**US ECOLOGY NORTH AND SOUTH 1st quarter meeting 3/22/23**

* HCA Quarter 1 meeting

**Present:**

* John Barta
* Dan Belisle - N. Site
* Tabetha Peebles - S. Site
* Tianna Kilgore - EGLE rep
* Eric Tidquist, Camden Ogletree, EPA
* Many more folks… but I started taking notes

**New hires:**

* Wastewater Chemical Process Operator - who left?
* New positions:
  + Safety Specialist - new position
  + Non-bulk Receiving coordinator
  + Solidification chem process operator
  + Maintenance

**Charity Work:**

* Alkebu-Lan Village
  + USE is tabling at their next event
  + John is concerned about truck traffic
  + USE is also plowing their lots
* Operation Get Down:
  + Receives turkeys, PPE, and other during COVID etc…
* Recovery Park also receives payouts
  + Pulled their bobcat out of the mud
  + Did cleanups at Chene Ferry Market

**Facility Updates:**

* North:
  + Filter Press Concrete replacement
  + Filled cracks and gaps
* South:
  + Power Wash building to support cleaning of equipment
  + Drum Dock Roof insulation to improve the condition of the building with spray insulation in the ceiling
  + **RUNI device - *pumps out air could cause odor?***
    - Minimizing the amount of materials we ship out, this compacts containers to not ship so much

**Compliance:**

* EGLE Q1 2023 Inspections - occur in the beginning of the quarter
  + Part 111 - still waiting
  + Part 115 - in compliance
* GLWA
  + Renewed a permit with GLWA for the S. Site
  + N site renewal isnt for another year or two

**Odors -**

* Tracking weather to correlate operations with weather
* He showed a bunch of charts that I took screenshots of…

**Comments:**

**Jennifer:**

* **Could you speak to what caused the fire at USE S?**
  + Non-conforming material - PH, color, consistency - one that wouldn't conform into the
  + Working with the generator of this material and EGLE for process and material review. EGLE arrived at 3:00PM and in the morning.
  + They engage with the fire department - and USE is doing a review on this now.
* **US E south HCA?**
  + If this is deemed to be the path forward he’ll do it. He is not working on this on his side.
  + If there is a separate HCA, he is not going to be dissuaded to include both sites on these updates.

**Tim:**

* **Railcar - is this full?**
  + The spur of the line on the W. line along the rail, the fencing has been there and the local line put in gates.
  + The rail is used weekly - once/week
  + Flammable waste is not set up or approved to treat on site.
* **And did any toxic waste from Ohio come?**
  + No
* **Will you take any in the future?**
  + It's unlikely
* **GLWA permit next renewal?**
  + has a 3 year permit

**Pat:**

* **Ameritye Manufacturing in NE detroit and Tritech Titanium:** On Monday, they took a tour and it was mentioned that the byproducts are accepted by US Ecology. **Are you familiar with their operation and they type of waste products? What facility are they coming to and does this pose any challenges to your system?**
  + Followup with an email…

**Mike:**

* **Do you do perimeter monitoring for odors?**
  + Yes, within the operating facility by encouraging every employee to say something if they smell it. They also go out 2 times a day to make an evaluation
  + The other aspect - 3 locations on the corners - there are air sampling that are required.
* **Are these results forwarded to EGLE if there are exceedances?**
  + Yes with notes
  + They look like a wooden structure.
* **What do you discharge into the sewers:**
  + Leachate, oily waste after treatment - discharged to GLWA
  + This facility is a pretreatment facility for GLWA to do a secondary treatment
* **GLWA doesn't have the capacity to filter more than biological matter?**
  + - The amount of industrial water waste is small into their location. There is a great level of engagement with US Ecology
* **How often do you sample the air at the monitoring stations?**
  + Not sure, **Katie** is looking at the data all the time…
  + They think every 6-8 days. It is very specific in the permit of how they have to do this for a 24 hour period every ~6-8 days.
    - **“Ambient Air Monitoring is done monthly at Detroit South.  Just confirmed.” (Tabitha in chat)**

**Other Questions:**

* **Can you increase this to daily?**
  + Working with a specialist on odor, you would not see correlation on the monitors because the monitors are so low.
  + **The air monitoring program is under review from EGLE for location and method.**
* **How is it that you can continue to operate under a consent order, even while you still cause odors in our community.** -
  + Put him off his seat… cant answer…
* Part 115- in compliance determination - no violations or findings for solid waste
* Liquid and solid slide: Is there a key that describes what the N/Y mean?
  + Y means odor complaint with violation;
  + N means odor complaint without violation

**KT’s Comments:**

* **1. Waste water** - toxins don't take much to be harmful so having very little transferred to the wastewater treatment plant can still be very problematic if the water treatment plant doesn't know to treat it.
* **2. The fire** raised a great concern in that community members need direct notification from your staff so that we can take precautions immediately, if the emergency is harmful or not.
* **3. We need monitors located at the SE corner** of your facility I smell a lot of odors that come from SE winds from your location
* **4. Once a month monitoring is not sufficient** for this location that continues to cause concerns in our community
* **5. We need a separate HCA for the s site** and a separate meeting because the folks representing the S site community have dominated this time and this whole thing has been set up for the n site only.
* **6. I am amazed that this facility is still able to operate** on an expired permit from 2016 while still causing odors in our community.
  + No response received.

**KT Morelli**

Organizer

**Breathe Free Detroit**