

Kent Co.
Gen

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

U41141370727604

FACILITY: Kerkstra Precast	SRN / ID: U411413707
LOCATION: 3373 Busch Drive, Grandville	DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: Grandville	COUNTY: KENT
CONTACT: Steve Haskill, Vice President Operations	ACTIVITY DATE: 10/24/2014
STAFF: April Lazzaro	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance
SUBJECT: Unannounced, scheduled inspection.	SOURCE CLASS: Minor
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:	

Staff, April Lazzaro arrived at the facility to conduct an unannounced, scheduled inspection and met with Steve Haskill, VP of Operations. He was presented with the DEQ Environmental Inspections: Rights and Responsibilities brochure and its contents were briefly discussed. Kerkstra Precast is a manufacturer of precast concrete products including precast concrete building and infrastructure products. I mentioned to Mr. Haskill that AQD is planning to inspect the local concrete product production facilities in the area (3 or 4). AQD staff started with Kerkstra due to the fact that last month visible emissions were seen being emitted from the stack of the two product silos and that it is not acceptable. There is also visual evidence (significant staining down the silos) that there have been issues with excess emissions in the past.

Also, staff provided Mr. Haskill with a copy of the Rule 289 exemption for asphalt and concrete production equipment. This states a limit of 200,000 cubic yards of concrete produced each year.

Mr. Haskill delayed a project meeting to provide a facility tour. Kerkstra operates a small fabrication department with several weld stations that are collected and ducted individually. This type of operation is exempt per Rule 285(i). A small amount of painting is conducted at a small bench hood and this is exempt per Rule 287(a) and or (c). We discussed the possibility of expanding this area, and the Rule 287(c) guidance document was provided via e-mail.

We walked through the area where the precast products are prepared, which currently utilizes general ventilation. This may change with the classification of silica dust as a carcinogen.

We met with Tim Skiba, Batch Plant Manager to discuss the issues surrounding the visible emissions seen from the product silo baghouses a month or so ago. Mr. Skiba indicated that on occasion there is an issue with the silo baghouses, and if that occurs a driver will notify the facility Maintenance staff to address it. They are shaker style baghouses and at times the bags will slip down. Maintenance conducts monthly PM's and the bags are replaced approximately every six months.

The facility operates two mixers in the batch plant which are internally vented. The mixers are controlled by a dust collector that utilizes washable filters for particulate control. They keep two sets- one to have in operation and one that they wash out and let dry for the next use. Mr. Skiba indicated that the plant produces roughly 50-60,000 cubic yards of concrete per year, and they would have to do a major expansion to have the capacity to do 200,000.

As we were walking back to the offices, Mr. Haskill indicated that all cutting, even outside, is controlled through the use of water. I also noted that a water truck was actively watering the yard and roadways.

At the time I left the facility, there were no compliance issues identified.

After another nearby inspection, staff drove past this facility on the way back to the office. At that time, a significant amount of dust was observed coming out of the top of the product silo baghouses. I pulled over, took a picture, (attached) and contacted Mr. Skiba to discuss this issue.

Mr. Skiba stated that he had just been made aware of the problem, and he was sending someone out right away. I asked him to detail the problem, and Kerkstra's solution in an e-mail to me. I then called and left a message for Mr. Haskill indicating that this is the second time I've seen a problem at the facility and it can not continue. The dust emissions if seen again in the future, may lead to compliance issues. I asked Mr. Haskill to call me with any questions. Mr. Skiba sent an e-mail (attached) detailing the issue. Apparently there were bag(s) with holes, and the dust would fall to the floor of the unit. Then when they started up, the residual dust would be

emitted. I sent a note on October 20th asking if the units had been repaired and was told that the bag with the holes was replaced on Friday.

Staff will monitor the facility for future problems with the silo baghouses. The facility was considered in compliance at the time of the inspection.



Image 1(Kerkstra Precast) : Silo emissions due to hole in bag/accumulation of dust inside.

NAME Paul Longman

DATE 10-31-14

SUPERVISOR PAB