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APPROVALS

YEAR(S):

1996



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

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

May 9, 1996

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT NO. P-269-269-145

Mr. Jim G. Townsend
Manager of Transportation
Navajo Refining Company
P.O. Box 159
Artesia, New Mexico 88211-0159

RE: CRUDE OIL PIPELINE SPILLS

Dear Mr. Townsend:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has reviewed Navajo Refining Company's (Navajo) February 26, 1996 correspondence which presents the results of representative RCRA hazardous waste characteristic sampling of contaminated soils from pipeline related spills of crude oil. Navajo requests that they be allowed to use these analyses and a statement of process knowledge for determining the soils to be RCRA non-hazardous during future crude oil pipeline spill remediations. These analyses are to be used in lieu of individual sampling of each spill event.

The above referenced request is approved with the following conditions:

1. The above representative analyses can be used in lieu of individual sampling of each spill event until December 31, 2000.
2. Navajo will reference the above waste determination in all future RCRA non-exempt crude oil spill reports to the OCD.
3. Navajo will notify the OCD within 24 hours of any system changes which could potentially alter the composition of any spilled crude such that RCRA hazardous waste characteristics in the spill area could be exceeded.

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Please be advised that OCD approval does not relieve Navajo of liability should these types of leaks and spills result in actual contamination of surface waters, ground waters or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve Navajo of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state or local laws and/or regulations. If you have questions please contact me at (505) 827-7154.

Sincerely,



William C. Olson
Hydrogeologist
Environmental Bureau

xc: OCD Artesia District Office
Benito Garcia, NMED Hazardous and Radioactive Waste Bureau