



DEPARTMENT ORDER

**AVX Tantalum Corporation  
York County  
Biddeford, Maine  
A-664-71-I-M**

**Departmental  
Findings of Fact and Order  
Air Emission License  
Amendment #1**

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

After review of the air emission license amendment application, staff investigation reports, and other documents in the applicant's file in the Bureau of Air Quality, pursuant to 38 Maine Revised Statutes (M.R.S.) § 344 and § 590, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Department) finds the following facts:

**I. REGISTRATION**

**A. Introduction**

AVX Tantalum Corporation (AVX) was issued Air Emission License A-644-71-H-R on June 6, 2016, for the operation of emission sources associated with their tantalum capacitor manufacturing facility.

Due to increases in capacitor production, AVX has requested a minor revision to their current license in order to account for increased ethylene glycol use. Previously, AVX's ethylene glycol annual emissions were below 2,000 pounds/year, which fell below the hazardous air pollutants (HAP) significance level listed in Appendix B of 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 115. With the production increase, ethylene glycol emissions are now estimated to be 2,064 pounds/year.

The equipment addressed in this license is located at 401 Hill Street, Biddeford, Maine.

**B. Application Classification**

All rules, regulations, or statutes referenced in this air emission license refer to the amended version in effect as of the issued date of this license.

This amendment will update AVX's existing air emission license to specifically change their ethylene glycol status from an insignificant activity to a significant activity. There will not be a licensed emissions increase of any pollutant(s). Therefore, this amendment is determined to be a minor revision and has been processed through *Major and Minor Source Air Emission License Regulations*, 06-096 Code of Maine Rules (C.M.R.) ch. 115.

AVX is licensed below the major source thresholds for hazardous air pollutants (HAP) and is considered an area source of HAP.

## **II. FINDINGS OF FACT REVISION**

### **A. Introduction**

The following shall serve as an addendum to subsections A through G contained in section II of the 'Findings of Fact' in air emissions license A-664-71-H-R:

### **H. HAP Processes**

During the capacitor manufacturing process, tantalum pellets are dipped into various solutions in a series of stages to impart specific electrical or physical properties to the capacitors. Ethylene glycol solutions are used during some electrolytic and healing stages. Most of the ethylene glycol is recovered or disposed of, although some evaporates from some processes. Mass balance techniques are used to track use, disposal and emissions.

The BPT requirements for the HAP emitting processes at the facility include the following:

AVX shall close all containers containing ethylene glycol (or other solutions containing HAPs) when not in immediate use.

AVX shall not exceed an annual emission limit of 10 tons/year per single HAP or 25 tons/year for all HAPs combined from facility process operations, on a calendar-year basis. Monthly records of HAP-containing materials and calculated HAP emissions use shall be included as part of the HAP limit compliance demonstration.

The following shall serve as an addendum to the table in Section G "Total Licensed Annual Emissions for the Facility" contained in Section II of the 'Findings of Fact' in air emissions license A-664-71-H-R:

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Tons/year</b>
Single HAP	9.9
Total HAP	24.9

## ORDER

Based on the above Findings and subject to conditions listed below, the Department concludes that the emissions from this source:

- will receive Best Practical Treatment,
- will not violate applicable emission standards, and
- will not violate applicable ambient air quality standards in conjunction with emissions from other sources.

The Department hereby grants Air Emission License A-664-71-I-M subject to the conditions found in license A-664-71-H-R and the following conditions.

Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this License Amendment or part thereof shall not affect the remainder of the provision or any other provisions. This License Amendment shall be construed and enforced in all respects as if such invalid or unenforceable provision or part thereof had been omitted.

### SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

**The following is a new condition in addition to those currently incorporated in air emissions license A-664-71-H-R.**

#### (23) HAP Processes

- A. AVX shall close all containers containing ethylene glycol (or other solutions containing HAPs) when not in immediate use. [06-096 C.M.R. ch. 115, BPT]
- B. AVX facility-wide HAP emissions shall not exceed 9.9 tons/year of any individual HAP or 24.9 tons/year of all HAPs combined, on calendar-year basis. [06-096 C.M.R. ch. 115, BPT]

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C. AVX shall demonstrate compliance by maintaining monthly records of HAP-containing materials usage and calculated HAP emissions.  
[06-096 C.M.R. ch. 115, BPT]

DONE AND DATED IN AUGUSTA, MAINE THIS 12 DAY OF December, 2017.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY: *Paul Mercer*  
PAUL MERCER, COMMISSIONER

**The term of this amendment shall be concurrent with the term of Air Emission License A-664-71-H-R.**

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

Date of initial receipt of application: September 8, 2017  
Date of application acceptance: September 18, 2017

Date filed with the Board of Environmental Protection:

This Order prepared by Kevin J Ostrowski, Bureau of Air Quality.

