



October 18, 2017

Mr. Matthew Konieczki
Jackson District Office
Water Resources Division
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
301 East Louis Glick Highway
Jackson, MI 49201

Re: Rover Pipeline, LLC/ MDEQ "Violation Notice" No. VN-007795

Mr. Konieczki:

Rover Pipeline LLC ("Rover") is in receipt of a Violation Notice dated October 13, 2017 from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality ("MDEQ") concerning allegations that MDEQ staff observed a petroleum odor and sheen in one of Rover's dewatering structures near the Dexter-Townhall Road in Washtenaw County. Rover provides this initial response to the Violation Notice, and will supplement it as additional information becomes available.

At the outset, we want to reiterate that Rover is committed to protecting Michigan's environment and to working with the MDEQ to resolve this matter amicably. To that end, Rover voluntarily ceased dewatering activities on October 13th upon receiving reports of MDEQ's conclusion that hydrocarbons were potentially flowing through the groundwater in the area. Rover has also remained in frequent communication with the MDEQ on this issue since the anonymous complaint and initial inspection by MDEQ staff on October 11, 2017.

Rover understands that MDEQ's initial determination is that Rover is not the source of the potential hydrocarbons; rather, MDEQ apparently believes the potential source of hydrocarbons (if any) is likely a nearby abandoned gas station that ceased operations approximately forty years ago. However, even though MDEQ has conducted testing to help identify the source and extent of any contamination, MDEQ has not yet shared any of its testing results with Rover.

Rover is willing to address any potential contamination, even though not released by Rover's construction project, and has decided to employ a carbon filter system proactively to eliminate the flow of any preexisting contamination at the site. However, in order to allow Rover to procure filtration appropriate for the conditions, Rover respectfully requests that MDEQ share its test results with Rover as soon as possible.

With respect to the potential of registering the water withdrawal, Rover does not believe that any withdrawal registration was required given that the water is being immediately returned to the basin, it is not utilized for a consumptive use, nor does it supply a common distribution system.

As the MDEQ is aware, the Rover Pipeline Project is regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), which places certain limits on the MDEQ's permitting authority once a project is certificated and begins construction. Nonetheless, Rover takes environmental stewardship seriously and is eager to work with the MDEQ toward an amicable resolution of this issue. We look forward to reviewing your test results so that we can address this concern appropriately and as soon as possible, and respond further to your Violation Notice. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Jennifer Street

cc: William S. Scherman, Esq.
Charles M. Denton, Esq.