

FINAL REPORT
IXTOC-I CHEMICAL CHARACTERIZATION
AND ACUTE BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS

TO
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Submitted by:

University of Texas
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August 31, 1979



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August 31, 1979

Dr. Oscar Ramirez
COAR Contract 26-3600-2100
Environmental Protection Agency
1201 Elm Street
Dallas, Texas 75270

Dear Dr. Ramirez:

The enclosed report is submitted as a final report for Contract 26-3600-2100.

In general, the results indicate that the oil is not highly toxic in an acute sense to plants and mature animals. This is probably a result of the intense weathering that the oil has undergone during the approximately 40 days it has been on the sea surface. This weathering is reflected in the chemical analyses of the "fresh" vs. "old" oil.

However, we wish to call your attention to the results which indicate that the oil was highly toxic to eggs and larvae even in an acute sense. Further, none of the results can be extrapolated to permit a generalization as to the long term sublethal and lethal effects of the oil. Finally, I call your attention to the chemistry section, for example page A-12, which suggests that the Point Baker mousse is not typical of the oil hitting the Texas coast.

We appreciate the fine cooperation that your office, the Coast Guard, and NOAA have given us during this study.

Sincerely,

Patrick L. Parker, P.I.
Chairman
Program Management Committee

PLP/dk
Enclosures

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