



# Department of Environmental Quality



To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.

Dave Freudenthal, Governor

John Corra, Director

September 2, 2008

Ms. Belinda Salinas  
Manager, Environmental, Safety and Regulatory Affairs  
Ultra Resources, Inc.  
PO Box 1768  
Pinedale, WY 82941

RE: Notice of Violation

Dear Ms. Salinas:

Enclosed you will find a Notice of Violation (NOV) issued to Ultra Resources, Inc. by the Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division, for failing to comply with the permit requirement for routing vapors to the combustor for the Stud Horse Butte 5-23 Facility located in Sublette County, Wyoming. This violation of permit MD-1575 was observed by Mr. Jared Beck on June 12, 2008.

As the Department and this Division consider the failure to comply with air quality permit conditions to be a serious matter, I am considering recommending the Department refer this violation to the State Attorney General's office requesting a suit be filed in District Court to recover appropriate penalties. If you would like to discuss settlement of this Notice of Violation prior to referral to the Attorney General's office, please contact Ms. Karen Godman, Air Quality Compliance Program Principal, at 307-777-3774 no later than ten (10) days after receipt of this letter.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me or Ms. Karen Godman.

Sincerely,

David A. Binley  
Administrator  
Air Quality Division

cc: Robert Gill  
Jennifer Frazier  
Tony Hoyt  
Nancy Vehr  
Keith Guille

Herschler Building • 122 West 25th Street • Cheyenne, WY 82002 • <http://deq.state.wy.us>

ADMIN/OUTREACH (307) 777-7937 FAX 777-3610	ABANDONED MINES (307) 777-6145 FAX 777-6462	AIR QUALITY (307) 777-7391 FAX 777-5616	INDUSTRIAL SITING (307) 777-7369 FAX 777-5973	LAND QUALITY (307) 777-7756 FAX 777-5864	SOLID & HAZ. WASTE (307) 777-7752 FAX 777-5973	WATER QUALITY (307) 777-7781 FAX 777-5973
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**BEFORE THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
STATE OF WYOMING**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE NOTICE OF VIOLATION  
ISSUED TO ULTRA RESOURCES, INC,  
MS. BELINDA SALINAS,  
ENVIRONMENTAL, SAFETY & REGULATORY AFFAIRS,  
PO BOX 1768  
PINEDALE, WY 82941**

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) **DOCKET NO. 4359-08**  
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**NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT:**

1. The Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, has found Ultra Resources, Inc. to be in violation of permit MD-1575 issued in accordance with W.S. 35-11-801 of the Wyoming Environmental Quality Act and Chapter 6, Section 2 of the Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations at the Stud Horse Butte 5-23 facility located in Sublette County, Wyoming.

2. W.S. 35-11-801(a) states, "In granting permits, the Director may impose such conditions as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose of this act which are not inconsistent with the existing rules, regulations and standards."

3. Chapter 6, Section 2 of the Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations prescribes the applicability and procedures for issuing permits to sources under Wyoming's construction and modification permitting program.

4. Permit MD-1575 was issued to Ultra Resources, Inc. on May 15, 2007. Permit MD-1575 dictates control of vent vapors from tanks through conditions 12 & 13 as follows:

Condition 12(A.) states:

"Upon the First Date of Production of an additional well at the Stud Horse Butte 5-23 Facility or upon the date production associated with a well from a separate location is tied into the Stud Horse Butte 5-23 Facility, controls for emissions from all existing and new hydrocarbon liquid storage tanks and pressure vessels (flashing/standing/working/breathing losses and any separator flash gas not collected for sales) shall be installed and operational. Emission control systems or devices installed under this condition shall be designed and operated to reduce the mass content of VOCs in the gases vented to the device by at least ninety-eight percent (98%) by weight, and shall meet the requirements of the Chapter 6, Section 2 Oil and Gas Production Facilities Permitting Guidance."

Condition 13 states:

"Emission control devices installed under condition twelve (12) including the VOC and HAP emission control systems or devices, reboiler overheads condensers and all vent lines, connections, fittings, valves, relief valves, hatches or any other appurtenance employed to contain and collect vapors and transport them to the emission control system or device, shall be maintained and operated during any time the well is producing such that the emissions are controlled at all times. Records shall be maintained noting dates and durations of times

during such operation when any VOC or HAP emissions control system or device or the associated containment and collection equipment is not functioning to control emissions as required by this permit. Records shall be maintained noting dates and durations of times during such operation when any emissions control system or device or the associated containment and collection equipment is not operational.”

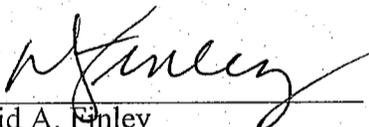
5. On July 12, 2008, Mr. Jared Beck, Air Quality Division Engineer/Inspector, observed that one thief hatch was missing multiple nuts and bolts and venting significant amounts of vapors. Venting vapors from thief hatches and not routing vapors from the condensate tanks to the combustion device is a violation of conditions 12 & 13 of permit MD-1575.

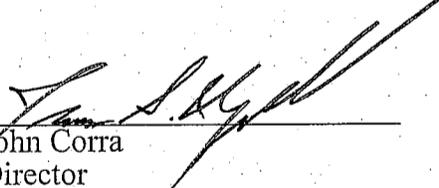
6. Said violation consists of not routing vapors from the dehydration unit to the combustion device. This is a direct violation of conditions 12 & 13 of permit MD-1575.

7. Under W.S. 35-11-901(a), any person who violates any provision of Article 2 of [the Environmental Quality Act] ... or any rule, regulation, standard or permit adopted pursuant to those provisions, or who violates any determination or order of the council pursuant to Article 2 of [the Environmental Quality Act] ... is subject to a penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) for each violation for each day during which the violation continues, a temporary or permanent injunction, or both a penalty and an injunction.

8. This notice is being sent to you pursuant to W.S. 35-11-701(c), which requires that, in any case of the failure to correct or remedy an alleged violation, the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality shall cause a written notice to be issued and served upon the person alleged to be responsible.

DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2008.

  
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David A. Finley  
Administrator  
Air Quality Division

  
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John Corra  
Director  
Department of Environmental Quality

Please direct all inquiries to David A. Finley, Administrator, Division of Air Quality, Department of Environmental Quality, Herschler Building, 2nd Floor, 122 W. 25th Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002. (Telephone: 307/777-7393.)