CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219 VOICE AND TDD (415) 904-5200 FAX (415) 904-5400



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Date:

October 14, 1999

To:

Coastal Commissioners and Interested Parties

From:

Jaime Kooser, Deputy Director

Alison Dettmer, Manager, Energy and Ocean Resources Unit

Ellen Faurot-Daniels, Supervisor, Oil Spill Program

SUBJECT:

Guadalupe Oil Field Spill Remediation Status Report -November

1999

Staff Note:

Previous status reports have provided a brief history of the Unocal Guadalupe oil spill, past Coastal Commission involvement (including emergency permits issued), current ongoing remediation activities and future remediation activities and permitting requirements. This status report provides an account of cleanup and remediation activities occurring at the Guadalupe site for the period September 23 – October 8, 1999.

ONGOING SITE ACTIVITIES, SEPTEMBER 23 –OCTOBER 8, 1999

Work activity at much of the Guadalupe site continues at very low levels, pending acquisition of permits for work at several priority sites.

- All pipelines along the A Road (outside of the CCC's jurisdiction) have been removed. Pipeline removal along the B Road (outside of the CCC's jurisdiction) and at TB9 continues.
- An onshore spill of approximately 1 barrel (42 gallons) of water from a pipeline occurred; the water was not captured by primary containment and subsequently flowed to a low spot, where a sheen developed on the surface. None of this contaminated water was released to surface waters. Unocal conducted the cleanup, reported the spill to the On-site Environmental Coordinator, and a spill report was filed.
- Weed control and botanical baseline surveys within the 5X remediation area continue.
- Condition 106 of the County's coastal development permit/development plan requires Unocal to construct a fence to prevent grazing cattle from entering wetland

ponds A, B and C and other wetlands identified in the jurisdictional wetland determination. Before constructing the fence, Unocal was to submit a plan to the County and the CCC for review and approval. Instead, during the week of October 4, Unocal began constructing a barbed wire fence prior to submitting a plan for County and CCC review and approval. Fence installation has been stopped. Unocal is currently preparing a plan pursuant to Condition 106.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- Continue removal of pipelines along the B Road.
- If the Coastal Commission approves Unocal's coastal development permit application E-99-009 for remediation and abandonment activities within its permit jurisdiction, Unocal plans to start excavating the large 5X plume in November.