that could serve as environmental receptors. We compared that information with published NMOCD guidelines for remediation of spills, leaks and releases, and concluded that our response and follow-up actions complied with the letter and spirit of the guidelines. In response to your April 14 letter, we have reviewed your comments, especially with respect to benzene, and developed the additional information which we presented above.

On the basis of the information presented and discussed above, Yates does not believe additional groundwater investigation is warranted or necessary and presents this request for reconsideration to the NMOCD. Additionally, if such discussion would be helpful, we would be pleased to meet in person in Santa Fe or Artesia to discuss this information with you.

We look forward to your response on this matter. In the interim, if you have any questions, you can contact me at (505) 748-1471.

Very truly yours,

YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION

James S. Brown

Operations Engineering Supervisor

CC: Mr. Tim Gum, NMOCD, Artesia, NM (w/o pcitures)





ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

2040 S. PACHECO SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87505 (505) 827-7131

April 14, 1995

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT NO. P-667-242-244

Mr. Paul Ragsdale Yates Petroleum Corporation 105 South Fourth St. Artesia, New Mexico 88210

RE: DUNNAWAY DRAW SPILL REPORT
YATES PETROLEUM COMPANY

Dear Mr. Ragsdale:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has completed a review of Yates Petroleum Corporation's (YPC) March 1, 1995 correspondence and February 1995 "PRODUCED WATER PIPELINE RELEASE INVESTIGATION, DUNNAWAY DRAW (MARTHA CREEK), EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO". These documents contain the results of YPC's investigation of the extent of contamination related to a produced water pipeline spill into Dunnaway Draw in Eddy County, New Mexico. The report also recommends that no further action is required at the site due to a risk analysis and the low levels of contaminants in the surface soils.

The spill response actions taken are satisfactory. However, for the following reasons, the OCD does not concur with Yates conclusions that it is unlikely that ground water has not been impacted from the spill:

1. The volume of the spill appears to be larger than documented in the report. During an inspection of the site on January 19, 1995, the OCD measured the average size of the three pooled areas in Dunnaway Draw in which the majority of the spilled produced water was contained. These areas were calculated as containing approximately 1000 to 1100 barrels of produced water. This calculation does not include the volume of any fluids lost to seepage during containment in the draw nor fluids lost to seepage along the approximately 700 foot long drainage channel between Dunnaway Draw and the pipeline break. Since only 200 barrels were recovered, the OCD has estimated the volume of unrecovered fluids to be a minimum of 800 to 900 barrels.

Mr. Paul Ragsdale April 14, 1995 Page 2

- 2. A large percentage of the fluids were contained in a pool located in a bend of the draw where the fractured dolomite of the Queen Formation is exposed. Since the produced waters were pooled in direct contact with the fractured outcrop in this area and since little alluvial cover exists for storage of fluids in other areas, it is highly likely that the majority of the unrecovered fluids were lost to the Queen Formation.
- 3. Fractured dolomite of the Queen Formation is a direct conduit to underlying ground water in this area.
- 4. The concentration of benzene in the spilled produced water was over 200 times the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) ground water standard.
- 5. The ground water contained in the Queen Formation in this area is of exceptionally high quality.
- 6. YPC's February report acknowledges that ground water may have been impacted by the spill.

For the above reasons, the OCD requests that YPC submit to the OCD, by June 9, 1995, a work plan for determining potential ground water impacts related to this spill.

If you have any questions, please call me at (505) 827-7154.

Sincerely,

William C. Olson Hydrogeologist

Environmental Bureau

xc: Tim Gum, OCD Arte

PS Form 3800, June 1990 Street & No Return Receipt Showing to Whom & Date Delivered Restricted Delivery Fee all lime over lop ostmark or Date rigint of the return address. , State n Receipt Showing to Whom & Address of Delivery & ZIP No Insurance C Do not use for I (See Reverse) Certified of equipment to ě 벁 Coverage Provided International B B гu Recei

Bill Olson

From: To:

Bill Olson Tim Gumm

Cc:

Tim Gumm Ray Smith

Subject:

Yates Dunnaway Draw Spill

Date:

Thursday, April 13, 1995 11:05AM

Priority:

High

Atached is a draft letter requiring Yates to submit a ground water work plan for the Dunnaway Draw spill. Please provide me with any comments by 11:00 am on 4/17/95. Thanks!

< < File Attachment: INVEST1.REQ > >

Bill Olson

From:

Ray Smith

Date sent:

Thursday, April 13, 1995 1:04PM

To:

Bill Olson

Subject:

Registered: Ray Smith

Your message

To:

Ray Smith

Subject:

Yates Dunnaway Draw Spill Thursday, April 13, 1995 11:05AM

Date: was accessed on

Date:

Thursday, April 13, 1995 1:04PM

Bill Olson

From:

Tim Gumm

Date sent:

Thursday, April 13, 1995 1:23PM

To:

Bill Olson

Subject:

Registered: Tim Gumm

Your message

To:

Tim Gumm

Subject:

Yates Dunnaway Draw Spill

Date:

Thursday, April 13, 1995 11:05AM

was accessed on

Date:

Thursday, April 13, 1995 1:23PM

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105 South Fourth Street

ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO 88210

TELEPHONE (505) 748-1471

March 1, 1995

RECEIVED

DENNIS G KINSEY

TREASURER

Mr. Tim Gum New Mexico Oil Conservation Division P. O. Drawer DD Artesia, NM 88210

IAAR _ 7 1995

OIL CON. DIV. DIST. 2

Dear Tim:

Attached please find our report on the Dunnaway Draw (Martha Creek) water pipeline leak that occurred on January 3, 1995.

Groundwater is at a depth in excess of 110 ft. and the intervening sediments are of very low permeability except along joints and fractures. For reasons discussed in the report, it is unlikely that these pathways are as well developed beneath Dunnaway Draw as under Rocky Arroyo. Additionally, pooled water was present only several hours before being pumped to trucks for disposal. Because the spilled liquids were relatively freshwater and not condensate, subsurface attenuation mechanisms, such as volatilization, sorption, and biodegradation will degrade organics relatively quickly. If any fluids do migrate to groundwater, the relatively low concentration of salts and small volume entering the subsurface will be diluted to below groundwater standards by mixing in the immediate vicinity of the spill. No water wells of any type are located within 3000 ft. of the spill location; the nearest domestic or livestock wells are several miles distant.

The spilled water contained only 2445 mg/l chlorides and trace amounts of hydrocarbons. The field investigation conducted January 21 show only residual hydrocarbons remaining in soils underlying the spill area. Benzene, total BTEX and TPH concentrations determined by sampling are below levels requiring remediation pursuant to NMOCD guidelines.

Because of conditions described in the report and summarized above, further soil and groundwater investigation and/or remediation is not warranted. As previously discussed, Yates has taken measures to minimize reoccurrence of pipeline failures and will continue to communicate progress in this regard to you.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact me at 748-4187.

Sincerely,

Paul Ragsdale *O*Operations Engineer

PR/th

xc: (w/report) Bill Olson, NMOCD, Santa Fe



State of New Mexico ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

STRITE OF MEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING OR CONVERSATION

Telephone Personal	Time		Date	3/21/95
Originating Party			0	ther Parties
Bill Olson - Envir. Bur	Ohn	Al C	Oller	- BUIL Cadshad
Subject Yetes Martha Cool	L Spill			
Discussion				
Told him OCD away	iting Vates 2/19	(ago A	on (extent at contamination
OLA recieved no respons	e at this,	+Ino-		
OCD has lead on BLAI maintains jurisdicti	swirtice,	g (oun	water	
Oistribution file A frage	Sig	gned Br	U c	Jon .

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S. P. YATES

PEYTON YATES EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY DENNIS G. KINSEY TREASURER

105 SOUTH FOURTH STREET

ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO 88210

TELEPHONE (505) 748-1471

February 21, 1995

RECEIVED

FEB 2 4 1995

Environmental Bureau Oil Conservation Division

Mr. Richard L. Manus Area Manager Bureau of Land Management Carlsbad Resource Area Headquarters P. O. Box 1778 Carlsbad, NM 88221-1778

Dear Mr. Manus:

Thank you for your letter of February 13, 1995 (enclosed for your reference) regarding a produced water pipeline leak in Section 25, Township 21 South, Range 23 East in Eddy County, New Mexico. Yates Petroleum already performed many of the investigative and remedial actions which BLM has recommended. This letter is to advise BLM of these actions, to respond to BLM's requests for additional information, and to outline a course of action to respond to all of BLM's recommendations.

A chronology of events is enclosed as Attachment 1. This chronology was given to NMOCD in a meeting in Artesia on January 19, 1995. Attachment 1 shows that the release occurred at about 12:00 noon on January 3, 1995. The emergency response actions shown on Attachment 1 include shutting in all wells, closing upstream pipeline valves, vacuuming all free-standing water from Martha Creek and all points between the spill and Martha Creek. Two hundred barrels of water was removed. The line was repaired by 10:00 p.m. January 3rd. These actions were taken as quickly as possible to minimize the impact of the spill. The following day, absorbent was spread on the spill site. Per your request, the Material Safety Data Sheet is enclosed as Attachment 2. Attachment 1 also lists the actions taken to ensure prevention of future spills.

The spill was reported to NMOCD via fax at 4:50 p.m. on January 6, 1995. See Attachment 3. It was reported via telephone conversation to you at approximately 4:30 p.m. on January 6, 1995 by Mr. Jim Brown of Yates Petroleum. A followup written report was sent to you (Attachment 4). The National Response Center (NRC) was notified via telephone at 4:30 p.m. on January 6, 1995, to Miss Coleman, Report number 275438, by Mr. Jim Brown. A written verification of the NRC report was sent to the EPA (Attachment 5). The written report to the EPA Water Management Division is attached (Attachment 6).

The volume of the spill was not known at the time of reporting to the agencies named above. Subsequent to reporting of the spill, Yates Petroleum estimated the total fluid spilled to be 350 barrels. We have documentation to show that 200 barrels of water was vacuumed up and hauled away (Attachment 7). Therefore, our best estimate is that 150 barrels of water was lost. These numbers were reported to the NMOCD in the January 19th meeting (Attachment 1), and to the EPA (Attachment 5). The basis of the

spill volume (350 barrels) was the water production rate times the total elapsed leak time, as shown in Attachment 1.

Yates Petroleum has taken water and soil samples. We have hired a consultant to inspect the spill site, analyze the spilled fluids and soils, and make remediation recommendations to Yates Petroleum. The consultant's report will be finished by February 23, 1995. We would like to meet with NMOCD during the week of February 27th to present the report to them and to discuss remediation requirements. We will also send you a copy of the consultant's report.

Sincerely,

MW Slater

Operations Manager

MWS/th

xc: Tim Gum, NMOCD

Bill Olson, NMOCD

Yates Petroleum Report of Spill in Martha Creek January 19, 1995

1. Spill amounts: Estimated 350 bbls of produced water. Picked up 200 bbls from spill site. Net 150 bbls lost.

Spill Events	Daily Production	1/2/93 1/3/93
	Anemone 2-3	3920 3469
	Hickory	693 354
	Brannigan	1321 1350
	S.F. Old Ranch	4922 1136
	Zingaro	<u>1230</u> <u>1219</u>
To	tal	12086 7528
	bbl/hr	503 313

Ev	OH:	ıts:
L v	CI	ILS.

Events:	
01-03-95	12:15 Marathon notified Yates of water leak
•	13:00 All wells were shut in, Upstream valve shut off
	13:15 Line on a vacuum to Dagger Draw
	14:00 Backhoe arrived to dig up break
	15:00 Vacuum trucks arrived and vacuumed ditch and line
	16:00 Installed fas-line and pump to pump out ponded water
	22:00 Line repaired and returned to service
01-04-95	08:00 to 16:00 Broadcast "Oilgator" and cleanup site
	Inspected Pressure reducing valve and removed rock
	Also, implemented 24 hour watch on line
01-05-95	09:00 to 16:00 Broadcast "Oilgator" and site cleanup.
	Also, brought in Hydraulic Engineering Consultant and Valve Technician
	to inspect line. Also, raining and snowing intermittently.
01-06-95	Re-inspected Pressure reducing valves. Notified spill to BLM,OCD,EPA

Measures to prevent future spills

- 1. 24 hour surveillance on pipeline, monitoring pressures and rates
- 2. Installed 5 pressure/temperature recorders in the line
- 3. Inspected each pressure reducing valve. Installed filters and screens in pilot line to catch trash. Purchased repair kits for all valves and holding in stock. Ordering stand-by valves for emergency replacement.
- 4. Redesigning manifolds to place a duplicate valve in the line in series to "back-up" first valve, to place in line filters and in line meters in service.
- 5. In process of installing safety shut-down valves and switches on all batteries
- 6. Installing 14,000 feet of 12" line to reduce pressure on north end
- 7. Waiting on Right of way to install 12,000 feet of 8" in south end
- 8. Organized a "SWAT" team to handle any future emergencies.

Material Safety Data Sheet May be osed to comply with OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard 29 CFR 1910.1200. Standard must be consulted for specific requirements

U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Non-Mandatory Form) Form Approved OMB No. 1218-0072

IDENTITY (As Used on Label and List)

Oil Gator

Section I

Address:

Manufacturer's Name:

Product Services Company

266 Upton Drive

Jackson, Mississippi 39209

Emergency Telephone Number:

Telephone Number for Information:

Date Prepared:

(601) 922-0868

(601) 922-0868 Nov. 30, 1992

Section II - Hazardous Ingredients / Identity Information

Hazardous Components (Specific Chemical Identity; Common Name(s)

NONE KNOWN

AGGIH Other Limits Recommended %(Optional)

Section III - Physical Chemistry Characteristics

Boiling Point - N/A Specific Gravity (H₂O * 1) - 1.25 g/cc Evaporation Rate (Butyl Acetate * .1) - N/A

Vapor Pressure (mm Hg) - N/A Solubility in Water - No

Melting Point - N/A

Vapor Density (Air * 1) - N/A Appearance in Water - Brown Fibrous Powder, Odorless

Section IV - Fire and Explosion Hazard Data

Flash Point (Method Used) - N/A

Flammable Limits - 500 Degrees C

LEL - N/A

UEL - N/A

Extinguishing Media - Water

Special Fire Fighting Procedures - Fight as you would a paper fire Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards - As with any finely divided powder, the possibility of explosion exists it ignited

tion V - Reactivity Data

Stability

Unstable Stable

Conditions to Avoid

Incompatibility (Materials to Avoid) - Strong Concentrated Acids

Hazardous Decomposition or Byproducts - May evolve ammonia gas in contact with strong caustic

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DENNIS G. KINSEY
TREASURER

January 6, 1995

REPORT OF UNDESIRABLE EVENT

On Tuesday, January 3, 1995, Yates Petroleum Corporation had a very minor water spill in the S/2 of Section 25-T21S-R23E, Eddy County, New Mexico, on the south bank of Martha Creek Draw. Line was immediately repaired.

James S. Brown

Operations Engineering Supervisor

copy to:

Oil Conservation Division (fax and mail) 811 South 1st Street Artesia, NM 88210

			TF	RANSA	CTION	REPORT		IAN OO OF FRI	P. 01
								JAN-06-95 FRI	16:50
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ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO 88210
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TREASURER

REPORT OF UNDESIRABLE EVENT

On January 6, 1995, Yates Petroleum Corporation advised Mr. Dick Manus with the Bureau of Land Management in Carlsbad, New Mexico via telephone that a leak had occurred in the water pipeline that transports water from East Indian Basin to Dagger Draw. The very minor spill occurred in the S/2 of Section 25-T21S-R23E, Eddy County, NM, on the south bank of Martha Creek Draw, on January 3, 1995.

The line was immediately repaired. The cause of the failure was excessive pressure caused by a malfunctioning pressure control valve. The malfunction was caused by a rock which had lodged in the valve seat. Changes are being made to prevent recurrence.

The other agencies informed of the spill are:

- NMOCD, Artesia, NM
- National Response Center, Report #275438, Miss Coleman
- EPA, Dallas

James S. Brown

Operations Engineering Supervisor

Sent to: BLM, Carlsbad

Attn: Mr. Dick Manus

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSE BRANCH (6E-EP) 1445 ROSS AVENUE DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

REGION 6

Mailed To: Alieia Varner 1-30-95

+ ERNS VERIFICATION FORM +

NRC NUMBER :	27	5438 - Martha Iruk I	Drew	REGION 6 NUMBER :	F95-1320			
PRP :	YA	TES PETROLEUM COR	.P					
CONTACT PERSO	ON :	BROWN, JAMES						
PHONE NUMBER	:	505-748-4167-						
LOCATION :		SOUTH HALF/SEC-25, R-23 EAST, T-21 SOUTH						
		ARTESIA		NM				
ORIGINA	ALLY	REPORTED:		======================================				
MAT. NAME:	PROD	UCED WATER		Produced Water				
QUANTITY:	0.00			350 spilled/200 recovered				
UNIT: SPILL DATE:	01/0	1/95		barrels (42 gallons/barr	rel)			
SPILL TIME:	0			12:15 PM - 1st_detection	1			
=======================================	= = = =	=======================================	 		=======================================			
VERIFIED BY	:							
DATE/TIME:								
COMMENTS:								
CALLED								

MAILED LETTER :

UPDATED

MARTIN YATES, III 1912 - 1985 FRANK W. YATES 1936 - 1986



105 SOUTH FOURTH STREET
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO 88210
TELEPHONE (505) 748-1471

S. P. YATES
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
JOHN A. YATES
PRESIDENT
PEYTON YATES
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
RANDY G: PATTERSON
SECRETARY
DENNIS G. KINSEY
TREASURER

January 13, 1995

Ms. Cecilia Kernodle, Environmental Engineer Mail Code 6W-ET Environmental Protection Agency Water Management Division 1445 Ross Ave. Dallas, TX 75202

Dear Ms. Kernodle,

Yates Petroleum accidentally spilled water onto the surface of the ground on January 3rd, 1995. The spill occurred in the S/2 of Section 25-T21S-R23E, Eddy County, New Mexico. This site is about 25 miles south-southwest of Artesia, New Mexico.

The water is very low in salinity (3000 mg/l chlorides), and is water that is produced from wells operated by Yates Petroleum. The spill occurred when a water pipeline leaked. The leak was immediately repaired. The leak was caused by excessive pressure. A rock had lodged in the pressure regulating valve, causing it to malfunction. Steps are being taken to prevent recurrence.

Yates Petroleum reported the spill within 3 days to the US Bureau of Land Management, the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, and the National Response Center. This report complies with the General NPDES Permit for releases of produced water.

If you need further information, please do not hesitate to call me at (505)748-4167.

Sincerely,

James S. Brown

ames S. Brown,

Operations Engineering Supervisor

JB/sj

Jim's Water Service of New Mexico A DIVISION OF JIM'S WATER SERVICE OF COLORADO, INC. P.O. Box 718 • Brighton, Colorado 80601 • (303) 659-6606

DELIVERY TICKET

Nº 43874

ARTESIA TERMINAL	4007 - 740 4050			
Drawer 1387 ◆ Artesia, New Mexico 88211	, , ,	95		
BILL TO: Yates Pelrolun Cons	P.O. NUMBER	- 065C)	
	AFE NUMBER			
	LEASE WELLOW	Pi	so line	
	WELL NO.			····
ORDERED BY: RON BEAS/84	W.O. NUMBER	460	9	
PEODUCTION				
DESCRIPTION		ОТУ	RATE	CHARGE
199 DIW		130		n/
		9 Hrs.	61.00	549.00
2 14 /				
DRIVER Daniel Billington	TRUCK NO2	69	TAX	28.82
$1/\sqrt{2}$	ECEIVED		TOTAL	572.82

Martha Draw LEAK

DELIVERY TICKET

Jim's Water Service of New Mexico
A DIVISION OF JIM'S WATER SERVICE OF COLORADO, INC.
P.O. Box 718 • Brighton, Colorado 80601 • (303) 659-6606

Nº 43895

			1.4	10000
ARTESIA TERMINAL Drawer 1387 ● Artesia, New Mexico 88211	.1387 a 748.1352			
Diamer 1307 • Artesia, New Mexico 00211	DATE	3-95		
BILL TO: YATES				
BILL 10: 1/4/15	_ P.O. NUMBER	-0000		
	_ AFE NUMBER			<u> </u>
	LEASE // CNC	CVV	VALER	be it
	WELL NO.	<u></u>		
ORDERED BY: ROW BERSIEY	W.O. NUMBER	462	9	
PRODUCTION		-		
DESCRIPTION		YTO	RATE	CHARGE
199 D/M		10 %		N
111 1-1/11		150		N
		130		<u></u>
		10 /2 Hrs.	61.00	640.50
		<u> </u>		
DRIVER DAY IS LOS HAMPSTON	TRUCK NO. 24	<i>Y</i>	TAX	33.63
START / 30 FINISH /2 TOTALR	ECEIVED	-	TOTAL	674.13

Jim's Water Service of New Mexico A DIVISION OF JIM'S WATER SERVICE OF COLORADO, INC. P.O. Box 718 • Brighton, Colorado 80601 • (303) 659-6606

DELIVERY TICKET

 $N^{\underline{0}} \quad 43896$

ARTESIA TERMINAL			
Drawer 1387 ● Artesia, New Mexico 88211-1387 ● 748-1352	11-02		
DATE			
BILL TO: YATES P.O. NUMBER	06-065D		
AFE NUMBER			
LI 'a II		7 . 17	۲) ,
WELL NO. S.V.S.	OTE V WA	IERG	KIKERIN
WELL NO. S.V.S.	TON PI	PEL	iNE
ORDERED BY: RON BEALTY W.O. NUMBER	460	19	
People Ton			
DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	CHARGE
	51/2 NO	6/100	335.50
	75	N/C	NIC
	·		
DRIVER (LAITES HAMPTON TRUCK NO. 2	4 7	TAX	17.61
START 7 FINISH 12, 3 TOTAL RECEIVED	, ,	TOTAL	353.11
, , ,			

DELIVERY TICKET

START & CAMPINISH LY POPEL TOTAL

Jim's Water Service of New Mexico A DIVISION OF JIET'S WATER SERVICE OF COLORADO, INC. P.O. Box 71E • Brighton, Colorado 80601 • (303) 659-6606

DELIVERY TICKET

Nº 44426

ARTESIA TERMINAL Drawer 1387 ● Artesia, New Mexico 88211-	1387 • 748-1352 DATE	-4-9	4	
BILL TO: Vates	P.O. NUMBER 106	-0650		
	AFE NUMBER			
	LEASE Thickey	y Tipe	her	1 <i>G</i>
	WELL NO.	, <i>v</i>		
ORDERED BY: AD1 Blasusy	W.O. NUMBER	4629		
PRODUCTION			<u> </u>	, 1
199 A DESCRIPTION		QTY ·	RATE	CHARGE
		4 Hrs.	61.00	244.00
			····	
X 2. 0				
DRIVER Dan Hay	TRUCK NO	.69	TAX	13.81
9 10 100	CEIVED		TOTAL	256.81



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Carlsbad Resource Area Headquarters P.O. Box 1778

Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-1778

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division 811 South 1st Artesia, New Mexico

Attn: Mr. Tim Gum

FEB 1 3 1995

RECEIVED

IN REPLYREFER TO:

FEB 2 4 1995

Environmental Bureau
Oil Conservation Division

Dear Mr. Gum:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) is authorized by the New Mexico Oil and Gas Act and the New Mexico Water Quality Act to:

- 1) require actions that protect public health and the environment and;
- 2) require corrective actions necessary to contain, remove, or mitigate damage caused by a release or discharge of pollutants.

This letter is a request for your assistance in the investigation, assessment, containment, removal, and mitigation of actual or potential environmental pollution that occurred as a result of the pipeline break in sec 25, Township 21 south, Range 23 East, Eddy County, New Mexico. Yates Petroleum Corporation owns the pipeline and is the responsible party for this incident. Yates Petroleum Corporation is expected to complete all required investigative and corrective actions related to this incident. We are requesting that the OCD assume the leadagency role for investigation and remediation of this incident. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) staff are available for discussion and advice concerning requirements.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requires at a minimum the following information on the incident:

- time and date of release
- time and date release was reported to the BLM and OCD
- time and date release was reported to the National Response Center (with confirmation)
- copy of the written report required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Water Management Division
- type and nature of emergency response actions taken (including Material Safety Data Sheets for materials used to absorb fluids)
- estimate of volume of fluids lost in incident (followed up by actual data)
- type of fluid lost (followed up by lab sampling)

This information was requested by letter dated 2/13/95. We will send you copies of information received.

The following are the BLM recommendations for site characterization and recommendations. We are willing to discuss recommendations, but recognize time is a critical issue in this case. Site characterization actions should begin as soon as possible.

- Initial sampling phase:
 - fluid in pipeline
 - o 3 soil-gas samples
 - o 3 soil and sediment samples (ICAP metals, arsenic, selenium, and mercury), 1 up-gradient and 2 down-gradient
 - 3 sampling and monitoring wells drilled to the lower Queen aquifer as identified by the Marathon Remedial Project near Rocky Arroyo.
- Remedial or corrective action phase: (largely depends on data from initial phase)
 - o soil-gas venting, if necessary
 - o groundwater clean-up
 - o groundwater monitoring

Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated. BLM staff are available for discussion of issues, but request that site characterization work begin before February 28, 1995. Pursuant to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), all actions at the site require BLM approval prior to beginning work.

If you have any questions or require additional information in this matter, please contact Al Collar or Gary Bowers at (505) 887-6544.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Manus Area Manager

cc:
Bill Olsen
NM Oil Conservation Division
P.O. Box 2088
Santa Fe, NM 87504

Carlsbad Resource Area Headquarters
P.O. Box 1778

Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-1778

FEB 1 3 1995

Yates Petroleum Corporation 105 South 4th Street Artesia, New Mexico 88210 Attn: Mr. Mike Slater

RECEIVED

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FEB 2 4 1995

Dear Mr. Slater:

Environmental Bureau
Oil Conservation Division

On January 6, 1995, we received notice that produced water was released from your transportation pipeline in sec 25, Township 21 South, Range 23 East, Eddy County, New Mexico. This letter outlines the investigative and remedial actions you are requested to conduct as a result of this release, and requests additional information concerning the release.

The requested investigative and remedial actions assure rapid assessment and response to the potential release of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants in this matter. They also reduce future risk and liability of potentially responsible parties, including the United Sates government. Your voluntary compliance in these actions is appreciated.

We have requested assistance from the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) in this matter. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) provided general requirements for investigation and remediation of the site to the OCD. The BLM requested that OCD assume a lead agency role in the case.

As lead agency, the OCD will review and approve work plans, on-site activities, and remediation methodology. The BLM will review plans and objectives and make recommendations to the OCD.

Since the release occurred on public lands, regulations under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) apply to actions conducted at this site. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is also required before any activity begins. Written authorization from the BLM is required before beginning work at the site.

The BLM requests you provide the following information related to this incident to the Carlsbad Resource Area Office:

- time and date of release
- time and date release was reported to the BLM and OCD
- time and date release was reported to the National Response Center (with confirmation)

F

• copy of the written report required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Water Management Division

• type and nature of emergency response actions taken (including Material Safety Data Sheets for materials used to absorb fluids)

- estimate of volume of fluids lost in incident (followed up by actual data)
- type of fluid lost (followed up by lab sampling for BTEX, ICAP metals, arsenic, selenium, and mercury, and TPH)

The following are the BLM recommendations for site characterization and remediation. We are willing to discuss recommendations, but recognize time is a critical issue in this case. Site characterization actions should begin as soon as possible.

- Initial sampling phase:
 - o fluid in pipeline
 - O 3 soil-gas samples
 - o 3 soil and sediment samples (BTEX, TPH, ICAP metals, arsenic, selenium, and mercury), 1 up-gradient and 2 downgradient
 - 3 sampling and monitoring wells drilled to the lower Queen aquifer as identified by the Marathon Remedial Project near Rocky Arroyo (BTEX, TPH, ICAP metals, arsenic, selenium, and mercury)
- Remedial or corrective action phase: (largely depends on data from initial phase)
 - o soil-gas venting, if necessary
 - o groundwater clean-up
 - o groundwater monitoring

We are recommending a start date no later than February, 28, 1995. BLM staff are available for discussion of issues.

If you have any questions or require additional information in this matter, please contact Al Collar or Gary Bowers at (505) 887-6544.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Manus Area Manager cc: Bîll Olsen NM Oil Conservation Division P.O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, NM 87504

Tim Gum NM Oil Conservation Division 811 South 1st Artesia, New Mexico

Yates Petroleum Report of Spill in Martha Creek

January 19, 1995

1. Spill amounts: Estimated 350 bbls of produced water. Picked up 200 bbls from spill site. Net 150 bbls lost.

Spill Events		Daily Production	1/2/93	1/3/93
•		Anemone 2-3	3920	3469
		Hickory	693	354
		Brannigan	1321	1350
		S.F. Old Ranch	4922	1136
		Zingaro	<u>1230</u>	<u>1219</u>
•	Total		12086	7528
		bbl/hr	503	313

01-06-95

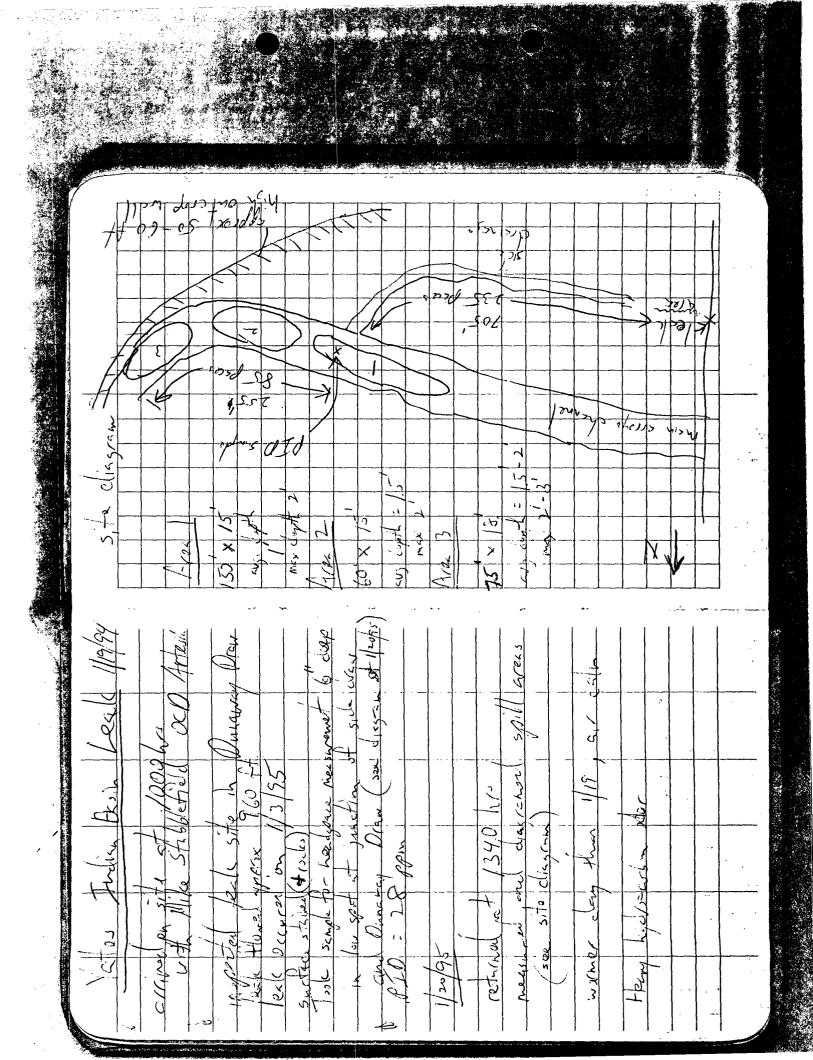
Events:	
01-03-95	12:15 Marathon notified Yates of water leak
	13:00 All wells were shut in, Upstream valve shut off
	13:15 Line on a vacuum to Dagger Draw
	14:00 Backhoe arrived to dig up break
	15:00 Vacuum trucks arrived and vacuumed ditch and line
	16:00 Installed fas-line and pump to pump out ponded water
	22:00 Line repaired and returned to service
01-04-95	08:00 to 16:00 Broadcast "Oilgator" and cleanup site
	Inspected Pressure reducing valve and removed rock
	Also, implemented 24 hour watch on line
01-05-95	09:00 to 16:00 Broadcast "Oilgator" and site cleanup.
	Also, brought in Hydraulic Engineering Consultant and Valve Technician
	to inspect line. Also, raining and snowing intermittently.

Measures to prevent future spills

- 1. 24 hour surveillance on pipeline, monitoring pressures and rates
- 2. Installed 5 pressure/temperature recorders in the line
- 3. Inspected each pressure reducing valve. Installed filters and screens in pilot line to catch trash. Purchased repair kits for all valves and holding in stock. Ordering stand-by valves for emergency replacement.

Re-inspected Pressure reducing valves. Notified spill to BLM,OCD,EPA

- 4. Redesigning manifolds to place a duplicate valve in the line in series to "back-up" first valve, to place in line filters and in line meters in service.
- 5. In process of installing safety shut-down valves and switches on all batteries
- 6. Installing 14,000 feet of 12" line to reduce pressure on north end
- 7. Waiting on Right of way to install 12,000 feet of 8" in south end
- 8. Organized a "SWAT" team to handle any future emergencies.



MARTIN YATES, III 1918 - 1983 FRANK W. YATES 1936 - 1986



105 SOUTH FOURTH STREET
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO 88210
TELEPHONE (505) 748-1471

RANDY G. PATTERSON SECRETARY DENNIS G. KINSEY TREASURER

5. P. YATES CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD JOHN A. YATES

PARSIDENT

PEVTON VATES
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

JAN 10 '95

January 6, 1995

版 · じ. 網移MA OFFICE

REPORT OF UNDESTRABLE EVENT

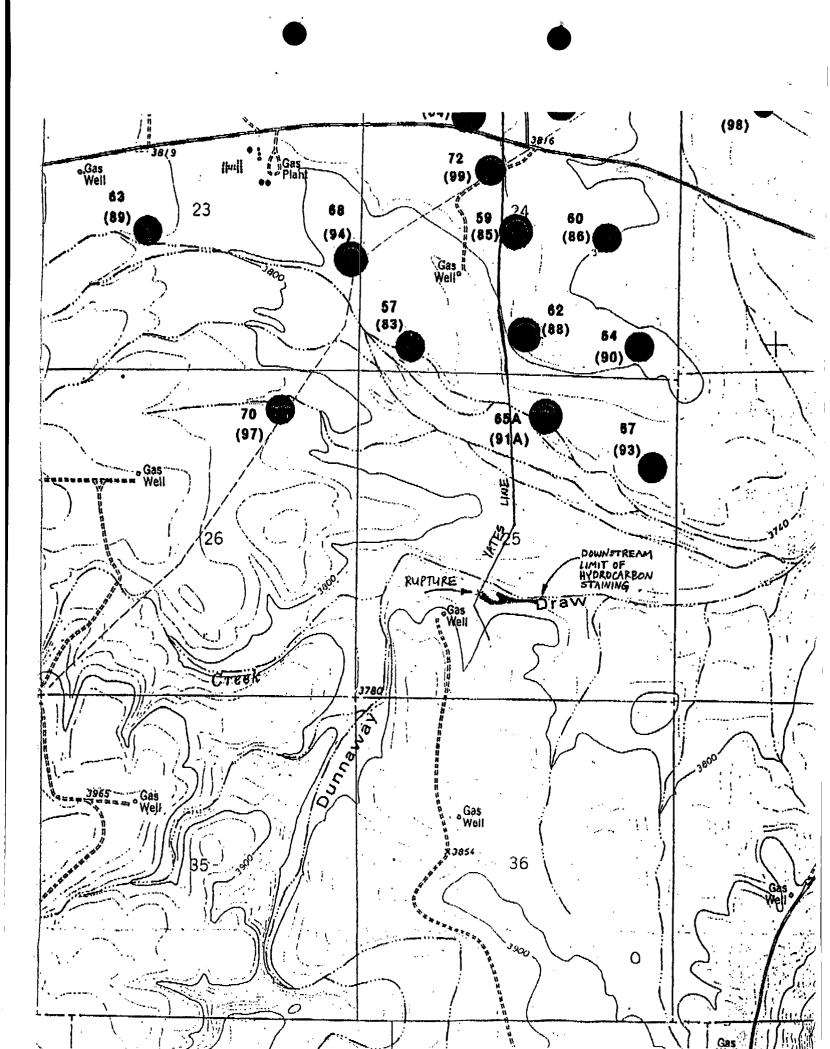
On Tuesday, January 3, 1995, Yates Petroleum Corporation had a very minor water spill in the S/2 of Section 25-T21S-R23E, Eddy County, New Mexico, on the south bank of Martha Creek Draw. Line was immediately repaired.

James S. Brown

Operations Engineering Supervisor

copy to:

Oil Conservation Division (fax and mail) 811 South 1st Street Artesia, NM 88210



Spill Volume Estimate 1/24/95

According 150× 15×1' = 2250 ft3

Arec 2 60' × 15' × 1.5' = 1350 ff3

Area 3 $75' \times 18' \times 1.5' = 2025 \text{ ff}'$ or $75' \times 18' \times 2.0' = 2700 \text{ ff}'$

 $5625 \text{ ft}^3 +_0 6300 \text{ ft}^3$ $42,088 \text{ gal } (1000 \text{ ft}), \quad 47,124 \text{ scl } (1,122 \text{ bh/s})$ $1gcl = \frac{0.03571 \text{ ft}^2}{0.264L} = 0.13365 \text{ ft}^2 \quad \text{or} \quad 7.48 \text{ gcl/ft}^3$

1/19/95 Yetes/OCP Meeting on Spills 1:30 pm Net in Artesia with + Vales at OCP Artesia Office expect-6groft on Staling Drew in 1-2 weeks - report on extent in Martha Creek in approx. 30 days Will sound apply of Staling Draw spill report to OCD Artesia

Attendes - Bill Olson - OCD Envir. Duren
- Ray Smith - OCD Artegia
- Paul Rays dale - Victor
- Rex Gatos - Victor
- Dave Boyer - RESPEC (Vator consulfant)
- Daryl

Nob Menzie } Mcration Hydrogeologist Ja 1-65+ Thes. Marka Creek Vater spill PS spill 4 oil De 14 mile from NW-67 Vess than mile from Lyman mell Oil Conservation Division

2 splls NOV. 1994"

I at 10,000 bb/s.

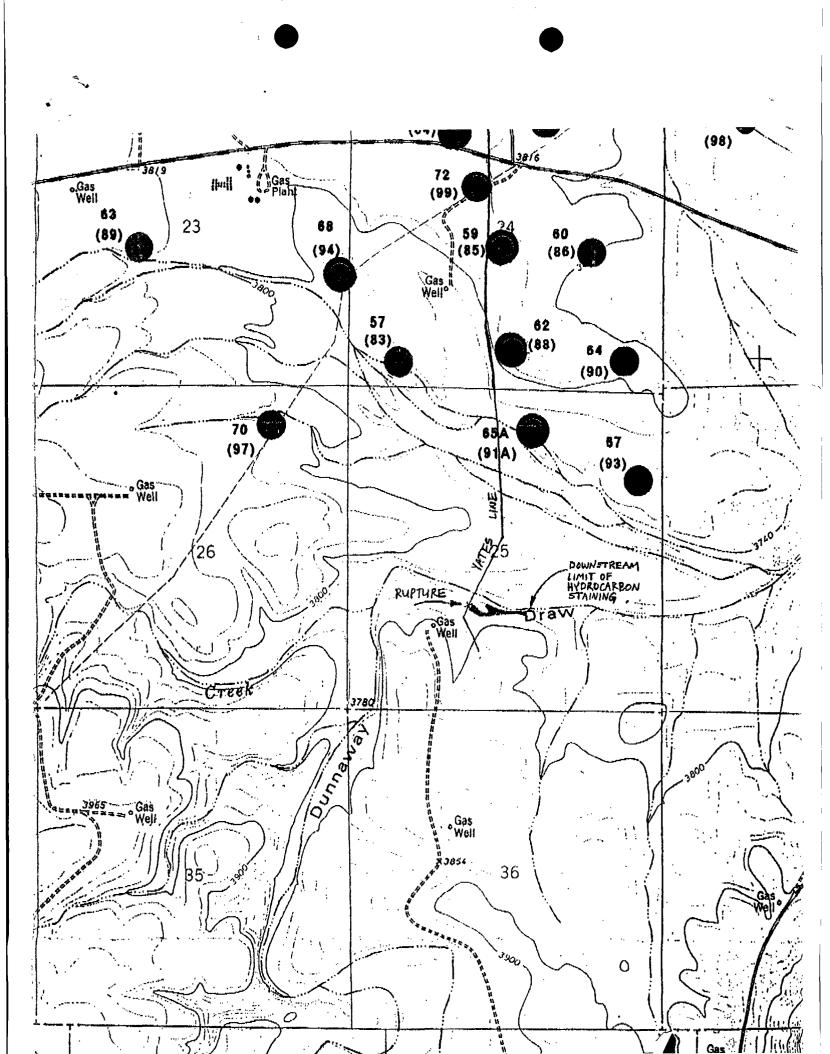
Stinking Draw

Nov. 1994"

Stinking Draw

Nov. 1994"

Pax 457-2544





6-6-95 LOOKING WEST TO R.Q.W.
WHERE LEAK OCCUPATO



A



6-6-95 LOOKING WEST ALONG CREEK BOTTOM TO ROW WHERE LEAK OCCUBBED. NOTE WATER IN POOL HAS BEEN HERE SINCE 5-30-95 IT HAS NO DIL SHEEN AND NO SLUDGE WAS FOUND ALONG BANKS

RAIN

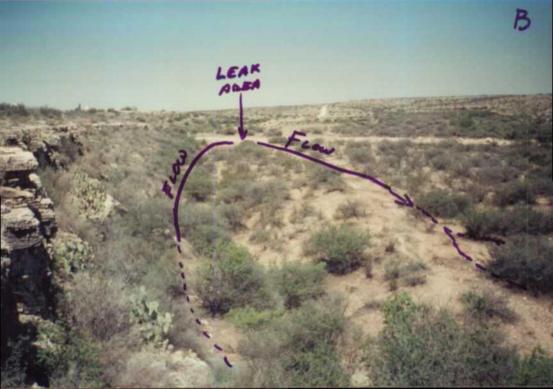
NOTE: WATER IS RUN OFF WATER FROM

A



6-6-95 LOOKING WEST ALONG CREEK
BOTTOM RAIN
WATER IS RUN OFF WATER THAT
HAS BEEN PONDED SINCE 5-30-95

8



#2



CLOSE VIEW OF POOL PARA THAT RECEIVED SOME OF THE SPILL . NO OIL SHEEN PRESENT RAIN RUNOFF WATER FROM 5-30-95 RAW

1/2

6-6-95



6-6-95 PIPE LINE RO.W. WHERE LEAR
OCCUPATED IN LINE. NO DIL DE
SLUDGE PRESENT

#3



LOOKING ENST IMMEDIATELY DOWN STREAM OF PIPELINE. THE PRODUCED WATER RAW IN THE CHANNEL TO CREEK BOTTOM.

6-6-95



6-6-95 VIEW OF NATURAL CHANNEL
THAT CARRIED SOME OF SPILL
WATER TO CREEK BOTTOM

#5



6-6-95. LOOK EAST FROM THE MOST WESTERN POINT OF SPILL FLOW IN BOTTOM AREA.

#6

MARTHA COSSK



6-6-95 LOOKING EAST FROM UPPER
END OF SPIN ABEN. NO SCHOOL
OR OIL PROPERT.

NOTE: THIS IS IN CREEK BOTTOM

#-

MANTHA CAREK



0-6-95 LOOKING WEST TO WEST END OF SPILL FLOW IN BOTTOM ABEN

#6



LOOKING EAST 6-6-95

LAST RAIN WAS 5-30-95 - THIS IS RUNOFF WATER REMAINSHIPS IN POOL - NO DIL SHEEN PRESENT.

#9