REGION 5
CHICAGO, IL 60604

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT
Midwest Metal Products, Inc., Winona, Minnesota

FROM: Dakota Prentice, Environmental Engineer
AECAB (IL/IN)

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

TO: File

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: Midwest Metal Products, Inc.

Facility Location: 1175 E. Broadway St., Winona, Minnesota

Date of Inspection: April 11, 2025

EPA Inspector(s):
1. Dakota Prentice, Environmental Engineer
2. Brianna Fenzl, Environmental Engineer
3. Sophie Steckel, Environmental Engineer

Other Attendees:
1. Mike Kronebusch, Midwest Metal Products, Inc. – Director of Manufacturing
2. Lucy Okerstrom, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) – Environmental Specialist

Contact Email Address: Mike Kronebusch – MikeK@MidwestMetalProducts.com

Purpose of Inspection: to determine compliance with applicable federal foundry regulations

Facility Type: Iron and Steel Foundry

Regulations Central to Inspection: National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Iron and Steel Foundries Area Sources, at 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart ZZZZZ

Arrival Time: 8:30AM
Departure Time: 9:30AM

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
☒ Provided CBI warning to facility
Was any information collected during the inspection claimed as CBI?
☒ Yes ☐ No.

Information Claimed as CBI: Photographs taken during the plant tour.

The following information was obtained verbally from Mike Kronebusch unless otherwise noted.

Process Description:
The facility produces steel and iron castings for various industries including the mining and petrochemical industries. Production begins with the delivery of steel scrap from one scrap provider. Metal is then charged into one of two electric induction furnaces, described as crucibles by the facility. At the end of the furnace cycle, the molten metal in the furnace is tapped into a ladle. The ladle is them moved to the pouring area and the metal is poured into sand molds which have internal cores when required by the casting shape. The molds are allowed to cool, then moved to a vibratory feeder to break the casting free of the mold. The castings then move through various cleaning/finishing processes which may include blasting, grinding, trimming, and welding. The facility has two mold production lines and one core production line. The facility also has heat treatment units to modify the metallurgical characteristics of castings.

Staff Interview: The facility has two furnaces, but only one power source, which limits melting operations to one furnace at a time. The facility uses a rotary drum to reclaim and reuse sand from the molds. The facility has four baghouses to control particulate matter at various locations and one scrubber to control volatile organic compounds at equipment producing cores. Approximately 50% of the castings are heat treated, which may include air, water, or oil quenching.

TOUR INFORMATION

EPA Toured the Facility: Yes

Data Collected and Observations:
EPA personnel walked through the production process which included an operating electric induction furnace, recently poured castings cooling in molds, and casting finishing operations. EPA also observed heat treatment units. One of the four baghouses was observed having a pressure drop of zero. Additional information was requested about this baghouse.

Photos and/or Videos: were taken during the inspection and are listed in Appendix A.

Field Measurements: were not taken during this inspection.

CLOSING CONFERENCE

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

Requested documents:

- For the baghouse observed to have a pressure drop of zero:
  - The ID of this baghouse;
  - The emission units controlled or routed to this baghouse;
  - Additional information regarding its operation on the morning of April 11, 2025, and whether any emission units controlled by this baghouse were in operation while the baghouse was not in operation.
- All records submitted to either MPCA or US EPA related to compliance with NESHAP ZZZZZ from January 1, 2023 to the present;
- The most recent performance test at each emission unit or air pollution control equipment (if any have been performed);
- Parametric monitoring data from each piece of air pollution control equipment used to demonstrate compliance, including the operating limits of each monitored parameter, from January 1, 2024 to the present;
- Demonstration of compliance with the pollution prevention management practices for metallic scrap and mercury switches at 40 CFR 63.10885 and binder formulations at 40 CFR 63.10886; and
- A copy of the facility's notification of compliance status pursuant to 40 CFR 63.10890(c).

DIGITAL SIGNATURES

Report Author: DAKOTA PRENTICE Digitally signed by DAKOTA PRENTICE Date: 2025.04.29 08:49:52 -05'00'

Section Supervisor: Frank, Nathan Digitally signed by Frank, Nathan Date: 2025.05.02 13:30:54 -05'00'

APPENDICES

1. Appendix A: Digital Image Log (Photographs are CBI)

APPENDIX A: DIGITAL IMAGE LOG (PHOTOGRAPHS ARE CBI)

Inspector Name: B. Fenzl **Archival Record Location:** Region 5 ERC > ECAD > AECAB Library > Enf_Midwest Metal Products_MN_25 > Photos

Image Number	File Name	Date	Latitude and Longitude	Description of Image
1	IMG_0861.JPG	4/11/2025	Not available	Two electric induction furnaces
2	IMG_0862.JPG	4/11/25	Not available	Mold cooling area