



RE: Letter of Recommendation

Perth County Ingredients (PCI) is pleased to provide this letter of recommendation to Baker Engineering and Risk Consultants Inc. (BakerRisk) for the combustible dust hazard analysis (DHA) and associated consultation services that were provided at the PCI St. Mary's facility. PCI retained BakerRisk to perform a DHA for three drying systems at the St. Mary's facility, after an inspection from the Ontario Ministry of Labour (MoL) concluded that a combustible dust hazard assessment was required to be performed at the facility.

BakerRisk visited the facility and provided expertise and guidance on managing combustible dust hazards at the facility. Furthermore, BakerRisk presented practical and economical solutions to mitigate the identified hazards. BakerRisk's solutions were presented to the MoL, however MoL's strict interpretation of local regulations and relevant National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards resulted in MoL requiring PCI implement less practical and significantly more costly solutions. These solutions if not implemented would result in shutdown of the facility by the MoL. BakerRisk consultants Phil Parsons and Alex Cardoso spent countless hours working with PCI and the MoL to educate both parties on the latitude available in interpreting the regulations, and that alternative methods could be implemented to achieve the equivalent life safety goal of the relevant governing standards using these alternative, more practical methods. This ultimately, resulted in the MoL retracting their initial position and agreeing with the methods proposed by BakerRisk. This was in large part due to the diligent efforts of Phil and Alex, by demonstrating to the MoL via the use of scientific methods and as well as the relevance of the specific combustible dust explosibility parameters, that the alternative solutions being recommended by BakerRisk would in fact adequately mitigate the identified hazards. In turn, this saved PCI from a significant practical and economic undertaking, in addition to a potential facility closure in the interim.

PCI values the expertise the BakerRisk consultants brought to the assessment. In addition, their professionalism dealing with PCI and MoL was exemplary. We would not hesitate to use BakerRisk again in the future and would highly recommend their services to others.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Vanderpol", written in a cursive style.

Mike Vanderpol
President