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TEXAS NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

May 16, 2000

Mr. Ruben Castillo
Manufacturing Environmental Manager
National Instruments
11500 North Mopac Expressway Austin,
Texas 78759-3504

Re: National Instruments
Austin Manufacturing Facility
Austin, Travis County

Dear Mr. Castillo:

This is in response to your letter dated April 5, 2000 concerning the above referenced facility. Based on your representation, it appears that your facility will not exceed its maximum 0.6 tons per year (tpy) of lead emissions. We understand that the facility is a test and diagnostic equipment assembly plant which utilizes stack vent equipment consisting of four wave solder machines, four reflow ovens, and a single solder pot operation. In addition, we understand that solder paste is used in the reflow oven operation to control lead-PM emissions.

After evaluation of the information which you have furnished, we have determined that your facility is exempt from the permit procedures under 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Section 106.227 if constructed and operated as described in your letter. On this basis, no changes in the exemption status will be required. The information which you supplied will be incorporated into the exemption file. This permit by rule authorized by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) pursuant to 30 TAC Chapter 106.227. A copy of the permit by rule in effect at the time of this determination is enclosed. You must operate in accordance with all requirements of the enclosed permit by rule.

You are reminded that regardless of whether a permit is required, these facilities must be in compliance with all rules and regulations of the TNRCC and of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at all times.