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What additional questions do you have after attending/watching the Odor Management Rulemaking webinar?

How often would a resident be allowed to report an objectionable odor? If multiple residents report the same odor, how will those complaints be evaluated? How quickly would MPCA or another agency begin an investigation after a complaint is made? What evidence will be needed from residents to support a complaint? What enforcement actions will be available if a facility repeatedly causes objectionable odors?

What odors do you experience in your community? What odors concern you?

The awful odors from the Sanimax facility at 505 Hardman Ave S, South St Paul, MN 55075. The intensity and frequency of the odors impact the lives of everyone in the neighborhood.

How has odor affected your life? How do you deal with odor issues right now?

I have lived in South Saint Paul for seven years, and the odor from the Sanimax facility absolutely is horrendous! I have gone on bike rides along the Mississippi River Greenway and have been hit by a wall of terrible odor that smells like rendering animals, death, and decay. The smell can be SO strong that it has made me feel like I might throw up. Othertimes, my eyes water, and I feel the need to hurry home to the safety of AC and clean indoor air. Somedays the odor can be smelled from my front door. I have skipped walking my dogs in my own neighborhood when the smell gets bad because after a 15 minute walk I would get headaches. When the odor is strong, you don't want to be outside, and that's really frustrating since we only get so many nice-weather days each year. The odor also affects how I use and enjoy my home. I don't want to invite friends or family over to eat outside if there is a risk that the smell will make them lose their appetite, feel sick, or get headaches. No one should have to plan their daily activities or time outdoors around the smell from a nearby facility.

What outcomes would you like to see from the Odor Management Rule?

I would like the odor management rule to result in real accountability for facilities that create objectionable odors. Specifically, I would like to see facilities such as Sanimax fined until they fix their odor issues. If a facility repeatedly causes odors that interfere with residents' lives, there should be meaningful consequences and a clear requirement to correct the problem. I would also like the rule to give residents a clear and reliable way to report odor problems and receive follow-ups. People should know that their complaints are being taken seriously and that investigations will happen in a timely manner. Most importantly, I want to be able to enjoy the outdoors in my own neighborhood without dealing with horrendous odors. Clean air is essential to good health, wellness, and quality of life. Residents should be able to walk, bike, spend time outside, and invite people to their homes

without worrying that objectionable odors will ruin those experiences.

When does an odor become objectionable for you?

An odor becomes objectionable to me when it makes me feel physically sick, like feeling like I might throw up, causes headaches, or when it causes difficulty taking a deep breath. It's also objectionable when it interferes with my daily activities (walking my dogs, biking, spending time outside, opening my front door, or inviting people to my home).

 Thank you for considering my comments. I urge MPCA to adopt strong odor management rules that protect residents and hold facilities accountable when their emissions make it difficult for people to live, breathe, and enjoy their communities.