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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

October 17, 2014

Mr. Roberto Puga, Trustee
Texas Custodial Trust
1 Pointe Drive, Suite 320
Brea, CA 92821

RE: Authorization of Class V Injection Wells
TCEQ Authorization No. 5X2600730
CN603641820/RN100219021
Industrial and Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Program
IHW Registration Number 31235
Former ASARCO El Paso Smelter Site
2901 West Paisano Drive
El Paso, TX 79922

Dear Mr. Puga:

The Underground Injection Control (UIC) staff has completed review of the authorization form received on October 13, 2014 from Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. requesting approval to convert two existing monitor wells (EP168 and EP-168B) to Class V UIC wells for injection of a mixture of potable water, acetic acid, sodium hydroxide, and a Fluorescein dye tracer into a permeable reaction barrier (PRB) PRB-1 to remove calcite precipitation that has reduced the effectiveness of the PRB. The PRB is constructed of zero-valent iron and sand that was installed within sediments of the Mojado Formation in the Upper Parker Brother Arroyo at the former ASARCO El Paso Smelter Site in El Paso, Texas. The request also is to designate the two PRBs at the site as Class V UIC subsurface fluid distribution systems. Our consideration of this proposed project has included coordination with the commission's Industrial and Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Program, Remediation Division. Based on our review, approval is hereby given for the conversion of the two monitor wells to Class V Underground Injection Control (UIC) wells, installed in PRB-1, according to the submitted plans and specifications.

UIC staff has determined that neither of the two permeable reactive barriers, PRB-1 or PRB-2, is a subsurface fluid distribution system, as defined at Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code, §331.2(103). Therefore, the request to authorize these two PRBs as Class V UIC wells is denied.

Please note that this authorization is issued with a 5X26 (aquifer remediation) designation rather than with a 5X25 (experimental wells) designation. This change does not affect the original request. With the 5X26 designation, the authorization can be amended to add additional Class V wells.

In order to maintain authorization by rule for the injection operations, the project must meet all requirements set by the Remediation Division and the UIC rules provided by 30 Texas

Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 331. Requirements for the authorization include:

1. All injection wells and/or galleries are to be constructed to meet the standards provided in 30 TAC §331.132 or as approved otherwise and as built construction diagrams are to be submitted to the UIC Permits Section, Radioactive Materials Division, at mail code MC233 within 30 days of completion.
2. Operational and status changes shall be reported to and approved by the UIC Permits Section.
3. Closure (plugging) of injection wells shall comply with standards provided in 30 TAC §331.133. Closure reports including injection well monitoring data (injection volumes, pressures, and results) and plugging reports shall be submitted to the UIC Permits Section, Radioactive Materials Division, at mail code MC233 within 60 days of conclusion of injection activities.
4. Status reports shall be submitted to the UIC Permits Section, Radioactive Materials Division, at mail code MC233 upon completion of the injection event and thereafter on a semiannual basis from the date of this letter. These shall consist of a report of the injection activities and the status of the activities over the past six months.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter please contact me at david.murry@tceq.texas.gov or (512) 239-6080. If you will be responding by letter, please include mail code MC233 in the mailing address.

Sincerely,



David H. Murry, P.G., Project Manager
Underground Injection Control Permits Section
Radioactive Materials Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

DHM/dhm

cc: Robert A. Mongrain, P.G., Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.
Kellie Jo Preston, Arcadis-US, Inc.