

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

P108657891

FACILITY: Dani's Transport		SRN / ID: P1086
LOCATION: 225 East Columbia Avenue, PONTIAC		DISTRICT: Warren
CITY: PONTIAC		COUNTY: OAKLAND
CONTACT: Mark Peyerck , General Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 04/28/2021
STAFF: Robert Joseph	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Non Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Scheduled inspection of trucking facility		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS: C-21-00513, C-21-00521		

On April 28, 2021, I, Michigan Department Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy-Air Quality Division staff Robert Joseph, conducted a complaint investigation of Dani's Transport (SRN: P1086) located at 225 E. Columbia Avenue, Pontiac, Michigan 48340. The purpose of the scheduled on-site inspection was to determine the facility's compliance with the requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act; Part 55, Air Pollution Control, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451; and the Michigan Department Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy-Air Quality Division (EGLE-AQD) Administrative Rules, and to investigate alleged fugitive dust complaints against the facility received by the AQD on April 23 and 28, 2021.

Facility Overview

Dani's Transport is a transportation trucking facility which receives and delivers aggregate (mainly topsoil, sand, and concrete) material to customers. There are several locations in southeast Michigan including South Rockwood, Milford, and Ruby. This location in Pontiac operates six to seven days a week, typically from 5:30 a.m. to 1 a.m. with approximately 40 employees consisting of office personnel, mechanics, and truck drivers. The site maintains a conveyor belt and an aggregate screen on site which is used to screen topsoil. The facility does not perform concrete crushing operations, however, Rock Recyclers (N6837) and most recently Great Lakes Aggregates (P1016), both portable crushing operations, visit the site on occasion to perform crushing operations.

The facility has recently been cited by the surrounding community as a source of fugitive dust. The AQD received ten complaints (four in 2019 and six in 2020) stemming from either concrete crushing operations performed by a portable crusher on-site or from the facility's aggregate piles and roadways. Site visits were previously made to the facility and violation notices were issued to Rock Recyclers in January 2019, and to the facility in November 2019. It was suggested to the facility that all dust suppression activities be documented and recorded by the facility in their attempt to prevent fugitive dust from causing a nuisance to the surrounding community. The facility agreed to this. Follow-up site visits were made in 2020, but no visible fugitive dust emissions were observed to be a nuisance during any AQD visit.

There have been four fugitive dust complaints alleged against the facility this year (March 11 and 24, 2021) with the most recent complaints received by the AQD on April 23 and 28, 2021. All four complaints this year (including the last two received in 2020 both occurring in November) were alleged to have occurred during breezy weather conditions (winds 15 mph or greater).

Complaint Investigation

I arrived at the abandoned General Motors parking lot located just east of the facility at approximately 1:30 p.m. There is a large eight-foot-high fence which runs north/south and separates the abandoned parking lot and the facility's property line. From this position the facility's rear roadways and aggregate piles can be observed. The sky conditions were cloudy with a wind speed and direction of 15 mph west with wind gusts up to 25 mph (accuweather.com).

From this location I observed large dust plumes consisting of fine particulate matter originating from the facility's roadway along the north side. These large dust plumes moved to the north/northeast into the surrounding atmosphere and local community. These dust plumes occurred approximately every five minutes apart between 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Fugitive dust samples were not obtained from the resident's property and from the facility for diagnostic testing because these dust plumes were observed to have originated from the facility's roadways with their travel path ending once they met residential property. The plumes were very intense and covered my vehicle and affected my respiratory system via breathing.

The State of Michigan Air Pollution Control Rules Part 9. Emission Limitations and Prohibitions - Miscellaneous, R.336.1901 Air contaminant or water vapor; prohibition.

Rule 901. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other rule, a person shall not cause or permit the emission of an air contaminant or water vapor in quantities that cause, alone or in reaction with other air contaminants, either of the following:

(a) Injurious effects to human health or safety, animal life, plant life of significant economic value, or property

(b) Unreasonable interference with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

In the professional judgment of the AQD, the fugitive dust plumes observed were of sufficient intensity, frequency, and duration to constitute a violation of Rule 901 of the administrative rules promulgated under Act 451. Furthermore, given that the fugitive dust was observed to have terminated its path on residential property, it is AQD's belief that this has caused unreasonable interference to one's enjoyment of life and property and poses the ability to cause injurious effects.

Facility Inspection

I proceeded to visit the facility and arrived there shortly after 2 p.m. I met with Mr. Mark Peyerk, General Manager, of the facility and I introduced myself and presented my identification and credentials and stated the purpose of my visit. I indicated to Mr. Peyerk that I was here to conduct a scheduled inspection and to investigate the fugitive dust complaints received by the AQD. I requested that Mr. Peyerk accompany me to the rear of the facility where the observed fugitive dust plumes had originated.

There was a large pile of topsoil located in the front-center of the facility being screened. There were no concrete crushing operations ongoing at the facility. Mr. Peyerk indicated Great Lakes Aggregates had just recently dismantled their equipment and was no longer going to be operating on-site.

Mr. Peyerk acknowledged the facility was unaware of the current conditions given the viewpoint of his office in reference to the rear of the facility. He further indicated that his

primary site operator has been off on sick leave after having contracted the COVID virus. Mr. Peyerck indicated this has hampered the efficiency of the facility to apply dust suppression on a consistent basis. The facility maintains a water truck on-site and it is driven by either the primary operator or the mechanic on-site on an as needed basis. Mr. Peyerck also indicated the facility contracts a sweeping company to wet sweep the facility on a weekly basis. He confirmed now that the crushing operations were no longer occurring on-site that the facility can implement improved measures to control the fugitive dust.

Mr. Peyerck indicated the facility placed an order for calcium chloride pellets from their vendor and that it would be applied this weekend after the forecasted rainfall. I informed Mr. Peyerck the next several days are also forecasted to be very breezy and that the facility must remain vigilant regarding the sweeping of the facility's roadways and the application of dust suppression. I also indicated to Mr. Peyerck that although the complaints received by the AQD have only occurred when wind conditions were in excess of 15 mph, the facility must focus on implementing measures to effectively minimize and ultimately eliminate the fugitive dust from affecting the environment and the surrounding community. Furthermore, I informed Mr. Peyerck that should the AQD continue to receive fugitive dust complaints that the facility may be required to submit a fugitive dust control program as outlined in the State of Michigan Air Pollution Control Rules, Rule 371 - 372.

After touring the grounds of the facility and discussing the fugitive dust concerns, I informed Mr. Peyerck that a violation notice will be issued to the facility due to the intensity, duration, and frequency of the fugitive dust plumes observed originating from the facility's roadways. I indicated that the observed fugitive dust plumes were determined to be a nuisance and caused unreasonable interference to the surrounding community. Mr. Peyerck acknowledged the cause for concern and indicated the facility would put forth a concerted effort to prevent this from further happening.

Conclusion

Based on the AQD inspection, Dani's Transport is in violation of the aforementioned requirements and a violation notice will be issued citing Rule 901 regarding the fugitive dust plumes affecting the surrounding community.

NAME Robert Joseph

DATE 05-07-21

SUPERVISOR K. Kelly