



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 3
Four Penn Center
1600 JFK Blvd.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Report Title: Clean Water Act Compliance Inspection Report
Inspection Date(s): 12/12/2023
Regulatory Program(s): National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
Type of Activity: Industrial Stormwater
Site/Facility Name: Old Forge Power Equipment, Inc.
Permittee(s): N/A
Site/Facility Operator: Old Forge Power Equipment, Inc.
Site/Facility Address: 5 Brookside Rd
Carbondale, PA 18407
Latitude: 41°33'30"N **Longitude:** 75°31'35"W
County/Parish: Lackawanna County
Permit Number: Unpermitted
NAICS Code: 423140 **SIC:** 5015
Unique Project #: ECAD-5485

Site/Facility Representative(s): **Point of Contact**
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I. Introduction

On December 12th 2023, an inspection team composed of staff from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) Region III (hereinafter, “EPA Inspection Team”) conducted an industrial stormwater inspection of Old Forge Power Equipment, Inc. (hereinafter, “the facility”). The purpose of the inspection was to determine compliance with the Clean Water Act (“CWA”).

As part of the inspection, the EPA Inspection Team reviewed areas and operations related to industrial activity and stormwater runoff. The EPA Inspection Team did not perform a full facility inspection. However, the inspection team did walk the Facility’s perimeter, maintenance garage, and a stormwater pond.

A. Inspection Opening Conference

The EPA Inspection Team arrived at the facility at est. 3:30PM for the inspection. Inspectors met with the following facility representatives:

Table 1: Inspection Attendee List

Name	Affiliation	Telephone	Email
EPA Region III Inspectors and Contractors			
Edward Simas	Lead Inspector	(215) 814-2120	Simas.Edward@epa.gov
Chuck Schadel	Secondary Inspector	(215) 344-1560	Schadel.Chuck@epa.gov
Site/Facility Representatives			
AJ Cimino	Old Forge Power Equipment, Inc.	(570) 614-3552	sales@oldforgepower.com
State or County Representatives			
Paul Grella	PADEP	(570) 241-4249	pgrella@pa.gov
Colin Hill	PADEP	(570) 218-2206	colhill@pa.gov

Edward Simas and Chuck Schadel displayed their credentials to Mr. Cimino at the outset of the inspection, and explained the purpose of the inspection was to determine compliance with the industrial stormwater requirements of the Clean Water Act. The EPA Inspection Team informed Mr. Cimino that any information that the Facility deemed to be confidential business information (“CBI”) should be identified to EPA representatives during the inspection and it would be handled as CBI according to EPA’s CBI procedures.

B. Weather and Precipitation Conditions

During the inspection, weather was cool and sunny. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Weather Service precipitation data for the date of the inspection and 5 days prior are provided in Table 2 below:

Table 2. Precipitation Data

Station Name	Date	Precipitation Amount (inches) ¹
Richmond 0.1 NE, PA US US1PALC0027	12/07/2023	T
Richmond 0.1 NE, PA US US1PALC0027	12/08/2023	0.03
Richmond 0.1 NE, PA US US1PALC0027	12/09/2023	0.00
Richmond 0.1 NE, PA US US1PALC0027	12/10/2023	0.00
Richmond 0.1 NE, PA US US1PALC0027	12/11/2023	1.29
Richmond 0.1 NE, PA US US1PALC0027	12/12/2023	0.00

C. Summary of Facility

Old Forge Power Equipment, Inc. specializes in buying and selling used heavy equipment and supporting parts such as engines, water pumps, and compressors. The facility's website states that the heavy equipment inventory is broad and consists of backhoes, excavators, forklifts, etc. In the past, Mr. Cimino stated that the facility's land was owned by a small drilling company that processed decorative blue stone for building walkways and ledges. Mr. Cimino stated the facility has been operating for about eight years on a Monday – Friday, 8AM – 5PM schedule. The facility has a total of six employees. He also stated that maintenance such as oil changes are performed on site. Mr. Cimino led the group to his maintenance garage for oil changes and service on his heavy equipment. The garage was observed to have a trench drain inside in the east section, and Mr. Cimino stated it was plugged. Mr. Cimino stated that he has never had an NPDES permit or any other PADEP permit. He stated that he has only documented a variance from the city when first opening the facility. Mr. Cimino also stated that there appears to be a stormwater retention pond on his neighbor's property.

II. Facility Activity

During the inspection, the EPA Inspection Team walked approximately 500 feet on Brookside Road towards Main Street following Meredith Creek (Lackawanna River tributary). Meredith Creek and the Lackawanna River connect about 1,160 feet away from the facility (see Attachment 2, an aerial photograph of the facility from ArcGIS). The EPA Inspection Team walked about 160 feet north away from the corner of Brookside Road and Surface Drive to observe potential stormwater conveyance areas. The EPA Inspection Team then walked north through the west perimeter of the facility yard towards the maintenance garage. On the way, the EPA Inspection Team observed a stormwater retention pond that Mr. Cimino stated was on his neighbor's property. The EPA Inspection Team then toured the inside of the maintenance garage. The observations from the inspection are described in detail below in the Observations section.

¹ Source: NOAA National Climatic Data Center (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/>).

Photographs were taken during the inspection by Chuck Schadel, and are provided in Attachment 1 below.

III. Observations

Debris and Erosion

Observation 1: The EPA Inspection Team observed debris and erosion in several different areas around the facility. Erosion and a dumped tire were observed on the banks of a culvert approximately 20 feet from the facility entrance (DSCN4059). The EPA Inspection Team then observed erosion (DSCN4062) and debris (DSCN4063) on the east section of the facility to the north of the corner of Surface Drive and Brookside Road. The contours of the Facility appear to direct stormwater discharges towards Meredith Creek, which discharges into the Lackawanna River.

Staining

Observation 2: Dark staining was observed in multiple areas surrounding engine parts scattered around facility yard (DSCN4067 – DSCN4068).

Large exposed storage piles

Observation 3: There was a large pile of scrap metal at the northeast corner of the Facility (DSCN4068). The large pile of scrap metal did not appear to have any stormwater management controls surrounding it.

IV. Records Review

A records review was not conducted for this inspection.

V. Closing Conference

After the inspection, the EPA Inspection Team met with the Facility representatives for a closing conference and shared preliminary observations. The EPA Inspection Team reiterated to the facility representatives that all preliminary observations discussed were not compliance determinations. Any and all preliminary observations shared were subject to further investigation by EPA upon the additional review of records and documentation. Additional observations may be contained in this inspection report that were not identified at the time of the closing conference after EPA reviewed additional materials following the inspection. The inspection concluded at approximately 4:15PM.

VI. List of Attachments

Attachment 1: Photo Log

Attachment 2: Old Forge Power Equipment, Inc. Topographic Map

Attachment 1: Photo Log



DSCN4059
Meredith Creek – About 40 ft south, across from the entrance to facility yard (Note tire displaced (red box) into stream and erosion on banks upstream westwards surrounding pipe (red arrow))



DSCN4060
Driveway of facility – Note various cars and heavy
equipment approximately 30ft to the north of road



DSCN4065
Meredith Creek (tributary of Lackawanna River) running
eastwards through a culvert towards Main Street



DSCN4066
Meredith Creek Culvert (approximately 100 ft
east downslope of driveway)



DSCN4063
Edge of east boundary of facility
approximately 50ft west of Main street and
20ft north of driveway – Note debris
scattering downslope.



DSCN4062

Edge of east boundary of facility – note erosion and scattered debris about 550ft west of the Lackawanna River



DSCN4068

Facility yard – note staining (red arrow) and
pile of scrap metal parts in northeast (boxed)



DSCN4067
Pumps and engine parts in facility yard – note dark staining
surrounding parts (red box)



DSCN4064

Note Erosion and pooled water (Facility is uphill to the west,
brookside road is 300ft south in photo)



DSCN 4069
Trench drain (red box) in maintenance garage – drain was plugged at time of inspection.

