

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

IN THE MATTER OF:)	
)	
Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corporation)	NOTICE OF VIOLATION
Wheeling, West Virginia)	EPA-5-98-OH-41
)	
PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO SECTION 113(a)(1) OF THE CLEAN AIR ACT 42 U.S.C. § 7413(a)(1))	
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STATUTORY AUTHORITY

This Notice of Violation is issued pursuant to Section 113(a)(1) of the Clean Air Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(a)(1). You are hereby notified that the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), by authority duly delegated to the undersigned, finds Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corporation (WPSC) in violation of the federally approved Ohio State Implementation Plan (Ohio SIP) as promulgated pursuant to Section 110 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7410.

REGULATORY BACKGROUND

1. Section 110 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7410, requires States to adopt, and submit to the U.S. EPA for approval, SIPs providing for the implementation, maintenance, and enforcement of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) promulgated by U.S. EPA pursuant to Section 109 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7409. U.S. EPA has promulgated NAAQS for, among other pollutants, particulate matter and sulfur dioxide (SO₂).
2. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 52.23, failure to comply with any approved regulatory provision of a SIP, or with any permit condition issued pursuant to approved or promulgated regulations for the review of new or modified stationary or indirect sources, renders the person so failing to comply in violation of a requirement of an applicable implementation plan and subject to enforcement under Section 113 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413.
3. On February 26, 1981, the Administrator of U.S. EPA approved

OAC Rule 3745-18 as part of the Federally enforceable SIP for the State of Ohio. 46 Fed. Reg. 8490. OAC Rule 3745-18 regulates the emission of Sulfur Dioxide from stationary sources.

4. On June 27, 1994, the Administrator of U.S. EPA approved OAC Rule 3745-17 as part of the Federally enforceable SIP for the State of Ohio. 59 Fed. Reg. 27464. OAC Rule 3745-17 regulates the emissions of particulate matter from stationary sources.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

5. WPSC owns and operates an integrated steel mill in the cities of Steubenville and Mingo Junction, Ohio and Follansbee, West Virginia. These two Ohio facilities consist of, among other things, the number 1 blast furnace, the number 5 blast furnace, and the basic oxygen furnace shop (BOF shop).
6. WPSC owns and operates a hot dip galvanizing facility located in Martins Ferry, Ohio. This facility consists of, among other things, three galvanizing lines called 36 inch, 48 inch, and 64 inch lines.
7. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) issued a Director's Final Findings and Orders on October 31, 1995, to WPSC requiring WPSC to, among other things; conduct visible emission observations on the number 1 and number 5 blast furnaces, and the BOF shop processes on a regular basis and to submit monthly or quarterly reports compiling this information.
8. An October 10, 1991, Consent Order issued by the OEPA, a January 21, 1992 Administrative Order issued by the U.S. EPA Region 5, and a January 30, 1996 Consent Decree issued by U.S. EPA Region 3, required WPSC to, among other things, modify the desulfurization unit at the Follansbee facility; install, calibrate, and operate a continuous hydrogen sulfide monitor at the desulfurization plant; and install and operate a flare system for the number 5 blast furnace gas bleeder vents.
9. OAC Rule 3745-17-07(A) (1) prohibits visible particulate emissions from any stack in excess of 20 percent opacity as a six-minute average.
10. OAC Rule 3745-17-07(B) (1) prohibits visible particulate

- emissions from any fugitive dust source in excess of 20 percent opacity as a three-minute average.
11. OAC Rule 3745-17-07(B) (3) prohibits visible particulate emissions of fugitive dust from any blast furnace casthouse, among other things, in excess of 20 percent opacity as a six-minute average.
 12. OAC Rule 3745-17-13(F) (7) (a) (i-ii) is a site specific SIP for the WPSC facility located in Mingo Junction, Ohio. This OAC Rule prohibits visible particulate emissions from the number 5 blast furnace casthouse in excess of 20 percent opacity as a three-minute average during opening and closing of the blast furnace tap-hole (and torpedo car switching).
 13. OAC Rule 3745-17-13(F) (7) (a) (iv) is a site specific SIP for the WPSC facility located in Mingo Junction, Ohio. This OAC Rule prohibits visible particulate emissions from the blast furnace casthouse, under all other operating times (except opening/closing of the tap-hole or torpedo car switching), in excess of 5 percent opacity as a six-minute average.
 14. OAC Rule 3745-17-13(F) (7) (c) is a site specific SIP for the WPSC facility located in Mingo Junction, Ohio. This OAC Rule requires, for the clean gas bleeders, all the blast furnace gases be vented to a flare system which is designed and operated in accordance with good engineering practice and capable of efficiently combusting the gas.
 15. OAC Rule 3745-18-47(C) requires that no owner or operator of a by-product coke oven for a facility which utilizes by-product coke oven gas shall cause or permit the combustion of by-product coke oven gas containing hydrogen sulfide (H_2S) in excess of fifty grains of hydrogen sulfide per one hundred dry standard cubic feet of coke oven gas.

FINDINGS OF VIOLATION

H₂S Violations:

16. WPSC combusts coke oven gases (COG) in various processes at the Mingo Junction, Steubenville and Follansbee Plants. The H_2S concentration of this COG is continually monitored at the outlet of the desulfurization unit at the Follansbee coke oven by-products plant and reported to OEPA on a quarterly basis.
17. Continuous emission monitoring data and quarterly reports

from January 1, 1997 through December 31, 1998 show at least 228 instances when the concentration of H₂S in the COG combusted exceeded 50 Grains of H₂S per 100 dry standard cubic feet of COG.

18. In violation of OAC Rule 3745-18-47, WPSC has combusted COG with a H₂S concentration greater than the allowable limit established in the Ohio SIP on at least 228 separate occasions.

Number 1 Blast Furnace Violations:

19. WPSC submits monthly reports to OEPA summarizing times when the opacity from the number 1 blast furnace exceeded 20 percent.
20. Monthly reports from January, 1997 through February, 1999 show at least four instances when the opacity from WPSC's number 1 blast furnace casthouse exceeded 20 percent.
21. In violation of OAC Rule 3745-17-07(B)(3), WPSC exceeded the opacity limit established for the number 1 blast furnace on four separate occasions.

Number 5 Blast Furnace Violations:

22. WPSC submits monthly reports to OEPA summarizing the following information:
 - a. Times when the opacity from the number 5 blast furnace casthouse exceeds 20 percent during tap-hole opening or closing periods (and torpedo car switching).
 - b. Times when the opacity from the number 5 blast furnace casthouse exceeds five percent during other periods of operation.
23. Monthly reports from January, 1997 through February, 1999 show at least:
 - a. Six instances when the opacity from WPSC's number 5 blast furnace casthouse exceeded 20 percent during tap-hole opening or closing periods.
 - b. 91 instances when the opacity from WPSC's number 5 blast furnace casthouse exceeded five percent during other operational periods.
24. In violation of:
 - a. OAC Rule 3745-17-13(F)(6)(a)(i-ii), WPSC exceeded the 20 percent opacity limit established for the number 5 blast furnace during tap-hole opening and closing

periods on six separate occasions.

- b. OAC Rule 3745-17-13(F) (6) (a) (iv), WPSC exceeded the five percent opacity limit established for the number 5 blast furnace during other periods of operation on 91 separate occasions.
25. WPSC submits monthly reports to OEPA summarizing the mass of carbon monoxide emitted to the atmosphere due to bleeder vent releases of blast furnace gas from the number 1 and number 5 blast furnaces.
 26. Monthly reports from January, 1997 through December, 1998 show WPSC released approximately 340,000 lbs of blast furnace gas to the atmosphere through the bleeder vents at the number 5 blast furnace instead of combusting the gas with the flare system.
 27. In violation of OAC Rule 3745-17-13(F) (6) (c), WPSC failed to flare all blast furnace gas from the clean gas bleeder vents at the number 5 blast furnace.

BOF Shop Violations:

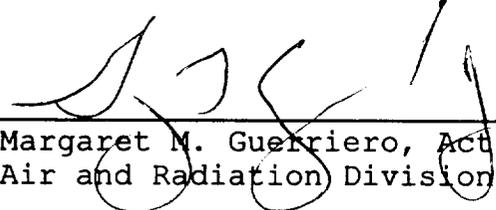
28. WPSC submits quarterly reports to OEPA summarizing the following information:
 - a. Times when the opacity from the Basic Oxygen Furnace (BOF) Shop casthouse exceeded 20 percent.
 - b. Times when the opacity from the BOF Shop scrubber stack exceeded 20 percent.
29. Quarterly reports from January, 1996 through December, 1998 show at least:
 - a. 170 instances when the opacity from WPSC's BOF Shop casthouse exceeded 20 percent.
 - b. 14 instances when the opacity from WPSC's BOF Shop scrubber stack exceeded 20 percent.
30. In violation of:
 - a. OAC Rule 3745-17-07(B) (1), WPSC exceeded the opacity limit established for the BOF Shop casthouse on 170 separate occasions.
 - b. OAC Rule 3745-17-07(A) (1) (a-b), WPSC exceeded the opacity limit established for the BOF Shop scrubber stack on 14 separate occasions.

Galvanizing Baghouse Violations (Martins Ferry)

31. U.S. EPA conducted visible emission observations at the Martins Ferry galvanizing baghouse on June 10, 1999.
32. VE observations identified two instances when opacity from the baghouse exceeded 20 percent.
33. In violation of OAC Rule 3745-17-07(A) (1) (a), WPSC exceeded the opacity limit established for the galvanizing baghouse on two separate occasions.

Date: _____

9/30/99



Margaret M. Guerriero, Acting Director
Air and Radiation Division

FOR

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Loretta Shaffer, do hereby certify that a Notice of Violation, issued to the Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel Corporation, pursuant to the Clean Air Act, was sent by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to:

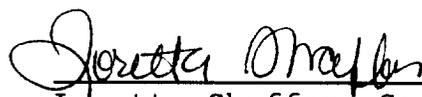
James G. Bradley, President and CEO
Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corporation
1134 Market Street
Wheeling, West Virginia 34882

I also certify that copies of the Notice of Violation were sent by first class mail to:

Robert Hodanbosi, Chief
Division of Air Pollution Control
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Lazarus Government Center
P.O. 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049

Fred Klingelhafer, APC Supervisor
Southeast District Office
2195 Front Street
Logan, Ohio 43138

on the 30th day of September, 1999.



Loretta Shaffer, Secretary
AECAS, (OH/MN)

CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT NUMBER: PS64 485 834