Poly Plating Inc. / Zero Discharge Technologies, Inc. Win 1997 Governor’s Award for Toxics Use Reduction

Chicopee, MA — Poly Plating Inc. / Zero Discharge Technologies Inc. were presented with the 1997 Governor’s Award for Outstanding Achievement in Toxics Use Reduction by Secretary of Environmental Affairs Trudy Coxe at a special ceremony on Wednesday, December 3, 1997 at the Massachusetts Statehouse in Boston.

The Governor’s Awards are presented each year to businesses, public or private institutions, nonprofit organizations, community groups or individuals who have demonstrated leadership and superior results in toxics use reduction (TUR). Winners are recognized for their role in reducing at the source the use, generation or release of toxic substances.

Poly Plating Inc. / Zero Discharge Technologies Inc. won for its entry in the Industry Sector (fewer than 100 employees) category. The company was recognized for the development of an innovative diffusion dialysis system for recovering and reusing nitric acid and metal in the nickel plating process. After intense research and testing at Poly Plating Inc. and its spin-off company, Zero Discharge Technologies, the new acid recovery system has reduced the use of nitric acid from 100,000 pounds to 1,000 pounds, saving nearly $40,000 in chemical purchases and hazardous waste treatment costs.

Winners were selected by a Blue Ribbon panel of representatives from industry, public health, the financial community and the Toxics Use Reduction Advisory Board.

“This year’s winners demonstrated the high-quality of toxics use reduction programs being conducted throughout the Commonwealth,” said Secretary Coxe. “Preventing pollution at its source is the very best approach to protecting the environment. The Governor’s Award shines the spotlight on outstanding examples of how this is done.”

The TUR Program was established in 1989 under the Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Act, a unique partnership between industry, government, labor and the general public to reduce the use of toxic substances to protect worker health and safety, public health and the environment, while increasing the economic competitiveness of industry. The goal of the Program is to reduce use of toxics and the generation
Poly Plating
4610 Westover Road
Chicopee, MA 01022

Mr. Ondrick:

It was a pleasure meeting with you on 9/12/88. Laurie Goff and I appreciate you taking time from your schedule to show us your pretreatment system.

Because the process is self-contained and no waste is generated to the treatment plant, there is, for the time being, no need to include Poly Plating in the Chicopee Industrial Pretreatment Program. Poly Plating will not be included in this round of scheduled sampling, nor is the submittal of monitoring reports necessary at this time. We would ask however, if for any reason Poly Plating begins to discharge any non-domestic waste to the plant, that you inform us as soon as possible. We plan to check back with you every 6 months to certify that your facility discharges only domestic waste to the treatment plant.

If there are any questions please contact Laurie or myself at the plant, 592-6808.

Thank you,

[Signature]

Thomas Hamel
Chief Operator

LG/kr
RE: DECLASSIFICATION OF FACILITY AS A SIGNIFICANT INDUSTRIAL USER

May 31, 1994

Dear Mr. Ondrick:

On February 16, 1994, the City of Chicopee notified US EPA Region I of its intent to declassify your facility from the list of Significant Industrial Users (SIUs). Data and inspections over the past few years substantiate that your Company does not now have reasonable potential to violate applicable pretreatment standards or regulations nor adversely affect the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Federal regulations contained in 40 CFR 403.8 state that the City may consider the removal of facilities as a non-substantial program change. If no comment had been received from Region I within ninety days of their notification, the City could then consider the modification approved.

The allotted period of time has passed and the City has not received any opposition to the modification. Therefore, the removal of your facility from the SIU list is deemed final; to this end, please find the enclosed modified wastewater discharge permit. The new permit reflects the suspension of regular Industrial Self Monitoring and reporting. Note that reporting requirements for accidental discharge and planned changes remain in effect. This requires that you notify the Treatment Plant immediately of a slug or accidental discharge of substances prohibited by local limits or ordinance. Additionally, notification must be provided at least 90 days prior to any modification or expansion resulting in a change to the facility’s industrial discharge.

The City intends to perform unannounced inspections of the facility at a regular frequency and reserves the right to reinstate the SIU classification and the associated responsibilities. Please direct any questions or comments to Laurie Goff-Szlachetka, Pretreatment Coordinator, at 594-3586.

Sincerely,

Stanley W. Kulig, P.E.
Superintendent
City of Chicopee DPW
May 2, 1989

Mr. Ed Ondrick  
Poly-Plating, Inc.  
4610 Westover Road  
Chicopee, MA  01022

Dear Mr. Ondrick:

Thank you for your time and cooperation during the department's 5/1 inspection.

Enclosed is the observations we made on that day. Please submit any corrections or additions you wish to make.

Since Poly Plating has not discharged to the system and has no plans to do so, it still is unnecessary to subject the company to the restrictions of the pretreatment program. Please note that the department must be notified immediately if Poly Plating discharges process water to the collection system for any reason.

Again, it was a pleasure meeting with you and we look forward to the next visit.

Sincerely,

Laurie C. Goff  
Industrial Supervisor

LG/kr