



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**  
**DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES**  
Knoxville Environmental Field Office  
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Knoxville TN, 37921  
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November 8, 2021

Mr. Jeffrey C. Weida  
Location Manager  
Arconic Tennessee, LLC  
2300 North Wright Road  
Alcoa, Tennessee 37701

RE:    **Comprehensive Environmental Inspection**  
Arconic  
NPDES Permit TN0067199 North Plant  
NPDES Permit TN0065081 South Plant  
Blount County, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Weida:

On August 6, 2021, Steve Brooks of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Resources, performed a routine compliance inspection at Arconic to evaluate compliance with NPDES Permits TN0067199 & TN0065081. The Division wishes to thank Mr. Devin Belleau, Mr. Shane Strickland and other staff for their time and assistance. Please see the sections below for details regarding the inspection.

## **I. Permit**

The two permits included in this inspection involve Arconic Tennessee, LLC. Arconic works primarily with aluminum, including aluminum forming and fabrication with hot and cold rolling capabilities. This plant also performs smelting, remelts/reclaims aluminum scrap, cast ingots and has related support facilities throughout the entire facility (North and South Plants). The operations at Arconic do match the current permit wording and intent.

Permit TN0067199 covers the North Plant, including industrial wastewater and groundwater from Outfall 001, industrial wastewater, landfill leachate and storm water runoff from Outfall 007, and industrial wastewater and storm water runoff from SW1, and storm water runoff from 01N, 01S, 01E, N01-N06 and N08-N12.

Permit TN0065081 covers the South Plant including industrial wastewater from Outfall 006 and industrial storm water runoff from Outfalls SW4, SW6 and S03.

## **II. Records/Reports**

During the inspection process, all documentation was set out in a conference room and reviewed for completeness and revision dates. The main document in use at Arconic is a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP was revised December 11, 2020 and was in order and in compliance with any permit requirements. Employee training records were reviewed and were acceptable with no issues. A spill list is in place, but no spills had taken place in the period being reviewed during this inspection (since last inspection in February of 2020).

One violation of note was found for this inspection period. On March 3, 2021 samples (verified with a duplicate) revealed a PCB issue at North Plant Outfall 001. This appeared to be the result of heavy rainfall during construction activities, which stirred up contaminated sediments. After that event and completion of construction, samples have been at non-detect.

## **III. Facility Site Review, Self-Compliance Program, Operations & Maintenance, and Sanitary Sewer Overflows**

This facility encompasses almost 600 acres with 24 hour/day 7 day/week shift work by about 900 employees. All the outfalls, basins, etc. were observed during this inspection, along with several other facilities like gas refueling areas and garage areas. The garage we observed (without any prior notice) was in excellent condition with regard to housekeeping and containment for oils and fluids. The refueling area had double walled tanks for the fuel and a single floor drain inside the shed that drains to a basin.

North Plant N01 is in a new location since the last inspection was done. This outfall was moved with permit writer approval to better represent industrial discharge independent of TDOT activity that was ongoing along Cusick Road. N01 looked good and signage was in place. The 001 basin had booms and aeration in place with an oil skimmer operating. Sediment is pumped yearly. Outfall 001/SW1 looked good but there are some cattle issues ongoing at this location. Outfall 01S had reasonably strong flow of clear water. O1E was dripping, while N02, N03, N04, N05, N06, and N10 were all dry with no staining issues and good signage in place.

The basin at 007 has been dredged and PCB waste disposed of. Skimmer waste is also collected and disposed of. There is a dock with pumps and timers in place to be installed within the basin. This basin treats for ammonia and PCB with biological treatment, carbon filters and multimedia/micron polishing. A v-notch weir is in place for flow measurement and an ISCO sampler is installed and operating with an acceptable temperature.

At the South Plant, S03 was dry with signage in place. 006 and SW6 were flowing clear while SW4 was dry. Can reclamation was active during this visit and the area was reasonably clean even with a large amount of cans/bales in the area. S06 basin was dry.

There were no issues or problems noted during the physical inspection of the various outfalls and facilities.

#### **IV. Effluent/Receiving Waters**

The various receiving waters for Arconic are as follows: Duncan Creek at mile 0.6 (001 and SW1), an unnamed tributary to Russell Branch at mile 2.2 (007), and various wet weather discharge points along Duncan Creek and Russell Branch (01N, 01S, 01E, N01-N06, N08-N12). Pistol Creek at mile 4.7 (006 and SW6), Pistol Creek at mile 7.0 (SW4), an unnamed pond on Arconic property (S03). No issues were noted at any of the receiving streams during this inspection.

#### **V. Conclusion**

Arconic Tennessee, LLC is in compliance with both permits (North and South Plant) and no issues were found during this inspection. Overall, the facility was well kept and in good condition. Compliance with NPDES permit requirements helps ensure discharges that are protective of downstream fish and aquatic life and water quality. Thank you for your efforts to ensure permit compliance and to protect state water quality. If you need assistance in matters concerning this report, please contact me via telephone at (865) 364-9498 or via email at [Steven.Brooks@TN.gov](mailto:Steven.Brooks@TN.gov).

Sincerely,



Steven Brooks

Environmental Scientist

Division of Water Resources

Knoxville Environmental Field Office

cc: Waterlog