

Lake Charles VCM Plant

Conoco Chemicals Company
A Division of Conoco Inc.
P. O. Box 605
Westlake, Louisiana 70669
(318) 491-5211

CERTIFIED MAIL #8651413
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 11, 1982

Myron Knudson
Water Management Division
Environmental Protection Agency, Region VI
First International Building
1201 Elm Street
Dallas, TX 75270

Dear Mr. Knudson:

In accordance with the conditions of the Conoco Chemicals Company VCM Plant's NPDES Permit No. LA0003476, we are informing your office that a partial by-pass of the waste water secondary treatment system occurred on May 6, 1982, and again on May 7, 1982. The partial by-passes occurred at the flood control box for 35 minutes on May 6 and for eight hours and forty minutes on May 7 after a continuous rainfall of 1.37 inches on May 6 and 0.53 inches on May 7 as recorded by the National Weather Service at Lake Charles Municipal Airport. However, local flooding in Westlake indicated that a much heavier rainfall occurred at the VCM Plant. The partial by-pass on May 6 occurred from 12:30 pm to 1:10 pm and the by-pass on May 7 occurred from midnight to 8:40 am.

As required by our NPDES Permit, a grab sample of the partial by-pass was collected. Only one sample was collected on May 6 since the by-pass lasted less than one hour. Samples were collected every hour for the May 7 by-pass and were combined to form a composite sample. Effluent characteristics of the partial by-passes are as follows:

May 6

	<u>PPM</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
Flow	-	9343
BOD	* (1)	(1)
COD	61	.570
TSS	231	2.16
Ammonia	.225	.002
Chlorinated Hydrocarbons (As Ethylene Dichloride)	37	.346

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Myron Knudson
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May 7

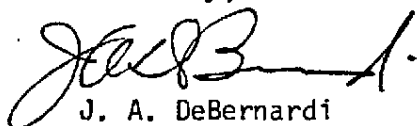
	<u>PPM</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
Flow	-	4,087,000
Bod	(1)	(1)
COD	193	789
TSS	697	2849
Ammonia	.135	.551
Chlorinated Hydrocarbons (As Ethylene Dichloride)	112	458

(1) Five-day BOD analyses are not yet complete.

There has been no visible impact to the receiving waters as a result of the by-pass. As can be seen in the description of the non-compliance, the discharge of all parameters except for Total Suspended Solids on the May 7 by-pass was less than the values allowed by our NPDES Permit. We will send the results of the BOD analyses to you when they are completed.

Should further information be required, please contact Ron Bryan, Chief Process Engineer at (318) 491-5062.

Sincerely,



J. A. DeBernardi
Plant Manager
Conoco VCM

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cc:

J. Dale Givens - DNR

bcc;

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