



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

Re: Fulton County
Ridgeville Elevator, Inc. - Fayette
Premise # - TBD
Notice of Violation - Non HPV

October 16, 2012

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Darwin Beck, Owner
Ridgeville Elevator, Inc.
P. O. Box 276
Ridgeville Corners, Ohio 43555

Dear Mr. Beck:

This letter shall serve as follow-up to the complaint investigation and subsequent facility inspection conducted on October 4, 2012, of the Ridgeville Elevator, Inc. facility located at 108 South Fayette Street in Fayette, Ohio, by this writer. The purpose of this inspection was to determine the source of various complaints received by this office regarding nuisance dust and "bees' wings" and/or "red dog", then determine the compliance status of all air contaminant emissions units located at the source. In this case, the source of the emissions was determined to be the Ridgeville Elevator, Inc. facility in Fayette (REIF).

Based on my discussions, my observations during the inspection, and a review of the company's files, my findings are as follows:

1. The source of the dust complaints was believed to be the truck loading spout operating at the south east corner of REIF. Significant visible emissions were observed from the non-gravity feed spout which is non-telescoping and had a drop height of approximately five feet. Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-17-08(B) allows for a maximum of 20% opacity as a three minute average, using US EPA test Method 9 for visible emissions readings.

On October 4, 2012, US EPA Method 9 visible emissions readings were conducted for thirteen minutes and the highest three minute average was 50% opacity, which constitutes a violation of OAC 3745-17-08(B) and Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3704.05.

2. "Bees' wings" or "red dog" was observed several blocks from REIF, mainly to the north and east. Piles of the material were observed along the street downwind and the material was also observed floating in the air. Concentrations of the material, both on the ground and in the air, increased as you got closer to the facility. OAC rule 3745-17-08(B)(9) requires "The prompt removal, in such a manner as to minimize or prevent resuspension, of earth or other material from paved streets onto which earth or other material has been deposited by trucking or earth moving equipment or erosion by water or other means."

Failure to promptly remove this type of material from the public roadways is a violation of OAC rule 3745-17-08(B)(9) and Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3704.05.

3. Subsequent to these observations, as a sufficiently authorized company representative was not available at the time, an unguided facility inspection was conducted with permission of a facility representative. It was determined that REIF is operating the following emission units, each of which may require a Permit-to-Install and Operate (PTIO): thirteen truck loading spouts of unknown throughput capacity; two grain receiving pits of unknown throughput capacity; a grain dryer (believed to be natural gas fired) of unknown throughput capacity; facility paved roadways, and; facility unpaved roadways. Failure to obtain proper permits prior to installation and operation of these units is a violation of OAC rule 3745-31-02(A) and ORC 3704.05

To remedy this situation REIF must submit complete PTIO applications for these emissions units, including any applicable emissions activity category (EAC) forms, emissions calculations and a process flow diagram.

As we discussed on October 9, 2012, of immediate concern, the nuisance dust issues need to be addressed at the facility quickly and need to be monitored in the future to reduce or eliminate this situation from occurring again. Ohio EPA believes that reducing the drop height of the truck loading spouts would significantly reduce emissions but also feels this, alone, may not completely resolve the situation. Accordingly, the facility may also want to explore additional control measures, should reduced drop height not be sufficient to control the emissions. Regarding the "bees' wings", REIF stated that a contractor will look for any seal issues on the grain drier and remedy them as to reduce possible nuisance dust emissions from that unit. It should be noted that if these issue continue, the facility may also be found to be a source of nuisance dust which would be in violation of OAC rule 3745-15-07(A).

In addition to the issues noted above, there are a few other pieces of information that are being requested at this time.

1. The date Ridgeville Elevator, Inc. acquired the Fayette facility, and;
2. the identification of any other grain storage and or processing facilities owned and/or operated by Ridgeville Elevator, Inc. or its' parent or subsidiary companies.

The company's written response to this letter is requested by November 16, 2012. It should be submitted to Ohio EPA, Northwest District Office and contain a compliance plan to remedy the observed situation and prevent this, or any similar such situation, from occurring in the future.

Regarding the applications, Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) is also available to assist qualifying small businesses in achieving and maintaining compliance with Ohio's environmental regulatory programs. OCAPP will be able to help you with the permit requirement determination and the permitting process. More information pertaining to OCAPP is also available on our website at <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ocapp/ocapp.html>.

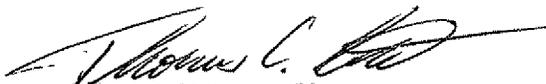
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Should you choose to contact OCAPP for assistance with issues pertaining to this letter, please contact Ron Nabors, at (419) 373-3147. If you decide to contact OCAPP for assistance, please inform me of that as soon as possible so that a new deadline for information submission can be determined, if needed.

Please note that the submission of information to respond to this letter does not constitute a waiver of Ohio EPA's authority to seek civil penalties pursuant to ORC section 3704.06. The Ohio EPA will make the decision on whether to pursue or decline to pursue such penalties regarding this matter at a later date.

If the company has any questions and/or comments concerning this letter, please contact me at the above address, by calling (419) 373-3137, or via e-mail at thomas.cikotte@epa.state.oh.us.

Sincerely,



Thomas C. Cikotte
Division of Air Pollution Control

/llr

pc: Thomas C. Cikotte, DAPC – NWDO
Certified Mail Receipt Number 7009 1410 0001 1834 4928

ec: William MacDowell, U.S. EPA Region V
Bruce Weinberg, DAPC - CO
Jennifer Jolliff, DAPC – NWDO
Thomas C. Cikotte, DAPC – NWDO
Mark Barber, DAPC – NWDO