



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

SUBJECT: CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT
Interco Trading Co., Madison, Illinois

FROM: Brittany Cobb, Environmental Engineer
AECAB (MI/WI)

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

TO: File

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: Interco Trading Co.

Facility Location: 10 Fox Industrial Pk Bldg 3, Madison, IL

Date of Inspection: 7/22/2022

EPA Inspector(s):

1. Brittany Cobb, Environmental Engineer
2. Ethan Chatfield, Environmental Engineer

Other Attendees:

1. Joe Atchley, Plant Operations Manager
2. Bill Cassiday, CFO/Business Manager
3. Allen Watkins, Attorney
4. Sara Chamberlain, Attorney
5. Joseph Kellmeyer, Attorney
6. Rob Feldman, CEO
7. Jeremy Henley, Business Analyst/CPA

Contact Email Address: jatchley@ITCscrap.com

Purpose of Inspection: Determine compliance with the CAA.

Facility Type: Industrial metal, electronic and battery recycling facility

Regulations Central to Inspection: Illinois State Implementation Plan

Arrival Time: 8:48 AM CT

Departure Time: 10:45 AM CT

Inspection Type:

- ☒ Unannounced Inspection
- ☐ Announced Inspection

OPENING CONFERENCE

- ☒ Presented Credentials
- ☒ Stated authority and purpose of inspection
- ☒ Provided Small Business Resource Information Sheet via email
- ☒ Provided CBI warning to facility

The following information was obtained verbally from Bill Cassiday, Joe Atchley, Jeremy Henley and Rob Feldman:

Process Description:

Interco Trading Co. (Interco or facility) recycles nonferrous metals (e.g., copper, brass), ferrous metals, batteries, electronics, and other industrial materials. Interco received the material from scrap dealers, corporations, demolition projects, etc. Most of the operations involve dismantling, sorting, and bailing. The materials are then transported off-site by truck and processed further at other companies. The facility also discharges lithium-ion batteries by absorbing the electricity in a patent pending process. The batteries are then dismantled, and the electrolyte is sent off site to be properly handled. The facility then shreds the cathode, anode and other remaining parts of the battery, including aluminum, nickel, cobalt, lithium, and copper, to make a nickel-cobalt-lithium powder concentrate. The shredder is controlled by a dust collector that exhausts indoors. The facility looks at differential pressure for the dust collector regularly and changes out the bag once every 6-months to a year. Interco is almost finished constructing a second shredding line to handle additional capacity.

Staff Interview:

Interco has 135 employees, and the hours of operation are Monday – Friday 6:30 AM to 2:00 AM and Saturday 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. The facility receives approximately 10,000 tons of material per month and shreds about 500 tons per month.

According to Interco management, the facility does not dismantle or shred lead batteries. If the facility receives lead batteries, they repackage the batteries and sell them to smelters or battery processing facilities.

TOUR INFORMATION

EPA Tour of the Facility: Yes

Data Collected and Observations:

EPA was led on a tour by Interco management and staff. EPA viewed automobile parts, such as radiators, laptops, lightbulbs, cellphones, power tools, batteries, etc. bundled together in large bales and containers at the facility. EPA observed the bailing process and noticed excess black dust around the bailing machine. Feldman stated that they were processing batteries in the bailers temporarily and hence there was additional black dust.

Photos and/or Videos: were not taken during the inspection.

Field Measurements: were not taken during this inspection.

CLOSING CONFERENCE

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

Concerns:

EPA pointed out excess black dust around the bailing operation.

DIGITAL SIGNATURES

Report Author: Brittany Cobb Digitally signed by
Brittany Cobb
Date: 2022.08.03
10:11:03 -05'00'

Section Supervisor: SARAH MARSHALL Digitally signed by
SARAH MARSHALL
Date: 2022.08.04
11:58:34 -05'00'