

GENERIC INCIDENT ZIP CODE 77584 - PEARLAND

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number 231705); 32 complaints were received on 04/22/16 and 04/23/16 between the hours of 1-8:00am, as well as late evening, 10-11:00pm (Incident number 232127); and 7 additional complaints were received on 04/23/16 between the hours of 6-9:00am (Incident number 232237).

On average, the complainants alleged that the odors smelled like chemicals, rotten eggs, and garbage. Additional descriptions included foul odor, propane-butane smell, strong sweet chemical smell, and a sulfur dioxide chemical smell. Although no one alleged specific effects to the property, some health effects were mentioned. These included nausea, headache, sore throat, burning throat and eyes, excessive coughing, and breathing problems.

Meteorological conditions during the alleged incidents were as follows: on 04/18/16 it was approximately 68 degrees Fahrenheit with a wind speed of 0-5 mph NE; on 04/19/16 it was between 70-75 degrees Fahrenheit with a wind speed of 5 mph NE; on 04/22/16 from 1-8:00am it was between 68-70 degrees Fahrenheit with wind speeds of 0-5 mph NW and between 10-11:00pm, it was 68 degrees Fahrenheit with no wind; on 04/23/16 from 1-8:00am it was 67-68 degrees with no wind and from 10-11:00pm, it was approximately 68-70 degrees Fahrenheit with wind speeds of 0-4 mph SE. This information was provided by the Weather Underground website, Pearland Regional Airport (KLVJ) weather station.

Each complainant was contacted in efforts to obtain more details about their complaint and to inform them of the investigative process. Complainants were contacted the morning of 04/21/16, 04/26/16, and 05/03/16. Messages were left for those complainants who weren't available.

It was verified, through the complainants, that the odor occurrences happened during the time they sent in the complaint. The odors would dissipate mid-morning. On average, the odors lasted the entire period during early morning hours. The weather conditions were cool and clear with little to no wind. Odor descriptions were the same as what was alleged on the complaint forms as described above. However, many complainants stated that the odor was difficult to describe.

Investigation Narrative

On Thursday, 04/28/16, TCEQ Investigators, Ms. Kimberly Lindolph and Ms. Yayma Martinez, conducted an odor survey in the Shadow Creek Ranch Subdivision, Pearland, TX 77584 (Attachment 1). Pearland weather conditions were checked via the Weather Underground website prior to leaving the office at approximately 5:17am. It was 67.8 degrees Fahrenheit with scattered clouds; 86% humidity; and calm winds, approximately 3-5 mph ENE. The investigators arrived in the area at approximately 5:40am.

Upon arriving in Pearland, from Hwy 288, the investigators drove west on FM 2234 to FM 521 where Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry is located. The investigators continued south on FM 521 to the Blue Ridge Landfill location, then north on FM 521 towards FM 2234. Making a right on FM 2234, the investigators drove east to Kingsley Dr., entered the subdivision, and parked at the community recreational area. While driving this route, a light chemical/natural gas odor was experienced briefly around FM 2234 and Kingsley Dr. The odor was categorized as "unpleasant" based on TCEQ's Frequency, Intensity, Duration, and Offensiveness (FIDO) Chart with a very light (VL) intensity. The odor lasted well under one minute. Because of this, an odor survey was not conducted. Using the Kestrel Personal Weather Monitor, it was determined that the wind was moving south, approximately 2 mph. The investigators stayed in the area for approximately 15-20 minutes; however, did not experience the odor again.

At approximately 6:31am the investigators drove north on Kingsley Dr., crossed FM 2234, and parked at a small park. Walking in both directions and scanning the area, a light fleeting odor was detected. The odor was chemical in nature; however, based on the FIDO chart, the intensity was VL and the duration was too brief to identify. It was classified as an "unpleasant" odor. Because of this, an odor survey was not conducted. The area is comprised of undeveloped land with natural gas pipelines running parallel to FM 2234. Leaving the area at approximately 6:44am, the investigators drove west on FM 2234, south on FM 521, and then east on FM 518. No odors were detected along this route.

From FM 518, the investigators entered into the neighborhood at approximately 7:09am and parked at the community recreational area located on Biscayne Bay Dr. The investigators walked the perimeter of the neighborhood, walked along a trail that ran parallel to Shoal Water Ln. and the retention ditch located behind the subdivision, and then through the neighborhood. The investigators detected a honeysuckle and fresh mulch odor on the south end of Biscayne Bay Dr. near the recreational area. The odor's duration was brief in nature, under a minute, and categorized as "not unpleasant" based on the FIDO chart. Because of this, an odor survey was not

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conducted. No other odors were detected. By approximately 7:30am, the investigators were back in the car and drove through the neighborhood again a while longer until exiting to FM 518.

The investigators drove from FM 518 to FM 521 and then headed north towards Lone Star Disposal LP (Lone Star) which is located at 10415 Tanner Rd., Houston, TX 77041. Located on the southwest side of the facility, no odors were detected. The investigators then headed back to FM521 and drove north to Beltway 8. Heading west on the Beltway 8 feeder road for approximately 1-2 miles, the investigators turned around and continued east on the feeder road, passing the north side of Lone Star. At the intersection of Beltway 8 and FM 521, the investigators drove south on FM 521 and then made a right on Riley Rd., which gave a clear sightline of the landfill. No odor was detected along this route or in the area.

The investigators continued east on Riley Rd. to Hooper Rd. and drove to the facilities Brenntag Southwest Inc. and Syntech Chemicals Inc. which are located next door to each other. No odors were detected in this area. The investigators resumed driving south to FM 2234 and at 8:40am ended the travel route.

The investigators detected light fleeting chemical/natural gas, mulch, and honeysuckle odors during the onsite investigation. The strongest odor detected was classified under the FIDO protocol as an unpleasant odor but the duration was too brief to complete an odor log. Because insufficient data was available to use the FIDO chart, a nuisance could not be confirmed at the time of the investigation. There were no alleged violations issued.

Facility Authorization Narrative

N/A

Exit Interview

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

In addition, the complainants were contacted via email on 04/29/16 at 4:39pm and 05/04/16 at 8:18am to inform them of the completion of the investigation and the results.

GENERAL FACILITY AND PROCESS INFORMATION

Process Description

The Shadow Creek Ranch Subdivision, Pearland, TX 77584 is a residential area with business and some industrial facilities located around the perimeter of the area.

BACKGROUND

Agreed Orders, Court Orders, and Other Compliance Agreements

N/A

Prior Enforcement Issues

N/A

Complaints

Based on a review of CCEDS during the past five years, hundreds of odor complaints have been received relating to this area and other TCEQ nuisance odor investigations are being conducted concurrently by the Region 12 Office.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Conclusions, Recommendations, and Current Enforcement Actions

Based on this investigation, 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 6/23/16

Signed 
Supervisor

Date 6/27/16

Attachments: (in order of final report submittal)

Enforcement Action Request (EAR)

Letter to Facility (specify type): EMPE N/A

Investigation Report

Sample Analysis Results

Manifests

Notice of Registration

Maps, Plans, Sketches

Photographs

Correspondence from the facility

Other (specify):

Attachment # 1

Attachment 1
Area Map and Survey Route Map
RN104-046-545
Shadow Creek Ranch Subdivision
Pearland, TX
April 28, 2016



Google earth



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