

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AIR QUALITY DIVISION
ACTIVITY REPORT: On-site Inspection

N084963241

FACILITY: Leprino Foods		SRN / ID: N0849
LOCATION: 311 N SHERIDAN RD, REMUS		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: REMUS		COUNTY: MECOSTA
CONTACT: Dan Ramlo , Plant Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 06/02/2022
STAFF: Scott Evans	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: On site air quality inspection to assess compliance with permitted and other applicable air quality rules and regulations.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Introduction

On June 3, 2022 State of Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Air Quality Division staff member Scott Evans (SE) conducted an on-site, unannounced inspection of the Leprino Foods facility located at 311 N Sheridan Rd. in Remus, Michigan in order to assess compliance with air quality rules and regulations. Leprino Foods is a food manufacturer that produces cheese products, whey crystals, and cream through combinations of pasteurization, extrusion, cooling, and flash freezing. This facility is classified as a minor source for all criteria pollutants and has one active permit to install (PTI): PTI No. 502-84A.

On the day of the inspection there were no odors or visible emissions observed during an initial inspection of the facility perimeter. Upon entering the facility, SE was greeted by Dan Ramlo (DR). After a brief discussion about the purpose of the day's visit, a walking inspection was conducted of the facility. Food production floors, mechanical rooms, and outdoor tanks were visited during the inspection.

PTI No. 502-84A

This permit is a modification of the original permit that was issued in 1984. The modification was applied for on September 26, 2017 to address discrepancies between permitted and actual stack heights. The modification was approved on September 29, 2017. It covers one emission unit (EU): EUBOILERS.

EUBOILERS

This EU consists of two Johnson 500 HP natural gas fired boilers. Both boilers were installed in 1984. These boilers are limited to operating only on pipeline quality natural gas. Facility representatives confirmed this during the inspection. The facility is required to have an exhaust stack measuring no more than 22 inches in diameter and no less than 40 feet in height. The height of the stack was originally permitted to be 50 feet, but a discrepancy was identified when the stack was found to be 40 feet tall. It was determined that 40 feet was an acceptable height and so the permit was modified to reflect this. The stack height appears to be in compliance at this time.

Other Items

During the flash-freezing step of cheese production, the food products are frozen using a closed loop anhydrous ammonia refrigeration system. This system includes a storage tank for the anhydrous ammonia that has a capacity of ~6,700 gallons. Current permitting exemption rules limit exemption of storage tanks to 500 gallons. However, during the last inspection the issue was discussed, and it was determined by the Attorney General that, because the tank was installed under past exemption rules, the tanks could still be considered exempt as they have not been

changed or replaced. Leprino provided documentation on August 25, 2017, that the tank was installed in 2006 and was exempt from permitting at the time. As such, no violations were issued, and no permit modification was required. Records of this investigation and conclusion can be found in the facility's file. At this time, this appears to still be the situation regarding the tank. The AQD will not require permit modification or issue a violation at this time.

This facility has one emergency generator located on site. This is a 738HP engine that was installed in 2013. This engine does appear to be subject to New Source Performance Standard (NSPS) 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart IIII. The facility appears to be compliant with emission standards outlined in the NSPS as this is a certified engine and maintenance records were kept for the 37.4 hours in 2021 that the engine was operated for maintenance purposes. The engine is also subject to National Emissions Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) 40 CFR Part 63 Subpart ZZZZ. The requirements of the NESHAP simply require that the engine comply with the applicable NSPS, which does appear to be the case.

Conclusion

At the time of the inspection the facility appeared to be compliant with the requirements of PTI No. 502-84A and all other applicable air quality rules and regulations.

NAME Scott Evans DATE 6/16/2022 SUPERVISOR HH