

Mark A. Humphrey Vice President and Comptroller **Chevron Corporation** Comptroller's Department 6001 Bollinger Canyon Rd San Ramon, CA 94583-2324

August 4, 2008

## BY ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Mr. H. Roger Schwall Assistant Director Mail Stop 7010 Division of Corporation Finance Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20549-7010

> Re: Chevron Corporation Form 10-K for Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2007 Filed February 28, 2008 Form 10-Q for Fiscal Quarter Ended March 31, 2008 Filed May 8, 2008

File No. 001-00368

Dear Mr. Schwall:

Further to the telephone conversation on August 1, 2008 between Mr. Karl Hiller of the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission and Mr. Bill Allman, Assistant Comptroller of Chevron Corporation ("Chevron"), the following disclosure related to the Ecuador litigation will be included in Chevron's second quarter 2008 Form 10-Q. The difference between this correspondence and the correspondence furnished to the staff on July 30, 2008 is the wording of the final paragraph of the disclosure below:

Chevron is a defendant in a civil lawsuit before the Superior Court of Nueva Loja in Lago Agrio, Ecuador brought in May 2003 by plaintiffs who claim to be representatives of certain residents of an area where an oil production consortium formerly had operations. The lawsuit alleges damage to the environment from the oil exploration and production operations, and seeks unspecified damages to fund environmental remediation and restoration of the alleged environmental harm, plus a health monitoring program. Until 1992, Texaco Petroleum Company (Texpet), a subsidiary of Texaco Inc., was a minority member of this consortium with Petroecuador, the Ecuadorian state-owned oil company, as the majority partner; since 1990, the operations have been conducted solely by Petroecuador. At the conclusion of the consortium, and following an independent third-party environmental audit of the concession area, Texpet entered into a formal agreement with the Republic of Ecuador and Petroecuador for Texpet to remediate specific sites assigned by the government in proportion to Texpet's ownership share of the consortium. Pursuant to that agreement, Texpet conducted a three-year remediation program at a cost of \$40 million. After certifying that the sites were properly remediated, the government granted Texpet

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and all related corporate entities a full release from any and all environmental liability arising from the consortium operations.

Based on the history described above, Chevron believes that this lawsuit lacks legal or factual merit. As to matters of law, the company believes first, that the court lacks jurisdiction over Chevron; second, that the law under which plaintiffs bring the action, enacted in 1999, cannot be applied retroactively to Chevron; third, that the claims are barred by the statute of limitations in Ecuador; and, fourth, that the lawsuit is also barred by the releases from liability previously given to Texpet by the Republic of Ecuador and Petroecuador. With regard to the facts, the Company believes that the evidence confirms that Texpet's remediation was properly conducted and that the remaining environmental damage reflects Petroecuador's failure to timely fulfill its legal obligations and Petroecuador's further conduct since assuming full control over the operations.

In April 2008, a mining engineer appointed by the court to identify and determine the cause of environmental damage, and to specify steps needed to remediate it, issued a report recommending that the court assess \$8 billion, which would, according to the engineer, provide financial compensation for purported damages, including wrongful death claims, and pay for, among other items, environmental remediation, healthcare systems, and additional infrastructure for Petroecuador. The engineer's report also asserts that an additional \$8.3 billion could be assessed against Chevron for unjust enrichment. The engineer's report is not binding on the court. Chevron also believes that the engineer's work was performed, and his report prepared, in a manner contrary to law and in violation of the court's orders. Chevron intends to move to strike the report and otherwise continue a vigorous defense against any attempted imposition of liability.

Management does not believe an estimate of a reasonably possible loss (or a range of loss) can be made in this case. Due to the defects associated with the engineer's report, management does not believe the report itself has any utility in calculating a reasonably possible loss (or a range of loss). Moreover, the highly uncertain legal environment surrounding the case provides no basis for management to estimate a reasonably possible loss (or a range of loss).

Please direct any questions related to the information herein to Mr. Bill Allman, Assistant Comptroller, at (925) 842-3544 or by e-mail at <u>bill.allman@chevron.com</u>.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Mark A. Humphrey

cc: Mr. Terry M. Kee (Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman) Mr. Brian M. Wong (Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman)