



Environmental
Protection Agency

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

Re: OHR 000 165 928
American Gas Group
Lucas County
Hazardous Waste
**Notice of Violation/
Return to Compliance**
#3103

September 19, 2011

Mr. Duncan Lam
American Gas Group
Specialty Gases of America, Inc.
6055 Brent Road
Toledo, Ohio 43611

Dear Mr. Lam:

Thank you for accompanying me during Ohio EPA's September 6, 2011, complaint investigation **(CI)** and compliance evaluation inspection **(CEI)** of American Gas Group (AGG) located at 6055 Brent Road, in Toledo, Ohio. We were also accompanied by Mr. Joshua Jones and Mr. Rick Kowalczyk of AGG. I inspected AGG to determine its compliance with Ohio's hazardous waste laws as found in Chapter 3734. of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and Chapter 3745. of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). My inspection included observations of facility operations and a review of written documentation. This letter will explain the violation I found and what you did to correct the violation. This letter will also explain the validity of the complaint.

AGG fills cylinders with various gases (as many as 100) such as nitrogen, oxygen, argon, carbon dioxide, helium, hydrogen, propane, propylene, isobutene, butane and dimethyl ether. Some gases are shipped liquefied and some at high pressure. When the cylinders are nearly empty they are returned to AGG by the customer. They are not completely emptied since the users do not want to run out in the middle of their processes. Most users switch out the cylinders when the pressure runs low. The cylinders received by AGG still have some product remaining inside. When they are needed again, they are filled ("topped off") with the same gas and returned to the customer. Therefore, the cylinders do not contain waste; they contain product. Some cylinders are stored inside, but most are stored outside. Most of the filling is accomplished inside; however, hydrogen is filled outside for safety reasons.

On July 10, 2010, a cylinder valve corroded, failed and released a cloud of hydrogen bromide. This gas is acidic and once the release was over, cleanup of the area was started. Ohio EPA and TDES' reports explained that the cylinder that leaked hydrogen bromide was cleaned up by AGG personnel with supervision and assistance of EQ of Michigan. The cylinder that leaked, the surrounding cylinders and concrete pad were neutralized and cleaned. The waste (mostly floor dry and water) was tested for pH, found to be above a pH of 2 (near neutral) and discarded at Chemical Analytics of Romulus, Michigan. The cleanup appears to have been handled thoroughly and no hazardous waste was generated as a result.

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At the time of my inspection, AGG was not generating hazardous waste. AGG does not anticipate ever generating hazardous waste. AGG does generate a very small amount of used oil. AGG generates the following non-hazardous and universal wastes:

1. Used Oil: AGG generates used oil from vacuum pumps (approximately 2-3 gallons from each of six pumps once per year) and compressors (3-4.5 gallons from each of two compressors every 2-3 years). The used oil is recycled through Chemical Analytics of Romulus, Michigan.
2. Universal Waste Lamps: Spent fluorescent lamps are generated at the facility and are recycled off-site through Rader Environmental at Allied Environmental Services, Inc. in Lima, Ohio.

I found the following violation of Ohio's hazardous waste laws:

1. **Used Oil Container Labeling**
OAC Rule 3745-279-22(C)(1)

Containers and aboveground tanks used to store used oil at generator facilities must be labeled or marked clearly with the words "Used Oil." On September 6, 2011, I observed one 5-gallon pail of used oil that was not labeled.

Attached to an email dated September 6, 2011, is a photo of the pail labeled with the words "Used Oil". **Therefore, this violation was abated on September 6, 2011.**

As a used oil generator you are required to store used oil in containers or aboveground tanks that are in good condition (no severe rusting, apparent structural defects or deterioration) and not leaking. Containers, aboveground tanks and fill pipes for underground tanks must be labeled with the words "Used Oil." If leaks are detected, the generator must stop the release; contain the release; clean up and manage properly the released used oil and other materials related to the release; and, if necessary, repair or replace any leaking containers or tanks prior to returning them to service. I have enclosed copies of the following used oil fact sheets: The Regulation of Used Oil: An Overview for Ohio Businesses Who Generate Used Oil, and Used Oil Recyclers. Please review these carefully and contact me immediately if you have any questions.

Please be aware that incandescent, fluorescent, metal halide, neon, high-intensity discharge, high-pressure sodium and mercury-vapor lamps could be hazardous waste when discarded. Fluorescent lamps may contain up to 40 milligrams (mg) of mercury, depending on the brand and manufacturer. Lamps may also contain lead and cadmium. Many lamps exhibit a characteristic of toxicity for heavy metals when disposed. I have enclosed copies of the following documents to assist you in properly managing your spent lamps: Fluorescent Lamps: What You Should Know and Computer, Fluorescent Lamp and Ballast Recyclers. I recommend that you review these documents carefully and contact me if you have any questions. The first document describes the rules you must follow in order to manage lamps as a universal waste.

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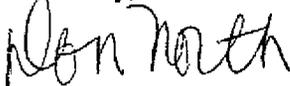
You may be able to further reduce the waste your company generates. If you find ways to recycle, reduce or altogether eliminate the amount of waste that your company generates you may be able to reduce your treatment and disposal costs and you may possibly reduce your regulatory requirements. I have enclosed copies of Pollution Prevention Opportunities, a worksheet that can help you recognize opportunities for reducing waste and conserving energy at your business, and the fact sheet Management of Electronic Waste from Businesses. Please review this information and contact me if you have any questions.

I encourage you to schedule a pollution prevention assessment for your business because there are often many opportunities for businesses like yours to reduce waste and save money. If you wish to talk about an assessment or if you have other questions about pollution prevention, please feel free to contact the Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) at (614) 644-3469. There is no charge for an assessment.

The Division of Materials and Waste Management has created an electronic news service to provide you with quick and timely updates on events and news related to hazardous waste activities in Ohio. If you haven't already, we encourage you to sign up for this free service. You can find more information at the following Web link: http://ohioepa.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/ohioepa.cfg/php/enduser/doc_serve.php?2=subscriptionpage. Please feel free to share this information with your colleagues.

Enclosed you will find copies of all checklists completed during the inspection. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (419) 373-3074. You can find copies of the rules and other information on the division's web page at <http://www.epa.ohio.gov>. Ohio EPA also has helpful information about pollution prevention at <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/ocapp>.

Sincerely,



Don North
District Representative
Division of Materials and Waste Management

/cs

pc: Colleen Weaver, DMWM, NWDO
Cindy Lohrbach, DMWM, NWDO
*DMWM-HW, NWDO File: Lucas County, American Gas Group File
ec: Don North, DMWM, NWDO

NOTICE:

Ohio EPA's failure to list specific deficiencies or violations in this letter does not relieve your company from having to comply with all applicable regulations.

PROCESS, WASTE, P2 SUMMARY SHEET

Facility Name: American Gas Group Facility Type: LQG SQG CESQG TSD Date of Inspection: 9-6-11 EPA ID#:

Waste Generated

On- or Off-Site Management

P2 Activities

Process/Activity Generating Waste <small>(e.g. plating bath, machining, baghouse, painting, general maintenance, etc)</small>	Waste Description <small>(e.g. sludge, solvent, ash, used oil, spent lamps, etc.) and EPA Waste Code, if applic.</small>	QTY Generated per Month, Type of Accumulation (container, tank, etc) and location of waste accumulation area	Type of On- Site Treatment <small>(recycle, wwt, etc)</small>	Name, state, and type of activity occurring at the off-site facility.	Current P2 Activities	P2 Opportunities
1	Maintenance of vacuum pumps and compressors	Used Oil	31 gallons/year	None	Chemical Analytics Romulus, Michigan Recycling	Recycled
2	Facility lighting	Universal Waste Lamps	Few occassionally	None	Allied Environmental Services, Inc. Lima, Ohio Recycling	Recycled
4						
5						
6						
7						

8							
9							

REMARKS **GENERAL INFORMATION**

General Process Information:

Regulatory/Enforcement History (if applicable):

Additional P2 remarks and information:

Would this facility be interested in a P2 assessment? Yes* No *If yes, refer promptly to your district P2 coordinator.
 Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention - 1-800-329-7518 or p2mail@epa.state.oh.us or www.epa.state.oh.us/ocapp/ocapp.html

Other:

**USED OIL INSPECTION CHECKLIST
GENERATORS, COLLECTION CENTERS AND AGGREGATION POINTS**

NOTE: A facility is subject to the federal SPCC regulations (40 CFR 112) if it is non-transportation related (e.g., fixed) and has an aggregate above ground storage capacity greater than 1,320 gallons or a total underground storage capacity greater than 42,000 gallons of oil (including used oil), and there is reasonable expectation of a discharge to navigable waters.

PROHIBITIONS

1.	Does the generator manage used oil in a surface impoundment or waste pile? If yes:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
a.	Is the surface impoundment or waste pile regulated as a hazardous waste management unit? [3745-279-12(A)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

NOTE: For example, used oil contaminated scrap metal stored in a pile.

2.	Is used oil used as a dust suppressant? [3745-279-12(B)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Is off-specification used oil fuel burned for energy recovery in devices specified in 3745-279-12(C)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

NOTE: Multiple used oil checklists may be applicable if used oil handler is performing multiple tasks (e.g., if generating used oil and shipping directly to a burner, complete generator and marketer checklists at a minimum).

GENERATOR STANDARDS

4.	Does the generator mix hazardous waste with used oil? If so,	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
a.	Is the mixture managed as specified in 3745-279-10(B)? [3745-279-21(A)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

NOTE: Used Oil mixed with listed (3745-51-30 to 3745-51-35) or characteristic (3745-51-20 to 3745-51-24) hazardous waste are subject to regulation as a hazardous waste, unless the listed hazardous waste is listed solely because it exhibits a hazardous characteristic, and the resultant mixtures do not exhibit a characteristic. Mixtures of used oil and CESQG hazardous waste are subject to OAC Chapter 3745-279.

5.	Does the generator of a used oil containing greater than 1,000 ppm total halogens manage the used oil as a hazardous waste unless the presumption is rebutted successfully? [3745-279-21(B)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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NOTE: If used oil contains greater than 1000 ppm total halogens, it is presumed to be listed hazardous waste until the presumption is successfully rebutted.

6.	Does the generator store used oil in tanks; or containers; or a unit(s) subject to regulation as a hazardous waste management unit? [3745-279-22(A)]	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Are containers and aboveground tanks used to store used oil in good condition with no visible leaks? [3745-279-22(B)]	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
8.	Are containers, above ground tanks, and fill pipes used for underground tanks clearly labeled or marked "Used Oil?" [3745-279-22(C)] 5-gallon pail not labeled.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
9.	Has the generator, upon detection of a release of used oil, done the following: [3745-279-22(D)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a.	Stopped the release?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b.	Contained the release?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c.	Cleaned up and properly managed the used oil and other materials?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d.	Repaired or replaced the containers or tanks prior to returning them to service, if necessary?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ON-SITE BURNING IN SPACE HEATER

10.	Does the generator burn used oil in used-oil fired space heaters? [3745-279-23] If so:	
a.	Does the heater burn only used oil that owner/operator generates or used oil received from household do-it-yourself (DIY) used oil generators?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

b.	Is the heater designed to have a maximum capacity of not more than 0.5 million BTU per hour?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c.	Are the combustion gases from heater vented to the ambient air?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

NOTE: Ash accumulated in a space heater must be managed in accordance with 3745-279-10(E).

GENERATOR TRANSPORTATION

11.	Does the generator have the used oil hauled only by transporters that have obtained a U.S. EPA ID#? [3745-279-24]	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
12.	If the generator self-transport used oil to an approved collection site or to an aggregation point owned by the generator: [3745-279-24]	
a.	Does the generator transport used oil in a vehicle owned by the generator or an employee of the generator? [3745-279-24]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b.	Does the generator transport more than 55 gallons of used oil at any time? [3745-279-24]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

NOTE: Used oil generators may arrange for used oil to be transported by a transporter without a U.S. EPA ID # if the used oil is reclaimed under a contractual agreement (i.e., tolling arrangement).

COLLECTION CENTERS AND AGGREGATION POINTS

13.	Is the DIY used oil collection center in compliance with the generator standards in 3745-279-20 to 3745-279-24? [3745-279-30]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14.	Is the non-DIY used oil collection center registered with Ohio EPA? [3745-279-31]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15.	Is the used oil aggregation point in compliance with the generator standards in 3745-279-20 to 3745-279-24? [3745-279-32]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

NOTE: Complete Used Oil Generator and any other applicable used oil handler checklist (e.g., marketer, burner, etc.) for used oil collection centers and aggregation points.

SMALL QUANTITY UNIVERSAL WASTE HANDLER REQUIREMENTS – BATTERIES AND LAMPS

Large Quantity Universal Waste Handler (LQUWH) = 5,000 Kg or more

Small Quantity Universal Waste Handler (SQUWH) = 5,000 Kg or less

PROHIBITIONS

1.	Did the SQUWH dispose of universal waste? [3745-273-11(A)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
2.	Did the SQUWH dilute or treat universal waste, except when responding to releases as provided in OAC rule 3745-273-17 or managing specific wastes as provided in OAC rule 3745-273-13? [3745-273-11(B)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND LABELING/MARKING

UNIVERSAL WASTE BATTERIES

3.	Are batteries that show evidence of leakage, spillage or damage that could cause leaks contained? [3745-273-13(A)(1)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.	If batteries are contained, are the containers closed and structurally sound, compatible with the contents of the battery and lack evidence of leakage, spillage or damage that could cause leakage? [3745-273-13(A)(1)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.	Are the casings of the batteries breached, not intact, or open (except to remove the electrolyte)? [3745-273-13(A)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.	If the electrolyte is removed or other wastes generated, has it been determined whether the electrolyte or other wastes exhibit a characteristic of hazardous waste? [3745-273-13(A)(3)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a.	If the electrolyte or other waste is characteristic, is it managed in compliance with OAC Chapters 3745-50 through 3745-69? [3745-273-13(A)(3)(a)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b.	If the electrolyte or other waste is not hazardous, is it managed in compliance with applicable law? [3745-273-13(A)(3)(b)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.	Are the batteries or containers of batteries labeled with the words "Universal Waste - Batteries" or "Waste Battery(ies)" or "Used Battery(ies)"? [3745-273-14(A)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

UNIVERSAL WASTE LAMPS

8.	Does the SQUWH contain lamps in containers or packages that are structurally sound, adequate to prevent breakage, and compatible with contents of the lamps? Are containers or packages closed and do they lack evidence of leakage, spillage or damage that could cause leakage? [3745-273-13(D)(1)]	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
9.	Are lamps that show evidence of breakage, leakage or damage that could cause a release of mercury or hazardous constituents into the environment immediately cleaned up? Are they placed into a container that is closed, structurally sound, compatible with the contents of the lamps, and lack evidence of leakage, spillage or damage that could cause leakage or releases of mercury or hazardous waste constituents to the environment? [3745-273-13(D)(2)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

NOTE: Treatment (such as crushing) by a UWH is prohibited under this rule unless the facility is permitted for such activities [3745-273-31(B)]. A generator crushing lamps must manage lamps according to hazardous waste rules (OAC Chapter 3745-52). Lamp crushing is a form of generator treatment (OAC rule 3745-52-34). Crushed lamps must be transported by a registered hazardous waste transporter to a permitted hazardous waste facility using a hazardous waste manifest.

10.	Are the lamps or containers or packages of lamps labeled with the words "Universal Waste - Lamp(s)" or "Waste Lamp(s)" or "Used Lamp(s)"? [3745-273-14(E)]	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
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ACCUMULATION TIME		
11.	Is the waste accumulated for less than one year? [3745-273-15(A)]	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
	a. If not, is the waste accumulated over one year in order to facilitate proper recovery, treatment or disposal? (Burden of proof is on the handler to demonstrate) [3745-273-15(B)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>NOTE: Accumulation is defined as date generated or date received from another handler.</i>		
12.	Is the handler able to demonstrate the length of time the universal waste has been accumulated? [3745-273-15(C)] If yes, describe below:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
EMPLOYEE TRAINING		
13.	Are employees who handle or have the responsibility for managing universal waste informed of waste handling/emergency procedures, relative to their responsibilities? [3745-273-16]	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
RESPONSE TO RELEASES		
14.	Are releases of universal waste and other residues immediately contained? [3745-273-17(A)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15.	Is the material released characterized? [3745-273-17(B)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16.	If the material released is a hazardous waste, was it managed as required in OAC Chapters 3745-50 through 3745-69? (If the waste is hazardous, the handler is considered the generator of the waste and is subject to OAC Chapter 3745-52) [3745-273-17(B)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OFF-SITE SHIPMENTS		
<i>NOTE: If a SQUWH self-transport waste, then the handler must comply with the Universal Waste transporter requirements.</i>		
17.	Are universal wastes sent to either another handler, destination facility or foreign destination? [3745-273-18(A)]	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
18.	Is the handler aware of DOT requirements for packaging and shipping? If no, make aware of 49 CFR 171-180.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
19.	Prior to shipping universal waste off-site, does the originating handler ensure that the receiver agrees to receive the shipment? [3745-273-18(D)]	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
20.	Has the originating handler ever had an off-site shipment rejected by another handler or destination facility?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
	a. If yes, did the originating handler receive the waste back or agree to where the shipment was sent? [3745-273-18(E)(2)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
21.	If a handler rejects a partial or full load from another handler, does the receiving handler contact the originating handler and discuss and do <u>one of</u> the following:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	a. Send the waste back to the originating handler or send the shipment to a destination facility (If both the originating and receiving handler agree)? [3745-273-18(F)(2)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22.	If the handler received a shipment of hazardous waste that was not a universal waste, did the SQUWH immediately notify Ohio EPA? [3745-273-18(G)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EXPORTS		
23.	Is waste being sent to a foreign destination? If so:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>

	a. Does the small quantity handler comply with primary exporter requirements in OAC rules 3745-52-53, 3745-52-56, and 3745-52-57? [3745-273-20(A)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	b. Is waste exported only upon consent of the receiving country and in conformance with the U.S. EPA "Acknowledgment of Consent" as defined in OAC rules 3745-52-50 to 3745-52-57? [3745-273-20(B)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	c. Is a copy of the U.S. EPA "Acknowledgment of Consent" provided to the transporter? [3745-273-20(C)]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>