

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Deputy Secretary

**Adrienne Sandoval**, Director  
Oil Conservation Division



**BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY**

January 21, 2022

Kawika Tupou  
HollyFrontier Navajo Refining LLC  
501 East Main Street  
Artesia, NM 88210  
[Kawika.Tupou@HollyFrontier.com](mailto:Kawika.Tupou@HollyFrontier.com)

**Re: HollyFrontier Artesia Refinery – Notice of an Administratively Incomplete Discharge Permit Renewal Application**

Dear Mr. Tupou:

The New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resource Department's (EMNRD) Oil Conservation Division (OCD) reviewed your December 22, 2021, Discharge Permit Application submittal for HollyFrontier Navajo Refining LLC, HollyFrontier Artesia Refinery.

As Per 20.6.2.3108.A NMAC, OCD is required to notify HollyFrontier Navajo Refining LLC within 30-days of receipt of the discharge permit application of any deficiencies that make the application deemed administratively incomplete. OCD is requesting the below additional information for administrative completeness of the submitted discharge permit renewal application:

1. In the discharge permit renewal application where applicable, state that the Refinery will implement and utilize the Reuse Water Plan that was approved by OCD on September 22, 2021.
2. Provide the capacity/volume of the stormwater retention ponds/basins. Are the retention ponds/basins lined or unlined and where are they located? Also, explain how stormwater from within the Refinery boundary is not allowed to discharge to Eagle Creek.
3. Has there been any historical flooding at the Refinery?
4. Where are the evaporation ponds located in Figure 2-3? The figure's legend did not specify location. Also are there any evaporation ponds in the vicinity of the wetlands identified in Figure 3-1?

5. Clearly identify where the three permanent CAAs are located in Figure 2-1. Also, Figure 2-1 only identifies two hazardous waste management units (HWMUs). Where are the inactive HWMU EPs 2 through 6 located?
6. Section 6 states, "Inspections will focus on identifying potential malfunctions, deterioration, operator errors, and discharges which may be causing (or may lead to) release of hazardous waste constituents to the environment or pose a threat to human health." However, this section states the HWMUs are inactive. If the HWMUs are inactive what could lead to a release of a hazardous waste? Also, Table 4-2 (Typical Hazardous Wastes) shows hazardous waste being stored at the NCL and TEL. However, the discussion related to the HWMUs does not address these wastes. Are weekly inspections not being conducted for these wastes located at the HWMUs? Clarification is needed regarding the HWMUs, hazardous wastes stored, and the inspection process. Include example inspection forms as applicable.
7. Provide the average and maximum daily volumes of groundwater processed through the three RO units and the average and maximum daily throughputs of wastewater going to the WWTP.
8. In Section 8.1.1 under the RDU description, "ultra ow" is stated as a very small fraction of the 99% renewable diesel product. Did this section mean to state ultra-low sulfur petroleum diesel?
9. Section 9.1 states a synopsis of the public notice will be posted outside of the Refinery's main administrative office and on various locations of the Refinery fence line. 20.6.2.3108(B)(1) NMAC requires an additional notice posted at a place located off the discharge site; provide a location for the synopsis of the public notice at a place located off the discharge site.
10. In Appendix 9-1, in both English and Spanish notices, specify the maximum daily throughputs through the three RO units and revise the OCD contact to the following:

Mr. Christopher Whitehead  
Oil Conservation Division  
New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department  
1220 South St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
(505) 476-3441  
[OCD.DischargePermits@state.nm.us](mailto:OCD.DischargePermits@state.nm.us)

A "complete" amended discharge permit application is due to OCD by February 20, 2022 (30 days from email read receipt); please submit the revised discharge permit application through the existing E-permitting application page and email an updated discharge permit application to [LeighP.Barr@state.nm.us](mailto:LeighP.Barr@state.nm.us). If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (505) 670-5684 or via email.

Regards,

*Leigh Barr*

Leigh P. Barr - Administrative Permitting Supervisor