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Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

March 29, 2023

John Moore
Environmental Superintendent
Western Refining, Southwest Inc., Gallup Refinery
92 Giant Crossing Road
Gallup, New Mexico 87301

RE: DISAPPROVAL

**AREA OF CONCERN 28 – WAREHOUSE AND MAINTENANCE SHOP AREA,
AREA OF CONCERN 29 – EQUIPMENT YARD AND DRUM STORAGE AREA, AND
AREA OF CONCERN 30 – LABORATORY AREA
INVESTIGATION WORK PLAN
WESTERN REFINING SOUTHWEST LLC, GALLUP REFINERY
MCKINLEY COUNTY, GALLUP, NEW MEXICO
EPA ID# NMD000333211
HWB-WRG-23-009**

Dear Mr. Moore:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received Western Refining Southwest LLC (D/B/A Marathon Gallup Refinery's (the Permittee) *Area of Concern 28 – Warehouse and Maintenance Shop Area, Area of Concern 29 – Equipment Yard and Drum Storage Area, and Area of Concern 30 – Laboratory Area Investigation Work Plan (Work Plan)* dated September 30, 2022. NMED has reviewed the Work Plan, and hereby issues this Disapproval with the following comments.

Comment 1

Section 1.0 (Introduction) states "The results from this investigation will be used for future remedy evaluations." This statement is premature, revise the statement to state that the results from this investigation will also be used for site characterization in addition to future remedy evaluations.

Comment 2

Section 2.0 (Site Conditions) must also describe the current and historical site conditions associated with each of the AOCs included in the Work Plan, including stating which buildings and areas of the AOCs are still in use, and which are no longer in use. A thorough records search must be performed to determine historical and current activities at the AOCs, including but not

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limited to, chemicals historically and currently used and/or stored at the AOCs, historical and current waste disposal practices in the AOCs, historical and current areas of use (e.g., loading and unloading, sewer lines, interior and exterior drains). A physical inspection must also be performed to determine any areas of staining, locations of drains, depressions, and damage at the AOCs. The revised Work Plan must include the results of the historical records search and physical site inspections as well as their potential impact, as it relates to soil boring and sampling locations.

Comment 3

Section 2.1 (Surface Conditions) must also describe the surface conditions of each of the AOCs in detail. In the revised Work Plan describe the indoor surface conditions (e.g., historical and current interior layout and use(s) of buildings, cracks in and staining on floors, locations and condition of interior floor drains, sinks, and plumbing associated with current and historical activities). Also, in the revised Work Plan, describe the outdoor surface conditions (e.g., condition of gravel and/or paved lots, depressions, areas of staining, presence of exterior drains). Propose to collect samples the inside the buildings (e.g., locations of plumbing or lab drains inside AOC 30, locations of cracked and/or stained floors inside AOC 28) as necessary in the revised Work Plan as applicable. See Comment 2 above.

Comment 4

Section 2.2 (Subsurface Conditions) must also describe subsurface conditions associated with each AOC (e.g., do the existing structures have basements, are the buildings slab on grade, the locations of the historical and current utility lines). State if there were structures at the location of the AOCs prior to the current structures. If so, describe these structures, their purpose, and any use of chemicals used at or within these structures in the revised Work Plan. Propose to collect additional samples as necessary from the subsurface around the buildings (e.g., sewer lines or drains exiting AOC 30, areas of staining or damage in AOC 28) in the revised Work Plan as applicable. See Comments 2 and 3 above.

Comment 5

In Section 3.0 (Scope of Activities) the Permittee lists the analyses to be performed on soil samples and states “[t]hese constituents were selected based on a previous investigation of nearby AOCs.” The selected analytical constituents must also be based on the historical information relevant to each of the AOCs. Revise the list analytical constituents, if necessary, and revise statement accordingly. See Comments, 2, 3, and 4 above.

Comment 6

Section 3.0 of the revised Work Plan must include an explanation of how the list of analytes for samples were selected (i.e., historical information related to the use, storage, and disposal of chemicals in each AOC). This section must also describe how the soil boring locations were selected (e.g., historical information, visual evidence).

In addition, Section 3.0 must include a table which provides the rationale for selecting the location of each of the proposed soil borings and provide identification numbers for all proposed soil boring locations in the revised Work Plan. See Comments 2, 3, and 4 above.

Comment 7

Section 4.1 (Sample Collection Procedures) states “[s]amples will be collected in accordance with the “Standard Operating Procedure – Soil Sampling” (Appendix A).” The information provided in Appendix A, Section 5.0 (Sample Collection) provides general information for soil sampling for different scenarios and does not provide details specific to the scope of work defined in the Work Plan. For example, collecting soil samples from a Geoprobe® direct push drill core sleeve is not described. However, other soil sampling techniques, not relevant to the Work Plan, are described, such as using a “drive sampler equipped with clean brass or stainless steel sampling rings”. Revise Section 4.1 to describe the specific proposed sample collection methods specific to this scope of work. In future work plans, the Permittee must describe exactly what they plan to do in the text of the work plan, rather than refer to general SOP’s, in accordance with RCRA Permit Section IV.J.1 (Standard Operating Procedures).

Comment 8

Section 4.1 (Sample Collection Procedures) states “PID readings will be collected at 1-ft intervals, beginning with a surface sample (taken at 6 to 12 inches [below ground surface] bgs). At each 1-ft interval, the sample will be collected from the sampling equipment and split into two aliquots. Aliquot #1 will be placed into a plastic bag and used for PID screening. Aliquot #2 will be placed into a second plastic bag, sealed, placed in a cooler, and stored on ice for potential VOC laboratory analysis. Aliquot #1 materials will not be submitted for laboratory analysis.” Pending selection for laboratory analysis, rather than placing Aliquot #2 sample material into a plastic bag, and then into a cooler with ice, the sample material must be placed directly into the appropriate laboratory sample container(s) with the appropriate preservative(s) (e.g., extracted into an En Core® soil sampling device, placed in a volatile organic analysis (VOA) vial with the appropriate preservative) and then stored in a cooler with ice. This will ensure minimal volatilization of contaminants of concern pending selection for analysis.

Comment 9

Section 4.1 (Sample Collection Procedures) states that 21 soil borings will be installed. It also states that soil samples will be collected from each boring for laboratory analysis from 1) the surface (6 to 12 inches bgs), 2) just above the water table (if encountered), 3) the bottom of boring, and 4) the zone with the highest PID reading. The Permittee must base sample collections on all field screening methods (e.g., visual, olfactory evidence, and PID), rather than solely on PID measurements. In addition, add additional contingency samples for analysis to the Work Plan, in the event that areas of high levels of contaminants are encountered based on all field screening methods used.

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Comment 10

Appendix A (Standard Operating Procedure – Soil Sampling), Section 5.0 (Sample Collection), “Sampling devices will be decontaminated between sampling locations...” Revise Section 4.1 of the Work Plan to discuss decontamination procedures and clarify if sampling devices will be decontaminated between sample intervals (i.e., sample depth) within the same sampling location (i.e., boring location). See Comment 7 above.

Comment 11

Figure 2 (Proposed Sampling Locations AOC 28, AOC 29, and AOC 30 Investigation Work Plan) shows the locations of the proposed soil boring locations. Address the following in the revised Work Plan:

- a. Explain why no soil borings are proposed for AOC 30 on the north and east sides of the building and add additional borings as necessary. See Comments 2, 3, and 4 above.
- b. Add another boring in AOC 29. See Comments 2, 3, and 4 above.
- c. Add proposed soil boring location identification numbers to the revised Figure 2. See Comment 6 above.

The Permittee must address all comments in this Disapproval and submit the required response letter and replacement pages to NMED no later than **July 30, 2023**.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Lane Andress of my staff at 505-690-5286.

Sincerely,



Dave Cobrain
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: L. Tsinnajinnie, NMED HWB
L. Andress, NMED HWB
H. Jones, Trihydro
L. King, EPA Region 6 (6LCRRC)

File: Reading File and WRG 2023 file