



Mike DeWine, Governor  
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor  
Laurie A. Stevenson, Director

September 16, 2019

**Certified Mail: 7018 1130 0000 4826 1963**

Keith Wahoske  
Pixelle Specialty Solutions LLC  
232 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

**Re: Pixelle Specialty Solutions LLC  
Notice of Violation (NOV)  
Air Permit  
Ross County  
0671010028**

**Division of Air Pollution Control**

**Subject: Notice of Violation**

Dear Mr. Wahoske:

As you are aware, Ohio EPA conducted a compliance inspection of Pixelle Specialty Solutions LLC (Pixelle), in Chillicothe, Ohio on May 20, May 23, June 11, June 12, and July 12, 2019. During this inspection I was accompanied by Kim Lute, Lead Environmental Engineer and Michale Bump, Environmental Co-Op. The goal of my inspection was to determine the facility's compliance with Ohio's Division of Air Pollution Control's laws as found in Chapter 3704 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and Chapter 3745 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) and the terms and conditions of Pixelle's Title V permit-to-operate (PTO) P0090569 issued on May 31, 2004. My inspection included a review of company operations and written documentation associated with facility operations.

### **Findings**

Ohio EPA observed the following violations of Ohio's ORC Chapter 3704, OAC Chapter 3745, and Pixelle's permit terms and conditions. In order to bring your facility into compliance, we recommend promptly addressing these violations within 30 days of your receipt of this letter.

1. **ORC Chapter 3745.05(C):** *"No person who is the holder of a permit issued under division (F) or (G) of section 3704.03 of the Revised Code shall violate any of its terms or conditions."*

**Title V PTO P0090569 and 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart S, §63.454(b)(6) and §63.454(b)(10):** *"(b) For each applicable enclosure opening, closed-vent system, and closed collection system, the owner or operator ... shall record the following information for each inspection: ... (6) ...the date of each attempt to repair the defect or leak. ... (8) The reason for the delay if the defect or leak is not repaired within 15 days after discovery. (10) The date of successful repair of the defect or leak."*

- (a) During the review of LDAR inspections conducted and recorded by Pixelle, I noted there were multiple occurrences where the date of the successful repair of the defect or leak [§63.454(b)(10)] was not clearly noted. Per information provided by Kim Lute, the work order system used to document the repair notes the date the repair was put in the system as completed, which may or may not be the actual date of the repair. The date of each attempt to repair the defect or leak [§63.454(b)(6)] was not listed in the work orders.
  - (b) For 29 of the 45 leaks documented from June 27, 2016, through May 31, 2019, the records "work order closed need to verify date with excel maintenance schedule." To date, no date of repair has been provided.
  - (c) For the leak on the Chemi Washer Filtrate Tank found on September 27, 2017, the complete date was listed as October of 2018. For the leak found on the E/O Stage CB Filter on November 30, December 26, 2017, and January 31, February 28, March 29 and April 29, 2018, it noted "December repair not successful", "January repair not successful" and "completed May 2018 annual outage." The date of each attempt to repair the leak was not provided.
  - (d) As explained in (b) and (c) above, for 30 of the 45 leaks found from June 27, 2016 through May 31, 2019, there is insufficient data to determine if the leaks were repaired within fifteen days of discovery. For nine of the leaks found within this timeframe, there is sufficient documentation to note that the leaks were repaired outside of the fifteen-day requirement. The reason noted for the delay of these leaks was "shutdown." No additional information was provided.
  - (e) Requested action: Within 30 days of receipt of this letter, Pixelle shall submit a compliance plan to Ohio EPA which will address how the facility will address the violations identified above and provide additional clarification as to why the leaks not fixed within fifteen days were unable to be repaired within the allotted timeframe, if known.
2. **ORC Chapter 3745.05(C):** *"No person who is the holder of a permit issued under division (F) or (G) of section 3704.03 of the Revised Code shall violate any of its terms or conditions."*

**Title V PTO P0090569 and 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart S, §63.446(d)(1):** *"(1) Each closed collection system shall meet the individual drain system requirements specified in §§63.960, 63.961, and 63.962 of subpart RR of this part, except for closed vent systems and control devices shall be designed in accordance with §§63.443(d) and 63.450, instead of in accordance with §63.693 as specified in §63.961(a)(3)(ii), (b)(3)(ii)(A), and (b)(5)(iii)"*

**Title V PTO P0090569 and 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart S, §63.453(l)(1) and (l)(1)(i):** *"(1) Each pulping process condensate closed collection system shall be visually inspected every 30 days and shall comply with the inspection and monitoring*

*requirements specified in §63.964 of subpart RR of this part, except: (i) Owners and operators shall comply with the recordkeeping requirements of §63.454 instead of the requirements specified in §63.964(a)(1)(vi) and (b)(3) of subpart RR of this part.”*

**Title V PTO P0090569 and 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart S, §63.454(b):** *Recordkeeping requirements for each inspection.*

- (a) During my inspection on June 12, 2019, I requested inspection records of the closed collection system which were unable to be provided. Pixelle provided LDAR inspection checklist records which include the drains subject to these requirements. However, Pixelle evaluates these drains for leaks but is not inspecting these drains for defects, as required in the inspection requirements in §63.964 and Pixelle’s site specific inspection plan.
  - (b) Requested action: Within 30 days of receipt of this letter, Pixelle shall submit a compliance plan to Ohio EPA which will address how the facility will address the violations identified above.
3. **ORC Chapter 3745.05(C):** *“No person who is the holder of a permit issued under division (F) or (G) of section 3704.03 of the Revised Code shall violate any of its terms or conditions.”*

**PTI 06-01393, issued final December 20, 2005 for emissions unit (EU) F001 - OAC Rule 3745-31-05(A)(3):** *“No visible PE from paved roadways and parking areas except for a period of time not to exceed one minute during any 60-minute observation period.”*

- (a) During my site visit on June 12, 2019, I conducted Method 22 visible emissions observations from the paved roadways near the lime kiln. After reading for fifteen minutes and one second, I had observed one minute and five seconds of visible emissions from the paved roadways, in violation of OAC rule 3745-31-05(A)(3).
- (b) On June 12, 2019, Kim Lute emailed me and provided photos documenting that the roadways had been cleaned. Therefore, this violation is considered resolved and no further action is required at this time.

### **Conclusion**

The Ohio EPA requests that Pixelle Specialty Solutions LLC promptly undertake the necessary measures to return to compliance with Ohio’s environmental laws and regulations. Within 30 days of receipt of this letter, please provide, to Ohio EPA, the documentation requested above. If you have already resolved the violations listed above thank you, and please provide documentation supporting compliance. Documentation of steps taken to return to compliance includes written correspondence, updated policies, and photographs, as appropriate.

Keith Wahoske  
Pixelle Specialty Solutions LLC  
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Failure to comply with Chapter 3704 of the Ohio Revised Code and rules promulgated thereunder may result in an administrative or civil penalty. If circumstances delay resolution of violations, Pixelle Specialty Solutions LLC is requested to submit written correspondence describing the steps that will be taken by date certain to attain compliance.

Please note that the submission of any requested information to respond to this letter does not constitute waiver of the Ohio EPA's authority to seek administrative or civil penalties as provided in Section 3704.06 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Thank you for your time and cooperation and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (740) 380-5246 or by e-mail at [racheal.davies@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:racheal.davies@epa.ohio.gov).

Sincerely,



Racheal Davies  
Environmental Specialist 3  
Division of Air Pollution Control  
Ohio EPA – Southeast District Office

RD/cs

ec: James Kavalec/John Paulian, DAPC/CO  
Jessica Kuenzli/Devan Roof, DAPC/SEDO  
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Kimberly Lute, Pixelle Specialty Solutions, LLC  
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