

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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October 26, 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 – November 2000**

Staff Note:

This status report provides an account of abandonment and cleanup activities occurring at the Guadalupe site for the period September 12, 2000-October 13, 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, SEPTEMBER 12-OCTOBER 13, 2000**Activities Occurring in the Coastal Commission's Permit Jurisdiction****5X East**

- On September 25, Unocal began removing topsoil from the 5X East site using excavators (which reduces the threat of injury to legless lizards compared to the use of bulldozers). The material was hauled to the stockpile site on the northern end of the 5X West site. Excavation of 5X East has started and is proceeding ahead of schedule.
- Unocal contractors continue to install sheetpile along the southern edge of 5X East. The west, north and east walls have been completed. In conjunction with the sheetpile installation, Unocal is installing water extraction and monitoring wells about every 100 feet. Eight water extraction wells have been installed along the western sheetpile wall.

A2A North

- Unocal completed excavation of the A2A North site on September 29. The four wells installed at this site were able to draw the water level down approximately three to four feet. Unocal removed approximately 5,700 cubic yards of contaminated material from the A2A North site. Soil samples were collected from the bottom of the excavation pit at 25-foot centers. All of the analyzed bottom samples were non-detect for petroleum hydrocarbons. On October 2, the Regional Water Quality Control Board authorized the backfill of the site. Unocal contractors applied nutrients to the excavation hole and backfilled with clean sand from the E4A stockpile.

A2A Sump

- Excavation of the A2A Sump site began on October 7. Unocal excavated most of the contaminated material from the site that day. Unocal hauled approximately 3,800 cubic yards of contaminated material from this site to the I11 stockpile. On October 11, the Regional Water Quality Control Board authorized Unocal to backfill the sump with sand from the E4A stockpile.

LeRoy 6

- Excavation of the LeRoy 6 site is also complete. Unocal removed approximately 15,400 cubic yards of contaminated material from this site. The original estimate for the amount of contaminated material at Leroy 6 was 10,500 cubic yards. However, areas of contamination extended further southwest and north of the original boundary of the excavation area. There were no new impacts to vegetated areas caused by the expanded excavation area. Red rock and asphalt material associated with an old road also extended beyond the eastern boundary of the site. The test results of the 97 bottom samples collected at the site were non-detect for hydrocarbon contamination. On October 16, the Regional Water Quality Control Board authorized Unocal to backfill the site with clean material.

Loop Road Restoration

- Between October 16-23rd, Unocal completed loop road restoration work, as approved by the Coastal Commission in coastal development permit E-00-003. Unocal plans to begin immediately planting of native vegetation at the site.

Other Activities

- During all remediation work at the Beach Sites, Unocal will survey construction areas for red-legged frog once a week at night. Unocal's wildlife monitors will inspect the silt fencing located along the A Road each morning.

- Pipeline abandonment activities near the 5X site included the removal of several lines running between the A and B Roads. These pipelines were approximately 75 feet from the Marsh ponds.
- Western snowy plovers are observed foraging along the beach each day. At the request of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Unocal has temporarily ceased hazing activities on the beach that use loud noises (music and zon gun) to scare birds away from the excavation pits. Unocal plans to continue using ropes and mylar strips over any excavation pits containing open water.

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

C8 Excavation

- Unocal has paved the road bisecting the C8 site and installed approximately 35 monitoring wells. As part of the C8 site restoration plan, contractors will install willow poles and conduct seeding activities after the first soaking rain of the year.