



Department of Environmental Quality

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



Matthew H. Mead, Governor

Todd Parfitt, Director

March 5, 2014

Mr. Keith Raney
Linn Operating, Inc.
600 Travis Street, Suite 5100
Houston, TX 77002

RE: Notice of Violation

Dear Mr. Raney:

Enclosed you will find a Notice of Violation (NOV) issued to Linn Operating, Inc. by the Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division, for failing to comply with the permit requirements for controlling vapors from the tanks at the Antelope 5-4 well site and Rainbow 6-32 PAD facilities located in Sublette County, Wyoming. These violations of permits MD-13214 and CT-3925 were observed by Ms. Brandi O'Brien on January 9 & 17, 2014.

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 Mr. Fred T. Di Lella, Air Quality Compliance Program Manager, 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 Mr. Fred T. Di Lella.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Dietrich
Administrator
Air Quality Division

cc: Fred Di Lella
Brandi O'Brien
Tony Hoyt
Jeremiah Williamson
Keith Guille



**BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
STATE OF WYOMING**

IN THE MATTER OF THE NOTICE OF VIOLATION)
ISSUED TO LINN OPERATING, INC.) DOCKET NO. 5381-14
MR. KEITH RANEY)
600 TRAVIS STREET, SUITE 5100)
HOUSTON, TX 77002)

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT:

1. The Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, has found Linn Operating, Inc. to be in violation of permits MD-13214 and CT-3925. These permits were 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 for the Antelope 5-4 well site and Rainbow 6-32 PAD facilities 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-13214 was issued to Newfield Production Company on October 2, 2012 for the Antelope 5-4 well site. This facility and applicable permits transferred to Linn Operating, Inc. on or about December 31, 2012. Condition 12 requires that the TEG Dehydration Unit with Condenser, Reboiler still vent vapors be rerouted to the condenser:

"For the TEG dehydration unit with condenser, reboiler still vent vapors shall be routed to the condenser. Condensed reboiler still vent liquids shall be collected and routed to a liquids storage tank. The non-condensable reboiler still vent vapors shall be routed to the combustion device. The condenser and combustion device shall reduce the mass content of total HAP and VOC emissions in the reboiler still vent vapors by at least ninety-eight percent (98%) by weight."

5. On January 17, 2014, Ms. Brandi O'Brien Air Quality Division Engineer, observed the Dehydration Unit venting to the atmosphere. The unit had never been controlled. The Combustion Device on-site was only in use for the tank. This is a violation of condition 12 of permit MD-13214.

6. Permit CT-3925 was issued to BP America Company on May 24, 2005 for the Rainbow 6-32 PAD facility. This facility and applicable permits transferred to Linn Operating, Inc. on or about December 31, 2012. Condition 6 requires that vapors from the 500-barrel Condensate Storage Tank shall be routed to a combustion device for 98% destruction of VOC emissions:

"Vapors from the 500-barrel condensate storage tank shall be routed to a combustion device for ninety-eight (98) percent destruction of VOC emissions for at least one (1) year following the date of installation of the device, after which time the control may be removed provided it can be demonstrated that the previous thirty (30)-day, uncontrolled, annualized VOC emission rate is less than thirty (30) tons per year. No prior authorization or permit modification is required by the Division for control device removal however, the applicant must notify the Division of removal date and certify the uncontrolled emission rate, including method of calculation, within thirty (30)-days of removal."

7. On January 9, 2014 Ms. Brandi O'Brien Air Quality Division Engineer, observed the Thief Hatch on the Produced Water Tank venting audibly. A valve on the combustion device was also audibly venting vapors in violation of condition 6 of permit CT-3925.

8. Said violations consist of venting vapors to the atmosphere and not routing vapors to the emission control systems at the Antelope 5-4 well site and Rainbow 6-32 PAD facilities. Venting vapors and not routing vapors to control devices are violations of permits MD-13214 and CT-3925.

9. 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.

10. 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 5th day of March, 2014.



Steven A. Dietrich
Administrator
Air Quality Division



Todd Parfitt
Director
Department of Environmental Quality

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