



KOCH NITROGEN COMPANY

CERTIFIED MAIL; RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED:

7005 0390 0006 6702 2005

April 16, 2007

Ms. Andrea Stone
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region VII
Air, RCRA, and Toxics Division
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101 (2 copies)

RCAP-RECEIVED

APR 23 2007

**Re: Leakage of Valve at TW-28, Groundwater Monitoring/Recovery System
Koch Nitrogen Company, Dodge City Nitrogen Plant, Dodge City, Ford County, KS
EPA I.D. No. KSD044625010**

Dear Ms. Stone:

Under its Part II Hazardous Waste Management Permit (the Permit), Koch Nitrogen Company (KNC), the owner and operator of the Dodge City Nitrogen Plant located near Dodge City, Kansas, operates a groundwater collection and treatment system. This system collects groundwater from areas around the Plant and treats the groundwater to remove hexavalent chromium (Cr), which may be present in the groundwater as a result of historic operations at the Facility.

KNC is notifying the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by this letter that the valve for recovery well TW-28 was found to be leaking during the recent sampling event. TW-28 is located on the north east-west header, just east of connection point of the Remote Station #2 header. The well was isolated immediately after discovery and the valve was repaired. Assuming a worst-case leakage duration (i. e., that it occurred immediately after the last check of the well), and based on the measured leak rate and the most recent analytical data from the recovery well, the water could have contained a maximum of 0.054 gram (0.00012 lb) of chromium per day. The reportable quantity for chromium under 40 CFR Part 302 is 5000 pounds (2,270,000 grams), well in excess of the maximum potential release. Over the 31-day period since the well was last inspected, the total potential leakage was 1.7 grams (0.0037 lb.) of chromium.

Due to the small quantity of chromium involved, and the fact that the release consisted of unaltered groundwater, it is not clear whether this incident would constitute a release event required to be reported under Part II, Section C.4 of the KNC Permit. This section requires written notification of



any release of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents identified during the course of groundwater monitoring within fifteen days after discovery. Please consider this letter to constitute a Section C.4 notification in the event EPA determines that the event is subject to this requirement.

By this letter, KNC is also notifying the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, in accordance with K.A.R. 28-48-2, of this occurrence. Based on their previous guidance, KDHE does not consider this incident to be a reportable release because of the *de minimis* quantity of chromium involved, and the fact that the substance released from the pipe was unaltered local groundwater that had just been removed from the ground.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding these matters, please contact AnnieLaurie Burke (620) 227-8631 ext. 350.

In accordance with Section B.2.b of the Permit and 40 CFR 270.11, I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision according to a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Sincerely,
KOCH NITROGEN COMPANY



Gary J. LeRock
Plant Manager

cc: Mr. Kent Schierkolk
Kansas Department of Health & Environment
Bureau of Environmental Remediation
1000 SW Jackson
Topeka, KS 66612-1366

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Kansas Department of Health & Environment
Bureau of Waste Management
Hazardous Waste Permits Section
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 320
Topeka, KS 66612-1366

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Stephen Ellingson, KMS
AnnieLaurie Burke, KNC