



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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



PHILLIP D. ROOS
DIRECTOR

May 21, 2024

VIA USPS

Steven Pitsch
Pitsch Companies
Asbestos Contractors, Inc.
675 Richmond Street NW
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504

Mayor Rosalynn Bliss
City of Grand Rapids
300 Monroe Avenue NW
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

ID: U412402262; Kent County

Dear Steven Pitsch and Mayor Rosalynn Bliss:

VIOLATION NOTICE

On May 6, 2024, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Air Quality Division (AQD) conducted an inspection of the commercial building located at 273 Market Avenue, Grand Rapids, Kent 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 our investigation, the City of Grand Rapids is the owner, and Pitsch Companies / Asbestos Contractors, Inc. conducted the asbestos abatement activities. The National Emission Standard for Asbestos (NESHAP) holds the *owner and operator* liable for all violations.

During the investigation staff observed the following:

The structure that was located at 273 Market Avenue was undergoing asbestos abatement activities. A room in the basement of the structure had asbestos containing floor tile and was in the process of being abated. The floor tile, in its original condition, was classified as a non-friable asbestos containing product, however during the abatement process the floor tile was made to become Regulated Asbestos Containing Material (RACM). The floor tile was crushed to the point it was made friable by mechanical means and was made subject to the asbestos NESHAP regulations. At the time of my inspection, the RACM floor tile was dry, and water wasn't being used during the abatement process.

VIOLATION NOTICE

Stephen Pitsch & Mayor Rosalynn Bliss

Page 2

May 21, 2024

Process Description	Section Violated	Comments
Failure to wet RACM during the stripping operation	40 CFR §61.145(c)(3)	Failed to keep RACM floor tile wet during the removal process.

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 date(s) 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* to this violation notice, may be submitted by mail and directed to Jeremy Howe, TPU Supervisor at EGLE, AQD, P.O. Box 30260, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7760 and submit a copy to Jason Wolf, Enforcement Unit, at EGLE, AQD, P.O. Box 30260, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7760. The response may be scanned and e-mailed to HoweJ1@Michigan.gov and 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 extended to me during our conversation. If you have any questions regarding the violation notice or the actions necessary to bring this facility into compliance, please contact me at 517-599-7825; e-mail at BrownJ9@Michigan.gov; or the post office box address provided in the paragraph above.

Sincerely,



Jeremiah Brown
Senior Environmental Quality Analyst
Air Quality Division

cc: Annette Switzer, EGLE
Christopher Ethridge, EGLE
Brad Myott, EGLE
Heidi Hollenbach, EGLE
Jeremy Howe, EGLE
Jason Wolf, EGLE