



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

September 21, 2011

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED: 7011 0110 0001 3590 6292

Mr. Doug Agee, PE
Sr. Environmental Engineer
XTO Energy, Inc.
810 Houston St.
Ft. Worth, Texas 76102

Re: Administrative Compliance Order Docket Number: CAA-06-2011-3335

Dear Mr. Agee:

Enclosed is an Administrative Compliance Order (Order) issued to XTO Energy, Inc., for violation of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(1)). The violation was identified based on our September 15, 2011, inspection of your natural gas well site located in Ft. Worth, Tarrant County, Texas. The general duty clause violation found consists of a release of an extremely hazardous substance; specifically, methane.

Effective upon receipt of this Order, you shall fix, repair or replace the leaking component as noted in the enclosed Order, and comply with the provisions of this Order. The Environmental Protection Agency is committed to ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, and my staff will assist you in any way possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Tony Robledo, of my staff, at (214) 665-8182.

Sincerely,

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

John Blevins
Director
Compliance Assurance and
Enforcement Division

Enclosure

cc: Michael de la Cruz
Manager, Air Enforcement Section
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Jack Williams
Chief Executive Officer
XTO Energy, Inc.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY-REGION 6
ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLIANCE ORDER

In the Matter of XTO Energy, Inc., Respondent
Docket No. CAA-06-2011-3335

ORDER

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The following findings are made and Administrative Compliance Order (Order) issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), by Section 113(a)(3) of the Clean Air Act (Act), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(a)(3). The Administrator has delegated the authority to issue this Order to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 6 who has further delegated such authority to the Director of the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division.

FINDINGS

1. Respondent, XTO Energy, Inc., is a "person" as defined by Section 302(e) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7602(e).
2. At all times relevant to the violation alleged herein, Respondent operated the TRBP – Railhead Unit 1H natural gas well site located in Ft. Worth, Tarrant County, Texas (the "Facility").
3. The Facility is a "stationary source" as defined by Section 112(r)(2)(C) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 7412(r)(2)(C).
4. On September 15, 2011, EPA inspectors observed a release of pollutants from one (1) production tank hatch utilizing the FLIR® Gas Finder Infrared Camera.
5. Based on observations using the FLIR® Gas Finder Infrared Camera, and process knowledge, the EPA inspectors determined that the release of pollutants described in paragraph four (4) contained methane.
6. Methane is highly flammable and/or explosive substance.
7. An extremely hazardous substance under Section 112(r) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r) includes, but is not limited to, methane. The release as described in paragraph four (4) is potentially subject to explosive levels of methane.
8. Section 112(r)(1) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(1), requires owners and operators to design and maintain a safe facility, taking such steps as are necessary to prevent releases of extremely hazardous substances.
9. On September 15, 2011, Respondent released an emission containing methane into the ambient air from a stationary source in violation of Section 112(r)(1) of the Clean Air Act (Act), 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(1).

Based on these findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 113(a)(3) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(a)(3), EPA orders that Respondent take the following actions upon receipt of this Order:

1. Fix, repair, or replace the leaking components that led to the release of an extremely hazardous substance as described in paragraph four (4), upon receipt of this Order.
2. Within fifteen (15) days of the receipt of this Order, Respondent shall provide written certification to the EPA, Region 6, that the activities required in the previous paragraph have been completed and shall include any supporting documents such as receipts and invoices. The written certification and supporting documentation shall be addressed to Mr. David F. Garcia, Associate Director, Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, (mail code 6EN-A), U.S. EPA Region 6, 1445 Ross Ave., Dallas, TX 75202. Respondent shall sign and certify under penalty of law that the certification and supporting documentation are true, accurate, and not misleading.

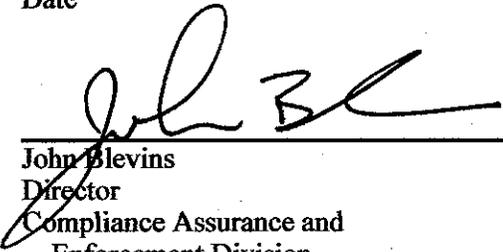
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Issuance of this Order shall not be deemed an election by EPA to waive any administrative, judicial, civil or criminal action to seek penalties, fines or other relief under the Act for the violation alleged herein or other violations which may become known to EPA. EPA reserves the right to seek any remedy available under the law which it deems appropriate.

Failure to comply with this Order or the Act may result in the initiation of an administrative penalty action by EPA or a civil judicial penalty action by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Compliance with this Order does not relieve Respondent of its obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws.

9-21-11
Date


John Blevins
Director
Compliance Assurance and
Enforcement Division