



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

DATE: MAY 13 2019
SUBJECT: CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT
Mankato Iron & Metal Inc., Mankato, Minnesota
FROM: Shilpa Patel, Environmental Engineer
AECAB (MN/OH)
THRU: Dakota Prentice, Acting Section Chief
AECAB (MN/OH)
TO: File

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: Mankato Iron & Metal Inc.

Facility Location: 215 W Elm Street, Mankato, Minnesota 56001

Date of Inspection: 5/2/19

EPA Inspectors:

1. Shilpa Patel, Environmental Engineer
2. Scott Connolly, Environmental Engineer

Other Attendees:

1. Ron Pooler, Non-ferrous Metal Buyer & Supervisor

Contact Email Address: mktoim@hickorytech.net

Purpose of Inspection: To determine compliance with the Clean Air Act

Facility Type: Metal recycling yard

Regulations Central to Inspection: 40 C.F.R. Part 82, Subpart F: Recycling and Emissions Reduction

Arrival Time: 2:22 pm

Departure Time: 3:05 pm

Inspection Type:

- ☒ Unannounced Inspection
- ☐ Announced Inspection

OPENING CONFERENCE

- ☒ Credentials Presented
- ☒ CBI warning to facility provided

The following information was obtained verbally from Mr. Pooler unless otherwise noted.

Process Description:

Mankato Iron & Metal Inc. accepts ferrous and non-ferrous metals for recycling from the general public and industrial suppliers. The facility accepts white goods, appliances and refrigeration components. Cars are not accepted at this facility. The material accepted are sorted by metal type. The facility also operates an aluminum shredder and an aluminum sweat furnace. The furnace is operated about 4 days a week, accepts about a ton of charge and has an afterburner. Some information in this section is considered confidential business information (CBI) and is located in the CBI Attachment.

Staff Interview: Mr. Pooler stated that it requires appliances to be drained of refrigerants prior to accepting appliances. Any appliances with refrigerant are sent to GreenTech who drains the refrigerant, then sells the appliances back to the facility. No refrigerant recovery is performed on-site. The facility does not have verification statements or contracts verifying that appliances with evacuated refrigerants were recovered properly. EPA asked to review the file of documents maintained by the facility for its customers that sell white good that previously contained refrigerants. Mr. Pooler stated he did not know where the file is.

TOUR INFORMATION

EPA toured the facility: Yes

Data Collected and Observations:

EPA observed the aluminum shredder and sweat furnace. Neither were operating during the tour. EPA observed the scrap pile where accepted materials are initially unloaded and the aluminum scrap that would be processed by the sweat furnace.

Photos: were not taken during the inspection.

Field Measurements: were not taken during this inspection.

CLOSING CONFERENCE

Requested documents:

- Documentation collected from customers who the facility purchases appliances from that previously contained refrigerant. EPA stated it would follow-up with the facility to see the documentation.

Compliance Assistance: We gave an overview of the regulatory requirements and compliance options in 40 C.F.R. Part 82, Subpart F, and answered preliminary questions about the requirements.

SIGNATURES

Report Author: Shirpa Patel Date: 5/13/19

Section Chief: [Signature] Date: 5/13/19

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APPENDICES AND ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Business Information Attachment