



An American Standard Brands Company

September 7, 2022

Mr. Shane Nixon
Ms. Becky Radulski
Senior Environmental Engineer
EGLE Air Quality Division
2100 West M-32
Gaylord, Michigan 49735

Re: Response to Violation Notice dated August 9, 2022
Decorative Panels International Inc. – Alpena Hardboard Mill
Compliance Update

Dear Mr. Nixon and Ms. Radulski:

Following Decorative Panels International's (the Company's or DPI's) Violation Notice (VN) response submitted August 23, 2022, we wanted to provide you this update regarding the Company's efforts to address concerns raised in the above-referenced VN. Today the Company is wrapping up two full days of meetings with our odor expert, Suresh Relwani at RK Associates. As an initial matter, we are pleased to report that having observed our wastewater lagoon and our current wastewater treatment operations, Mr. Relwani has confirmed that lagoon appears to be working properly and is not a current source of problematic odors. The Company's work with Mr. Relwani is ongoing; we are pleased to report that it appears that the Company's corrective actions reported in our August 22 VN response have been successful in encouraging aerobic respiration in the lagoon and preventing potential lagoon-associated odor problems since the issues reported the week of August 5 in the VN. We will continue to monitor wastewater treatment system parameters in the lagoon to maintain proper operation. We also have spare/redundant parts ready to maintain continued operation.

With regard to the "Sweet Burnt Wood" odors identified in the VN, the Company is working with its experts to investigate the potential sources and community impacts. We will continue to cooperate with Michigan EGLE and keep the Department updated regarding the progress of our investigation and potential compliance measures.

As we indicated in our VN Response, the Company has submitted a FOIA request for odor complaints in Alpena to better help us with our investigation. Although we understand the Department is processing our request – on a going-forward basis, we would also like to request that Michigan EGLE provide the Company any complaints it receives from the community in "real time," so the Company can investigate and respond quickly. Because odors can be brief

and variable, it is difficult to adequately investigate complaints unless we receive them quickly. Additionally, the Company believes quick investigation of complaints is the best way to address community concerns.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Decorative Panels International, Inc.



Timothy D. Rombach, PE
Sr. Environmental Engineer

Copy: Dan VanMassenhove, DPI
Tammi Van Til, Madison Consulting
Jenine Camilleri, EGLE
Charlie Denton/Joel Bowers, Barnes & Thornburg LLP