



RODA 18 REST CORP d/b/a Don Giovanni
214 10th Avenue
New York, NY 10001
Phone: (212) 807-0916 / 212-242-9054
Email: dongiovanniny@gmail.com

Date: December 15th, 2025

To: NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

To whom it may concern,

1. Reason for Variance Request:

What is the purpose of using solid fuel (wood or coal)?

For over 35 years, our pizzeria has safely operated using anthracite coal-fired brick ovens to prepare our pizzas. This cooking method is essential to our business and creates a product that cannot be replicated with gas, electric, or wood-fired alternatives.

Anthracite coal is the cleanest-burning form of coal, producing significantly less smoke, ash, and emissions than bituminous coal and many common cooking woods. It burns at consistent, controllable temperatures, allowing for precise cooking while maintaining superior air quality standards.

Our three-decade track record demonstrates that anthracite ovens can operate safely and cleanly. This method is integral to our authentic Italian pizza preparation and the distinct flavor profile our customers expect.

Explain why complying with Section 24-149.5 of the Air Code to install a pollution control device to reduce particulate matter from solid fuel cooking emissions would impose an unreasonable hardship.

EMISSIONS COMPLIANCE ALREADY ACHIEVED: Walden Environmental Engineering testing (November 14, 2025) shows our anthracite oven emits **0.018 mg/m³** of particulate matter - **99% below** the NYCDEP threshold of 10.0 mg/m³. Installing pollution control equipment provides zero environmental benefit.

UNREASONABLE HARDSHIP:

1. **Financial Burden:** Significant capital costs for equipment, installation, and multi-agency permitting, with no air quality improvement
2. **Landmark Building Constraints:** Our locally landmarked facility requires Landmarks Preservation Commission approval for exterior modifications, adding substantial cost, delay, and potential denial
3. **Structural Complications:** Potential structural issues with device installation on a landmark building (The building 470 WEST 23 STREET, where the restaurant is located, is a Landmark property. Please see the attached)
4. **Operational Disruption:** Mandatory shutdown during installation threatens our 35-year-established business, employees, and customer base

CONCLUSION: Our emissions are already 99% below allowable limits. Requiring equipment installation when testing proves compliance constitutes unreasonable hardship with no environmental justification.

2. Description of Cooking Equipment:

Application ID:

Roda 18 Rest Corp. d/b/a Don Giovanni - application ID # 400738

Provide the oven volume capacity in cubic feet or surface area of the grill in square feet.

Don Giovanni 214 10th Avenue oven volume capacity is 42.29 cubic feet.

During which months of the year will each piece of equipment be in operation, and how many days per month?

The coal pizza oven operates 12 months per year, with the exception of two holidays when the restaurant is closed: Thanksgiving and Christmas.

How many total days per year will each piece of equipment be in operation?

The coal pizza oven operates 363 days per year with the exception of two holidays when the restaurant is closed: Thanksgiving and Christmas, or in the event of unforeseen or exceptional circumstances.

How many hours per day will each piece of equipment be in operation?

From 9:30 to 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM to about 10:00 PM

The pizza oven operates 11.50 hours per day.

Indicate whether the solid fuel is used in combination with natural gas or if only solid fuel is used in each piece of equipment

We do not use natural gas; Only solid fuel is used in the pizza oven (anthracite coal)

Specify the type of fuel wood and/ or coal used in each piece of equipment. Include the dimensions (length, width, height) and weight (in pounds) of each log of wood and weight (in pounds) of a bag of coal, if applicable. if it is a combination, provide specifics for each solid fuel source

We use bundles of 100% kiln-dried firewood (Maple ash, hickory, oak, cherry, and birch) to start the oven.

The wood ranges in length from 8 to 10 inches, and the weight is around 1.5 to 1.75 lb per piece. The wood is used solely to light the oven. Once started, we use only coal (anthracite) to cook.

Our coal is coming in a bag of 40 pounds, and each individual coal is about 2" X 2" (inches)

How many logs of wood/bags of coal are used per day in each piece of equipment?

Wood: 3 pieces of wood per day

Coal: 2 Bags of coal

How many logs of wood/bags of coal are used per day in each piece of equipment?

Wood 3 pieces of wood per day (whole day- 2 shifts AM/PM)

We started with 1.25 bags at 9:30 am, and we added 0.75 bags more at 5:00 pm

How many logs of wood/bags of coal are used per hour in each piece of equipment?

We do not use wood or coal on an hourly basis. We use the wood one time to initially turn on the oven around 9:30 AM together with the coal. We clean the coal once a day around 4:00 PM, at which point we refill the oven with more coal.

3. Test Date Available

Do you have test data to establish the emission level without controls? Yes

If you have a pollution control device (a/k/a emission control device), what is the % reduction of particulate matter (PM)?

We do not have a pollution control device.

Please attach a summary of the test results and lab test report.

Please see the attached report.



Delivered via email to dongiovanniny@gmail.com

December 12, 2025
DGRR2501

Kim Cohen
Roda 18 Rest Inc.
d/b/a Don Giovanni Restaurant
214 Tenth Avenue
New York, NY 10011

Re: 1) Cook Stove Total Suspended Particulate
Emission Testing

2) Rules of the City of New York, Title 15,
Chapter 62-05, Testing Requirements for
Emission Control Devices

Dear Ms. Cohen:

This letter summarizes Total Suspended Particulate testing performed at Roda 18 Rest Inc., d/b/a Don Giovanni Restaurant on 11/14/2025 by representatives of Walden Environmental Engineering, PLLC (Walden). Testing was conducted at Don Giovanni Restaurant located at 214 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY 10011 in accordance with the requirements of the Rules of the City of New York, Title 15, Chapter 62-05. Readings were taken as follows:

Run #1: 10:42 A.M. - 10:52 A.M. - *Cook Stove Exhaust Fan - Operating*

Run #2: 10:52 A.M. - 11:02 A.M. - *Cook Stove Exhaust Fan - Operating*

Run #3: 11:02 A.M. - 11:12 A.M. - *Cook Stove Exhaust Fan - Operating*

Run #4: 11:12 A.M. - 11:22 A.M. - *Cook Stove Exhaust Fan - Operating*

Don Giovanni Restaurant informed Walden that during the test three (3) pieces of wood weighing approximately 1.75 pound each for a total weight of around 5.5 pound were used to start the cook stoves initial coal fire, which consisted of forty (40) pounds of coal for the test. Peak load was maintained in the coal-burning Cook Stove (Pizza Oven) for the duration of testing.

In addition, Walden was also informed that 5.5 pounds of wood and an average of approximately eighty (80) pounds of coal is typically used daily during restaurant operations. Four (4) consecutive Total Suspended Particulate readings were taken using a TSI DustTrak™ II Monitor 8530 at a flow rate of two (2) liters per minute for ten (10) minutes, adjacent to the Cook Stoves operating exhaust



fan with the sampling probe inserted into a precut hole. Testing was conducted directly from the cook stoves exhaust; no control device was installed in the facility. The average results were then calculated to determine compliance.

The attached table present the results of each sampling event for Total Suspended Particulates conducted on 11/14/2025. A summary of the results is as follows:

Run #1: *Cook Stove Exhaust Fan Operating* = 0.018 mg/m^3

Run #2: *Cook Stove Exhaust Fan Operating* = 0.017 mg/m^3

Run #3: *Cook Stove Exhaust Fan Operating* = 0.019 mg/m^3

Run #4: *Cook Stove Exhaust Fan Operating* = 0.017 mg/m^3

Average Value Calculation: $\frac{\text{Sum of Values}}{\text{Number of Values}}$

$$\text{Average Cook Stove Emissions} = \frac{0.018 + 0.017 + 0.019 + 0.017}{4} = \mathbf{0.018 \text{ mg/m}^3}$$

Testing conducted at Don Giovanni Restaurant's existing Cook Stove (Pizza Oven) located at 214 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY 10011 on 11/14/2025 demonstrates an average Total Suspended Particulate Emission of 0.018 mg/m^3 which complies with the current NYCDEP upper limit threshold of 10.0 mg/m^3 .

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please call (516) 624-7200.

Please call if there are any questions.

Very truly yours,
Walden Environmental Engineering, PLLC

Robert A. LoPinto, PE
Project Manager III

Lawrence Zeman
Project Scientist III

LZ: RAL
Enc.

Table 1

Total Suspended Particulate Testing Results Summary

Test 001

Instrument		Data Properties	
Model	DustTrak II	Start Date	11/14/2025
Instrument S/N	8530102614	Start Time	10:42:02
		Stop Date	11/14/2025
		Stop Time	10:52:02
		Total Time	0:00:10:00
		Logging Interval	60 seconds

Statistics	
	AEROSOL
Avg	0.018 mg/m ³
Max	0.033 mg/m ³
Max Date	11/14/2025
Max Time	10:44:02
Min	0.011 mg/m ³
Min Date	11/14/2025
Min Time	10:51:02
TWA (8 hr)	N/A
TWA Start Date	11/14/2025
TWA Start Time	10:42:02
TWA End Time	10:52:02

Test Data			
Data Point	Date	Time	AEROSOL mg/m ³
1	11/14/2025	10:43:02	0.025
2	11/14/2025	10:44:02	0.033
3	11/14/2025	10:45:02	0.024
4	11/14/2025	10:46:02	0.021
5	11/14/2025	10:47:02	0.018
6	11/14/2025	10:48:02	0.012
7	11/14/2025	10:49:02	0.012
8	11/14/2025	10:50:02	0.012
9	11/14/2025	10:51:02	0.011
10	11/14/2025	10:52:02	0.011

Test 002

Instrument		Data Properties	
Model	DustTrak II	Start Date	11/14/2025
Instrument S/N	8530102614	Start Time	10:52:12
		Stop Date	11/14/2025
		Stop Time	11:02:12
		Total Time	0:00:10:00
		Logging Interval	60 seconds

Statistics	
	AEROSOL
Avg	0.017 mg/m ³
Max	0.020 mg/m ³
Max Date	11/14/2025
Max Time	10:59:12
Min	0.011 mg/m ³
Min Date	11/14/2025
Min Time	10:53:12
TWA (8 hr)	N/A
TWA Start Date	11/14/2025
TWA Start Time	10:52:12
TWA End Time	11:02:12

Test Data			
Data Point	Date	Time	AEROSOL mg/m ³
1	11/14/2025	10:53:12	0.011
2	11/14/2025	10:54:12	0.015
3	11/14/2025	10:55:12	0.019
4	11/14/2025	10:56:12	0.017
5	11/14/2025	10:57:12	0.016
6	11/14/2025	10:58:12	0.017
7	11/14/2025	10:59:12	0.020
8	11/14/2025	11:00:12	0.019
9	11/14/2025	11:01:12	0.020
10	11/14/2025	11:02:12	0.019

Test 003

Instrument		Data Properties	
Model	DustTrak II	Start Date	11/14/2025
Instrument S/N	8530102614	Start Time	11:02:23
		Stop Date	11/14/2025
		Stop Time	11:12:23
		Total Time	0:00:10:00
		Logging Interval	60 seconds

Statistics	
	AEROSOL
Avg	0.019 mg/m ³
Max	0.021 mg/m ³
Max Date	11/14/2025
Max Time	11:05:23
Min	0.015 mg/m ³
Min Date	11/14/2025
Min Time	11:10:23
TWA (8 hr)	N/A
TWA Start Date	11/14/2025
TWA Start Time	11:02:23
TWA End Time	11:12:23

Test Data			
Data Point	Date	Time	AEROSOL mg/m ³
1	11/14/2025	11:03:23	0.020
2	11/14/2025	11:04:23	0.020
3	11/14/2025	11:05:23	0.021
4	11/14/2025	11:06:23	0.020
5	11/14/2025	11:07:23	0.020
6	11/14/2025	11:08:23	0.020
7	11/14/2025	11:09:23	0.020
8	11/14/2025	11:10:23	0.015
9	11/14/2025	11:11:23	0.018
10	11/14/2025	11:12:23	0.021

Test 004

Instrument		Data Properties	
Model	DustTrak II	Start Date	11/14/2025
Instrument S/N	8530102614	Start Time	11:12:46
		Stop Date	11/14/2025
		Stop Time	11:22:46
		Total Time	0:00:10:00
		Logging Interval	60 seconds

Statistics	
	AEROSOL
Avg	0.017 mg/m ³
Max	0.019 mg/m ³
Max Date	11/14/2025
Max Time	11:20:46
Min	0.015 mg/m ³
Min Date	11/14/2025
Min Time	11:16:46
TWA (8 hr)	N/A
TWA Start Date	11/14/2025
TWA Start Time	11:12:46
TWA End Time	11:22:46

Test Data			
Data Point	Date	Time	AEROSOL mg/m ³
1	11/14/2025	11:13:46	0.017
2	11/14/2025	11:14:46	0.017
3	11/14/2025	11:15:46	0.017
4	11/14/2025	11:16:46	0.015
5	11/14/2025	11:17:46	0.016
6	11/14/2025	11:18:46	0.016
7	11/14/2025	11:19:46	0.017
8	11/14/2025	11:20:46	0.019
9	11/14/2025	11:21:46	0.018
10	11/14/2025	11:22:46	0.018



**Environmental
Protection**

Rohit T. Aggarwala
Commissioner

**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Bureau of Environmental Compliance
59-17 Junction Blvd. 9th Floor, Flushing, NY 11373
Records Control (718) 595-3855

Mark N Page, Jr.
Executive Director
Environmental Compliance

Industrial General Registration

Business Owner Information

Owner Information: Roda 18 Rest Corp.

Owner Address : 214 10th Avenue, 1st Floor New York NY 10011-4711

Application ID: **PG010023**

Issued: **1/5/2026**

Expiration: **1/5/2027**

Request ID: **400738**

FACILITY ADDRESS: Roda 18 Rest Corp. d/b/a Don Giovanni, 214 10th Avenue, 1st Floor, Manhattan, NY 10011

Type of Process	SolidFuelBurningEquipment	Contaminants	PM, CO
Material Being Processed	Anthracite Coal		
Emission Control Type	Other - Exhaust Fan		

Emission Control	Process Equipment
1 Dayton 4C333A	1 AAA FirePlace Inc. Pizza Oven

Total number of units	1	ACFM/ unit	3275
Hours per day	12	Stack Height	
Days per year	363	Exhaust Location	Roof
Oven Volume (Cu.Ft.)	42	Natural gas startup?	No
Emission Control Installation	9/6/1990	Natural Gas MMBTU/hr	
Certified control device?	No	Startup Duration (Hr/Day)	0

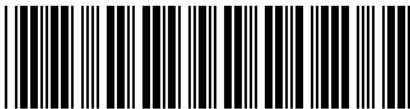
Fuel	Quantity	Unit per day
Anthracite Coal	80	Lbs
Wood	5.5	Lbs

Process Description

This is a custom built-in coal-fired brick pizza oven. The assembly consists of brick and mortar construction, a coal fire grate with a steel ash cleanout bucket. Wood is used only to startup the oven.

Special Conditions

This registration assumes the equipment is in compliance with the rules and regulation set forth by DEP for the duration of this registration permit. However, please note the equipment will be required to install an emission control device for odors, smoke, and particulates that meets the requirements of rules established under Section 24-149.5 within the expiration date of this Registration.



PG010023

Kit Liang
Kit Liang, P.E.
Director of Engineering

DISPLAY REGISTRATION ON PREMISES NEAR EQUIPMENT