

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., *Chairman*  
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*  
Zak Covar, *Commissioner*  
Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
*Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution*

July 22, 2014

TO: Persons on the attached mailing list.

RE: Ascend Performance Materials Texas Inc.  
Permit No. 50189

**Decision of the Executive Director.**

The executive director has made a decision that the above-referenced permit application meets the requirements of applicable law. **This decision does not authorize construction or operation of any proposed facilities.** Unless a timely request for contested case hearing or reconsideration is received (see below), the TCEQ executive director will act on the application and issue the permit.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the Executive Director's Response to Comments. A copy of the complete application, draft permit and related documents, including public comments, is available for review at the TCEQ Central office. A copy of the complete application, the draft permit, and executive director's preliminary decision are available for viewing and copying at the Alvin Community College Annex, Library Building A 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 3110 Mustang Road, Alvin, Brazoria County, Texas 77511.

If you disagree with the executive director's decision, and you believe you are an "affected person" as defined below, you may request a contested case hearing. In addition, anyone may request reconsideration of the executive director's decision. A brief description of the procedures for these two requests follows.

**How To Request a Contested Case Hearing.**

It is important that your request include all the information that supports your right to a contested case hearing. You must demonstrate that you meet the applicable legal requirements to have your hearing request granted. The commission's consideration of your request will be based on the information you provide.

The request must include the following:

- (1) Your name, address, daytime telephone number, and, if possible, a fax number.
- (2) If the request is made by a group or association, the request must identify:
  - (A) one person by name, address, daytime telephone number, and, if possible, the fax number, of the person who will be responsible for receiving all communications and documents for the group; and

- (B) one or more members of the group that would otherwise have standing to request a hearing in their own right. The interests the group seeks to protect must relate to the organization's purpose. Neither the claim asserted nor the relief requested must require the participation of the individual members in the case.
- (3) The name of the applicant, the permit number and other numbers listed above so that your request may be processed properly.
- (4) A statement clearly expressing that you are requesting a contested case hearing. For example, the following statement would be sufficient: "I request a contested case hearing."

Your request must demonstrate that you are an **"affected person."** An affected person is one who has a personal justiciable interest related to a legal right, duty, privilege, power, or economic interest affected by the application. Your request must describe how and why you would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity in a manner not common to the general public. For example, to the extent your request is based on these concerns, you should describe the likely impact on your health, safety, or uses of your property which may be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activities. To demonstrate that you have a personal justiciable interest, you must state, as specifically as you are able, your location and the distance between your location and the proposed facility or activities.

Your request must raise disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the commission's decision on this application. The request must be based on issues that were raised during the comment period. The request cannot be based solely on issues raised in comments that have been withdrawn. The enclosed Response to Comments will allow you to determine the issues that were raised during the comment period and whether all comments raising an issue have been withdrawn. The public comments filed for this application are available for review and copying at the Chief Clerk's office at the address below.

To facilitate the commission's determination of the number and scope of issues to be referred to hearing, you should: 1) specify any of the executive director's responses to comments that you dispute; and 2) the factual basis of the dispute. In addition, you should list, to the extent possible, any disputed issues of law or policy.

### **How To Request Reconsideration of the Executive Director's Decision.**

Unlike a request for a contested case hearing, anyone may request reconsideration of the executive director's decision. A request for reconsideration should contain your name, address, daytime phone number, and, if possible, your fax number. The request must state that you are requesting reconsideration of the executive director's decision, and must explain why you believe the decision should be reconsidered.

## **Deadline for Submitting Requests.**

A request for a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the executive director's decision must be **received by** the Chief Clerk's office no later than **30 calendar days** after the date of this letter. You may submit your request electronically at <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comments> or by mail to the following address:

Bridget C. Bohac, Chief Clerk  
TCEQ, MC-105  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

## **Processing of Requests.**

Timely requests for a contested case hearing or for reconsideration of the executive director's decision will be referred to the alternative dispute resolution director and set on the agenda of one of the commission's regularly scheduled meetings. Additional instructions explaining these procedures will be sent to the attached mailing list when this meeting has been scheduled.

## **How to Obtain Additional Information.**

If you have any questions or need additional information about the procedures described in this letter, please call the Public Education Program, toll free, at 1-800-687-4040.

Sincerely,



Bridget C. Bohac  
Chief Clerk

BCB/ka

Enclosure

MAILING LIST  
for  
Ascend Performance Materials Texas Inc.  
Permit No. 50189

FOR THE APPLICANT:

Lynda Green  
Environment, Safety, and Health Lead  
Chocolate Bayou Plant  
P.O. Box 711  
Alvin, Texas 77512-0711

John Nieto, Environmental Specialist  
P.O. Box 711  
Alvin, Texas 77512-0711

INTERESTED PERSONS:

Dick Tyson  
3075 Mustang Road, Suite 2210  
Alvin, Texas 77511-4855

Rex Goodman  
Insurepointe of Texas, Inc.  
3107 Millbrook Lane  
Missouri City, Texas 77459-4121

FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
via electronic mail:

Brian Christian, Director  
Texas Commission on Environmental  
Quality  
Small Business and Environmental  
Assistance  
Public Education Program MC-108  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Diane Goss, Staff Attorney  
Texas Commission on Environmental  
Quality  
Environmental Law Division MC-173  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Sarah Schreier, Technical Staff  
Texas Commission on Environmental  
Quality  
Waste Permits Division  
Industrial and Hazardous Waste Permits  
Section MC-130  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

FOR PUBLIC INTEREST COUNSEL  
via electronic mail:

Vic McWherter, Attorney  
Texas Commission on Environmental  
Quality  
Public Interest Counsel MC-103  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

FOR THE CHIEF CLERK  
via electronic mail:

Bridget C. Bohac, Chief Clerk  
Texas Commission on Environmental  
Quality  
Office of Chief Clerk MC-105  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

cc: Ray Newby, Federal Consistency  
Coordinator  
Texas General Land Office  
Coastal Management Program  
P.O. Box 12873  
Austin, Texas 78711-2873