

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

JULY 2, 1987

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Interpretation of RCRA Hazardous Waste Definition for Slop Oil Emulsion Solids

FROM: Marcia Williams, Director
Office of Solid Waste (WH-562)

TO: Allyn Davis, Director
Hazardous Waste Management Division (6H-CE)

We have reviewed your June 11, 1987, request for clarification on the scope of the listing slop oil emulsion solids (K049). It is our position that the Texaco interpretation is without merit. The background document and the Jacobs Engineering report (which was a significant source for background document preparation) clearly refer to a generic emulsion generated by the oil-water separation system. The APT separator is mentioned as a source only because it is the principle source of slop oil, however, it should not be considered the only source.

That the Texaco interpretation is incorrect can be clearly seen by examining page 96 (Table 37) of the Jacob's report, "Assessment of Hazardous Waste Practices in the Petroleum Refining Industry" (see attachment). The factors affecting waste composition and quantity which are specified in Table 37 clearly related to all oils finding their way into the slop oil system. There is no mention to any specific piece of equipment.

Please feel free to contact Ben Smith of my staff at 8-382-4791 if you require additional information.

Attachment

FaxBack# 11262

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION VI
ALLIED BANK TOWER AT FOUNTAIN PLACE
1445 ROSS AVENUE
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202

JUNE 11, 1987

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Request for RCRA Regulatory Interpretation
Hazardous Waste Definition of Slop Oil Emulsion Solids

FROM: Allyn M. Davis, Director
Hazardous Waste Management Division (6H-CE)

TO: Marcia Williams, Director
Office of Solid Waste (WH-562)

Attached is a request from Texaco USA for an interpretation of the listing as a hazardous waste for slop oil emulsion solids. I am sending this to your office for assistance in responding to the requester. We would appreciate any timely guidance you can provide.

Please call if you have any questions, or have your staff call Ms. Harriet Tregoning at FTS 255-6775.

Attachment

Texaco USA

May 4, 1987

Re: Hazardous Waste Management
API Separator Sludge and
Slop Oil Emulsion Solids
Definition Clarification
ENV 1332

Mr. Robert E. Layton, Jr.
Administrator - Region VI
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Allied Bank Building
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Dear Mr. Layton:

The May 2, 1980 background document for the listing of hazardous waste from petroleum refineries described the listed hazardous waste "slop oil emulsion solids" by reference to skimmings from API separators. This implies that if API separator skimmings are segregated from other slop oil streams, then the other slop oil emulsion solids are not hazardous unless they are characteristic wastes or derived from some other hazardous waste, the listed waste "slop oil emulsion solids" being restricted to API separator skimmings.

We would appreciate your confirmation of this interpretation or, if you cannot do so, we would appreciate being directed to the document describing the Agency's present, revised interpretation.

Yours very truly,

TEXACO REFINING AND MARKETING INC.

DJB:meh