

DRIFTSIDE VENTURE, LLC

350 N. El Camino Real, #A, Encinitas, CA 92024

June 26, 2024

Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Attn: Mark Amick
100 N Senate Ave
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: Compliance Evaluation Response
Permit #IN0031879

Dear Ms. Rohr.

I am in receipt of the inspection notice dated June 17, 2024, it was received on June 19, 2024, and per the instructions, I am providing a written response. I have collaborated with my operator Matt Gillock to provide these responses.

The plant started having issues around the beginning of June. Matt reached out to me to inform me of the situation and indicated that he would be reaching out to Kevin Stark at IDEM as well. On June 18th, Matt met with Pete Crowl from the Indiana Alliance and they performed some additional testing. Those tests indicated that our air system in the aeration tank could be the source of the problem. On the 19th my staff had a portion of the aeration system removed to find the diffusers to be worn and clogged. A small percentage were cleaned on that day and the remaining cleaned on the following day. New diffusers were ordered for replacement on June 20th. In addition, we had approximately 4,000 gallons of healthy bugs brought in from Columbus on June 19th as well.

As I understood, Kevin indicated to Matt that he wanted testing performed 5 days a week until levels were brought back within normal range. In speaking with Matt, the final ammonia levels were 38.8 on Thursday June 20th, dropped to 29.4 on Friday and were at 16.7 on Saturday. All these figures correlate with our increasing DO numbers during the same period of time, which are directly related to the increased air into the aeration tank. The working theory is that while temperatures are lower during the winter and spring months, the lack of oxygen had less of an effect on the bugs in the plant. As temperatures climbed at the end of May and beginning of June, the heat caused the bugs to be stressed and begin to die.

The color in the tanks have improved and the plant seems to be getting back to normal. The new diffusers will be installed when they are received, but operations are continuing to improve.

Sincerely,



Ken Johnston
LLC Manager/Owner