



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**REGION IX**  
**75 Hawthorne Street**  
**San Francisco, CA 94105**

March 7, 2012

Ms. Diane Malone  
Environmental Department Manager  
Waste Regulatory Compliance Department  
Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency  
P.O. Box 3089  
Building # W008-090, Window Rock Blvd.  
Window Rock, AZ 86515

**Subject: Recommendation for No Further Action at the Former Underground Storage Tank Site at the Former Beck's Trading Post, Pinon, AZ (NAV-253)**

Dear Ms. Malone:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region 9 has completed our review of the report – *Soil Test Boring Installation and Sampling Report, Former Beck's Trading Post Lease Site, NAV #253*, dated September 30, 2011. The report describes the activities undertaken to determine the extent of petroleum contamination at the former Beck's Trading Post from the past fueling operations. These activities were undertaken and funded by the Navajo Nation LUST Trust grant. The work was performed by iina'ba of Farmington, New Mexico.

**Site Background**

The former Beck's Trading Post had previously operated a 200-gallon single-wall steel underground storage tank (UST) for gasoline sale. The trading post was reportedly abandoned in 1988. Local residents identified the former trading post, as the closed building sharing a parking lot with the Pinon Post Office.

**UST Removal and Site Characterization**

Tank removal and site assessment activities were conducted in 2008 by the NNEPA and documented in the report – *Removal of Underground Storage Tanks, Beck's Trading Post, Pinon, AZ*, dated November 2008. The former 200-gallon, steel UST and associated piping was removed from the site. A petroleum hydrocarbon release to the soil was detected at the bottom of the UST at 5 feet below ground surface, exceeding

the NNEPA cleanup standard for soil for diesel range organics (DRO). Approximately 10 cubic yards of the excavated stockpile soil was used to backfill the excavation.

#### **Extent of Petroleum Contamination**

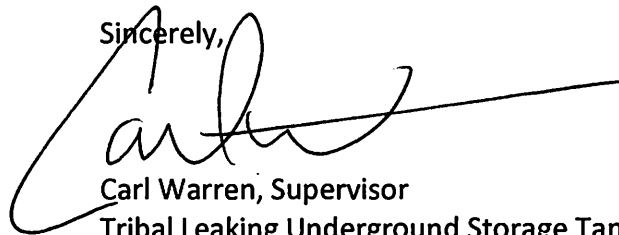
In July 2011, under the NNEPA's direction, iina'ba conducted additional site assessment activities to determine the extent of petroleum contamination at the site. Six soil borings were drilled to a depth of 27 feet below ground surface (bgs). Soil samples were collected at the 5-7 feet and 20-22 feet intervals for PID screening and laboratory analyses. Only results from the first soil boring at 5-7 feet bgs (SB1) showed exceedance of NNEPA's soil cleanup standard for naphthalene. None of the other soil samples analyzed exceeded the EPA Region 9's Regional Screening levels (RSLs). Groundwater was not encountered during this investigation.

#### **Conclusion**

Based on the findings presented in the subject report, and a subsequent meeting with the Navajo Nation EPA Tank Program in EPA Region 9 on February 16, 2012, it is recommended that this site be closed with no further action.

However, if additional information becomes available in the future regarding hydrocarbon contamination in soil and groundwater at the site, EPA and NNEPA may require additional site work. If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter, please contact Tess Salire of my staff at (415) 972-3376.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Warren', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Carl Warren, Supervisor  
Tribal Leaking Underground Storage Tanks Team

cc: Henry Haven, NNEPA  
Pam Maples, NNEPA  
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