



**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

Ted Strickland, Governor  
Lee Fisher, Lt. Governor  
Chris Korieski, Director

Re: Seneca County  
Premise #0374010109  
Notice of Resolution

January 7, 2011

Ms. Gretchen L. Curry  
Quality Manager  
National Electrical Carbon Products, Inc.  
200 North Town Street  
Fostoria, Ohio 44830

Re: Your letter dated October 13, 2010

Dear Ms. Curry:

This shall serve as a reply to your letter that was in response to the Notice of Violation (NOV) letter sent to National Electrical Carbon Products, Inc. (herein referred to as NEC) dated September 9, 2010. The same numbering format will be used in order to simplify the response.

- 1) NEC contends in the response letter that emissions unit N002 is permitted for two uses; trash incineration and the heat treatment of carbon products. That contention is incorrect. N002 is identified as an incinerator in the permit and was permitted under Permit to Install (PTI) #03-6950 issued on March 31, 1993 as such.

The second matter raised in the response regarding N002 was that at the time of the inspection, this emissions unit was being used for heat treatment of carbon products and not incineration. During the inspection, this emissions unit was viewed and visible emissions were observed coming from the incinerator since the lid was not completely closed. Cardboard boxes, as well as the flame, were visible as the incineration process was occurring. Therefore, the claim that the incinerator was being used as heat treatment of carbon products is false and brings into question the data compiled in 4).

NEC indicates in the response that the practice of burning trash on-site has been re-evaluated and the decision is to cease the practice. It is stated in the letter that a modification to the permit is going to be requested that removes permission to burn trash. The modification application is to be submitted by no later than February 11, 2011.

- 3) The stack test that was conducted on emissions unit N002 in 1994 was not reviewed nor accepted by this office. There is no documentation in the files that was found in relation to this test. The copy of the test report dated May 31, 1994, was sent to my attention on September 9 via e-mail and September 13 via hard copy. This information suffices in demonstrating compliance with the permit requirement. Therefore, this violation is deemed resolved.

- 4) Based on the information detailed in 1), the number of trash furnace batches is not conclusive. NEC cites that no trash burning was occurring during the inspection even though this was exactly what was witnessed. It is unknown whether NEC can provide verification of the past three years of records that document the date, time and weight of each burn and the date and weight of each batch that was sent offsite for disposal rather than incineration. This information would be necessary to substantiate the information presented in the response letter.
- 5) Justification was provided to address the quarterly reports being submitted late.
- 6) NEC indicates that six small steam boiler units were added to provide steam where it is needed. It is unknown if these boilers are accounted for in the Facility Profile. There is an emissions unit in the Facility Profile identified as Z026 (NG Heating Units) but it is unknown if these six boilers replaced those identified in Z026. Please update if necessary.
- 7) NEC failed to address the applicability of 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 62 Subpart III to emissions unit N002. It is the opinion of Ohio EPA that NEC is subject to this regulation and there is no data that demonstrates compliance with this subpart. Since the applicability determination and the compliance demonstration of this subpart are administered by U.S. EPA Region V, a copy of the previous letter and a copy of this one will be forwarded to their attention.
- 11) The spreadsheet that contains information regarding actual and potential emissions for each emissions unit was reviewed. The EU ID referred to as X001 (National Furnaces to Thermal Oxidizer N002, P012, P013) has actual emissions of 0.10 ton of organic compounds (OC) per year whereas the total hazardous air pollutant (HAP) amounts to 1.32 tons per year. The Title V application that is being processed does not indicate any OC or HAP emissions from X001. Please review these calculations for accuracy and if necessary, submit a revised permit application to properly reflect accurate emission rates from each emissions unit. This matter can be discussed further with Ms. Peggy Argabright who is processing the Title V permit.

The violations noted in the NOV letter have been addressed and are considered resolved. Please note, however, that this does not preclude the Director from seeking civil penalties pursuant to ORC section 3704.06 for these violations. The decision on whether to pursue or decline to pursue such penalties regarding this matter is dependent on several factors, one of which is the company's future compliance with applicable Ohio EPA requirements.

Ms. Gretchen L. Curry  
January 7, 2011  
Page Three

If you have any questions and/or comments concerning this letter, please feel free to contact me at the above address, by calling (419) 373-3118 or by e-mail at mohammad.smidi@epa.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,



Mohammad Smidi  
Environmental Specialist  
Division of Air Pollution Control

/cs

ec: Andrea Odendahl, DAPC-NWDO  
Bennett Thayer  
Geoff Westphal  
Gretchen Curry  
Jennifer Jolliff, DAPC-NWDO  
Mike Oxford  
Norb Dickmann  
Peggy Argabright, DAPC-NWDO  
Tom Kalman, DAPC-CO  
Tom Sattler, DAPC-NWDO  
William MacDowell, US EPA Region V

pc: Mark Budge, DAPC-NWDO  
Tom Kalman, DAPC-CO  
DAPC-NWDO Facility File