

Oil and Gas Facility Decommissioning Program Project Profile

Project Type

Facility Decommissioning

Project Value

\$720,000 (total program cost)

Start and Completion Date

August 2008 to June 2009

Client

International Oil and Gas Company

Market Sector

Upstream Oil and Gas

Challenge

- Non-cohesive soils
- Working in close proximity to active above-ground and buried facilities
 - Road bans
 - Rain delays
- Seasonal crop and active pastures

Solution and Highlights

- Prepared a bid tender request and selected contractors
- Developed a work plan including a project- specific health and safety plan
 - Reviewed data and provided recommendations for each site
 - Completed on schedule and on budget and with zero safety incidents

This project was initiated when the client requested Trace Associates Inc. (Trace) manage the removal of 18 Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) at 15 active, suspended and abandoned facilities to comply with Alberta Energy Resources Conservation Board (ERCB) Directive 055 requirements. The objective was to coordinate and document the removal of the USTs and select associated infrastructure (e.g. buried pipelines, select concrete pads and building pilings) and to collect soil samples to determine if concentrations of potential contaminants of concern met the regulatory standards.

Trace acted as the prime consultant and developed a bid tender request and tank removal work plan which included extensive involvement with the client's environmental, construction, operations, health and safety advisors and the lead equipment contractors. The equipment contractors were selected based on previous performance history, project personnel and safety.

Multiple sites contained active gas wellsites, plant facilities and/or active pipelines. Characterization laboratory data from each of the excavations was evaluated and recommendations were made with respect to additional Phase 2 environmental site assessment and/or remedial activities. The results of the project identified impacts such as pH, electrical conductivity, sodium adsorption ratio, boron, and petroleum hydrocarbons. The excavations were backfilled using laboratory analyzed fill sources and contoured to prevent surface water from ponding.

For more information on this project contact Darrell Haight, P.Ag., President at 780.458.7787. The photograph below shows the typical UST removal activity.

