



December 2, 2022

Pinellas County Air Quality
509 East Avenue South, Suite 138
Clearwater, FL 33756

**Re: Warning Letter AQE-22-00082– HOWCO Environmental Services, Air Permit
No. 1030153-018-AO**

Ms. Schneider,

This letter serves as our response to concerns identified by the Pinellas County Air Quality Division during a complaint inspection conducted on October 18, 2022.

On the date of the observed complaint, HOWCO was in process of testing the effectiveness of various process improvements that were made in our continuing effort to minimize and/or eliminate any potential odors from being generated as a result of our water treatment process. On or about October 3rd, 2022, HOWCO contracted with an outside consulting firm that specializes in waste water treatment. The objective was to review/audit our internal procedures and processing equipment to ensure we are performing best practices and that our process equipment was operating effectively and efficiently.

The review/audit performed by the consulting firm identified various procedural and process improvements that were recommended. Suggested changes were being tested and monitored at the time of the complaint inspection. Additional process “fine-tuning” and testing continued for the balance of the week. We believe these improvements have significantly reduced and/or eliminated any potential odors that may be perceived as objectionable.

HOWCO continues to stay diligent in our efforts to be good neighbors to the surrounding community. As evident by the large reduction in odor complaints since the inspection was conducted, we believe we are on the right track to co-existing and remaining good neighbors. As we discussed last week, at least one area of complaint seems to have been identified as relating to an off-site source.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lee A. Morris', is positioned above the printed name.

Lee A. Morris

Director – Operations
HOWCO Environmental Services