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AIR CP_102610102_CP_20170810_INVESTIGATION_1435121_
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Investigation Report

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Customer: Blue Ridge Landfill TX; LP
Customer Number: CN602820599

Regulated Entity Name: BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL

Regulated Entity Number: RN102610102

Investigation # 1435121

Incident Numbers

265561

Investigator: SAMUEL CORTEZ

Site Classification MAJOR SOURCE

Conducted: 08/10/2017 -- 08/10/2017

SIC Code: 1521

NAIC Code: 486210

SIC Code: 4922

SIC Code: 4953

NAIC Code: 562212

Program(s): AIR OPERATING PERMITS

Investigation Type: Compliance Investigation

Location: LOCATED ON 2200 FM 521

Additional ID(s): FG0536E
1472

Address: 2200 FM 521 RD,
FRESNO, TX, 77545

Local Unit: REGION 12 - HOUSTON

Activity Type(s): AIRCOMPL - AIR CMPL - AIR
COMPLAINT INV
AIR MNSR - MINOR SOURCE NEW
SOURCE REVIEW

Principal(s):

Role

Name

RESPONDENT

BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL TX LP

Contact(s):

Role

Title

Name

Phone

REGULATED
ENTITY
CONTACT

MANAGER

MR RICHARD
LEMMEL

Cell

RECEIVED
SEP 10 2018
TCEQ
CENTRAL FILE ROOM
(832) 309-8162

REGULATED
ENTITY MAIL
CONTACT

OPERATIONS
MANAGER

MR MATT
MONTAGNA

Work
Office
Work
Fax

(713) 676-7664
(281) 668-9739
(281) 668-9739
(281) 835-6146

Other Staff Member(s):

Role

Name

Investigator
Supervisor
QA Reviewer

CAMERON DEWS
CASSANDRA MOORE
CASSANDRA MOORE

BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL - FRESNO

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Associated Check List

| <u>Checklist Name</u> | <u>Unit Name</u> |
|---|------------------|
| AIR GENERIC INVESTIGATION (10 ITEMS) | Sitewide |
| AIR INVESTIGATION - EQUIPMENT | Sitewide |
| MONITORING AND SAMPLING revised 06/2013 | |

Investigation Comments:

INTRODUCTION/ INVESTIGATION SUMMARY Introduction

On August 10, 2017, investigators Mr. Samuel Cortez and Mr. Cameron Dews 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 in Fort Bend, Brazoria, and Harris counties in the west Pearland area. The purpose of this investigation was in response to an odor detected during the survey resulting in an onsite investigation of the Blue Ridge Landfill (Blue Ridge) located in Fresno, Texas in Fort Bend County (Investigation Typecode MNSR).

For more details of the odor survey see investigation number 1435136.

The investigators were also responding to 4 complaints. Complaint incident number 265561 was received by the regional office on August 7, 2017 and August 9, 2017. The incident included 3 complainants, which alleged strong odors coming from Blue Ridge Landfill. The odors were described as strong, of a chemical nature, and smelled like dead rats. It was also alleged that the odors caused difficulty breathing.

Investigation Narrative

Thursday, August 10, 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:

At time of odor detection: Monitor time (7:55 a.m.); Detection (7:53 a.m.)

Cloud Cover: Clear

Temperature: 77.9 degrees Fahrenheit

Wind Direction: Calm

Wind Speed: Calm

Precipitation: N/A

Source of Meteorological Conditions: Weather Underground (KAXH)

At time of onsite investigation: Monitor Time (1:15 p.m.); Onsite arrival (7:53 a.m.)

Cloud Cover: Scattered

Temperature: 93.4 degrees Fahrenheit

Wind Direction: Calm

Wind Speed: Calm

Precipitation: N/A

Source of Meteorological Conditions: Weather Underground (KAXH)

The investigators arrived at the intersection of FM 521 and Broadway Street at approximately 7:53 a.m. While traveling north to the intersection of FM 521 and FM 2234, a garbage odor was detected. The investigators continued to the adjacent Shadow Creek Ranch neighborhood in order to track the plume into the neighborhood. There were no odors detected in the neighborhood and upon conclusion of this particular survey odors were no longer detected on FM 521 upon departing the area. At approximately 8:15 a.m., the investigators returned to the Shadow Creek Ranch neighborhood to survey the neighborhood lakes for odors and fish kills. The lakes at Rose Bay Drive and Trinity Bay Drive were surveyed. No odors were detected or signs of fish kills were observed. The investigators departed the Shadow Creek Ranch neighborhood at approximately 8:30 a.m.

A separate investigation was conducted during the period between the odor survey and the arrival at Blue Ridge. For more details see investigation number 1435135.

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The investigators arrived at Blue Ridge at approximately 1:20 p.m. due to the garbage smell detected earlier in the morning at approximately 7:53 a.m. on FM 521. No odors were detected offsite or along the fence-line upon arrival. Upon arrival the investigators were greeted by Mr. Richard Lemmel. The investigators discussed the reason for the visit being due to odors detected offsite earlier in the morning and also discussed the scope of the response. The investigators were led on a site walkthrough at approximately 2:00 p.m. by Mr. Lemmel. The investigators began by observing the flare with the Optical Gas Imaging Camera (OGIC) in which there did not appear to be any emissions observed with the OGIC. The investigators continued the site walkthrough to the open-face phase of the landfill in which gas well monitoring was conducted with Jerome 631X H2S monitor (Jerome), Toxic Vapor Analyzer (TVA), MultiRAE, and OGIC. The following wells were monitored: W3-16A; W3-15; W3-34A; W3-33A; W3-32A; W3-31A; W3-110; and W3-42A. During the monitoring, there was a range between 0.00 parts per million (ppm) and 7 ppm of Hydrogen Sulfide (H2S) detected with the Jerome. There was also a range of 0 to 400 ppm of volatile organic compounds (VOC) with the TVA. There were no emissions observed by the OGIC. Monitoring did not appear to be outside normal readings during the site walkthrough. The site walkthrough concluded at approximately 2:50 p.m.

The investigators returned to the main office to review the daily cover logs. The investigators departed the facility at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Facility Authorization Narrative

Blue Ridge operates under Title V Permit O-01472, (General Operating Permit (GOP) number 517. Blue Ridge provided copies of the most recent cover logs. The cover logs were reviewed for the previous month and appeared to be in compliance with the GOP. During the site walkthrough, cover integrity of the Phase 3 area (working phase and active cell) did not appear to be compromised. No further review required.

Exit Interview

As no violations were alleged an exit interview was not conducted.

The complainants were contacted on January 23, 2018 with the results of the investigation.

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 hundreds of 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

Based on this investigation, no violations are being alleged.

Additional Issues

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No additional issues were noted during this investigation.

REPORT ATTACHMENTS

No attachments.

No Violations Associated to this Investigation

Signed



Environmental Investigator

Date

1/29/18

Signed



Supervisor

Date

1/29/18

Attachments: (in order of final report submittal)

___ Enforcement Action Request (EAR)

X Letter to Facility (specify type) : General Compliance
Letter

___ Investigation Report

___ Sample Analysis Results

___ Manifests

___ Notice of Registration

___ Maps, Plans, Sketches

___ Photographs

___ Correspondence from the facility

___ Other (specify) :

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

January 29, 2018

Mr. Matthew Montagna, Operations Manager
Blue Ridge Landfill TX, LP
2200 Farm-to-Market 521 Road
Fresno, Texas 77545

Re: Compliance Investigation at:
Blue Ridge Landfill, 2200 Farm-to-Market 521 Road, Fresno (Fort Bend County), Texas
Regulated Entity No.: 102-610-102, TCEQ ID No.: FG-0536-E
Investigation No.: 1435121

Dear Mr. Montagna:

On August 10, 2017, Mr. Samuel Cortez of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Houston Region Office conducted an investigation of the above-referenced facility to evaluate compliance with applicable requirements for air quality. No violations are being alleged as a result of the investigation.

The TCEQ appreciates your assistance in this matter and your compliance efforts to ensure protection of the State's environment. If you or members of your staff have any questions regarding these matters, please feel free to contact Mr. Cortez in the Houston Region Office at (713) 767-3723.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cassandra Moore".

Cassandra Moore, Air Section Team Leader
Houston Region Office

ASM/SC/swf

TCEQ Complaint Report

01/23/2018
10:30:17AM

Incident No: 265561

Media Type: AIR

Start Date: 8/7/2017

Received Date: 08/07/2017

Method : EMAIL

Staff Member: SCORTEZ

Status: Closed

Status Date: 08/17/2017

Priority: Within 14 Calendar Days

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: BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL TX LP

Address: 13630 FONDERN RD, HOUSTON, TX 77085

PHONE

Title:

Number Complaining: 4

Frequency: CURRENT

Alleged Source: BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL

Program Group: AIR QUALITY -
HIGH LEVEL

Nature: ODOR

Effect: GENERAL

Initial Problem

Action Taken

Closure Comments

Investigation Number: 1435121