

## Faye Thomas

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**Subject:** FW: Case No. 6230-3 (Walnut Creek) - Request to move to consent calendar

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**From:** Karin Manwaring <[kmanwaring@aqmd.gov](mailto:kmanwaring@aqmd.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 31, 2024 11:42 AM  
**To:** Clerk of Board <[Front\\_PC@aqmd.gov](mailto:Front_PC@aqmd.gov)>  
**Cc:** Greg Wolffe ([GWolffe@YorkeEngr.com](mailto:GWolffe@YorkeEngr.com)) <[gwolffe@yorkeengr.com](mailto:gwolffe@yorkeengr.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Case No. 6230-3 (Walnut Creek) - Request to move to consent calendar

*Thank you for the question. Please see the District's response below:*

Condition #8 is considered a "Backstop" provision and the value 25 ppmv was intentionally selected.

Petitioner is confident, and the District has no basis to doubt, that the functionally identical equivalent supercore will meet existing permit limits. We draw the Hearing Board's attention to condition #6, which Petitioner has stipulated to and that requires compliance with the existing permit limit of 2.3 ppmv. Condition 6 provides, "Petitioner shall continue to comply with its permit limits for emissions concentrations, heat input, and power output during use of the replacement supercore S/N 878- 187."

There is an CEMS in operation that reflects real time emissions and reports 1-minute averages. Outside of Startup (which is subject to this Board's Order issued in Case no 6230-2), any NOx concentrations between 2.3 and 25 ppmv will be subject to excess emission fees per District Rule 303 and will be a violation of this variance.

The Backstop condition is in place because, *even with the variance being limited to 90 days and even being subject to excess emission fees*, 25 ppmv or above would be indicative of problematic assumptions requiring Petitioner to immediately stop operating Unit #4 without further Hearing Board action. Immediately ceasing operation of Unit #4 is an extreme action under the current circumstances, and the backstop is in place in the event something goes very differently than anticipated.

The value "25 ppmv" was selected because it is roughly 10 times the current permit limit of 2.3 ppm. If this level is breached (outside of Startup), Petitioner must take Unit #4 offline again and the District will reassess its position on use of the alternative supercore replacement.

The District further notes that there was negotiation around the "Backstop" value. Petitioner requested, and the District *denied*, inclusion of a "one-hour average of 25 ppmv" meaning (outside of startup), anything at or above this NOx concentration requires Unit #4 to be taken offline. The parties recognize that a "25 ppmv Backstop" provides generous leeway beyond Condition #6, but immediately ceasing operation of Unit #4 is an extreme consequence that was negotiated by the parties in the event that the Backstop is breached.

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**From:** Clerk of Board <[Front\\_PC@aqmd.gov](mailto:Front_PC@aqmd.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 31, 2024 8:38 AM  
**To:** Greg Wolffe ([GWolffe@YorkeEngr.com](mailto:GWolffe@YorkeEngr.com)) <[gwolffe@yorkeengr.com](mailto:gwolffe@yorkeengr.com)>; Karin Manwaring <[kmanwaring@aqmd.gov](mailto:kmanwaring@aqmd.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Case No. 6230-3 (Walnut Creek) - Request to move to consent calendar

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**From:** Mohan Balagopalan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 31, 2024 8:00 AM  
**To:** Clerk of Board <[Front\\_PC@aqmd.gov](mailto:Front_PC@aqmd.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Case No. 6230-3 (Walnut Creek) - Request to move to consent calendar

Hi.

Condition #8 of the Proposed Findings & Decisions document (see below) states that if the NOx emission exceeds 25 ppm, to cease operating. Should this be 2.5 ppmv corrected to 15% O2?

8. Petitioner shall immediately cease operating turbine #4 with the replacement supercore (S/N 878-187) if the NOx concentration exceeds 25 ppmv corrected to 15% O2 at the stack during normal operation and in the event of an exceedance, shall notify the notify South Coast AQMD by emailing AQ Engineer Chris Perri ([cperri@aqmd.gov](mailto:cperri@aqmd.gov)) within 24 hours.

Thanks.

Mohan Balagopalan

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**From:** Clerk of Board <[Front\\_PC@aqmd.gov](mailto:Front_PC@aqmd.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 30, 2024 12:14 PM  
**Cc:** Faye Thomas <[FThomas@aqmd.gov](mailto:FThomas@aqmd.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Case No. 6230-3 (Walnut Creek) - Request to move to consent calendar

Attached are documents requesting Consent Calendar in the above-named matter. Please review and let me know as soon as possible, and no later than 12:00 Noon on July 31, 2024, if this matter can be heard on the Consent Calendar or not. Thank you.

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**From:** Greg Wolffe <[gwolffe@yorkeengr.com](mailto:gwolffe@yorkeengr.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 30, 2024 12:05 PM  
**To:** Clerk of Board <[Front\\_PC@aqmd.gov](mailto:Front_PC@aqmd.gov)>; Clerk Of The Boards <[ClerkOfTheBoards@aqmd.gov](mailto:ClerkOfTheBoards@aqmd.gov)>  
**Cc:** Karin Manwaring <[kmanwaring@aqmd.gov](mailto:kmanwaring@aqmd.gov)>; Piantka, George <[George.Piantka@nrg.com](mailto:George.Piantka@nrg.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Case No. 6230-3 (Walnut Creek) - Request to move to consent calendar

Madam Clerk,

Walnut Creek, in the subject case for a Short Variance scheduled to be heard on August 1, 2024, the District has agreed to stipulate to request and the petitioner therefore requests that the matter be moved to the consent calendar.

Attached please find the stipulation signed by the petitioner and respondent, a declaration on behalf of the petitioner (Exhibit 1), and the proposed order (Exhibit 2).

Please let me know if the board members have any questions regarding the request to go on consent.

Thank you for your time.

Greg

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