



GROUP AGAINST SMOG & POLLUTION

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March 2, 2015

VIA EMAIL

Allegheny County Health Department
Air Quality Program
301 39th St., Bldg. 7
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
aqpermits@achd.net

Re: Comments of Group Against Smog and Pollution, Regarding Draft Title V Operating Permit for Pittsburgh Allegheny County Thermal, Ltd., 120 Cecil Way, Pittsburgh (Permit # 0044)

Dear Sir or Madam:

Please accept these comments regarding the draft Title V Operating Permit (#0044) for Pittsburgh Allegheny County Thermal, Ltd., which I am submitting on behalf of the Group Against Smog and Pollution ("GASP"). According to the notice posted on its website, the Allegheny County Health Department ("ACHD") is accepting comments on the Permit through March 2, 2015.

Very truly yours,

/s

John K. Baillie
Staff Attorney

**COMMENTS OF THE GROUP AGAINST SMOG AND POLLUTION
REGARDING THE DRAFT TITLE V OPERATING PERMIT (#0044) FOR
PITTSBURGH ALLEGHENY COUNTY THERMAL, LTD. (“PACT”)**

40 C.F.R. Part 63 Subpart JJJJJJ became effective in 2011 and required the owner or operator of any affected industrial, commercial, or institutional boiler to perform a “tune-up” by March 21, 2014¹ and every five years thereafter.² ACHD has correctly determined that two of PACT’s four boilers (specifically, Boiler 1 and Boiler 4) are subject to Subpart JJJJJJ’s tune-up requirement because those boilers may burn No. 2 fuel oil under certain circumstances.³

With respect to PACT’s two boilers that are subject to Subpart JJJJJJ, the draft renewal Title V Operating Permit for PACT also explicitly requires PACT to comply with certain tune-up requirements by March 21, 2014.⁴ This seems incongruous, and either unnecessary or incorrect; because the March 21, 2014 deadline is outdated, the requirement to tune-up the two boilers by March 21, 2014 need not be included in the PACT’s renewal Title V Operating Permit. If PACT in fact complied with the March 21, 2014 deadline, a requirement that it do so in an operating permit issued in 2015 would be superfluous. On the other hand, if PACT has failed to perform the required tune-up, its renewal Title V Operating Permit must include an enforceable schedule that directs compliance with that requirement.⁵

¹ 40 C.F.R. § 63.11196(a)(1).

² 40 C.F.R. § 63.11223(f).

³ Allegheny County Health Department, PACT Renewal Permit, Technical Support Document, at 3 (Jan. 23, 2015) (stating that Boilers 1 and 4 “are capable of firing fuel oil for emergency gas curtailment or gas interruption).

⁴ Draft Major Source Title V Operating Permit for Pittsburgh Allegheny Co. Thermal, Ltd. (#0044), § V.A.6.c (Jan. 29, 2015).

⁵ *See* Art. XXI, § 2103.12.d; 40 C.F.R. § 70.5(c)(8)(iii)(C).