

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF ECW-15J

VIA EMAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Naresh Vashisht Omimex Energy, Inc. 4854 West Angling Road Ludington, Michigan 49431

Naresh Vashisht@omimexgroup.com

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 80169 Fort Worth, TX 76244

Re: Consent Agreement and Final Order Docket No. SDWA-05-2022-0010

Dear Naresh Vashisht:

On July 28, 2022, the EPA published a rule in the Federal Register that approves the State of Michigan's application to obtain primary permitting and enforcement authority (primacy) for Class II wells under the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program. On August 29, 2022, the rule went into effect, giving the State of Michigan the authority to implement the UIC Class II program according to its state regulations for Class II injection wells located within the State. The State program is implemented by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Environment (EGLE).

In accordance with the Underground Injection Control Program Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Michigan and EPA Region 5, EPA retained direct implementation of certain Class II permits that were under investigation or permits that were involved in an open enforcement case with EPA, including yours. Previously, EPA emailed you a letter on August 26, 2022, titled "US Environmental Protection Agency Retains Direct Enforcement Authority of Your Class II Permits" explaining your responsibility to continue to report to EPA until the conclusion of federal enforcement actions.

Based on the information you have provided regarding the requirements of the Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency believes that

you have satisfied the terms of Docket No. SDWA-05-2022-0010. EPA anticipates no further action on the alleged noncompliance EPA observed including injection of unauthorized fluids, failure to monitor and record annulus pressure, failure to certify reports, and failure to submit timely annual reports. EPA has received the penalty payment and considers the CAFO to be closed.

This letter serves as notification that you are no longer required to report to EPA. You should contact EGLE about your duties under the Michigan's Class II UIC program as soon as possible. EGLE is now the primary enforcement agency for your permits, and it is your responsibility to maintain compliance with their UIC Program. EGLE's UIC regulations can be found at https://www.michigan.gov/egle/about/organization/Oil-Gas-and-Minerals/Oil-and-Gas.

If you have any questions, please contact Monica Dix at 312-996-0650 or <u>dix.monica@epa.gov</u> or Jason Mailloux at 517-245-2195 or <u>MaillouxJ@Michigan.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Michael Harris, Division Director Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

cc (via email):

Jason Mailloux, Michigan EGLE Andrew Greenhagen, EPA Stephen Mendoza, EPA ORC Elizabeth Murphy, EPA James Adamiec, EPA Ken Prior, Omimex Energy, Inc. Bradley Ross, Omimex Energy, Inc.