

City of Alpena

News Release of August 21, 2019



Odor Issues in the City

The City has received numerous complaints regarding odors in the community. To that end, we were able to determine that the odors are coming from the DPI plant area. We believe the odors are the result of two issues; 1) wood product was stockpiled and not utilized in the process resulting in the material beginning to decay, and 2) a portion of the decayed material was also sent into the plants wastewater treatment process which could not treat the material resulting in odors from that process. DPI is currently removing the decaying wood products from the site. Exposing this material during the loading for removal results in additional odors being released. This removal process should be completed in the next two days.

The City of Alpena's Wastewater Treatment Plant has an extensive odor control system which has significantly reduced the odors emitted from the City's plant, and the odors experienced are not from the City of Alpena's plant. Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy have been on site at the City of Alpena's Wastewater Treatment Plant performing compliance monitoring and concur the odors are not related to the City's operation. Odor concerns related to the DPI operation can be directed to the State of Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy.

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