

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

P048323883

FACILITY: Aaron Elek III Estate - Paige 1-34		SRN / ID: P0483
LOCATION: S1/2 NW 1/4 SE1/4 Sec 34 T15N R4E, KAWKAWLIN		DISTRICT: Saginaw Bay
CITY: KAWKAWLIN		COUNTY: BAY
CONTACT: Ashley Clements , Personal Representative		ACTIVITY DATE: 11/19/2013
STAFF: Benjamin Witkopp	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Non Compliance	SOURCE CLASS:
SUBJECT: Inspection of oil production facility with OOGM staff		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

The Aaron Elek III estate operates several crude oil production facilities in Bay County. The sites produce oil from the Detroit River Sour Zone. One of the sites is known as the Paige 1-34 located at S 1/2, NW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec 34, T15N R4E, in Kawkawlin, Michigan. Ben Witkopp from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Air Quality Division (AQD) and Andrew Kent from the Office of Oil, Gas, and Minerals (OOGM) reviewed existing OOGM data to determine the facility's compliance with the requirements of OOGM and AQD regulations.

Based upon existing OOGM data, and assuming an 8 hr day of operation, the facility would emit about 3.6 # of SO₂ per hr. Additionally, less than 28 pounds of H₂S would be burned per day. These values would require an air use permit and also either a continuously burning pilot flame or automatic ignition system. The facility does not have an air permit. This is an AQD Rule 201 violation based upon the existing data.

The site was visited by AQD and OOGM staff on November 19, 2013. The facility was not pumping oil at the time. There was no flare pilot present; neither was there an automatic ignitor. This condition is a violation of AQD rule 403.

The flare was estimated to be about 21ft. The OOGM required H₂S signage for the site was appropriate. A vapor return line for use during load out was present.

Additionally, several OOGM violations were noted. The sites well identification sign was on the ground and needs to be reposted. This is a violation of OOGM Rule 1012. An oil leak was found on the east side of the oil storage tank which is a violation of OOGM Rules 1002 and 1006. There wasn't a gate and SCBA sign at the base of the steps for ascending the brine tank. This is a violation of OOGM Rule 1122. Oily soil was also found at the flare in violation of OOGM Rules 1002 and 1006. The oily soil present at the pump jack motor is a violation of OOGM Rule 1006.

The next step is to have the facility conduct H₂S concentration testing and also determine the flow of produced gas per OOGM rule 1105. The data obtained could then be reviewed to determine applicable AQD and OOGM regulations based upon current operating conditions.

A violation notice will document the aforementioned AQD and OOGM violations and request testing.

NAME B. WitkoppDATE 12-19-13SUPERVISOR C. Kent