



**TETRA TECH, INC.**

ppm 0830331859

1910 N. Big Spring St.  
Midland, Texas 79705  
432-686-8081

September 30, 2010

Mr. Justin Wright & Mr. John Gates  
ConocoPhillips Company  
HC 60 Box 66  
Lovington, NM 88260

RE: MCA Laguna Battery Work Plan  
Lea County, New Mexico  
Unit D, Sec. 28, T17S, R32E  
1RP 1991

Dear Messer's Wright and Gates:

Owing to changing environmental conditions at the MCA Laguna Battery crude oil release location since Tetra Tech's meeting with the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (NMOCD) and U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) representatives in 2009, Tetra Tech submits this work plan for an additional subsurface investigation at the Battery (Site; Figure 1). This work is in support of ConocoPhillips efforts to delineate and remediate two separate crude oil releases from the Battery. The first C141 (64 bbls) was submitted on September 19, 2008 and the second (422 bbls) was submitted on October 25, 2008, to the NMOCD. The NMOCD approved the second C141 (attached). The battery is located approximately 0.3 miles southwest of the ConocoPhillips Maljamar office in Lea County, New Mexico (32.811074°N, 103.774583°W). The BLM is the land administrator. A findings report that included both releases was submitted to the NMOCD and to the BLM on April 2, 2009.

### **Site Setting**

The MCA Laguna Battery is located in the Querecho Plains of eastern New Mexico. This area generally consists of a thin cover of Quaternary sand dunes overlying the undivided Triassic Upper Chinle Group<sup>1</sup>. The Kermit series soil at the Site is well drained, non-calcareous loose sands.<sup>2</sup>

### **Exposure Pathway Analysis**

Depth to water in the vicinity of the Site is estimated to be approximately 74 feet below ground surface (fbgs). This interpretation is based on information gathered at monitoring well MW-8 that is described in ConocoPhillips' remediation project entitled "Maljamar Gas Plant GW-020" (well log was submitted in the 2009 Findings Report). The monitoring well is located approximately 570 feet northeast of the Site. The nearest playa is approximately 0.5 miles southwest of the Site.

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Services. Web Soil Survey Database.

<sup>2</sup> Turner, M.T., D.N. Cox, B.C Mickelson, A.J. Roath, and C.D Wilson, 1973. Soil Survey Lea County, New Mexico. U.S. Depart of Agr Soil Conser Ser, 89p.

Following the ranking criteria presented in "Guidelines for Remediation of Leaks, Spills, and Releases" promulgated on August 13, 1993 by the NMOCD, this Site has the following score:

<u>Criteria</u>		<u>Ranking Score</u>
Depth to groundwater	50 - 99 feet	10
Distance from water source	>1,000 feet	0
Distance from domestic water source	>200 feet	0
Distance from surface water body	>1,000 feet	0
<b>Total Ranking Score</b>		<b>10</b>

The Recommended Remediation Action Level (RRAL) for a ranking score of 10-19 is 10 parts per million (ppm) for benzene, 50 ppm for total benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and total xylenes (BTEX), and 1,000 ppm for total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH).

### Summary of Findings

Findings Report dated April 2, 2009 - field screening results and laboratory analyses are presented in Table 1, the chloride impact to soil was below NMWQCC's MCL for chloride. According to laboratory analysis of soils collected during two separate investigations, except for BH-1, and BS-1, TPH and BTEX were either not detected or were reported in low concentrations in all "at depth" samples (Figure 2). Exposure pathway analysis indicated a ranking score of "10." Therefore, the site-specific remediation levels are 1,000 mg/kg for TPH, 50 mg/kg for BTEX and 10 mg/kg for benzene. Based on laboratory analyses presented in Tables 1 and 2, the impacts to soil were below the NMOCD RRAL for both TPH and BTEX in all "at depth" samples except for BH1 and BS-1. TPH and BTEX concentrations were above action levels in most near surface samples. A NORM survey in the area of BH-1 and BS-1 reported a gamma reading of 9 micro-Roentgens per hour ( $\mu$ R/hr). The background reading was 6  $\mu$ R/hr.

Data for both investigations indicated soil excavated in the area of BH-1, and BS-1 appeared to include historic crude oil tank bottoms. TPH concentrations attenuated with depth but concentrations, below RRAL, were not achieved. Benzene and BTEX also attenuated with depth and concentrations were below the RRAL at a lower depth (BH-1 at 14 fbg).

### Scope of Work

The lateral extent of the release area is defined by soil discoloration (Figure 3). To re-delineate the vertical extent of the crude oil affected area, Tetra Tech will use a mobile air rotary boring unit to define the depth of a possible historic tank bottom disposal area and the affected zone at BS-4, and use a hand auger to define the outer boundary of the disposal area and along the length of the ephemeral flow path affected area (9 locations). A split-spoon sampler will be used to collect soil samples every ten feet in 40 foot borings (10 samples). Hand auger soil samples (27) will be collected every two feet. A photo-ionization detector (PID) will be used to screen soils for concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOC).



Soil samples (37) from the borings and hand auger location will be submitted to a laboratory for confirmation analyses. The samples will be placed into glass sample jars, sealed with Teflon-lined lids, and placed on ice for transportation to an analytical laboratory where they will be analyzed for diesel and gasoline range total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH<sub>DRO</sub> and TPH<sub>GRO</sub>, Method 8015), and benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and total xylenes (BTEX, Method 8021B). These analyses will be used to confirm clean vertical boundaries have been identified.

Hand augered soil will be returned to the boring for handling during site remediation. The soil borings will be backfilled with bentonite.

Tetra Tech will supervise and direct all subcontractor activities, and following the field activities, prepare a findings report describing and documenting what work was performed at the Site, including a site map, and recommendations. This report on activities and results will be submitted for NMOCD's and BLM's review.

### **Project Schedule**

Tetra Tech is prepared to commence work on this project immediately following receipt of your notification to proceed.

### **Project Approach**

Mr. Charles Durrett will serve as the Project Manager and will have the authority to commit whatever resources are necessary to support the project team. It will be Mr. Durrett's responsibility to ensure that the Client's needs are met in terms of scope of work and schedule. Mr. Durrett is located in Tetra Tech's Midland, Texas, office.

If the BLM, NMOCD, and you concur with this work plan, Tetra Tech will complete this work immediately following receipt of your notification to proceed. Please contact me (432-686-8081), if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

**Tetra Tech**

**Charles Durrett**

Digitally signed by Charles Durrett  
DN: cn=Charles Durrett, o=Tetra Tech, Inc., ou,  
email=charles.durrett@tetratech.com, c=US  
Date: 2010.09.30 14:31:31 -0500

Charles Durrett  
Sr. Project Manager

**Table 1**  
**ConocoPhillips**  
**Laguna Battery**  
Analytical Soil Analysis  
10/14/2008

Parameter	Units	Location								
		BH-1			BH-2		BH-3		BH-4	
Sample Depth	(ft)	0-0.5	4	14	0 - 0.5	2	0 - 0.5	4	0 - 0.5	4
Moisture	(%)	5.81	8.86	17.50	2.66	13.40	13.50	10.20	6.98	15.50
Chloride	(mg/Kg)	ND	95.10	195.00	ND	ND	ND	13.20	ND	85.70
Petroleum Hydrocarbons										
GRO	(mg/Kg)	450	190	1,600	40	ND	ND	ND	930	1.60
DRO	(mg/Kg)	3,000	4,300	9,600	4,400	ND	270	7.10	5,000	42.00
Total	(mg/Kg)	3,450	4,490	11,200	4,440	ND	270	7.10	5,930	43.60
Volatile Organic Compounds										
Benzene	(mg/Kg)	0.01	0.10	11.00	0.01	ND	ND	ND	0.03	ND
Ethyl-benzene	(mg/Kg)	1.90	4.10	48.00	0.26	ND	ND	ND	17.00	0.01
Toluene	(mg/Kg)	0.24	0.13	6.60	0.02	ND	ND	ND	4.10	ND
Xylenes Total	(mg/Kg)	2.39	5.19	46.00	0.69	ND	ND	ND	16.50	0.01
Total BTEX	(mg/Kg)	4.54	9.52	111.60	0.71	ND	ND	ND	37.63	0.02
Synthetic Precipitation Leaching Procedure										
Benzene	(mg/L)			0.61						
Ethyl-benzene	(mg/L)			0.40						
Toluene	(mg/L)			0.20						
Xylenes Total	(mg/L)			0.49						
Total BTEX	(mg/L)			1.70						

BH = Backhoe

TPH<sub>GRO</sub> = Gasoline range petroleum hydrocarbons

TPH<sub>DRO</sub> = Diesel range petroleum hydrocarbons

ft = Feet

% = Percent

mg/Kg = Milligrams per kilogram

mg/L = Milligrams per liter

Blank cells = No data

ND = Analyte not detected at or above the laboratory detection limits

**Table 2**  
**ConocoPhillips**  
**Laguna Battery**  
Analytical Soil Analysis  
1/29/2009

Location		Sample Depth (ft)	Moisture (%)	Petroleum Hydrocarbons (mg/Kg)			Volatile Organic Compounds (mg/Kg)				
				DRO	GRO	Total	Benzene	Ethyl-benzene	Toluene	Xylenes Total	Total BTEX
Backhoe (BS) And Hand Auger (AH) Sampling Locations	BS 1	18.0	6.17	2,900	740	3,640	0.42	28.00	9.80	42.00	80.22
	BS-3	6.0	5.66	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
	AH-4	0.5	2.66	4,400	230	4,630	0.08	10.00	3.70	15.70	29.48
		6	14.20	31	ND	31	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
	AH-5	0-0.5	3.74	2,600	600	3,200	0.56	11.00	5.90	20.40	37.86
		6	17.70	290.0	0.6	290.6	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
	AH-6	0-0.5	6.25	3,900	260	4,160	0.04	0.90	0.20	7.70	8.84
		4	3.25	130.0	0.8	130.8	ND	0.002	ND	0.003	0.00
	AH-7	0-0.5	6.61	4,000	14	4,014	0.01	1.40	0.44	3.30	5.15
		2	3.65	360.0	4.8	364.8	ND	0.004	ND	0.03	0.03
	AH-8	0-0.5	1.37	3,200	0.4	3,200	ND	0.003	0.003	0.02	0.02
		2	3.39	14	ND	14	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
	BS 9	3.0	10.20	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND

TPH<sub>GRO</sub> = Gasoline range petroleum hydrocarbons

TPH<sub>DRO</sub> = Diesel range petroleum hydrocarbons

ft = Feet

% = Percent

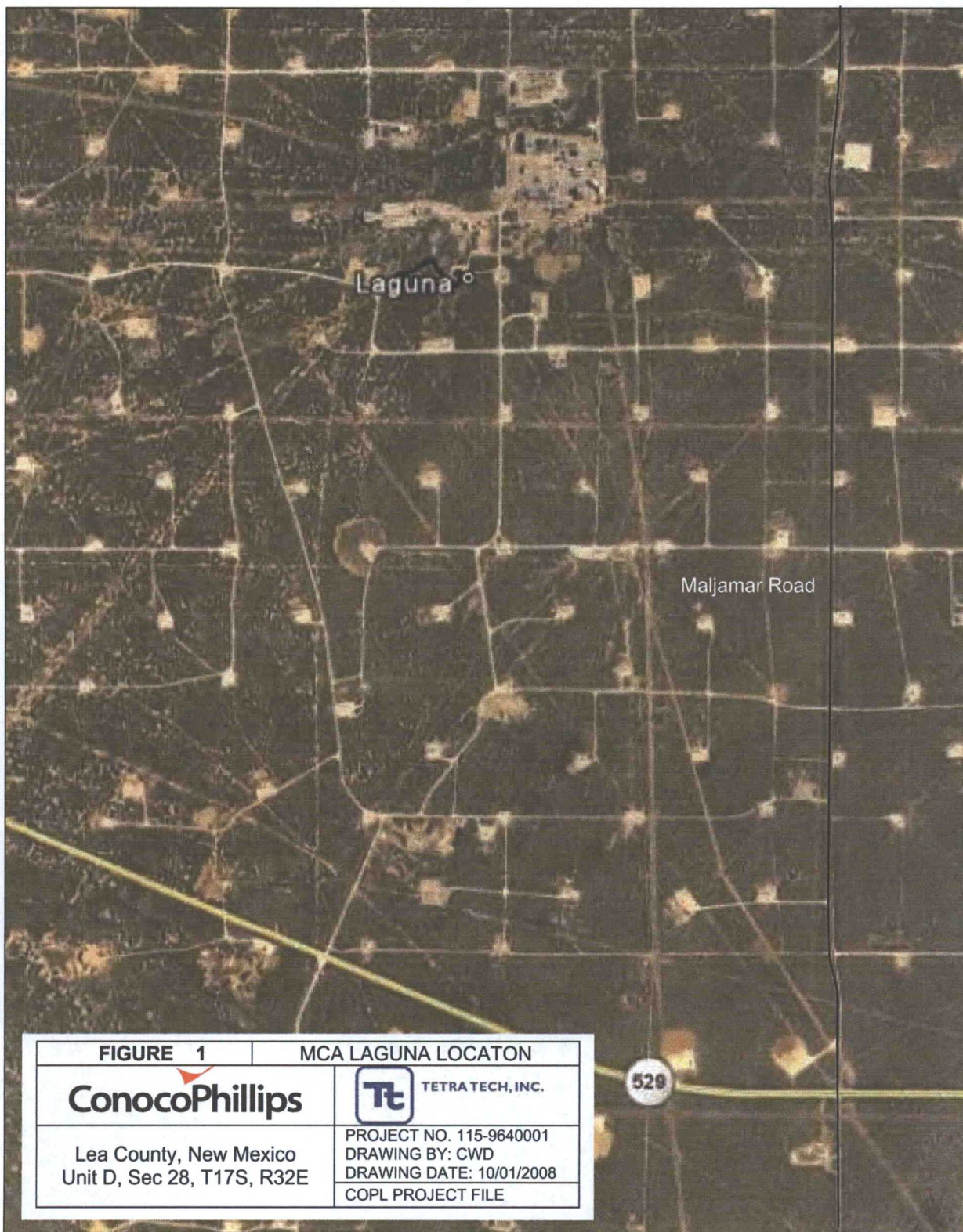
mg/Kg = Milligrams per kilogram

mg/L = Milligrams per liter

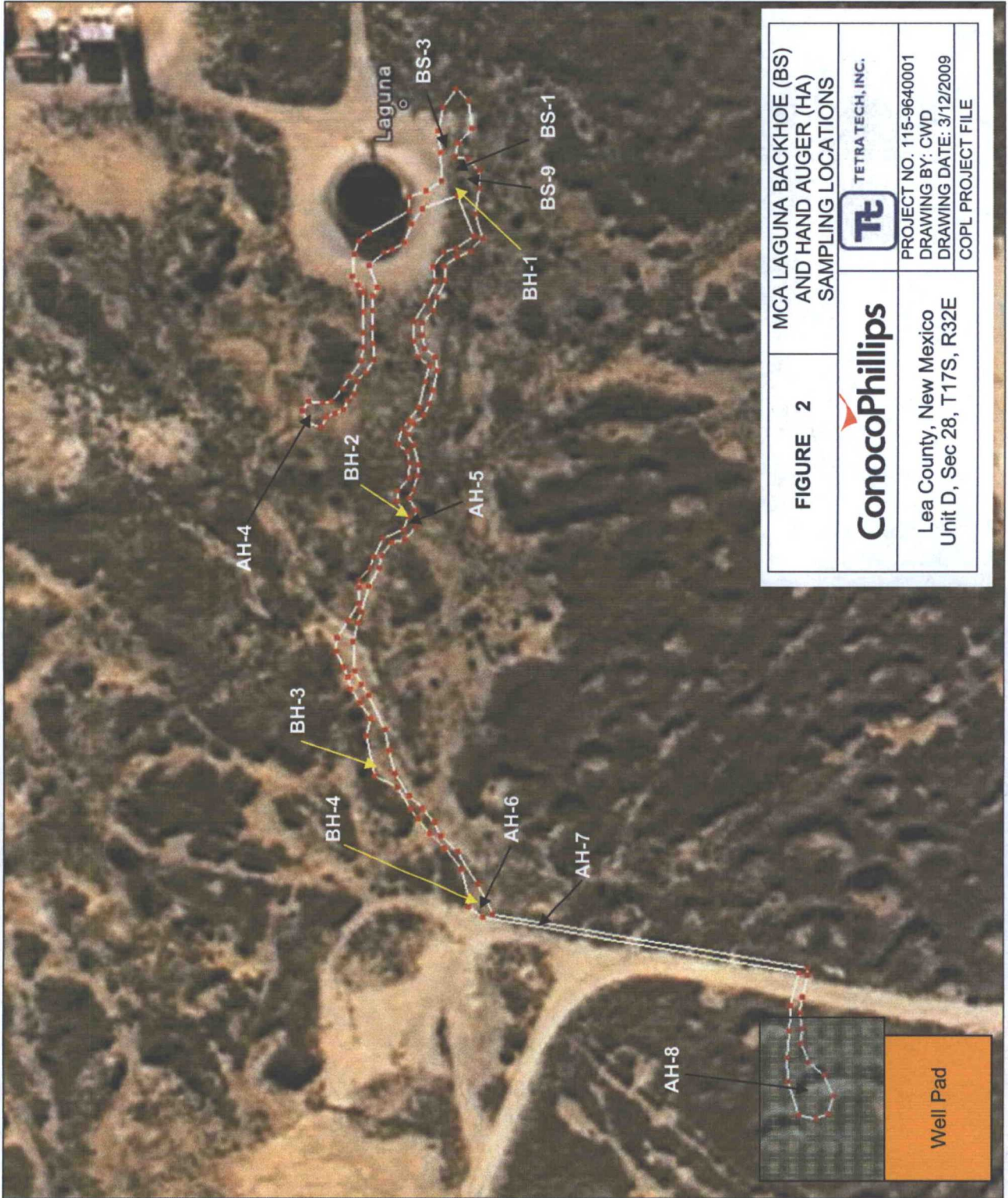
Blank cells = No data

ND = Analyte not detected at or above the laboratory detection limits



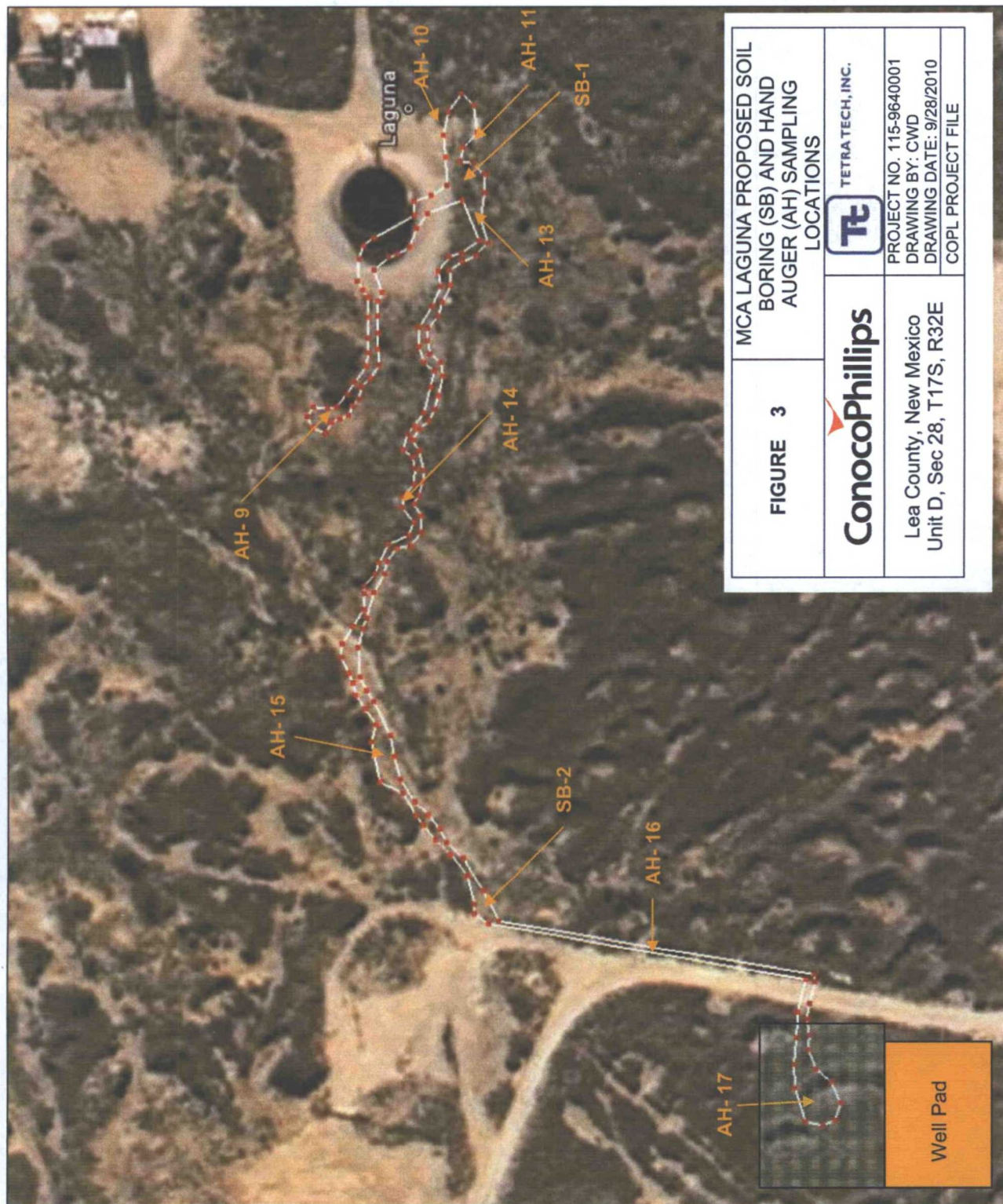






<p><b>FIGURE 2</b></p>	<p>MCA LAGUNA BACKHOE (BS) AND HAND AUGER (HA) SAMPLING LOCATIONS</p>
<p><b>ConocoPhillips</b></p>	<p>TETRA TECH, INC.</p>
<p>Lea County, New Mexico Unit D, Sec 28, T17S, R32E</p>	<p>PROJECT NO. 115-9640001 DRAWING BY: CWD DRAWING DATE: 3/12/2009 COPL PROJECT FILE</p>





<b>FIGURE 3</b>	<b>MCA LAGUNA PROPOSED SOIL BORING (SB) AND HAND AUGER (AH) SAMPLING LOCATIONS</b>
<b>ConocoPhillips</b>	<div>  <b>TETRA TECH, INC.</b> </div>
Lea County, New Mexico Unit D, Sec 28, T17S, R32E	PROJECT NO. 115-9640001 DRAWING BY: CWD DRAWING DATE: 9/28/2010 COPL PROJECT FILE



District I  
1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240  
District II  
1301 W. Grand Avenue, Artesia, NM 88210  
District III  
1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410  
District IV  
1220 S. St. Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505

State of New Mexico  
Energy Minerals and Natural Resources  
Oil Conservation Division  
1220 South St. Francis Dr.  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Form C-141  
Revised October 10, 2003

Submit 2 Copies to appropriate  
District Office in accordance  
with Rule 116 on back  
side of form

### Release Notification and Corrective Action

#### OPERATOR

☒ Initial Report ☐ Final Report

Name of Company	ConocoPhillips Company	Contact	John W. Gates
Address	3300 North A St. Bldg 6, Midland, TX 79705-5406	Telephone No.	505.391.3158
Facility Name	MCA Station 2 Laguna	Facility Type	Oil and Gas
Surface Owner	BLM	Mineral Owner	BLM
		Lease No	API 300250073400

#### LOCATION OF RELEASE

Unit Letter	Section	Township	Range	Feet from the	North/South Line	Feet from the	East/West Line	County
N	21	17S	R32E					Lea

Latitude N 32degrees 48.680 Longitude W 103degrees 46.484

#### NATURE OF RELEASE

Type of Release <b>Crude Oil</b>	Volume of Release 422bbl (422oil, 0water)	Volume Recovered (332oil, 0water)
Source of Release <b>Tank</b>	Date and Hour of Occurrence 10-24-08 0330	Date and Hour of Discovery 10-24-08 0630
Was Immediate Notice Given? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Required	If YES, To Whom? <b>Geoffrey Leking NMOCD &amp; Trishia Bad Bear BLM</b>	
By Whom?	Date and Hour 10-24-08 1600 hours	
Was a Watercourse Reached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If YES, Volume Impacting the Watercourse.	

If a Watercourse was Impacted, Describe Fully.\*

Describe Cause of Problem and Remedial Action Taken.\*

Release was due to pump malfunction. Production was blocked. Tank was isolated and shut in.

Describe Area Affected and Cleanup Action Taken.\*

Affected area was 2,800 feet long X 8 feet wide X 4 inches deep area of dry pasture land with no cattle present and a 70 feet long X 70 feet wide X 1/2" deep area of caliche pad and road. Spill site will be delineated and remediated in accordance with NMOCD and BLM guidelines Well number API 300250073400 is the closest well to the release site.

I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and understand that pursuant to NMOCD rules and regulations all operators are required to report and/or file certain release notifications and perform corrective actions for releases which may endanger public health or the environment. The acceptance of a C-141 report by the NMOCD marked as "Final Report" does not relieve the operator of liability should their operations have failed to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that pose a threat to ground water, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, NMOCD acceptance of a C-141 report does not relieve the operator of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.

Signature: <i>John W. Gates</i>	OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION <i>Johnson</i>	
Printed Name: John W. Gates	Approved by District Supervisor: ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER	
Title: HSER Lead	Approval Date: 10.29.08	Expiration Date: 12.29.08
E-mail Address: John.W.Gates@conocophillips.com	Conditions of Approval:	Attached <input type="checkbox"/>
Date: 10-25-08 Phone: 505.391.3158		IRP-1991

- Attach Additional Sheets If Necessary

## Leking, Geoffrey R, EMNRD

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**From:** Wright, Justin (PAC) [Justin.Wright@contractor.conocophillips.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2010 2:25 PM  
**To:** Leking, Geoffrey R, EMNRD; tbadbear@blm.gov  
**Cc:** Deen, Larry E.; Gates, John W  
**Subject:** FW: MCA 2A Header - Boring Data 1RP 2300  
**Attachments:** 20100825.Xenco.Rpt\_WO\_384302\_ver\_1\_000.pdf; C141.1RP2300.pdf

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**From:** Durrett, Charles [mailto:Charles.Durrett@tetrattech.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2010 2:45 PM  
**To:** Wright, Justin (PAC)  
**Cc:** Gates, John W; Miller, Gary  
**Subject:** MCA 2A Header - Boring Data 1RP 2300

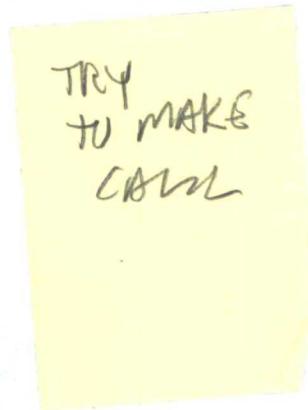
Tetra Tech returned to the Site August 25, 2010 to re-bore location SB-4. Chloride data are presented below:

Depth (ft)	Chloride (mg/Kg)
20	1,300
25	298
30	156
35	317
40	93.1
45	256

ft = Feet

mg/Kg = Milligrams  
per Kilogram

Laboratory report is attached. Reddish sand / gray clay stringers were observed around 30 then again around 40 feet below ground surface.



## Charlie

**Charles Durrett** | Project Manager II  
1910 N. Big Spring Midland, TX 79705  
Main: 432.686.8081 | Fax: 432.682.3946  
[charles.durrett@tetrattech.com](mailto:charles.durrett@tetrattech.com)

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