Legal Notice

For

Air Quality Operating Permit

for Clovis Plant of Southwest Cheese Company

Southwest Cheese Company at P.O. Box 1509, Clovis, NM 88102 has submitted an air quality operating permit application to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) for an air quality operating permit for its Clovis Plant. The owner of this plant is Southwest Cheese Company. The exact location of the facility is at latitude and longitude decimal degrees: 34.314861, -103.221528 Datum: NAD83. To aid in locating this facility, the approximate location is 6.8 miles south of Clovis in Curry County, NM. This application file has been assigned an Operating Permit Number P280M3 and TEMPO Agency Interest ID No. 19971.

Previously, the facility received an air quality construction permit and is in operation. The main purpose of the facility is to process milk, cream, and starter to produce cheese, whey protein concentrate, and whey protein isolate.

This operating permit application is for a permit modification. Per 20.2.70.401.C.(4) NMAC, this permitting action involves increasing the biogas H2S concentration from 1,200 ppm to 2,000 ppm; updating the pipeline-quality natural gas H2S concentration to align with the Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC’s tariff sheet value of 0.75 grains H2S per 100 standard cubic feet (it is currently 0.25 grains H2S per 100 scf); revising the flare control efficiency downwards from 98% to 70%; and revising the CAM plan to remove the daily opacity observation requirement for the dryer baghouse systems and instead rely on pressure data as the initial compliance metric. Additionally, this permit action will include a biogas scrubber authorized in the previous NSR permit but will not claim a reduction in emissions since the vendor has not provided verified H2S reduction guarantees for the unit.

The emissions as established in NSR Permit 3008M6 and brought forward into this permit are as follows. Parentheses note changes in emissions from NSR Permit 3008M6. Emissions are expressed in tons per year (tpy). Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) at 70.8 tpy (no change); Carbon Monoxide (CO) at 129.0 tpy (no change); Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) at 19.7 tpy (no change); Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) at 57.0 tpy (+22.7 tpy); Particulate Matter 10 microns or less (PM10) at 27.2 tpy (no change), and Particulate Matter 2.5 microns or less (PM2.5) at 26.4 tpy (no change); and greenhouse gas (CO2e) > 75,000 tpy.

The NMED has conducted a preliminary review of the information submitted with the permit application. This review included evaluation of the emission rates and applicable requirements to determine compliance.

The NMED has made a preliminary determination that this facility will comply with the requirements of Title 20, New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC), Chapter 2, Parts 7, 50, 61, 70, 71, 72, 73, 77, and 82; 40 CFR 50; 40 CFR 60 Subparts A, Dc, and IIII; 40 CFR 63 Subparts A and ZZZZ; 40 CFR 64; and the New Mexico Air Quality Control Act. Therefore, the preliminary intent of NMED is to issue the air quality operating permit on or before November 20, 2024.

Interested persons may obtain the draft operating permit, submit written comments, or request a public hearing on Operating Permit Number P280M3 by contacting Andrew Jones at the New Mexico Environment Department, Air Quality Bureau, 525 Camino de los Marquez Suite 1, Santa Fe, NM 87505-1816, or by email at [andrew.jones@env.nm.gov](mailto:andrew.jones@env.nm.gov). Comments may also be submitted electronically via the NMED public comment portal online at: <https://nmed.commentinput.com/comment/search>.

Written requests for public hearing must state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. Comments must be based on the requirements of the applicable state and federal air quality regulations and the Clean Air Act. Comments or hearing requests must be received within 30 days after the public notice is published.

The permit application is currently available for review on the AQB Public Notices of Permitting Actions website [www.env.nm.gov/public-notices](http://www.env.nm.gov/public-notices). The Department contact in Santa Fe is Andrew Jones at 505-470-9122.

Atención

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