

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
AIR QUALITY DIVISION  
ACTIVITY REPORT: Complaint Investigation**

U63200190454559

<b>FACILITY:</b> Amazon Fulfillment Center		<b>SRN / ID:</b> U632001904
<b>LOCATION:</b> 1200 Featherstone Road, Pontiac		<b>DISTRICT:</b> Southeast Michigan
<b>CITY:</b> Pontiac		<b>COUNTY:</b> OAKLAND
<b>CONTACT:</b>		<b>ACTIVITY DATE:</b> 06/10/2020
<b>STAFF:</b> Kaitlyn Leffert	<b>COMPLIANCE STATUS:</b> Compliance	<b>SOURCE CLASS:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Investigation of fugitive dust complaints, which were directed to EGLE by Representative Brenda Carter. Rep. Carter represents the Pontiac area and had received complaints from residents related to dust originating from the construction site.		
<b>RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:</b>		

On June 10, 2020, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Air Quality Division (AQD) staff Kaitlyn Leffert conducted an investigation of dust complaints against construction at the former site of the Pontiac Silverdome in Pontiac, MI. The complaint was referred to EGLE by Representative Brenda Carter, who had received complaints from constituents who live in the neighborhood to the north of the construction site and had observed dust generation at the construction site.

I arrived in the vicinity of the facility around 12:00pm. The weather was partly cloudy with a high of 86°F. It had rained the night before, but due to the sunny morning that day, the ground was mostly dry by the time of the investigation. I first drove along Opdyke, which borders the construction site to the east, and then along Featherstone Drive, which forms the northern border of the construction site. While driving around the site, I noticed that there were a variety of construction activity taking place on and around the site, including the construction of buildings, truck traffic transporting parts and equipment around the site, aggregate conveyors, as well as road construction along Featherstone drive. The entire site appeared to be unpaved and was covered in a sand and dirt. There were also piles of sand and other construction materials located in the southeast corner of the site.

After driving the perimeter of the site, I noticed that low-lying dust clouds of an opacity ranging from 10-20% were being generated by the various trucks and construction equipment driving around the site. However, the dust generation appeared to settle relatively quickly, and I did not observe instances of dust migrating off site. Beyond the truck traffic, I did not observe dust generation from the other construction activities happening across the site. I departed the area around 12:30 pm.

#### **Follow-up Visit on June 11<sup>th</sup>**

I returned to the site on June 11<sup>th</sup> around 1:45 pm to conduct a follow-up investigation. The weather on this day was sunny and 73°F, with a wind of 13mph from the ESE. Again, it had rained the night before this visit, but the heat and sun had partially dried the ground before my investigation. I drove a similar route as the day before and stopped to observe the site at points along the route.

During this visit to the site, the only instance of dust generation that I observed was near an entrance to the construction site on Opdyke. Dust generation was observed at opacity levels around 5-10% and was again concentrated around truck traffic into and out of the site. The dust appeared to settle quickly following generation. I remained on site until 2:30 pm and did not observe any additional dust generation while in the vicinity of the site.

#### **Follow-up Call with Representative Carter**

Following my second visit to the site, I had a conversation with Rep. Carter to discuss my observations. I described my observations on the site and informed her that I planned to return to the site again the following week when conditions were supposed to be drier. She let me know that she had been communicating with the city council regarding this issue as well and that follow-up observations would be appreciated.

#### **Follow-up Visit on June 18<sup>th</sup>**

On June 18<sup>th</sup>, I conducted a third visit to the site. The weather recently had been drier and potentially more conducive to dust formation. On this day, the weather was partly sunny with a temperature of 80°F and winds from the north-northeast around 5-7 mph.

I arrived in the vicinity of the facility around 12:00 pm and initially drove a similar route to the first two visits. Construction activities on the site appeared to be similar to that of the week prior. While driving around the perimeter of the site, I did not notice any dust generation on or around the construction site. I then decided to park in a lot across Opdyke to the east of the facility and walk the sidewalk bordering the construction site along Opdyke. During my observations along Opdyke, I did not observe any dust generation from the construction on the site.

The only instance of dust generation observed was in the southeast corner of the site, again near the entrance to the site off of Opdyke. There was dust generation resulting from truck traffic on the site, which was moving dust and aggregate materials from piles located at this part of the site. Dust generation did occasionally blow onto the roadway at opacity levels of approximately 5-10%, but dispersed and settled quickly.

Following my follow-up investigation, I spoke with Rep. Carter and updated her on my follow-up investigation. I shared with Rep. Carter that I did not observe dust at opacity levels or duration that would warrant a violation at this time. However, if complaints continue, I could re-visit the site to make additional dust observations.

**Conclusion**

During my observations of the construction activities at this site, I did not observe opacity at levels or duration that would constitute a violation of air quality regulations. Additional follow-up may be needed if complaints from the community continue.

NAME *Kaitlyn Jeffert*DATE 08/13/2020SUPERVISOR *Sebastiany Kalleemkal*