

North Shore

MARINE TERMINAL & LOGISTICS

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EGLE,AQD Marquette District
1504 West Washington Street
Marquette, MI 49855
Sydney Hewson
Senior Environment Quality Analyst ■ Air Quality Division

Dear Sydney Hewson,

We do not believe we are/were in violation on August 13th for the processes we were sub-contracted to perform. NSMT did have all the protective measures in place using tarps and hay bales to contain the blast media. The blast material used is Black Beauty 30-60 is a natural product and a safer product for the environment our employees and public, than the silica sand allowed on our current permit.

Years back the previous owner had a study performed by the DNR and EPA due to complaints from the city of Escanaba. At that time, they switched to the (Black Beauty) product under the DNR/EPA's recommendation. This was because the silica sand was a lighter and finer material thus traveling airborne greater distances. The Black Beauty is a very heavy material and the dust does not travel nearly as far from the work site.

NSMT disagrees with the "violation notice" as we believed were doing the "Right thing" or the more environmentally friendly approach if you will, in order to perform the task at hand for our US Government Defense Force.

NSMT does not agree with the alleged violation, however we do agree with taking the steps and updating our EXISTING Permit to include the freedom to purchase and used a safer product to be used in place of the silica sand. We have started the process with our initial permit submittal on 8-30-21 to have our permit amended to use this safer alternative then what is allowed in the original permit.

We will continue to work with you to have this permit amended to allow the use of this alternate blast media.

Sincerely



Nickolas A. Kobasic
North Shore Marine Terminal & Logistics