Armada Grain Co. 73180 S Fulton St., P.O. Box 918 Armada, MI 48005 (586) 784-5911 (800) 373-0070 (586) 784-5918 fax www.armadagrain.com



Dept. of Environmental Quality Southeast Michigan District Office Air Quality Division Mr. Samuel Liveson

January 21, 2015

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Dear Mr. Liveson:

Thank you for visiting our facility in December, although the circumstances were not idea, I enjoyed meeting with you.

Armada Grain Co. is a family owned business engaged in the manufacture of animal feeds and grain products. We also manufacture pet foods thru and extrusion process. During the extrusion process a mixture of ground grains, minerals, vitamins and protein products are pressure cooked in an extruder, subsequently the extruded material has to be dryed in a tray type dryer to bring the finished product down to a moisture level which will resist mold and spoilage. The dryer emits exhaust gases and vapors. We installed a scrubber to "clean" the exhaust air and reduce odors. This was done in approximately 1998 at a cost of approximately \$100,000.00. The scrubber uses a considerable amount of water and electricity. We estimate the scrubber uses about \$2000.00 per month of water and about the same in electricity. We have operated the scrubber continuously during extruder operation since it's installation.

We were inspected on somewhat of a regular basis during the first 10 years or so of operation of the scrubber. We always keep records of the operation of the scrubber.. We had gotten lax in the last few years and haven't kept detailed records. This was noted when you inspected our facility. We have been operating the scrubber but our record keeping has not been satisfactory. We have not intended to do anything wrong or circumvent the use of the scrubber, through changing of personnel we did not train the operators well enough about the importance of the record keeping.

We are in the process of constructing a new control room for the scrubber and relocation most of the control equipment and gauges. We have changed the building over the years and reading the outputs and gauges has not become very "user friendly". The room will be insulated and heated and all the controls will be in one spot. We estimate that we will have the control room relocated by February 9, 2015.

We would like to ask that a re-inspection be scheduled shortly after that time.

Again our intent was not to break any laws or do anything wrong. I did not know how long the consent order was in effect, but I realize now that it is still full effect. We are a small business and try to be good neighbors and not inhibit the rights of other to enjoy their property. We have not had any odor complaints in recent years. We will continue to run the scrubber even if we not required to, because it is the right thing to do. We have been very fortunate to stay in business thru all the down times and actually our business has increased. We are doing the best we can to be good neighbors, employee people, pay our taxes and try to make money to improve our equipment.

With all that being said we ask you to work with us and we realize you have a job to do and respect that. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

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Lance Hollweg President Armada Grain Co.