

AIR CP\_104046545\_CP\_20160415\_Investigation\_1328918\_  
**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**  
**Investigation Report**

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**Customer: Generic Incident Principal**  
**Customer Number: CN602295370**

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**Regulated Entity Name: GENERIC INCIDENT ZIP CODE 77584**

**Regulated Entity Number: RN104046545**

**Investigation #** 1328918

**Incident Numbers**

231204

**Investigator:** YAN BLAIR

**Site Classification**

**Conducted:** 04/15/2016 -- 04/15/2016

**No Industry Code Assigned**

**Program(s):** AIR QUALITY NON PERMITTED

**Investigation Type:** Compliance Investigation

**Location:**

**Additional ID(s):**

**Address:** ,

, ,

**Local Unit:** REGION 12 - HOUSTON

**Activity Type(s):** AIRCOMPL - AIR CMPL - AIR  
COMPLAINT INV

**Principal(s):**

**Role**

**Name**

RESPONDENT

GENERIC INCIDENT PRINCIPAL

**Contact(s):**

**Role**

**Title**

**Name**

**Phone**

REGULATED  
ENTITY  
CONTACT

LANDFILL  
OPERATION'S  
MANAGER

MR MATT  
MONTAGNA

Cell (832) 347-9496  
Work (713) 676-7664  
x. 7664

PARTICIPATED  
IN

PRETREATMENT  
COORDINATOR

MS Laurie Rodriguez

Work (281) 652-1813

**Other Staff Member(s):**

**Role**

**Name**

Investigator  
QA Reviewer  
Supervisor

MENGISTU LEMMA  
ROBERT AGUILAR JR  
ROBERT AGUILAR JR

**Associated Check List**

**Checklist Name**

AIR COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION

**Unit Name**

Shadow Creek Ranch

**Investigation Comments:**

INTRODUCTION

The TCEQ online complaint forms and Houston phone duty line received 24 complaints between April 8, 2016

and April 14, 2016. On April 12, 2016, investigator Ms. Yan Blair was assigned these complaints. The investigator initially contacted the complainants on April 13 and 14, 2016.

The complainants alleged that a strong odor from an unknown source is creating a nuisance inside and outside of the residences. In most cases, the complainants alleged a rotting garbage/egg and chemical odor, similar to H<sub>2</sub>S.

At the time the incidents were received, the weather was mostly clear, with temperatures ranging from 54°F to 82°F, and wind speed variations. This information came from the Weather Underground website (Station KLVJ).

The investigator contacted the complainants via telephone on April 13 and 14, 2016 to obtain more detailed information about the allegations and to inform them of the future investigation date. Some complainants alleged the odor does not occur on a daily basis. The odor is intermittent and typically occurs at night or early in the morning, especially when the wind is somewhat calm. The complainants are concerned about the nature of what they are breathing. The complainants mentioned Blue Ridge Landfill as a potential source of the odor.

The investigator contacted Ms. Laurie Rodriguez, Pretreatment Coordinator for the City of Pearland. Ms. Rodriguez agreed to join the investigation.

#### Investigation Narrative

On April 15, 2016, at approximately 6:30 a.m., TCEQ investigators Ms. Yan Blair and Mr. Mengistu Lemma met with Ms. Laurie Rodriguez at Lone Star Disposal and Recycling Facility (Lone Star). The surrounding area is mainly residential and commercial. The investigator conducted an odor survey around the facility. The meteorological conditions during the survey were overcast skies with temperature of 66°F and calm winds. The investigators detected a light garbage odor from a working truck passing by. The odor dissipated quickly.

The investigators and Ms. Rodriguez left Lone Star around 7:00 a.m. and traveled south on FM 521 (Alameda Road) towards Shadow Creek Ranch Subdivision. There are some businesses and industrial warehouses located on the outskirts of the subdivision. Blue Ridge Landfill is located west of the subdivision and Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry is situated northwest of the subdivision. The temperature was 66°F and calm winds.

The investigators conducted a survey at Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry and no odor was detected. The investigators continued traveling south along FM 521 towards Shadow Creek Ranch Subdivision. No odor was noted on FM 521. The investigators and Ms. Rodriguez surveyed the Shadow Creek Ranch Subdivision, however, no odor was experienced.

The investigators and Ms. Rodriguez left Shadow Creek Ranch Subdivision at 7:20 a.m. and proceeded to visit the Blue Ridge Landfill.

The investigators met with the Landfill Operation Manager, Mr. Matt Montagna of Blue Ridge Landfill to discuss the alleged odor complaints. Mr. Montagna provided a brief process description of the Blue Ridge Landfill. The investigators toured the site with Mr. Montagna. No offensive or significant odors, spills, or leaks were noted. In order to control the odor, the landfill operates a sprinkler system throughout the active portion of the landfill. This concluded the onsite portion of the investigation. The investigators left the Blue Ridge Landfill at 8:40 a.m. A nuisance condition or source of odor could not be confirmed at the time.

#### Facility Authorization Narrative

The Blue Ridge Landfill operates under Title V Permit O-01472. The landfill is located approximately 266 feet away from the Shadow Creek Ranch subdivision.

#### Exit Interview

An exit interview was not conducted since there were no alleged violations, additional issues, or records requested.

In addition, the investigator contacted the complainants by phone with the results of the investigation on April 15, 2016.

#### GENERAL FACILITY AND PROCESS INFORMATION

##### Process Description

The area of Zip Code 77584 encompasses residences, businesses, and some industrial facilities.

#### BACKGROUND

##### Agreed Orders, Court Orders, and Other Compliance Agreements

Based on review of CCEDS and the regional office files, there were no agreed orders, court orders, or other compliance agreements for the site.

##### Prior Enforcement Issues

Based on a review of CCEDS and the regional office files, violations were issued by the TCEQ to the alleged source during the past five years. There are no repeat violations.

##### Complaints

Based on a review of CCEDS during the past five years, there have been multiple complaints received and investigated by the Region 12 Office.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

##### Conclusions, Recommendations, and Current Enforcement Actions

Based on the TCEQ's Odor Complaint Investigation Procedures and application of the FIDO Chart, a single occurrence of a "highly offensive" odor with an intensity of "very strong" would need to be present continuously for 1 hour in order to constitute a nuisance condition. Since no odors were documented during the on-site portion of this investigation, a nuisance condition could not be confirmed and no violations are being alleged.

##### Additional Issues

No additional issues were noted during this investigation.

#### REPORT ATTACHMENTS

##### 1. Area Map and Survey Route Map

**No Violations Associated to this Investigation**

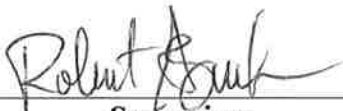
Signed



Environmental Investigator

Date 5/26/16

Signed



Supervisor

Date 5/26/16

**Attachments: (in order of final report submittal)**

\_\_\_ Enforcement Action Request (EAR)

\_\_\_ Letter to Facility (specify type) : \_\_\_\_\_

Investigation Report

\_\_\_ Sample Analysis Results

Manifests

\_\_\_ Notice of Registration

☒ Maps, Plans, Sketches

\_\_\_ Photographs

\_\_\_ Correspondence from the facility

☒ Other (specify) :

ATT. 1: Area Map and Survey  
Route Map

**Attachment 1**

**Area Map and Survey Route Map**

**SHADOW CREEK RANCH SUBDIVISION**

**PEARLAND**

**BRAZORIA COUNTY**

**Date of Investigation: April 15, 2016**



Investigation Type: CMPL  
Air Account NO: None  
Attachment: 1  
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