

March 1, 2023

Mr. Tim Hagan, President
Howco Environmental Services, Inc.
8473 43rd Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33711
(sent via email to: thagan@howcousa.com)

Re: Notice of Violation AQE-23-00017– Howco Environmental Services, Air Permit No. 1030153-018-AO

Mr. Hagan:

Pursuant to Chapters 78-601 and 90-403, Laws of Florida, and the rules promulgated therein, which authorizes and empowers the Pinellas County Air Quality Division (PCAQD) to control, abate and prohibit pollution of the air in Pinellas County, Florida, you are hereby notified of findings which indicate that a violation of the Pinellas County Code has taken place as follows:

1. Pinellas County Code, Section 58-103. Permits Required

(b) No air pollution source may be constructed, modified or operated in the county in violation of any conditions specified on the permit, or certification authorizing the activity or as may be incorporated by reference within the conditions of the permit authorizing the activity. Violation of any such permit or certification condition is a violation of this article.

Air Permit No. 1030153-018-AO, Section 2.

9. Objectionable Odor: The permittee shall not cause, suffer, allow or permit the discharge of air pollutants, which cause or contribute to an objectionable odor. An objectionable odor is any odor present in the outdoor atmosphere which by itself or in combination with other odors, is or may be harmful or injurious to human health or welfare, which unreasonably interferes with the comfortable use and enjoyment of life or property, or which creates a nuisance.

[Rules 62-296.320(2) and 62-210.200(Objectionable Odor), F.A.C.; Pinellas County Code, Section 58-178]

Specifically, an objectionable odor was observed during a complaint inspection conducted on February 15, 2023, and again on February 21, 2023. The odor appeared to be coming from the Oil Recycling Operation exhaust.

Based on the facts stated above, and on the results of inspections performed on February 15 and 21, 2023 at Howco Environmental Services, located at 8473 43rd Street South, St. Petersburg, this serves as a Notice of Violation.

509 East Avenue South, Suite 138
Clearwater, FL 33756
Phone (727) 464-4422
V/TDD (727) 464-4062
www.pinellascounty.org

Written Response Required Within 10 Days

Please call Chris Brodeur upon receipt of this letter to discuss the resolution of the violation for which Howco Environmental Services, Inc. may be responsible and follow-up in writing explaining the circumstances that may have led to the alleged violation and propose any corrective action deemed necessary to bring the facility back in compliance. You have the opportunity to request a conference if you feel that the violation did not occur and can provide supporting evidence. The initial discussion with the Division and follow-up written response will not absolve Howco Environmental Services, Inc. of potential civil penalty.

If Howco Environmental Services, Inc. does not submit the follow-up written response within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of this Notice of Violation, a Consent Order will be issued specifying compliance conditions along with a penalty of \$500.00.

Potential Enforcement Action

Operation of a source in violation of Pinellas County Code, Chapter 58, may result in liability for damage and restoration and judicial imposition of a civil penalty up to a maximum of \$10,000 per violation, per day, pursuant to chapters 78-601 and 90-403, Laws of Florida. Continuation of activities in violation of existing regulations can result in fines being levied for each and every day a violation takes place. Violations may be resolved through entry into a Consent Order or formal enforcement action.

Failure to respond to this notice, or comply within the specified time frames, may result in commencement of civil, administrative or criminal action for injunctive relief and the assessment of civil and/or criminal penalties as provided by this Code, and the Florida Statutes. Also, the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection, reserves the right to take enforcement actions related to the potential violation cited above.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Chris Brodeur at (727) 464-4422.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sheila E. Schneider". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Sheila E. Schneider, MSCM
Air Quality Division Manager

Copy: Case File