

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

B660722799

FACILITY: AUBURN BEAN & GRAIN COMPANY		SRN / ID: B6607
LOCATION: 315 N AUBURN ROAD, AUBURN		DISTRICT: Saginaw Bay
CITY: AUBURN		COUNTY: BAY
CONTACT: Whitey Hintz, Plant Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 09/12/2013
STAFF: Kathy Brewer	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Pending	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Scheduled inspection. Facility had several old permits that meet exemptions. One permit PTI#385-80, may need updated fugitive dust plan.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

I (KLB) conducted a scheduled inspection at the Auburn Bean and Grain (ABG) facility in Auburn Michigan. The grain elevator facility stores and dries corn, wheat, soy, navy, and colored beans. The site has multiple dryers, silos, and loading and unloading areas. Material is received by truck and loaded into trucks or railcars. The site has a bagging facility for colored beans. The site currently has equipment and buildings owned by the KMA Group (KMA), which is leased to ABG, and separate equipment operated by Archer Daniels Midland (ADM).

The site has several older Permits To Install; PTI #55-76 for a Deluxe 2000 dryer and a proposed dryer, PTI #42-79 for a grain receiving pit and baghouse, PTI # 385-80 for a Delux 3000 dryer, PTI # 460-81 for a bean receiving pit and fanning mill, and, PTI # 563-84 for a navy bean dryer. The site also has some Rule 201 permit exempt dryers and grain handling equipment. The facility's compliance status is pending until a review of the air permits and exemption status of existing equipment is verified by the current owners. I requested that the facility respond by September 30, 2013.

I met with Mr. Whitey Hintz, ABG Auburn Plant Manager, and Mr. Dan Hensler, ADM Auburn Plant Manager. We reviewed the permits that AQD has on record and toured the facilities. We reviewed air permitting exemptions and I shared a copy of the April 18, 2006 MDEQ letter to the Michigan Agri-Business Association that summarized federal and state air quality regulations applicable to grain elevators.

On August 26, 1996, ABG sold the plant to Agri Sales Incorporated. Agri Sales Inc. sold the plant to ADM sometime around 1998. KMA, a family leasing corporation, bought the company on Oct. 06, 2006 from ADM and is now leasing it to ABG. ABG leases and operates all but the colored bean plant handling operations which are operated by ADM.

PTI #55-76: Compliant

This is a permit from 1976 for two "Plant 4" DG 2000 Delux grain dryers. One dryer is still onsite but has been rendered inoperable and is being dismantled. A different dryer has been installed and based on the information provided it is exempt per Rule 285(p).

The only condition in the PTI is to maintain an opacity of less than or equal to 20%. There was no opacity at the site greater than 20% from any of the operations observed during the inspection.

The company (ABG) will review the PTI information and verify if they would like to void PTI #55-76.

PTI #42-79: Compliant

This is a permit from 1979 for "Plant 5" grain receiving pit and dust collector. The facility has dust collectors on site for the Plant 5 operation. Some of the dust control equipment has been replaced with equivalent or more efficient control devices. The Plant 5 operations and associated air pollution control equipment appear to meet the requirements for an exemption to obtain an air permit per Rule 285(p).

The conditions in the PTI include keeping the receiving pit enclosed on three sides during loading and unloading, and, maintaining an opacity of less than or equal to 20%. There was no opacity at the site greater than 20% from any of the operations observed during the inspection. There were no loading or unloading activities at Plant 5 during the inspection.

The company (ABG) will review the PTI information and verify if they would like to void PTI #42-79.

PTI #385-80: Pending

This is a permit from 1980 for a "Plant 3" DGB 3000 Delux grain dryer. The dryer has been removed.

The PTI also requires the facility to have an approved fugitive dust control program. The facility does utilize a sweeper on paved areas and enforces a low speed limit for truck traffic. If the facility decides to keep the current PTI, an updated fugitive dust plan must be submitted to Mr. Chris Hare, Air Quality Division Supervisor, Saginaw Bay District.

The company (ABG) will review the PTI information and verify if they would like to void PTI #385-80.