

**Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division
INSPECTION REPORT**

Inspection Date(s):	03/23/2023		
Media:	Water		
Regulatory Program(s)	Clean Water Act		
Company Name:	Harvest Midstream		
Facility Name:	Harvest Louisiana Terminals, LLC		
Facility Physical Location:	15551 HWY 23		
(city, state, zip code)	Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037		
Mailing address:	1111 Travis Street		
(city, state, zip code)	Houston, TX 77002		
County/Parish:	Harris County		
Facility Contact:	Travis Jones	Senior EHS Manager	
	832-368-3862		
FRS Number:			
Identification/Permit Number:	LA0003115		
Media Number:	AI#2418		
NAICS:			
SIC:	2911		
Personnel participating in inspection:			
Michael Williams	EPA/ 6EN-WMH	Inspector	281-983-2150
Kevin Jones	Harvest Midstream	Environmental Technician	504-656-3505
Richard Rousselle	Harvest Midstream	Plant Manager	504-656-3251
Keith Nicholes	CK & Associates	Consultant	225-923-6463
EPA Lead Inspector Signature/Date	  Digitally signed by MICHAEL WILLIAMS Date: 2023.05.29 17:39:58 -05'00'		
	Michael D. Williams		Date
Supervisor Signature/Date	ROBERTO BERNIER  Digitally signed by ROBERTO BERNIER Date: 2023.05.30 11:48:59 -05'00'		
	Roberto Bernier		Date

Section I - Introduction

PURPOSE OF THE INSPECTION

EPA Region 6 inspector, Michael Williams, arrived at Harvest Louisiana Terminal, LLC at 10:30 am on March 23, 2023, for an unannounced NPDES wastewater treatment inspection. During the opening conference, I met with Kevin Jones, Environmental Technician, and Richard Rousselle, Plant Manager. Mr. Rousselle was informed that this was an EPA lead compliance evaluation inspection to determine compliance with the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and the Clean Water Act. The scope of the inspection was with permit LA0003115, facility operations, and maintenance under the Clean Water Act. The inspection was conducted under the authority of the NPDES permit program, in accordance with the Federal CWA.

The information presented in this report is based on the materials and information supplied by the Harvest Louisiana Terminal, LLC representatives, observations made during the inspection, and records and reports maintained by the permittee.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The petroleum refinery located in Belle Chasse, Louisiana, within Plaquemines Parish, was previously under the ownership of Phillips 66. However, ownership of the facility was transferred to Harvest Midstream on March 1, 2023. Currently, the facility remains idle due to extensive damage caused by Hurricane Ida. None of the process units are operational, and the storage units are being utilized solely for terminal storage purposes.

Prior to Hurricane Ida, the facility had a daily crude oil processing capacity of 260,000 barrels. It produced various significant products, including gasoline, jet fuel, diesel fuel, propane, carbon black feedstock, benzene, xylene, naphtha, toluene, fluid catalytic cracking charge stock, residual fuel, and petroleum coke.

Regarding wastewater treatment, the facility's system comprises three equalization tanks, dissolved gas flotation units, steam strippers, activated sludge tanks, clarifiers, and an aerated biological pond. However, in the current state, the wastewater is bypassing the dissolved gas flotation unit and entering the biological tanks directly, without undergoing treatment in the strippers.

Due to the facility's current idle status, there is a noticeable absence of organic material in the influent. This is primarily because the usual sources of organic matter, such as the operation of process units, are inactive. Consequently, the only influent entering the treatment plant at present is the contact stormwater from the process units.

Section II- Observations

This inspection revealed the following observations:

With the facility not actively processing crude oil or producing petroleum products, the typical organic load that would be present in the influent is significantly reduced. This altered composition of the influent can have implications for the performance and efficiency of the wastewater treatment system. The treatment processes, including the activated sludge tanks and biological pond, may experience lower organic matter concentrations, potentially affecting their overall effectiveness in organic degradation and treatment. Adjustments and optimization may be necessary to ensure the wastewater treatment system can effectively treat the current influent composition dominated by contact stormwater.

Harvest Midstream, the current owner of the idle petroleum refinery facility in Belle Chasse, Louisiana, has yet to finalize a detailed plan for its future development. As of now, there have been no modifications made to the facility's permit that would enable or accommodate any potential redevelopment of process units or operational changes.

The absence of a specific plan indicates that Harvest Midstream has not yet determined the course of action regarding the facility's future utilization. Factors such as market conditions, economic feasibility, and strategic considerations may influence the decision-making process. It is essential for Harvest Midstream to carefully evaluate various factors, including environmental regulations and compliance requirements, economic viability, and community impact, before formulating a comprehensive plan for the facility's redevelopment.

Developing a strategic plan that aligns with the necessary permits and regulatory guidelines is crucial for the future viability and operation of the refinery. Harvest Midstream will need to engage in thorough assessments, feasibility studies, and consultation with relevant stakeholders to ensure any potential redevelopment adheres to the required permits and fulfills the necessary regulatory obligations.

Section III- Areas of Concern

This inspection revealed the following areas of concern:

During the visit, no significant issues were observed or identified at the facility.

Section IV – LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix A – None