DATE:

9/23/10

SUBJECT:

**Exide Technologies** Reading Smelter Plant File No. 06-05066 (B.1.)

Laureldale Borough/MuhlenbergTownship, Berks County

FROM:

Thomas Hanlon 744 9/23/10 Chief, East Permitting Section

AND:

William R Weaver WRW 9/23/10

Air Quality, SCRO

Program Manager Air Quality, SCRO

Public notice for the revised draft permit was done as follows:

Sent to EPA 6/25/10 Sent to Company: 5/26/10 Published in PA Bulletin: 6/5/10

EPA did not offer any comments. Public comments on the revised draft permit were received from Wheeler Environmental Services on behalf of the County of Berks, and from a private citizen. These comment documents and DEP's comment and response document are included as an attachment to this memo.

It is recommended that the renewal of the Title V Operating Permit No. 06-05066 be issued.

cc: Permits

Reading District Office

# Attachment A Comment and Response Document for Re-draft of Title V Operating Permit No. 06-05066 for Exide Technologies Reading Smelter Plant

| No                  | No detail is provided in the comment as to how the commenter's view of "appropriate" sweeping and road washing techniques would be different than proposed by DEP in the draft permit. DEP continues to believe that the requirements proposed in the permit are appropriate.   | We request that appropriate sweeping and road washing techniques be employed 13 to ensure compliance with PA's fugitive emissions standards.  | Fugitive Emission Issues            |
|---------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Yes                 | s nts   | We believe that many of the public comments that have been ignored by the PADEP relate not only to ambient lead impacts and compliance with the 2008 Lead NAAQS but also to compliance with PA's fugitive emissions standards at section 123.1 and 123.2. We therefore request that PADEP revisit these comments and adequately address comments related to fugitive emissions monitoring and work 12 practice standards. | Fugitive Emission Issues            |
| No.                 | DEP is requiring Exide to develop more detailed estimates of fugitive dust emissions from on-site roadways. DEP does not have the authority to require Exide to estimate fugitive dust emissions from traffic on public roads near the entrance to the smelter.   | We request that PADEP require estimation of fugitive dust emissions from both truck traffic on onsite roadways and from traffic on public roads near the entrance to 11 the smelter.  | Emission inventory issues           |
| No                  | DEP appreciates the commenter's support for this position.  | We thank the PADEP for requiring that emissions that occur during startup,  Shutdown, or malfunction (SSM) events be reported by the permittee and that  Emission inventory issues  10 emissions during SSM events meet the MACT emission limitations.  | Emission inventory issues           |
| No                  | This issue is not related to the Title V permit renewal. Also, it should be noted that Exide has paid substantial fines related to past air quality violations. As of the date this comment and response document, all outstanding Air Quality violations have been addressed.  | Issuing a permit before this is cleaned up will not eliminate the problem. Have them a pay their fines and abide by the rules of pollution.   | Non-air quality issues              |
| No<br>No            | This issue is not related to the Title V permit renewal.  This issue is not related to the Title V permit renewal.  | 7 water to them.  8 Exide has polluted the soil on its property and the soil in Bernhardt Park.   | Non-air quality issues              |
| No                  | DEP has diligently enforced existing regulations regarding the Exide facility. These regulations have been designed in the interest of protecting public health and welfare.  | We teet that if Exide wanted to be a good neighbor, they would have addressed these issues when foul odors were first emitted, and not let it get to the point when we have health concerns. We are afraid to have our grandchildren play outside 6 because of the effect on their health.  | Maiodor Issues                      |
| No                  | Exide is required to continuously monitor the afterburner temperatures and to submit periodic reports to the Department. The Department periodically inspects the facility to check on compliance.  | Who is going to watch over the so-called temperature increase to know its being 5 done?   | Malodor Issues                      |
| No                  | The improvements at the facility related to the afterburners and their operating temperatures, were developed based on a Consent Order and Agreement signed with DEP on 12/20/07.   | If knowing that burning at a higher temperature would reduce the odors, why hasn't 4 it been done years ago?  | Malodor Issues                      |
| N <sub>o</sub>      | ed at the<br>a matter of<br>cate  | It is a blatant lie that no complaints have been filed since 2008. The complainant has called many times and has not had a return call, nor has anyone been out to 3 address the odors since the previous DEP inspector left.   | Malodor Issues                      |
| No                  | Exide has not been operating without a permit. The facility's Title V permit that was issued on 11/5/00 has remained valid. It is true that the permit has a nominal expiration date of 7/31/05. Nevertheless, DEP regulations provide that a valid existing permit remains valid so long as the permittee has submitted a timely and complete renewal application. Exide did this. | If they don't meet specifications, how are they allowed to run for five years without a 2 permit?   | Overall permitting issues           |
| No                  | olation<br>s<br>07,   | The malodors from Exide are "horrible." The commenter experiences it personally and hears complaints about it from neighbors.   | Malodor Issues                      |
| Change to<br>Draft? | Response  | Category # Comment Comment State 618/10 from Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Pfennig  | Category  Comments dated 6/8/10 fro |

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| No                  | appropriate temperature benchmark for malodors  | 22 occumented during the most recent LHC emission test program under Subpart X.  | Widloudi Issues          |
|---------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
|                     | The Subpart X regulation was not designed to address malodors. The 123.31 regulation explicitly addresses malodors. DEP believes that the 123.31 regulation provides the  | We thank the PADEP for imposing a continuous afterburner temperature requirement on the two afterburners employed by Exide to both control organic air toxics under Subpart X and to oxidize sulfurous and other reduced compounds from the blast furnaces that can result in objectionable offsite colors. However, we object to the PADEP specifying a temperature of 1,200°F with a reference to the PA malodor standard at 25 PA Code 123.31. We believe instead that it is reasonable for the PADEP to require that the afterburners meet the average temperatures  |                          |
| No                  |   | We believe that Exide's poor compliance history with the malodor standard provides ample reason to impose routine THC compliance testing (at least annually) to demonstrate that the afterburners provide sufficient capture and 21 destruction efficiencies for malodorous compounds.   | Malodor Issues           |
| No                  | esignates the area around Exide as nonattainment for lead, DEP lop a State Implementation Plan to achieve attainment. The ns will be considered as part of this process.  | We request that the DEP review and address each one of the public comments that have been deferred when the imminent nonattainment designation is made by the USEPA this October (note that USEPA responded to PADEP's recommendations for nonattainment areas in mid-July and supported the inclusion of the Laureldale 20 area as lead nonattainment).   | Lead issues              |
| No.                 | EP did not state that it was "premature to conclude that ated as nonattainment." Rather, DEP stated that "DEP sess laid out by EPA in addressing these issues."   | We note that many comments concerning lead emissions and impacts on the community have not been addressed by the PADEP based on the position that it is premature to conclude that the Laureldale area will be designated nonattainment with the 2008 Lead NAAQS (response 60 in the comment/response matrix table 19 provided with the PADEP review memo).  | Lead issues              |
| Z o                 | nse to Comment 17. The data from the company-operated lead monitors ted in a manner that allows it to be used in drawing conclusions about th the lead NAAQS.   | A review of the most recent lead monitoring data (3-month averages over first quarter 2010) collected by the PADEP at the new lead monitor located adjacent to Exide shows that the PADEP's lead levels are significantly lower than the lead levels measured by the Exide-operated lead samplers located at other areas in different directions downwind of the smelter. This shows the need for additional lead monitoring in the Laureldale area to better pinpoint the extent of excessive lead impacts on the community and to assist the PADEP in determining appropriate lead control measures to address the impending lead nonattainment designation to the area. | Lead issues              |
| No                  | The company-operated lead samplers have not been required to operate with the necessary QA/QC procedures to be used as valid indicators of compliance with the Lead NAAQS. Furthermore, it should be noted that per federal requirements, DEP has located a DEP-operated lead monitor at the location of the estimated maximum running 3-month concentration. | Even if the PADEP and USEPA conclude that there are no ongoing obligations by Exide to operate their ambient lead monitoring network, we request that the PADEP use its authority under the PA Air Pollution Control Act to mandate the continued operation of the company-operated lead monitoring network. We believe it would be tragic if the promulgation of a much more stringent lead ambient air standard in 2008 could result in the operation of fewer rather than more lead monitors in the 17 Laureldale area.   | Lead issues              |
| ON                  | correct in asserting that there are any ambient lead monitoring le's current Title V permit. There are none. Furthermore, even if there ents, this would not prevent DEP from modifying or deleting those of cause in the permit renewal.   | The inclusion of ambient lead monitoring network requirements in the existing Exide Title V permit means that this is a federally enforceable applicable air quality 16 requirement that cannot be excluded from the Title V permit renewal.   | Lead issues              |
| No                  | th concluded that the requirements of the 1984 SIP ended upon<br>COA upon which the SIP was based. This COA explicitly was set to   | We challenge and reject the PADEP's conclusion that operation of the network of armbient lead samplers by Exide can be discontinued because the requirements of the 1984 Lead SIP are no longer applicable. We reject this conclusion and believe that the intent of the 1984 SIP was to require not only the continued operation of ambient lead monitoring networks surrounding the two secondary lead smelters in Berks County, but also the orgoning obligation by the PADEP, USEPA, and the smelters to evaluate ambient lead impacts following modifications made to the 15 smelter operations.  | Lead issues              |
| No                  | See the response to Comment 12. It should also be noted that the current draft of the permit requires daily inspections around the plant periphery for visible stack emissions, fugitive emissions and malodorous emissions.  | 14   | Fugitive Emission Issues |
| Change to<br>Draft? | Response  | # Comment  | Category                 |

## Attachment A Comment and Response Document for Re-draft of Title V Operating Permit No. 06-05066 for Exide Technologies Reading Smelter Plant

| No             | as a guide for the y, please see the response to   | 28  | Testing Issues        |
|----------------|--|---|-----------------------|
| N <sub>O</sub> | , k  | 27  | Testing Issues        |
| No.            | In a letter to DEP dated 6/4/10, Exide asserts that "The air pollution controls applied to the Facility's buildings serve the primary purpose of maintaining inward air flow at any building openings (also referred to as negative pressure) to prevent the escape of fugitive emissions that might evade capture by process emission controls. These systems capture any fugitive emissions and remove them via the route of the control devices. Application of this technology has been determined to be in compliance with the Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) requirements promulgated by U.S. EPA at 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart X. Due to these operating reduces and engineering controls at the Exide facility, including the operation of buildings under negative pressure, Exide reasserts that the potential release of fugitive emissions is negligible, to the extent that information necessary to develop meaningful numeric estimates is unavailable." DEP inspections at Exide have not indicated any specific reason to contest the above assertions by Exide. Nevertheless, DEP will require Exide to estimate and report excess emissions from SSM events. | The PADEP has not adequately addressed the County of Berks comments regarding the need for furnace and other smelter source furne capture efficiency testing to better estimate the magnitude of fugitive emissions from the Exide operations during normal operations and during SSM events. We once again request that the PADEP adequately assess fugitive lead and other HAP emissions associated with Exide's smelter operations (both during normal operations and during SSM events) and require that these fugitive emissions be reported annually glssues  26 and Title V emission fees be levied for these emissions. | Testing Issues        |
| No             | to Comments 26 and 27. The draft permit already requires THC required in the Subpart X regulation. Given the lack of recent for violations, and the reduction in malodor complaints, DEP does not THC testing is required. TRS testing is not required by Subpart X or tion.   |   | Malodor Issues        |
| N <sub>O</sub> | to Comments 22 and 23. This comment is inconsistent with the same or assertion (Comment 22) that the afterburner temperature limit should subpart X limit. Furthermore, BAT is only applicable to the installation   | The afterburner temperature limits specified by PADEP as BAT for these types of sources should be imposed instead of the 1,200° F level. We request that a minimum temperature limit of 1,600° F be imposed based on precedent for other 24 hazardous waste combustion sources.   | Malodor Issues        |
| Draft?         | The 123.31 regulation establishes a generic standard for the control of odors at a wide variety of facilities.   | ssues   | Category<br>Malodor I |
| Change to      |  |   |                       |

## RECEIVED DEP SOUTHCENTRAL REGION

Den mr Hanton

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Teduce the orders surg hasn't it were done years ago? who is going to watch over those, so called tong. wereness to know it's keing done?

We personally feel that if Efide wanted to be a good Meighbor they would have addressed these issues when four bases some first emitted! not let it get to the point when sue have health loncerns.

lustre afraid to have our Grandcholder here to plays

And there provides hattled water heaves nothing is herory!

Take a look at our one time heartful Bernhardt

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they are pallated as Noted on the signs from the city. Yhay-

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## Weaver, William (DEP)

From: Wheeler Environmental Services [wheeleres@dejazzd.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 06, 2010 3:48 PM

To: Weaver, William (DEP); Hanlon, Thomas

Cc: Mark Scott; CLeinbach@countyofberks.com; KBarnhardt@countyofberks.com

Subject: Exide DRAFT Title V Comments

## Mr. Weaver:

Attached are the County of Berks comments with regard to the Exide Technologies Draft Title V permit. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely, Steve Wheeler

Stephen A. Wheeler President Wheeler Environmental Services P.O. Box 501 Boyertown, PA 19512 Phone: 610-369-2905 Fax: 610-369-2906

Fax: 610-369-2906 Cell: 610-334-4209 wheeleres@dejazzd.com

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## **Wheeler Environmental Services**

PO BOX 501 – Boyertown, PA 19512-0501 wheeleres@dejazzd.com

Phone: 610-369-2905 Fax: 610-369-2906

July 6, 2010

Sent via email

Mr. William Weaver Southcentral Region Air Program Manager PADEP- Southcentral Regional Office 909 Elmerton Avenue Harrisburg, PA 17110

RE: Comments on Proposed Title V Permit for Exide Technologies Reading, PA Smelter and 5/21/10 PA DEP Review Memo from R. Fitterling to W. Weaver

Mr. Weaver:

Wheeler Environmental Services (WES), on behalf of the County of Berks, is pleased to present the following comments for the proposed Title V permit for Exide Technologies, Reading, PA Smelter and comment regarding the May 21, 2010 PADEP review memo from Mr. Roger Fitterling to William Weaver.

We thank the PADEP for requiring that emissions that occur during startup, shutdown, or malfunction (SSM) events be reported by the permittee and that emissions during SSM events meet the MACT emission limitations. However, the PADEP has not adequately addressed the County of Berks comments regarding the need for furnace and other smelter source fume capture efficiency testing to better estimate the magnitude of fugitive emissions from the Exide operations during normal operations and during SSM events. We once again request that the PADEP adequately assess fugitive lead and other HAP emissions associated with Exide's smelter operations (both during normal operations and during SSM events) and require that these fugitive emissions be reported annually and Title V emission fees be levied for these emissions

We object to the PADEP's refusal to require TRS and THC emission testing of the furnace and furnace charging systems to demonstrate compliance with PA's malodor, H2S, and fugitive emission standards and with USEPA's 40 CFR 63 Subpart X standard. The substantial modifications made by Exide to their furnace and afterburner control systems dictates that THC testing be conducted for the furnace and furnace charging systems to ensure adequate capture and

control of furnace vHAP and malodorous emissions is being achieved. We believe that Exide's poor compliance history with the malodor standard provides ample reason to impose routine THC compliance testing (at least annually) to demonstrate that the afterburners provide sufficient capture and destruction efficiencies for malodorous compounds.

We challenge and reject the PADEP's conclusion that operation of the network of ambient lead samplers by Exide can be discontinued because the requirements of the 1984 Lead SIP are no longer applicable. We reject this conclusion and believe that the intent of the 1984 SIP was to require not only the continued operation of ambient lead monitoring networks surrounding the two secondary lead smelters in Berks County, but also the ongoing obligation by the PADEP, USEPA, and the smelters to evaluate ambient lead impacts following modifications made to the smelter operations. In addition, the inclusion of ambient lead monitoring network requirements in the existing Exide Title V permit means that this is a federally enforceable applicable air quality requirement that cannot be excluded from the Title V permit renewal.

Even if the PADEP and USEPA conclude that there are no ongoing obligations by Exide to operate their ambient lead monitoring network, we request that the PADEP use its authority under the PA Air Pollution Control Act to mandate the continued operation of the company-operated lead monitoring network. We believe it would be tragic if the promulgation of a much more stringent lead ambient air standard in 2008 could result in the operation of fewer rather than more lead monitors in the Laureldale area, A review of the most recent lead monitoring data (3-month averages over first quarter 2010) collected by the PADEP at the new lead monitor located adjacent to Exide shows that the PADEP's lead levels are significantly lower than the lead levels measured by the Exide-operated lead samplers located at other areas in different directions downwind of the smelter. This shows the need for additional lead monitoring in the Laureldale area to better pinpoint the extent of excessive lead impacts on the community and to assist the PADEP in determining appropriate lead control measures to address the impending lead nonattainment designation for the area.

We thank the PADEP for imposing a continuous afterburner temperature requirement on the two afterburners employed by Exide to both control organic air toxics under Subpart X and to oxidize sulfurous and other reduced compounds from the blast furnaces that can result in objectionable offsite odors.

However, we object to the PADEP specifying a temperature of 1,200°F with a reference to the PA malodor standard at 25 PA Code 123,31. We believe instead that it is reasonable for the PADEP to require that the afterburners meet the average temperatures documented during the most recent THC emission test program under Subpart X. The temperature specified in the PA state malodor standard was not established based on odorous emissions that result from a lead smelter's operations. The afterburner temperature limits specified by PADEP as BAT for these types of sources should be imposed instead of the 1,200° F level. We request that a minimum temperature limit of 1,600° F be imposed based on precedent for other hazardous waste combustion sources. We also request that the new malodor portion of the Title V permit include routine (at least annual) emissions testing for capture and destruction of THC and TRS emissions by the furnace afterburners. We request that PADEP require testing of the furnace charging dust collector exhausts for THC and TRS to identify the magnitude of uncaptured furnace emissions consistent with the THC testing required under the Subpart X MACT standard.

We note that many comments concerning lead emissions and impacts on the community have not been addressed by the PADEP based on the position that it is premature to conclude that the Laureldale area will be designated nonattainment with the 2008 Lead NAAQS (response 60 comment/response matrix table provided with the PADEP review memo). request that the DEP review and address each one of the public comments that have been deferred when the imminent nonattainment designation is made by the USEPA this October (note that USEPA responded to PADEP's recommendations for nonattainment areas in mid-July and supported the inclusion of the Laureldale area as lead nonattainment). We believe that many of these comments that have been ignored by the PADEP relate not only to ambient lead impacts and compliance with the 2008 Lead NAAQS but also to compliance with PA's fugitive emissions standards at section 123.1 and 123.2. We therefore request that PADEP revisit these comments and adequately address comments related to fugitive emissions monitoring and work practice standards. For example, we request that PADEP require estimation of fugitive dust emissions from both truck traffic on onsite roadways and from traffic on public roads near the entrance to the smelter and that appropriate sweeping and road washing techniques be employed to ensure compliance with PA's fugitive emissions standards. We also request that daily Method 9 visible emissions observations be required each shift and during SSM events for the smelter

furnace, refinery, and material handling areas be required to ensure that no visible fugitive emissions are observed to demonstrate ongoing compliance with PA's fugitive emissions standards.

If you should have any questions regarding these comments, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely

Wheeler Environmental Services

Stephen A. Wheeler

President

Berks County 7-5-10 Comment response Document