



Air Quality Permitting Response to Public Comments

September 23, 2008

Tier I Operating Permit No. T1-2008.0110

**Basic American Foods
Rexburg**

Facility ID No. 065-00008

Prepared by:
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TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

FINAL

1. BACKGROUND

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) provided for public comment the proposed revision to Tier II Operating Permit No. T2-2008.0109 and associated Tier I Operating Permit No. T1-2008.0110 for Basic American Foods located in Rexburg, Idaho.

DEQ provided the comment period from August 22, 2008 through September 22, 2008. Each comment and DEQ's response is provided in the following section. All comments submitted in response to DEQ's proposed action are included as the appendix of this document.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT AND RESPONSES

Public comments regarding the permit analysis and air quality aspects of the proposed permit are summarized below.

Comments Received

Comment 1: We read in the paper about the DEQ being interested in the air emissions from Basic American Foods. I don't know about the air emissions, but the noise emissions have been terrible.

I have been fighting this company since April 10, 2002. I have sleep apnea, insomnia, and diabetes. None of my family have ever had any of these ailments, but none of them live near Basic American Foods. On July 7, 2004, Daron L. Scherr, M.D. wrote a letter for me to send to the home office, which is:

Basic American Foods
2999 Oak Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

It stated, that the noise must be turned down, which it can be, in order for me to get some sleep, and feel better. The representatives from the Rexburg plant, came to my house, agreed it was really noisy, and said they would make sure the noise problem was solved. It lasted about two weeks, then it was just as noisy as ever. It is quiet during the day, when it should be noisy, and so loud at night, it wakes us up, and keeps us awake. My husband has to get up 6 days a week at 4:45 a.m. and go to work. He drives a gas tanker and needs his sleep. We are both sleep deprived and it is not only bad for the health, but hard to live a normal life. I have written to the home office twice now, which you can see by this letter has not done any good.

This plant either needs to shut down at night, and run strictly during the day, or move the plant far away from this city. It is absolutely ridiculous. It wasn't this noisy until Basic American Foods bought out the other owners. If you know of anyone who can help us with this problem, which is basically a living nightmare, we would really appreciate your help.

P.S. – Since I wrote this letter, the noise at night has gotten worse. Even with all the windows shut the roar of the big fans is so loud. Please let me know who we can turn to for help. Thank you.

Response: DEQ does not have any regulations regarding acceptable noise levels or noise abatement. We suggest contacting the city (Rexburg) or county (Madison) in which the facility resides to determine if they have any applicable noise ordinances.

Appendix
Public Comments Submitted for
T1-2008.0110

RECEIVED

SEP 16 2008

Department of Environmental Quality
State Air Program

September 8, 2008

To whom it may concern:

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If you know of anyone who can help us with this problem, which is basically a living nightmare, we would really appreciate your help.

Thank your for your time.

Sincerely, *Arlene Anderson*
130 N 1st E
Rexburg, ID 83440
208-356-6883

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