



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 9

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

In reply, refer to: WST-8

March 4, 2011

Ms. Diane Malone
Environmental Department Manager
Waste Regulatory and Compliance Department
Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 339
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Subject: **No Further Action Required at the Kimbeto Trading Post Underground Storage Tank (UST) Site (NAV-407) in Kimbeto, NM**

Dear Ms. Malone:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 9, Underground Storage Tank Program Office (USTPO) has completed our review of the July 2009 report, *“Geophysical Investigation, Kimbeto Trading Post, Kimbeto, New Mexico”*, prepared by iina’ba. The report described the activities undertaken on May 11, 2009, at the Kimbeto Trading Post. The work was managed by the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA) and was funded with the NNEPA’s FY 2009 LUST Grant.

Site Background

The subject site is located on Country Road 7800, approximately 8.5 miles west of the Nageezi Trading Post. It is situated on the north side of Kimbeto Wash, which appears to be located approximately 0.5 to 1.0 mile south of the subject property.

The property is privately owned and the land records indicate the property is located within an area of checkerboard private land and Navajo Nation Land. The land ownership was verified by New Mexico Environmental Department (NMED) Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau, Prevention/Inspection Section.

The site was listed in the 1994 abandoned sites list for the Eastern Navajo Agency. EPA staff visited the site in 2000 and in 2004; there was one UST to the west of the building and one UST underlying the dispenser to the south (on the front porch). NMED removed the tank system in 2008.

Site Assessment

As summarized in the report on May 11 2009, iina' ba conducted field activities which included a review of geological, hydrogeological, and environmental conditions at the site. iina' ba also reviewed the October 22, 2008 NMED "***Kimbeto Trading Post Inspection Report***", prepared by NEMD Inspector Tom Gray

The NMED completed site assessment activities on October 22, 2008. According to the NMED inspection report, two USTs were removed from the site by EnviroTech Inc. One tank, measuring 46-inches in diameter by 94-inches long, was removed from an area located on the west side of the building. Both tanks reportedly supplied leaded gasoline to a single dispenser via a tee pipeline delivery system.

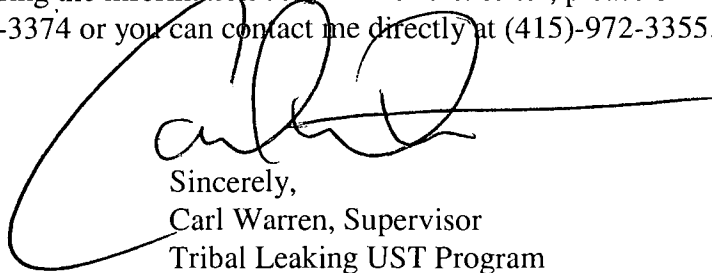
According to the NMED report, during tank excavation/removal activities, several soil samples were collected from around and beneath the tanks for field testing. Soil samples were field screened for the presence of petroleum hydrocarbons (gasoline) using the headspace test method. The reported headspace values ranged from 541 ppm for samples collected below the tank and dispenser area to 83 ppm for samples taken at 19" below ground surface from below the tank in front of the building. Based on the screening results, soil samples were sent to the laboratory for verification analyses.

The laboratory analytical results indicated minor residue petroleum hydrocarbon contamination. Accordingly, Mr. Gray concludes in his report that there was "no report of a release". The NMED report is presented as Appendix A.

Conclusion

Based on all the findings presented in the report and a meeting held in December 2010, Henry Haven of NNEPA and EPA Region 9 agreed that no further action (NFA) was required at the site. If additional information becomes available in the future regarding hydrocarbon contamination in soil and/or groundwater at this site resulting from a release from a petroleum UST system, EPA or the NNEPA may reopen this site and require additional site assessment and/or corrective action.

If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter, please contact S. Bobby Ojha of my staff at (415) 972-3374 or you can contact me directly at (415)-972-3355.


Sincerely,
Carl Warren, Supervisor
Tribal Leaking UST Program

cc: Henry Haven, NNEPA
Warren Roan, NNEPA
Tom Gray, NMED