



0000-0000-0016-8522

Document Control Sheet

Sheet Title:	AIR CP - RLM
Box ID:	7377
Control Sheet ID:	0000-0000-0016-8522
Record Series Name:	OCE / Air Compliance
Record Series:	AIR CP
Primary ID:	102610102
Secondary ID:	
Doc Type:	Compliance
Security:	Public
Date:	6/15/2017 12:00AM
Title:	Investigation
Tertiary ID	1423089

AIR CP\_102610102\_CP\_20170615\_INVESTIGATION\_1423089\_  
**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**  
**Investigation Report**

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**Customer: Blue Ridge Landfill TX, LP**  
**Customer Number: CN602820599**

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**Regulated Entity Name: BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL**

**Regulated Entity Number: RN102610102**

<b>Investigation #</b> 1423089	<b>Incident Numbers</b> 260225
<b>Investigator:</b> ANDREA GUSTAVSON	<b>Site Classification</b> MAJOR SOURCE
<b>Conducted:</b> 06/15/2017 -- 06/15/2017	<b>SIC Code:</b> 1521 <b>SIC Code:</b> 4953 <b>NAIC Code:</b> 562212
<b>Program(s):</b> AIR NEW SOURCE PERMITS	
<b>Investigation Type:</b> Compliance Investigation	<b>Location:</b> LOCATED ON 2200 FM 521
<b>Additional ID(s):</b> FG0536E 1472	
<b>Address:</b> 2200 FM 521 RD, FRESNO, TX , 77545	<b>Local Unit:</b> REGION 12 - HOUSTON <b>Activity Type(s):</b> AIRCOMPL - AIR CMPL - AIR COMPLAINT INV FIAIRODOR - AIR FIAIRODOR - FOC INV ODOR SURVEY

**Principal(s):**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>
RESPONDENT	BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL TX LP

**Contact(s):**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>
REGULATED ENTITY CONTACT	OPERATIONS MANAGER	MR MATT MONTAGNA	Office (281) 668-9739 Work (713) 676-7664

**Other Staff Member(s):**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>
QA Reviewer	ROBERT AGUILAR JR
Investigator	ANDREW EVANS
Supervisor	ROBERT AGUILAR JR

**Associated Check List**

<b><u>Checklist Name</u></b>	<b><u>Unit Name</u></b>
AIR COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION	SITEWIDE
AIR FOCUSED INVESTIGATON - ODOR SURVEY	SITEWIDE

**Investigation Comments:**

INTRODUCTION/ INVESTIGATION SUMMARY

## Introduction

On June 15, 2017, investigators Mrs. Andrea Gustavson and Mr. Andrew Jay Evans of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Houston Region Office conducted a focused odor survey investigation (Investigation Typecode FI AIR ODOR), in the city of Pearland and Fort Bend, Brazoria, and Harris counties in the west Pearland area, and a complaint investigation regarding potentially associated odors. The purpose of this investigation was to conduct odor surveys to determine if odors were present in the area and identify potential sources.

## Odor Investigation Narrative

The investigation took place on June 15, 2017. The surrounding land use is a mix of residential, industrial, and commercial areas. The terrain is flat with sporadic forest. Meteorological conditions were as follows: Cloud Cover: Clear; Temperature: 78° Fahrenheit (F); Wind Direction: Calm; Wind Speed: 0 miles per hour (mph); Precipitation: 0.0 inches; Source of Meteorological Conditions: Weather Underground (KLVJ).

The investigators arrived at Highway 521 at 0605 and surveyed the western side of the subdivision which is adjacent to a landfill (See Attachment 1 – Map 1). No odors were detected. The investigators left the area at 0615.

The investigators arrived at McHard Road at 0620 and surveyed the northern side of the landfill (See Attachment 1 – Map 1). A strong landfill garbage odor was detected. The investigators stopped to conduct an odor survey at the 8100 block of McHard Road, directly north of the landfill, however, the odors quickly dissipated, so no odor survey was conducted.

The investigators travelled west along McHard Road and again detected the strong landfill garbage odor. At 0630, the investigators stopped to conduct an odor survey at 7705 McHard Road. The investigators conducted a 15 minute odor survey (See Attachment 2 – Log 1).

The investigators followed the garbage odor plume further west along McHard Road. The investigators stopped to conduct an odor survey at the intersection of McHard Road and Hiram Clarke Road. At 0650, the investigators conducted a 15 minute odor survey (See Attachment 2 – Log 2).

At 0655 meteorological conditions were recorded as follows: Temperature: 79° F; Wind Direction: Southeast; Wind Speed: Approximately 3.5 mph; Precipitation: 0.0 inches; Source of Meteorological Conditions: Weather Underground (KLVJ).

The investigators continued north on Hiram Clarke Road at 0710. No odors were detected. The investigators then travelled east along Sam Houston Parkway Feeder Road. The investigators detected a relatively strong sulfur smell north of Lone Star Disposal and Recycling Facility at 0715. Due to traffic conditions the investigators were unable to stop to conduct a survey.

The investigators then travelled south on Alameda Road. No odors were detected along the survey route to Shadow Creek Parkway, where the investigators headed east. The investigators travelled north on Alameda School Road at 0730, no odors were detected.

At 0745, the investigators surveyed the area surrounding Syntech Chemicals, Brenntag Southwest, and north of the Reflection Bay Water Reclamation-Expansion and Rehabilitation Facility. No odors were detected. The investigators arrived at the northernmost point of Reflection Bay, adjacent to Reflection Bay Water Reclamation-Expansion and Rehabilitation Facility at 0750 and detected no odors at the plant.

At 0755 meteorological conditions were recorded as follows: Temperature: 81° F; Wind Direction: South-Southeast; Wind Speed: Approximately 4.5 mph; Precipitation: 0.0 inches; Source of Meteorological Conditions: Weather Underground (KLVJ).

The investigators arrived at Bluebonnet Drive, north of Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry at 0755. There was a light not unpleasant soap odor. The investigators did not conduct an odor log survey as the odors dissipated quickly following detection.

## BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL - FRESNO

6/15/2017 Inv. # - 1423089

Page 3 of 5

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At 0800, the investigators arrived at the sewer lift station off Biscayne Drive. No odor was detected.

The investigators continued to Kirby Drive, the eastern side of Shadow Creek Ranch, at 0825 to conduct an additional survey associated with an odor complaint. See the discussion of the complaint investigation for additional information.

At 0855, the investigators travelled west along Sam Houston Freeway Feeder in order to conduct an odor survey north of Lone Star Disposal and Recycling Facility. No odors were detected during the second survey, as such, no odor log was completed.

At 0855 meteorological conditions were recorded as follows: Temperature: 85° F; Wind Direction: South-Southwest; Wind Speed: Approximately 7 mph; Precipitation: 0.0 inches; Source of Meteorological Conditions: Weather Underground (KLVJ).

Three odors were detected during the odor surveys: landfill gas, sulfur odor, and sweet soap odor. According to the TCEQ Frequency, Intensity, Duration, and Offensiveness (FIDO) chart, the landfill gas odor is characterized as offensive. During the investigation, the strongest landfill gas odor was strong for 3 minutes. The landfill gas odor was strong to moderate at the beginning of the odor survey but at the end the intensity varied from light to nonexistent. The sulfur odor was moderate upon detection, conditions would not permit for the investigators to stop to conduct an odor survey at that time. A sweet soap odor was detected briefly, no odor survey was conducted.

### Complaint Investigation Narrative

Incident number: 260225

How was the incident received: email

Date and time incident received: June 2, 2017 at 1456

Date and time investigator initially contacted complainant: The complainant was initially contacted by Ms. Nicole Foster on June 14, 2017 at 1033

What did the complainant allege: There is an odor the previous evening that was strong with a garbage and sewer smell. The complainant alleges the wind direction, reported in the complaint as coming from the east, would not bring odors from the landfill. They alleged the odors may have been related to the Reflection Bay Water Reclamation-Expansion and Rehabilitation Facility. The odors did not persist into the next day. Typically, odors are rarely detected, if at all.

Date, time, frequency, and duration of each incident: This occurrence is not typical

Description of alleged health effects: Health effects were not alleged for this incident

Description of alleged property effects: None

Alleged Source: Reflection Bay Water Reclamation-Expansion and Rehabilitation Facility

Source Address: 1818 Reflection Bay Drive

City (county), State, Zip Code: Pearland (Brazoria), Texas, 77584

Telephone Number: 979-849-6757

Time Contacted: N/A

Comment: N/A

Map of source location is included in Attachment 1.

### Daily Summary

Date of investigation: June 15, 2017

Name of investigators: Mrs. Andrea Gustavson and Mr. Andrew Jay Evans

Time of Arrival: 0825

Description of surrounding land use: residential and commercial

Description of the terrain: flat

Complaint Investigation summary

**Meteorological conditions during alleged incident:**

Cloud cover: Clear

Wind direction: ESE

Wind speed: 3.5 mph

Temperature: 80 F

Precipitation: None

Source of meteorological Conditions: Weather Underground Station KLVJ

**Meteorological conditions during investigation:**

Cloud cover: Clear

Wind Direction: SSE

Wind speed: 4.6 mph

Temperature: 81 F

Precipitation: none

Source of meteorological Conditions: Weather Underground Station KLVJ

Was odor detected? No

Map of alleged source location, survey location, and perimeter survey route are included in Attachment 1 – Map.

Is actual source the same as the alleged source? Could not be determined

Was a compliance investigation conducted (i.e. MNSR)? No

Was any additional permit or 30 TAC investigation conducted? No

Were any non-nuisance violations alleged by the investigator? No

Complainant contacted with the results of the investigation: Yes

Date and time: June 15, 2017 at 1030

Comments: Mrs. Gustavson informed the complainant that no odors were detected near the home or the alleged source. The complainant was referred to the Region 12 Water Section for additional concerns regarding the processes that take place at the water reclamation facility.

**Exit Interview**

As no violations were alleged and no records requested, an exit interview was not conducted.

**GENERAL FACILITY AND PROCESS INFORMATION**

**Process Description**

Blue Ridge Landfill is a municipal solid waste landfill with a landfill gas collection and control system.

**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 and regional office files, there have been multiple odor complaints received from

within the survey area and numerous investigations related to odors. At the time of the review, multiple related investigations were being conducted by the Region 12 Office.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Conclusions, Recommendations, and Current Enforcement Actions

Three distinct odors were detected throughout the investigation. The Frequency, Intensity, Duration and Offensiveness (FIDO) chart categorizes the landfill gas odor and sulfur as offensive and the sweet, floral soap is categorized as not unpleasant. In order to constitute a nuisance, an offensive odor has to last one hour with a very strong intensity as a single occurrence. A not unpleasant odor has to last more than 12 hours on a monthly basis to constitute a nuisance. The investigators documented a offensive odor present for 15 minutes.

Additional Issues

No additional issues were noted during this investigation.

REPORT ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Odor Survey Location Maps
- 2. Investigators' Odor Logs

**No Violations Associated to this Investigation**

Signed Andrea Gustafson  
 Environmental Investigator

Date 7/31/2017

Signed Robert Aguilar  
 Supervisor

Date 8/1/2017

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

Enforcement Action Request (EAR)

Maps, Plans, Sketches

Letter to Facility (specify type) : Gen Compl.

Photographs

Investigation Report

Correspondence from the facility

Sample Analysis Results

Other (specify) :

Manifests

Odor Intensity Time Logs

Notice of Registration

Attachment 1

**BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL TX LP**

**BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL**

**ACCOUNT # FG-0536-E**

**RN # 102-610-102**

**FORT BEND COUNTY**

**AREA MAP**

**Date of Investigation June 15, 2017**



- 1: Blue Ridge Landfill
- 2: Lone Star Disposal and Recycling
- 3: Syntech Chemicals
- 4: Brenntag Southwest
- 5: Reflection Bay Water Reclamation
- 6: Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry
- 7: Shadow Creek Ranch Sewer Lift Station

Investigation type	FLAIR 000R
Air Account NO	- 0536 - E
Attachment	1
Page	1

29°34'27.98" N 95°25'01.31" W elev 70 ft eye alt 24510 ft



Attachment 2

**BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL TX LP**

**BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL**

**ACCOUNT # FG-0536-E**

**RN # 102-610-102**

**FORT BEND COUNTY**

**ODOR INTENSITY TIME LOGS**

**Date of Investigation June 15, 2017**

## Investigator's Odor Intensity Time Log

Date of Investigation: June 15 2017 Start Time 6:30 10:50

Name and Address of Alleged Source: Blue Ridge Landfill

Investigator's Name: Print: Andrea Gustavson Sign: Andrea Gustavson

Survey LOCA

Survey LOC B 6:50AM

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

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
31 min	M
32	M
33	M
34	M
35	L
36	VL
37	VL
38	L
39	VL
40	—
41	M
42	VL
43	L
44	L
45	VL
46	
47	
48	
49	
50	
51	
52	
53	
54	
55	
56	
57	
58	
59	
60	

Offensiveness: Highly  Offensive  Unpleasant  Not Unpleasant

Dominant Odor Intensity For:

	VS	S	M	L	VL	No Odor
1 Min						
10 Min						
1 Hour						

Investigation Type: F1 AIR odor

Air Account NO: FG-0536-E

Attachment: 2

Page: 1 of 3

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Investigation Type: FI AIR DDOR  
Air Account NO: FG-0536-E  
Attachment: 2  
Page: 2 of 3

Investigation Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
Air Account NO: \_\_\_\_\_  
Attachment: \_\_\_\_\_  
Page: \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

# Investigator's Odor Intensity Time Log

Date of Investigation: 6/15/17 Start Time 6:30

Name and Address of Alleged Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Investigator's Name: Print: Jay Evans Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

AKA Storage Ⓢ

744 S McCand Ⓢ

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

6:50

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
31 min	M
32	M
33	M
34	M
35	L
36	VL
37	VL
38	L
39	L
40	VL
41	M
42	VL
43	L
44	L
45	VL
46	
47	
48	
49	
50	
51	
52	
53	
54	
55	
56	
57	
58	
59	
60	

Offensiveness: Highly \_\_\_\_\_ Offensive  Unpleasant \_\_\_\_\_ Not Unpleasant \_\_\_\_\_

Dominant Odor Intensity For:

	VS	S	M	L	VL	No Odor
1 Min						
10 Min						
1 Hour						

Investigation Type: F1-AIR-DOOR

Air Account NO: FG-0536-E

Attachment: 2

Page: 3 of 3

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., *Chairman*  
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*  
Jon Niermann, *Commissioner*  
Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution*

August 3, 2017

Mr. Matt Montagna, Landfill Operations Manager  
Blue Ridge Landfill TX, LP  
2200 FM 521 Road  
Fresno, Texas 77545

Re: Complaint Investigation Conducted at:  
Blue Ridge Landfill, 2200 FM 521 Road, Fresno (Fort Bend County), Texas  
Regulated Entity No.: 102610102, TCEQ ID No.: FG0536E, FOP No.: O-01472,  
Investigation No.: 1423089, Incident No.: 260225

Dear Mr. Montagna:

On June 2, 2017, the Houston Region Office of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) received a complaint concerning activities performed at your facility. In response to this complaint, Mrs. Andrea Gustavson, investigator with the Air Section, conducted an investigation on June 15, 2017.

No violations were noted concerning the activities alleged in the complaints; however, it should be noted that a comprehensive compliance investigation was not performed. This letter should not be interpreted as a blanket notice of compliance with state and federal regulations governing air quality.

The TCEQ appreciates your assistance in this matter and your compliance efforts to ensure protection of the State's environment. If you have any questions concerning this investigation, please contact Mrs. Gustavson at (713) 767-3699.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Aguilar Jr.", written over a white background.

Robert Aguilar Jr.,  
Team Leader, Air Section  
Houston Region Office

RA/AG/swf

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., *Chairman*  
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*  
Jon Niermann, *Commissioner*  
Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution*

August 3, 2017

Ms. Tina Martin  
11507 Island Manor Street  
Pearland, Texas 77584

Re: Investigation Request at:  
1818 Reflection Bay Drive, (Brazoria County), Texas  
Regulated Entity No.: 109440255  
Investigation No.: 1423089  
Incident No.: 260225

Dear Ms. Martin:

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Houston Region Office has completed a final investigation in response to your concern regarding the outdoor burning incident at the above-referenced facility. Enclosed is a copy of the investigation report.

For more information about our complaint process, you may access the publication GI-278: *Do You Want to Make an Environmental Complaint? Do You Have Information or Evidence?* on our website at [www.tceq.texas.gov](http://www.tceq.texas.gov).

We appreciate your concern in bringing this matter to our attention. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Mrs. Andrea Gustavson at 713-767-3699.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Aguilar Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Robert Aguilar Jr.,  
Team Leader, Air Section  
Houston Region Office

RA/AG/swf

Enclosure: Investigation Report

# TCEQ Complaint Report

07/12/2017  
10:03:12AM

**Incident No:** 260225

**Media Type:** AIR

**Start Date:** 6/1/2017

**Received Date:** 06/03/2017

**Method :**

**Staff Member:** AGUSTAVS

**Status:** Closed

**Status Date:** 07/05/2017

**Priority:** Within 14 Calendar Days

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**Regulated Entity:** BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL

**RN102610102**

**Address:** 2200 FM 521 RD  
FRESNO, FORT BEND County, TX 77545

**Physical Location:** LOCATED ON 2200 FM 521

**Responsible Party:**

**Address:**

**Title:**

**Number Complaining:** 1

**Frequency:** CURRENT

**Alleged Source:** BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL

**Program Group:** AIR QUALITY -  
HIGH LEVEL

**Nature:** ODOR

**Effect:** PROPERTY

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## Initial Problem

The Complainant is concerned about odor coming from a source in the area.

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## Action Taken

This complaint has been assigned and will be further investigated by an Environmental Investigator.

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## Closure Comments

More information will be available upon approval of the investigation report.

**Investigation Number:** 1423089