



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY  
LANSING



PHILLIP D. ROOS  
DIRECTOR

May 21, 2024

VIA E-MAIL

George Troth  
Meritage Hospitality Group  
45 Ottawa Avenue SW  
Suite 600  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 48503

Gordon VanLaan  
GVL Excavating, LLC  
P.O. Box E  
Moline, Michigan 49335

SRN/ID: U112403062; Berrien County

Dear George Troth and Gordon VanLaan:

**VIOLATION NOTICE**

On May 14, 2024, the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Air Quality Division (AQD) performed an asbestos NESHAP (National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants) inspection at 620 South Main Street, Watervliet, Berrien County. The purpose of this inspection was to determine compliance with the requirements of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR), Part 61, Subpart M (National Emission Standard for Asbestos), and Rule 942 of Part 55, Air Pollution Control of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

According to my investigation, Meritage Hospitality Group owns the subject property and GVL Excavating, LLC, performed the demolition activities. The National Emission Standard for Asbestos holds both the owner and operator equally liable for any violations.

During the inspection, staff observed the following:

The subject facility had been recently demolished. An asbestos survey and asbestos abatement had been conducted prior to the demolition however a notification of intent to demolish had not been submitted.

Process Description	Section Violated	Comments
On 7/3/24, staff performed a post demolition inspection at 620 S. Main St., Watervliet. During the inspection, staff observed a site where a demolition of a commercial structure took place.	40 CFR 61.145 (b)(1)	Failure to provide 10 working day notification of intent to demolish.

## VIOLATION NOTICE

Meritage Hospitality Group and GVL Excavating LLC

Page 2

May 21, 2024

Please initiate actions necessary to correct the cited violation and submit a written response to this violation notice by June 14, 2024. The written response should include: the date(s) 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.

The signed written response from the owner and operator may be submitted by mail to Jeremy Howe, TPU Supervisor at EGLE, AQD, P.O. Box 30260 Lansing, Michigan 48909 -7760 and must include a copy to Jason Wolf, Enforcement Unit at the same address. The response may be scanned and e-mailed as an attachment to [HoweJ1@Michigan.gov](mailto:HoweJ1@Michigan.gov) and [WolfJ2@Michigan.gov](mailto:WolfJ2@Michigan.gov).

If you believe the above observations or statements are inaccurate or do not constitute a violation 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 and for the cooperation that was extended to me during our conversations. If you have any questions regarding the violation notification or the actions necessary to bring this facility into compliance, please feel free to contact me at 517-582-0535; [Belli@Michigan.gov](mailto:Belli@Michigan.gov); or EGLE, AQD, 301 East Louis Glick Highway, Jackson, Michigan 49201-1556.

Sincerely,



Ivan Bell

Senior Environmental Quality Analyst  
Air Quality Division

cc: Annette Switzer, EGLE  
Christopher Ethridge, EGLE  
Brad Myott, EGLE  
Jeremy Howe, EGLE  
Monica Brothers, EGLE  
Jason Wolf, EGLE