



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
GRAND RAPIDS DISTRICT OFFICE



C. HEIDI GREYER
DIRECTOR

November 3, 2017

Mr. Brian Hoeker
Almond Products, Inc.
17150 148th Avenue
Spring Lake, Michigan 49456

SRN: N6578, Ottawa County

Dear Mr. Hoeker:

VIOLATION NOTICE

On October 5, 2017, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Air Quality Division (AQD), observed required Destruction Efficiency testing of Almond Products, Inc's thermal oxidizer located at 17150 148th Avenue, Spring Lake, Michigan. The purpose of the testing was to determine 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 Air Pollution Control Rules; and the conditions of Permit to Install (PTI) number 361-06F

During the testing, the oxidizer was not properly operating and testing was discontinued, resulting in the following:

Process Description	Rule/Permit Condition Violated	Comments
EULINE1 - Thermal Oxidizer	PTI No. 361-06F, Special Condition (SC) V.2.	Failure to conduct Destruction Efficiency testing within the 180 day deadline.
EULINE1- Thermal Oxidizer	PTI No. 361-06F, SC IV.3; Rule 910	Failure to maintain and operate the thermal oxidizer in a satisfactory manner.

Almond Products, Inc. was required to conduct Destruction Efficiency (DE) testing of the thermal oxidizer associated with EULINE1 to show compliance with the Emission Limits for the line. In accordance with PTI No. 361-06F, EULINE1, SC V.2, Almond Products, Inc. was required to conduct DE testing within 180 days after the modification date of EULINE1, which coincides with October 10, 2017. As of November 1, 2017, testing has not been completed.

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Additionally, AQD staff observed the operation of EULINE1 while the thermal oxidizer was not properly operating. This constitutes a violation of Act 451, Rule 910, and PTI No. 361-06F, which require that an air-cleaning device shall be installed, maintained, and operated in a satisfactory manner and in accordance with the administrative rules and existing law.

Please initiate actions necessary to correct the cited violations and submit a written response to this Violation Notice by November 24, 2017 (which coincides with 21 calendar days from the date of this letter). The written response should include: the dates the violations occurred; an explanation of the causes and duration of the violations; whether the violations are ongoing; a summary of the actions that have been taken and are proposed to be taken to correct the violations and the dates by which these actions will take place; and what steps are being taken to prevent a recurrence.

If Almond Products, Inc. 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 violations cited above and for the cooperation that was extended to me during my visit to Almond Products, Inc. If you have any questions regarding the violations or the actions necessary to bring this facility into compliance, please contact me at the number listed below.

Sincerely,



Kaitlyn DeVries
Environmental Quality Analyst
Air Quality Division
616-356-0003

cc: Ms. Heidi Hollenbach, DEQ
cc/via e-mail: Ms. Lynn Fiedler, DEQ
Ms. Mary Ann Dolehanty, DEQ
Mr. Chris Ethridge, DEQ
Mr. Thomas Hess, DEQ