

AIR CP_104046545_CP_20160520_INVESTIGATION_1329979_
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Investigation Report

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Regulated Entity Name: GENERIC INCIDENT ZIP CODE 77584

Regulated Entity Number: RN104046545

Investigation # 1329979

Incident Numbers

233264

Investigator: CAMERON DEWS

Site Classification

Conducted: 05/20/2016 -- 05/20/2016

No Industry Code Assigned

Program(s): AIR QUALITY NON PERMITTED

Investigation Type: Site Assessment

Location:

Additional ID(s):

Address: ,

Local Unit: REGION 12 - HOUSTON

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

Principal(s):

Role	Name
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Contact(s):

Role	Title	Name	Phone
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Other Staff Member(s):

Role	Name
Investigator	JONATHAN STOFFER
QA Reviewer	JESSICA FOX
Supervisor	WARDA OMAR

Associated Check List

<u>Checklist Name</u>	<u>Unit Name</u>
AIR COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION	Pearland

Investigation Comments:

Introduction

The Houston Regional Office received fourteen complaints as part of the ongoing complaint investigation of various odors near the Shadow Creek neighborhood in the City of Pearland, Brazoria and Ft. Bend counties of Texas. All fourteen of the complaints were received by email. The TCEQ Incident number associated with this complaint investigation is 233264.

The complainants stated that there were odors in the area that were intermittent but have been going on for a long

time. Most of the complainants stated that the odor was coming from either the Blue Ridge Landfill or chemical plants in the vicinity such as Akzo Nobel. Descriptions of the odor were: gaseous exhaust with a sweetness hint, rotten eggs, and garbage. The complainants described the odors as "burning, chemical in nature", and, "putrid". One complainant alleged that the odor burned their eyes. One complainant stated that it was affecting their sleep and their ability to breathe.

The complaint was assigned to the investigator, Mr. Cameron Dews, on May 17, 2016.

Investigation Narrative

On May 20, 2016 investigators Cameron Dews and Jonathan Stoffer arrived in the Shadow Creek area in Pearland at 5:23 a.m. According to Weather Underground, the temperature was 68 degrees Fahrenheit, mostly cloudy skies, and winds from the North Northwest at 6.9 miles per hour (mph) during the investigation. Upon arrival in Shadow Creek vicinity, the investigators drove to Farm Road (FM) 521 just south of Akzo Nobel at Latitude 29°34'54.23"N Longitude 95°25'59.54"W. A light odor of a chemical nature was present but faded over time. At 5:37a.m. both investigators drove down FM 521 on the east side of the Blue Ridge landfill. During the drive-by a light odor of waste water and honeysuckle were present. The light odors were very inconsistent and faded over time. At 6:15 investigators drove through the Shadow Creek Neighborhood and first stopped at the newly developed subdivision at Latitude 29°33'19.04"N Longitude 95°26'15.74"W. There were no odors present at this location, and the investigators proceeded to a new location; driving north on Field Hollow Drive to the corner of Leafwood Lane and Timber Ridge Drive. During the drive to the next location no odors were present. The investigators left the site at 7:02 a.m.

Facility Authorization Narrative

The investigators conducted a general area survey. The investigators did not enter any facilities because the facilities could not be identified as sources of the odor. Therefore, no site visit was conducted.

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 by email with the results of the investigation on July 6, 2016 at 3:45 p.m.

GENERAL FACILITY AND PROCESS INFORMATION

Process Description

N/A

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, there have been hundreds of odor complaints received and other investigations are being conducted by the Region 12 Office concurrently.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Conclusions, Recommendations, and Current Enforcement Actions

Based on the TCEQ's Odor Complaint Investigation Procedures and application of the FIDO Chart, a "highly offensive" odor with an intensity of "very strong" would have to be present on a daily basis continuously for at least 1 hour to constitute a nuisance. Although the investigators detected a highly offensive odor, a nuisance condition and source of odor could not be confirmed at the time.

Additional Issues

No additional issues were noted during this investigation.


REPORT ATTACHMENTS

1. Area Map/Survey Route Map

No Violations Associated to this Investigation

Signed 
Environmental Investigator

Date 8-10-2016

Signed 
Supervisor

Date 8-10-2016

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) :
See Report Attachments

Attachment 1

Area Map/Survey Route Map

SHADOW CREEK RANCH

CN 602295370

RN 104046545

Investigation No. 1329979

PEARLAND/ BRAZORIA/FORT BEND COUNTY

May 20, 2016

