From: **KOSTERK1@michigan.gov**
Sent: 7/19/2011 3:53:44 PM

To: "Brian Dickens/R5/USEPA/US@EPA" <Dickens.Brian@epamail.epa.gov>
CC:
Subject: RE: US Steel NOV Conference - Region 5

Received. Thanks Brian. I will plan on dialing in at 10 a.m. central.

From: Brian Dickens [Dickens.Brian@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 12:44 PM
To: Koster, Katherine (DNRE)
Subject: US Steel NOV Conference - Region 5

Katie:

Here is the conference line for Thursday at 10:00 central. Talk to you then,

Toll-free dial-in number (U.S. and Canada):
(877) 226-9607

International dial-in number:
(480) 366-2661

Conference code:
2135374437

Brian Dickens
U.S. EPA - Region 5
Ph (312) 886-6073
Fx (312) 692-2564
dickens.brian@epa.gov

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http://www.epa.gov/compliance/complaints/index.html

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From: "Koster, Katherine (DNRE)" <KOSTERK1@michigan.gov>

To: Brian Dickens/R5/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 07/14/2011 02:47 PM

Subject: RE: FW: Info requested on June 30

Brian,

Thanks for a copy of the NOV. Actually, a copy of the letter did make its way to me recently and I am very interested in the resolution of these two issues (bleeders and beaching) as they are concerns of AQD as well (at both steel mills). I'm especially interested in the beaching issue as I am currently at odds with Severstal as my position is that they should be taking VE readings during beaching and reporting each beaching incident as a deviation (regardless of whether Method 9's are taken) b/c from what I've observed, and now with the NOV findings, there is no way they can meet the 20% 3 min average during beaching.

Anyway, I would most definitely like to attend the conference on 7/21. I'm assuming the conference is in Chicago so I would only be allowed to call in by phone. Please send call in details when you have a chance.

Katie

Katie Koster
MDEQ - Air Quality Division (AQD)
Detroit Field Office
3058 West Grand Blvd Suite 2-300
Detroit, MI 48202
313-456-4678 (ph)
313-456-4692 (fax)

-----Original Message-----
From: Brian Dickens [mailto:Dickens.Brian@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2011 2:04 PM
To: Koster, Katherine (DNRE)
Subject: Re: FW: Info requested on June 30

Thanks for this information, it is timely.

We issued Notices/Findings of Violation to US Steel Gary and Great Lakes for violating opacity standards from blast furnace relief valves and iron beaching. The GL one is attached below.
We are having an NOV/FOV conference on 7/21. You are welcome to attend in person or by phone, please let me know your interest,

Thanks,
(See attached file: USS Great Lakes Inter NOV.pdf)

Brian Dickens
U.S. EPA - Region 5
Ph (312) 886-6073
Fx (312) 692-2564
dickens.brian@epa.gov

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From: "Koster, Katherine (DNRE)" <KOSTERK1@michigan.gov>

To: Brian Dickens/R5/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 07/08/2011 05:05 PM

Subject: FW: Info requested on June 30

FYI. Call me if you would like to discuss. I will also generate a "formal" complaint investigation report which I can send to you if needed.

Thanks
Katie Koster

From: Alexis Piscitelli [mailto:APiscitelli@uss.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 7:18 AM
To: Koster, Katherine (DNRE)
Cc: Mark L Gornick
Subject: Info requested on June 30

Ms. Koster,

On June 30, 2011, we received an email requesting information for a bleeder opening that occurred on June 23, 2011. I understand the email was a follow-up to a conversation that occurred with Mark Gornick during the EGL compliance demonstration.

The reason for the bleeder opening was an increase in furnace top pressure. The bleeder opened to relieve the pressure inside the vessel.

The bleeder opening occurred on June 23 at 13:51; the bleeder closed at 14:05. The visible emissions from the bleeder lasted approximately one minute.

The root cause of the bleeder opening was an equipment failure/breakdown. The relay that controls the venturi opening failed to operate correctly. The open relay contacts were not passing current to energize the solenoid. This kept the venturi from opening when requested which led to the increase in top pressure.

The operators initiated corrective action by reducing the wind and manually pushing the venturi open solenoid. This fully opened the venturi to lower the top pressure.

Permanent corrective actions to prevent recurrence include scheduling a time based relay replacement and adding software diagnostics which will alarm when venturi position feedback does not respond properly.

If you have any questions regarding this matter or require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,
Alexis Piscitelli
Director, Environmental Control
United States Steel Corporation - Great Lakes Works
No. 1 Quality Drive
Ecorse, MI 48229
Phone: 313-749-3900
Fax: 313-749-2063
apiscitelli@uss.com

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