

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

B149045562

FACILITY: OMNISOURCE BAY CITY		SRN / ID: B1490
LOCATION: 1414 N MADISON STREET, BAY CITY		DISTRICT: Saginaw Bay
CITY: BAY CITY		COUNTY: BAY
CONTACT: Brent Meininger , Plant manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 08/09/2018
STAFF: Gina McCann	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT:		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

I (glm) performed an unannounced, scheduled, inspection of OmniSource. Mr. Matthew Karl, MDEQ-AQD accompanied me. We met with Mr. Brent Meininger, Plant Manager. The purpose of the inspection was to determine OmniSource's compliance with R285(2)(j). The facility was in compliance at the time of the inspection.

OmniSource is processes and distributes scrap and secondary metals. They collect, process and resell a wide variety of scrap metal. The facility receives large pieces of metal and then cuts them with torches into smaller, more manageable sized pieces.

In 2014 we had received complaints regarding yellow smoke and had made multiple observations of the yellowish gray colored smoke as well. The torch cutting activities were causing the opacity observed. In 2016 the permit to install exemptions changed, and to meet the exemption, the portable torch cutting activity must meet R285(2)(ji), which states:

Portable torch cutting equipment that does not cause a nuisance or adversely impact surrounding areas and is used for either of the following:

- (i) Activities performed on a non-production basis, such as maintenance, repair, and dismantling.
- (ii) Scrap metal recycling and/or that have externally vented emissions equipped with an appropriately designed and operated enclosure and fabric filter.

The facility decided to install a appropriately designed and operated enclosure with a fabric filter around the portable torch cutting area. The pictures are attached.

Upon entering the yard, Mr. Karl and I observed a couple of brief, puffs of yellowish colored opacity from the direction of the torch cutting activities. The opacity was not of a intensity or frequency to be of concern to R301, so a Method 9 was not performed. It was brief and short lived.

There are (2) torch cutting areas. Only one area is operated at a time. The area being operated has a structure/hood over it. The hood is made from an old railcar. It is rectangular in shape with three permanent sides. The northwest and southeast ends are made of air curtain strips. The structure/hood moves back and forth along sections of railcar tracks. When one torch area is under the hood, the other area is being staged with pieces to cut. When done torching the pieces under the hood, they slide the hood down to the opposite end with the staged pieces and the hood now covers the other torching area.

One central exhaust serves the hood and attaches to either end of the baghouse. There are two inlets into the baghouse. One for each torching area. When the hood moves, the exhaust moves too. It detaches from one inlet and reattaches to another inlet on the baghouse.

Upon viewing of the equipment we determined a drum was full and the opacity was caused from the pulse jet on the bag house pushing dust out of the drum. Mr. Meininger alerted staff to change the drum.

At the time of the inspection the facility appeared to be in compliance with the permit exemption.

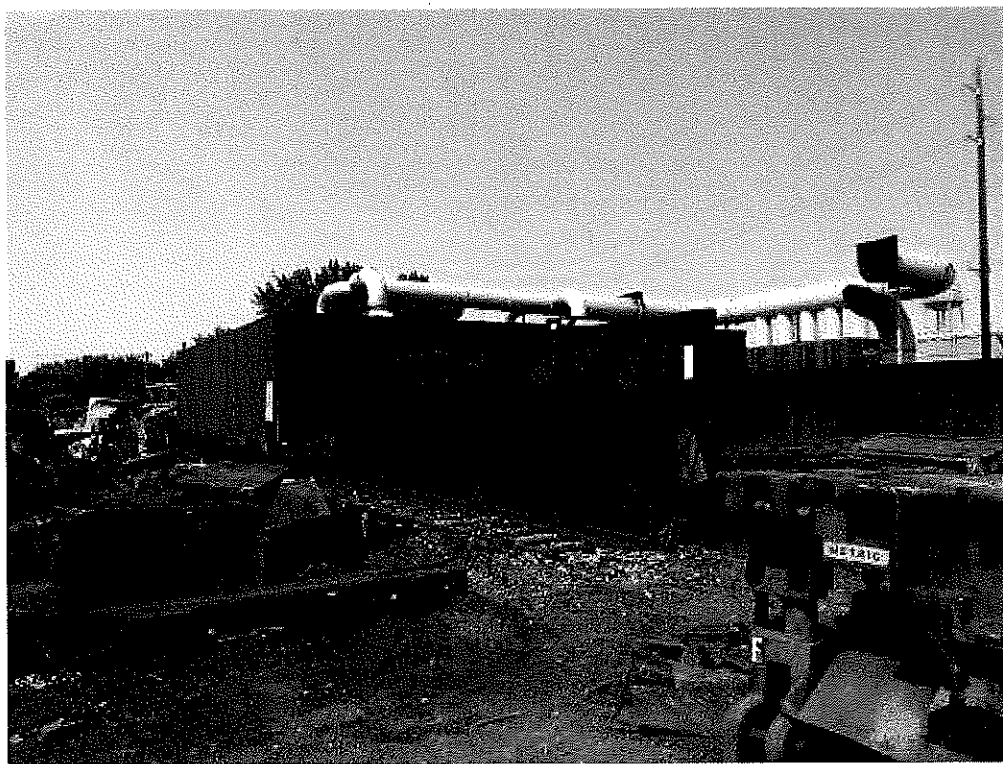


Image 1(TorchCut Enclose 1) : Looking north.

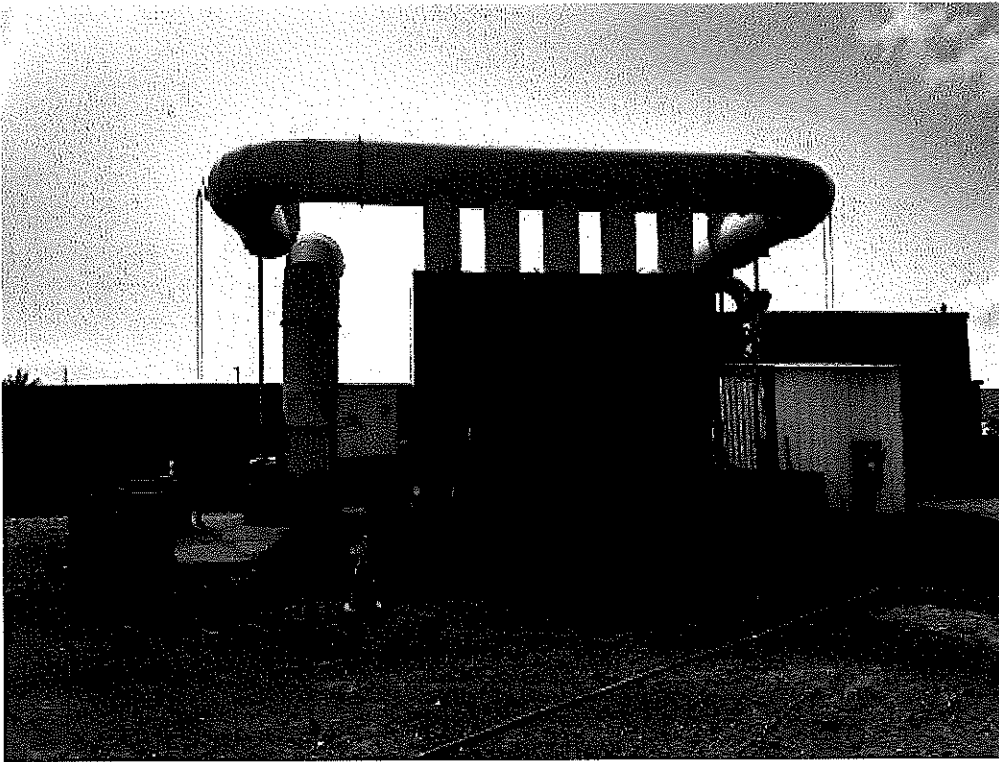


Image 2(Torch Cut Enclose 2) : Looking west.



Image 3(Torch Cut Enclose 3) : Looking south.

NAME Wanda L. McRae DATE 8/16/18 SUPERVISOR C. Pace