

April 10, 2024

## VIA EMAIL ONLY

Mr. Ben Witkopp Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Bay City District Office 401 Ketchum Street, Suite B Bay City, Michigan 48708

RE: Violation Notice (your letter, March 21, 2024)

Dear Mr. Witkopp,

We acknowledge receipt of the above referenced letter regarding Central Michigan University's Central Energy Facility, Boiler #5 (attachment 1). Central Michigan University (CMU) believes the observations and statements are inaccurate and do not constitute violations of the applicable legal requirements cited.

We verbally discussed this topic at CMU on November 7, 2023. Subsequently, CMU submitted an e-mail to your office on December 1, 2023 (attachment 2) documenting that we have been and remain in compliance with our EGLE-approved Renewable Operating Permit. Furthermore, CMU has made no changes to the permitted operation of our co-generation system, which includes Boiler #5. It is also our understanding there have been no changes to the USEPA regulations regarding these activities.

We request consultation with the EGLE Bay City and EGLE Enforcement Division staff to fully understand the reason for the Violation Notice.

Below is information specifically requested in your March 21, 2024, letter:

- Dates Violation Occurred: N/A. As CMU's Central Energy Facility operations remain in compliance with its EGLE Bay City issued Renewable Operating Permit (MI-ROP-K2460-2021) and considers no violation to have occurred.
- Cause and duration of violation: N/A
- Violation ongoing: N/A
- Summary of actions (to be) taken:
  - o Nov 23, 2023 Consultation with EGLE Bay City staff (Witkopp and Hare) at CMU.
  - o Dec 1, 2023 CMU e-mail response to consultation.
  - o Mar 21, 2024 CMU receipt of Violation Notice.
  - Mar 21, 2024 CMU staff contacted our consulting engineers in an attempt to understand the Violation Notice; a technical report from our consulting engineers is attached (attachment 3).

## **FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**



- o April 4, 2024 CMU verbally requested our consulting engineer initiate data gathering regarding emissions monitoring systems suitable for Boiler #5.
- April 8, 2024 CMU has sourced funds to initiate planning actions to install a monitoring system on Boiler #5 if the results of the requested consultation necessitate such action.
- o TBD (pending EGLE action) Schedule consultation between EGLE Bay City, EGLE Enforcement Division and CMU.

We do appreciate the longstanding, professional relationship between CMU and the Bay City EGLE staff. We look forward to clarifying the Mar 21, 2024, Violation Notice as quickly as possible and shall await EGLE scheduling of the consultation. In the meantime, CMU will continue to work with its consulting engineers towards the installation of a monitoring system on Boiler #5 if this course of action becomes the final agreed-upon decision.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Webb

Associate Vice President, Facilities Management

Central Michigan University

Jonathan Webb 4-10-2024

- 2 Attachments
- 1. EGLE Violation Notice, March 21, 2024
- 2. CMU Email with attachment to EGLE, Dec 1, 2023
- 3. Engineering consultant assessment, Apr 9, 2024

cc

Mary M. Hill, CMU Vice President, Finance and Administrative Services Toby Roth, CMU Vice President, Government Relations

Anthony Warren, CMU General Counsel

Michael Walton, CMU Facilities Management Operations

Tharen Foster, CMU Utility Operations Supervisor

Stephanie Jarrett, Fishbeck

Lillian Woolley, Fishbeck

Chris Hare, EGLE

Annette Switzer, EGLE

Christopher Ethridge, EGLE

Brad Myott, EGLE

Jenine Camilleri, EGLE