

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

N834225877

FACILITY: FERRIS COFFEE & NUT CO		SRN / ID: N8342
LOCATION: 227 WINTER AVE NW, GRAND RAPIDS		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: GRAND RAPIDS		COUNTY: KENT
CONTACT: Steve Beltz, Plant Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 06/26/2014
STAFF: April Lazzaro	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Unannounced, scheduled inspection.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Staff, April Lazzaro arrived at the facility to conduct an unannounced scheduled inspection and met with Steve Beltz, Plant Manager and Heather Gilman QA Specialist who were provided with the DEQ Environmental Inspections: Rights and Responsibilities brochure and its contents were discussed.

This facility is a coffee bean and nut roaster. They currently operate four coffee roasters of the following sizes:

Green roaster (#2, G-90) 250 lb roaster equipped with an afterburner (back-up use).

Tan Roaster (#1, G-120) 300 lb roaster equipped with an afterburner.

Black Roaster (#3, G-50) 50 lb roaster.

White Roaster (#4) 50 lb roaster. (soon to be operational)

Staff informed Mr. Beltz and Ms. Gilman that they were targeted for a routine inspection, but also since the facility asked for economic development incentives through the City of Grand Rapids that prompted the specific timing of the inspection. Staff learned that the coffee beans come in green and go through an internally vented bean cleaning system. They are also phasing in an internally vented finished bean grinder as part of the incentive package.

I asked if Ferris was keeping emissions records as requested during the last AQD inspection in order to demonstrate compliance with permit exemption Rule 290. They indicated that they keep track of production, not emissions. Staff provided them with the emission factors for the coffee roasting and flavoring use and has requested that they keep track per the requirements. Ms. Gilman has instituted a new SOP to ensure that Ferris maintains the proper records. Records have been submitted and emissions are well below limits. Staff also recommended that Ms. Gilman only needs to keep emissions calculations on a monthly basis.

The facility also operates three nut roasting lines. The nuts are roasted with allergen free peanut oil. An air knife cools the nuts before they are packaged or further processed for sale. Oil roasting may also have associated AP-42 emission factors, and I have asked Ferris to look into it.

While on the roof during, staff noted quite a bit of chaff (skin from coffee bean) accumulation. There was also accumulation of nut skins near the nut roaster stacks. I pointed it out and asked for it to be cleaned and that its accumulation is a possible fire hazard as well as not properly controlling a source of particulate matter. In lieu of sending a Violation Notice, staff has requested via e-mail that Ferris conduct an evaluation and come up with a plan to reduce the air pollution generated by the chaff and nut skins. Ferris had agreed propose a reasonable timeframe for when the investigation will be conducted, a conclusion reached and a path for elimination/reduction of air pollution determined. The proposed timeframe for identifying a plan is July 21, 2014.

Ferris Coffee & Nut Company was in compliance at the time of the inspection.

NAME 

DATE 7-10-14

SUPERVISOR 