

0014

File

July 15, 1985

TO: Sandy Pruitt, Field Specialist
FROM: Thomas J. Suchoski, Geologist *TS*
RE: Violation N85-2-10-2, 1 of 2, Belina Complex, ACT/007/001,
Carbon County, Utah

An evaluation of the analytical results for sediment pond #4 and filter pond #5 associated with the Valley Camp, Belina Operations has been reviewed and two exceedances were found for each pond. Filter Pond #5 had two exceedances during the month of May. Sediment Pond #4 had one exceedance in April and a second exceedance during May. These exceedances can be seen to be associated with the Total Suspended Solids (TSS) concentrations in the effluent discharges. When effluent contains high or elevated concentrations of TSS the corresponding concentration of the iron constituents is also elevated.

As part of the evaluation of the noncompliance for NPDES effluent limitations, Mr. Steve McNeil with the Department of State Health, Bureau of Water Pollution Control was contacted to determine whether they were aware of the exceedance and whether they were taking any action. Mr. McNeil indicated that they were aware of the exceedances for both the filter pond and the sediment pond associated with the Belina complex and that as standard practice they had notified EPA of the exceedances and recommended that action be taken. At this point in time they are awaiting a decision by EPA to evaluate whether or not the exceedances were caused by natural occurrences or whether they were a result of a changing situation at the Valley Camp operation. If the latter case is determined it is possible that EPA will take action requiring Valley Camp to improve their water handling systems or they will pass that responsibility to State Health.

Mr. McNeil suggested that in future actions of this type the Division may consider wording their Notice of Violation to require the operator to comply with the term of their NPDES discharge permit and contact the Division of State Health and the EPA. Such an action would allow notification of those agencies and set up a coordinated effort to solve the difficulties associated with the effluent exceedances.

jvb

cc: L. Braxton
D. Wayne Hedberg
J. Helfrich

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