

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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September 21, 2000

TO: Coastal Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: Jaime C. Kooser, Deputy Director
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SUBJECT: **Guadalupe Oil Field Spill Remediation Status Report – October 2000**

Staff Note:

This status report provides an account of abandonment and cleanup activities occurring at the Guadalupe site for the period August 22, 2000-September 11, 2000. Some of these are ongoing activities authorized under San Luis Obispo CDP/DP D870558D, and others began following Coastal Commission approval of CDP No. E-99-009 on November 3, 1999.

SITE ACTIVITIES, AUGUST 22, 2000-SEPTEMBER 11, 2000**Activities Occurring in the Coastal Commission's Permit Jurisdiction**

- On July 6, 2000, Unocal applied to the Commission for an immaterial amendment to CDP E-99-009 for changes to its project description. Commission staff did not receive any objections to the August 29, 2000 Notice of Proposed Immaterial Permit Amendment (provided to the Commission) within the required timeframe so the staff determination of immateriality was conclusive and the amendment approved on September 12, 2000. Project changes include: the expansion in volume and area of petroleum-hydrocarbon affected material at the beach plume and sump sites; screening of overburden and buffer material at A2A North; the installation of dewatering wells at 5X East and A2A North; and the installation of sheetpile west of Leroy 6.
- On September 12, 2000, the Commission approved CDP E-00-003, authorizing Unocal to remove 630 cubic yards of road base material (rock and sand) from the "loop" road and adjacent wetland; add 200 cubic yards of sand to 550 feet of "loop" road to maintain the hydraulic barrier between Marsh Pond B and river estuary; and re-vegetate with native vegetation the 550-foot loop road segment. The purpose of this application is to "undo" the

unpermitted road improvement work undertaken by Unocal in March 1998. Activities authorized by this permit will partially but not fully correct the violation. Unocal will submit a separate application to restore La Graciosa thistle (after it completes a thistle research program) to compensate for the loss of thistle caused by the unpermitted development activity.

- Unocal is currently mobilizing to start the excavation of the 5X East plume, among other sites at the beach. Unocal estimates that the 5X East excavation, encompassing roughly 6.72 acres and 127,800 cubic yards of contaminated material, will last 7 months.

Activities Occurring in San Luis Obispo County's Coastal Permit Jurisdiction

C8 Excavation

- Recontouring continues at the C8 site. Diani Construction continues to haul sand from the E4A stockpile onto the site to bring elevations up to grade at the C8 site.

Land Treatment Unit (LTU)

- Unocal contractors continue the six demonstration tests of different remediation techniques on stockpiled diluent-affected material at the LTU area. Soil samples continue to be collected at each of the cells on a weekly basis.

Other Activities

- Diani Construction has begun preparing the I11 site (west of the TB9 Stockpiles) to be used as the stockpile area for sump material removed from the LeRoy 6 excavation, as a part of the beach excavation projects. Unocal proposes to line the entire site with HDPE plastic sheeting and install v-ditch drainage and water runoff containment tanks within the next two weeks.
- Under the direction of the Unocal archaeological monitor, Unocal used the geo-probe to collect samples at the B3B site for buried geo-archaeological resources. Results from these samples may be used to help determine potential archaeological resources at a particular site prior to excavation activities. This will enable Unocal and contractors to schedule required mitigation for potential archaeological resources. A preliminary review of the data collected from the B3B site showed some evidence of archaeological resources in the area.
- Unocal has collected hand auger and geo-probe samples at several pad sites (O4, P2 and R1) to further characterize these sites in terms of potential contamination. These three pad sites are currently being considered for future restoration efforts. Pad sites O4 and P2 did not show any considerable unexpected contamination. The geo-probe sampling detected sump material in one portion of the R1 site, which is still under review.