

Facility Name: Americas Styrenics LLC
Facility Location: 26332 South Frontage Road West, Channahon, Illinois
Date of Inspection: December 10, 2019



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

DATE: DEC 19 2019

SUBJECT: CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT
Americas Styrenics LLC, Channahon, Illinois

FROM: Albana Bega, Environmental Engineer
AECAB (MI/WI)

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

TO: File

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: Americas Styrenics LLC

Facility Location: 26332 South Frontage Road West, Channahon, Illinois

Date of Inspection: December 10, 2019

EPA Inspector(s):

1. Albana Bega, Environmental Engineer
2. Luke Hullinger, Environmental Engineer

Other Attendees

1. Pam Sorrels, Plant Manager, America Styrenics LLC (AmSty)

Contact Email Address: PSorrels@amsty.com

Purpose of Inspection: CAA Inspection

Facility Type: Chemical facility - polystyrene production

Arrival Time: 10:45

Departure Time: 13:30

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Inspection Type:

- ☒ Unannounced Inspection
☐ Announced Inspection

OPENING CONFERENCE

- ☒ Credentials Presented
☒ CBI warning to facility provided

The following information was obtained verbally from Pam Sorrels unless otherwise noted.

Process Description:

AmSty produces polystyrene at its Joliet plant (facility). The facility has currently 32 employees and operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The plant is shut down for maintenance every five years (next turnaround is next year). AmSty claimed its process information as confidential business information (CBI).

TOUR INFORMATION

EPA toured the facility: Yes

The following were observed during the tour:

- Process control room
- Polystyrene storage tanks
- Slurry tank, rubber conveyer/chopper
- Dissolvers
- Feed tank
- Dowtherm heaters
- Reactors
- Vent relief tank
- Condensers
- Flat-plate heater
- Glycol storage tank
- Pelletizers

Photos and/or Videos: were taken during the inspection.

A total of seven (7) photos were taken by AmSty plant manager during the tour of the facility. AmSty claimed all photos CBI.

Field Measurements: were not taken during this inspection.

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RECORDS REVIEW

Records were not reviewed during the inspection. The office building was under remediation for mold due to flooding.

CLOSING CONFERENCE

Requested documents:

- Photos taken by AmSty during the tour of the facility
- Air emission calculations with supporting data for the last two (2) years
- Copies of air emission stack tests for process heaters
- Copy of the 2015 deviation report
- Records of water temperature of the condenser (air emission control unit) for the last two (2) years
- Copies of last two (2) years of 3rd party LDAR reports

Concerns:

- Applicability of 40 C.F.R. Part 63 Subpart JJJ. The reason the facility is conducting LDAR monitoring even though is not required under the current Lifetime Operating Permit, ID No. 197800ACE, dated April 7, 2015.

SIGNATURES

Report Author: ABge Date: 12/12/19

Section Chief: Ethan Chatfull Date: 12/19/19