



Indiana Department of Environmental Management

We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.

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(800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • www.idem.IN.gov

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

Brian Rockensuess
Commissioner

March 06, 2024

Via Email to: thomas.barnett@clevelandcliffs.com

Mr. Thomas Barnett, Environmental Manager
Cleveland-Cliffs Indiana Harbot
3001 Dickey Road
East Chicago, Indiana 46312

Dear Mr. Barnett:

Re: Inspection Summary Letter
Cleveland-Cliffs Steel, LLC - Central Treatment
Plant
NPDES Permit No. IN0063711
East Chicago, Lake County

An inspection of the above-referenced facility or location was conducted by a representative of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Southeast Regional Office, pursuant to IC 13-18-3-9. A summary of the inspection is provided below:

Date(s) of Inspection: March 04, 2024
Type of Inspection: Reconnaissance Inspection
Inspection Results: Potential problems were discovered or observed.

A copy of the NPDES Industrial Facility Inspection Report is enclosed for your records. Please direct any response to this letter and any questions to Nicholas Ream at 219-730-1691 or by email to nream@idem.IN.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Amick, Director
Southeast Regional Office

Enclosure



NPDES Industrial Facility Inspection Report

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

NPDES Permit Number: IN0063711		Facility Type: Industrial		Facility Classification: Major		Facility Classification: D		TEMPO AI ID	
Date(s) of Inspection:		March 04, 2024							
Type of Inspection:		Reconnaissance Inspection							
Name and Location of Facility Inspected: Cleveland-Cliffs Steel, LLC - Central Treatment Plant 3001 Dickey Road East Chicago IN 46312				Receiving Waters/POTW: Indiana Harbor Shipping Canal		Permit Expiration Date: 1/31/2029			
						Design Flow: NA			
On Site Representative(s): First Name Last Name Title Email Phone Kevin Lurtz Environmental Engineer kevin.lurtz@clevelandcliffs.com									
Was a verbal summary of the inspection given to the on-site rep? Yes									
Certified Operator: Michael Dauterman		Number: 19730	Class: D	Effective Date: 7-1-22	Expiration Date: 6-30-25	Email: michael.dauterman@clevelandcliffs.com			
Cyber Security Contact									
Name: Email:									
Responsible Official: Mr. Thomas Barnett, Environmental Manager 3001 Dickey Road East Chicago, Indiana 46312					Permittee: Cleveland-Cliffs Indiana Harbot Email: thomas.barnett@clevelandcliffs.com Phone: Fax:				
					Contacted? No				
INSPECTION FINDINGS									
<input type="radio"/> Conditions evaluated were found to be satisfactory at the time of the inspection. (5)									
<input type="radio"/> Violations were discovered but corrected during the inspection. (4)									
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Potential problems were discovered or observed. (3)									
<input type="radio"/> Violations were discovered and require a submittal from you and/or a follow-up inspection by IDEM. (2)									
<input type="radio"/> Violations were discovered and may subject you to an appropriate enforcement response. (1)									
AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION									
(S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)									
S	Receiving Waters	S	Facility/Site	N	Self-Monitoring	N	Enforcement		
S	Effluent/Discharge	S	Operation	N	Flow Measurement				
S	Permit	M	Maintenance	N	Laboratory	N	Effluent Limits Compliance		
		N	Sludge	N	Records/Reports	N	Other:		
DETAILED AREA EVALUATIONS									
Receiving Waters:									
Comments: The receiving stream was free of notable foam, algae or solids. Cleveland-Cliffs personnel were preparing to install a plate on Outfall 001 to force the effluent to overflow a weir prior to discharge to the Indiana Harbor Ship Canal. The intent with the plate installation is to prevent water from the Indiana Harbor Ship Canal from flowing up the discharge pipe.									
Effluent/Discharge:									
Comments: The effluent was clear and free of color at the time of the inspection. The effluent was minimal in preparation for the plate installation. Please refer to the Receiving Stream category for more information regarding the plate installation.									
Permit:									
Comments: The facility has a valid permit.									

Facility/Site:

Comments:

The facility grounds are well maintained. All areas requested to be inspected were made available.

Operation:

Comments:

All units of treatment appear to be operating efficiently. The northwest clarifier was in operation at the time of the inspection. The southwest clarifier was down due to lack of flow, but on-site personnel stated that the operable clarifier would soon be switched following recent repairs on the southeast clarifier and the work needed on the northwest clarifier.

Maintenance:

Comments:

Maintenance was rated as marginal. Holes were observed under the weirs in the northwest clarifier. While solids were not observed as a problem at the time of the inspection, these holes will need to be repaired. Mr. Lurtz stated that the holes would be repaired on the upcoming clarifier rotation.

Effluent Limits Compliance:

No 1. Were DMRs reviewed as part of the inspection?

Comments:

While Effluent Limits was not rated with this inspection, it should be noted that, due to Whole Effluent Toxicity Test failures and the inability to correct the matter within the Toxic Reduction Evaluation, Cleveland-Cliffs personnel requested an Agreed Order. IDEM - Office of Water Quality - Compliance Section personnel have officially referred this matter to the Enforcement Section.

IDEM REPRESENTATIVE

Inspector Name:

Nicholas Ream

Email:

nream@idem.IN.gov

Phone Number:

219-730-1691

Other staff participating in the inspection:

Name(s)

Phone Number(s)

Miya Spratt

219-312-1226

Kevin Davis

219-464-0233

Cliff Yukawa

219-464-0233

IDEM MANAGER REVIEW

IDEM Manager:

Mark A. Amick

Date:

3/5/2024

Inspection Photographs



Facility:	
Cleveland-Cliffs Steel, LLC - Central Treatment Plant	
Photographer:	
Nicholas Ream	
Date: 03/04/2024	Time: 10:25 AM
Others Present:	
Kevin Lurtz, Miya Spratt, Cliff Yukawa, Kevin Davis	
Location/Description:	
Southwest view of the northwest clarifier. Holes were observed under the weirs.	



Facility:	
Cleveland-Cliffs Steel, LLC - Central Treatment Plant	
Photographer:	
Nicholas Ream	
Date: 03/04/2024	Time: 10:25 AM
Others Present:	
Kevin Lurtz, Miya Spratt, Cliff Yukawa, Kevin Davis	
Location/Description:	
Northeast view of the northwest clarifier. Additional holes were observed under the weir.	



Facility:	
Cleveland-Cliffs Steel, LLC - Central Treatment Plant	
Photographer:	
Nicholas Ream	
Date: 03/04/2024	Time: 10:40 AM
Others Present:	
Kevin Lurtz, Miya Spratt, Cliff Yukawa, Kevin Davis	
Location/Description:	
Down view of Outfall 001. Most of the flow was held back in preparation for the installation of a plate over the effluent pipe.	