



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

June 19, 2002

Mr. Richard McVaigh
Permit Services Manager
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
1990 East Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726-0244

Subject: Approval of Revisions to Test Method for Vapor Pressure of Reactive Organic Compounds in Heavy Crude Oil Using Gas Chromatography

Dear Mr. McVaigh:

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District submitted revisions to the following test method to EPA Region 9 for review and approval.

Test Method for Vapor Pressure of Reactive Organic Compounds in Heavy Crude Oil Using Gas Chromatography - May 28, 2002

The revisions include: 1) extending the range of the method to crude oils with an API gravity of 26° or less; 2) adding gas chromatograph (GC) carrier gas flow specifications; 3) adding GC injector specifications ; 4) adding procedures for analyzing laboratory blanks; and 5) adding quality control forms for sampling and analysis.

The following comment is to clarify the method and not an approvability issue. The definition of heavy crude oil in Section 3.1.2 should be modified to state it is 26° or less to make this section consistent with Section 1.2.

EPA Region 9 approves the revised test method for use in SIP approved rules in California. The method has not been reviewed or approved for use in determining compliance with other programs such as air toxics. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact Stanley Tong at (415) 947-4122.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. Steckel".

Andrew Steckel
Chief, Rulemaking Office

cc: Terry Harrison, EMC
Robin Segall, EMC