



1 compounds. I also have considerable experience in environmental permitting, compliance  
2 management, and reclamation, as well as the selection of appropriate site remedies as part  
3 of which I have developed in-situ technologies that may be utilized in a variety of settings  
4 to cost-efficiently remediate groundwater for various contaminants.

5 6. While with the U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Division, I was  
6 Section Head for water quality investigations for the Washington District. In this role I  
7 was also responsible for the Washington District Field Services Unit and Water Quality  
8 Laboratory. I developed and conducted various surface and groundwater quality  
9 investigations for various Federal Agencies, including the Environmental Protection  
10 Agency, Department of Energy, Department of Defense, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau  
11 of Land Management, and Bureau of Mines, as well as State and local agencies.

12 7. My work in metals in soils and streambed sediment studies resulted in  
13 changes to State of Washington regulatory statutes and for which I am a recognized expert  
14 in background concentrations of metals in soils and sediments.

15 8. I have authored and co-authored numerous U.S. Geological Survey reports  
16 and other publications in various journals, conference proceedings, and technical  
17 magazines.

18 9. I am also a member of various professional organizations and have  
19 received honorariums from different organizations, including the U.S. Geological Survey  
20 and the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan.

21 10. I have taught at the University of Delaware, lectured at San Diego State  
22 University, as well as at various conferences and proceedings, and I am currently  
23 conducting various training courses through the Environmental Training Institute.

24 11. A detailed resume is included as part of this document as Attachment A.

25

1 **II. DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON**

2 12. In preparation of this testimony I have reviewed the following documents:

- 3 • Vancouver Energy Operations Facility Oil Handling Manual. Plan No. OP.05.  
4 Revision 00. June 26, 2015.
- 5 • Applicant Tesoro Savage Petroleum Terminal LLC, d/b/a Vancouver Energy  
6 (hereinafter, "TSPT" or the "Applicant") Comments on the Draft  
7 Environmental Impact Statement ("DEIS"). January 22, 2016.
- 8 • Appendix H.2. Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application ("JARPA") Form.  
9 February, 2014.
- 10 • Hayward Baker Inc. Vancouver Energy Terminal Ground Improvement Design  
11 – Areas 300 & 400. April 15, 2015.
- 12 • TSPT Project Description Updates for Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
13 Development. May 27, 2015.
- 14 • CardnoEntrix. Tesoro Savage Vancouver Energy Distribution Facility Draft  
15 Environmental Impact Statement. November, 2015.
- 16 • Appendix C. Tesoro Savage Vancouver Energy Distribution Terminal  
17 Vancouver, Washington. Preliminary Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.  
18 August 29, 2013.
- 19 • Tesoro Savage Petroleum Terminal LLC. Preliminary Spill Prevention Control  
20 and Countermeasure Plan. January, 2014.
- 21 • BergerABAM. Tesoro Savage Vancouver Energy Distribution Facility  
22 Preliminary DEIS. July - September, 2014.
- 23 • City of Washougal. Tesoro Savage Vancouver Energy DEIS General  
24 Comments, January 2016.
- 25

- 1 • Washington State Department of Natural Resources. RE: Tesoro Savage  
2 Vancouver Energy Terminal Draft Environmental Impact Statement. January  
3 22, 2016.
- 4 • City of Spokane. RE: City of Spokane Comments to Tesoro-Savage DEIS.  
5 January 18, 2016.
- 6 • AECOM. June 2015 Semi-Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report.  
7 September 9, 2015.

### 8 **III. TSPT ONSITE ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL SURFACE AND** 9 **GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION**

#### 10 **A. Background of Existing Onsite Contamination**

11 13. The Vancouver Energy Terminal (the "Project") consists of just over 47  
12 acres that are situated adjacent to the Columbia River, in Vancouver, Washington ("Site").  
13 An Alcoa/Evergreen aluminum smelter that operated until 2000 was previously situated at  
14 the Site, which resulted in the release of various contaminants of concern ("COCs") to the  
15 soil and groundwater that included polychlorinated biphenyls ("PCBs"), polyaromatic  
16 hydrocarbons ("PAHs"), fluoride, cyanide, volatile organic compounds ("VOCs"), and  
17 selected Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA") metals. This resulted in a  
18 number of regulatory orders to address and mitigate the risks to human health and  
19 environment posed by the release of the aforementioned COCs.

#### 20 **B. Soils**

21 14. Historical operations at the Site resulted in a release of various COCs  
22 through a variety of pathways, including the storage of various wastes in piles and  
23 landfills, leaking underground storage tanks, leaking transformers, unlined sludge ponds,  
24 scrap metal recycling, smelting operations, and other fabrication processes. As a result,  
25 COCs in soils at the Site included but are not limited to, petroleum hydrocarbons, PCBs,

1 cyanide, fluoride, chlorinated solvents, and metals in the soils. Under Consent Decree  
2 number 09-2-00247-2 and enforcement order 4931 with the Washington State Department  
3 of Ecology (“Ecology”), Alcoa and Evergreen completed a remediation and facility  
4 decommissioning effort to cleanup levels established by the Consent Decree.  
5 Environmental restrictive covenants remain, as part of the Consent Decree, with impacted  
6 soils described below for the five areas where construction is planned as part of the  
7 development of the Project.

8 **C. Groundwater**

9 15. Groundwater at the Site was affected by the historical operations as well,  
10 and contaminated groundwater is still present at portions of the Site, including in the area  
11 of the East Landfill, the former North/North 2 Landfill, and at the shoreline area.  
12 However, based on the discussion in the DEIS, the effects from the groundwater to the  
13 Columbia River appear to be insignificant and, given the local hydrogeology, there does  
14 not appear to be good communication between the shallow water bearing units and the  
15 underlying aquifer. Therefore, potential threats to either the Columbia River or the  
16 Troutdale Aquifer appear to not be significant. Furthermore, as part of the Final  
17 Supplemental Cleanup Action Plan, Monitored Natural Attenuation has been employed  
18 until groundwater cleanup standards are achieved. This strongly suggests movement of  
19 the contaminants in the shallow groundwater is not significant.

20 **D. Capped and Covered Landfill Areas**

21 16. There are three capped areas within the Site that lie in areas where  
22 construction is proposed, along with two areas of landfilled material. These include the  
23 following areas and associated COCs:

- 24 • Vanexco Cap – PCB impacted soil, with no impact to groundwater; Deed  
25 Restriction.

- 1           • Spent Pot Liner (“SPL”) Cap – Former NPL site, with 47,500 cubic yards of  
2           SPL and reclaimed alumina insulation. There are a number of COCs,  
3           including cyanide, associated with this material in the soil at the Site, with  
4           fluoride detected in the groundwater at concentrations as great as 27,500  
5           micrograms per liter (µg/l); Deed Restriction.
- 6           • Ingot Cap – Material consists of about 14,000 tons of brick, concrete, and  
7           contaminated soil, with PCBs as the primary COC, with no COCs detected in  
8           the groundwater below this area; Deed Restriction.
- 9           • East Landfill – Approximately 38,000 cubic yards of contaminated material  
10          from the North/North 2 Landfill, along with material from the South Bank area  
11          were placed in the East Landfill in 2003. The variety of materials deposited in  
12          the landfill has resulted in a number of COCs present in the soil, such as lead,  
13          cyanide, fluoride, and PCBs. VOCs, including trichloroethane (“TCE”), are  
14          also present in the groundwater below this area and, as a result, the  
15          groundwater is monitored for natural attenuation on a quarterly basis.
- 16          • North/North 2 landfill - the remaining landfill was covered with about one  
17          foot of sand. It is likely that various COCs remain in the soils, including PCBs  
18          and PAHs, along with VOCs in the shallow groundwater below that is  
19          estimated to be between 15- and 25-feet below ground surface.

20          **E. Columbia River Sediments**

21           17.       The Site lies within the Washington State Water Resources Inventory Area  
22          28, which is on Ecology’s 303(d) list of impaired water bodies for temperature, sediment  
23          bioassay, fecal coliform, dissolved oxygen, and PCBs. However, there are no listed  
24          303(d) parameters for the Site. Furthermore, the Port of Vancouver, as part of their  
25

1 ongoing berth dredging activities, conducted sediment sampling in 2013 at berths 13 and  
2 14 and did not detect any COCs at concentrations that exceeded the Sediment Evaluation  
3 Framework toxicity screening levels; chromium and nickel at berth 14 were detected at  
4 concentrations above the screening levels initially, then below when the samples were re-  
5 analyzed.

6 **F. Analysis of Onsite Proposed Construction Activities**

7 18. The analysis of onsite proposed construction activities focused on the use  
8 of jet grouting in Area 400 and the removal of selected pilings that could result in the  
9 disturbance of any pre-existing contamination at the Site.

10 **i. Jet Grout**

11 19. Any jet grouting planned as part of construction efforts will be limited to  
12 an area associated with the placement of the pipeline out to berth 13, as shown in drawing  
13 number HB-14 (Hayward Baker Inc., Vancouver Energy Terminal Ground Improvement  
14 Design – Areas 300 & 400. April 15, 2015). Based on available information, there is no  
15 known significant pre-existing contamination in the area shown on Howard Baker  
16 drawing number HB-14. The placement of jet grout columns will begin immediately  
17 above the ordinary high water mark and extend landward, with each column having a  
18 diameter of 6 feet and extending to a depth of 78-feet below ground surface (bgs). The  
19 top of the Troutdale Aquifer has been found to be about 125-feet bgs in the southern area  
20 of the Site, near the Columbia River, which is nearly 50-feet below the lowest depth of the  
21 planned jet grout columns. The jet-grouting process involves the mixture of soils and  
22 grout in-situ which limits the mixture almost exclusively to the area where the drill is  
23 advanced. Furthermore, this process is akin to the placement of a slurry wall, which has  
24 become a commonly used and effective tool to act as a hydraulic barrier to prevent  
25 groundwater contamination from migrating downgradient. Therefore, the placement of jet

1 grout columns should actually act to prevent the migration of any COCs from the Site to  
2 the Columbia River.

3 **ii. Removal of Pilings**

4 20. The removal of selected pilings will be performed whenever possible using  
5 vibratory extraction, resulting in a single, slow, and continuous motion to minimize  
6 sediment disturbance and excessive turbidity. If a pile is not able to be removed in this  
7 manner, then it will be cut and/or pushed into the sediment using agency-approved best  
8 management practices.

9 21. Given the lack of any significant contamination in Columbia River  
10 sediments at the Site, coupled with the approach to remove the pilings described above  
11 using best management practices to minimize disturbance, there is little to no risk of  
12 disturbing any pre-existing contamination, as a result of this effort. Furthermore, given  
13 the recent characterization of sediments in the areas where any pilings could be removed,  
14 additional sediment characterization prior to removal should not be required.

15 **IV. ANALYSIS OF ONSITE OPERATIONS**

16 22. It is highly unlikely that normal daily operations of the Project will disturb  
17 any pre-existing contamination at the Site in the soil or shallow groundwater, thereby  
18 creating an undue risk to human health and the environment. Furthermore, the  
19 employment of an industrial stormwater pollution prevention plan ("SWPPP") and a Spill  
20 Prevention Control and Countermeasures ("SPCC") plan coupled with a final version of  
21 the Operation Facility Oil Spill Contingency Plan ("OFOSCP"), along with other plans  
22 required by the Federal Government and the State of Washington, and associated stored  
23 and maintained requisite equipment, as well as trained personnel, will ensure that, should  
24 a spill occur at the facility, proper response measures will be taken to ensure safety and  
25 minimize undue harm to the environment.

1           23.       Other experts are addressing the likelihood of an on-site spill.  
2 Consideration was given to a theoretical spill of crude that would cover the entire Site,  
3 just over 47 acres with crude oil to a depth of one inch, which would be equivalent to a  
4 spill of approximately 1.25 million gallons. In this scenario, there is the potential for  
5 crude oil to infiltrate to the underlying soils in areas that do not have an impervious  
6 surface, as well as potentially migrate downgradient toward the Columbia River.  
7 However, in both scenarios, the soil has the ability to adsorb significant quantities of the  
8 petroleum product to mitigate migration to both the underlying shallow groundwater and  
9 Columbia River. Furthermore, the placement of stormwater controls, as part of the  
10 industrial SWPPP, should deter and contain much of the surface migration of the  
11 petroleum product across the Site, as the elements of the OFOSCP are employed. Finally,  
12 existing groundwater monitoring wells at the Site would have been sealed and capped at  
13 the surface, which will prevent such wells from acting as conduits to the underlying  
14 groundwater.

15 **V.       OFF-SITE RAIL RELATED IMPACTS**

16           24.       I was also asked to evaluate concerns and comments expressed by several  
17 parties related to the potential impact of a spill from a rail incident in the proximity of a  
18 well-head protection zone or a shallow aquifer. My testimony does not assess or rely on  
19 the probability of those events occurring in those areas. In his testimony, Dr. Christopher  
20 Barkan evaluates the estimated petroleum crude oil derailment rate, the estimated  
21 conditional probability of release given a derailment event, and the estimated conditional  
22 probability of quantity released given a release event, on the BNSF line from Newman  
23 Lake to Vancouver. Three spill categories were used, with the associated volumes and  
24 intervals in years between probable events at any location along the route, given for rail  
25 cars that meet current DOT-117 specifications:

- 1           • Medium Spill - 30,000 gallons (equivalent to approximately one car), once per  
2                   9,000 years
- 3           • Large Spill - 92,000 gallons (three cars), once per 42,500 years
- 4   Effective Worst Case Discharge (“EWCD”) - 840,000 gallons (28 cars), once per  
5   7,883,000 years.

6           25.       While Dr. Barkan addressed the probability of these events, my analysis  
7   assumes they have occurred and assesses the impact of these events on groundwater.  
8   Specifically, I consider all three scenarios as part of my analysis to determine the volume  
9   of soil required to absorb the spilled petroleum product, given general assumptions  
10   regarding the petroleum product that could potentially spill and the geologic  
11   characteristics of the unsaturated zone through which it could migrate. Based on the  
12   OFOSCP, products anticipated to be transported to the Site, include but are not limited to:

- 13           • Bakken (ND and MT) - average density of 813 kilograms per cubic meter  
14                   (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)
- 15           • WCS (Canada) – density of 932 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

16           26.       Overall, the range in density of all anticipated products lies within the  
17   values given above. As a result, the denser product that would have the lowest anticipated  
18   non-mobile, residual concentration in the soil was used to provide the most conservative  
19   scenario, along with the anticipation of any spill that might occur within the well-head  
20   protection zones and aquifers utilized by the Cities of Spokane and Washougal. Based on  
21   Brost and DeVaul<sup>1</sup> calculations of non-mobile, residual concentrations of various  
22   petroleum products in different types of soil (Cres), a range was found for compounds that  
23   resemble the densities specified for the Bakken and WCS crude oil; Cres of as high as

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 <sup>1</sup> Brost, E.J., and DeVaul, G.E., 2000, Non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) mobility limits in soil: American  
Petroleum Institute, Soil and Groundwater Research Bulletin no. 9, 9 p.

1 150,000 mg/kg for products with a similar density to Bakken crude to 7,700 mg/kg for  
 2 products similar to the denser WCS crude, in a medium sand. A lower value for Cres of  
 3 5,143 mg/kg was given for petroleum products that have a similar density to WCS crude  
 4 that spill in coarse gravel. So, the conservative Cres value of 5,000 mg/kg was used to  
 5 calculate the volume of soil required to immobilize crude oil spilled in the well-head  
 6 protection areas or above the aquifers in Spokane and Washougal, given the three spill  
 7 scenarios listed above. There are a number of factors that determine the lateral extent of  
 8 any oil spill at the surface, so to perform the calculations related to approximate  
 9 anticipated depth given the three spill scenarios, the assumption is that an affected area for  
 10 a spill would be one acre (100-feet on each side of the rail and 200-feet along the rail from  
 11 the center-point of the spill) for one car, 2.2 acres for three cars, and 17.2 acres for twenty-  
 12 eight cars. The resulting volumes of petroleum-contaminated soils and anticipated depth  
 13 of the migration through the vadose zone are given in Table 1. The migration of any  
 14 Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (“LNAPL”) product through the Vadose zone will  
 15 require a considerable amount of time (i.e., several days) to reach the approximate  
 16 anticipated depth, which can be mitigated through an immediate and appropriate spill  
 17 response.

18 **Table 1. – Volume of Petroleum-Contaminated Soils and Anticipated Depth of Migration**  
 19 **of free product in the Vadose Zone for a Medium, Large, and Extreme Worst Case Spill**

Spill Type	Approximate Volume of Soil (Cubic Yards)	Approximate Anticipated Depth (feet)
Medium	10,000	7
Large	30,000	9.2
EWCD	280,000	11

22  
 23 27. As a result of the analysis above, even with an EWCD spill that is  
 24 permitted to remain in place for a sufficient amount of time to reach the depths identified  
 25 in Table 1, it is not likely that any significant quantity of free petroleum product will reach

1 the unconfined water table in the Spokane Valley, where depths to water in the area of the  
2 rail line are generally 50- to 100-feet bgs. Although the water table in the unconfined  
3 water-bearing unit is considerably shallower in the City of Washougal, the amount of free-  
4 petroleum product to reach the water table as a result of even a large or EWCD spill type  
5 should be negligible, especially with an immediate and appropriate response to the spill.

6 28. The above analysis does not take into consideration the potential of impact  
7 that might occur in the longer-term due to dissolution of various COCs from the free  
8 petroleum product, upon interaction with water at the surface or within the Vadose Zone.  
9 However, it is anticipated, as required by Federal and State laws, that there would be an  
10 immediate response to any of the spills described above at all locations along the BNSF  
11 route through Washington, which would include the removal of petroleum-contaminated  
12 soils that would minimize any longer-term dissolution and transport of COCs to the  
13 underlying groundwater.

14 29. Should a spill occur at any location near the Columbia River, the same  
15 scenarios described above, with a spill extending potentially 100-feet from the center-  
16 point of the rail was assumed. As a result, the majority, if not all of the spill, may be  
17 contained to an area of approximately one acre for a single car, with vertical migration  
18 over-time into the Vadose Zone. Again, the same response and actions described above  
19 for a spill anywhere along the BNSF rail line would be anticipated to mitigate the  
20 transport of any free petroleum product to either the shallow groundwater or toward the  
21 Columbia River.

22 **VI. OVERALL CONCLUSIONS REGARDING DEGREE OF IMPACT FROM**  
23 **PROJECT RELATED TO RELEASE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

24 30. Based on all of the above and with a reasonable degree of scientific  
25 certainty, construction and normal operation of the Project would not likely result in a

1 significant release of contamination nor, as a result, adverse effects to human health or the  
2 environment. Furthermore, it is apparent that should a spill occur, the proper plans and  
3 response mechanisms, as required by law, would be in place to appropriately and  
4 immediately mitigate any acute or longer-term issues.

5 31. The following documents are attached to my testimony for reference:

6 Attachment A: Curriculum Vitae of Ken Ames

7 *[Signature on Following Page]*

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1 DATED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016.

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5 Ken Ames, Declarant

6 STATE OF Washington )

7 COUNTY OF KING )

8  
9 Ken Ames, being duly sworn upon oath, deposes and  
10 says: The foregoing testimony is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge,  
11 information and belief and is given subject to the laws of perjury in the State of  
12 Washington.

13 GIVEN under my hand and official seal this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016



Linda K. Brown

NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the State of:

Washington

Residing at: Synnwood

My Commission Expires: 3.13.19

Printed Name of Notary:

LINDA K. BROWN