

Pipeline Project: Turn-key flushing, hydrotest and water treatment services



BACKGROUND

A major pipeline operator in southwest Louisiana was challenged with the displacement and recovery of hydrocarbons from a nine-mile pipeline. The pipeline had been out of service for 15 years and the operator had asset integrity concerns that posed unique challenges. After hydrocarbons were displaced from the pipeline, it would require a hydrotest to ensure integrity followed by treatment of wastewater generated from flushing operations.

SITUATION

The Baleen Process Solutions team, in partnership with Nalco Champion, worked closely with the operator to develop a detailed process for flushing, water treatment, and hydrotesting operations. Water was used for the displacement of hydrocarbons and hydrotesting. Granular-activated carbon technology for onshore treatment was selected to meet LA DEQ discharge compliance and perform Incident Free Operations (IFO), while maintaining the overall project budget to provide a cost-effective solution.

SOLUTION

After being awarded the project, the Baleen Process Solutions team rapidly deployed trailer-mounted equipment for turn-key operations. The experienced project management and operations teams successfully planned and executed an incident-free operation. More than 1100 bbls of hydrocarbon of oil were recovered from the pipeline. In addition, 1788 bbls of water were treated from flushing operations while meeting all LA DEQ discharge requirements. Cranes were not used during the entire process, which led to ease of operation.

State Discharge Limit vs. Baleen Actual Discharge

	Max. DEQ Limit	Baleen Actual
pH	Range 6-9	8.36
TSS (mg/l)	90	< 5
Oil and Grease (mg/l)	15	< 4.5
TOC (mg/l)	50	< 2
Benzene (µg/l)	50	< .005
BTEX (µg/l)	250	< .01
Lead (µg/l)	50	< .005

The performance of Baleen Actual Discharge as compared to the DEQ Limits based on required parameters. Baleen Actual Discharge easily met all the seven requirements of the State Discharge Limit.

RESULTS

Baleen Process Solutions, in partnership with Nalco Champion, successfully completed the pipeline flushing and hydrotest project while maintaining IFO and exceeding all LA DEQ discharge parameters. The expertise of the Baleen Process Solutions team in this area ensured a successful and incident-free operation.

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