

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

N505164691

FACILITY: NORTH AMERICAN FOREST PRODUCTS		SRN / ID: N5051
LOCATION: 69708 KRAUS ROAD, EDWARDSBURG		DISTRICT: Kalamazoo
CITY: EDWARDSBURG		COUNTY: CASS
CONTACT: Mike Chaffee , Safety and Engineering Coordinator		ACTIVITY DATE: 08/25/2022
STAFF: Rachel Benaway	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: On-site inspection to verify the facility is exempt from permitting according to all state and federal air use regulations.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

AQD staff (Rachel Benaway) conducted an unannounced air quality inspection of North American Forest Products (N5051) on 8/25/2022. NAFFP makes lumber products for the recreational vehicle industry, many of which are further processed by North American Moulding (N7840), located within the same area and owned by the same parent company. The facility voided their Permit to Install (PTI) #818-93 for a cyclone dust collector in 2012 and now operates utilizing exemptions (Rule 285(2)(I)(vi)(B) and (C)). The purpose of this inspection was to verify North American Forest Products (NAFFP) is in compliance with all state and federal air use regulations and is not in need of permitting at this time. Mike Chaffee (Safety and Engineering Coordinator) is responsible for the submission of requested records and was present for the on-site inspection. Personal protection equipment required for plant entry includes safety shoes and safety glasses.

The facility is comprised of 4 separate warehouse buildings where various wood-working equipment is located. Plant 1 contains a wood hog and 6 to 7 rip saws. Particulate matter is collected in a dust collector with silo outside. Plant 3 is an assembly area with a few saws but no dust collectors and no activity that exhausts outside. Plant 4 has 6 rip saws and a planer. Plant 5 was constructed in April of 2020 and has 4 rip saws, a sander, a planer, and a bundle saw. There is a dust collector outside with a closed loop system for particulate matter collection. This equipment in Plant 5 makes bow trusses and is mostly robotic, requiring approximately 2 people per machine for operation.

The facility submitted sawdust sales data that demonstrates how many tons of sawdust are removed from NAFFP per month and annually for 2021. The most sawdust removed from the facility in a month was 1,457 tons in April and the monthly average was about 1,227 tons. Annually, the facility processed 14,728 tons of sawdust.

All scrap material is hogged and then sold. All wrappers and bands from the lumber processed is recycled. All silos and dust collectors have a regular maintenance routine and are serviced by a third-party company for disposal. In all buildings either there are no exhaust systems that vents externally air without proper control by a dust collector or all equipment vents to the internal plant environment exclusively.

The facility appears to be exempt from air use permitting via Rule 285(2)(I)(vi)(B) and (C) at this time.

NAME: Rachel Benaway

DATE: 9/21/22

SUPERVISOR: RSL 9/21/22