

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

U41190583249072

FACILITY: Gonzalez Universal Pallets LLC		SRN / ID: U411905832
LOCATION: 955 Godfrey Avenue SW, Grand Rapids		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: Grand Rapids		COUNTY: KENT
CONTACT: Oscar Gonzalez, Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 06/06/2019
STAFF: Adam Shaffer	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS:
SUBJECT: Self initiated inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Air Quality Division (AQD) staff Adam Shaffer (AS) arrived at the Gonzalaz Universal Pallets LLC (GP) facility located in Grand Rapids, MI at 9:42 am on June 6, 2019 to complete a self-initiated inspection.

### Facility Description

Prior to entering the facility, off-site odors and visible emission observations were completed. The weather conditions at the time of the inspection were cloudy skies, light and variable winds, and temperatures in the mid-sixties Fahrenheit. A wood burning odor was identified north of the site. This appears to be coming from a site in the area of GP. No emissions were observed that appeared to be coming from the GP site.

Upon arrival and throughout the course of the inspection, AQD staff AS met with Mr. Alfonzo Gonzalez, Owner, Mr. Oscar Gonzalez, Manager, and Ms. Barbra Alonso, Secretary, who provided a tour of the facility and/or answered site specific questions. GP is a wood pallet production facility. Approximately 30% of pallets produced are made with green undried wood materials and 70% is made from recycled wood materials. Wood types on site are a mix of hard and softwoods as well as green and already dried wood materials. The site currently doesn't operate with an air pollution control permit, but instead utilizes equipment which potentially falls under various air permit exemptions.

### Observations

- One wood heat treating unit was observed during the course of the inspection. In the initial discussion with GP staff it was concluded that the heat-treating unit and the location of the unit are leased and operated by SB Wood Treaters. When needed, GP will send over wood pallets to be heat treated and then are sent back to GP.
- Various wood processing operations were observed during the site inspection. The main wood processing operations located on the eastern portions of the site are controlled by a dust collection system that utilizes filter bags and vents internally. Collected particulate is captured and removed offsite and the filters are changed approximately every three months. The wood cutting operations and associated dust collection system appears to be exempt per Rule 285(2)(l)(vi)(B).
- A second wood processing operation was observed during the site inspection that is used as a back up to the main wood processing operations. Large amounts of particulate were observed around the wood processing operations located inside the building. GP staff stated that the second wood processing operation runs at a maximum of 9 hours per week. Emissions from the wood processing operation are controlled by a handmade cyclone collection system. Ductwork from the top of the cyclone is controlled by a fabric filter bag. Bags were stated by GP staff to be changed after every use. Used bags were observed adjacent to the collection system. Particulate is captured and collected beneath the cyclone before being shipped offsite. Spilled particulate during removal was observed beneath the cyclone and mixed with the soil beneath. GP staff agreed to clean up the particulate observed. Moving forward, GP shall make sure any particulate spilled during removal is properly addressed. Though the system was not in operation at the time of the inspection, the cyclone collection system appeared to be in good condition and adequately handling emissions from the associated equipment. Based on the observations made, the second wood processing operation and associated dust collection system appear to be exempt per Rule 285(2)(l)(vi)(c).

### Conclusion

Based on the facility walk through and observations made, GP appears to be in compliance with all applicable air pollution control rules at this time.

NAME Adam J. [Signature]

DATE 06/14/19

SUPERVISOR [Signature]