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

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FACILITY: GROUND EFFECTS	SRN / ID: P0344		
LOCATION: 15200 COMMERC	DISTRICT: Detroit		
CITY: DEARBORN		COUNTY: WAYNE	
CONTACT:	ACTIVITY DATE: 07/05/2024		
STAFF: Stephen Weis	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: SM OPT OUT	
SUBJECT: Compliance inspect	ion of the Ground Effects facility on Commerce Drive in	Dearborn The Ground Effects facility was added	
to the list for inspection in FY 20	024.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:			

Location:

Ground Effects. LLC (SRN P0344) 15200 Commerce Drive North Dearborn 48120

Date of Activity:

Friday, July 5, 2024

Personnel Present:

Steve Weis, EGLE-AQD Detroit Office

Purpose of Activity

A self-initiated inspection of the Ground Effects, LLC facility (hereinafter "Ground Effects") located on Commerce Drive in Dearborn was conducted on Friday, July 5, 2024. The Ground Effects facility was on my list of sources targeted for an inspection during FY 2024 due to a notification that was sent to the EGLE-AQD Permit Unit in February 2024 that the facility has permanently shut down effective January 31, 2024. The purpose of this inspection was to determine that the operations at the Ground Effects facility have permanently ceased. The facility is subject to the terms and conditions of EGLE-AQD Permit to Install (PTI) No. 59-12A.

Facility Site Description

The Ground Effects facility is an automotive coating operation that applies spray-on bedliners for Ford Motor Company pick-up trucks that has been in operation at this location since 2011. The Ground Effects facility is located in the Fairlane Commerce Park North area, which is bounded by Greenfield Road to the west, Rotunda Drive to the south, and railroad tracks and their associated rights of way to the north and east. The neighboring properties are a mix of commercial, light industrial and institutional/government operations, including a US Post Office and a Dearborn Fire Station on Greenfield, just to the west of the facility. The closest residential areas to the Ground Effects facility are located on the west side of Greenfield approximately 300 yards away, and to the north of the facility, north of the railroad right of way less than 200 yards away.

Facility Operations

The Ground Effects facility is part of Ground Effects LTD, a Windsor, Ontario based company. According to the company website (www.gfxltd.com), the company is a leading producer of OEM-level automotive accessories and has nearly 40 locations worldwide.

The Dearborn Commerce facility served to apply spray-on bedliners to pick-up trucks produced by Ford Motor Company, specifically the electric Raptor pick-ups currently produced by Ford. The facility utilized three booths to apply the spray-on bedliners. The AQD permit for this Ground Effects facility, PTI No. 59-12A, addresses four bedliner coating lines at the facility. The fourth booth was not installed, and Ground Effects notified AQD of this via correspondence dated November 19, 2019 (a copy is attached to this report for reference).

The Emission Unit description for each of the booths describes them as a "Coating line with a heated spray booth for polyurethane coating of truck beds. Inside the booth, a bonding agent followed by a two component coating is applied by an automated spray process. The trucks are airdried before transporting to the customer. The spray booth is equipped with particulate control filters." The Flexible Group description for FG-CoatingLns, which addresses the requirements for all of the spray booths at the facility, adds that the truck beds are manually cleaned outside the spray booths using isopropyl alcohol, the bonding agent and polyurethane coating are applied in the spray booths, and upon exiting the booths, the trucks are cleaned for overspray (if necessary) with IPA.

Inspection Narrative

I arrived at the facility at around 2pm. Ground Effects had sent correspondence to Cindy Smith of the AQD Permit Unit dated February 2, 2024 to provide notification that the Ground Effects facility located at 15200 Commerce Drive in Dearborn has permanently shut down effective January 31, 2024, and that all of the equipment and operations have been permanently removed from the facility.

I walked around the property, and there was no activity on site. I looked into the main entrance and office area, and it was empty. Similarly, I looked in one of the windows in the processing area of the former facility where the coating lines were located, and I could see that the entire space is empty.

Compliance Determination

Based upon the results of the July 5, 2024 site visit, the notification that was provided by Ground Effects LLC that the facility at 15200 Commerce (SRN P0344) has permanently shut down was confirmed. Permit to Install No. 59-12A can be voided, and the facility can be designated in EGLE-AQD files and databases as permanently shut down.



<u>Image 1(Ground Effects Com)</u>: Former processing/coating area in the Ground Effects Commerce facility, taken July 5, 2024 through outside facing window.

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