

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

TEX-145

March 24, 1965

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ENGINEERING DEPT.		
X-HANDER NOTE		
MAR 24 1965		
HAL	25	JAD
REN	26	JBJ
PH	27	RS
JCN		JMJ
RVK	28	HBS
FEC		FHM
ELS		IFG
EED		CHG
ECL		DA
WAT	30	ASM

AIR MAIL

BLIND: FCCU OPERATIONS
PUGET SOUND PLANT

KA 31
SPB 3/12

Mr. John F. O'Hannell,
Vice President,
Refining & Chemical Division
220 Bush Street
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

As you know, Bechtel Corporation built the Texaco Puget Sound Plant at Anacortes, Washington, under Bechtel Job No. 2225. Texaco Estimate 6400 in 1958. As a part of this project, Bechtel designed and constructed a Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit. At the present time we are faced with a series of problems on the FCC Unit, including a specific regenerator load limitation, on which we solicit your assistance.

The original design regenerator load was 225 tons of catalyst; however, as a result of Bechtel's review in late 1959, this was increased to 260 tons based upon use of actual platform weights rather than a design allowance.* Subsequently, about 22 tons of equipment have been removed from the regenerator structure, and we have recently increased catalyst loading above 260 tons. However, a severe vibration problem was encountered at loadings of 290-305 tons (maximum observed) under current operating conditions.

We would like to obtain from Bechtel a statement of the nature of the regenerator catalyst load limit and the extent to which it is governed by seismic factors. This should include identification of the limiting regenerator structural component(s) (i.e. reinforced concrete beams, columns, foundation, piling, etc.). Secondly, we desire to determine the requirements for an engineering study by Bechtel to define the various structural limitations that exist as the unit is now constituted and operated, and what would be required to remove present load limitations. Regarding this second request, we would need to know the basis for fees, an estimate of the cost to Texaco of the total study, an estimate of time requirements, plus, of course, any additional comments you may have.

*Meeting of November 30, 1959, with Messrs. D. K. Finlayson, Chas. Ferguson and Ray Kollgaard of Bechtel, plus Messrs. J. C. Williams, H. B. Jones, R. E. Nagle and others of Texaco.

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Mr. John F. O'Donnell

The reason for increasing the FCC Unit Regulator staff is to improve Regulator operations with the FCC. Over the past several years, various changes have been made in an effort to obtain better results. While there has been improvement in certain areas, the results have resulted in little, if any, improvement in Regulator performance.

We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss our Regulator performance problem with some of your people who are knowledgeable in the field of FCC Unit operation and design. It is proposed that the discussion would involve the various changes that have been made to the unit and the background thereof, plus a summary of current operating problems and what could or should be done about them. In this meeting we would not wish to resolve any confidential know-how which has been received from third parties but would like to take advantage of any relevant information which could be freely divulged. During this meeting, we would discuss confidential know-how and we would therefore wish to have a hold-separate agreement similar to that signed in connection with the Louisiana Plant project.

We would appreciate your comments on the feasibility of such a meeting and your recommendations as to time and location. Please advise what, if any, fees for Regulator know-how and/or engineering would apply.

We are looking forward to receiving your comments on both of the above proposals, and if we may provide you with additional information at this time, please let us know.

Yours very truly,
Signed: H. A. Lord

DPR:MA

Blind: RP
CET
HPC
MWR