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Air Quality Division
Detroit Office

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

September 11, 2018

Todd Zynda, Senior Environmental Engineer
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Air Quality Division
3058 W. Grand Boulevard
Suite 2300
Detroit, MI 48202

RE: Detroit Renewable Power – Response to Violation Notice dated August 21, 2018 for Alleged Odors on August 12, 2018

Dear Mr. Zynda:

This correspondence is Detroit Renewable Power's (DRP) response to the Violation Notice (VN) dated August 21, 2018 regarding odors allegedly emanating from DRP's operation in violation of ROP No. MI-ROP-M4148-2011a, A. General Conditions, 12(b) and R336.1901(b) on July 22, 2018. According to the VN, inspections conducted by MDEQ-AQD in response to complaints reportedly found moderate to strong, consistent garbage odors in residential areas downwind of DRP's facility.

DRP takes odor management very seriously and remains diligent in operating its facility according to the Consent Judgment (CJ) issued on October 20, 2014. As you know, the CJ requires DRP to have an Odor Management Plan (OMP) which requires review and recordkeeping of odor abatement activities on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis. These practices are intended to ensure conformance with the OMP to mitigate odors from the facility.

On August 12, 2018 the daily inspections found the municipal solid waste conveyors were operating properly; the doors were closed at the alleyway, the tipping floors, and the MSW receiving areas except as noted below; and the tipping floor was clean. DRP has recently become aware of improvements that can be made to the odor spray system and the MSW roof fans, which we are pursuing and we anticipate will further reduce odor emissions.

In addition, a routine weekly odor survey was conducted by Mr. Rob Suida on August 12, beginning at 9:55 a.m, approximately ten minutes after the first MDEQ survey on that date

concluded. During this survey, no strong (Level 3) odors were encountered anywhere in the area, including locations immediately adjacent to DRP's facility. A copy of Mr. Suida's August 12, 2018 survey report is attached.

Although DRP has requested that MDEQ provide copies of any odor surveys it relies upon as a basis for issuing a VN, MDEQ has not provided any such report for August 12 and has not otherwise substantiated the allegations in the VN. Accordingly, based on the information available to DRP at this time as discussed in this letter, DRP cannot agree that nuisance odors attributable to DRP's operation of sufficient intensity, frequency and duration to constitute a violation of Rule 901 occurred on August 12, 2018.

DRP appreciates MDEQ's assistance in its ongoing efforts to minimize odor impact. In order to enable DRP to respond most effectively to odor concerns, we ask that MDEQ notify Mark Fletcher, Director of EHS at 313.963.0749 and mfletcher@detroitrenewable.com as soon as possible with all essential details when any odor complaint potentially relating to DRP is received. This will allow DRP to immediately investigate and potentially respond to the complaint and report the results back to MDEQ. Also, please provide us with any field notes or reports concerning the August 12 investigations to aid in our review of these concerns.

If you have questions concerning this response, please feel free to contact Mark Fletcher at the phone number above.

Sincerely,

Detroit Renewable Power


Rob Suida, Plant Manager

Cc: Paul Max, City of Detroit, BSEED
John Leone, MDAG
Mary Ann Dolehanty, MDEQ
Craig Fitzner, MDEQ
Christopher Ethridge, MDEQ
Wilhemina McLemore, MDEQ
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