

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AIR QUALITY DIVISION
ACTIVITY REPORT: Self Initiated Inspection

B147726163

FACILITY: LAFARGE MIDWEST INC.		SRN / ID: B1477
LOCATION: 1435 Ford Ave., ALPENA		DISTRICT: Gaylord
CITY: ALPENA		COUNTY: ALPENA
CONTACT: Bob Budnik , Environmental Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 07/22/2014
STAFF: Gloria Torello	COMPLIANCE STATUS:	SOURCE CLASS: MAJOR
SUBJECT: Site visit as a follow up to a fire on the conveyor belt in the quarry.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Torello, AQD, learned there was a recent fire at Lafarge. The purpose of the visit was to determine if any AQD permitted activities were impacted by the fire.

Josh Strapec, Lafarge, met with AQD staff and showed AQD staff around the site. On July 18, 2014 Lafarge had a fire in the quarry. The conveyor belt leading to a stone tower caught fire. This is the first stone tower *downstream* of the quarry. Welding was the cause of the fire. The conveyor belt is approximately 100 feet in the air. Approximately 100 feet of conveyor belt burned. Repairs were underway.

Because of the fire, the secondary crusher was out of commission. Lafarge retained Elmer's Crane and Dozer, Inc. to bring in a portable crusher to take the place of Lafarge's secondary crusher. There were excessive visible emissions (VEs) from Elmer's stock piles, drop points, conveyors, and crusher. In an effort to correct the VEs, Torello spoke with the following people from Elmer's: Steve Ward 231-218-9551, Jack Morris 231-642-1935, and Tim Leah who was on site at Lafarge overseeing operation of the portable crusher. Elmer's did not have a copy of permit 27-14 onsite, the drop distance was not minimized, the water bars were not operating. Elmer's made corrections including minimizing the drop distance, hooking up water bars, and water spraying the rock pile to be crushed.

Josh and Torello looked at the alternate plastic fuels the alternate fuel building. The alternate fuels were of a consistent size, approximately 2-inches square. Torello observed cardboard, paper, carpet, and plastic in the pile.

There were excess VEs from the "Dust Pump #5" found near the stack vents on kilns 19, 20, and 21. Josh and Torello reported this to the control room operator. The operator said this has been an ongoing problem of the valve switch. Actions were taken that halted the excess emissions. However, a permanent fix is needed.

The control room operator provided the following information as it relates to the Wet FGD on kilns 22 & 23: 81.5 Kpa, Temperature 53.4 degrees C, flow from quench pump 3.8 cubic meters per hour.

Josh and Torello viewed the coal pile-which had dust, the alternate fuel piles, and the ammonia tanks for the SNCR-which had no odors.

NAME

Gloria Torello

DATE

7-30-14

SUPERVISOR