

## NEWS RELEASE

May 15, 2018

### **Independent Labs Find No Evidence of Oils or Hydrocarbons in Pita Limón Water Well**

**BOGOTÁ** – ConocoPhillips Colombia shared today that independent lab tests conclusively determined their operations in the San Martin municipality had no impact on the quality of local water well.

On February 13, 2018, a resident of Pita Limón claimed in social media and in media outlets that her water well had been allegedly contaminated by ConocoPhillips Colombia due to the company's activities in the Picoplata #1 well. At the time these allegations were made, [the company communicated](#) that it was not possible for fluids from the Picoplata #1 well to have mixed with the referenced water well, due to the protection and security measures taken during the operations in the Picoplata #1 well and the distance between such operations and her location. This was supported by the fact that two weeks before these allegations were made, water quality tests at several points around the well yielded normal results.

ConocoPhillips fully cooperated with the competent national and regional authorities' investigation of the claims, which included seeking independent evaluation of water well samples from a lab in Barranquilla, requested by Corpocezar.

On May 9, 2018, Corpocezar released their results and the results of the independent lab tests, both of which unequivocally concluded that there was no evidence of oils and or hydrocarbons in the water well, which is consistent with the results of the analysis procured by the company. In such regard, the following statement of the report is relevant:

“Based on what was observed in the inspection visit and the results obtained from the parameters monitored at each of the points selected for sampling in the Pita Limón village, jurisdiction of the municipality of San Martin – Cesar, it can be concluded that the presence of an apparently greasy film on the water surface of the underground well of the house...is not corresponding to fats, oils and hydrocarbons,” states the report from Corpocezar. “Likewise, the results obtained from the analysis carried out by the laboratory LABORMAR, show that in none of the monitored areas the presence of fats, oils and / or hydrocarbons was detected.”

[The full report can be viewed here.](#)

“ConocoPhillips Colombia is committed to protecting and respecting people and the environment in all places where we operate. Given our unwavering commitment to safety and well integrity, we are not surprised by the results of the independent investigation, as they verified our claim that our operations have not affected local water sources,” said Colombia Country Manager Alex Martinez. “We hope that in the future, community members will approach us directly when they have questions about our operations, as we always welcome open, honest and transparent dialogue with our neighbors. Direct conversation allows us to not only build relationships, but it prevents the unnecessary and damaging spread of false information.”

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#### **About ConocoPhillips Colombia**

ConocoPhillips Colombia is the operator of the VMM-3 block in the Middle Magdalena Valley. The area includes parts of the Cesar and Santander departments. The company submitted its application to obtain an environment license for the exploration of unconventional reservoirs in VMM-3 on Nov. 7, 2017, and is awaiting ANLA's decision.

ConocoPhillips is also the operator of the VMM-2 block in Cesar Department, which is adjacent to VMM-3. The company submitted its application to obtain an environment license for the exploration of unconventional reservoirs in VMM-2 on April 11, 2018, and is awaiting ANLA's decision.

For more information, go to [www.conocophillips.com.co](http://www.conocophillips.com.co).

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