



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:
(AR-18J)

OCT 19 2006

Robert Hodanbosi, Chief
Division of Air Pollution Control
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
122 South Front Street
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43125-1049

Dear Mr. Hodanbosi:

Bob,

On May 23-25, 2005, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) conducted an on-site evaluation of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's (OEPA) Title V permit program. The United States Environmental Protection Agency is scheduled to conduct program evaluations for all permitting authorities nationwide. Enclosed you will find a copy of our final report on the OEPA Title V program.

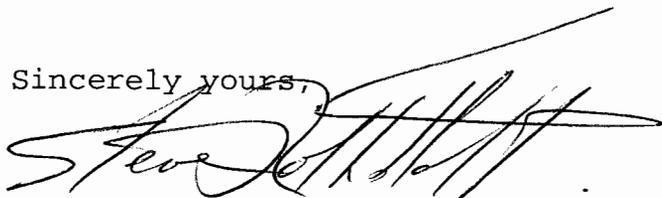
In the process of the evaluation, we observed that OEPA had demonstrated a willingness to continually improve its Title V program through the use of guidance and information technology. OEPA uses these and other forms of communication and correspondence to support its offices throughout the state. Through inspection activities, OEPA's engineers further understand the nature of permitted sources. The STARS permit tracking system helps manage the Title V workload and makes for a more efficient permit system. All of these strengths helped Ohio become the first state in Region 5 to meet its initial Title V permit commitment, and reflect the benefits that OEPA has gained from the Title V program.

We believe that there is room for improvement in completing the initial Title V permits that were not part of the initial commitment, as well as overcoming new backlogs brought on by Title V renewal permits. Ohio also stands to benefit from asserting more control over the preliminary proposed permit phase, establishing a protocol for proper incorporation of Maximum Achievable Control Technology requirements, and achieving more consistent quality in its Statements of Basis. Maintaining

a balanced resource allocation throughout its programs will help OEPA meet these challenges.

We would like to thank you and your staff for your assistance with the evaluation, and look forward to working with you to address areas of improvement. If you have any questions, please contact me, or have your staff contact Kaushal Gupta at (312) 886-6803.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Rothblatt", written over a horizontal line.

Stephen Rothblatt, Director
Air and Radiation Division

Enclosure