

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**

nmlb0719155473

**OPERATOR**

Initial Report ☐ Final Report ☒

Name of Company: Merit Energy Company	Contact: Dwain Wall
Address: P.O. Box 69, Loco Hills N.M., 88255	Telephone No.: 505-706-4758
Facility Name: Russell Turner Water Station	Facility Type: Water-flood station

Surface Owner: BLM	Mineral Owner: BLM	Lease No.:
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**LOCATION OF RELEASE**

Unit Letter	Section	Township	Range	Feet from the	North/South Line	Feet from the	East/West Line	County
	20	17-S	31-E					Eddy

Latitude 32.82015 Longitude 103.89701

**NATURE OF RELEASE**

Type of Release: Crude oil	Volume of Release: 350 bbl	Volume Recovered: 280 bbl
Source of Release: tanks overfilled	Date and Hour of Occurrence: 08/15/06 1:00 am	Date and Hour of Discovery: 08/15/06 5:30 am
Was Immediate Notice Given? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Not Required	If YES, To Whom? Paul Evans (BLM) & Mike Bratcher (OCD)	
By Whom? Mike Self	Date and Hour: 6:00 am	
Was a Watercourse Reached? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If YES, Volume Impacting the Watercourse. 70 bbls	

If a Watercourse was Impacted, Describe Fully.\*

The overflow and sump tanks both overfilled. The secondary containment for each filled and overflowed allowing approximately 70 barrels to reach two arroyos. The occurrence followed a heavy rain event which had saturated the ground, causing the oil flow on top of the water and not penetrate very deep into the ground.

Describe Cause of Problem and Remedial Action Taken.\*

An electrical failure caused injection pumps to shut down, the telephone line serving the alarm system was also down resulting in no alarm being sent to personnel. Electrical service was restored and pumps restarted, the telephone company made repairs to their line and restored service.

Describe Area Affected and Cleanup Action Taken.\*

The majority of the spill was contained in the firewalls surrounding the tanks. The oil did breach the firewalls, reaching two arroyos labeled "A" and "B". Arroyo "A" started near the southern most tank, the oil crossed the dirt road and ended on flat ground approximately 300 yards from the point of origin. Arroyo "B" was affected by the northern most tank, the oil entered the arroyo following it under the dirt road and highway stopping approximately 500 yards from the point of origin. Please see attached sheet for cleanup action.

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:	<b>OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION</b>	
Printed Name: Jim Hollon	TIM GUM by MB	
Title: Consultant	Approved by District Supervisor:	Approval Date: JUL 10 2007
E-mail Address: jim.hollon@sbcglobal.net	Expiration Date:	Conditions of Approval:
Date: 03/26/07	Phone: 432-631-5768	Attached <input type="checkbox"/>

\* Attach Additional Sheets If Necessary

cc: operator

3

Continuation of area affected and cleanup action taken.

Power was restored and the pumps were restarted. A backhoe was utilized to build dams in the arroyo to prevent the flow of oil should it begin to rain again and to aid in the recovery of the oil. The backhoe was used to scrape/squeegee the flat areas and stockpile the affected soils. Vacuum trucks were utilized to recover all free liquids. Fresh water was pumped by trucks down the arroyo to flush the oil to points where vacuum trucks could recover both the oil and water. The backhoe began to blend the affected soils in arroyo "A" up to the dirt road crossing and build berms around the end of the affected areas to prevent additional migration of the oil. A total of 280 barrels of oil was recovered from the secondary containments and arroyos. The stockpiled soils were taken to CRI in Hobbs New Mexico.

During the evening and night another heavy rain event occurred. This rain event flooded the arroyos and floated the remaining unrecovered oil out of the soils. The oil was floated approximately 300 yards to a flat area where it affected the bottom six inches of the tumbleweeds and broomweed. On August 24 and 25, 2006, the affected vegetation was treated with Micro-bac M-1000, a naturally occurring microbe that assists in the degradation of hydrocarbons. A spray rig with a hand wand was utilized to wash and treat the vegetation as well as all affected soils in the spill area.

Additional treatments will be conducted as necessary to remediate the affected areas. The average depth of the affected soils is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch and is very spotty throughout the affected areas.

Remediation activities are complete and analytical results are included with the attached report.



# **Closure Compliance Report**

***Project:***

**Russell Turner Water Station  
Section 20, T17S, R31E  
Eddy County, New Mexico**

**March 26, 2007**

***Prepared for:***

**Merit Energy Company  
P.O. Box 69  
Loco Hills, New Mexico 88255**

## **Jim Hollon Consulting**

**14034 W. Co. Rd. 123, Odessa, Texas 79765  
(432)631-5768 Fax (432)563-1166  
Jim.Hollon@SBCGlobal.net**

## Jim Hollon Consulting

14034 W. Co. Rd. 123, Odessa, Texas 79765

(432) 631-5768 Fax (432) 563-01166

Jim.Hollon@sbcglobal.net

March 26, 2007

Merit Energy Company  
P.O. Box 69  
Loco Hills, New Mexico 88255

Attn: Mr. Dwain Wall

Phone: (505) 677-2327

Fax: (505) 677-2162

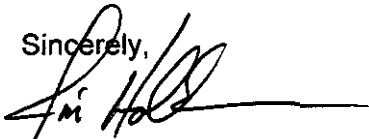
Re: Closure Compliance Report  
Russell Turner Water Station site  
Section 20, T17S, R31E  
Eddy County, New Mexico  
5 miles east of Loco Hills, NM

Dear Mr. Wall:

Jim Hollon Consulting is pleased to submit five copies of the Closure Compliance Report for the above referenced site.

I appreciate the opportunity to participate in the site remediation project at the Russell Turner Water Station site for Merit Energy Company. Please contact me at (432) 631-5768 if you have questions regarding the information provided in the report.

Sincerely,



Jim Hollon

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Figure 2 – Aerial Photograph
- Appendix B: Analytical Summary Tables, Laboratory Data Sheets, Chain-of-Custody
- Appendix C: Photographs
- Appendix D: Regulatory Reports

## **Closure Compliance Report**

### **Russell Turner Water Station Section 20, T17S, R31E Eddy County, New Mexico**

#### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This site is located in Eddy County, New Mexico approximately five miles east of Loco Hills, New Mexico. The site is adjacent to Merit Energy's field office. The surrounding area is native rangeland in a sand hill region and is overseen by the Bureau of Land Management.

The release occurred on August 15, 2006, following a thunderstorm during a power failure. The heavy rains during the storm saturated the ground and filled the secondary containments with rain water. The release consisted of approximately 350 barrels of crude oil overflowing two tanks, labeled north and south, at the water station. Both tanks filled with oil before overflowing and filling their secondary containment, which subsequently overflowed. The oil from the north tank flowed to an arroyo east of the tank, following the arroyo approximately 3,600 feet. The oil from the south tank followed a pipeline right of way for approximately 1,800 feet. The rain saturated soils limited the absorption of oil into the soil to approximately one quarter of an inch. Approximately 280 barrels of oil were recovered from the arroyo and containments before a second thunderstorm floated the remaining oil an additional 1,800 feet down the arroyo.

#### **1.1 Site Description**

<b>Site Name</b>	Russell Turner Water Station
<b>Site Location/GPS</b>	Eddy County, New Mexico / 32.82009° N, 103.89724° W
<b>General Site Description</b>	The release originated at two separate tanks at the water station. Both tanks had secondary containment. The surrounding area is sandy rangeland with sparse vegetation.

A topographic map (Figure 1) and an aerial photograph (Figure 2) are included in Appendix A.

## 1.2 Scope of Services

The Scope of Services for Jim Hollon Consulting (JHC) as requested by Merit Energy (Merit) included:

- Work plan development and project oversight;
- Collection of confirmation soil samples in the area of concern; and
- Submittal of a Closure Compliance Report detailing field activities, analytical results, site maps and photos.

## 1.3 Regulatory Framework

Crude oil facilities in New Mexico are generally regulated by the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (NMOCD). Contamination of soil due to a surface release of crude oil is addressed within a NMOCD guideline titled *Guidelines for Remediation of Leaks, Spills and Releases*. Remediation standards for chloride contamination have not been published and are handled by the local district office on a case by case basis.

Soils which are impacted by petroleum constituents are scored according to the ranking criteria to determine their relative threat to public health, fresh water, and the environment. Such limits are defined by the depth to groundwater, wellhead protection area, and distance to surface water. Based on these ranking criteria, the remediation action level at this site is as follows:

Depth to Ground Water	>200 feet	Ranking Score = 0
(As defined as vertical distance from lowermost contaminants to seasonal high water level)		

Wellhead Protection Area	>1000 feet to water source >200 feet to domestic well	Ranking Score = 0
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Distance to Surface Water	>1000 feet	Ranking Score = 0
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Total Ranking Score = 0

Based on total ranking criteria of 0, the following remediation levels apply:

Benzene = 10 ppm

BTEX = 50 ppm

TPH = 5,000 ppm

Chlorides = Site Specific

#### **1.4 Standard of Care**

Services were performed in a manner consistent with generally accepted practices of the profession undertaken in similar studies in the same geographical area during the same time period. JHC makes no warranties, either express or implied, regarding the findings, conclusions or recommendations. Please note that JHC can not warrant the work of laboratories, regulatory agencies or other third parties supplying information used in the preparation of the report.

### **2.0 FIELD ACTIVITIES**

#### **2.1 Site Remediation**

Immediately upon discovery of the release, vacuum trucks were summoned to begin recovery of the oil. Additional trucks were utilized to flush fresh water down the arroyo, floating the oil to areas accessible to the vacuum trucks which recovered the oil and water. A crew was sent down the arroyo with squeegees to help push the oil down with every load of water. An estimated 280 barrels of oil was recovered from the arroyo and the secondary containments. The oil which followed the pipeline right of way was either blended with a backhoe or scraped and stockpiled. A total of approximately 24 cubic yards of soil was generated and delivered to Controlled Recovery Inc. (CRI) for disposal. Berms and dams were built in the arroyo in an attempt to control any additional migration of the oil.

During the evening a second heavy rain event occurred. The second rain event flooded the arroyo, floating the remaining oil from the soils. The oil was floated approximately 1,800 feet further down to a flat area where it affected the bottom six inches of some of the surrounding tumbleweeds and broomweed. On August 24 and 25, 2006 all free oil was absorbed using Peat-Sorb and the remaining affected soils and vegetation were treated with Micro-bac M-1000, a blend of naturally occurring microbes, which assist in the degradation of hydrocarbons.

The majority of the unrecovered oil affected mostly vegetation. The affected soils were very shallow and spotty, making soil sampling difficult and futile. As a result, photographs of the vegetation in the affected area are included in Appendix C to document the effectiveness of the remediation. One soil sample was collected from the south containment at one foot below ground surface; the sample was collected from the area that was most difficult to remediate.

#### **2.2 Soil Sampling**

The soil sampling program included the collection of one soil sample from the south containment. The soil sample was analyzed for TPH using EPA Method 8015M and BTEX using EPA Method 8021B. The soil sample was placed in laboratory prepared glassware, sealed with



the identification label and placed on ice in a chest. The sample and completed chain-of-custody forms were relinquished to Environmental Lab of Texas in Odessa, Texas for analysis. The executed chain-of-custody forms and laboratory data sheets are provided in Appendix B.

### **3.0 DATA EVALUATION**

The sample collected from the affected soils indicated TPH and BTEX concentrations below NMOCD remediation levels, at <10 mg/kg and 0.147 mg/kg, respectively. The laboratory results are presented in Appendix B, Table 1.

### **4.0 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Jim Hollon Consulting submits this closure compliance report to Merit which documents the site closure activities. Based on results of the field activities and laboratory analysis, it is recommended Merit submit this report to the NMOCD as documentation that remediation was completed to NMOCD standards and recommends that Merit request a "no further action" letter for this site.

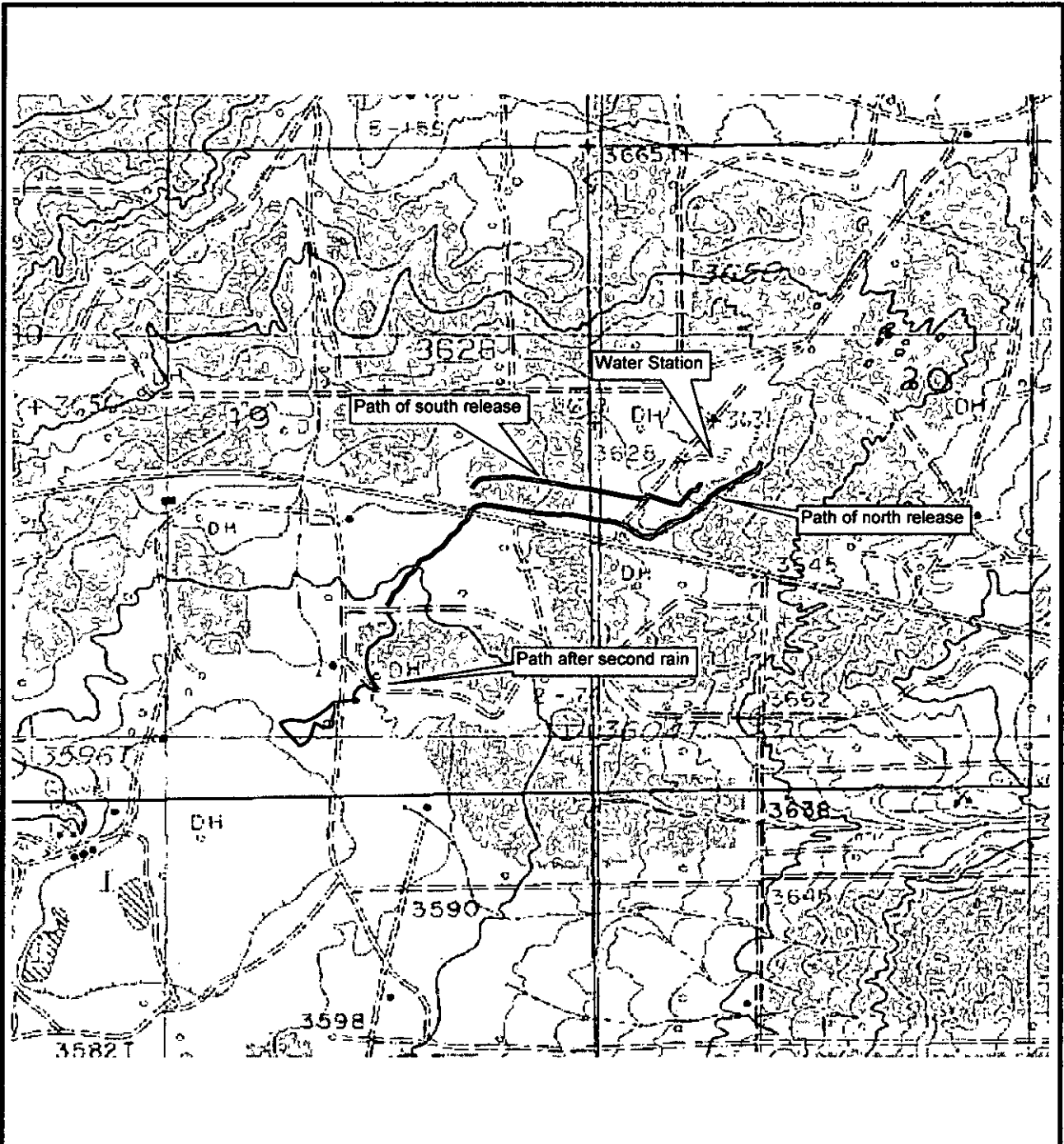
## **DISTRIBUTION**


- Copy 1:      Mike Bratcher  
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department  
*Oil Conservation Division, District 2*  
1301 W. Grand  
Artesia, NM 88210
- Copy 2:      Jim Amos  
Bureau of Land Management  
620 E. Greene  
Carlsbad, NM 88220
- Copy 3:      Dwain Wall  
Merit Energy Company  
P.O. Box 69  
Loco Hills, NM 88255
- Copy 4:      David Hertel  
Merit Energy Company  
P.O. Box 300  
Whiteface, TX 79379
- Copy 5:      Justin Findley  
Merit Energy Company  
13727 Noel Rd. Ste 500  
Dallas, TX 75240
- Copy 6:      Jim Hollon  
Jim Hollon Consulting  
14034 W. Co. Rd. 123  
Odessa, TX 79765

## **APPENDIX A**

**Figure 1 – Topographic Map**

**Figure 2 – Aerial Photograph**



Source: Terraserver		Merit Energy Company	Figure 1 Topographic Map
Dated: July 1, 1985			
Scale: 1" = 400 yards		Russell Turner Water Station	Prepared By: Jim Hollon Consulting
		Near mile marker 137 on US Hwy 82	



Source: Terraserver		<b>Merit Energy Company</b>	<b>Figure 2 Aerial Photograph</b>
Dated October 22, 1996			
Scale: 1" = 400 yards		<b>Russell Turner Water Station</b>	<b>Prepared By: Jim Hollon Consulting</b>
<div>↑ <b>N</b></div>		Near mile marker 137 on US Hwy 82	

## **APPENDIX B**

**Analytical Summary Tables  
Laboratory Data Sheets  
Laboratory Chain of Custody Documents**

Table 1

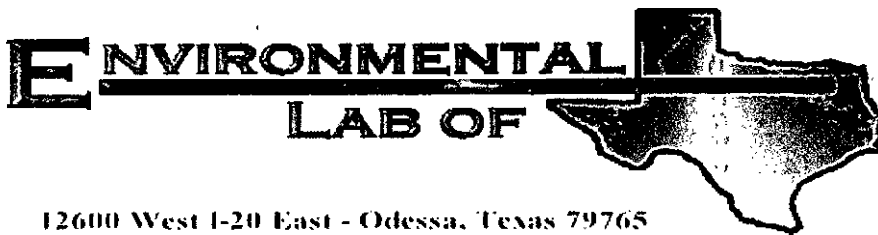
CONCENTRATIONS OF CHEMICALS OF CONCERN IN SOIL

Merit Energy  
Russell Turner Water Station  
Loco Hills, Eddy County, New Mexico

All concentrations are in mg/kg

SAMPLE DATE	SAMPLE LOCATION	SAMPLE DEPTH	EPA Method 8015M				EPA Method 8021B			
			TPH C <sub>6</sub> -C <sub>12</sub>	TPH C <sub>12</sub> -C <sub>28</sub>	TPH C <sub>12</sub> -C <sub>35</sub>	TPH C <sub>6</sub> -C <sub>35</sub>	BENZENE	TOLUENE	ETHYL- BENZENE	TOTAL XYLENES
01/29/07	South Con.	0-12"	<10	<10	<10	<10	<0.025	0.019	0.025	0.103

CONCENTRATIONS IN BOLD ARE ABOVE REGULATORY GUIDELINES



12600 West I-20 East - Odessa, Texas 79765

A Xenco Laboratories Company

## Analytical Report

**Prepared for:**

Jim Hollon (for)

Merit Energy Company

P.O. Box 300

Whiteface, TX 79379

Project: Various

Project Number: None Given

Location: New Mexico

Lab Order Number: 7B02005

Report Date: 03/27/07



Merit Energy Company  
P.O. Box 300  
Whiteface TX, 79379

Project: Various  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Jim Hollon (for)

Fax: (806) 229-2583

### ANALYTICAL REPORT FOR SAMPLES

Sample ID	Laboratory ID	Matrix	Date Sampled	Date Received
RT Sta South Containment	7B02005-05	Soil	01/29/07 12:00	02-02-2007 11:40

Organics by GC

Environmental Lab of Texas

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Dilution	Batch	Prepared	Analyzed	Method	Notes
RT Sta South Containment (7B02005-05) Soil									
Benzene	ND	0.0250	mg/kg dry	25	EB70201	02/02/07	02/02/07	EPA 8021B	
Toluene	J [0.0189]	0.0250	"	"	"	"	"	"	J
Ethylbenzene	J [0.0249]	0.0250	"	"	"	"	"	"	J
Xylene (p/m)	0.0597	0.0250	"	"	"	"	"	"	
Xylene (o)	0.0435	0.0250	"	"	"	"	"	"	
Surrogate: a,a,a-Trifluorotoluene		105 %	80-120		"	"	"	"	
Surrogate: 4-Bromofluorobenzene		118 %	80-120		"	"	"	"	
Carbon Ranges C6-C12	ND	10.0	mg/kg dry	1	EB70213	02/02/07	02/06/07	EPA 8015M	
Carbon Ranges C12-C28	ND	10.0	"	"	"	"	"	"	
Carbon Ranges C28-C35	ND	10.0	"	"	"	"	"	"	
Total Hydrocarbons	ND	10.0	"	"	"	"	"	"	
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane		92.6 %	70-130		"	"	"	"	
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane		95.2 %	70-130		"	"	"	"	

Merit Energy Company  
P.O. Box 300  
Whiteface TX, 79379

Project: Various  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Jim Hollon (for)

Fax: (806) 229-2583

**Organics by GC - Quality Control**  
**Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Spike Level	Source Result	%REC Limits	RPD Limit	Notes
<b>Batch EB70201 - EPA 5030C (GC)</b>								
<b>Blank (EB70201-BLK1)</b>			Prepared & Analyzed: 02/01/07					
Benzene	ND	0.0250	mg/kg wet					
Toluene	ND	0.0250	"					
Ethylbenzene	ND	0.0250	"					
Xylene (p/m)	ND	0.0250	"					
Xylene (o)	ND	0.0250	"					
Surrogate: a,a,a-Trifluorotoluene	34.0		ug/kg	40.0		85.0	80-120	
Surrogate: 4-Bromofluorobenzene	33.9		"	40.0		84.8	80-120	
<b>LCS (EB70201-BS1)</b>			Prepared & Analyzed: 02/01/07					
Benzene	1.18	0.0250	mg/kg wet	1.25		94.4	80-120	
Toluene	1.24	0.0250	"	1.25		99.2	80-120	
Ethylbenzene	1.28	0.0250	"	1.25		102	80-120	
Xylene (p/m)	2.43	0.0250	"	2.50		97.2	80-120	
Xylene (o)	1.11	0.0250	"	1.25		88.8	80-120	
Surrogate: a,a,a-Trifluorotoluene	38.4		ug/kg	40.0		96.0	80-120	
Surrogate: 4-Bromofluorobenzene	43.2		"	40.0		108	80-120	
<b>Calibration Check (EB70201-CCV1)</b>			Prepared: 02/02/07 Analyzed: 02/05/07					
Benzene	47.6		ug/kg	50.0		95.2	80-120	
Toluene	48.4		"	50.0		96.8	80-120	
Ethylbenzene	54.7		"	50.0		109	80-120	
Xylene (p/m)	93.0		"	100		93.0	80-120	
Xylene (o)	43.9		"	50.0		87.8	80-120	
Surrogate: a,a,a-Trifluorotoluene	42.2		"	40.0		106	80-120	
Surrogate: 4-Bromofluorobenzene	33.8		"	40.0		84.5	80-120	
<b>Matrix Spike (EB70201-MS1)</b>			Source: 7A31001-02	Prepared: 02/02/07 Analyzed: 02/05/07				
Benzene	1.09	0.0250	mg/kg dry	1.36	ND	80.1	80-120	
Toluene	1.09	0.0250	"	1.36	ND	80.1	80-120	
Ethylbenzene	1.14	0.0250	"	1.36	ND	83.8	80-120	
Xylene (p/m)	2.35	0.0250	"	2.71	ND	86.7	80-120	
Xylene (o)	1.11	0.0250	"	1.36	ND	81.6	80-120	
Surrogate: a,a,a-Trifluorotoluene	35.3		ug/kg	40.0		88.2	80-120	
Surrogate: 4-Bromofluorobenzene	32.5		"	40.0		81.2	80-120	

Environmental Lab of Texas

A Xenco Laboratories Company

The results in this report apply to the samples analyzed in accordance with the samples received in the laboratory. This analytical report must be reproduced in its entirety, with written approval of Environmental Lab of Texas.

Page 4 of 8

Merit Energy Company  
P.O. Box 300  
Whiteface TX, 79379

Project: Various  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Jim Hollon (for)

Fax: (806) 229-2583

**Organics by GC - Quality Control**  
**Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Spike Level	Source Result	%REC Limits	RPD	RPD Limit	Notes
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**Batch EB70201 - EPA 5030C (GC)**

Matrix Spike Dup (EB70201-MSD1)		Source: 7A31001-02		Prepared: 02/02/07		Analyzed: 02/05/07			
Benzene	1.09	0.0250	mg/kg dry	1.36	ND	80.1	80-120	0.00	20
Toluene	1.13	0.0250	"	1.36	ND	83.1	80-120	3.68	20
Ethylbenzene	1.15	0.0250	"	1.36	ND	84.6	80-120	0.950	20
Xylene (p/m)	2.28	0.0250	"	2.71	ND	84.1	80-120	3.04	20
Xylene (o)	1.11	0.0250	"	1.36	ND	81.6	80-120	0.00	20
Surrogate: a,a,a-Trifluorotoluene	32.9		ug/kg	40.0		82.2	80-120		
Surrogate: 4-Bromofluorobenzene	32.7		"	40.0		81.8	80-120		

**Batch EB70213 - Solvent Extraction (GC)**

Blank (EB70213-BLK1)		Prepared: 02/02/07		Analyzed: 02/06/07					
Carbon Ranges C6-C12	ND	10.0	mg/kg wet						
Carbon Ranges C12-C28	ND	10.0	"						
Carbon Ranges C28-C35	ND	10.0	"						
Total Hydrocarbons	ND	10.0	"						
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	51.1		mg/kg	50.0		102	70-130		
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	51.9		"	50.0		104	70-130		

LCS (EB70213-BS1)		Prepared: 02/02/07		Analyzed: 02/06/07					
Carbon Ranges C6-C12	536	10.0	mg/kg wet	500		107	75-125		
Carbon Ranges C12-C28	489	10.0	"	500		97.8	75-125		
Carbon Ranges C28-C35	ND	10.0	"	0.00			75-125		
Total Hydrocarbons	1030	10.0	"	1000		103	75-125		
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	57.2		mg/kg	50.0		114	70-130		
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	55.3		"	50.0		111	70-130		

Calibration Check (EB70213-CCV1)		Prepared: 02/02/07		Analyzed: 02/06/07					
Carbon Ranges C6-C12	205		mg/kg	250		82.0	80-120		
Carbon Ranges C12-C28	249		"	250		99.6	80-120		
Total Hydrocarbons	454		"	500		90.8	80-120		
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	63.6		"	50.0		127	70-130		
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	57.1		"	50.0		114	70-130		

Environmental Lab of Texas

A Xenco Laboratories Company

The results in this report apply to the samples analyzed in accordance with the samples received in the laboratory. This analytical report must be reproduced in its entirety, with written approval of Environmental Lab of Texas.

Page 5 of 8

Merit Energy Company  
P.O. Box 300  
Whiteface TX, 79379

Project: Various  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Jim Hollon (for)

Fax: (806) 229-2583

**Organics by GC - Quality Control**  
**Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Spike Level	Source Result	%REC Limits	RPD	RPD Limit	Notes
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**Batch EB70213 - Solvent Extraction (GC)**

**Matrix Spike (EB70213-MS1)** Source: 7B01015-01 Prepared: 02/02/07 Analyzed: 02/06/07

Carbon Ranges C6-C12	562	10.0	mg/kg dry	539	11.0	102	75-125		
Carbon Ranges C12-C28	531	10.0	"	539	64.7	86.5	75-125		
Carbon Ranges C28-C35	ND	10.0	"	0.00	3.76		75-125		
Total Hydrocarbons	1090	10.0	"	1080	68.2	94.6	75-125		
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	60.0		mg/kg	50.0		120	70-130		
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	50.7		"	50.0		101	70-130		

**Matrix Spike Dup (EB70213-MSD1)** Source: 7B01015-01 Prepared: 02/02/07 Analyzed: 02/06/07

Carbon Ranges C6-C12	575	10.0	mg/kg dry	539	11.0	105	75-125	2.90	20
Carbon Ranges C12-C28	519	10.0	"	539	64.7	84.3	75-125	2.58	20
Carbon Ranges C28-C35	ND	10.0	"	0.00	3.76		75-125		20
Total Hydrocarbons	1090	10.0	"	1080	68.2	94.6	75-125	0.00	20
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	49.1		mg/kg	50.0		98.2	70-130		
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	49.8		"	50.0		99.6	70-130		

Environmental Lab of Texas

A Xenco Laboratories Company

The results in this report apply to the samples analyzed in accordance with the samples received in the laboratory. This analytical report must be reproduced in its entirety, with written approval of Environmental Lab of Texas.

Page 6 of 8

Merit Energy Company  
P.O. Box 300  
Whiteface TX, 79379

Project: Various  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Jim Hollon (for)

Fax: (806) 229-2583

**General Chemistry Parameters by EPA / Standard Methods - Quality Control**  
**Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Spike Level	Source Result	%REC Limits	RPD Limit	Notes
<b>Batch EB70301 - General Preparation (Prep)</b>								
<b>Blank (EB70301-BLK1)</b>			Prepared: 02/02/07 Analyzed: 02/03/07					
% Solids	100		%					
<b>Duplicate (EB70301-DUP1)</b>			Source: 7B02007-01 Prepared: 02/02/07 Analyzed: 02/03/07					
% Solids	95.9		%		96.0		0.104 20	

Environmental Lab of Texas

A Xenco Laboratories Company

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Page 7 of 8

Merit Energy Company  
P.O. Box 300  
Whiteface TX, 79379

Project: Various  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Jim Hollon (for)

Fax: (806) 229-2583

#### Notes and Definitions

J Detected but below the Reporting Limit; therefore, result is an estimated concentration (CLP J-Flag).  
DET Analyte DETECTED  
ND Analyte NOT DETECTED at or above the reporting limit  
NR Not Reported  
dry Sample results reported on a dry weight basis  
RPD Relative Percent Difference  
LCS Laboratory Control Spike  
MS Matrix Spike  
Dup Duplicate

Report Approved By:



Date: 3/27/2007

Brent Barron, Laboratory Director/Corp. Technical Director  
Celey D. Keene, Org. Tech Director  
Raland K. Tuttle, Laboratory Consultant

James Mathis, QA/QC Officer  
Jeanne Mc Murrey, Inorg. Tech Director

This material is intended only for the use of the individual (s) or entity to whom it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged and confidential.

If you have received this material in error, please notify us immediately at 432-563-1800.

Environmental Lab of Texas

A Xenco Laboratories Company

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### CHAIN OF CUSTODY RECORD AND ANALYSIS REQUEST

12600 West I-20 East  
Odessa, Texas 79765

Phono: 432-553-1800  
Fax: 432-553-1713

**Project Name: Various**

**Project #:**

Project Loc: New Mexico

PO#:

**Fax No: 432-563-1166**

e-mail: [jim.hollan@sboglobal.net](mailto:jim.hollan@sboglobal.net)

(lab. use only)

500-091

	FIELD CODE	Beginning Depth	Ending Depth	Date Sampled	Time Sampled	No. of Containers	Ice	HNO <sub>3</sub>	HCl	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	NADH	Na <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	None	Other (Specify)	Dive Drilling Water St-Barcode	GWR = Groundwater S=Seafloor NP=Non-Potable Beachy Ocean	TPTL 418.1 <del>40152</del> 100S 100C	Cations (Ca, Mg, Na, K)	Anions (Cl, SO <sub>4</sub> , CO <sub>3</sub> , HCO <sub>3</sub> )	SAR / ESP / CEC	Metals As Ag Ba Cd Cr Pb +Hg Sb	Volatiles	Semivolatiles	BTEX (BTEX 826 or BTEX 930 or BTEX 930)	RCI	NORM	Chlorides	RUSH TAT (Pre-standard) 2A	Standard TAT
71	MRU 35-9 west 2'			1/29/2007	16:00	1	X									S		X									X		
72	MRU 35-9 west 4'			1/29/2007	16:00	1	X									S		X									X		
73	MRU 35-9 east 2'			1/29/2007	16:00	1	X									S		X									X		
74	MRU 35-9 east 4'			1/29/2007	16:00	1	X									S		X									X		
75	RT S/a south containment			1/29/2007	12:00	1	X									S		X							X				
76	TB 132 Backfill 4'			1/29/2007	11:00	1	X									S		X							X				

**Special instructions:**

Retained by:

1

Referring to the above:

**Relinquished by:**

**Received by:**

100

Received by

**Received by ELOI:**

Lincoln

Laboratory Comments:

### Sample Containers Intact?

### VOCs, Free of Headspace?

Crystody seals on container(s)

Sample Hand Delivered

by Sample Client Rep. ?  
H. C. 108

! ! !

VJ [unclear] [unclear]

2.  $\Delta$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra



# Environmental Lab of Texas

## Variance/ Corrective Action Report- Sample Log-In

Client: Merit Energy  
 Date/ Time: 2/2/07 11:40  
 Lab ID #: 17B02005  
 Initials: ck

### Sample Receipt Checklist

				Client Initials
#1	Temperature of container/ cooler?	Yes	No	<u>21.0</u> °C
#2	Shipping container in good condition?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
#3	Custody Seals intact on shipping container/ cooler?	<u>Yes</u>	No	<u>Not Present</u>
#4	Custody Seals intact on sample bottles/ container?	<u>Yes</u>	No	<u>Not Present</u>
#5	Chain of Custody present?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
#6	Sample instructions complete of Chain of Custody?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
#7	Chain of Custody signed when relinquished/ received?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
#8	Chain of Custody agrees with sample label(s)?	<u>Yes</u>	No	ID written on Cont./ Lid
#9	Container label(s) legible and intact?	<u>Yes</u>	No	Not Applicable
#10	Sample matrix/ properties agree with Chain of Custody?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
#11	Containers supplied by ELOT?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
#12	Samples in proper container/ bottle?	<u>Yes</u>	No	See Below
#13	Samples properly preserved?	<u>Yes</u>	No	See Below
#14	Sample bottles intact?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
#15	Preservations documented on Chain of Custody?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
#16	Containers documented on Chain of Custody?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
#17	Sufficient sample amount for indicated test(s)?	<u>Yes</u>	No	See Below
#18	All samples received within sufficient hold time?	<u>Yes</u>	No	See Below
#19	Subcontract of sample(s)?	<u>Yes</u>	No	<u>Not Applicable</u>
#20	VOC samples have zero headspace?	<u>Yes</u>	No	Not Applicable

### Variance Documentation

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Contacted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Regarding: \_\_\_\_\_

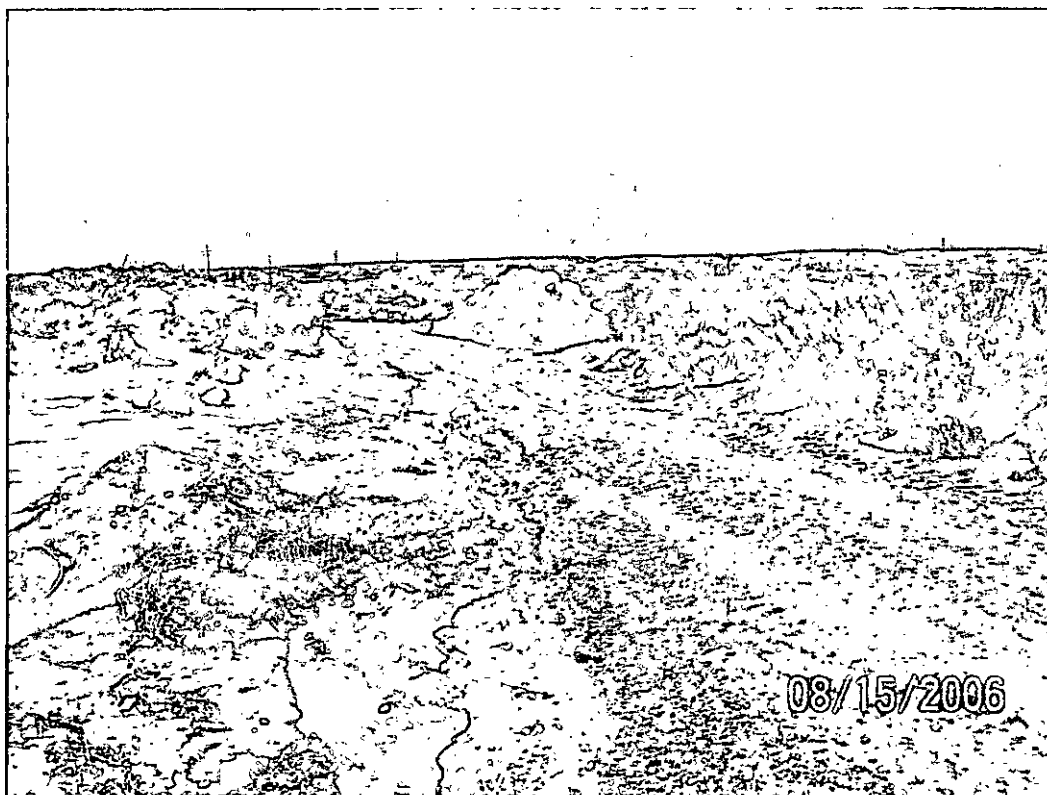
Corrective Action Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Check all that Apply:

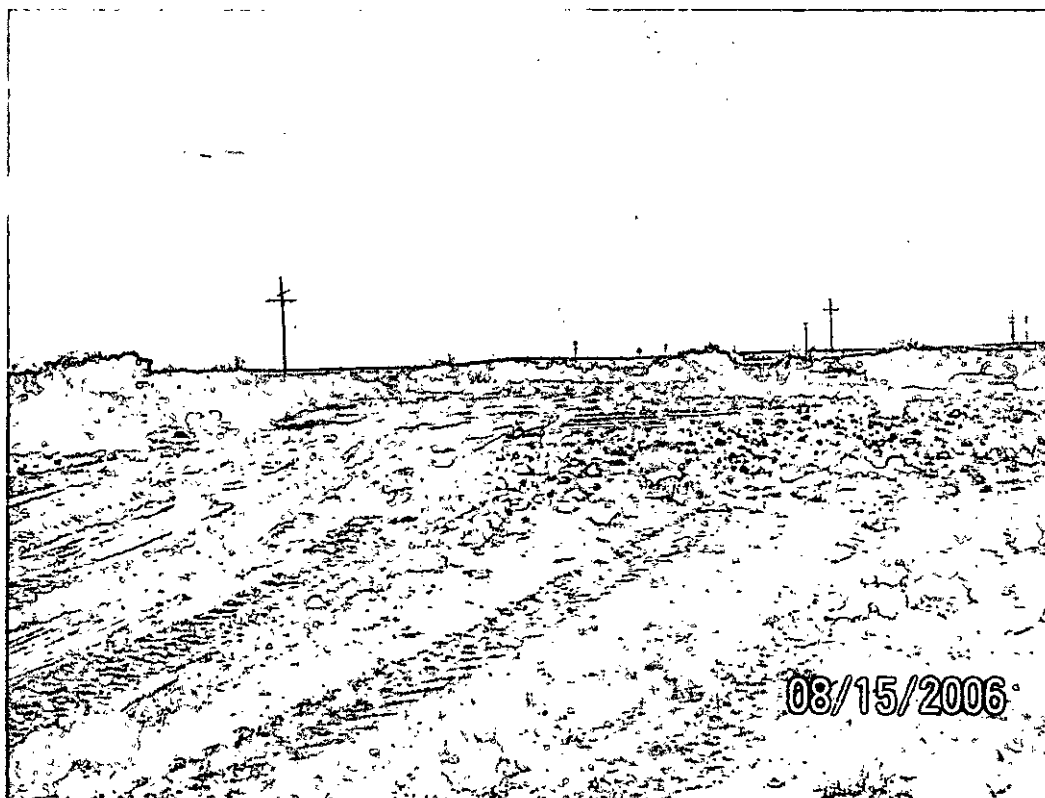
- ☐ See attached e-mail/ fax  
☐ Client understands and would like to proceed with analysis  
☐ Cooling process had begun shortly after sampling event

## **APPENDIX C**

### **Photographs**



Pipeline Right of Way and stockpiled soils



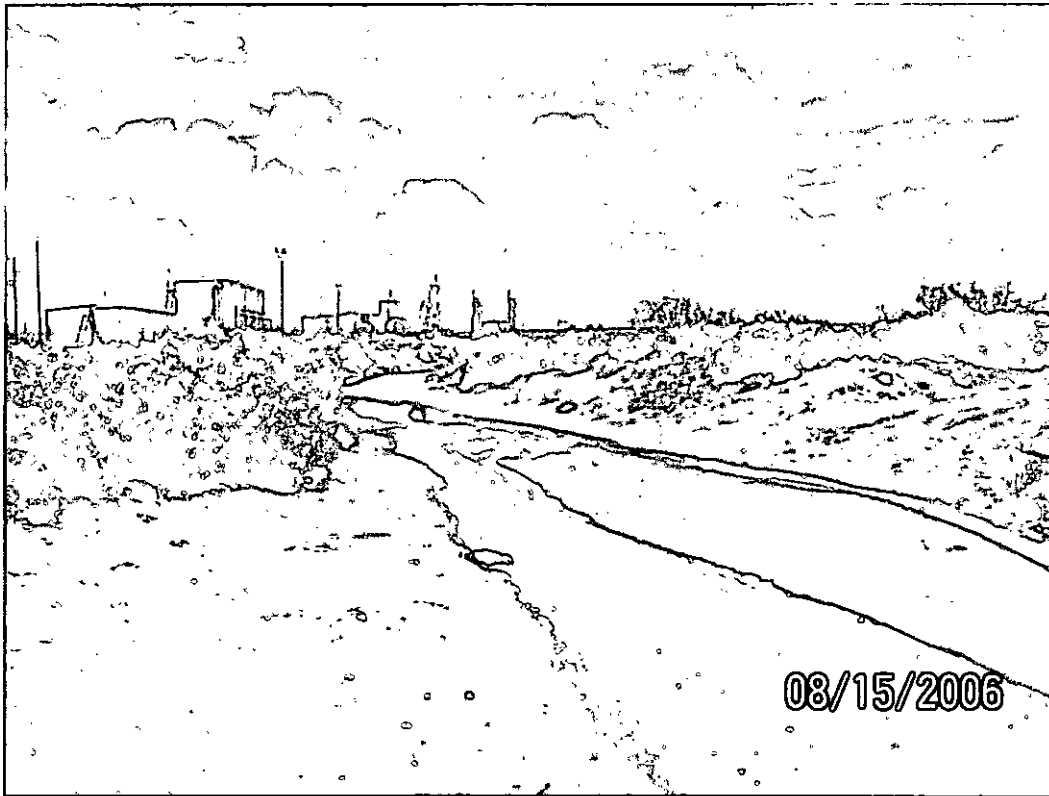
End of right of way area after scraping



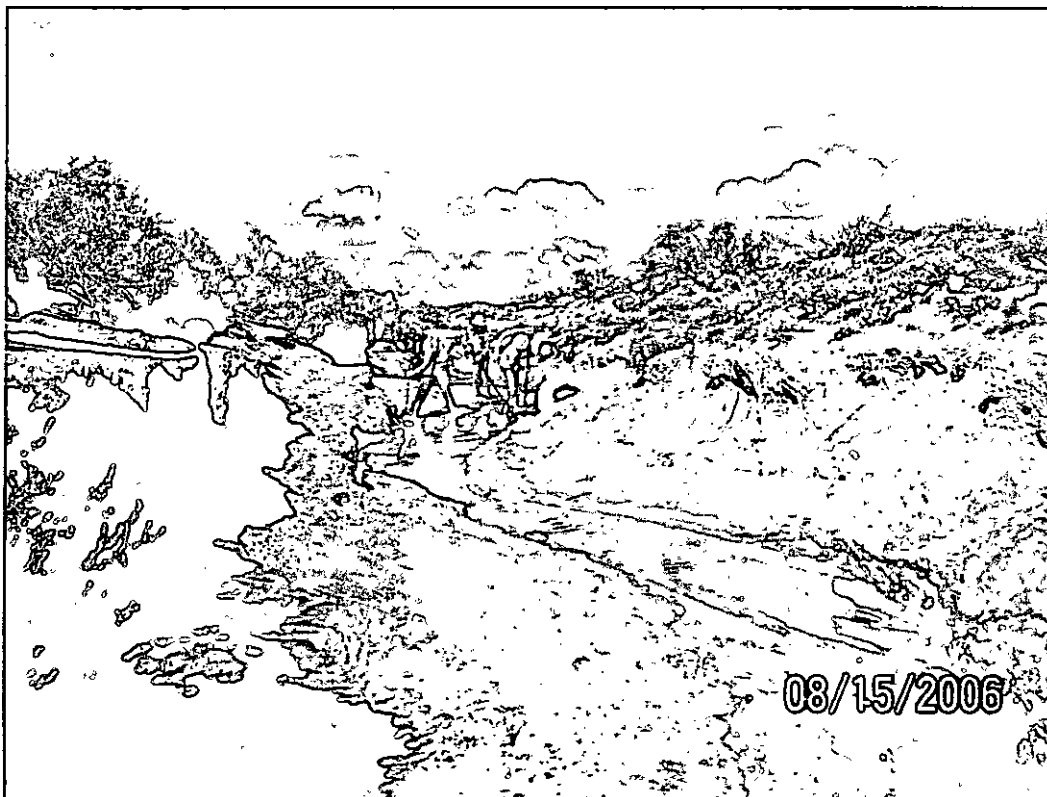
Blending of affected soils



Showing minimal absorption into soils



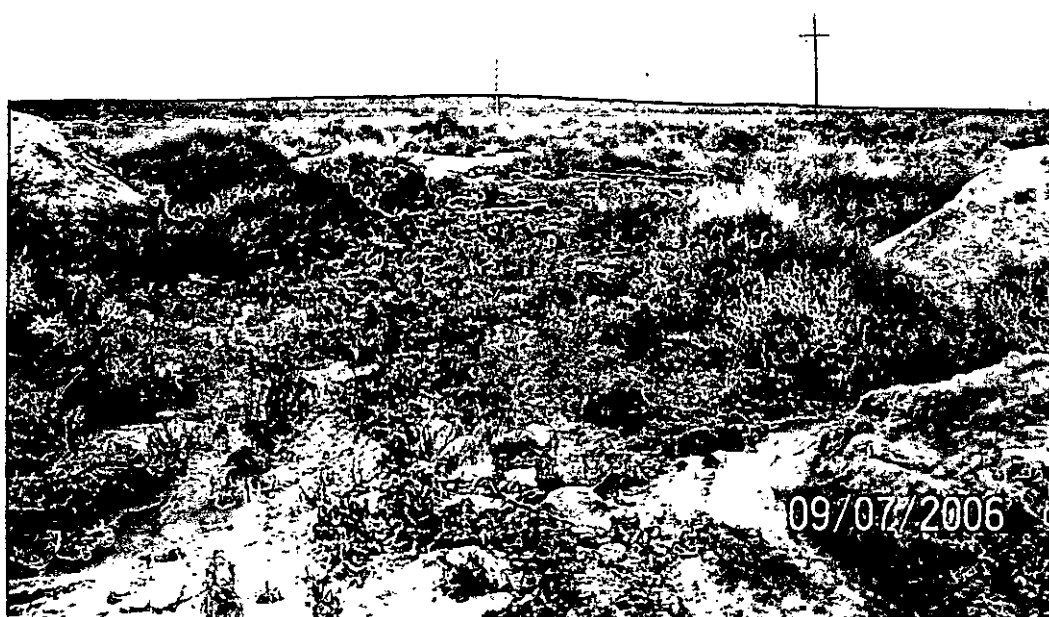
Typical view of the affected arroyo



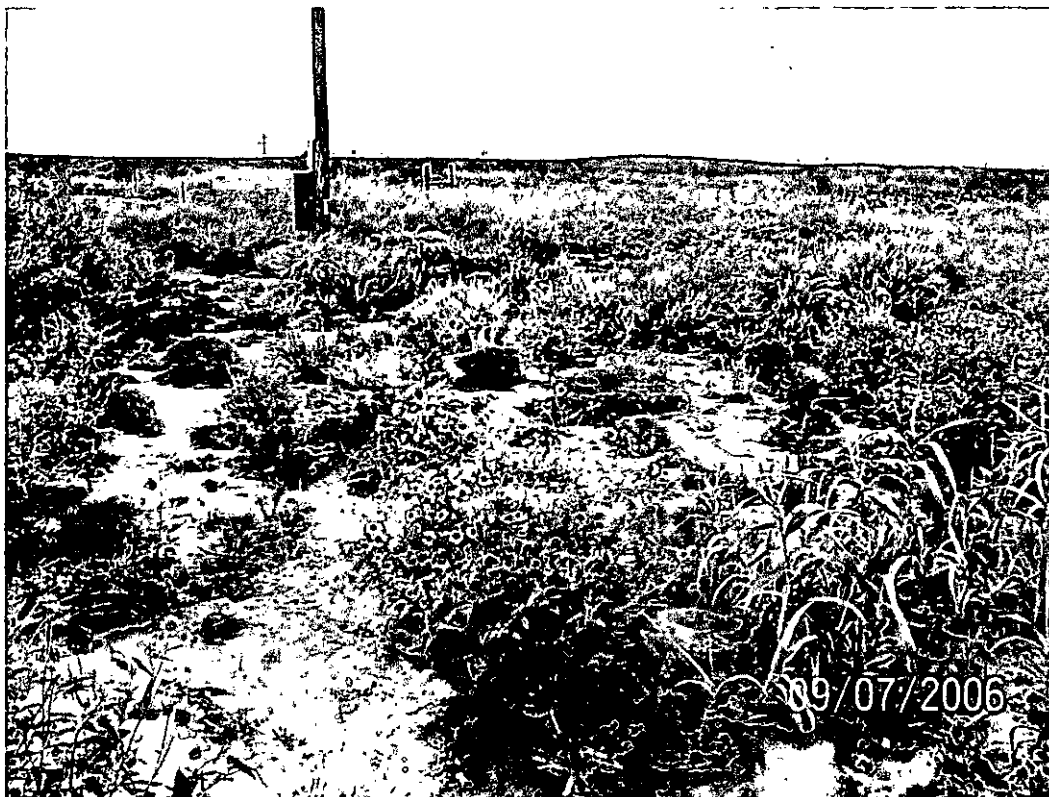
Wash and squeegee of arroyo



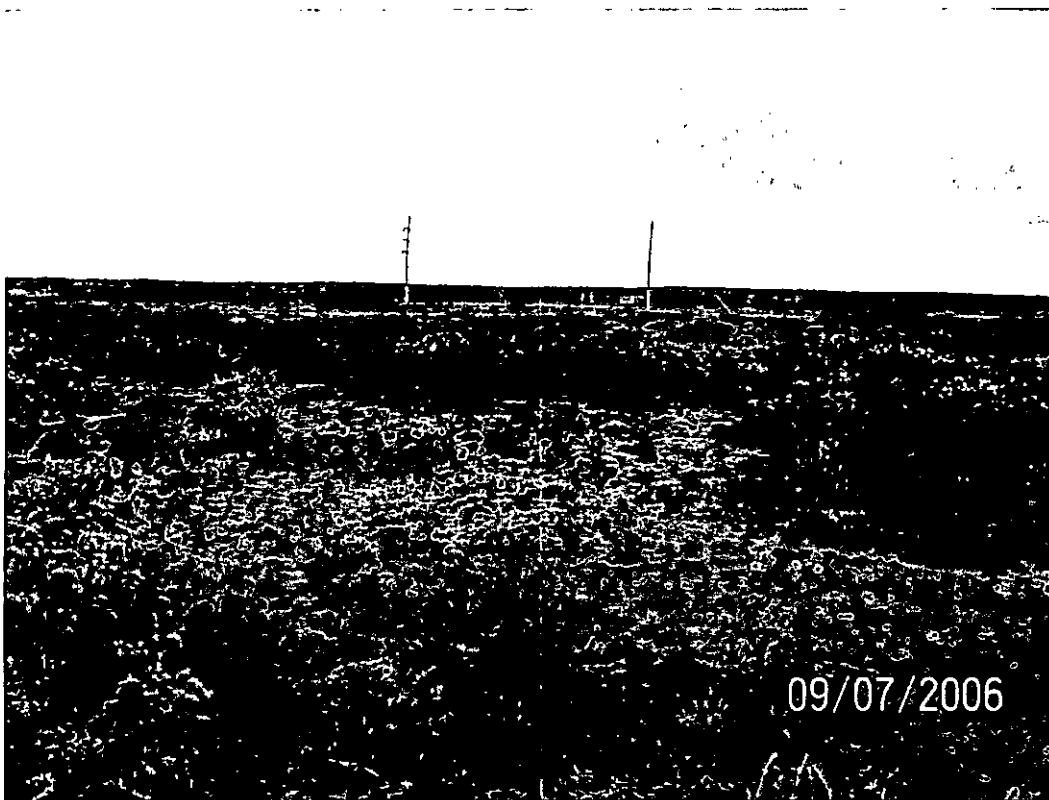
Affected vegetation after second rain event



Affected vegetation after treatment



Affected vegetation after treatment



End of affected area after treatment

## **APPENDIX D**

### **Regulatory Reports**



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: Merit Energy Company	Contact: Dwain Wall	
Address: P.O. Box 69, Loco Hills N.M., 88255	Telephone No.: 505-706-4758	
Facility Name: Russell Turner Water Station	Facility Type: Water-flood station	
Surface Owner: BLM	Mineral Owner: BLM	Lease No.:

#### LOCATION OF RELEASE

Unit Letter	Section	Township	Range	Feet from the	North/South Line	Feet from the	East/West Line	County
	20	17-S	31-E					Eddy

Latitude 32.82015 Longitude 103.89701

#### NATURE OF RELEASE

Type of Release: Crude oil	Volume of Release: 350 bbl	Volume Recovered: 280 bbl
Source of Release: tanks overfilled	Date and Hour of Occurrence: 08/15/06 1:00 am	Date and Hour of Discovery: 08/15/06 5:30 am
Was Immediate Notice Given? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Not Required	If YES, To Whom? Paul Evans (BLM) & Mike Bratcher (OCD)	
By Whom? Mike Self	Date and Hour: 6:00 am	
Was a Watercourse Reached? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If YES, Volume Impacting the Watercourse. 70 bbls	

#### If a Watercourse was Impacted, Describe Fully.\*

The overflow and sump tanks both overfilled. The secondary containment for each filled and overflowed allowing approximately 70 barrels to reach two arroyos. The occurrence followed a heavy rain event which had saturated the ground, causing the oil flow on top of the water and not penetrate very deep into the ground.

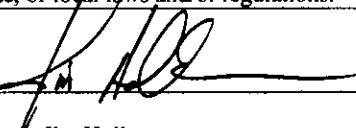
#### Describe Cause of Problem and Remedial Action Taken.\*

An electrical failure caused injection pumps to shut down, the telephone line serving the alarm system was also down resulting in no alarm being sent to personnel. Electrical service was restored and pumps restarted, the telephone company made repairs to their line and restored service.

#### Describe Area Affected and Cleanup Action Taken.\*

The majority of the spill was contained in the firewalls surrounding the tanks. The oil did breach the firewalls, reaching two arroyos labeled "A" and "B". Arroyo "A" started near the southern most tank, the oil crossed the dirt road and ended on flat ground approximately 300 yards from the point of origin. Arroyo "B" was affected by the northern most tank, the oil entered the arroyo following it under the dirt road and highway stopping approximately 500 yards from the point of origin. Please see attached sheet for cleanup action.

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: 		<b>OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION</b>	
Printed Name: Jim Hollon		Approved by District Supervisor:	
Title: Consultant	Approval Date:	Expiration Date:	
E-mail Address: jim.hollon@sbcglobal.net	Conditions of Approval:		Attached <input type="checkbox"/>
Date: 03/26/07	Phone: 432-631-5768		

\* Attach Additional Sheets If Necessary

Continuation of area affected and cleanup action taken.

Power was restored and the pumps were restarted. A backhoe was utilized to build dams in the arroyo to prevent the flow of oil should it begin to rain again and to aid in the recovery of the oil. The backhoe was used to scrape/squeegee the flat areas and stockpile the affected soils. Vacuum trucks were utilized to recover all free liquids. Fresh water was pumped by trucks down the arroyo to flush the oil to points where vacuum trucks could recover both the oil and water. The backhoe began to blend the affected soils in arroyo "A" up to the dirt road crossing and build berms around the end of the affected areas to prevent additional migration of the oil. A total of 280 barrels of oil was recovered from the secondary containments and arroyos. The stockpiled soils were taken to CRI in Hobbs New Mexico.

During the evening and night another heavy rain event occurred. This rain event flooded the arroyos and floated the remaining unrecovered oil out of the soils. The oil was floated approximately 300 yards to a flat area where it affected the bottom six inches of the tumbleweeds and broomweed. On August 24 and 25, 2006, the affected vegetation was treated with Micro-bac M-1000, a naturally occurring microbe that assists in the degradation of hydrocarbons. A spray rig with a hand wand was utilized to wash and treat the vegetation as well as all affected soils in the spill area.

Additional treatments will be conducted as necessary to remediate the affected areas. The average depth of the affected soils is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch and is very spotty throughout the affected areas.

Remediation activities are complete and analytical results are included with the attached report.

## Bratcher, Mike, EMNRD

---

**From:** Paul\_Evans@nm.blm.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, August 21, 2006 9:06 AM  
**To:** Bratcher, Mike, EMNRD  
**Subject:** Merit Turner

**Attachments:** Untitled20.jpg; Untitled1.jpg; Untitled2.jpg; Untitled3.jpg; Untitled4.jpg; Untitled5.jpg; Untitled6.jpg; Untitled7.jpg; Untitled8.jpg; Untitled9.jpg; Untitled10.jpg; Untitled11.jpg; Untitled12.jpg; Untitled13.jpg; Untitled14.jpg; Untitled15.jpg; Untitled16.jpg; Untitled17.jpg; Untitled18.jpg; Untitled19.jpg



Untitled20.jpg (267 KB)



Untitled1.jpg (293 KB)



Untitled2.jpg (299 KB)



Untitled3.jpg (356 KB)



Untitled4.jpg (271 KB)



Untitled5.jpg (202 KB)



Untitled6.jpg (223 KB)



Untitled7.jpg (249 KB)



Untitled8.jpg (282 KB)



Untitled9.jpg (258 KB)



Untitled10.jpg (243 KB)



Untitled11.jpg (187 KB)



Untitled12.jpg (235 KB)



Untitled13.jpg (288 KB)



Untitled14.jpg (339 KB)



Untitled15.jpg (239 KB)



Untitled16.jpg (228 KB)



Untitled17.jpg (225 KB)



Untitled18.jpg (241 KB)



Untitled19.jpg (292 KB)

[attachment "Untitled10.jpg" deleted by Paul Evans/CFO/NM/BLM/DOI] (See attached file: Untitled20.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled1.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled2.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled3.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled4.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled5.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled6.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled7.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled8.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled9.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled10.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled11.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled12.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled13.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled14.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled15.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled16.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled17.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled18.jpg) (See attached file: Untitled19.jpg)

[http://search.ebay.com/\\_W0QQfgtpZ1QQfrppZ25QQfsooZ1QQfsopZ2QQsassoZoregonprime2000](http://search.ebay.com/_W0QQfgtpZ1QQfrppZ25QQfsooZ1QQfsopZ2QQsassoZoregonprime2000)

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