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Sinclair Oil Corporation selected Merrick & Company as a turnkey provider for design, procurement, and construction of a new Hydrocracker Distillate Fractionator unit at the Sinclair Refinery in Wyoming. The new unit allowed for heavier material to be separated into rundown products for blending. The design and construction of the distillate fractionator unit was performed concurrently with the construction of the adjacent hydrocracker and hydrogen plant.

Merrick was responsible for the process design, detailed engineering, procurement, and construction of the new \$5.0 million unit that consisted of a main fractionator tower, a diesel/kerosene stripper tower, an overhead condenser circuit, a fired reboiler, steam generation exchangers, and attendant pump services. The turnkey project was executed under a fixed-price contract with Sinclair. Merrick constructed the unit using local construction subcontractors.

The project was designed on a 3-D AutoCAD/AutoPlant platform to allow prefabrication of piping spools, structural steel, and equipment dress-out to minimize the amount of field work during the Wyoming winter season. The project required close coordination with Sinclair and the other contractors with regard to schedule, design, interfaces, and joint occupancy.