

May 17, 2023

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

VIA EMAIL: Kimberly.Kaal@shell.com

Kimberly Kaal, Environmental Manager
Shell Chemical Appalachia LLC
300 Frankfort Road
Monaca, PA 15061

Re: PA-04-00740C
Visible Emissions
Shell Petrochemicals Complex
Potter Township
Beaver County

Dear Kimberly Kaal:

The Shell Chemical Appalachia LLC (“Shell”) Petrochemicals Complex is authorized to operate pursuant to plan approvals PA-04-00740A, PA-04-00740B, and PA-04-00740C. On April 25, 2023, Shell reported to the Department that on March 25, 2023, visible emissions were observed from the HP ground flares (Sources C205A and C205B). Shell reported visible emissions from Source C205A from 3:39 PM to 6:43 PM on March 25, 2023. Shell reported visible emissions from Source C205B from 3:33 PM to 6:44 PM on March 25, 2023. Shell reported that Method 22 observations were not performed as required by 40 CFR § 60.18 (f)(1). The Department has identified the following violations from these events:

1. PA-04-00740C, Section D, Source 205, Condition #001, states visible emissions from both the HP ground flares and emergency elevated flare shall not exceed 0% except for a total of five minutes during any consecutive two-hour period. By permitting visible emissions greater than 0% opacity from the both the HP ground flares (Sources C205A and C205B) in excess of five minutes on March 25, 2023, Shell caused violations of PA-04-00740C and 25 Pa. Code § 127.25.
2. 40 CFR § 60.18 (b)(1), states flares shall be designed for and operated with no visible emissions as determined by the methods specified in paragraph (f), except for periods not to exceed a total of 5 minutes during any 2 consecutive hours. By permitting these visible emissions from both the HP ground flares (Sources C205A and C205B) on March 25, 2023, Shell caused a violation of 40 CFR § 60.18.

3. 40 CFR § 60.18 (f)(1) states Method 22 of appendix A to this part shall be used to determine the compliance of flares with the visible emission provisions of this subpart. The observation period is 2 hours and shall be used according to Method 22. By failing to perform the required Method 22 observations, Shell caused a violation of 40 CFR § 60.18.

The above violation(s) constitute unlawful conduct and a public nuisance as defined by Sections 8 and 13 of the Air Pollution Control Act (APCA), 35 P.S. Sections 4008 and 4013, respectively. Violations of DEP's Air Quality Regulations are subject to the penalties of Sections 9 and 9.1 of the APCA. Each day the violation continues constitutes a separate offense.

This Notice of Violation is neither an order nor any other final action of DEP. It neither imposes nor waives any enforcement action available to DEP under any of its statutes. If DEP determines that an enforcement action is appropriate, you will be notified of the action.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at sbeudway@pa.gov or at 412-417-7952.

Sincerely,

Scott Beudway/SB

Scott Beudway
Air Quality Specialist
Air Quality

cc: E. Speicher, Environmental Group Manager
K. Goddard, District Supervisor
Central Office (via email)
04-00740 Enforcement File