

# STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Owens, Governor  
Douglas H. Benevento, Executive Director

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

September 2, 2004

Ms. Debbie Baldwin  
Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission  
1120 Lincoln Street  
Suite 108  
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Cessation of Air Sparging at West Divide Creek

Dear Ms. Baldwin,

In response to the August 25, 2004 letter from EnCana Oil and Gas (USA) Inc. (EnCana) requesting permission to remove the air sparging system currently installed in West Divide Creek, the Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) agrees that continued operation of the system is currently unnecessary. Following the remedial cementing of the Schwartz 2-15B Well, samples from West Divide Creek indicate that benzene concentrations steadily declined. Observed benzene concentrations have been below the appropriate surface water standard of 1.2 µg/l since April 19, 2004. As the identified source of the benzene has been mitigated, and subsequent sampling demonstrates compliance with the water quality standard for benzene, continued remediation in West Divide Creek is no longer needed.

The WQCD further agrees with the Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission that, if future monthly sampling indicates an increase in benzene concentrations, then active remediation of the creek would again need to be instituted.

If you have any additional questions feel free to contact me at (303) 692-3582.

Sincerely,

Greg Naugle  
Ground Water Quality Coordinator

CC: Mr. Chris R. Williams, EnCana  
Mr. Bob Chesson, COGCC  
Mr. Jeff Coombe, WQCD