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APPROVALS

YEAR(S):

1998



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
2040 S. PACHECO
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87505
(505) 827-7131

June 11, 1998

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT NO: Z-235-437-289

Ms. Lisa Norton
Yates Petroleum Corporation
105 South Fourth Street
Artesia, New Mexico 88210

RE: PIT CLOSURE PLAN

Dear Ms. Norton:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has reviewed Yates Petroleum Corporation's (Yates) undated "PIT CLOSURE" correspondence which was received by the OCD on March 13, 1998. This document contains Yates's plan for closure of unlined oil and gas production pits at the following sites:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| - Inex Tank Battery | NE/4, Sec 26, T18S, R26E |
| - Lattion Tank Battery | SE/4, Sec 23, T18S, R26E |
| - Scripps Tank Battery | SW/4, Sec 25, T18S, R26E |
| - Williams Tank Battery | NE/4, Sec 25, T18S, R26E |
| - Santa Fe Land Improvement #1 SWD | SE/4, Sec 17, T19S, R26E |

The above referenced pit closure plan is **approved with the following conditions:**

1. During the pit closures, Yates will determine the vertical extent of soil contamination at each pit site.
2. All soil samples for verification of completion of remedial activities including the vertical and horizontal extent of contamination will be sampled and analyzed for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, (BTEX), total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) and chloride in accordance with the OCD's "SURFACE IMPOUNDMENT CLOSURE GUIDELINES".
3. Yates will notify the Environmental Bureau Chief of the OCD Santa Fe Office and the OCD Artesia District Office within 24 hours of the discovery of ground water contamination related to any pit closure activity.

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4. For each pit closed, upon completion of all closure activities, Yates will submit to the OCD for approval a completed OCD "PIT REMEDIATION AND CLOSURE REPORT" form (enclosed) which will contain the final results of all pit closure and soil remediation activities. The report will include the concentrations and application rates of all materials or additives used to enhance bioremediation of contaminants, the final concentrations of any landfarmed or insitu bioremediated soils and the disposition of all wastes removed from the site. To simplify the approval process for both Yates and OCD, please submit the final pit closure reports **only** upon completion of all closure activities including completion of onsite landfarming or insitu bioremediation of contaminated soils.
5. By July 10, 1998, Yates will submit to the OCD for approval a tank installation or lined pit plan for the disposal system which will replace the former unlined pits.
6. All wastes removed from a specific site will be disposed of at an OCD approved facility.
7. All documents submitted for approval will be submitted to the OCD Santa Fe Office with copies provided to the OCD Artesia Office.

Please be advised that OCD approval does not relieve Yates of liability should closure activities determine that contamination exists which is beyond the scope of the work plan or if the closure activities fail to adequately investigate and remediate contamination related to Yates's activities. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve Yates of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state or local laws and regulations.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 827-7154.

Sincerely,



William C. Olson
Hydrologist
Environmental Bureau

Enclosure

xc: Tim Gum, OCD Artesia District Super

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PS Form 3800, April 1995