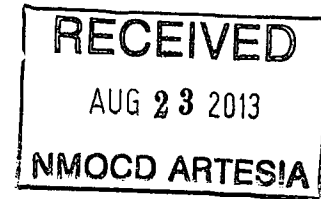


# R. T. HICKS CONSULTANTS, LTD.

901 Rio Grande Blvd NW ▲ Suite F-142 ▲ Albuquerque, NM 87104 ▲ 505.266.5004 ▲ Fax: 505.266-0745

August 16, 2013

Mr. Mike Bratcher  
NMOCD District 2  
811 South First Street  
Artesia, New Mexico 88210



RE: NMOCD 2RP-1674 - XTO Nash Unit 29 Modular Impoundment Spill Report and Remediation Plan

Dear Mike:

We sampled a background location per C-141/Part 29 approval conditions/stipulations for release event 2RP-1674. Attached is a map (Plate 1) showing the location and results of the Background Sample collected on June 24, 2013. Results are shown in the white box with red outline. Included is the laboratory Certificate of Analysis.

The Background Sample shows an average chloride concentration of 2,773 mg/kg between 1.5 and 4.5 feet below ground surface (bgs). Below 4.5 feet chloride concentration is less than 2,000 mg/kg. The Trench Sample shows a higher chloride concentration of approximately 520 mg/kg between 1.5 and 2-feet bgs.

Comparing the Trench Sample to the Background Sample, the average chloride concentration in the Trench Sample between 4 and 6 feet bgs is lower.

- average concentration of chloride between 4 and 6 feet bgs in the Trench Sample is 2,060 mg/kg.
- average concentration of chloride between 4.5 and 6 feet bgs in the Background Sample is 2,400 mg/kg.

Removing the upper 2-feet of soil within the remediation area as shown on Plate 2 will remediate the observed higher chlorides.

For your convenience, we reproduced a portion of our remediation plan as presented in our March 15 spill report, below:

*XTO Energy proposes to excavate and dispose of the western third (30%) of the caliche pad that was in contact with the modular impoundment. The 30% area includes the release area and out beyond to the edge of the caliche pad. Plate 2 identifies the area proposed for remediation. The excavated material will be transported to R360 or equivalent for proper disposal.*

*The remediated area will be contoured and seeded using BLM Seed Mixture Type 4 with Giant Sacaton seed added to the mixture.*

We anticipate starting remedial activities within the next few weeks. We will notify NMOCD 48-hours prior to remedial activities.

August 17, 2013  
Page 2

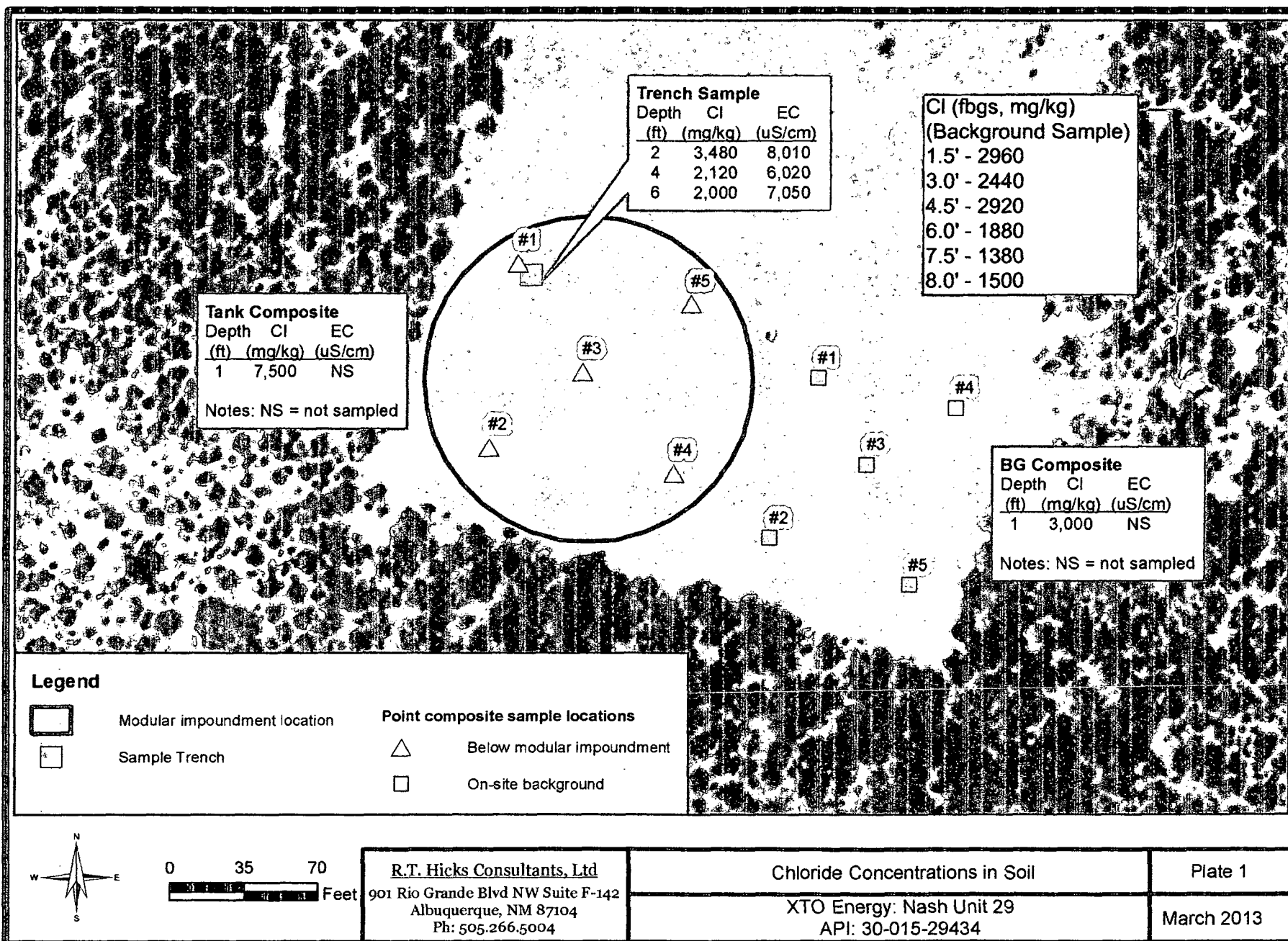
Please contact me at 970-570-9535 if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,  
R.T. Hicks Consultants  
Durango Field Office

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Parker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Andrew Parker

Cc: David Luna, XTO Energy, via email



## CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY AND ANALYSIS REQUEST