United States Environmental Protection Agency

Air Monitoring Continues at Southeast Chicago Facility

S.H. Bell Company

Chicago, Illinois September 2017

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency began investigating fugitive dust and manganese issues at S.H. Bell's Chicago facility in April 2014. Due to U.S. EPA's efforts, S.H. Bell has installed new air pollution control equipment, implemented an enhanced fugitive dust plan, and installed air quality monitors to measure PM10 and manganese. U.S. EPA has also requested the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry evaluate the impact of the facility on the community based on the data collected by the air quality monitors. Once finalized, this report will be made public.

On Aug. 7, U.S. EPA issued a Notice of Violation under the Clean Air Act to S.H. Bell.[1] The Agency determined manganese emissions exceeded the health-based screening level at the company facility at 10218 S. Ave. O. Air monitoring data from March 1 through June 30, 2017, showed an average concentration of 0.32 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu g/m^3$) of manganese. The minimal risk level for chronic inhalation exposure to manganese is 0.3 µg/m3.

U.S. EPA staff continues to inspect S.H. Bell's Chicago facility to confirm the company's complying with federal and state regulations. S.H. Bell is subject to other ongoing obligations set forth in the Dec. 5, 2016, legal document called the "Stipulated Settlement and Final Consent Order." The Order included operation and maintenance of the air monitors.

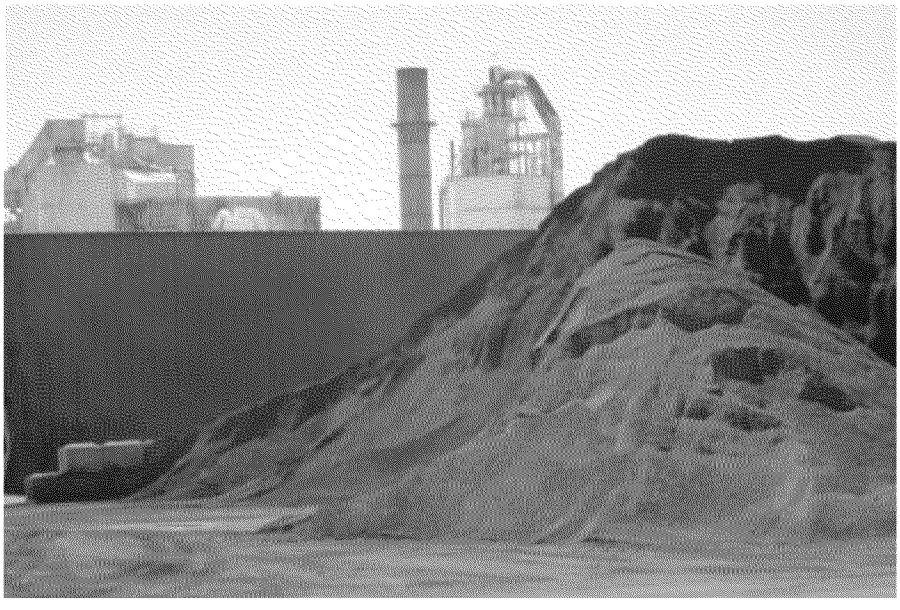

Photo shows a previous outdoor bulk material storage pile at the S.H. Bell Chicago facility. U.S. EPA continues to monitor air particles around the facility.

For more information

For questions, comments or more information about the S.H. Bell S.H. Chicago monitoring situation, contact:

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[1] *The Aug. 7, 2017, U.S. EPA Notice of Violation was issued under Section 113(a)(l) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(a)(l). U.S. EPA found that S.H. Bell Co. was violating the Illinois State Implementation Plan at its Chicago facility.*