

Facility Name: Universal Electric Foundry
Facility Location: 1523 W Hubbard St., Chicago, IL 60622
Date of Inspection: September 7, 2021



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

DATE: See Date of Section Chief Signature Below

SUBJECT: CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT
Universal Electric Foundry, Chicago, IL

FROM: Veronica Fischer, Environmental Engineer
AECAB (MI/WI)

THRU: Sarah Marshall, Section Chief
AECAB (MI/WI)

TO: File

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: Universal Electric Foundry

Facility Location: 1523 W Hubbard St., Chicago, IL 60622

Date of Inspection: September 7, 2021

EPA Inspector(s):

1. Veronica Fischer, Environmental Engineer
2. Alexandra Letuchy, Environmental Engineer
3. Brittany Cobb, Environmental Engineer

Other Attendees:

1. Brett Hartman, Plant Manager
2. Keir Norwell, President/Owner

Contact Email Address: keir@universalfoundry.com

Purpose of Inspection: To determine Clean Air Act (CAA) Compliance

Facility Type: Foundry

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Regulations Central to Inspection: 40 CFR Part 63 Subpart ZZZZZ: NESHAP for Iron and Steel Foundries Area Sources; 40 CFR Part 63 Subpart ZZZZZZ – NESHAP: Area Source Standards for Aluminum, Copper, and Other Nonferrous Foundries; Illinois SIP

Arrival Time: 11:15 AM
Departure Time: 12:30 PM

Inspection Type:

- ☒ Unannounced Inspection
- ☐ Announced Inspection

OPENING CONFERENCE

- ☒ Presented Credentials
- ☒ Stated authority and purpose of inspection
- ☒ Provided Small Business Resource Information Sheet
- ☒ Provided CBI warning to facility

The following information was obtained verbally from Brett Hartman and Keir Norwell unless otherwise noted.

Process Description:

Universal Electric Foundry creates iron, steel, and other nonferrous metal castings ranging from half of a pound to six hundred pounds. The facility creates molds using sand. Clay and water are used to bind the molds when the sand is compressed. Used molds are broken and the sand falls into a trench to enter the reclaim system.

The facility has a 300-pound furnace that melts brass, a 400-pound furnace that melts nickel alloys, and two 600-pound furnaces that melt all other ferrous and nonferrous metals that are processed by the facility.

TOUR INFORMATION

EPA Tour of the Facility: Yes

Data Collected and Observations:

The furnaces are left open during melting operations and there are no pollution controls on the furnaces. The facility was not melting in any of the furnaces during the inspection. There is an exhaust fan located above the 600-pound furnaces.

The facility has two baghouses. One baghouse is located near the furnaces and the other baghouse is located near the wheelabrator, which is used to knock sand off the finished part. The facility checks the dust bags once per week and performs a more detailed inspection of the baghouse every six months. The facility does not maintain records for baghouse preventative maintenance activities.

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Photos and/or Videos: were not taken during the inspection.

Field Measurements: were not taken during this inspection.

CLOSING CONFERENCE

☒ Provided U.S. EPA point of contact to the facility

Requested documents:

- Any permits issued by IEPA
- Steel and iron annual melt production
- Nonferrous metal melt production

Compliance Assistance: EPA inspectors informed the facility of two NESHAPs that may be applicable to the facility: 40 CFR Part 63 ZZZZZ and 40 CFR Part 63 ZZZZZZ.

During the inspection the facility was unable to locate an operating permit. EPA inspectors suggested checking to see if the facility has a ROSS permit, lifetime operating permit or other permit that was issued by IEPA.

EPA inspectors suggested that the facility keep records of preventative maintenance activities that are performed for each of the baghouses.

Concerns:

The facility was unable to locate an operating permit.

DIGITAL SIGNATURES

Report Author: **VERONICA FISCHER**  Digitally signed by VERONICA FISCHER
Date: 2021.11.02 15:29:01 -05'00'

Section Chief: **SARAH MARSHALL**  Digitally signed by SARAH MARSHALL
Date: 2021.11.03 08:27:35 -05'00'