



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
GAYLORD FIELD OFFICE



DAN WYANT  
DIRECTOR

September 25, 2014

Mr. Keith Mulka, Plant Manager  
Hillman Power Company  
750 Progress Street  
Hillman, MI 49746

SRN: N1266, Montmorency County

Dear Mr. Mulka:

**VIOLATION NOTICE**

On August 27, 2014, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Air Quality Division (AQD), conducted an inspection of the area around Hillman Power Company located at 750 Progress Street, Hillman, Michigan. The purpose of this inspection was to determine Hillman Power's compliance with the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act; Part 55, Air Pollution Control, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Act 451); the administrative rules and to investigate recent a complaint received on August 26, 2014, regarding sooty fallout attributed to Hillman Power's operations.

During the inspection, staff observed the following:

Process Description	Rule/Permit Condition Violated	Comments
Wood-fired boiler	Rule 901	Soot fallout on surrounding neighborhood

On August 27, the AQD staff sampled sooty material soiling property at a location near Hillman Power. Microscopic analysis showed that the sooty material was charred plant fibers, similar to fly ash from Hillman Power. Staff observed that the look and feel of the material was the same as earlier fallout from Hillman Power and the area sampled was very close to places where fallout from Hillman Power was found in the past.

In addition, the AQD staff has received three other complaints of sooty fallout from Hillman Power. These complaints came in on August 22, August 24, and September 16, 2014, from two individuals and from the Hillman Township Board.

In the professional judgment of the AQD staff, the fallout sampled was sufficient to constitute a violation of Rule 901 for both injurious effects on property and unreasonable interference with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property. Repeated complaints suggest fallout is a continuing problem, not just a one-time malfunction.

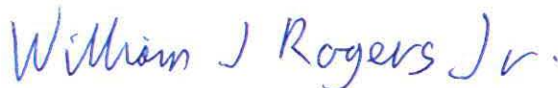
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Please initiate actions necessary to correct the cited violation and submit a written response to this Violation Notice by October 16, 2014 (which coincides with 21 calendar days from the date of this letter). The written response should include: the dates the violation occurred; an explanation of the causes and duration of the violation; whether the violation is ongoing; a summary of the actions that have been taken and are proposed to be taken to correct the violation and the dates by which these actions will take place; and what steps are being taken to prevent a reoccurrence.

If Hillman Power believes the above observations or statements are inaccurate or do not constitute violations of the applicable legal requirements cited, please provide appropriate factual information to explain your position.

Thank you for your attention to resolving the violation cited above. If you have any questions regarding the violation or the actions necessary to bring this facility into compliance, please contact me at the number listed below.

Sincerely,



William J. Rogers Jr.  
Environmental Quality Analyst  
Air Quality Division  
989-705-3406

cc: Hillman Township Board  
cc/via email: Ms. Lynn Fiedler, DEQ  
Ms. Mary Ann Dolehanty, DEQ  
Ms. Teresa Seidel, DEQ  
Mr. Thomas Hess, DEQ  
Mr. Jason Wolf, DEQ  
cc: Ms. Janis Ransom, DEQ