

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

N732942811

FACILITY: FAIR ENERGIES INC.		SRN / ID: N7329
LOCATION: R5E SEC 7, BANGOR TWP		DISTRICT: Saginaw Bay
CITY: BANGOR TWP		COUNTY: BAY
CONTACT:		ACTIVITY DATE: 12/20/2017
STAFF: Benjamin Witkopp	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Inspection of the Hardy - Oviatt crude oil production facility		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Ben Witkopp and Matt Karl of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality - Air Quality Division (MDEQ-AQD) met with Jim French of Fair Energies. Matt is new and I had asked Jim to show him the various aspects of oil production. We stopped at 4 sites including this one. Jim provided information and demonstrations fro Matt at two sweet oil sites and lit the flares once he opened the wells. The Hardy - Oviatt is a sour oil production facility which Jim operates as a flowing well. He was not flowing the well at the time. The site is covered by air use permit to install 32-04 and covers the separator, two storage tanks, and a flare..

The permit does not contain an emission or feed rate limit as its permit application provided its maximum. If the well is re-worked or completed to another zone then permitting would be required. Jim said he lights the flare before flowing the well and a propane tank was in place providing sweet fuel for the flare. Once the well completes flowing. Jim closes it in. The separator and tanks are vented to the flare. Jim said the automatic ignitor does not work at the flare so he lights it with a long pole. Given the company's poor cash flow he does not anticipate fixing the ignitor at this time. The ignitor is not specifically required. A shut down system was in place in case of pilot flame failure. It consists of a pancake style valve on the flow line near the well head. The valve is held up by propane pressure. If the pilot flame goes out, a thermocouple trips the valve causing it to drop down and close off fluid flow. This method of Jim's operation fulfills the requirement to operate a continuously burning pilot flame. The flare height has not changed since the initial 45 ft and the tip looked to be in good shape.

NAME B. WitkoppDATE 12-27-17SUPERVISOR C. Hone