



**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION**

**Jeffrey W. Cown, Director**

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**Coastal District**  
1050 Canal Road  
Brunswick, Georgia 31525  
912-264-7284

**Trip Report**

**Site Name and Location:** DRT America, 400 Gov Treulten Dr, Rincon GA

**Complaint Number:** CTS #

**County:** Effingham

**Trip By:** Heather Lowery

**Date of Investigation:** 3/7/2025

**Date of Report:** 3/10/2025

**Background:**

Facility has Title V permit with Air Protection Branch and Industrial Storm Water Permit with Watershed Protection Branch. There have been numerous documented complaints within CTS for the past 3-4 years , citing chemical odor emitting from area.

The EPD-Air Protection Branch conducted the most recent conducted compliance inspection in November 202, and ambient grab samples were collected from 2023-2024 by the Coastal District. The grab samples were analyzed by GA EPD Lab, and results are summarized in a spreadsheet. The Coastal District completed a stormwater inspection in September 2023.

**Observations:**

A site visit was conducted on March 7<sup>th</sup> due to multiple calls of odor that morning. An EPD representative met with Mr. John Myers on site and walked the DRT facility. The facility was operating at the time of the site visit. While on site, the company was loading a truck with the facility process water/wastewater. This loading is done by piping the waste from a closed onsite container to the back of a closed tank on an 18 wheel truck. A green hose is then attached on the top of the truck tank that transfers the air vapors back into an onsite container. Once the transfer is complete, the hoses are sprayed down with water in the containment area and the processed water flows to the pH adjustment container. No spills were reported that day. Trucks had begun loading at 7am. On most days, the last load is around 5pm. Odors had been reported starting at 5am.

Odors were observed in spots around the facility, mainly the north end of the facility. Mr. John Myers instructed employees to take their monitoring equipment (handheld air monitor and handheld audio detection monitor) and conduct a maintenance check.

The trenches that flow processed water to the pH adjustment tank are cleaned on an “as needed” basis. The containment areas are cleaned annually. Hoses used in transferring process water to truck tanks are pressure tested annually for leaks and are replaced as needed.

The EPD representative drove through the following neighborhoods: Cobbleton at 1:50PM: No odor detected. Raindance at 2PM: No odor detected.

The following were observations at the boat ramp at Ebenezer creek via Long Branch road: No odor at arrival, healthy vegetation, aquatic life, no oil sheen on water, odor began at 2:20pm. Odor was observed on the drive back towards the DRT facility on Ebenezer Rd. Wind was blowing NE at 5mph.

**Conclusions:**

While on site, the EPD representative found no violations occurring. It is noted that best management practices for cleaning of equipment and loading/unloading material may need to be updated that may include more frequent cleanings and added odor control measures.

**Photographs:**



Outfall on NE of facility



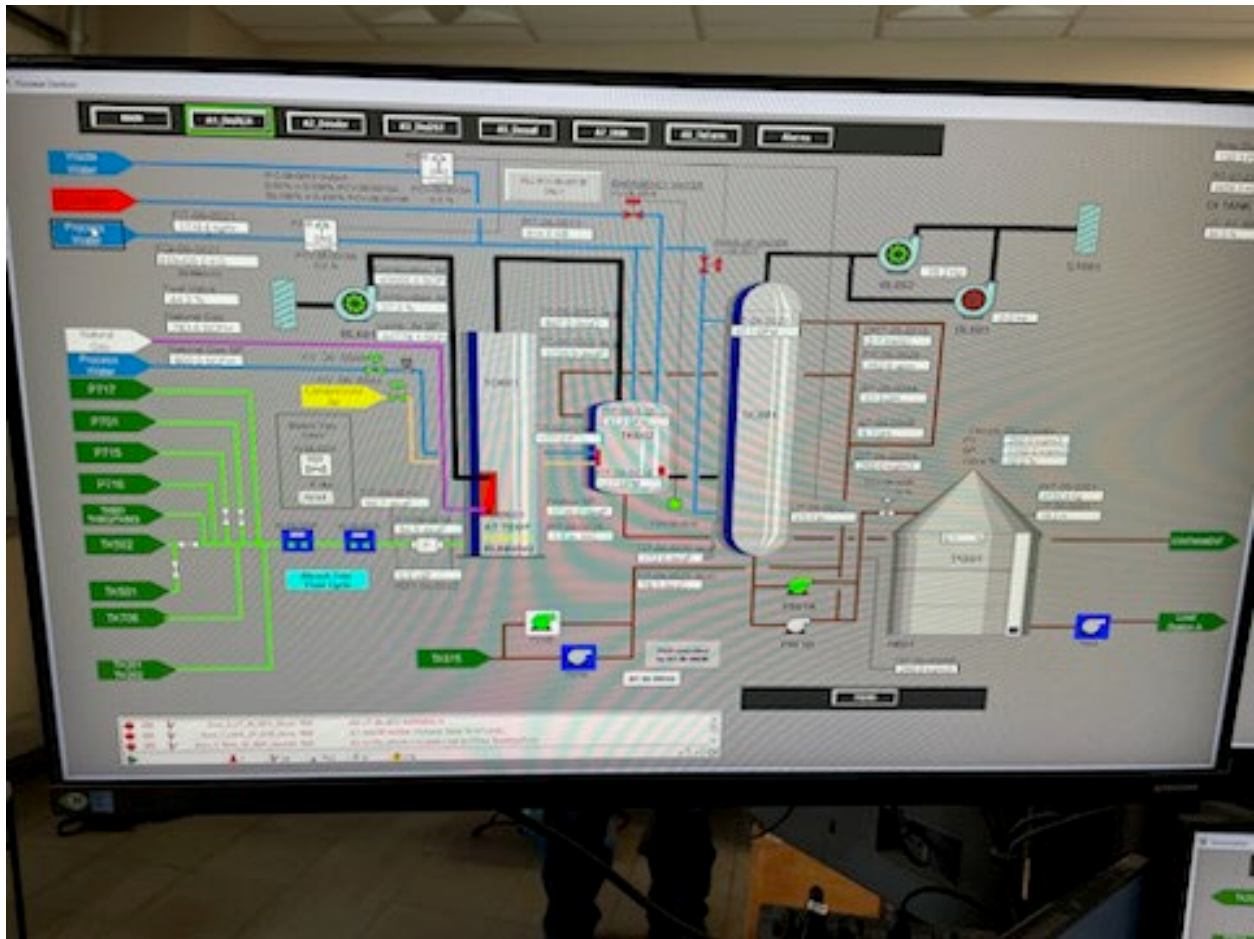
Outfall extending into treeline



Loading of waste into truck



Loading area piping



Operations: Operating per all limits set in permit

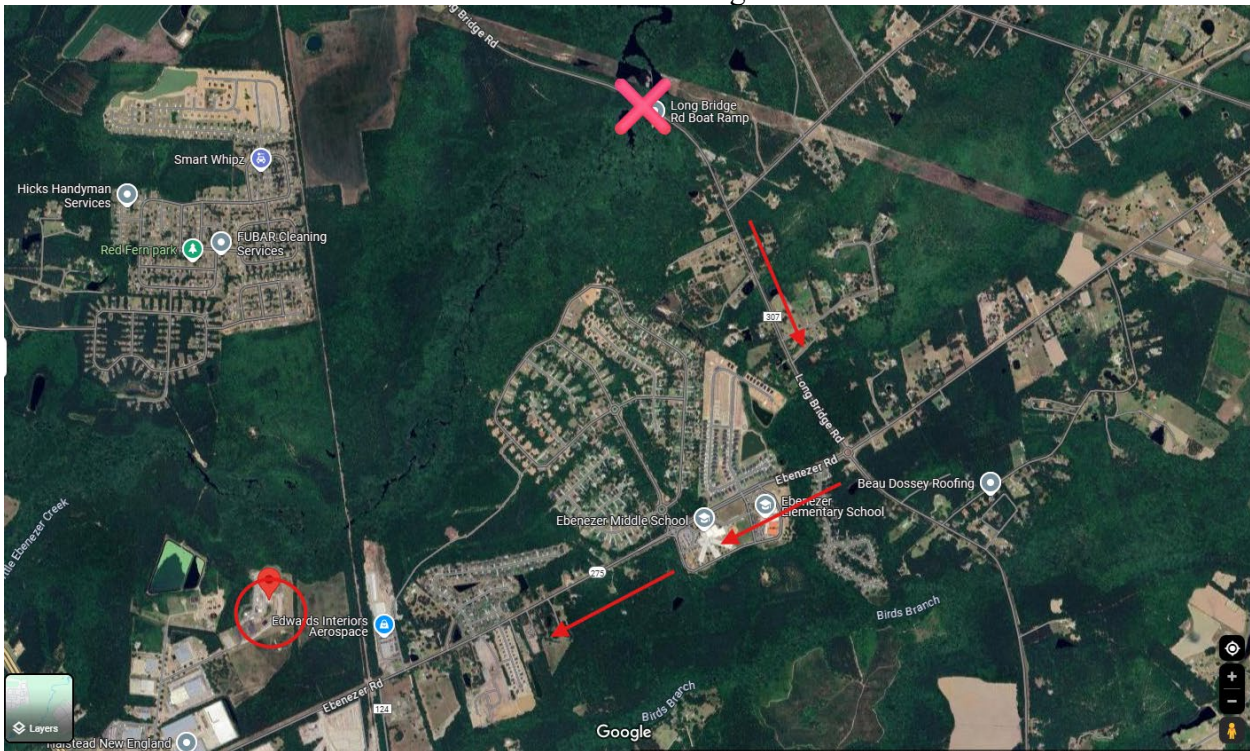


Branch Rd

Ebenezer Creek via Long



Marked with an X: Areas where odor was detected during site visit walk



Odor began at X at Long Branch Rd Boat Ramp and continued in the direction of the red arrows, driving towards GA-21. DRT America is circled in red.