

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

N732969110

FACILITY: FAIR ENERGIES INC.		SRN / ID: N7329
LOCATION: R5E SEC 7, BANGOR TWP		DISTRICT: Bay City
CITY: BANGOR TWP		COUNTY: BAY
CONTACT: Jim French, Operator		ACTIVITY DATE: 09/08/2023
STAFF: Benjamin Witkopp	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Inspection of Hardy - Oviatt crude oil production facility		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Ben Witkopp of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) - Air Quality Division (AQD) went to the Hardy - Oviatt site on Friday evening September 8, 2023. The site is operated by Jim French of Fair Energies. It is in Bay County, west of the intersection of South Huron Road and North Euclid Avenue. The Hardy - Oviatt is a sour oil production facility which Jim operates as a flowing well. He was not present nor flowing the well at the time. The site is permitted 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 re-permitting would be required. In the past Jim said he lit the flare pilot before flowing the well. A propane tank was in place providing sweet fuel for the flare. The separator and oil storage tanks are vented to the flare. 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 operation fulfills the requirement to operate a continuously burning pilot flame. The flare height appeared to be 20 ft and the tip looked to be in good shape.

The facility did not appear to have been recently used. On Tuesday September 19, 2023, I connected with Jim. He confirmed he basically does not use the well much, typically on a once per month or two-month basis. Though it is fully capable of producing oil he said there is a large amount of water generated too which results in a sizeable disposal cost.

The facility is considered to be in compliance.

NAME B. Witkopp

DATE 9/19/23

SUPERVISOR C. Kase