

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

B182748171

FACILITY: EMPIRE IRON MINING PARTNERSHIP		SRN / ID: B1827
LOCATION: EMPIRE MINE RD, ISHPEMING		DISTRICT: Upper Peninsula
CITY: ISHPEMING		COUNTY: MARQUETTE
CONTACT: BRENT A KETZENBERGER, ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER		ACTIVITY DATE: 03/22/2019
STAFF: Joe Scanlan	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MAJOR
SUBJECT: Scheduled inspection to determine compliance with MI ROP-B1827-2015		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

**FACILITY DESCRIPTION**

The Empire Iron Mining Partnership facility is operated by Cleveland-Cliffs Inc (CCI) and is an open-pit iron ore mine subject to the Taconite MACT. The facility began production in 1963 and is in Marquette County near the Village of Palmer. Emissions sources include various material handling, blasting, crushing, milling, concentrating, ore drying, pellet manufacturing, cooling, and handling equipment controlled by wet scrubbers and baghouse dust collectors. These processes can be placed into three major categories: Mining, Concentrating, and Pelletizing.

The facility operates three grate-kiln indurating furnaces (EU-UNIT2-FURNACE, EU-UNIT3-FURNACE, EU-UNIT4-FURNACE) controlled by dry electrostatic precipitators. Empire II was built in 1966, Empire III in 1975, and Empire IV in 1980. The facility also has seven boilers ranging up to 30 million BTU per hour each, fired by natural gas, fuel oil, or used oil fuel.

**REGULATORY & COMPLIANCE EVALUATION**

The facility is in compliance with the existing Title V permit MI-ROP-B1827-2015.

The facility was indefinitely idled on August 4, 2016— No emissions have been reported for 2017 or 2018.

CCI is in the process of assessing a restart of the mine, however it is expected if the mine does restart it will take up to 2 years of moving waste rock piles before the desired ore body is accessible. During this initial restart period the mill will not be operating but will be undergoing upgrades to processing equipment. Fugitive dust from moving rock and haul road traffic will be the main source of emissions at this time.

NAME DATE 4/15/19SUPERVISOR 