

**United States Steel Corporation
Midwest Consent Decree
March 15, 2022, Semi-Annual Report**

This is the eighth semi-annual progress report that satisfies Section IX Paragraph 27 of the Midwest Consent Decree (effective date August 31, 2021) which states the following:

“U. S. Steel shall submit a semi-annual progress report no later than March 15 and September 15 of each year, with the first semi-annual report due on the first March 15 or September 15 that occurs more than ninety (90) Days after the Effective Date. Each semi-annual report shall contain the following information with respect to, respectively, the half-year between July 1 and December 31, or the half-year between January 1 and June 30, commencing on the date of Entry of the Consent Decree:”

This semi-annual progress report covers the time period between July 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021.

- a) *Identification of Work performed and progress made toward implementing the requirements of Section VI (Compliance Requirements), including a narrative description of activities undertaken, the status of any construction or compliance measures, and the completion of any milestones;***

Section VI, Paragraph 9.a-d items are complete.

Section VI, Paragraph 10.a-d items are complete.

As per Section VI, Paragraph 10.e, the results of the annual review and revisions to the O&M Plan are documented in a revision log contained within the O&M Plan.

As per Section VI, Paragraph 10.f, at the time of the next NPDES renewal application following the effective date of the Consent Decree, U. S. Steel requested that the renewed permit include the requirements to develop, implement, and review the O&M Plan pursuant to Paragraph 10(a) – (e) of the Consent Decree. U. S. Steel submitted the application for renewal of the NPDES permit on October 1, 2020, and the reissued permit effective October 1, 2021, contains the required O&M Plan requirements.

Section VI, Paragraph 11.a-d are complete.

As per Section VI, Paragraph 11.e, U. S. Steel maintains the results of the enhanced wastewater process monitoring in accordance with its NPDES Permit.

Section VI, Paragraph 12.a item is complete.

As per Section VI, Paragraph 12.b, at the time of the next NPDES renewal application following the effective date of the Consent Decree, U. S. Steel requested that the sampling conducted per Section VI, Paragraph 12.a be included in the renewed permit. U. S. Steel submitted the application for renewal of the NPDES permit on October 1,

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2020, and the reissued permit effective October 1, 2021, contains the requirements in accordance with Section VI, Paragraph 12.a.

As per Section VII, U. S. Steel is conducting water quality sampling at seven (7) listed locations to complete the State-only Environmentally Beneficial Project (EBP). Sampling began in November 2021. Sampling and reporting are conducted according to the Sampling and Analysis Plan submitted to IDEM in November 2021.

b) *Any significant problems encountered or anticipated in complying with the requirements of Section VI (Compliance Requirements), including implemented or proposed solutions;*

During the period of July 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021, there were no significant problems encountered or anticipated in complying with the requirements of Section VI (Compliance Requirements).

IDEM stated via email on February 28, 2022 that the Beach Guard website where EBP e. coli results are to be posted is no longer a functional database. U. S. Steel is awaiting on an alternate portal and/or email address to be provided by IDEM. Meanwhile, U. S. Steel continues to analyze samples for e. coli and publish the results on its website.

c) *Identification and description of all non-compliance with any of the requirements under Section VI (Compliance Requirements), including description of the likely cause and of the remedial steps taken, or to be taken, to prevent or minimize such noncompliance;*

There were no occurrences of non-compliance with any of the requirements under Section VI (Compliance Requirements) of the Consent Decree from the period of July 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021.

d) *A statement of any exceedances of its NPDES Permit limitations;*

During the period of July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, there were no NPDES Permit limitation exceedances that occurred.

Midwest's third quarter 2020 WETT failed as well as the confirmation test. As per permit requirements, Midwest is continuing to perform a Toxic Reduction Evaluation (TRE) and Toxic Identification Evaluation (TIE).

e) *A summary of any spills and unpermitted Discharges occurring within the reporting period, and reported pursuant to the requirements included in Appendix B of this*

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Decree, including the actual or estimated frequency, duration, and volume of each spill, unpermitted discharge or Permit limit exceedance; and

There were no spills or unpermitted discharges that occurred at the Midwest facility between July 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021.

The following Narrative Water Quality Standard exceedances occurred at the Midwest facility between July 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021:

- On September 26, 2021, the discharge from Outfall 004 caused discoloration to receiving waters. The total volume of the discolored water discharged from Outfall 004 is unknown; the discoloration began around 3:00 PM on September 26, 2021, and ended around 3:00 PM on September 27, 2021. There were no numeric limit exceedances at Outfall 004 through the duration of the discoloration. Per Section IX, Paragraph 28, a letter describing this narrative standard exceedance, its cause, and the corrective actions taken was submitted to the USEPA and IDEM on October 5, 2021.
- On October 7, 2021, a light, heavily degraded oil sheen was observed at Outfall 004. The total volume of oil discharged from Outfall 004 is unknown; the sheen was first observed at 8:07AM, contained within a boom at 9:00 AM, and ended at 3:00 PM on October 7, 2021. Per Section IX, Paragraph 28, a letter describing this narrative standard exceedance, its cause, and the corrective actions taken was submitted to the USEPA and IDEM on October 11, 2021.

f) *The results of any O&M Plan review, conducted pursuant to paragraph 10, completed within the reporting period.*

Annual review and revisions to the O&M plan were completed prior to this report period. The O&M revision log from the April 2021 review was included in the progress report submitted in September 2021. The O&M plan was updated to include the renewed permit and conditions.

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true,

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accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations. This certification requirement does not apply to emergency or similar notifications where compliance would be impractical.

Signature:  _____

Name: Alexis S. Piscitelli

Title: Director, Environmental, Gary Works, Midwest, Great Lakes and Granite City

Date: March 14, 2022