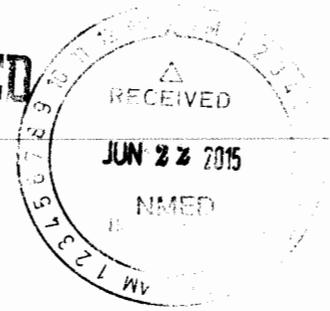


**ENTERED**

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June 17, 2015

Kristen VanHorn
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Bldg 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

RE: WESTERN REFINING SOUTHWEST INC., GALLUP REFINERY
EPA ID # NMD000333211

Dear Ms. VanHorn:

This letter is in response to your email of June 12, 2015 to Beck Larsen requesting a letter detailing changes that have been made to the wastewater treatment system since 2011.

Grit Tanks

In May 2012, two temporary grit tanks with secondary containment were installed before the DGF Feed Tank to remove micron-size solids from dirty sewer (i.e. sewer that contains dirt) system. A capital project has been approved to replace these temporary tanks with two permanent tanks with secondary containment.

Post DGF Filtration

In August 2013, two sets of duplex filters (two 250 micron & two 10 micron) were added after the DGF Clarifier & before the MPPE unit. This was to ensure solids did not enter the MPPE unit. These equipment numbers are Z84-F-6.0, 6.1, 8.1 and 8.2.

DGF Float Filter Press

In September 2013, a plate filter press was installed to separate the water and solids in the DGF Float material. The solids are disposed of as hazardous waste and the remaining water is returned to the DGF Feed tank.

Carbon Canister System

The Gallup refinery removed the MPPE from service on December 29, 2014 replacing it with the carbon canister system. The two systems ran in parallel for three months in the second half of 2014 followed by trial with carbon canisters for 2 months before the MPPE was removed from service. The MPPE unit did not perform as expected from a flow rate standpoint. It removed benzene efficiently, but became plugged so that flow rates decreased below adequate levels. Flow rates up to 500 gpm can be achieved through the carbon system.

If you have any questions regarding this letter please call me at 505-722-0217 or email me.

Sincerely,

Ed Riege MPH
Environmental Manager