

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AIR QUALITY DIVISION
ACTIVITY REPORT: Scheduled Inspection**

B410245907

FACILITY: U S GYPSUM CO		SRN / ID: B4102
LOCATION: 1550 Gypsum Road, TAWAS CITY		DISTRICT: Saginaw Bay
CITY: TAWAS CITY		COUNTY: IOSCO
CONTACT: Erin Fox , Accountant		ACTIVITY DATE: 09/04/2018
STAFF: Meg Sheehan	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Unannounced, scheduled site inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

On Tuesday, September 4, 2018, AQD District Staff conducted a scheduled site inspection at United States Gypsum Company (USG), Tawas City Alabaster Quarry, Iosco County. USG representatives Erin Fox (Accountant) and Jim Sheehan (Quarry General Foreman) provided a tour of the process area, which was in operation during my inspection. Site inspection activities were conducted with the intent of confirming compliance with general permit no. 306-01.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The quarry is located approximately two miles west of U.S. 23, and the immediate vicinity of the active quarry location is relatively undeveloped (see attachment 1). USG representatives had previously indicated that the quarry operation can produce gypsum rock which results in sizes varying from 10 microns to six inches or more, and services many different types of industries.

Gypsum rock is mined from the quarry using a surface continuous miner. The continuous miner operates in a manner like the type of equipment used to remove asphalt paving prior to road construction. Mined material is trucked from the quarry to the process area. Materials are then sorted by size and stockpiled using existing 20-ton hoppers (PC01 and Board01), screens, conveyors and stackers. The facility is listed as fee category II, minor source, based on fugitive emissions, and is required to report to MAERS.

PERMIT HISTORY

October 9, 2001 – PTI 306-01 is issued for non-metallic mineral production.

March 20, 2008 – Modified to remove device IDs Mill01 through Mill17.

May 13, 2009 – Modified to add one single roller crusher (PC12) and a crusher loading conveyor (PC11).

USG staff report that there have not been any changes at the facility since the 2013 inspection. Device IDs PC06 through PC08 have not been installed to date. Board03 through Board06 have been installed but are no longer in use. USG is currently in the process of purchasing approximately 580 acres of land from the State of Michigan to extend the life of the quarry (see attachment 2). The transaction is expected to be finalized in October 2018, and USG will be in contact with AQD regarding permit modifications that may need to occur because of this.

COMPLIANCE HISTORY

No complaints are of record for the facility. At the time of the most recent site inspection (November 2013), the facility was found to be in compliance with its permit and air rules. All MAERS reports have been submitted in a timely manner since 2013.

COMPLIANCE EVALUATION

Emission Limits – The crusher, screen and conveyors at USG are equipped with water spray activated by sensors on the hoppers, rather than baghouses.

Visible Emission Limits – No visible emissions were observed from the process equipment that was in operation during my inspection.

Material Usage Limits – USG has processed less than 2,000,000 tons each year for the past two years. No asbestos tailings or asbestos containing waste materials are crushed at this site.

Process/Operational Limits – No visible emissions were observed from the roadways, yard or stockpiles. A water truck is used to control fugitive dust as necessary. A maintenance check is performed and documented each time the water truck is started; AQD staff has determined this is an acceptable form of tracking fugitive dust

suppression, as the truck is only started if it is being used. Gypsum Road is paved up to the entrance gates and minimal track out was observed. Trucks leaving the site were covered.

Monitoring – Records of material processed as well as the water truck maintenance checklists were readily accessible and reviewed during my inspection. All records are reported to be stored onsite for a period of at least five years.

COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

At this time, United States Gypsum Company appears to be in general compliance with their permit conditions, and all applicable rules and regulations.

NAME Meg Sheehan

DATE 9/5/18

SUPERVISOR C. Hove