



REGION 5

CHICAGO, IL 60604

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT
Depot Connect International, Joliet, Illinois

FROM: Erin DuMontelle, Environmental Engineer
AECAB (MI/WI)

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

TO: File

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: Depot Connect International (Formerly Quala Wash)

Facility Location: 1861 Terry Drive, Joliet, IL 60436

Date of Inspection: June 26, 2024

EPA Inspector(s):

1. Erin DuMontelle, Environmental Engineer
2. Sasha Letuchy, Environmental Engineer
3. Giles Chickering, Environmental Engineer

Other Attendees:

1. Thomas (TJ) Hallow, General Manager
2. Dan Schimel, Regional Vice President

Contact Email Address: thallow@depotconnect.com, dschimel@depotconnect.com

Purpose of Inspection: Determine compliance with the Clean Air Act and the Illinois State Implementation Plan (SIP) requirements related to VOCs for tank and truck washing facilities

Facility Type: Truck washing

Regulations Central to Inspection: the Clean Air Act (CAA) and the Illinois SIP

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Date of Inspection: June 26, 2024

Arrival Time: 1:10 PM CDT

Departure Time: 4:15 PM CDT

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 Depot Connect personnel unless otherwise noted.

Company Ownership: Quala Wash became Depot Connect International in 2023 through a merger with other trucking companies.

Process Description:

Depot Connect International (DCI) is a five-bay truck washing facility. Customers request truck trailers to be cleaned and drop them off in the drop yard at DCI (the Facility). DCI does not accept food-grade tanks. The trailers are scheduled for the day to decide what order they are to be cleaned in. The facility can clean resins, latex, oils, soaps, fatty acids, amines, caustics, and acids. The trailer is brought into one of the bays, and the heel that contains the residual material is drained. The trailers are washed with either hot water (between 180°F and 200°F) or cold water depending on the solubility of the previously contained material. The cold water is contained in a tank outside of the bays. The Facility may also steam trailers on colder days. Following the water wash, the Facility will use a detergent, caustic, or stripper wash to further clean out the trailer. Once clean, the trailers are dried out and then moved to the clean yard.

DCI also has seven customers at the Facility that rent parts of the property to store and fix their tanks. The tanks that are stored on the property by the customers are not tracked by DCI as to the length of time that the trucks are onsite or if they contain material. DCI does yard checks occasionally to try to make sure trailers are not leaking or sitting for long periods of time.

Staff Interview: DCI is open Monday through Friday from 4:00 AM to 8:00 PM with a possibility of being open on Saturday as needed. The facility has two shifts.

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The Facility expanded in 2016 from two bays to five bays. Bays 1-4 are chemical bays, and Bay 5 is a kosher bay. DCI cleans approximately 40 trailers per day. The Facility will reject trailers that are on its Do Not Wash List based on the Facility's capabilities and safety.

DCI has a water treatment plant onsite that contains holding tanks that are able to remove solids before sending the water to the city. The Facility does not re-use the wash water.

The Facility is covered by a Ross Permit. DCI noted that they have not completed stack testing for the Facility within the last five years.

TOUR INFORMATION

EPA Toured the Facility: Yes

Data Collected and Observations:

The five bays are attached with the office building. There are also mechanical bays that are shared with the onsite customers. The detergent and caustic washes can be recirculated back to the vat to be reused for multiple trailers. The drying system has a HEPA filter and there are exhaust fans that push air up and out of the bay during the washing process; the Facility does not have emissions controls for the wash bays. The Facility keeps the bay doors open in the summer and will close them for the wash process during the winter.

There were multiple loaded trucks onsite that the Facility noted as being owned by their customers. Most of the trailers had paperwork that noted the material and the date of arrival to the Facility attached to the trailer. The Facility has the ability to store approximately 400 trailers onsite.

Photos and/or Videos: were taken during the inspection and are listed in Appendix A.
Photos were taken using an Olympus TG-6 camera.

Field Measurements: were not taken during the inspection.

CLOSING CONFERENCE

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

Requested documents:

1. The Do Not Clean List
2. Records of trailers cleaned since January 2024
3. The Shift Log from the day of the Inspection (June 26, 2024);
4. The Ross Permit;
5. Calculations that were used for the Ross Permit;
6. Documentation regarding emissions testing that the site has completed; and
7. Washed Trailer Logs for the past year;

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Concerns:

DIGITAL SIGNATURES

Report Author:  Digitally signed by
Dumontelle, Erin
Date: 2024.08.22 16:12:46
-05'00'

Section Supervisor: DANIEL
SCHAUFELBERGER
R  Digitally signed by DANIEL
SCHAUFELBERGER
Date: 2024.08.22 16:08:59
-05'00'

APPENDICES

1. Appendix A: Digital Image Log and Digital Video Log

Facility Name: Depot Connect International
Facility Location: 1861 Terry Drive, Joliet, IL 60436
Date of Inspection: June 26, 2024

APPENDIX A: DIGITAL IMAGE LOG AND DIGITAL VIDEO LOG

Inspector Name: Erin DuMontelle

Archival Record Location: Enf_DCI-QualaWash_IL_24_Inspection_Photos

Image Number	File Name	Date and Time (CDT)	Description of Image
1	P6260008.JPG	6/26/2024 2:58 PM	Bay 2
2	P6260009.JPG	6/26/2024 3:05 PM	Heel Waste Collection Area
3	P6260010.JPG	6/26/2024 3:19 PM	Back of Wash Bays