

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

P129869696

<b>FACILITY:</b> OTTAWA LAKE CO-OP ELEVATOR COMPANY		<b>SRN / ID:</b> P1298
<b>LOCATION:</b> 474 E CHICAGO BLVD, BRITTON		<b>DISTRICT:</b> Jackson
<b>CITY:</b> BRITTON		<b>COUNTY:</b> LENAWEE
<b>CONTACT:</b>		<b>ACTIVITY DATE:</b> 10/26/2023
<b>STAFF:</b> Brian Merle	<b>COMPLIANCE STATUS:</b> Compliance	<b>SOURCE CLASS:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Scheduled, announced on site inspection.		
<b>RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:</b>		

### Facility Contact

**Andy Hill**

**Email:** olcbritton1@gmail.com

**Phone:** 517-451-0000

### Purpose

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, an announced scheduled inspection was conducted at Ottawa Lake Co-Op Elevator Company – Britton located at 474 E. Chicago Blvd. in Britton, MI. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the facility's compliance status with applicable federal and state air pollution regulations, particularly with the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act 451 of 1994, Part 55, Air Pollution Control and the administrative rules, and the conditions of Air Use Permit to Install (PTI) numbers 105-22 and 106-22, both issued August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022. They are general anhydrous ammonia storage permits.

### Facility Location

The facility is located in Britton, Michigan. It is located outside of town and is surrounded by fields.

### Regulatory Applicability

This facility operates under PTIs 105-22 and 106-22.

### Facility Background

Ottawa Lake Co-op and Elevator Company supplies local farmers for their crop production needs, such as fertilizer. They recently built the Britton facility, with their first spring season for anhydrous ammonia taking place this year. They were issued permits for two 30,000 gallon anhydrous ammonia tanks.

### Arrival

I arrived at the facility at 10:55 AM and entered the office where I met with Andy. I had called him earlier in the day to make sure there would be someone at the sight that would be able to show me around.

### Pre-Inspection Meeting

I explained the purpose of my visit and we proceeded behind the office to the anhydrous ammonia tanks.

### **Inspection**

Andy and I stood near the tanks, and I went through the conditions of their general permits for their anhydrous ammonia storage. The special conditions proceed as follows:

#### **SC.III.1**

Andy showed me where they kept their copy of Department of Labor and Economic Growth General Industry Safety Standards, Part 78. Storage and Handling of Anhydrous Ammonia – (1910.111).

#### **SC.III.2**

Andy showed me their inspection and maintenance program check list that was created in house. I mentioned that the wording of the permit implied that the one located in the appendix had to be used. I emailed him a copy and they will be using this inspection and maintenance program for future seasons.

#### **SC.III.3**

Andy showed me where their emergency response plan was located, and he confirmed its approval with the local fire department.

#### **SC.III.4**

The storage tanks appeared to meet the distance restrictions from the property line and closest residence.

#### **SC.III.5**

Andy explained that each truck driver is responsible for filling their tanks, and that they are also responsible for proper training.

#### **SC.III.6**

The location of their nurse and applicator tanks appeared to meet the distance restrictions from the property line and nearest residence.

#### **SC.III.7**

Nurse tank filling is only done from the permanent storage tanks.

#### **SC.III.8**

Andy explained that the drivers usually fill their tanks to 80%, which meets the 85% liquid capacity restriction.

#### **SC.III.9**

Vapor return lines were present.

**SC.III.10**

**Nitrogen stabilizer is not added to the permanent storage tanks.**

**SC.IV.1**

**All permanent storage and nurse tanks were fitted with safety release valves. The tanks were only installed last year so they have not had to be replaced yet. The nurse tanks are on a rotating maintenance schedule to ensure proper function and that the safety relief valves are up to date.**

**SC.IV.2**

**Both storage tanks have two shut off valves for emergencies, at the end of each tank and at each filling station. There is also an emergency shutoff valve at the office building.**

**SC.IV.3**

**This condition is met at the bulkhead.**

**SC.IV.4**

**All liquid lines are equipped with back pressure check valves, and liquid lines not requiring a back check valve and all vapor return lines are equipped with properly sized flow valves.**

**SC.IV.5**

**Because of the recent construction, 5 years has not elapsed for the hoses to be replaced, but they are keeping track of their age and they will be replaced at the appropriate time.**

**SC.IV.6**

**They have a water trap of 250 gallons on site.**

**SC.IV.7**

**I did not notice a sign as I entered the facility. Andy explained that they have had it on order for some time, but it has not been completed. If not fulfilled, they will most likely get it made elsewhere.**

**SC.VI.1**

**No malfunction or spills have occurred.**

**SC.IV.2**

**They have on file their annual review and approval of the emergency response plan.**

**Post-inspection meeting**

**We returned to the office and looked at the paperwork they have on file. I thanked him for his time and left at 11:25 AM.**

**Compliance Determination**

**Based on the findings of this inspection, I have determined that they are in compliance with their air permits. The next inspection should confirm their installation of the signage required by SC.IV.7 and the usage of the maintenance and inspection plan detailed in the appendix of the general permit.**

NAME 

DATE 10/26/2023

SUPERVISOR 