



January 26, 2024

Cody Yazzie  
Environmental Engineer  
Air Quality Division  
7953 Adobe Road  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009-5025

E-MAILED  
-1/26/24

**Re: Violation Response: DLD Environmental (SRN: N0656)**

Dear Cody Yazzie,

Thank you for your courtesy in giving DLD additional time to respond to the Notice of Violation (NOV) dated December 20, 2023. DLD has used this additional time to access its off-site storage records as well as to FOIA records from AQD. This request turned out to be quite voluminous and we wanted to say "thank you" to the AQD FOIA liaison who managed our request.

**Historical Context:**

Prior to the inspection conducted on November 29, 2023, AQD's last inspection of DLD was in 2007. At that time DLD operated the following equipment:

- Hoods #1 & #2 ..... PTI: 708-83 & PTI 708-83A
- 6 Storage Tanks..... PTI: 759-83A
- 2 Shredders..... *Exempt under Rule 290*
- 1 Gas Processing Unit ..... *Exempt under Rule 290*

In late 2010 and early 2011, while DLD was working on its 10 year Part B RCRA permit renewal/construction permit application, DLD also worked with AQD to get approval for the following new air permits:

- Hammer mill ..... PTI 236-10
- 5 Fume Hoods/4 Shredders..... PTI 239-10

During that time period, there was much productive discussion between DLD and AQD in order to create permits that made sense, given the unique nature of DLD operations. These two air permits were issued in late March of 2011.

In June of 2013, DLD experienced a fire which ultimately resulted in the re-building of its facility. At that time, DLD re-evaluated and changed process locations in order to achieve greater operational efficiencies. This resulted in the re-location of some permitted equipment.

## Violation Response:

### General:

With respect to all cited violations, it is important to note that despite any administrative issues, DLD has always performed monthly breakthrough testing (which includes air samples and analysis) for all PCD/permitted equipment (see attached "monthly breakthrough testing"). Consequently, DLD is able to show that none of its permitted equipment has exceeded any annual emission limit. Instead, any violations are minor administrative lapses which have NOT adversely impacted human health or the environment.

### Categorical Response (See numerical responses below as well as Table 1 which follows):

In order to streamline DLD's response, we will address the violations for the hoods & shredders (PTI 239-10) and the Hammer Mill (PTI 236-10), in 6 categories (see Table 1). For each category, DLD responds as follows:

*Note: Equipment specific response information can also be found in Table 1.*

#### 1. No Operational Maintenance Plan (OMP)

An OMP for the Hammer Mill was previously submitted and approved (see attached Permits To Install / PTI 236-10 / Hammer Mill OMP).

After a thorough review of the voluminous internal records and records FOIA'd from AQD, DLD has been unable to find an OMP for its Fume Hoods or its Shredders (PTI 239-10). However, the maintenance requirements of such an OMP are largely met by the equipment inspections performed and documented in DLD's daily checklist (See "Daily Inspection Check Sheet" attached).

*DLD intends to have these OMPs created and submitted for approval by February 2, 2024.*

#### 2. Failure to provide results of breakthrough testing.

Attached you will find 18 months of breakthrough testing for all permitted equipment. (See "monthly breakthrough testing" attached)

#### 3. Failure to provide OMP Plan Maintenance Records.

In accordance with DLD's OMP for the Hammer Mill, attached is a sample of DLD's daily checklist which documents DLD's inspections as required by the OMP.

In addition, while currently there is no OMP for the Hoods and Shredders, the same daily inspection checklist documents DLD's inspections for its Hoods and Shredders. DLD also replaces all activated carbon on an annual basis, or sooner if indicated by monthly breakthrough testing results.

Finally, In addition to the carbon replacement and inspections mentioned above, DLD also performs regular preventative maintenance on all equipment which includes:

- Hammer replacements (every ~4 hours of Hammer Mill operation)
- Shredder Teeth Replacement (As needed)

**Note:** *Given that hammer replacement and shredder teeth replacement have no impact on air permit emissions, DLD has not provided these records. However, they are available upon request.*

**4. Failure to provide records of the waste category and amount processed.**

As part of its waste management information system, DLD keeps general records of each waste category, and amount received and processed. However, the information is part of its waste management data system and in order to have such information readily available, an appropriate report needs to be created and run monthly so that the report can be accessible and available upon request.

*DLD intends to have this report created and in use by March 29, 2024.*

**5. Emission Calculations**

Despite consistently performing its monthly breakthrough testing and analysis, at some point DLD stopped performing the calculations on resultant data. Given the small emissions amount for each PCD, DLD had hoped to find correspondence with AQD authorizing this change while it was conducting an extensive historical document review in response to this violation. Unfortunately, no such authorization was found. Consequently, DLD has now made the calculations with the already existing monthly data. (Please find attached "Air Emission Calculations" for the last 18 months, as requested).

**6. Particulate Control Filter Replacement**

It is interesting that DLD's Hammer Mill OMP specifically says that "[t]here are currently no particulate generating operations on the dock." However, the Hammer Mill PTI language requires that a filter be installed as a condition of operation AND that DLD must document each time the furnace filter is replaced. In any event, DLD has been replacing the Hammer Mill particulate filter "as needed". However, it has not maintained the necessary documentation.

*DLD will now, and in the future, document each time the particulate filter is replaced.*

The above information applies along with information found in Table 1 below which includes AQD's violation notice along with additional equipment specific response information as well as DLD's timeline to fix any issues.

Cody, thanks again for the courtesy you've extended DLD as we've responded to this violation. Since none of the original creators of our permit are still available, it was very instructive to take a deep dive into the historical records to see everything that went into originally creating these permits.

As a side note, DLD has additional ideas in mind that would require either new permits, or the modification of existing permits. Since we have not worked with AQD permit engineers for many years, we are now unsure of who to contact? Is Andrew Drury still our permit engineer? Please let us know who we should reach to when we're ready to file an a new or amended application.

Thanks again for all your help!

Sincerely,

Brent W. Walter  
President  
DLD Environmental Services, Inc.

Cc: Annette Switzer, EGLE  
Christopher Ethridge, EGLE  
Brad Myott, EGLE  
Jenine Camilleri, EGLE  
Monica Brothers, EGLE