



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

December 22, 2008

Mr. Stephen B. Etsitty, Director
Executive Office
Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 339
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Subject: Recommendation for No Further Action for the Underground Storage Tank Site
at the Dalton Pass Trading Post, Nahodishgish, NM (NAV-310)

Dear Mr. Etsitty:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region 9 has completed our review of the report – *Removal of Underground Storage Tanks, Dalton Pass Trading Post, dated November 2008*. The report describes the site closure activities which included the removal of the underground storage tank (UST) system and site characterization. These activities were undertaken in August 2008 and were funded by the Navajo Nation EPA (NNEPA) FY2008 LUST grant. The work was performed by iina'ba, Inc. of Farmington, New Mexico.

The Dalton Pass Trading Post was established in 1927 and was closed around 1980's. It was approved to sell gasoline and oil since 1957. The site had been abandoned for more than 20 years. There was no record of the tanks being removed. A geophysical survey was conducted by NNEPA with EPA funding in October 2007 to locate any abandoned UST. The survey detected the presence of one UST. The UST was removed from the site in August 2008.

Soil excavation activities were implemented around and beneath the UST and petroleum release to the soil was observed. Approximately 80 cubic yards of soil were excavated and stockpiled near the excavation. Soil samples were taken from the bottom at each end of the excavated pit. The analytical results were all below the USEPA and the NNEPA screening levels. The stockpiled soil was used to completely backfill the excavation. Groundwater was not encountered during this investigation.

Based on the findings presented in the report, EPA Region 9 recommends that this site be closed without additional action. My staff has reviewed the findings in the report with Henry Haven of the NNEPA UST program and Mr. Haven concurs with these

findings. If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter, please contact Carl Warren of my staff at (415) 972-3355.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Linder, P.E.
Manager
Underground Storage Tanks Program Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region IX

cc: Henry Haven, NNEPA
Warren Roan, NNEPA
Carl Warren, UST Program Office, US EPA Region IX
Mimi Newton, Office of Regional Counsel, US EPA Region IX

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