



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

March 03, 2008

Brian Yeh
South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178

Dear Mr. Yeh:

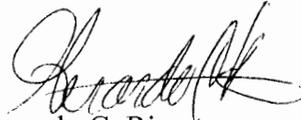
Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed permit revision for the Rhodia Inc. facility, located at 20720 South Wilmington Avenue in Long Beach, CA. The permit is being revised to incorporate into it the terms of a consent decree (CD) Rhodia entered into with the United States in 2007 for alleged violations of the Clean Air Act. EPA received the proposed permit on January 30, 2008. In accordance with South Coast AQMD regulations and 40 CFR § 70.8(c), EPA has 45 days from receipt of a proposed permit and all necessary supporting documentation to object in writing to its issuance. While EPA is not objecting to the issuance of the permit, we hereby submit the following comments:

1. Paragraph 16 of the CD requires the Defendant to incorporate the emission limits and standards into a federally-enforceable New Source Review permit to ensure that they survive the termination of the CD. Conditions S42.1, D82.2, and D82.3 have been added to the permit for this purpose. However, the tags for these conditions only contain a reference to the CD itself. To accurately reflect that these requirements are now conditions of the facility's NSR permit and to ensure that these requirements survive the termination of the CD, the tags for these conditions should also cite to the District's permitting requirements under Regulation II or the NSR requirements under Regulation XIII.
2. Paragraph 17(d) of the CD requires that the permit contain conditions which state that the SO₂ and acid mist limits shall not be relaxed. The permit contains such language for the SO₂ limit but not for the acid mist limit. Again, to ensure that the limit remains in tact after termination of the CD, similar language should be added to the permit for acid mist.
3. Pursuant to Paragraph 17(c) of the CD, Conditions D82.3 and D82.2 should contain requirements to maintain the CEMS in accordance with the quality assurance procedures in 40 CFR Part 60, Appendix F.
4. Conditions D82.2 and D82.3 should be revised to state: "The CEMS shall be in operation *at all times* during which sulfur or sulfur-bearing compounds..."

5. Because the permit refers to it, the approved Alternative Monitoring Plan should be included in the permit as an appendix.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to review this permit revision. If you have any questions or would like to discuss our comments, please contact Joe Lapka of my staff at 415-947-4226.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerardo C. Rios". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "R".

Gerardo C. Rios
Chief, Permits Office