

January 13, 2021

Mr. Aaron Mello
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Water Resources
RIPDES Program
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Subject: 4th Quarter 2020 Report in Lieu of Sampling

T.F. Green Airport Permit No. RI0021598

Dear Mr. Mello:

The RIPDES Permit No. RI0021598 ("Permit"), issued to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation (RIAC), requires that samples meeting certain criteria must be collected quarterly. RIAC submits this report in accordance with Part I.(A)(6)(i) of the Permit in lieu of 4th Quarter 2020 sampling as the result of a "lack of a representative storm event during the entire quarterly monitoring period."

RIPDES Permit - Storm Event Criteria for Sampling

In accordance with Part I.(A)(6)(g) of the Permit, samples must be collected from a discharge resulting from a representative storm event. A representative storm event is "precipitation that: "(a) occurs at least seventy-two (72) hours from the previous measurable storm event", and (b), "is greater than or equal to 0.1 inches water equivalent per twenty-four (24) hours in magnitude". In addition, Parts I.A.1.(footnote 6) and I.A.2.(footnote 5) of the Permit require Q4 sampling to be conducted "while aircraft deicing is occurring". Parts I.A.1.(footnote 2) and I.A.2.(footnote 1) further define sampling event precipitation to be: "During snow events, the start of precipitation shall be assumed to occur when the total accumulation of snowfall is 0.5 inches in depth. During other freezing (i.e., sleet, freezing rain) or non-freezing (i.e., rain) precipitation events, the start of precipitation shall be assumed to occur when the total accumulation is 0.1 inches in depth."

Prior to precipitation events where deicer is applied, weather forecasts (National Weather Service, Weatherunderground, and local media forecasts) and information from T.F. Green Airport Operations are used to assess whether the event will present a potential sampling opportunity. As precipitation begins, weather conditions and forecasts are continually monitored to determine if and when the minimum precipitation requirements for sampling are likely to be met (>0.1" for rain and freezing rain events, >0.5" for snow events). Sampling commences once the minimum depths have been met and deicing activities have occurred. In addition RIAC uses data derived from National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) Quality Controlled Local Climatological Data from the weather station at T. F. Green Airport to determine if an event met all criteria for a sampling event.

4th Quarter 2020 Precipitation and Deicing Events

During the 4th Quarter of 2020, there were 29 days of measurable precipitation. Of these, 22 events resulted in precipitation depths greater than 0.1" (water equivalent). Four (4) days included measurable snowfall, three (3) of these had snowfall depths greater than 0.5". During this Quarter there were eight (8) days that had measurable precipitation on which tenants reported aircraft deicing. Below is a description of why these events did not qualify or were not sampled.

In October, there was one (1) date where aircraft deicing occurred on a day with measurable precipitation. On October 30, 2020 aircraft were deiced during active precipitation, however 1.35" of precipitation fell the 72 hours prior.

In November there were three (3) dates where aircraft deicing occurred on days with measurable precipitation. On November 1, 2020 one aircraft was deiced, however, 1.79" of precipitation fell the 72 hours prior. The event on November 15, 2020 was preceded by 0.28" precipitation. On November 30, 2020 two aircraft were deiced more than six hours prior to the commencement of precipitation.

In December there were four (4) dates where aircraft were deiced on days with measurable precipitation. On December 5, 2020 two aircraft were deiced more than six hours after commencement of measurable precipitation. On December 14 aircraft were deiced greater than 6 hours prior to measurable precipitation. The event which commenced December 16, 2020 was preceded by 0.12" on December 14, 2020 and occurred greater than 6 hours prior to measurable precipitation. For December 17, 2020, aircraft were deiced greater than 6 hours after the start of precipitation.

A summary of daily deicing fluid application and collection, and weather summaries for the 4th Quarter of 2020 is attached.

Summary

The weather and deicing conditions between October 1st and December 31st, 2020 did not yield a representative storm event while aircraft deicing occurred. RIAC did not collect samples during this period, and submits this report in lieu of monitoring in accordance with Part I.(A)(6)(i) of the Permit.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (401) 691-2490.

Sincerely,

Jay Brolin

Manager Environmental Program

Attachments:

Daily Deicing Fluid Application and Collection October, November, December 2020

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PVD November 2020 Monthly Deicing Usage and Collection

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PVD October 2020 Monthly Deicing Usage and Collection

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MONTHLY TOTALS