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Taos Pueblo

P.O. Box 1846 · Taos, New Mexico · 87571

08/09/08

Miguel I. Flores
Director, Water Quality Protection Division USEPA, Region 6 (6WQ)
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202

Mr. Flores,

RE: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Vessel General Permit (VGP) for Discharges Incidental to the Normal Operations of Commercial and Large Recreational Vessels

To Whom it May Concern:

The Pueblo of Taos has examined the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Vessel General Permit (VGP) for Discharges Incidental to the Normal Operations of Commercial and Large Recreational Vessels. Since 2006, Taos Pueblo has had U.S. E.P.A. approved Water Quality Standards, which apply to all surface waters in and around the exterior boundaries of Taos Pueblo. Pursuant to section §404 and §518 of the Clean Water Act, Taos Pueblo is the certifying agency for all such activities that occur on Taos Pueblo Lands. In the case of this National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Vessel General Permit (VGP) for Discharges Incidental to the Normal Operations of Commercial and Large Recreational Vessels, Taos Pueblo is denying certification based on the following information:

- Section 7-1-2 of the Taos Pueblo Conservation Code, enacted in December of 1992, states: "No person(s) shall be allowed to use any motor propelled boat, raft, canoe, or water craft on any lake, river, or pond within the exterior boundaries of the Pueblo of Taos lands.

If you need further information please feel free to contact the Pueblo of Taos Environmental Program Manager Robert Gomez or Environmental Scientist, Jeff Ogburn at (505) 751-4601.

Sincerely,

Paul T. Martinez

Mr. Paul T. Martinez
Governor – Taos Pueblo

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