



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

**DATE:** 9/13/2021

**SUBJECT:** CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT  
Korex Chicago LLC, Chicago, Illinois

**FROM:** Brianna Fenzl, Environmental Engineer  
AECAB (IL/IN)

**THRU:** Nathan Frank, Section Chief  
AECAB (IL/IN)

**TO:** File

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**BASIC INFORMATION**

**Facility Name:** Korex Chicago LLC

**Facility Location:** 6200 W 51st Street #6, Chicago, Illinois 60638

**Date of Inspection:** July 15, 2021

**EPA Inspector(s):**

1. Brianna Fenzl, Environmental Engineer
2. Daniel Heins, Environmental Scientist

**Other Attendees:**

1. Gustavo Rodriguez, Plant Manager

**Contact Email Address:** gus.rodriguez@korex-us.com; ivanboyadzhiev@korex-us.com

**Purpose of Inspection:** Compliance with Clean Air Act and permit requirements

**Facility Type:** Soap and Other Detergent Manufacturing

**Arrival Time:** 2:20 PM

**Departure Time:** 3:20 PM

**Inspection Type:**

- Unannounced Inspection
- Announced Inspection

**OPENING CONFERENCE**

- Presented Credentials
- Stated authority and purpose of inspection
- Provided Small Business Resource Information Sheet
- Small Business Resource Information Sheet not provided. Reason: Not a small business.
- Provided CBI warning to facility

The following information was obtained verbally from Korex Chicago LLC (Korex) unless otherwise noted.

**Process Description:**

For the dry detergent process, raw materials are received by truck. Raw materials include, but not limited to, salt, soda ash, caustic, and sulfuric acid. The sulfuric acid is received in a 45-50 klb tank. These materials are then transferred to silos and tanks on site. The detergent is then created by a batch process. There is a dust collector during this process only when powder detergent is being produced. The dust collector is inspected weekly. From the batch process, there is a liquid holding tank. From the liquid holding tank, is the heating process that dries the liquid to a powder in a drying tower. The dried powder is held in bins for the powder to be bottled and/or packaged.

For the liquid detergent process, materials are received by tanks. The liquids are combined in a mixing tank, done as a batch process. The product is transferred to a holding tank, where it is pulled to be bottled and packaged.

For ventilation, the facility has fans located on the roof that vent out to atmosphere.

**Staff Interview:**

Facility is in operation Monday through Thursday, from 5 AM to 2 AM. Korex employs approximately 50 employees.

Most recent additions to the facility are new production lines for both detergent production and packaging.

Products that are made on site are dish detergent and powder detergent. Some products are sent to Korex for the facility to only bottle and package and send out, such as Lysol.

There are two natural gas boilers at the facility that only run 1 at a time.

## TOUR INFORMATION

**EPA Tour of the Facility:** Yes

**Data Collected and Observations:**

EPA observed the tank farm, production lines, and dust collectors.

**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:**

- Copy of weekly maintenance of dust collectors
- Emissions Calculation, most recent

## DIGITAL SIGNATURES

9/14/2021

**X** Brianna Fenzl

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Brianna Fenzl  
Environmental Engineer  
Signed by: BRIANNA FENZL

**X** NATHAN FRANK Digitally signed by NATHAN  
FRANK  
Date: 2021.09.15 16:43:02 -05'00'

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Nathan Frank  
Section Chief

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