

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

B788272322

FACILITY: HAMILTON FARM BUREAU		SRN / ID: B7882
LOCATION: 4670 WASHINGTON ST, HAMILTON		DISTRICT: Kalamazoo
CITY: HAMILTON		COUNTY: ALLEGAN
CONTACT: Rodney Stevens , Safety & Risk Coordinator		ACTIVITY DATE: 06/21/2024
STAFF: Cody Yazzie	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS:
SUBJECT: Scheduled Inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

On June 21, 2024 Air Quality Division (AQD) staff (Cody Yazzie) arrived at 4670 Washington Street, Hamilton Michigan at 2:00 PM to conduct an unannounced air quality inspection of Keystone Cooperative (hereafter Keystone) SRN (B7882). Staff made initial contact with the office receptionist and stated the purpose of the visit. Andy Black, Keystone, Agronomy Division Manager is one of the site contacts arrived shortly thereafter and discussed with Staff the purpose of the visit. Mr. Black had Staff talk with Rodney Stevens, Keystone, Safety and Risk Coordinator to discuss inspection protocol and the permitted anhydrous ammonia tanks.

Keystone is a cooperative business that assist local farmers in growing their crops which is handled by the agronomy division. Those farms have the option to sell their crops to Keystone which then get processed as a part of the Feed Division. The facility handles primarily corn which gets processed into chicken feed.

The facility was previously known as Hamilton Farm Bureau Cooperative, Inc. The company had gone through a few different ownerships before it was merged into Keystone March 2024. Staff indicated to both Mr. Black and Mr. Stevens that the way air quality does permits is based on stationary sources so if ownership changes the permit is still active unless voided by the company or the equipment that is permitted is rendered inoperable.

Keystone was last inspected by the AQD on August 5, 2009 and appeared to be in Compliance at that time with PTI No. 141-82. Mr. Black gave staff a tour of the facility. Required personal protective equipment are steel toe boots and a high visibility vest. Staff observations and review of records provided during and following the inspection are summarized below:

PTI No. 141-82 and other anhydrous ammonia Tank:

This permit was issued for the 30,000-gallon tank on the facility. During the inspection Staff was told that tanks have been emptied and not used since end of crop season 2015. During the inspection Staff was able to observe disconnection of piping that would leave the tank inoperable. Staff indicated that this would let Staff request the permit be voided. Mr. Stevens indicated the permit should be voided as he believed the tanks were inoperable. Mr. Stevens also indicated that the facility had no intentions to going back to ammonia in the future.

The facility also had a 18,000-gallon tank that also used to store ammonia. In the previous inspection it was noted the tank was grandfathered as it was installed pre-1967. This Tank has also been disconnected and rendered inoperable.

As a part of the inspection Staff would request to void PTI No. 141-82.

Feed Operations:

The facility takes in corn to create primarily chicken feed. The facility utilizes dump grates, storage silos, and grain dryers on site. The previous inspection report indicated that the equipment had no permits as it was installed in the 60's pre-1967. In the previous inspection report it was noted that grain dryers appeared to meet Rule 285(p) for meeting the requirements on the perforation size.

Staff had a discussion with Lance Cranney, Keystone, Feed Division Manager about the feed operations. It was indicated to Staff that there had been no significant updates or installations to the feed operations since the 2009 inspection.

Conclusion:

At the time of the inspection and based on a review of records obtained during or following the inspection, the facility appears to be in compliance with PTI No. 141-82 and state air quality regulations. As a follow up to the inspection AQD Staff will request that PTI No. 141-82 as the 30,000-gallon ammonia storage tank is no longer in use. Staff stated to Mr. Stevens that a report of the inspection would be sent to the facility for their records. Staff concluded the inspection at 2:45 PM.-CJY

NAME

Cody Yagyu

DATE

6/26/24

SUPERVISOR

Morish