



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 9

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

In reply, refer to: WST-8
Certified mail 7006 0810 0003 9311 5604

June 4, 2007

John Krause
Environmental Quality Officer
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Phoenix Area Office
P.O. Box 10
Phoenix, AZ 85001

Re: No further action for the Underground Storage Tank (UST) site at the BIA HQ Roads Shop (TOHO-012), Sells, Arizona

Dear Mr. Krause:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 9 recently reopened the case file for the BIA HQ Roads Shop (TOHO-012) in Sells, Arizona. According to our records, there were three underground storage tanks (UST) installed at the site in 1981 - two 12K-gallon diesel USTs and a 10K-gallon gasoline UST.

After completing the review of this site file, EPA determined that this case required additional information to determine if any additional steps were required to proceed with closing the site or to require additional work. In an effort to gather additional information, EPA arranged to meet with John Graves of BIA and Fred Orosco of the Tohono O'odham Nation (TON) on April 19, 2007 to visit the site.

An interview with Mr. Vernon Russell, BIA Papago Agency Branch Facility Manager, revealed that the BIA Roads Shop used to have a 10K-gallon gasoline UST and two 500-gallon gasoline USTs which were removed in 1994. EPA has not been able to locate the closure report to document the removal of the USTs and/or the condition of the site at the time of the removal. The former location of the 10K-gallon UST is currently a bare area next to the asphalt paved area and is currently being used as a lay down area for the BIA Roads yard. The location of the other two USTs has since been paved over with concrete and is now a parking lot.

The site reconnaissance showed no evidence of the UST system or any surficial contamination at the Roads Shop. In the absence of the site characterization report describing the UST removal activities, our assessment indicated that if there was any residual surface soil contamination remaining in the ground, exposure would be very minimal due to the nature of the current site use. The former UST location is paved over and the other area is being used a lay down area for the BIA Roads facility operations. In addition, the depth to groundwater is beyond 300 feet below ground surface, which rules out any threat to groundwater if there was any release or subsurface soil contamination. EPA, BIA and TON all concur that the former UST site at the BIA Roads Shop does not pose a threat to human health and the environment, and that no further action is warranted at this time.

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, Manager
Underground Storage Tanks Program Office

Cc: John Graves, BIA Phoenix Area Office
Fred Orosco, Tohono O'odham Nation Solid Waste Regulatory Office
EPA Site File TOHO 012

SYMBOL	WST-8	WST-8	WST-2			
SURNAME	Salte	Warren	Linder			
DATE	06/04/07	6/4/07	6/7/07			
U.S. EPA CONCURRENCES				OFFICIAL FILE COPY		