

Six Different Sets of Tests Show Illegal Levels of Contamination at Chevron's So-Called "Remediated" Sites

2001 Ecuador's Comptroller General Finds 85% of Tested "Remediated" Sites Have Not Been Cleaned

In 2001, Ecuador's Comptroller General -- the equivalent of the General Accounting Office in the United States -- hired technical experts who took soil tests at Chevron's so-called "cleaned pits" and found that over 85% of them had toxic levels higher than 1,000 parts per million of total petroleum hydrocarbons, the maximum allowed under Ecuadorian law. The Comptroller's report also found that many of the pits had been covered with dirt without being inspected and analyzed. He recommended the Chevron lawyers and Ecuadorian government officials be investigated for possible criminal violations relating to official certifications that the pits were properly remediated.

Interestingly, this Comptroller General served during a time when Chevron was arguing before U.S. judges that it could get a fair trial in Ecuador in an effort to convince a U.S. federal court to dismiss the environmental case, originally filed in the United States in 1993.

2007 Chevron's Tests At Remediated Sites

Well Site	Pit	TPH Chevron	TPH Plaintiffs	EC Law/US Stan.
Lago Agrio 6	1	1,300	1,000	100
Sacha 53	3	1,700	1,000	100
Shushufindi 24	1	2,000	1,000	100
Sacha 57	1	2,400	1,000	100
Sacha 6	3	2,600	1,000	100
Sacha 10	1	2,802	1,000	100
Shushufindi 48	4	3,000	1,000	100
Sacha 51	1	3,100	1,000	100
Sacha 6	1	3,300	1,000	100
Sacha 85	2	4,300	1,000	100
Shushufindi 48	2	5,000	1,000	100
Sacha 94	1	5,600	1,000	100
Sacha 51	4	7,200	1,000	100
Sacha 65	2	7,519	1,000	100
Sacha 57	2	8,100	1,000	100
Sacha 94	2	8,700	1,000	100
Shushufindi 48	3	13,000	1,000	100
Sacha 21	2	17,000	1,000	100
Sacha 85	1	20,000	1,000	100
Sacha 51	5	63,000	1,000	100
Lago Agrio 16	1	176,096	1,000	100

2007 Plaintiffs Tests At Remediated Sites

Well Site	Pit	TPH Plaintiffs	EC Law/US Standard
Shushufindi 24	1	2,000	1,000/100
Shushufindi 24	2	2,180	1,000/100
Shushufindi 48	1	2,700	1,000/100
Shushufindi 21	1	3,133	1,000/100
Yuca 2b	1	3,876	1,000/100
Shushufindi 25	2	4,432	1,000/100
Lago Agrio 2	1	4,777	1,000/100
Shushufindi 18	1	4,881	1,000/100
Shushufindi 7	1	5,334	1,000/100
Shushufindi 25	3	5,574	1,000/100
Shushufindi 45A	3	5,721	1,000/100
Shushufindi 13	1	7,415	1,000/100
Sacha 53	1	7,430	1,000/100
Shushufindi 27	1a	10,452	1,000/100
Shushufindi 25	1	10,956	1,000/100
Shushufindi 7	2	12,715	1,000/100
Shushufindi 45a	1a	13,290	1,000/100
Shushufindi 67	1	13,587	1,000/100
Shushufindi 21	1	16,033	1,000/100
Shushufindi 27	1	26,413	1,000/100
Sacha 65	1	32,444	1,000/100

2007 Court-Appointed Expert Tests At Remediated Sites

Well Site	Pit	TPH Expert	EC Law/US Standard
Auca Sur 1	1	1,582	1,000/100
Aguarico 10	2	2,014	1,000/100
Parahaucu 3	1	2,065	1,000/100
Sacha 56	1	3,599	1,000/100
Shushufindi 46	2b	3,697	1,000/100
Auca 19	1	4,014	1,000/100
Sacha 85	2	4,300	1,000/100
Guanta 4	1	5,510	1,000/100
Aguarico 10	3	8,181	1,000/100
Lago Agrio 5	1	8,830	1,000/100
Ron 1	1	9,632	1,000/100
Aguarico 9	1	13,947	1,000/100
Aguarico 10	1	17,544	1,000/100
Lago Agrio 5	2	20,923	1,000/100
Lago Agrio 1	1	21,521	1,000/100
Atacapi 5	1	21,976	1,000/100
Sacha 18	2	35,380	1,000/100
Auca Sur 1	2	40,102	1,000/100
Sacha 18	1	41,306	1,000/100

2009 Ecuadorian Prosecutor Tests

In 2009, an Ecuadorian prosecutor ordered yet another series of tests. Of the 20 tests conducted at nine sites as part of that study, 16 returned with toxic levels higher than the Ecuadorian standard of 1,000 ppm, and of those, 13 had levels higher than the contractual standard negotiated by Chevron of 5,000 ppm.

2010 Chevron Expert

Court expert Marcelo Munoz tested eight purportedly “remediated” sites and found illegal levels of contamination at two. Chevron refused to pay Munoz for his report, even though the oil company requested that he conduct the tests.