

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

B150168284

FACILITY: NATIONAL ZINC PROCESSORS INC		SRN / ID: B1501
LOCATION: 1256 MILTON ST, BENTON HARBOR		DISTRICT: Kalamazoo
CITY: BENTON HARBOR		COUNTY: BERRIEN
CONTACT: Dave Helmuth , Scrap Buyer / Facilities Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 06/27/2023
STAFF: Rachel Benaway	COMPLIANCE STATUS:	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: On-site inspection to verify compliance with PTI 183-04A and all state and federal air quality regulations. Staff observed all equipment covered by the PTI has been removed and submitted a request to have the PTI voided.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

AQD staff (Rachel Benaway) completed an unannounced air quality inspection of Benton Metal Recycling (B1501), a metal recycling facility located in Benton Harbor, MI, on 6/27/2023. The purpose of this inspection was to verify Benton Metal Recycling is in compliance with their Permit to Install (PTI) #183-04A and all state and federal air use regulations. The facility was considered a minor source of nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulfur oxides (SOx), carbon monoxide (CO), lead (Pb), particulate matter (PM), and volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions. The facility was not subject to any New Source Performance Standard (NSPS) or National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP). Dave Helmuth is the Scrap Buyer/Facilities Manager for the facility and was present for the on-site inspection. Personal protection equipment includes safety glasses and safety shoes.

The facility currently operates one shift per day, five days a week, and employs approximately 23 people.

	Equipment listed in PTI #183-04A
EU-RF1	Rotary furnace #1, controlled by Wheelabrator baghouse
EU-SF21	Sweat furnace #21, controlled by Wheelabrator baghouse
EU-SF22	Sweat furnace #22, controlled by Wheelabrator baghouse
EU-MILLING	Milling system controlled by Flex-Clean baghouse
EU-MIXER	Mixing system controlled by Wheelabrator baghouse
EU-KETTLES	Kettles A, 15, 16, and 17

The last inspection was completed at the facility on 12/14/2011. At that time, Benton Metal Recycling was also known as National Zinc Processors, Inc. AQD Staff reported that the facility had just begun metal recycling a few month prior and were owned by a zinc die-cast products company out of Chicago called Imperial. The facility had significantly reduced the amount of zinc melting and were no longer utilizing flux in their process. They were not melting any of the recycled product they collected but were selling it. The kettles were still on site but had been disconnected and were to be scrapped. The mixing system had not been used in over two years. The duct work from the furnaces to the baghouse was being replaced.

During this site visit, Staff observed that the facility is only called Benton Metal Recycling now. Dave reported that the facility is under new ownership (Jake Bronstine) and they have been exclusively operating as a scrap yard since 2013. Staff completed a walk-through of the facility and was able to confirm that the furnaces (FG-FURNACES), milling system (EU-MILLING), mixing system with baghouse (EU-MIXING), and the kettles (EU-KETTLES) have all been removed from the premises. Staff suggested a written notification from the new owner should be submitted stating

when the equipment was removed and requesting that PTI 183-04A is voided. Staff received this notification on 7/17/2023 and submitted the request for voiding the PTI.

NAME *Rachel Braway*

DATE 7/24/2023

SUPERVISOR *Wm. W.*