

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
 AIR QUALITY DIVISION
 ACTIVITY REPORT: Self Initiated Inspection

U25180962446769

FACILITY: Genesee Co. Drain Commissioner, Water & Waste Serv.		SRN / ID: U251809624
LOCATION: G-4612 Beecher Road, Flint		DISTRICT: Lansing
CITY: Flint	COUNTY: GENESEE	
CONTACT: Mike Horgan, Chief of Operations and Maintenance		ACTIVITY DATE: 10/26/2018
STAFF: Daniel McGeen	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: <i>MINOR</i>
SUBJECT: Inspection of Genesee Count, Division of Water & Waste Services septage receiving and metering station, as a possible contributor to odor complaints in the vicinity of the adjacent Flint Water pollution Control.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

On 6/21/2019 the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, now the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Air Quality Division (AQD) conducted an unannounced, scheduled inspection of the Genesee County Drain Commission Facility on Beecher Road, in Flint.

Environmental contacts:

Mr. Mike Horgan, Chief of Operations and Maintenance; mhorgan@gcdcwws.com

Facility description:

This facility is a septage receiving station on the site of the Genesee County Drain Commission, in Flint Township.

Emission units:

Septage receiving station; not subject to the requirement of Michigan Air Pollution Control Rule 201 to obtain a permit to install

Regulatory overview:

This facility is considered to be a true minor source, rather than a major source of air emissions. A *major source* has the potential to emit (PTE) of 100 tons per year (TPY) or more, of one of the criteria pollutants. *Criteria pollutants* are those for which a National Ambient Air Quality Standard exists, and include carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulfur dioxide, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), lead, particulate matter smaller than 10 microns, and particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns.

It is also considered a minor, or *area source*, for Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs), because it is not known to have a PTE of 10 TPY or more for a single HAP, nor to have a PTE of 25 TPY or more for combined HAPs.

The facility has no permits to install (PTIs), and is not believed to be in need of any. They do no treatment of wastewater or sewage here. They only receive septage waste.

Fee status:

This facility is not considered fee-subject. It is not considered a major source for criteria pollutants, and so is not Category I fee-subject. It is not considered Category II fee-subject, because it is not a major source for HAPs, nor is it subject to a federal New Source Performance Standard. Lastly, it is not considered category III fee-subject, because it is not subject to a Maximum Achievable Control technology standard.

This facility is not required to report to the Michigan Air Emissions Reporting System. AQD Operational Memorandum No. 13 requires reporting in MAERS if emissions thresholds have been exceeded, but Flint WPC is not known to have exceeded these thresholds.

Location:

The facility is located in a mixed residential and commercial area, on the south bank of the Flint River. To the immediate north and northwest are some residential areas, a couple hundred feet from the facility. To the immediate northeast are large cemeteries. To the immediate south are residential areas. To the immediate east are commercial and residential areas, including apartment complexes. To the west is some undeveloped land, and some residences, including apartment complexes.

History:

AQD does not have any familiarity with this site. It was, however, suggested that I visit this site, while investigating odor complaints attributed to the adjacent Flint Water Pollution Control (WPC) facility, State Registration Number B1598. In 2017 and 2018 AQD had been investigating odor issues which were believed to be linked to either their digester or their east sludge storage tank. I took this opportunity to inspect the Genesee County Drain Commission facility, so that it could be ruled out as a potential contributor to nuisance odors offsite.

Safety apparel required:

I would encourage safety glasses with side shields, as a general precaution for any industrial site.

Arrival:

Prior to my arrival, I checked for odors in the vicinity. Weather conditions were 46 degrees F and mostly cloudy, with a wind 0-5 miles per hour of the east. The only odors I detected offsite were on Linden Road, immediately west of Flint WPC, and they had a sour sewage character which I associated with the east sludge storage tank at Flint WPC. The Genesee County Drain Commission facility was not considered to be the source of these odors.

I went to the Drain Commission site, after a visit to Flint WPC., documented in a separate activity report. I arrived at the Drain Commission offices at G-4610 Beecher Road, at 11:04 AM. I was directed to their adjacent building, for their Water & Waste Services Division, at G-4612 Beecher Road. There, I met with Mr. Mike Horgan, Chief of Operations and Maintenance. I provided my identification/credentials, per AQD procedure. I explained the reason for my visit was to do an inspection, as part of following up on complaints which have been attributed to the adjacent Flint WPC facility.

Inspection:

Mr. Horgan showed me the septage receiving station, where a small shed is located. There were no odors outside, adjacent to the shed. Inside the shed, there was a distinct and definite septic odor. Mr. Horgan indicated they do no treatment here. The wastewater they receive gets sent via underground pipes to the Genesee County Wastewater Treatment plant (WWTP) in Montrose, he said, rather than to the adjacent City of Flint WPC.

Further east of the septage receiving station was a dump station, for dumping material cleaned from gravity sewers by jet vac trucks. There was a barely detectable sewage odor. The material then is transferred to an open concrete enclosure to dry, I was told. There were light odors from the gritty material I observed there.

I did not detect any odors today which I felt would be detectable in nearby residential areas. I did not actually get to witness any septage deliveries, however.

Conclusion:

I saw no processes that appeared to require a permit to install. No instances of noncompliance with the Michigan Air Pollution Control Rules were observed. I left the site at 11:47 AM.

NAME 

DATE 9/30/2019

SUPERVISOR 