

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

F 9106

F910634933

FACILITY: WALKER WIRE ISPAT INC		SRN / ID: F9106
LOCATION: 660 E 10 MILE RD, FERNDALE		DISTRICT: Southeast Michigan
CITY: FERNDALE		COUNTY: OAKLAND
CONTACT:		ACTIVITY DATE: 06/07/2016
STAFF: Iranna Konanahalli	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: FY 2016 level-2 self-initiated annual inspection of Walker Wire (ISPAT), Inc., owned by Arcelor-Mittal		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

F 9106 - SAR - 2016 0607

**Walker Wire (ISPAT), Inc. (F9106)**  
**Arcelor-Mittal, S.A.**  
**660 East Ten Mile Road**  
**Ferndale, Michigan 48220-1036**  
**Phone: (800) 521-2070**  
**www.arcelormittal.com**

**MACES status (June 2016) – Permanently shut down. From 2007-2016, Mittal kept the plant mothballed (sulfuric acid pickling tanks, furnaces, scrubber, etc.) with a potential for restart using existing PTI No. 222-85A.**

**Tobe voided: PTI No. 222-85A dated September 30, 2003. All sulfuric acid pickling tanks were removed and sold as scrap about December 2015. The plant is shutdown permanently.**

**Not subject to (based upon FY 2016 inspection all sulfuric acid pickling tanks are removed): NESHAP / MACT CCC, 40 CFR Part 63, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Steel Pickling—HCl Process Facilities and Hydrochloric Acid Regeneration Plants / Page 33202, Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 119 / Tuesday, June 22, 1999 / Rules and Regulations / Final Rule.**

On June 07, 2016, I conducted a level-2 self-initiated annual inspection of Walker Wire (ISPAT), Inc., owned by Arcelor-Mittal, S.A., a multinational steel manufacturing corporation and a largest steel producer in the world, located at 660 East Ten Mile Road, Ferndale, Michigan 48220-1036. The inspection was conducted to determine compliance with the Federal Clean Air Act; Article II, Part 55, Air Pollution Control, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451; Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division (MDEQ-AQD) administrative rules; and the air use permit (PTI #222-85A) conditions.

During the FY 2016 inspection, Mr. Frank Quesnelle (Phone: 248-399-4800-ext. 225; Fax: 248-399-7086; E-mail: Frank.Quesnelle@arcelormittal.com), Finance Manager, assisted me. He is with ArcelorMittal, which owns ISPAT. Mr. Quesnelle will be laid off in a couple of months upon closing all business at Ferndale. Mr. Jim Sass, who is a metallurgist, will stay with Mittal as a sales and service representative for Michigan.

Mr. Joe Pulis (Phone: 248-399-4800-ext. 249; Fax: 248-399-0567; E-mail: joe.pulis@arcelormittal.com), Plant Manager, Inventory Control, was laid off about June 2015. Mr. Bill Fenderson (Phone: 248-399-4800-ext. 245), chemical treatment supervisor, was laid off from the company due to 2008 banking and economic crisis.

In 2006, there were 120 employees. In 2013, there were only 8 employees; most of them were involved in sales. Drastic reduction in employment is a result of long-term idling of the plant until December 2015. In June 2016, there are only two (2) employees as all equipment was scrapped and the building was sold: Queselle and Sass. Queselle will be laid off in a couple of months.

Established in 1944, Walker Wire (ISPAT) was one of the oldest and most successful wire processors. ISPAT had capacity to produce 150,000 tons per year of wire rod pickling and coating products. Usually, ISPAT produced 100,000 tons per year. The coatings were lime or a combination of zinc phosphate and reactive lube. About 2003, Arcelor-Mittal, S.A purchased ISPAT.

During the FY 2010 inspection, Mr. Jim Sass (Phone: 248-399-4800-ext. 264), Laboratory Quality Manager, stated that ISPAT's production shut down in August 2007. Mr. Sass was present but did not participate in FY

2016 inspection. Upon purchase, Arcelor-Mittal converted the plant to a warehouse of steel. About July 2009, Arcelor-Mittal shut down the warehouse as well. About December 2015, all sulfuric acid (10-15%) pickling tanks were removed and sold as scrap to prevent competitors from using the tanks to compete against Mittal. The building is sold, about 2016, with 30-year deed restrictions: no homes, no schools, etc.

Arcelor-Mittal bought a steel processing plant in Hamilton, Canada. Upon purchasing a larger Hamilton plant, Mittal closed operations at Ferndale plant about 2007. All equipment (pickling tanks, furnaces, etc.) were idled (2007-2015) until scrapped about December 2015.

As sulfuric acid pickling tanks are removed and scrapped, Arcelor-Mittal (ISPAT) is not subject to NESHAP / MACT CCC, 40 CFR Part 63, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Steel Pickling—HCl Process Facilities and Hydrochloric Acid Regeneration Plants / Page 33202, Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 119 / Tuesday, June 22, 1999 / Rules and Regulations / Final Rule.

As all sulfuric acid (10-15%) pickling tanks, furnaces, etc., about December 2015, were removed and sold as scrap metal, AQD shall void PTI No. 222-85A.

### Conclusion

Mittal's / ISPAT's Ferndale plant is permanently shutdown. The process equipment (pickling tanks, furnaces, etc.) are sold as scrap. Not subject to NESHAP / MACT CCC. PTI No. 222-85A must be voided.

NAME J. S. Hennahall DATE 06/13/2016 SUPERVISOR CJE