The pads that had been moved for the production tank were in poor condition. The concrete pads that the produced water tank sat on were also in poor shape. Due to this fact and concerns for the safety of the crew, Mr. Trujillo decided against re-using the concrete pads from the produced water tank.

The water was removed from the produced water tank and transported to Basin Disposal Inc. for disposal. The plastic liner was placed on a leveled area west of the production tank. The tank stand and the tank were placed on the plastic liner.

On August 1, 1999, Mr. Trujillo and the crew from L & R returned to the location to complete the tank relocation. The piping to each tank was reconnected. The firewall was completed and the area around the new tank battery was re-contoured to allow any rainwater to flow away from the new tank battery. Separator tank was placed back into service with other tanks. L&R re-installed the fencing around the separator and production tanks.
The wells were left shut in.

After a two month rainy weather delay, on September 30, 1999, Mr. Trujillo and a crew from Consolidated Contractors met at the location to excavate the PCS. A tailgate safety meeting was held with topics of discussion including excavation safety, traffic safety, and personal protective equipment required. Mr. James Helleckson of Consolidated informed Mr. Trujillo that a new road was built, with the permission of the landowner, Mr. Stonebreaker, to allow the trucks hauling soil to safely enter the site.

Using a trackhoe, the excavation was started near the northeast corner of the former containment area. Petroleum contamination was encountered from the surface to an approximate depth of twenty (20) feet. The soil was coarse sand, gray to black in color, with a strong odor of petroleum.

The contamination layers in the soil resembled an inverted cone with the major area of contamination under and between the former location of the production and produced water tanks. The least amount of contamination was found in the southeast corner of the former containment area. Clean native soils were encountered at approximately twenty (20) feet in the former location of the production and produced water tanks. To the southeast of the excavation, clean native soils were encountered from at depths from ten (10) to four (4) feet below the ground surface. Refer to the enclosed Sample Location map.

A total of 740 cubic yards of PCS were removed from the location and transported to Tierra Environmental Company Inc. of Farmington, New Mexico, to be landfarmed. Clean imported soil was used to backfill the excavation.

To monitor the soil removal efforts and collect verification samples for closure, grab samples were taken from the bottom and the sidewalls of the excavation as it limits were determined. Samples were field screened using the Heated Headspace Method and an Organic Vapor Meter (OVM) with Photoionizing Detector (PID). The samples were split, placed into laboratory supplied containers, and transported to the laboratory in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency and State regulations and guidelines. OVM readings are reflected in the following table.