

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AIR QUALITY DIVISION
ACTIVITY REPORT: Self Initiated Inspection

P015625558

FACILITY: Fisher Sand and Gravel Co		SRN / ID: P0156
LOCATION: 921 S Jefferson Ave, MIDLAND		DISTRICT: Saginaw Bay
CITY: MIDLAND		COUNTY: MIDLAND
CONTACT: Phil Cowles		ACTIVITY DATE: 06/16/2014
STAFF: April Lazzaro	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Non Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Unannounced, unscheduled inspection.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Staff, April Lazzaro and Jenifer Dixon arrived at the facility to conduct an unannounced, unscheduled inspection. After achieving access to the site, we met with Phil Cowles who is running the equipment for Fisher Sand and Gravel. Staff provided him with the DEQ Environmental Inspections: Rights and Responsibilities brochure and briefly discussed its contents.

A physical walk around took place, and each piece of equipment was evaluated for compliance with General Permit to Install No. 182-10. All equipment on site was accounted for in the permit. Equipment was as follows as identified by device ID on the unit: 4700, 4701, 4519, 453, 4541, 4900, 4480, 4481, 4502 and 4530. Staff made two recommendations. The first was to increase the overall water being delivered to the system. A garden hose was in use, and that is generally not adequate as evidenced by opacity that was at or near permit limits in some areas. Mr. Cowles indicated that he would first like to try to increase the flow of water from the hydrant to the system. I agreed that it was acceptable to utilize as a first response but if complaints are received, he will need to get a bigger hose.

A recommendation was made specifically at the drop point from device 4531 to 4519 which was at or near the permit limit for opacity. Staff requested that Mr. Cowles move the spray from the lower conveyor to the top so that dust can be controlled at the point it is being generated. Mr. Cowles agreed to move the nozzle. Mr. Cowles indicated that he has a copy of the permit in the trailer, and accessed the daily recordkeeping which details the throughput in tons. Mr. Cowles indicated verbally to Ms. Dixon that they plan to process 20-30,000 tons of material before August.

The facility did not submit a relocation notice and is therefore in violation and a Violation Notice will be sent. Staff notified Dean Gatehouse that he would receive a Violation Notice for failure to submit a relocation location on June 23, 2014. Mr. Gatehouse vehemently declared that he sent in a notice to the Grand Rapids office. Unfortunately, it was not received. I recommended that if he is unable to verify if a fax is sent from his machine that he call either myself or Sharon LeBlanc of the Saginaw Bay District Office to confirm receipt. I told him that verbal notification is not enough- the permit requires that form EQP5757 be sent as well. We discussed the requirements necessary as a result of receiving a Violation Notice, which include a written response. He declared that he would not be able to respond to it. I recommended that he respond, even if it is hand written and faxed in.

The facility was in non-compliance at the time of the inspection.

NAME April Lazzaro

DATE 6-23-14

SUPERVISOR PAB