

Job Report

R. Marek, Jr.,  
Marine Chemist

Project No. MP1-R-2 Date 13 January 1961

Project Name: Industrial Waste Control in Region MP-1.

Period Covered: April 1, 1959 to April 1, 1960. Job No. F3-14

Chemical Analysis of Texas Butadiene and Chemical Corporation's Waste Waters, Channelview, Texas..

Objectives: Determine effects of waste waters on aquatic life in San Jacinto River at point of discharge.

Procedures: Collect and analyze waste water samples and make physical observations of aquatic life in San Jacinto River.

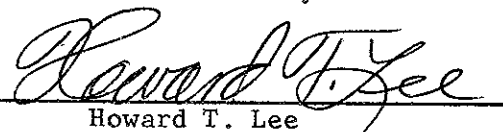
Findings: A complaint by a local fisherman to the Houston office was referred to the Seabrook Field Laboratory for investigation. The complainant stated that dead fish were all around the Texas Butadiene's waste water discharge in the San Jacinto River. Approximately four hours later Warden Finchum and I arrived at the scene and not a single species of dead fish could be found. Live mullet, mollies and gambusias were observed in abundance in the river above and below the waste water discharge pipe. We were unable to locate the complainant for further information.

Samples of the waste were collected and brought back to the Seabrook Field Laboratory for analysis. See attached data sheet on "Industrial Waste Analysis". The analysis showed a positive reaction of "Furfural" to the aniline-acetic acid test according to methods in Feigl's Spot Tests, Organic Applications, volume II. However, since there was an abundance of live, healthy specimens in the area it was assumed the concentration of "Furfural" was below the toxic concentration.

Periodic visual observations revealed no abnormal effects by the waste water on the San Jacinto River.

Prepared by R. Marek, Jr.

Accepted by

  
Howard T. Lee

Marine Chemist

Date

27 January 1961

References

Feigl. "Spot Tests, Organic Applications." Voll. II, pp. 289, 316, 355. Elsevier Publishing Co. 1954.

American Public Health Association, American Water Works Association, Federation of Sewage and Industrial Waste Associations. Standard Methods for the Examination of Water, Sewage and Industrial Wastes. Tenth Edition, 1955.

Industrial Waste Analysis

Location: Texas Butadiene and Chemical Corporation's Outfall.

Date: April 8, 1959.

Type Sample: Grab

Collected by: R. Marek and Warden R.Z. Finchum.

Chlorides ----- 160 ppm

pH ----- 7.8

Furfural ----- Pos. Reaction for Aniline-Acetic  
Acid Test

Odor ----- Oily, hydrocarbon.