



## REGIONAL AIR POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Serving Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery & Preble Counties  
117 South Main Street, Dayton, Ohio 45422-1280  
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May 28, 2009

### Certified Mail

Phillip E. Custer II  
Project Engineer  
Springfield Gas Company, Inc.  
419 Englewood Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

RE: OEPA Facility ID 0812710566  
RAPCA Letter issued October 21, 2008

Dear Mr. Custer:

### WARNING LETTER

On April 29, 2008, the Regional Air Pollution Control Agency (RAPCA) met with personnel of the Springfield Gas Company, Inc. (SGC) facility located at 3108 Snyder Domer Road in Springfield, Clark County, Ohio. The purpose of the meeting was to review SGC's progress in resolving violations pertaining to emissions unit (EU) F001 (Landfill Gas Active Collection System and Enclosed Flare) cited in the Notice of Violation (NOV) issued by RAPCA on January 16, 2008. RAPCA then issued a certified letter to SGC on October 21, 2008, which was received by you on October 29, 2008, summarizing the topics discussed in the meeting and addressing the ongoing enforcement case. In that letter, RAPCA further sought resolution for ongoing violations that had been previously addressed in the NOV, including SGC's failure to: **1)** maintain the minimum required temperature of the enclosed flare, **2)** maintain wellheads under the required operating parameters, **3)** measure and record methane concentration at the flare fuel inlet, and **4)** submit complete and timely quarterly and annual reports. RAPCA also requested that SGC submit a compliance plan including, at a minimum, an intent to test (ITT) EU F001, methane monitoring records, a revised 2007 annual report and a timeline for bringing EU F001 into compliance with all terms and conditions provided in Permit to Install (PTI) 08-04217, modified January 9, 2007, and the Permit to Operate (PTO), issued February 5, 2007, within 15 days of receipt (by November 13, 2008). To date, SGC has not formally responded in writing to RAPCA's October 21, 2008 letter or compliance plan request. At this time, RAPCA would like to, once again, address and seek resolution for the following ongoing violations at SGC:

#### **I. Failure to maintain the minimum required temperature of the enclosed flare**

Part II.B.5 of PTI 08-04217 and the PTO states that SGC shall maintain an average combustion temperature for the enclosed flare, as determined by the most recent stack test that

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demonstrated compliance. The average combustion temperature of the enclosed flare during the most recent stack test, conducted on July 14-15, 2005, was 1622 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) and is, therefore, the minimum required temperature of the enclosed flare. This is the temperature at which SGC's flare demonstrated the ability to reduce the outlet non-methane organic compound (NMOC) emissions to less than 20 parts per million by volume (ppmv), dry basis as hexane at 3 percent (%) oxygen. In order to decrease the minimum temperature at which the flare is required to operate, SGC must demonstrate compliance with the NMOC permit limit of 20 ppmv while operating the flare at a lower temperature. **RAPCA requires that SGC submit an ITT for EU F001 or operate the flare such that the average combustion temperature is at or above 1622°F per permit terms and conditions.** RAPCA would also like to point out that flare temperatures below 1622°F are deviations and should be reported in accordance with permit reporting requirements.

## **II. Failure to maintain wellheads under required operating parameters**

Part II.B.3 of PTI 08-04217 and the PTO states that SGC shall operate each interior wellhead in the collection system under negative pressure with a landfill gas temperature of less than 55°Celsius (C) (131°F) and less than, either a nitrogen level of 20%, or an oxygen level of 5%. These are standard operating parameters for landfill wellheads of active collection systems. During the April 29, 2008 meeting, SGC stated that multiple wells were malfunctioning and/or not producing methane gas and needed to be decommissioned due to the fact that they were drawing in excess ambient air leading to increased oxygen concentrations above the maximum level. **RAPCA requires that SGC proceed with standard decommissioning procedures for these particular wells with the Ohio EPA.** Until these wells are decommissioned, SGC should report any and all deviations from the maximum landfill gas oxygen concentration in accordance with permit reporting requirements.

At the meeting, SGC also stated that there are wells present at the facility operating under positive pressure because they were installed prior to SGC's involvement with the landfill and were designed to operate with the original passive flow collection system. RAPCA is aware that SGC had previously attempted to obtain a Rule 13 modification from Ohio EPA to install new wells designed to operate under negative pressure with the current active collection system. RAPCA is also aware that SGC was unable to complete this process due to landfill owner Thomas J. Danis's refusal to execute a letter of acknowledgement on behalf of Tremont Landfill Company for the Rule 13 application. **At this time, RAPCA would like SGC to pursue approval for a variance from the standard landfill operating parameters directly from U.S. EPA.** Until SGC is able to obtain a Rule 13 modification from Ohio EPA or variance from U.S. EPA, any deviations from wellhead pressure requirements should be recorded and reported in accordance with permit reporting requirements.

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### **III. Failure to measure and record methane concentration at the flare fuel inlet**

Part II.C.4 of PTI 08-04217 and the PTO states that SGC shall install, calibrate, maintain and operate a device that measures the % methane by volume at the flare fuel inlet that shall be read and recorded every fifteen minutes. Monitoring the methane concentration of flare fuel is required to ensure its combustibility. As of the April 29, 2008 meeting, SGC was in the process of installing a new methane monitoring system capable of measuring and recording % methane by volume at the flare fuel inlet. RAPCA has yet to receive copies of any methane monitoring records produced by this new system. **At this time, RAPCA requires that SGC submit flare fuel methane concentration data generated from a recent 30 day period of time during which the flare was operational provided by the new monitoring system.**

### **IV. Failure to submit complete and timely quarterly and annual reports**

Part II.D.1 of PTI 08-04217 and the PTO states that SGC shall submit **quarterly deviation reports** that identify, among other things, any periods of time during which the average combustion temperature of the enclosed flare is less than the average temperature during the most recent stack test (1622°F). In past quarterly reports, SGC simply states whether the flare was operational during that reporting period and, if so, that "the flow rate of gas and the average temperature of the flare were recorded to a circular chart recorder." This information does not sufficiently meet the permit criteria for quarterly reporting requirements. **RAPCA requires that SGC resubmit all 2008 and first quarter 2009 quarterly reports with a statement of whether the average flare temperature went below the minimum limit (1622°F) during that reporting period, as well as a list of the periods of time if and when this occurred.** RAPCA would also like to point out that our agency never received a fourth quarter 2008 report, due by January 31, 2009.

Additionally, Part II.D.2 of PTI 08-04217 and the PTO states that SGC shall submit **annual reports** (due January 31) that specify, among other things, any record which indicates that the gauge pressure in the gas collection header at each individual well was positive and/or that the nitrogen or oxygen concentration in the landfill was greater than 20% or 5%, respectively. RAPCA has yet to receive the revised 2007 annual report requested from SGC in the October 21, 2008 letter, as well as the 2008 annual report that was due January 31, 2009. **RAPCA requires that SGC submit a revised 2007 annual report, as well as a 2008 annual report, with all required information.**

RAPCA is also aware that SGC is currently involved in an ongoing lawsuit filed by landfill owner Danis to remove SGC from the landfill site. **RAPCA requests that SGC provide our agency with any recent updates and the current status of this case in writing.**

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In order to resolve the above mentioned violations, RAPCA requires that SGC submit a compliance plan and schedule to bring EU F001 into compliance with all permit terms and conditions. At a minimum, SGC shall submit:

- (1) An ITT for EU F001 or sufficient documentation proving that the average combustion temperature of the enclosed flare has been consistently at or above 1622°F.
- (2) Documentation showing that SGC has initiated the standard decommissioning process for wells operating with landfill gas above the maximum oxygen concentration.
- (3) Documentation showing that SGC has initiated the process of pursuing approval for a variance from the standard landfill operating parameters for wells operating under positive pressure directly from U.S. EPA.
- (4) Data provided by the methane monitoring system showing the methane concentration at the flare fuel inlet for a recent 30 day period during which the flare was operational.
- (5) A revised 2007 annual report, a 2008 annual report, revised 2008 quarterly and first quarter 2009 reports containing all required information per permit reporting requirements.
- (6) A complete update as to where SGC stands with landfill owner Danis and the current status of the ongoing lawsuit.

The compliance plan and schedule shall be submitted expeditiously, but in no event later than 30 calendar days after receipt of this letter. If you have any question regarding this matter, feel free to contact me at (937)225-4453.

Sincerely,



Lesley A. Jenkins  
Air Pollution Control Specialist

Cc:	Jeff Canan	RAPCA
	Lisa Holscher	USEPA
	Tom Kalman	OEPA
	Joshua Whetzel	SGC

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 Vice President  
 Springfield Gas Co., Inc.  
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 Ligonier, PA 15658

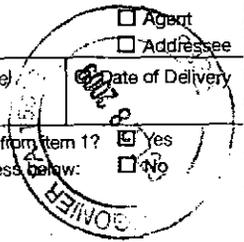
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 Vice President  
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 PO Box M  
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