



Hillcrest Industries Update: 8/10/12



The deodorization system used to treat the gases extracted from the large pile of glass. The blue and white object in the compost pile is a 55-gallon plastic drum used to collect and pump out liquids.



Air pollution control equipment, material conveying and storage equipment for the crushing and screening of slag and colored glass.

Website: For updates on this site, visit DEC's website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/83781.html>.

Added 8/10/12: DEC collected ambient air samples at four locations downwind of Hillcrest Industries on Wednesday August 8, 2012. Three samples were collected at locations in the odor plume. The preliminary toxic organic compound analysis results indicate no health concerns. The pollutant concentrations measured are below the statewide averages. Specific data will be available once the necessary quality control and quality assurance procedures for the analysis are completed. We continue to work with Hillcrest to address the odor and dust problem as expeditiously as possible.

What is Hillcrest Industries? The Hillcrest Industries facility located on Favor Street in Attica collects boiler slag material (hardened residue collected from off-site coal boilers) and processes it into abrasive blast media (sandblasting materials). The facility also processes glass fragments (cullet) into reflective road striping beads and abrasive blast media.

What is the source of the odor? A pile of glass fragments that the plant uses to make sandblasting materials and reflective glass beads is the major source of odors. The odor is generated by decaying food residue which is adhered to the glass.

What is the source of the dust? Dust is generated when the boiler slag and glass are ground down to smaller sizes. Most of this dust is captured in dust collectors but some is released into the environment. Dust may also be blown off the roadways and the slag pile.

What is Hillcrest doing to address community concerns?

In an attempt to control odors, Hillcrest has installed perforated pipe in the large glass cullet pile located in the southwest portion of the site. The pipe is connected to a blower that pulls odorous gas out of the glass cullet pile. The gas is then piped into a pile of compost that contains bacteria that reduces the odors before the gas is discharged to the air. In addition, Hillcrest has covered most of the large glass cullet pile on the site with plastic sheeting, which should significantly reduce the amount of untreated gas leaving the glass cullet pile. This gas collection system will be continuously evaluated and modified as needed to attain improved odor control. Hillcrest is also preparing to inject nitrogen into the pile to further assist in odor control.

To reduce particulate emissions (dust) Hillcrest has repaired leaking process equipment, sealed off broken bag filters, ordered replacement filters and applied a dust suppressant to the facility's roadways.

Are there any health risks associated with particulate emissions from the plant? DEC has collected dust samples in the neighborhood between Favor Street and George's Drive. Once sample results are available we will consult with NYS Department of Health and/or the Wyoming County Health Department to determine if there is any health risk. Potential sources of dust were sampled at Hillcrest so a comparison can be made. Hillcrest is currently making equipment repairs to minimize particulate emissions to the environment.

What actions has DEC taken? DEC has investigated odor and dust complains in Attica, and visited the Hillcrest facility on several occasions to inspect operations and investigate environmental concerns. On June 20, 2012 DEC issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to Hillcrest Industries. This NOV cited the facility for several violations including:

- Failure to obtain coverage under the Division of Water Multi-Sector General Storm Water Permit
- Excessive nuisance odors from the property that are adversely impacting the local community
- Operating a solid waste management facility without a permit
- Placing fill within 100 feet of a regulated wetland

DEC is proceeding with an enforcement action against Hillcrest Industries. DEC officials met with Hillcrest representatives on July 17 to discuss agency and community concerns and are continuing to work with Hillcrest to address concerns identified. DEC is requiring Hillcrest to move recyclable material that was used for fill in a low area on the property by August 1st. Most of this material has already been moved. DEC is also in communication with the village and several residents of Attica concerning Hillcrest and will continue to provide updates and information as requests are made and as new information becomes available.

Who to Contact

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions:

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Site Location

