

December 14, 2023

**VIA U.S. MAIL**

Daniel A. McGeen  
Environmental Quality Analyst, Air Quality Division (AQD)  
Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE)  
252 W. Allegan Street  
P.O. Box 30242  
Lansing, MI 48909

**Re: Response to Violation Notice – SRN U442203492, Lapeer County**

Dear Mr. McGeen:

This letter responds to the November 21, 2023, Violation Notice issued to the Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc. (ADS) facility operating at 4800 Marlette Road in Clifford, Michigan (Facility).

ADS has taken an objective, data-driven approach to assessing EGLE's concerns, consistent with its commitment to being both a good environmental steward and a considerate neighbor. To that end, ADS proceeded with the Odor Investigation Plan (OIP) attached to the Company's September 1, 2023 response to EGLE. At EGLE's recommendation, Ramboll expanded the OIP to include an odor panel completed by the third-party experts recommended by EGLE – St. Croix Sensory, Inc. (St. Croix). Field work was completed over the course of three days during the week of September 18, 2023. During this time, samples were taken at representative locations both downwind and upwind of the Facility and were promptly submitted to St. Croix for analysis. The results of that sampling do not indicate the presence of nuisance odors, and we look forward to discussing them with EGLE in detail when a meeting can be arranged.

The Violation Notice also requests a description of “the actions that have been taken so far, what future actions are proposed to be taken to correct the violation and what steps are being taken to prevent a reoccurrence.” While ADS denies there have been any violations, ADS implemented the following actions in September, which were made possible by the lower fall temperatures and continue to occur:

- (1) Partially closing the bay door facing the neighboring residence during the second shift and keeping the bay door fully closed during the third shift;
- (2) Adding an exhaust fan to the Facility's pump room, which vents to the south;
- (3) Shutting off the pump room exhaust fan facing the direction of the neighboring residence;
- (4) Rotating cooling fans that were originally meant to remove hot air from extruders by 180 degrees, so they blow air into the Facility and away from the neighboring residence; and
- (5) Shutting off the exhaust fan in the Facility's material room, which normally vents air toward the neighboring residence.

In addition, ADS is continuing its internal assessment and our efforts to schedule an in-person meeting with EGLE representatives to discuss the results of the odor investigation, the measures implemented above, and the underlying information provided by EGLE. In order to fully and properly evaluate EGLE's concerns, a FOIA request was submitted for the information underlying the alleged violations on October 16, 2023 and November 9, 2023. We hope EGLE can share copies of this information to allow for ADS' prompt review and analysis.

ADS looks forward to meeting with EGLE representatives at the earliest possible date. Please feel free to contact me at (216) 479-8296 or [allen.kacenjara@squirepb.com](mailto:allen.kacenjara@squirepb.com) with any questions you may have in the interim.

Sincerely,



Allen A. Kacenjara

AAK/amb

Copy to: Jenine Camilleri  
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