

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

N692933289

FACILITY: Central Michigan Hardwoods		SRN / ID: N6929
LOCATION: 110 S 64th Ave, COOPERSVILLE		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: COOPERSVILLE		COUNTY: OTTAWA
CONTACT: Wade Van Keulen , Owner		ACTIVITY DATE: 02/08/2016
STAFF: April Lazzaro	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Unannounced, unscheduled inspection in response to a complaint.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS: C-16-00779		

Staff, April Lazzaro arrived at the facility to conduct an unannounced, unscheduled inspection and met with Wade Van Keulen, Owner. Mr. Van Keulen was presented with the DEQ Environmental Inspections: Rights and Responsibilities brochure and its contents were discussed. I informed Mr. Van Keulen that a complaint had been received, naming his facility as the origin of the odors. An initial surveillance of the surrounding area indicated that it was not the source of foul odors, as no odors were identified. Mr. Van Keulen indicated that he had not compiled emissions records into one document, however all information was readily available, and would be sent today. Those records were received by 1:30 PM and are attached. Roger Castle was available and took me on a facility and property perimeter inspection.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Central Michigan Hardwoods is a hardwood lumber yard. Basically, virgin green lumber is received and sorted to specification. Various species of wood is processed at the facility including, poplar, walnut, maple and red oak. Next, the wood is dried in one of 10 wood kilns. Currently eight of the kilns are used to actively kiln dry the wood. Two are used in various states, including heated storage of dried lumber waiting for further processing or as a preparation before actual drying in a different unit. Following being dried in the kiln, the wood is sent through one of the planers for re-surfacing. After this, the wood is sorted and made ready for shipping.

During the planing of the wood, wood chips are generated. No chemicals are used on any of the wood produced for sale at this facility. The wood chips are collected into one of two auger fed silos that are used as fuel for the wood fired boiler. This wood fired boiler is permitted pursuant to Permit to Install No. 382-00A. Emission limits for particulate matter indicate this is a minor source of emissions. The permit requires that only virgin waste wood can be burned in the boiler, and I confirmed with Mr. Castle and Mr. Van Keulen that zero chemicals are applied to any wood at this facility. I observed the unit, and saw that it was operating at medium fire at ~ 1,500°F. The multi-clone was installed and operating properly, based on the fact that no opacity was observed. A 55-gallon drum is used at the bottom of the unit to collect the captured particles. It is emptied at least every two weeks, however according to Mr. Castle, there is not a lot of particulate to be disposed of. While it was not measured, there did not appear to be any changes made to the boiler stack. The area around the cyclone and wood storage silos was tidy.

Mr. Castle not only provided me with an interior inspection, we also walked the perimeter of the property to aid in my odor investigation. As we stepped outside, I smelled a sour odor, and Mr. Castle confirmed it was not from his facility. It turned out to be odor from the landfill. We continued to walk around the property, as Mr. Castle identified the types of wood that are stored outside. We walked adjacent to all of the kilns that were in operation, and Mr. Castle opened the kiln door so that we could better smell the process. Basically, the only identifiable odor was wet wood. This odor generated at the kiln did not travel off the facility property. However, now I know exactly what it would smell like if it were present at the complainant's townhome complex.

Each kiln operates pursuant to Rule 290. The records maintained (see attached) demonstrate the maximum throughput for the equipment, based on size, maximum possible kiln charge per month and worst case scenario emission factors. Emissions demonstrate potential to emit is below major source thresholds.

Lastly, I provided Mr. Van Keulen with a copy of the DEQ Boiler NESHAP information card, and advised him to look into what if any regulations applied to his boiler.

COMPLIANCE EVALUATION

Central Michigan Hardwoods was eliminated as a candidate for the type of odors that the complainant initially associated with this type of operations.

The facility was in compliance at the time of the inspection.

NAME *Paul Longard*

DATE *2-11-16*

SUPERVISOR *PMB*