

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

U39210480059666

FACILITY: Beaver Research Company	SRN / ID: U392104800
LOCATION: 3700 E. Kilgore Road, Portage	DISTRICT: Kalamazoo
CITY: Portage	COUNTY: KALAMAZOO
CONTACT: Terry Russell , Managing Partner	ACTIVITY DATE: 08/19/2021
STAFF: Monica Brothers	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Non Compliance
SUBJECT: Unannounced, scheduled inspection	SOURCE CLASS:
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:	

Staff, Monica Brothers, arrived on-site at about 2:30 pm and met with Erin Hunter and Heath Warren, the Warehouse Manager. They let me know that neither the owner, nor the EHS manager, was at the facility that day, but that they would try to answer my questions. This facility, which began operations at this location about 25 years ago, blends, fills, and repackages various degreasers, soaps, and sanitizers. Their main focus is on creating aqueous detergent products for industrial and institutional cleaning. I conducted a walk-through inspection of the facility and observed that they have one 300-gallon mixing tank, which is open at the top. They also have a very small filling area where they package their blends or repackaged products into smaller containers. The mixing tank and the filling area are vented to the general in-plant environment. Heath said that they fill mostly gallons, quarts, and drums, but sometimes smaller containers as well. The rest of the building is for storage and shipping.

After the on-site inspection, I emailed Terry Russell, Managing Partner, for some additional information and to discuss my findings. I asked Terry if he had any records or calculations to show that the blending and filling processes meet an exemption to permitting. He said that he was unaware of the air quality rules that might apply to his company, and that, while they likely meet an exemption because of the low quantities they use, he did not have calculations readily available. He also said that they do not mix any solvents or acids in the blending tank. I let him know that since the company did not have the ability to demonstrate compliance with an exemption and the processes were not permitted, this is considered a violation. I told him about the Violation Notice process, and he said that he would contact a consultant to help him do the required calculations and documentation for complying with an exemption. Because the facility did not have records to show they meet an exemption for the mixing and filling processes, and also did not have a permit for these processes, a Violation Notice will be sent.

NAME Monica BrothersDATE 9/3/2021SUPERVISOR 
acting DS for Rex Lane