

AIR CP_104046545_CP_20160615_INVESTIGATION_1337848_
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Investigation Report

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Customer: Generic Incident Principal
Customer Number: CN602295370

Regulated Entity Name: GENERIC INCIDENT ZIP CODE 77584

Regulated Entity Number: RN104046545

Investigation # 1337848

Incident Numbers

235170

Investigator: OMOEFE ONORIOBE

Site Classification

Conducted: 06/15/2016 -- 06/15/2016

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

Other Staff Member(s):

Role

Name

Investigator

TIMOTHY BATSCHE

QA Reviewer

SETH TATE

Supervisor

AMY MESSICK

Associated Check List

Checklist Name

AIR COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION

Unit Name

ZIP CODE 77584

Investigation Comments:

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Between June 7, 2016 and June 10, 2016, nine (9) complaints were received via the TCEQ online complaint form and Houston Region's air section phone duty line. The complainants alleged strong odor from an unknown source creating a nuisance inside residences. In most cases, the complainants alleged a rotting garbage/egg and chemical odor. A complainant alleged experiencing headaches from the odor.

At the time the incidents were received, the weather was mostly clear with temperatures ranging from 82°F to 88°F, average wind speed 10 mph. The source for the meteorological conditions is Weather Underground Station, station ID KLVJ.

Most of the complainants were contacted in the afternoon of June 10, 2016 via telephone prior to conducting onsite investigation. Two of the complainants were anonymous. The complainants recounted the strong odor occurrences mostly at night time. The complainants stated that the potential sources of the odor was either Blue Ridge Landfill or an unknown chemical factory.

Investigation Narrative

On June 15, 2016, at 5:45 a.m., TCEQ investigators: Mr. Omoefe Onoriobe, Lead Investigator; and Mr. Timothy Batsche arrived at the Shadow Creek Ranch Subdivision of Pearland. The investigators conducted an area survey for odors (See Attachments 1 & 2). The Shadow Creek Ranch Subdivision is mainly residential. Various industrial facilities and a landfill are found on the outskirts of the Subdivision. The meteorological conditions during the area survey: 82.4°F; wind speed, 9.03 mph, and wind direction of South South East. The source for the meteorological conditions is Weather Underground Station, station ID KLVJ.

The odor survey commenced at Reflection Bay Dr. south, North Clear Lake Loop west to Regents Bay Dr., ending at Biscayne Bay Dr. No odors were detected along this route. The next odor route taken by the investigators was Shadow Creek Parkway west to FM 521, and proceeding south. The investigators detected strong garbage odor on FM 521 approximately 100 yards south of Worth Rd. and stopped to conduct an odor survey.

At 6:28 a.m., the investigators conducted an odor survey near Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry. Initially, the intensity of garbage odor was strong but decreased to very light within 8 minutes. The odor was offensive. The odor was categorized using TCEQ's Frequency, Intensity, Duration, and Offensiveness (FIDO) chart. This survey ended at 6:58 a.m.

At 8:00 a.m., the investigators continued travelling south on FM 521 to west Broadway St. (Main entrance to Blueridge Landfill). At this point, no odors were detected. The investigators drove through Quail Bridge, Ridgemont, Green Valley Estates Subdivisions, and between McHard Rd. and Beltway 8. No odors were detected on this route.

At 8:15 a.m., the investigators went to Hiram Clarke Rd. and proceeded East on Beltway 8 Feeder road past the Lonestar Disposal & Recycling facility. A strong garbage smell was detected but it quickly dissipated.

At 8:30 a.m., the investigators drove to the Reflection Bay waste water treatment plant. No odors were detected.

At 8:40 a.m., the investigators travelled to Bluebonnet Dr. west, between Lonestar Disposal & Recycling facility (north) and Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry (south). A very strong sweet chemical odor was detected approximately 550 yards west of FM 521. The probable source of odor is Lonestar Disposal & Recycling facility.

At 8:45 a.m., the investigators conducted an odor survey. The offensive odor started very strong but decreased to very light in 4 minutes. The odor was categorized using FIDO chart. At 9:15 a.m., the odor survey was ended. The area survey was concluded and the investigators left the area.

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 28, 2016 at 2:18pm.

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

N/A

Prior Enforcement Issues

N/A

Complaints

Based on a review of CCEDS during the past five years, hundreds of odors 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 the TCEQ's Odor Complaint Investigation Procedure and application of the FIDO Chart, an offensive odor with an intensity of very strong would have to be present continuously for at least 4 hours to constitute a nuisance condition as a single event. Although, the investigators confirmed an odor, a nuisance condition and source of odor could not be confirmed at the time. No violations or areas of concern were noted during this investigation.

Additional Issues

No additional issues were noted during this investigation.

REPORT ATTACHMENTS

1. Area Map and Survey Route Map
2. Odor survey logs

No Violations Associated to this Investigation

Signed



Environmental Investigator

Date

10-06-16

Signed



Supervisor

Date

10/7/16

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) :

AREA MAP & SURVEY ROUTE MAP

ODOR SURVEY LOGS

ATTACHMENT 1

SHADOW CREEK RANCH SUBDIVISION (TX 77584).

RN104046545

INVESTIGATION DATE: June 15, 2016



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Investigation Type: COMPLAINT
Air Account NO: N/A
Attachment: 1
Page 2 of 3

SURVEY ROUTE MAP



Investigation Type: COMPLAINT
Air Account NO: N/A
Attachment: 1
Page 3 of 3



Google earth
miles
km
2
3

Google earth

ATTACHMENT 2

SHADOW CREEK RANCH SUBDIVISION (TX 77584).

RN104046545

INVESTIGATION DATE: June 15, 2016

Investigator's Odor Intensity Time Log

Date of Investigation: 06/15/16 Start Time 06:28 AM
 Name and Address of Alleged Source: BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL
 Investigator's Name: Print: ONORIOBE OMOFE Sign: Onoribe Omofo

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
1 min	S
2	S
3	L
4	L
5	L
6	VS
7	VL
8	VL
9	VL
10	M
11	L
12	VL
13	L
14	L
15	VL
16	VL
17	VL
18	VL
19	VL
20	VL
21	VL
22	L
23	VL
24	VL
25	VL
26	VL
27	VL
28	VL
29	L
30	L

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
31 min	
32	
33	
34	
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Investigation Type: COMPLAINT
 Air Account NO: N/A
 Attachment: 2
 Page 1 of 2

Offensiveness: Highly Offensive ☒ Unpleasant Not Unpleasant

Dominant Odor Intensity For: WEIGHTED AVERAGE INTENSITY

	VS	S	M	L	VL	No Odor
1 Min	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
10 Min			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
1 Hour						

BLANK

Investigation Type: COMPLAINT

Air Account NO: N/A

Attachment: 2

Page 2 of 3

Investigator's Odor Intensity Time Log

Date of Investigation: 06/15/16 Start Time 8:45 AM

Name and Address of Alleged Source: LONE STAR DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING FACILITY

Investigator's Name: Print: ONDROBE OMOEFE Sign: ONDROBE OMOEFE

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
1 min	VS
2	VS
3	M
4	VL
5	VL
6	M
7	L
8	VL
9	VL
10	L
11	M
12	S
13	M
14	S
15	S
16	L
17	L
18	S
19	M
20	L
21	M
22	VL
23	VL
24	L
25	M
26	VL
27	VL
28	VL
29	VL
30	L

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
31 min	
32	
33	
34	
35	
36	
37	
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40	
41	
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Investigation Type: COMPLAINT
 Air Account NO: N/A
 Attachment: 2
 Page 3 of 3

Offensiveness: Highly Offensive ☒ Unpleasant Not Unpleasant

Dominant Odor Intensity For: WEIGHTED AVERAGE INTENSITY

	VS	S	M	L	VL	No Odor
1 Min	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
10 Min			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
1 Hour						

