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September 16, 2016

Mr. Dan Schwoerer  
President  
Bullseye Glass Company  
3722 SE 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97202

Dear Mr. Schwoerer:

As part of DEQ's on-going air toxics monitoring around the Bullseye Glass facility, DEQ measured an elevated 24-hour result for selenium at the Portland Day Care monitor. The 24-hour sample was collected on September 6, 2016, analyzed by the laboratory on September 14, 2016, and subjected to final quality assurance checks yesterday. The final result was 887 nanograms per cubic meter of air.

For the reasons set out in this letter, this result concerns us. We have taken immediate action. As detailed below, we appreciate your willingness to have done the same, and we ask you to do more.

DEQ and OHA have jointly begun an inquiry into the possible origin of the selenium detected in the sample taken on September 6, 2016 near your facility. Today, DEQ representatives conducted an inspection of the Bullseye facility to review records and evaluate facility operations. The joint inquiry is ongoing.

During today's inspection, DEQ confirmed that glass you manufactured on Sept. 6, 2016, included selenium and other metals, such as cadmium and manganese. Selenium is the only metal shown to have been present in elevated concentrations. Your records indicate that all the metals were melted in furnaces connected to an operational bag house filter. If an emergency by-pass of the bag house had occurred, or problems in the bag house resulted in uncontrolled emissions, elevated readings of other metals also would have been expected. From the fact that measured levels of the other metals were not elevated, it appears to us that the bag house system is operating as designed. The results are, however, anomalous, in that we would have expected the selenium emissions also to have been limited by the bag house system. The increased level of selenium detected in the sample taken on September 6, 2016, therefore requires us to continue to evaluate the bag house system to ensure its continued operation according to manufacturer's specifications. We look forward to your continued cooperation in that evaluation.

During the visit our representatives made this morning to your facility, Bullseye Glass committed to restrict its use of selenium to no more than five pounds per day. Based on the results of previous monitoring and of our examination of records of materials you provided about the amount of selenium used on various days, we believe that limiting your use of selenium to no more than five pounds per day likely will keep emissions for that metal to less than 710 nanograms per cubic meter. We will, however, continue our active monitoring of emissions to ensure that our expectations are borne out.

In addition to limiting the quantity of selenium consumed, we respectfully request that you also commit to limiting your use of selenium to furnaces connected to an operational bag house filter. The anomalous results of the sample taken on September 6, 2016, could be explained by the possibility that the selenium used by you on that day was melted in a furnace that, contrary to your records, was not connected to a functioning bag house filter. Voluntarily limiting your use of selenium to controlled furnaces would be a further indication of your stated desire to be the best possible neighbor in the community.

Seven-hundred ten nanograms per cubic meter is the 24-hour exposure standard applicable in New Hampshire – the most protective short-term exposure standard of any that we have identified anywhere in the nation. Short-term exposure standards in jurisdictions are closer to 2,000 nanograms per cubic meter.

OHA and DEQ have begun a process that will eventually result in establishing, on the basis of the best available health data, formal guidelines for 24-hour exposure to selenium and other toxic metals. Elevated results for selenium are of public health concern because breathing air with sufficiently high concentrations of selenium over a short period of time can cause respiratory irritation. Symptoms may include coughing, bronchitis, and difficulty breathing. The weight of scientific evidence indicates that selenium does not cause cancer or developmental problems in children.

DEQ and OHA will continue to rigorously review ambient data collected around Bullseye and conduct expeditious investigations of concerning results.

Sincerely,



Lynne Saxton  
Director  
Oregon Health Authority



Pete Shepherd  
Interim Director  
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality