



April 9, 2024

Mr. Adam Bognar
Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) – Air Quality Division (AQD)
27700 Donald Court
Warren, Michigan 48092

**RE: Response to the Violation Notice
Rosati Specialties, LLC.
24200 Capital Boulevard, Clinton Township, MI**

Dear Mr. Bognar:

Rosati Specialties, LLC (RS) is pleased to respond to the Violations Notice (VN) dated March 21, 2024, issued by the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) – Air Quality Division (AQD). Your VN letter was sent following the site inspection performed by you on February 29, 2024, and required a response from RS by April 11, 2024. This letter presents our response with an overview of our compliance program and specifics addressing the items of the AQD site visit and VN.

RS Compliance Background

RS is a small business with a philosophy to conduct business while protecting the environment. Since learning about applicable rules of federal Clean Air Act, approximately seven years ago, RS has been cognitive of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) in their coating materials and always on the lookout for new economical yet sustainable alternative green products to replace the coatings with higher VOC content. For example, RS is committed to choosing water-based paint products, when feasible, at the EU-Spray Booth (where solvent-based coatings are used) to enhance environmental sustainability.

Since the issuance of PTI No. 38-17, RS has initiated a continuous compliance review and improvement philosophy to ensure maintaining facility compliance. Specifically, RS routinely reviews the operations, material usage, and air emissions to ensure compliance with the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act; Part 55, Air Pollution Control, the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Act 451), the Air Pollution Control Rules, and the conditions of the Permit to Install (PTI) number 38-17.

Further, RS calculates the emissions of VOCs and HAPs assuming all such compounds are emitted to the atmosphere. This approach calculates the facility emissions conservatively, and potentially more than the actual emissions. RS also implements a comprehensive database to record material usage monitors and controls emissions at each emission unit (EU) and provides required training to its employees to perform

record keeping of the products that are used at each EU. And, RS retains Environmental Resources Group (ERG), an environmental consultant, to support and maintain permit compliance since 2017.

Response Letter Organization

The AQD's March 21, 2024, VN identified two issues, based on the site inspection on February 29, 2024, and indicated the response should address these items:

- i. The dates the violations occurred,
- ii. An explanation of the causes and duration of the violations,
- iii. Whether the violations are ongoing,
- iv. Actions taken to correct the violations, and
- v. Steps implemented to prevent reoccurrence.

This response letter has been prepared to follow this same list and numbered sequence to help convey our information.

Response to VN Items

- EU-Roll Coat: PTI No. 38-17 Section VI Special Condition 4 – AQD Comment: Facility failed to maintain accurate records of monthly acetone usage.

Response: RS believes there has been no violation because since the issuance of PTI No. 38-17, RS has been reporting the approximate monthly usage of acetone using the annual product usage. Based on the acetone usage records the estimated and reported average monthly acetone usage is 218.6 gallons with a standard deviation of 27.6 gallons. RS has submitted the record keeping database to AQD semi-annually/annually since the issuance of PTI No. 38-17 and have not ever misrepresented or erred in the reported usage. RS understood that AQD agreed with the methodology used as there has been no comment from AQD regarding this record keeping method for acetone.

While RS believes there is no violation, we appreciate AQD's comment on this record keeping as it has provided RS the opportunity to review and improve the record keeping for acetone. The specific answers to the questions regarding this item are presented below.

(i) The dates the violation occurred: N/A. RS has submitted the record keeping database to AQD semi-annually/annually since the issuance of the 2017 permit with no comment from the AQD regarding the record keeping method for acetone. It was therefore presumed that record keeping was adequate and that AQD agreed with the methodology.

(ii) An explanation of the causes and duration of the violation: N/A, see (i) above.

(iii) Whether the violations are ongoing: N/A, see (i) above.

(iv) Actions taken to correct the violations: After further review, RS has improved the existing record keeping mechanism to obtain a more precise estimate on monthly raw material usage for acetone, as follows:

acetone monthly usage = acetone storage at the beginning of the month + purchase of acetone in the month – acetone storage at the end of the month

(v) Steps implemented to prevent reoccurrence: RS believes the improvement of the record keeping for estimated monthly acetone usage and on-going employee training will provide a more accurate estimate and reporting of month-to-month usage of acetone.

- *EU- Spray Booth: PTI No. 38-17 Section III Special Condition 1 – AQD Comment: Facility did not store waste materials in closed containers.*

Response: RS appreciates the AQD observation of the lid/cover missing from the process 5-gallon waste container (plastic bucket). While we acknowledge the covering was not in place, RS believes the circumstance does not rise to the level of a VN because it was easily/quickly remedied on the same day, and it grossly misrepresents the very small daily accumulated amount (< 1 gallon) that is transferred daily to the compliant larger covered waste storage containers. The specific answers to the questions regarding this item are presented below.

(i) The date the violation occurred: February 29, 2024.

(ii) An explanation of the causes and duration of the violation: RS collects all waste material generated at the EU – Spray Booth into a small 5- gallon container. Daily waste generation at EU – Spray Booth is less than one gallon. The collected waste is transferred daily into larger, closed 250-gallon totes and 55-gallon drums for appropriate temporary storage and disposal. The transfer process involves removing the bucket to the storage area and after transferring the contents returning the bucket to the EU-Spray Booth.

(iii) Whether the violations are ongoing: No, the container cover was placed the same day as the AQD site visit.

(iv) Actions taken to correct the violations: RS placed the lid on the 5-gallon waste container bucket near the spray booth shortly after AQD observations on February 29, 2024. Photographic evidence was submitted to AQD on March 1, 2024 (see below for the photograph submitted to AQD).

(v) Steps implemented to prevent reoccurrence: To prevent recurrence RS has amended the employee training process for EU-Spray Booth to include emphasis on cover replacement after daily transfer of the less than one gallon of waste to the larger 275-gallon poly totes or 55-gallon drums. This will be regularly covered during on-going and routine employee training.



Figure 1: The closed waste container at EU – Spray Booth

Conclusion

RS appreciates the opportunity to respond to AQD's VN dated March 21, 2024. Being a small business with a philosophy to conduct business sustainably, RS is committed to complying with all the applicable rules and regulations to safeguard the environment.

If you have questions about this response letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 586-783-3866 or email at Don@rosatispecialties.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donald Rosati'.

Donald Rosati
Owner
Rosati Specialties, LLC
24300 Capital Blvd
Clinton Twp, MI 48036

Cc/via email/mail: Jenine Camilleri, Enforcement Unit Supervisor at EGLE, AQD, P.O. Box 30260,
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