



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 9

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

MAR 10 2014

Ms. Diane Malone, Manager
Waste Regulatory Compliance Department
Navajo Nation EPA
P. O. Box 3089
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

Subject: No Further Action for the UST facility at Nelson Willie's Tire Shop located at the junction of Chapter House Road and Chaco Boulevard in Crownpoint, New Mexico (EPA ID# NAV-481)

Dear Ms. Malone:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and Henry Haven of the Navajo Nation EPA ("NNEPA") have reviewed the report entitled "Site Assessment Report NAV #481 Nelson Willie's Tire Shop" ("SAR") that was prepared Tiis Ya Toh, Inc. ("TYT"), NNEPA's contractor, on October 30, 2012. The SAR documents the removal of four underground storage tanks ("USTs") and follow-up work at Nelson Willie's Tire Shop ("Site") on August 13, 2012. Based on the findings of the SAR, EPA and Mr. Haven believe that no further work is required for at the Site at this time. The sections below provide background on the Site and documentation supporting the no further action (NFA) determination.

Previous UST operations at the Site

Based on documentation contained in the SAR, four USTs were installed at the Site by Wilson Morgan in the early 1970s and used for the storage of gasoline until potentially, the late 1980s. The Site has subsequently been operated as a tire shop, initially by Nelson Willie and currently by Orren Willie.

UST removal and petroleum release confirmation

On August 13, 2012, TYT and its subcontractor team removed two 6,000 gallon and two 4,000 gallon steel USTs from the Site, and transported them to Envirotech, Inc.'s facility in Farmington, New Mexico for recycling. The SAR indicates that all four USTs were probably used for the storage of gasoline. The SAR states that no obvious petroleum contaminated soil ("PCS") was identified based on visual or olfactory indicators. However, the organic vapor meter ("OVM") used by TYT field personnel had a 66.4 parts per million ("ppm") reading in the middle area of the Tank #1 excavation at a depth

of 10 feet below ground surface. Confirmatory soil samples were collected from the north and south ends of all four USTs, and also from the location of the former product piping. The analyses for the soil samples from the UST areas showed no concentrations for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, gasoline range organics ("GRO"), diesel range organics ("DRO"), or lead above the NNEPA's soil cleanup standards that are protective of groundwater. However, the soil sample from the product piping area had benzene, ethylbenzene and xylene concentrations slightly above the NNEPA's soil cleanup standards. It should be noted that all of the analytical results were below EPA's Regional Screening Levels (RSLs) for residential and industrial soil (the Site is still used as a tire shop). Groundwater was not encountered during the UST removal work.

Addition of "bio-fluid" to the UST excavation prior to backfilling

The SAR noted that although there was a slightly elevated OVM concentration in the excavation for Tank #1 and hydrocarbon concentrations were slightly elevated in the soil sample form below the product piping, no PCS was encountered or disposed during the UST removal activities. As a precaution to address any potential residual hydrocarbon contamination in soil, Mr. Haven directed TYT to add "bio-fluid" to the UST excavation prior to backfilling. The bio-fluid used in this application consisted of approximately 150 pounds of dextrose, 15 pounds of ammonia bicarbonate, two pounds of di-potassium phosphate, and 500 gallons of water. The excavation was subsequently backfilled with the excavated soil showing no hydrocarbon impacts, as well as some imported backfill.

Planned current and future use of the Site

The Site is currently used as a tire shop by Orren Willie, the lessee. According to Thelma Francisco of BIA's office in Crownpoint, Mr. Willie's 25-year lease extends through approximately 2024. There is no documentation in EPA's file indicating that the current use of the Site as a tire shop is expected to change in the foreseeable future.

Potential residual hydrocarbon contamination in soil and receptor evaluation

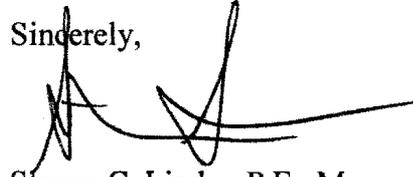
As noted above, one of the nine confirmatory soil samples collected following the UST removals had benzene, ethylbenzene and xylene concentrations slightly above NNEPA's soil cleanup standards that are protection of groundwater. Based on documentation in EPA's files, the nearest active drinking water wells to the Site are located approximately four miles away. These two drinking water wells include Well #15-0579 operated by the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority ("NTUA"), and the Powerhouse Well operated by the Eastern Navajo Agency. The current light industrial use of the Site and the significant distance to the nearest drinking water wells indicate that human exposures to the residual hydrocarbon contamination at the Site are unlikely.

Conclusion

Based on the documentation described above, EPA and Mr. Haven believe that no further action is needed for the Site at this time. However, if additional information becomes

available in the future regarding hydrocarbon concentrations in soil and/or groundwater at the Site, EPA, or the NNEPA, may reopen the Site and require additional site assessment and/or corrective action. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (415) 972-3369.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Linder', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steven C. Linder, P.E., Manager
Underground Storage Tanks Program Office

cc: Henry Haven, NNEPA
Elaine Young, Navajo DED RBDO Manager
Albert Lee, Eastern Navajo DED RBDO Manager