



REGION 5

CHICAGO, IL 60604

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT
Bimbo Bakeries, La Crosse, Wisconsin

FROM: Veronica Fischer, Environmental Engineer
AECAB (MI/WI)

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

TO: File

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: Metz Baking Company of La Crosse dba Bimbo Bakeries

Facility Location: 334 5th Avenue South, La Crosse, Wisconsin

Date of Inspection: July 1, 2024

EPA Inspector(s):

1. Veronica Fischer, Environmental Engineer
2. Dakota Prentice, Environmental Engineer
3. Charles Zeman, Physical Scientist

Other Attendees:

1. Richard Timbash, Production Manager
2. Phil Roraff, Maintenance Manager
3. Jonathan Kania, Corporate Environmental (attended by phone)

Contact Email Address: Philip.roraff@grupobimbo.com

Purpose of Inspection: To evaluate compliance with the facility's federally enforceable operating permit and the Wisconsin SIP

Facility Type: commercial bakery

Facility Name: Bimbo Bakeries
Facility Location: 334 5th Ave S, La Crosse, WI
Date of Inspection: July 1, 2024

Regulations Central to Inspection: Wisconsin SIP and federally enforceable operating permit

Arrival Time: 2:10 PM CDT

Departure Time: 3:30 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:
- ☒ Provided CBI warning to facility

The following information was obtained verbally from facility personnel unless otherwise noted.

Process Description:

Bimbo Bakeries owns and operates a commercial bakery in La Crosse, Wisconsin that produces bread, shredded and croutons. Bimbo operates one straight dough process line that consists of one mixer, one divider, one continuous conveyorized proofer, and one conveyorized oven. After baking, the bread is cooled and removed from the trays and then is sliced and shredded. The sliced and shredded bread is then dried in a drying oven and then it is packaged for shipment.

Staff Interview:

The oven used for baking has two stacks and the drying oven has one stack. EPA inspectors asked whether any stack test had been performed on either of the ovens. Facility personnel stated that they were not aware of any stack testing that had been performed and that volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions are estimated using the equation from the AP-42 for bread baking (AP-42 Chapter 9.9.6 Bread Baking). The facility estimates that it emits approximately 25 tons per year of VOC. The Wisconsin SIP requires that any facility that emits more than 15 pounds per day of VOCs to use control equipment to reduce emissions by 85% or if that is infeasible, to implement the latest available control techniques or LACT. The facility implemented LACT which includes, among other things, a monthly VOC emission limit of 6.929 tons per month on a 12-consecutive month rolling average.

TOUR INFORMATION

EPA Toured the Facility: Yes

Data Collected and Observations:

Facility Name: Bimbo Bakeries
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EPA inspectors used an optical gas imaging (OGI) camera to see any VOC emissions from the process. During the facility tour, the mixer was being cleaned out and the proof box did not have any bread products in it because the facility was changing products at the time of the inspection. Using the OGI camera, EPA inspector observed VOC emissions from the proof box conveyor exit, the baking oven exhaust fan, and the baking oven conveyor exit.

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:

- Emissions calculations and estimates for the previous 3 years
- Production of bread products for the previous 3 years
- Most recent operating permit

DIGITAL SIGNATURES

Report Author: **VERONICA FISCHER**  Digitally signed by VERONICA FISCHER
Date: 2024.08.29 13:41:45 -05'00'

Section Supervisor: **SARAH MARSHALL**  Digitally signed by SARAH MARSHALL
Date: 2024.08.29 13:47:50 -05'00'

APPENDICES

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

Facility Name: Bimbo Bakeries
Facility Location: 334 5th Ave S, La Crosse, WI
Date of Inspection: July 1, 2024

APPENDIX A: DIGITAL IMAGE LOG AND DIGITAL VIDEO LOG

Inspector Name: Veronica Fischer **Archival Record Location:** Enf_Bimbo Bakeries La Crosse_WI_24

Image Number	File Name	Date and Time (incl. Time zone and DST)	Latitude and Longitude	Description of Image
1	MOV_3453.mp4	-	-	Proof box conveyor exit
2	MOV_3454.mp4	-	-	Baking oven exhaust fan
3	MOV_3455.mp4	-	-	Baking oven conveyor exit