

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
AIR QUALITY DIVISION  
ACTIVITY REPORT: Visible Emissions Evaluation

N139364391

<b>FACILITY:</b> BESSEMER PLYWOOD CORP		<b>SRN / ID:</b> N1393
<b>LOCATION:</b> 1000 YALE AVE, BESSEMER		<b>DISTRICT:</b> Marquette
<b>CITY:</b> BESSEMER		<b>COUNTY:</b> GOGEBIC
<b>CONTACT:</b> Bill Thomason , PLANT MANAGER		<b>ACTIVITY DATE:</b> 08/16/2022
<b>STAFF:</b> Joe Scanlan	<b>COMPLIANCE STATUS:</b> Non Compliance	<b>SOURCE CLASS:</b> MINOR
<b>SUBJECT:</b> VE observation for excessive opacity from wood boiler		
<b>RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:</b>		

While attending a stack test at Bessemer Plywood Corporation for Dryer 4 on 8/16/2022, AQD staff observed uninterrupted excessive opacity coming from the stack of one of the two wood boilers the facility operates. District AQD staff conducted a VE observation using form EQP-5603 for 30 minutes in accordance with Rule 303. The highest 6-minute average opacity was 30.2%, 2<sup>nd</sup> highest was 21.2%. These levels of opacity are a violation of Rule 301, as referenced in GC 11 of PTI 35-20B:

...the permittee shall not cause or permit to be discharged into the outer air from a process or process equipment a visible emission of density greater than...:

- a. A six-minute average of 20 percent opacity, except for one six-minute average per hour of not more than 27 percent opacity.

District AQD staff spoke with Plant Manager William Thomason about the excessive opacity and he suggested there may have been a "plug of sawdust" in the boiler. It should be noted that Mr. Thomason was directly involved in the operation of Dryer 4 during the stack test and was unable to investigate the excessive opacity issues from the wood boiler. The company was operating Dryer 4 at a maximum feed rate that had never been attempted and Mr. Thomason's attention was solely devoted to assuring the unit was operating properly during the stack test.

The excessive opacity persisted the entire time AQD staff was on site. A violation notice will be sent to the facility to correct the violation.

NAME 

DATE 9/6/2022

SUPERVISOR 