



March 5, 1997

Mr. Henry Kindervatter
Case Manager
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Evaluation, Cleanup & Responsibility Assessment
Division of Responsible Site Remediation
401 East State Street, 5th Floor
Trenton, NJ 08625-0432

Re: Recent Company Merger Between
Tenneco Inc. and El Paso Natural Gas Company
ECRA/ISRA Case No. 85-161 & 89-475

Dear Mr. Kindervatter:

The purpose of this letter is to provide to you information concerning the recent merger between El Paso Natural Gas Company ("El Paso") and Tenneco Inc., as it relates to the ongoing remediation at the former Tenneco site in Fords, New Jersey.

As you are aware, the Industrial Avenue, Fords, New Jersey Site is currently being remediated under ACO ECRA/ISRA Case No. 85-161 & 89-475. Tenneco Polymers, Inc. is the current owner of the facility and is the lead party responsible for the remediation under the ACO. The financial assurance currently in place is a self-guarantee that has been posted by Tenneco Inc. on behalf of Tenneco Polymers, Inc.

Pursuant to the merger, Tenneco Inc. was merged into El Paso and the former Tenneco subsidiaries became subsidiaries of El Paso. As a result of the merger, Tenneco Polymers, Inc. is now known as EPEC Polymers, Inc.

With respect to the day-to-day aspects of the remediation of the above referenced Site the contacts are still myself at (713) 757-7685 or Ed Shaw at (706) 769-4434 with ESCM.

We are currently preparing for submission to the Department an application requesting an amendment to the foregoing ACO to reflect, as applicable, any necessary changes to the name of the responsible party and/or the financial assurance currently in place.

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We would appreciate, however, if until the amendment is effective, all matters and associated correspondence concerning the foregoing remediation could refer to the post merger corporate names.

Sincerely,

Roger Towe

Roger Towe, P.E.
Principal Environmental Engineer

cc: Dave D'Aloia
Marc Ferries
Ed Shaw