



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 9

**75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901**

In reply, refer to: WST-8

September 30, 2010

Gayle Honanie, Director
Hopi Environmental Protection Office
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Subject: No further action required for the Underground Storage Tank (UST) site at the former Malco Station aka Paul Saufkie Sr. site (HOPI-032) in Shungopauvi, Second Mesa, Arizona

Dear Ms. Honanie:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 9, Underground Storage Tank Program Office (USTPO) has completed our review of the report – Shungopauvi, Hopi Nation, Site Assessment, dated September 2010. The report described the activities undertaken on June 23-24, 2010 to conduct a site assessment and characterization activities at the former Malco Station. The work was funded through the America Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) and overseen by the EPA Region 9 and the Hopi Environmental Protection Office (EPO). EPA retained Bristol Environmental Remediation Services (Bristol) to perform this work.

Site Background

The former Shungopauvi Malco Station also known as Paul Saufkie Sr. site was identified in December 2006 by Hopi EPO as an abandoned gas station. EPA has minimal information regarding the operational history of this former UST site. According the site file, the Saufkie's owned the site and operated the facility until Malco took over the operation at an unknown date. Interview with a current resident on the property revealed that a 500-gallon UST was removed 10 years before Malco took over the operations. However, there was no record to confirm the removal of the former tank system. There was no information on when the fueling operation stopped and when the facility was abandoned.

Site Assessment

Bristol subcontracted Zonge Engineering and Research Organization, Inc. (Zonge) to

perform a geophysical survey of the site on March 3, 2010 to identify subsurface features such as USTs and piping. Zonge identified anomalies corresponding to the location of a potential UST system adjacent to the signpost in front of the property. On June 23, 2010, Bristol subcontracted Hopi Abandoned Mine Land Program (AML) to excavate and take soil samples beneath the identified anomalies. There was no UST found on the site, however, AML uncovered three pipelines which were about 200 feet in length.

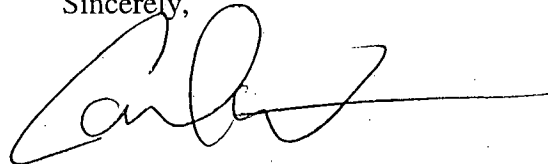
During this assessment, petroleum release to the soil was discovered underneath one portion of the pipeline. A couple of cubic yards of petroleum-contaminated soil was excavated and removed off-site. Field screening samples were taken from the excavation area and they did not indicate any remaining petroleum hydrocarbons in the ground. Soil samples were also taken from the suspected location of the UST at five feet below ground surface (bgs). Analytical results from this sampling location did not detect petroleum hydrocarbons and/or volatile organic compounds.

The three pipelines, one fuel dispenser and miscellaneous debris on the ground were removed from the site and disposed at an approved facility. Groundwater was not encountered during this investigation. Clean imported fill material was used to completely backfill the area that was excavated.

Conclusion

Based on the findings presented in the report, the EPA Region 9 USTPO recommends that this site be closed without additional action. The USTPO has discussed this site and recommendation with Marvin Beeson of your staff. If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter, please contact Tess Salire of my staff at (415) 972-3376.

Sincerely,



Carl Warren, Supervisor
Tribal Leaking Underground Storage Tanks
Program

Cc: EPA Site File HOPI-032
Marvin Beeson, HEPO
Scott Ruth, Bristol