

Rohit Aggarwala Commissioner

Mark Page, Jr Executive Director Environmental Compliance

59-17 Junction Blvd. Flushing, NY 11373

Tom Raftery COO Shields Business Solutions, Inc. 5 Twosome Drive Moorestown, NJ 08057

August 14, 2023

Dear Mr. Raftery;

I am writing in response to your December 26, 2022 (with the actual submittal on March 4, 2023) which you requested a variance on behalf of Shields Business Solutions from the requirements contained in Section 24-163 of the Air Code. DEP is also in receipt of your addendum letter, which was posted, dated May 31, 2023.

As you are aware, on April 26th, 2023, a hearing was held pursuant to Section 24-110 of the Air Code to allow members of the public both in support and in opposition of the variance requested to provide testimony. Shields' variance application and testimony states that there is a need for air flow, including heat and air conditioning, for the staff stationed in the truck cab during pickup events since the trucks is designed to not allow for windows to be opened. The staff member is required to remain in the cab due to need to be able to address security concerns associated with robbery attempts during pickup and drop offs.

Shields has one armored car that is deployed within New York City and has committed to installing a second battery and HVAC unit that can operate with the engine off by early 2024. With this equipment installed the truck will be able to be turned off during pickup events. In your addendum, you cited that the vehicle could not make the trip from your terminal located in Southern New Jersey, the one terminal that Shields operates from, with an electric vehicle due to the battery capacity currently available.

Based on the submitted commitment, DEP is granting a six-month variance that can be automatically renewed upon proof that either an APU or electric vehicle is operating within New York City to eliminate idling.

The commitment from Shields and the supporting documentation to ensure that the armored car used within the five boroughs will not idle is consistent with the goal of improving air quality. DEP therefore grants this variance will help ensure that idling will not be possible for the armored car operated by Shields to idle.

Sincerely,

Manage

Mark Page, Jr