



# EMCON Associates

1921 Ringwood Avenue • San Jose, California 95131-1721 • (408) 453-7300 • Fax (408) 437-9526

Date: January 23, 1995

Project: 0805-131.02

To:

Mike Whelan  
ARCO Products Company  
P.O. Box 5811  
San Mateo, CA 94402

We are enclosing:

Copies	Description
<u>1</u>	<u>Workplan for additional off-site groundwater characterization, ARCO service station 6002, Oakland, California</u>

For your:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use	Sent by:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular Mail
	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval		<input type="checkbox"/> Standard Air
	<input type="checkbox"/> Review		<input type="checkbox"/> Courier
	<input type="checkbox"/> Information		<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Rob Davis

Rob Davis  
Geologist

cc: ~~Juliet~~ Shin, ACHCSA  
Kevin Graves, RWQCB

88-11-11 03:11:05

JUL 23 1995





**EMCON**

1921 Ringwood Avenue • San Jose, California 95131-1721 • (408) 453-7300 • Fax (408) 437-9526

January 20, 1995  
Project 0805-131.02

Mr. Michael Whelan  
ARCO Products Company  
P.O. Box 5811  
San Mateo, California 94402

Re: Workplan for additional off-site groundwater characterization, ARCO service station 6002, Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Whelan:

EMCON is pleased to submit this workplan for additional off-site characterization at ARCO Products Company (ARCO) service station 6002, at 6235 Seminary Avenue, Oakland, California (Figure 1). This workplan is submitted in response to an October 26, 1994, letter from Juliet Shin, Senior Hazardous Materials Specialist of the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency (ACHCSA). In the letter, Ms. Shin indicated that additional off-site characterization work is necessary to delineate the extent of soil and groundwater contamination observed at the site. Specifically, Ms. Shin requested ARCO to further characterize the downgradient extent of impacted soil and groundwater observed in on-site wells MW-4 and MW-5, and investigate potential upgradient sources for the impacted groundwater observed in well VW-2.

### **SCOPE OF WORK**

Based on this request, EMCON will install off-site groundwater monitoring wells MW-6, MW-7, and MW-8 east, southwest, and west of the site, respectively, to aid in characterizing off-site impacted groundwater (Figure 2). In addition to the off-site characterization work, EMCON will install two vadose zone wells and one air-sparge well on site (Figure 3). The air-sparge and vadose wells will be installed for a future vapor extraction and air-sparge test to determine whether vapor extraction and air sparging are feasible alternatives for remediating impacted soil and groundwater at the site.

Groundwater data for the third quarter of 1994, including groundwater elevation contours, groundwater flow direction and hydraulic gradient, and groundwater analytical results, are shown in Figure 4.



**Task 1. Prefield Activities: Workplan Preparation, Permitting, and Project Startup**

Before beginning field activities, EMCON will submit this workplan to the ACHCSA. Upon gaining regulatory approval of the workplan, EMCON will obtain encroachment permits from the City of Oakland and the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), excavation permits from the City of Oakland, and well construction permits from the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (ACFCWCD), Zone 7.

EMCON will contract an underground utility locating service to provide guidance in finding unobstructed locations for the three off-site groundwater monitoring wells. In addition, we will notify Underground Service Alert.

**Task 2. Field Investigation: Drilling, Soil Sampling, Well Installation, and Topographical Well Survey**

EMCON will secure a licensed subcontractor to drill and install the wells. Procedures for drilling exploratory borings, installing groundwater monitoring wells, and sampling soil and groundwater will follow local regulatory guidelines and are described in Appendix A, "Field and Laboratory Procedures."

**Off-Site Groundwater Monitoring Wells.** Three borings (MW-6, MW-7, and MW-8) will be drilled and completed as off-site groundwater monitoring wells using 8-inch-diameter hollow-stem auger drilling equipment. Proposed off-site well MW-6 will be installed to investigate the possibility that an upgradient source is responsible for the impacted groundwater observed in on-site well VW-2. Proposed wells MW-7 and MW-8 will be used in characterizing the downgradient extent of impacted groundwater observed in on-site wells MW-4 and MW-5. The groundwater monitoring wells will be constructed using 15-foot lengths of screen set approximately 5 feet above and 10 feet below first-encountered groundwater. Depth to groundwater at the site is approximately 8 to 13 feet. The borings will be drilled and sampled to approximately 25 below ground surface (BGS) and completed as groundwater monitoring wells with 2-inch-diameter polyvinyl chloride (PVC) casing and screen. The proposed drilling locations are shown in Figure 2.

**On-Site Wells.** Three borings will be drilled on site between the UST complex and dispenser islands (Figure 3). All three borings will be drilled and sampled every 5 feet using 8-inch-diameter, hollow-stem auger drilling equipment. The borings adjacent to the dispenser islands (VW-3 and VW-4) will be drilled to approximately 15 feet BGS and completed as vapor extraction wells using 4-inch-diameter polyvinyl chloride (PVC) casing and screen. The vapor extraction wells will be constructed using 10-foot lengths of PVC screen set approximately 3 feet into groundwater. A third boring (AS-1), located

between the proposed vapor extraction wells and existing groundwater monitoring well MW-1, will be drilled to approximately 25 feet BGS and completed as a 2-inch-diameter air-sparge well. The air-sparge well will utilize a 2-foot section of screen set at approximately 28 to 30 feet BGS.

**Soil Sampling.** Soil samples for lithologic description will be collected from the borings at 5-foot-depth intervals by means of a modified California split-spoon sampler, which is equipped with brass liners and driven into undisturbed soil beyond the tip of the augers. Representative soil samples will be collected from the borings and screened for petroleum-hydrocarbon content with a portable photo-ionization detector (PID).

Drill cuttings will be stored on site and covered with plastic sheeting until the condition of the soil is determined. A composite soil sample will be collected from the stockpiled cuttings to characterize the petroleum-hydrocarbon content. A sample will be collected from below the surface of the stockpiled soil and submitted for analysis. Once the cuttings are characterized, EMCON will make recommendations for appropriate disposal.

**Topographic Well Survey.** A licensed surveyor will survey the new groundwater monitoring, air-sparge, and vapor extraction wells for elevation (relative to mean sea level) and location using a City of Oakland benchmark.

### **Task 3. Well Development and Groundwater Sampling**

After off-site groundwater monitoring wells MW-6, MW-7, and MW-8 and air-sparge well AS-1 are installed, EMCON will develop after them in accordance with local guidelines. We will measure depth to water and check the wells for floating product with a clear Teflon<sup>®</sup> bailer. If there is floating product in the well, we will measure its thickness with an interface probe. If no product is observed, the well will be sampled as described in Appendix B. Wells MW-6, MW-7, and MW-8 will be added to the quarterly monitoring program the first quarter after installation.

### **Task 4. Laboratory Analysis of Soil and Groundwater**

Selected soil samples from the six borings, a soil sample collected from the soil stockpile, and a groundwater sample from each monitoring well will be submitted to a state-certified laboratory and analyzed for total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPHG), and benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and total xylenes (BTEX). Soil and groundwater samples will be prepared for analysis by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) method 5030 (purge and trap). Soil will be analyzed for TPHG by the methods accepted by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and referenced in the *Leaking Underground Fuel Tank (LUFT) Field Manual* (State Water Resources Control Board,

May 1988, revised October 1989). Samples will be analyzed for BTEX by USEPA method 8020, described in *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste: Physical/Chemical Methods* (USEPA, SW-846, November 1986, 3rd edition). These methods are recommended in the *Tri-Regional Board Staff Recommendations for Preliminary Evaluation and Investigation of Underground Tank Sites* (August 10, 1990) for use at petroleum-hydrocarbon-impacted sites. Laboratory procedures are detailed in Appendix A.

Two soil samples from the vapor extraction well borings will also be submitted to the soils laboratory for sieve analysis.

### **Task 5. Data Evaluation and Report Preparation**

Upon completion of field and laboratory activities, EMCON will prepare a letter report, which will include the following:

- Description of drilling, well installation, sampling, and analytical techniques
- Exploratory boring logs, well construction details, and a site map
- One geologic cross section
- One groundwater contour map
- Certified analytical reports, water sample field data sheets, and chain-of-custody documentation
- Discussion of the findings and conclusions

### **SCHEDULE**

Figure 5 breaks down the project schedule by weeks for completion of each task. This schedule represents EMCON's best judgment, but may vary depending on conditions encountered, ease of access, and other circumstances. EMCON will initiate the project upon receiving ARCO's authorization to proceed. If this schedule needs revision, the ACHCSA will be notified of any changes.

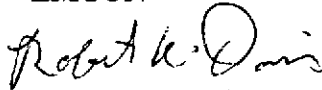
Mr. Michael Whelan  
January 20, 1995  
Page 5

Project 0805-131.02

Please call if you have questions.

Sincerely,

EMCON



Robert K. Davis  
Staff Geologist



John C. Young  
Project Manager

Attachments: References

- Figure 1 - Site Location
- Figure 2 - Proposed Off-Site Well Location Map
- Figure 3 - Proposed On-Site Well Location Map
- Figure 4 - Groundwater Data, Third Quarter 1994
- Figure 5 - Proposed Project Schedule
- Appendix A - Field and Laboratory Procedures

cc: ~~Juliet Shin~~ - ACHCSA  
Kevin Graves - RWQCB

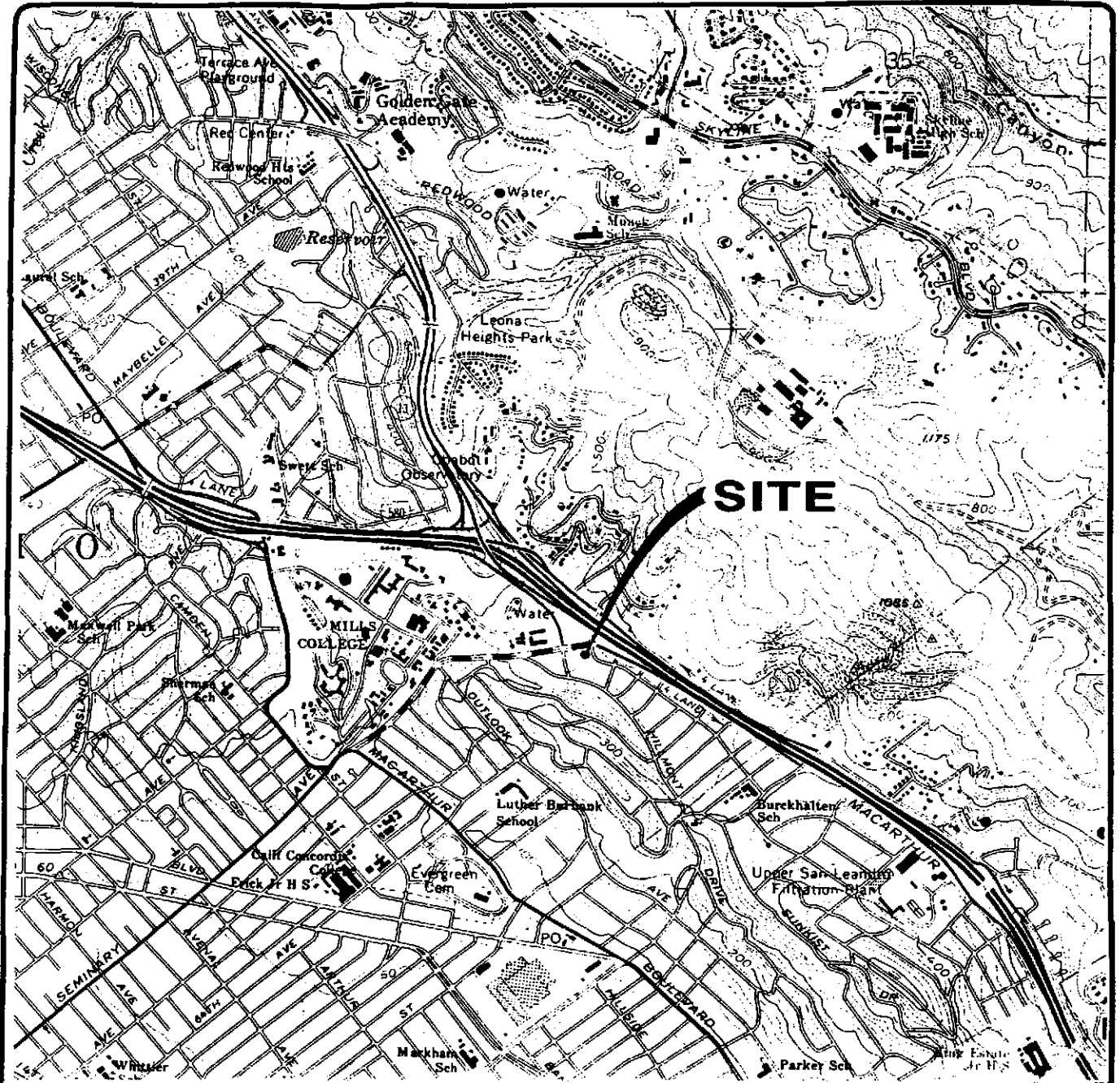
## REFERENCES

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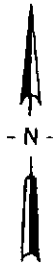
Alameda County Health Care Services Agency. October 26, 1994. Letter requesting a workplan addressing additional subsurface investigation at ARCO Station 6002, 6235 Seminary Ave., Oakland, California.

RESNA Industries Inc. March 31, 1994. *Initial Onsite Subsurface Investigation Report*. RESNA Report 130063.01

GeoStrategies, Inc. August 29, 1994. *Additional Onsite Subsurface Investigation and Second Quarter 1994 Quarterly Monitoring Report*. GSI Project 4945703-2.



CALIF



Scale : 0 2000 4000 Feet

12/84



**EMCON**  
Associates

ARCO PRODUCTS COMPANY  
SERVICE STATION 6002, 6235 SEMINARY AVE.  
QUARTERLY GROUNDWATER MONITORING  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

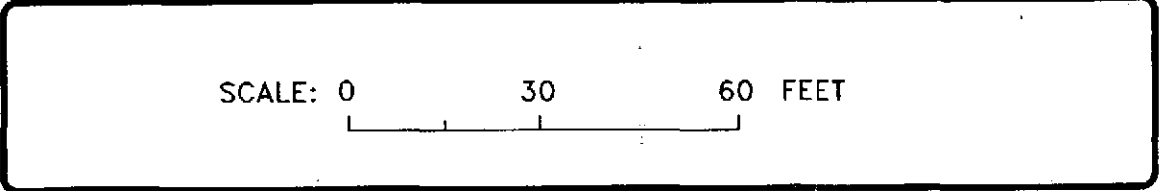
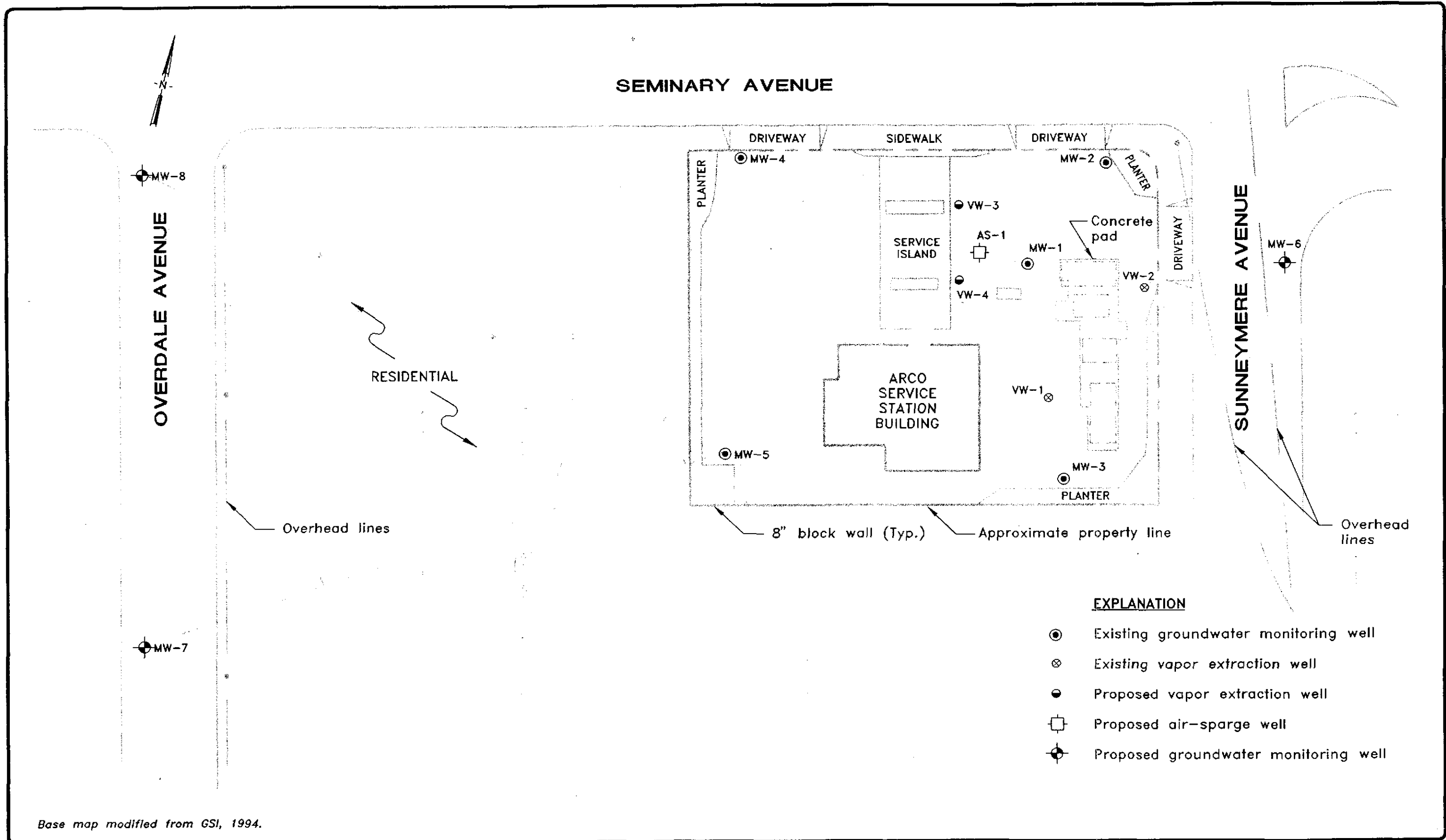
SITE LOCATION

FIGURE

**1**

PROJECT NO.  
805-131.02





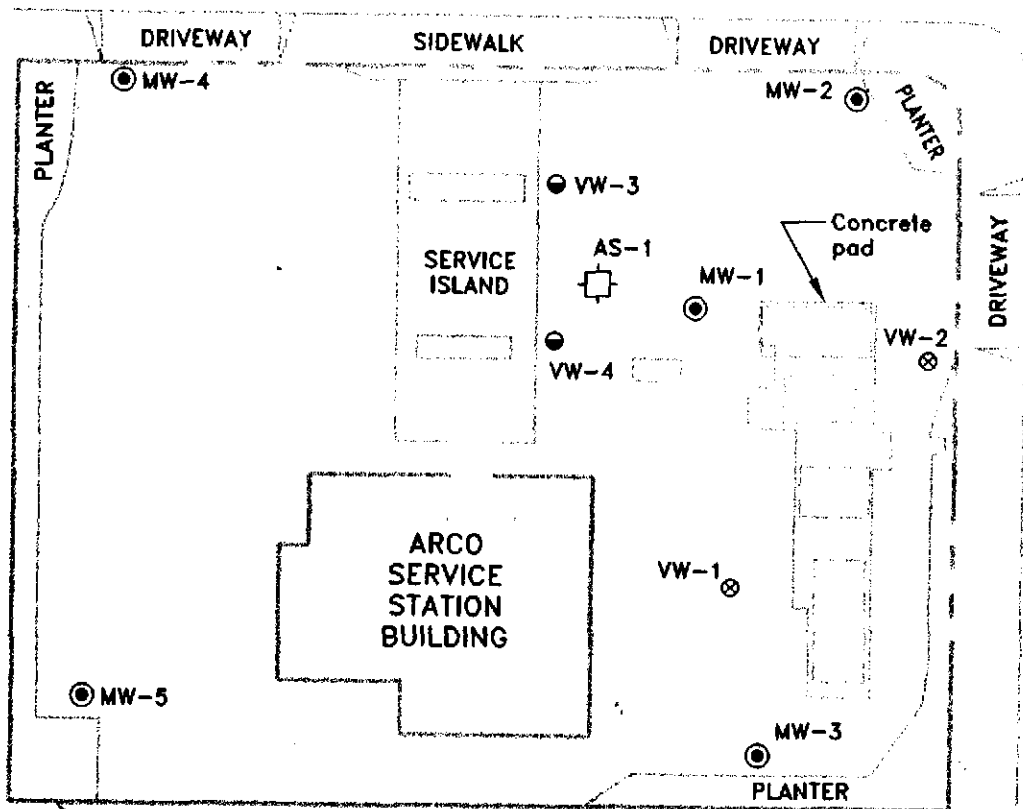
ARCO PRODUCTS COMPANY  
 SERVICE STATION 6002, 6235 SEMINARY AVE.  
 QUARTERLY GROUNDWATER MONITORING  
 OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

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PROPOSED OFFSITE WELL LOCATION MAP

FIGURE NO.  
**2**  
 PROJECT NO.  
 805-131.02

# SEMINARY AVENUE



SUNNEYMERE AVENUE

## EXPLANATION

- ⊙ Existing groundwater monitoring well
- ⊗ Existing vapor extraction well
- Proposed vapor extraction well
- ⊠ Proposed air-sparge well
- ⊙ Proposed groundwater monitoring well
- ▭ Existing underground storage tank

8" block wall (Typ.)

Approximate property line

SCALE: 0 30 60 FEET

Base map modified from GSI, 1994.



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SERVICE STATION 6002, 6235 SEMINARY AVENUE  
QUARTERLY GROUNDWATER MONITORING  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

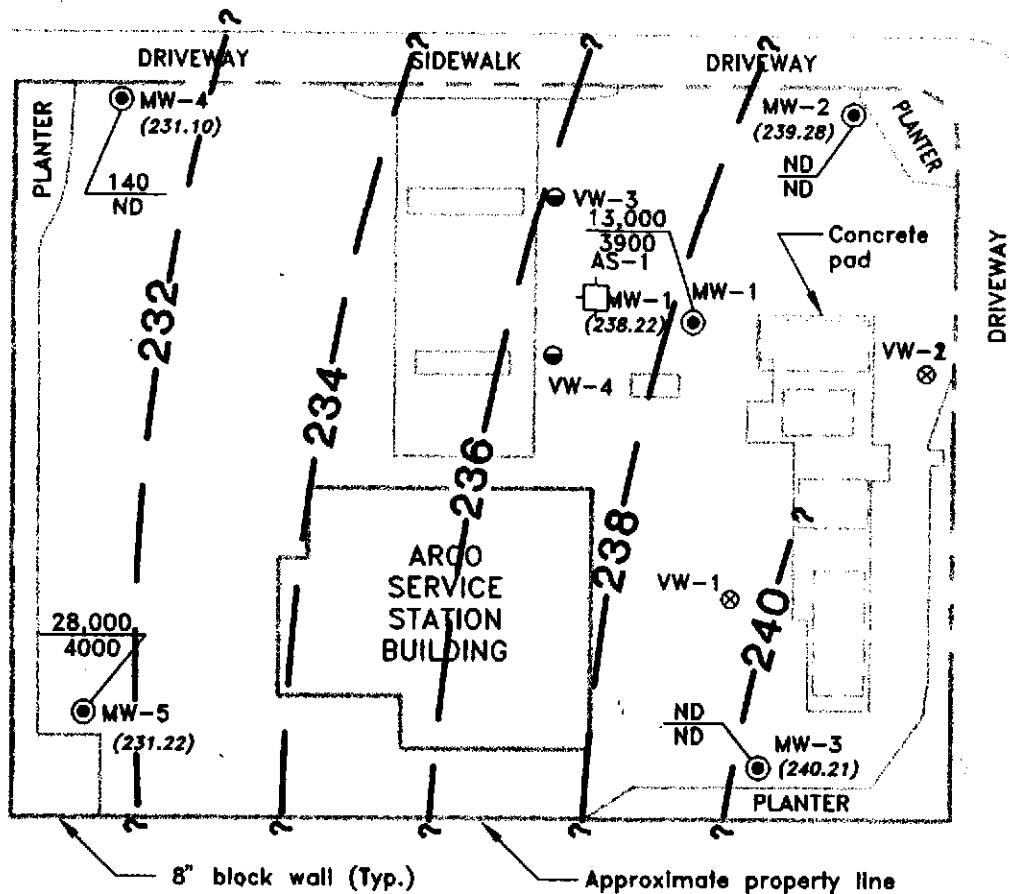
PROPOSED ONSITE WELL LOCATION MAP

FIGURE NO.

**3**

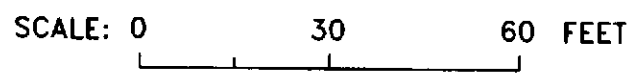
PROJECT NO.  
805-131.02

SEMINARY AVENUE



SUNNEYMERE AVENUE

- EXPLANATION**
- Existing groundwater monitoring well
  - ⊗ Existing vapor extraction well
  - Existing underground storage tank
  - (231.22) Groundwater elevation (Ft.-MSL); measured 9/24/94
  - Groundwater elevation contour (Ft.-MSL)
  - 13,000 / 3900 TPHG concentration in groundwater (ppb)
  - 13,000 / 3900 Benzene concentration in groundwater (ppb)
  - ND = Not detected



Base map modified from GSI, 1994.



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SERVICE STATION 6002, 6235 SEMINARY AVENUE  
QUARTERLY GROUNDWATER MONITORING  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

GROUNDWATER DATA  
THIRD QUARTER 1994

FIGURE NO.

**4**

PROJECT NO.

805-131.02

**FIGURE 5**  
**Proposed Project Schedule**  
**ARCO Service Station 6002**  
**6235 Seminary Avenue, Oakland, California**

Task No.	Description	weeks*																
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Task 1 -	Obtain well construction, excavation, and encroachment permits from the ACFCWCD, City of Oakland, and CalTrans	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█									
Task 2 -	Drill and install 3 on-site wells (VS-3, VW-4, and AS-1) and 3 ofsite wells (MW-6, MW-7, and MW-8)									█								
Task 3 -	Develop groundwater monitoring and air-sparge wells										█							
Task 4 -	Prepare Draft Report and submit to ARCO											█	█	█				
Task 5 -	ARCO review of Report														█	█	█	
Task 6 -	Finalize report and submit to ACHCSA																	█

\*Tasks are in weeks following review of workplan and receipt of approval letter from ACHCSA

**APPENDIX A**  
**FIELD AND LABORATORY PROCEDURES**

## **GROUNDWATER WELL INSTALLATION**

## **GROUNDWATER WELL INSTALLATION PROCEDURES**

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Well permits are obtained from local and state regulatory agencies preparatory to drilling exploratory borings that will be completed as groundwater wells.

The exploratory borings to be converted to verification monitoring wells or extraction wells are drilled no deeper than 20 feet into saturated soil, or until a layer at least 3 feet thick of relatively impermeable clayey material (aquitar) is encountered, whichever comes first. If the aquitar is sufficiently thick, it is backfilled with bentonite through a tremie pipe. Borings are converted to verification monitoring wells with 2-inch-diameter, flush-threaded, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) casing with a screened section of machine-perforated, 0.020-inch slots. For extraction wells, the boring is reamed with a 12-inch-diameter auger, and 6-inch-diameter casing is installed inside the enlarged borehole.

Boring depths and screen lengths are determined from geologic profiles of the boring. Screened sections of casing extend through the saturated interval as much as 5 feet above first-encountered groundwater. A well is completed by the placement of various materials in the annular space around the casing. The annulus is filled to approximately 2 feet above the screen with a sand pack of a grain size predetermined by sieve analysis of the soil. The sand pack is covered with a bentonite plug at least 1-foot thick, and the remaining annular space is sealed within 1 foot of the surface with a sanitary seal of neat cement in compliance with regulatory guidelines. The wells are completed to ground surface with PVC casing. The well heads are protected with traffic-proof vault boxes set in concrete and capped with water-tight locking devices. Well locations are surveyed and top-of-casing elevations measured to the nearest 0.01 foot. Detailed well completion diagrams are prepared. Water well drillers' reports containing geological data, well locations and construction details are submitted to the California Department of Water Resources.

## **GROUNDWATER SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS**



## **GROUNDWATER SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS**

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EMCON's sampling and analysis procedures for water-quality monitoring are designed to provide consistent and reproducible results and ensure that the objectives of the monitoring program are met.

The following publications were used as guidelines for developing these procedures:

- Procedures Manual for Ground-Water Monitoring at Solid Waste Disposal Facilities (EPA-530/SW-611, August 1977)
- RCRA Ground-Water Monitoring Technical Enforcement Guidance Document (OSWER 9950.1, September 1986)
- Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste: Physical/Chemical Methods (EPA SW-846, 3rd edition, November 1986)
- Methods for Organic Chemical Analysis of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater (EPA-600/4-82-057, July 1982)
- Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water and Wastes (EPA-600/4-79-020, revised March 1983)

### **Sample Collection**

Sample collection procedures include equipment cleaning, well purging, and water-level, floating-hydrocarbon thickness, and total well-depth measuring.

### **Equipment Cleaning**

The bottles, caps, and septa used to hold samples for volatile and semivolatile organic analysis are triple-rinsed with high-purity deionized water and dried overnight, the bottles at 200°C, the caps and septa at 60°C. The bottles, caps, and septa are protected from solvent contact between drying and use at the site.

The plastic bottles and caps used to hold samples for metals analysis are soaked overnight in a 1 percent nitric acid solution, triple-rinsed with deionized water, and air-dried.

Equipment for sampling groundwater (i.e., pumps, bailers, etc.) is first disassembled, cleaned thoroughly with diluted detergent, and steam-rinsed with deionized water. Parts such as plastic pump valves and bladders, which may absorb contaminants, are cleaned before each use or replaced. The inside of the positive-displacement (bladder) pump tubing is cleaned overnight with a low-flow, inert air source heated to 120°C.

A pump blank made of organic-free water is pumped through the clean bladder-pump assembly, and the resulting effluent is sampled and analyzed by EPA Method 601 or 602. Analytical results must be below the method reporting limit for each constituent analyzed before the pump is used at the site.

The surfaces of well equipment that comes in contact with groundwater during well purging and sampling are steam-cleaned with deionized water between each use.

### **Water-Level, Floating Hydrocarbon, and Total Well-Depth Measurements**

Water levels, floating-hydrocarbon thickness, and total well-depth are measured before wells are purged and sampled. An electric sounder, a bottom-filling, clear Teflon<sup>®</sup> bailer, or an oil-water interface probe is used to make these measurements. The electric sounder is a transistorized instrument with a reel-mounted, two-conductor, coaxial cable which connects the control panel to the sensor. The cable is stamped in 1-foot increments. The sensor is lowered into the well and as it makes contact with the water, which acts as an electrolyte, a low-current circuit is completed. The current is amplified and fed into an indicator light and an audible buzzer, which produce a signal as the sensor touches the water. A sensitivity control compensates for highly saline or conductive water. The sounder is decontaminated after each use with a deionized-water rinse. The bailer is lowered to a point just below the liquid level, retrieved, and inspected for floating hydrocarbon.

Alternately, an oil-water interface sonic probe can be used to measure floating-hydrocarbon thickness. The probe emits a continuous tone when immersed in a nonconductive fluid, such as oil or gasoline, and an intermittent tone when immersed in a conductive fluid, such as water. Fluid levels are recorded relative to which tone is emitted. The sonic probe is decontaminated after each use with a deionized-water rinse.

Fluid measurements are recorded to the nearest 0.01 foot in a field logbook. The groundwater elevation at the monitoring wells is calculated by subtracting the measured depth to water from the surveyed top-of-casing elevation. When possible, depth to water is measured in all wells on the same day. Water levels are converted to elevations above mean sea level (MSL) and contoured on a groundwater map. Total well depth, recorded to the nearest 0.5 foot, is measured by means of an electric sounder which is lowered to the bottom of a well. This measurement is used for calculating purge volumes and determining the degree to which silt may have obstructed the well screen.

## **Well Purging**

Before a monitoring well is sampled, it is purged of standing water in the casing and gravel pack by one of several devices: a bladder pump, a pneumatic displacement pump, a centrifugal pump, or a Teflon bailer. Water will be evacuated from the well until the amount equals the calculate purge volume (as shown in Monitoring Well Purging Protocol, Figure 3), which will allow indicator parameters to stabilize, or until the well is evacuated to practical limits of dryness, if this occurs before the calculated purge volume is removed. These low-yield monitoring wells are allowed to recharge until the volume of water is sufficient for sampling, but not longer than 24 hours. If insufficient water has recharged after 24 hours, a monitoring well is recorded as dry for the sampling event.

The pH, specific conductance, and the temperature meter are calibrated daily before field activities are begun. Meter calibration is checked daily during field activities to verify performance. Field measurements are recorded on a water-sample field-data sheet (Figure 4) and kept in a waterproof logbook. Data sheets are reviewed by the sampling coordinator at the end of the sampling event.

## **Well Sampling**

A Teflon bailer or a bladder pump is the only acceptable equipment for well sampling. When samples are collected for volatile organic compound (VOC) analysis with a bladder pump, the pump flow is regulated to approximately 100 milliliters per minute to minimize pump-effluent turbulence and aeration. Samples for VOC analysis are preserved in 40-milliliter glass bottles (or larger), which are fitted with Teflon-lined septa. The bottles are filled completely to force out air and to aid in forming a positive meniscus. Bottles are capped with convex Teflon septa to seal out air, and are inverted and tapped to verify that no air bubbles remain. Containers of samples to be analyzed for other constituents are filled, filtered as required, and capped.

When required, an appropriate field-filtration technique is used to determine dissolved concentrations of metals. When a Teflon bailer is used, the contents are emptied into a pressure transfer vessel. A disposable 0.45-micron acrylic copolymer filter is threaded onto the transfer vessel at the discharge point and the vessel is sealed. The vessel is pressurized with a hand pump and the filtrate directed into appropriate containers. Each filter is used once and discarded.

When a bladder pump is used to collect samples for dissolved constituents, a sample is filtered through a disposable 0.450-micron acrylic copolymer filter attached directly to the pump effluent line with a pressure fitting. As the pump cycles, the effluent is pressured

through the filter and directed into an appropriate container. Each filter is used once and discarded.

## **Sample Preservation and Handling**

Procedures for handling and preserving samples are consistent with the guidelines referenced in the Introduction. Sample containers vary depending on the type of analysis required (e.g., volatile organics, hydrocarbons, or dissolved metals) and are nonreactive with a given chemical.

## **Sample Handling**

Sample containers are labeled immediately after sample collection, and are kept on cold packs which are replaced daily until the containers are received at the laboratory. As a sample is collected, it is logged on the chain-of-custody record that accompanies samples to the laboratory.

Samples are transferred from the site to EMCON's laboratory by the sampling team. Laboratory personnel assign a different number to each sample container and the number is recorded on the chain-of-custody record and used to identify the sample on all subsequent internal chain-of-custody and analytical records. Within 24 hours of sample receipt, samples are routinely shipped from EMCON to laboratories performing the selected analyses. EMCON's laboratory manager ensures that the holding times for requested analyses are not exceeded.

## **Sample Documentation**

The procedures for sample handling provide chain-of-custody control from collection through storage. Sample documentation includes the following:

- Field logbooks for documenting sampling activities in the field
- Labels for identifying individual samples
- Chain-of-custody records for documenting possession and transfer of samples
- Laboratory analysis requests for documenting analyses to be performed

## **Field Logbook**

In the field, the sampler records the following information on the water sample field data sheet (Figure 4) for each sample:

- Project number
- Client name
- Location
- Sampler's name
- Date and time
- Well accessibility and integrity
- Pertinent well data (e.g., casing diameter, depth to water, well depth)
- Calculated and actual purge volumes
- Purging equipment
- Sampling equipment
- Appearance of each sample (e.g., color, turbidity, sediment)
- Results of field analyses (temperature, pH, specific conductance)
- General comments

The field logbooks are signed by the sampler.

## **Labels**

Sample labels contain the following information:

- Project number
- Sample number (i.e., well designation)
- Sampler's initials
- Date and time of collection

- Type of preservative used (if any)

## **Sampling and Analysis Chain-of-Custody Record**

The sampling and analysis chain-of-custody record (Figure 1), initiated at the time of sampling, includes the well number, sample type, analytical request, date of sampling, the name of the sampler, and other information deemed pertinent. The sampler signs his name and records the date and time on the record sheet when transferring the samples to another person. Custody transfers are recorded for every sample; for example, if samples are split and sent to more than one laboratory, a record sheet accompanies each sample. The number of custodians in the chain of possession is kept to a minimum. A copy of the sampling and analysis chain-of-custody-record is returned to EMCON with the analytical results.

## **Groundwater Sampling and Analysis Request**

The Groundwater Sampling and Analysis Request or the purchase order that accompanies samples to the laboratory serves as official communication of the particular analysis(es) required for each sample and is evidence that the chain of custody is complete (Figure 5).

At a minimum, the groundwater sampling and analysis request includes the following:

- Date submitted
- Specific analytical parameters
- Well number
- Sample source

## **Analytical Methods**

Samples collected as part of the proposed monitoring programs are analyzed by accepted analytical procedures. The following publications are the primary references:

- Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water and Wastes (EPA-600/4-79-020, revised March 1983)
- Methods for Organic Chemical Analysis of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater (EPA-600/4-82-057), July 1982)
- Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Wastes: Physical/Chemical Methods (EPA SW-846,3rd edition, November 1986)

- Leaking Underground Fuel Tank (LUFT) Manual, State Water Resources Control Board, State of California Leaking Underground Fuel Tank Task Force, May 1988

The laboratories performing the analyses are certified by the Department of Health services (DHS) for hazardous waste testing.

## **Quality Control**

Quality assurance measures confirm the integrity of field and laboratory data generated during the monitoring program. Procedures for assessing data quality are discussed in this section. Field and laboratory quality assurance data are evaluated in the technical reports.

## **Field Quality Assurance**

Field quality assurance for each monitoring event includes the documentation of field instrument calibration and collection and analysis of trip blanks, field blanks, and duplicate samples. Split samples may also be included in the monitoring program.

## **Trip and Field Blanks**

Trip and field blanks are used to detect contamination introduced through sampling procedures, external field conditions, sample transportation, container preparation, sample storage, and the analytical process.

Trip blanks are prepared at the same time and location as the sample containers for a given sampling event. Trip blanks accompany the containers to and from that event, but are never opened or exposed to the air. One trip blank for volatile organic parameters is typically included for each sampling event.

Field blanks are prepared in the same manner as trip blanks, but are exposed to the ambient atmosphere at a specific monitoring point during sample collection for the purpose of determining the influence of external field conditions on sample integrity. One field blank for volatile organic parameters is typically included for each day of sampling.

## **Duplicate Samples**

Duplicate samples are collected so that field precision can be documented. For each sampling event, a specified percentage (typically 5 percent) of monitoring well samples is collected in duplicate. Where possible, field duplicates are collected at sampling points known or suspected to contain constituents of interest. Duplicates are packed and shipped

blind to the laboratory to be analyzed with the samples from that particular event (i.e., duplicates have no special markings indicating that they are quality control samples).

## **Laboratory Quality Assurance**

Laboratory quality assurance includes procedures required under the DHS Hazardous Waste Testing Program. For sites where Columbia Analytical Services conducts the chemical tests, its quality assurance procedures include the reporting of surrogate recoveries, matrix spike recoveries, and matrix spike duplicates (or duplicate) results.

Method blanks are analyzed daily for the purpose of assessing the effect of the laboratory environment on analytical results, and are performed for each constituent analyzed.

Samples to be analyzed for organic constituents contain surrogate spike compounds. Surrogate recoveries are used to determine whether analytical instruments are operating within limits. Surrogate recoveries are compared with control limits established and updated by the laboratory on the basis of its historical operation.

Matrix spikes are analyzed at a frequency of approximately 10 percent. Matrix spike results are evaluated to determine whether the sample matrix is interfering with the laboratory analysis, and provide a measure of the accuracy of the analytical data. Matrix spike recoveries are compared with control limits established and updated by the laboratory on the basis of its historical operation.

Laboratory duplicates are analyzed at a frequency of approximately 10 percent. Spike duplicate results are evaluated to determine the reproducibility (precision) of the analytical method. Reproducibility values are compared with control limits established and updated by the laboratory on the basis of its historical operation.

Laboratory QC data included with the analytical results are method blanks, surrogate spike recoveries (for organic parameters only), matrix spike recoveries, and matrix spike duplicates.

When other state-certified laboratories conduct the testing, each laboratory will follow its own internal QA/QC program.