



July 14, 2017

Mr. Randolph Bayliss  
Hydrologist, Districts III and IV  
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division  
1220 South Street Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

**RE: Proposed Groundwater Delineation and Product Recovery Work Plan  
Davis #1  
Environmental Order #3RP-311-0  
Williams Four Corners LLC  
San Juan County, New Mexico**

Dear Mr. Bayliss:

LT Environmental, Inc. (LTE), on behalf of Williams Four Corners LLC (Williams), proposes the following work plan in response to the requirements of your letter dated May 26, 2017, following review of the 2016 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report for the Davis #1/Environmental Order #3RP-311-0. This work plan is intended to address impacted groundwater at the Davis #1 natural gas well (Site) located in Unit E of Section 11 within Township 31 North and Range 12 West in the Farmington Glade area of the San Juan Basin in San Juan County, New Mexico.

## **BACKGROUND**

Groundwater at the Site is impacted by petroleum hydrocarbons due to a release from a former earthen dehydrator pit operated by a previous gathering company, Gas Company of New Mexico (GCNM). Impacted soil was excavated in 1998 and seven monitoring wells were installed in 1999 to assess groundwater quality. The locations of the monitoring wells are depicted in Figure 1. Williams acquired the asset in 2000 and has monitored groundwater quality and passively recovered light non-aqueous phase liquid (LNAPL) since that time.

Impact to groundwater in the source area at monitoring well MW-2 is currently unknown due to insufficient water in the monitoring well, likely as a result of silt filling in the screened interval of the well. Groundwater flow direction from the source area has been consistently west/northwest historically. LNAPL is present in monitoring well MW-5, which is located downgradient of the original source area, ranging from 2.25 feet in 2013 to 1.73 feet at the end of 2016. Unfortunately, MW-5 has been damaged and bailers and pumps can no longer fit down the well for LNAPL recovery. Cross-gradient monitoring well MW-3 has been destroyed. Historical documentation indicates concentrations of benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and total xylenes (BTEX) in the three most downgradient monitoring wells (MW-4, MW-6, and MW-7) and one upgradient monitoring well MW-1 were compliant with the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission





(NMWQCC) standards for more than eight consecutive quarters and sampling of these wells was discontinued in February 2013.

## **PROPOSED DELINEATION AND MONITORING WELL REPLACEMENT**

To improve site control, LTE proposes to install a new monitoring well south of MW-5 and replace monitoring wells MW-2, MW-3, and MW-5 (Figure 1). The existing damaged wells MW-2 and MW-5 will be plugged and abandoned in accordance with New Mexico Office of the State Engineers (NMOSE) requirements to prevent movement of water within the boreholes and prevent the annular space surrounding the monitoring well casings from becoming a conduit to the groundwater supply.

Each new monitoring well be installed by Cascade Drilling (Cascade) using sonic drilling techniques. Continuous soil samples will be logged by an LTE geologist and described using the Unified Soil Classification System (USCS) to delineate hydrocarbon impacts. The intervals from immediately beneath the ground surface and then every five feet thereafter will be screened for volatile aromatic hydrocarbons as well as any soil that is stained or has a hydrocarbon odor using a photo-ionization detector (PID). If PID concentrations exceed 1,000 parts per million (ppm) in any of the soil samples, the sample will be submitted to a certified laboratory for analysis of BTEX by United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Method 8021 and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) – gasoline range organics (GRO), diesel range organics (DRO), and motor oil range organics (MRO) by EPA Method 8015. Additional soil borings will be advanced radially in approximately 50-foot steps from any soil boring demonstrating significant evidence of hydrocarbon impacts.

The monitoring wells will be installed to a depth of approximately 75 feet below ground surface (bgs). Monitoring wells will be constructed of schedule 40, 2-inch diameter polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and include 15 feet of 0.01-inch machine slotted flush-threaded PVC well screen. LTE will set at least 10 feet of screen beneath the water table and approximately 5 feet above to allow for seasonal fluctuations and a proper seal during well construction. A clean 10-20 grade silica sand gravel pack will be placed from the bottom of the boring to one foot above the top of the screen. At least two feet of 3/8-inch natural bentonite chips will be set above the gravel pack to set a seal and the well will be grouted to the ground surface. A concrete surface completion with a steel well protector and locking cap will be installed around the PVC stick-up.

At least 24 hours after installation, the new monitoring wells will be developed utilizing an electrical submersible pump. LTE personnel will remove a minimum of 10 saturated well casing volumes of water while monitoring the pH, electrical conductivity, and temperature until these parameters stabilize and turbidity is reduced to the greatest extent possible.

LTE will complete all work in accordance with industry-accepted practices. LTE will survey the new groundwater monitoring wells after construction with a Trimble® GeoExplorer® 3000 series Global Positioning System (GPS) to determine the latitude and longitude. Top-of-casing elevations will be surveyed to an accuracy of no less than plus or minus ( $\pm$ ) 0.01 feet so that groundwater flow direction and gradient can be determined. Field activities will be documented in a bound field



book and soil descriptions will be documented on a boring log. Observations to be noted on the boring log will include, but not be limited to, lithology, moisture content, staining, soil boring depth, latitude, longitude, project number, and comments. Monitoring well construction details will be documented on a well completion log. All down-hole drilling equipment will be thoroughly decontaminated prior to each use. If impacted soil is identified within a borehole, the impacted cuttings will be drummed and transported to the Envirotech, Inc. Landfarm in Hilltop, New Mexico.

## **PROPOSED LNAPL RECOVERY**

A mechanical LNAPL pumping system will be utilized to increase LNAPL recovery rates. The Geotech Solar Sipper uses a downwell pump to recover hydrocarbons through a floating oleophilic/hydrophobic intake filter. Once the pump canister is filled via the vacuum cycle, the pump reverses, pressurizes the system and pumps the recovered fluid to the surface and into a 55-gallon steel drum housed in secondary containment. The system can operate up to 180 feet below ground surface (bgs) and recovery rates are adjustable based on field observations. The system can be configured to operate two wells simultaneously. System startup and monthly operation and maintenance (O&M) events will track fluid recovery volumes and optimize fluid recovery rates. The system is capable of recovering up to 0.2 gallons of LNAPL per minute. System recovery rates will be based on field observations.

The LNAPL pumping system will be installed in the MW-5 replacement well. Additionally, if the presence of LNAPL is observed in either of the wells replacing MW-2 and/or MW-3, the LNAPL pumping system will be utilized in those wells. The LNAPL pumping system will be shared with another location and will be rotated quarterly between the other location and the Davis #1 facility. System effectiveness will be gauged based on LNAPL recovery rates and observed LNAPL thicknesses following static quarters.

## **MONITORING AND REPORTING**

At least two weeks after completion of monitoring well installation and development, groundwater sampling will be conducted using an electric submersible pump with variable frequency drive for low-flow sampling. All new wells and downgradient monitoring wells MW-4 and MW-6 will be sampled. Monitoring well MW-7 was sampled in June of 2017 and no BTEX constituents were detected, confirming that the groundwater in that location remains unaffected. LTE will additionally sample upgradient monitoring well MW-1 to confirm site conditions have not changed. Any monitoring wells containing LNAPL will not be sampled.

LTE will measure depth to groundwater and total depth of the monitoring wells with a Keck<sup>®</sup> oil/water interface probe prior to sampling. The submersible pump will be decontaminated prior to use and tubing will be decontaminated or new. As water is removed from the monitoring wells, pH, electric conductivity, and temperature will be monitored utilizing an in-line flow cell. Biological process parameters will also be monitored, including dissolved oxygen, oxidation-reduction potential, and ferrous iron. Once monitoring wells are properly purged, groundwater samples for laboratory analysis will be collected by filling pre-cleaned vials with zero headspace



to prevent degradation of the sample and plastic bottles with appropriate preservatives. All groundwater samples will be labeled with the date and time of collection, well designation, project name, collector's name, and parameters to be analyzed. The samples will be immediately chilled by placing them in a cooler with ice. The cooler will be delivered to a certified laboratory following proper chain-of-custody procedures for analysis of BTEX according to United States Environmental Protection Agency Method 8021 and attenuation parameters including nitrate, sulfate, alkalinity, and dissolved manganese.

All activities and results will be included in the annual report required for 2017. The report will include a description of well installation methods and all sampling and analysis results. Product recovery activities will be described, and include tracking of volumes recovered. Additional recommendations will be made based on results of sampling and recovery activities.

LTE appreciates the opportunity to provide this proposed work plan to the NMOCD. If you have any questions or comments regarding this plan, do not hesitate to contact me at (970) 385-1096 or via email at [bherb@ltenv.com](mailto:bherb@ltenv.com) or Aaron Galer at Williams at (801) 584-6746 or [Aaron.Galer@Williams.com](mailto:Aaron.Galer@Williams.com).

Sincerely,

LT ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brooke Herb'.

Brooke Herb  
Project Geologist

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ashley L. Ager'.

Ashley L. Ager, M.S., P.G.  
Senior Geologist

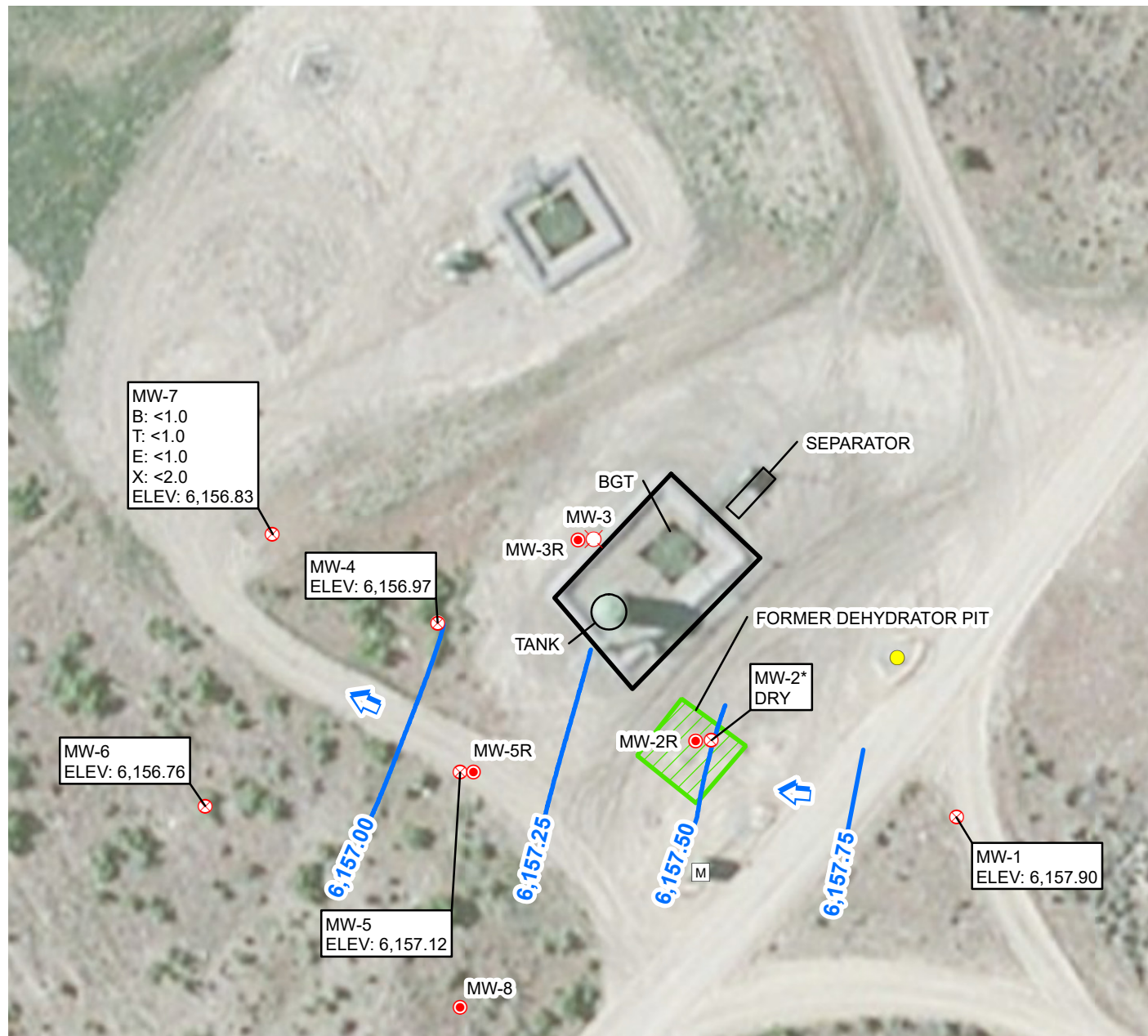
cc: Aaron Galer, Williams

Attachments:

Figure 1 – Proposed Work Plan Site Map

**FIGURE**





**LEGEND**

- MONITORING WELL
- DESTROYED MONITORING WELL
- PROPOSED REPLACEMENT/DELINEATION MONITORING WELL
- WELLHEAD
- METER HOUSE

- ESTIMATED GROUNDWATER FLOW DIRECTION
- RELATIVE GROUNDWATER ELEVATION CONTOUR  
CONTOUR INTERVAL = 0.25 FEET

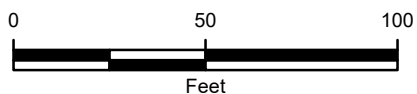
BERM

BGT: BELOW GRADE TANK

\*MW-2 WAS NOT USED TO GENERATE  
GROUNDWATER ELEVATION CONTOURS

MONITORING WELL ID  
 B: BENZENE IN MICROGRAMS PER LITER (µg/L)  
 T: TOLUENE (µg/L)  
 E: ETHYLBENZENE (µg/L)  
 X: TOTAL XYLENES (µg/L)  
 <: INDICATES RESULT IS LESS THAN THE  
 LABORATORY REPORTING LIMIT  
 ELEV: GROUNDWATER ELEVATION IN FEET ON 6/28/2017

IMAGE COURTESY OF ESRI



**FIGURE 1**  
**PROPOSED WORK PLAN SITE MAP**  
**DAVIS #1**  
**SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

**WILLIAMS FOUR CORNERS LLC**

