

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AIR QUALITY DIVISION
ACTIVITY REPORT: Complaint Investigation**

B561972741

FACILITY: KOREX CORP	SRN / ID: B5619
LOCATION: 50000 PONTIAC TRAIL, WIXOM	DISTRICT: Warren
CITY: WIXOM	COUNTY: OAKLAND
CONTACT:	ACTIVITY DATE: 07/18/2024
STAFF: Jillian Cellini	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance
SUBJECT: On-site complaint investigation for soap-like odors.	SOURCE CLASS: SM OPT OUT
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS: C-24-01389, C-24-01390, C-24-01406	

On Thursday, July 18, 2024, I (Jillian Cellini, EGLE-AQD) and Owen Pierce (EGLE-AQD), conducted odor observations near Korex Corporation (SRN B5619) located at 50000 Pontiac Trail, Wixom, Michigan 48393. This odor investigation was in response to three odor complaints allegedly related to facility's operations.

The complaints (C-24-01390, C-24-01389, and C-24-01406) were received by AQD staff on July 14, 2024 and July 17, 2024. The complaints allege a nuisance odor originating from the facility and caused eye irritation (C-24-01390), nausea (C-24-01389), and unspecified health effects (C-24-01406) as a result of a soap-like odor. EGLE-AQD was not able to contact one complainant (C-24-01406) for further information. Wind direction and speed at the time of the other two complaints was under 10 mph. During the time of one complaint (C-24-01390) winds were originating from the south, during the time of another complaint (C-24-01389) winds were originating from the E/NE.

Korex is a detergent manufacturing facility. The facility is subject to Permit to Install (PTI) 539-96.

The following scale was used for odor intensity during odor observations:

- 0 – Non-Detect
- 1 – Just barely detectable
- 2 – Distinct and definite odor
- 3 – Distinct and definite objectionable odor
- 4 – Odor strong enough to cause a person to attempt to avoid it completely
- 5 – Odor so strong as to be overpowering and intolerable for any length of time

Owen and I arrived at the area around the Korex facility at around 3:00 PM. During the time of the complaint investigation, the weather conditions according to the Apple Weather app are as follows: the wind speed was 8 mph excluding wind gusts, the prevailing wind direction was N, the temperature was 73°F, and it was partly cloudy. Owen and I checked the Apple Weather app at both locations and noted the weather conditions were the same for both.

Between 3:07 PM and 3:30 PM, we conducted odor observations near one of the complainant's (C-24-01389) location. Owen and I did not detect any odors during this time at this location (level 0).

Between 3:40 PM and 4:04 PM, we conducted odor observations near to and along Pontiac Trail, which was downwind from the facility during the time of observation. Owen and I detected between level 1 and level 2 soap-like odors along Pontiac Trail, within eyeshot of the facility at around 3:53 PM. The duration of the smell lasted for no longer than 10

seconds at a time, much less than minute timescales. However, we observed these bursts of level 1 and 2 odors were intermittent for at least 5 minutes.

We left the area soon after 4:04 PM.

The odors detected during my investigation were not of the intensity, frequency, or duration to cause an unreasonable interference with the enjoyment of life or property. Additional complaints or information will be needed for further action. All complainants were contacted by phone and the results of the investigation were explained. These complaints are considered resolved.

NAME Jillian Cellina DATE 7/30/2024 SUPERVISOR K. Kelly