



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR

August 18, 2022

Diane Stauffer  
Birch AFC Inc  
193 Half Mile Road  
Athens, MI 49011

RE: License #: AM750091929  
Investigation #: 2022A1030048  
Birch AFC Inc

Dear Mrs. Stauffer:

Attached is the Special Investigation Report for the above referenced facility. Due to the violations identified in the report, a written corrective action plan was required. On 8/3/22, you submitted an acceptable written corrective action plan.

Please review the enclosed documentation for accuracy and contact me with any questions. In the event that I am not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the local office at (616) 356-0183.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nile Khabeiry, LMSW".

Nile Khabeiry, Licensing Consultant  
Bureau of Community and Health Systems  
Unit 13, 7th Floor  
350 Ottawa, N.W.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SYSTEMS  
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT**

**I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION**

<b>License #:</b>	AM750091929
<b>Investigation #:</b>	2022A1030048
<b>Complaint Receipt Date:</b>	06/27/2022
<b>Investigation Initiation Date:</b>	06/27/2022
<b>Report Due Date:</b>	08/26/2022
<b>Licensee Name:</b>	Birch AFC Inc
<b>Licensee Address:</b>	193 Half Mile Road Athens, MI 49011
<b>Licensee Telephone #:</b>	(269) 496-8014
<b>Administrator:</b>	Diane Stauffer
<b>Licensee Designee:</b>	Diane Stauffer
<b>Name of Facility:</b>	Birch AFC Inc
<b>Facility Address:</b>	30895 King Rd Leonidas, MI 49066
<b>Facility Telephone #:</b>	(269) 496-8014
<b>Original Issuance Date:</b>	03/01/2000
<b>License Status:</b>	REGULAR
<b>Effective Date:</b>	09/13/2020
<b>Expiration Date:</b>	09/12/2022
<b>Capacity:</b>	11
<b>Program Type:</b>	AGED

## II. ALLEGATION(S)

	<b>Violation Established?</b>
The home received a D-rating on the Environmental Health Report.	Yes
Additional Findings	No

## III. METHODOLOGY

06/27/2022	Special Investigation Intake 2022A1030048
06/27/2022	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone Interview with EHI
06/27/2022	Contact - Document Received Received and Reviewed EH report D-rating
06/28/2022	Contact - Telephone call made Interviewed licensee designee
06/29/2022	Contact - Telephone call received Received a call from licensee designee
07/14/2022	Contact - Document Sent Requested a reinspection of the water system
08/03/2022	Contact - Face to Face On-site inspection
08/18/2022	Contact - Document Received Received and reviewed EH reinspection report A-rating
08/18/2022	Exit Conference Exit conference by phone

**ALLEGATION:**

**The home received a D-rating on the Environmental Health Report.**

**INVESTIGATION:**

On 6/27/22, I received Environmental Health Inspection reported dated 6/3/22 that indicated the home received a D rating however the report did not specify the reason for the D rating.

On 6/27/22, I spoke with the St. Joseph County inspector who reported the home nitrate’s level was 11 and the acceptable level is 10.

On 6/27/22, I spoke with licensee, Diane Stauffer by phone. Ms. Stauffer reported the home uses a water filtration system installed by Tri-State. Ms. Stauffer reported she will have Tri-State come to the home next week to test the system and ensure it’s working properly.

On 7/2//22, I received a voicemail from the licensee that indicated Tri-State made a service call and changed all the water filters. The licensee reported that water tested at an acceptable level of nitrates.

On 7/14/22, I requested a reinspection of the home’s water system by the Branch County Health Department.

On 8/3/22, I conducted an on-site inspection in conjunction with the bi-annual licensing renewal inspection. Licensee designee, Diane Stauffer was informed that the home will be cited for the D-rating however an on-site Corrective Action Plan was completed due to the problem being corrected as long as the reinspection report indicated an acceptable level of nitrates.

On 8/18/22, I received the Environmental Health Inspection report dated 8/8/2022. The inspection reported indicated the home achieved an A rating as the nitrate level is now 4.1.

<b>APPLICABLE RULE</b>	
<b>R 400.14401</b>	<b>Environmental health.</b>
	<b>(1) Private water systems shall be in compliance with R 325.10101 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code. A bacteriological report confirming water quality shall be required during the initial inspection and every 2 years thereafter. Group homes that use a community approved</b>

	<b>water system need not be in compliance with this requirement.</b>
<b>ANALYSIS:</b>	The home received a D-rating on an environmental health inspection report due to a higher than acceptable level of nitrates (11) in the water system. The home uses a water filtration system and had the system inspected and all water filters replaced. The home was reinspected and had an acceptable level of nitrates (4.1).
<b>CONCLUSION:</b>	<b>VIOLATION ESTABLISHED</b>

On 8/18/22, I shared the findings of my investigation with licensee Diane Stauffer. Ms. Stauffer acknowledged and agreed with the findings.

#### IV. RECOMMENDATION

Based on the submission and acceptance of an approved corrective action plan, it is recommended no change in the current license status.

*Nile Khabeiry, LMSW*

8/18/22

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Nile Khabeiry  
Licensing Consultant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved By:

*Russell Misiak*

8/18/22

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Russell B. Misiak  
Area Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date