



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Southwest Region Office

PO Box 47775, Olympia, WA 98504-7775 • 360-407-6300

March 24, 2025

Kert Brown
400 West Simpson Avenue
McCleary, WA 98557

Re: State Waste Discharge Permit No. ST0006178, February 27, 2025

Dear Kert Brown:

Thank you for your time during our inspection of Simpson Door Company on February 27, 2025, in McCleary, WA. I am sending you a copy of our inspection report in reference to the facility's State Waste Discharge Permit No. ST0006178 for your review and files.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the enclosed inspection report, please reach out to me by email at anna.wallace@ecy.wa.gov or by phone at (360) 522-6216.

Sincerely,

Anna R. Wallace Ph.D.
Industrial Facility Manager
Southwest Region Office
Water Quality Program

Enclosures: State Waste Discharge Permit No. ST0006178 Inspection Report,
February 27, 2025, Inspection Photo Log

cc: Toyah Myhre, Simpson Door
Jonathan Drygas, Ecology



Permit Compliance Inspection Report

Water Quality Program

Choose an item.

A. General Information

Facility Name and Address: Simpson Door
400 West Simpson Ave
McCleary, WA 98557

GPS Latitude/Longitude: Lat: 47.0562, Long: -123.2679

Permit Number: ST0006178

Permit Type: Industrial State Waste Discharge Permit to POTW/Private and Ground (IP)

Permit Effective Dates: January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2024

Inspection Date and Time: February 27, 2025, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Discharge to: City of McCleary POTW

Receiving Water: N/A

Type of Inspection: Announced
Compliance Inspection - Without Sampling

Weather: Sunny, clear, 60°F ERTS #: N/A

Photographs Taken: Yes No Samples Taken: Yes No

B. Personnel Information

Ecology Representative(s): Anna Wallace (Lead Inspector)

Other: N/A

Facility Representative(s): Kert Brown, HR & Compliance Manager
Email: kert.brown@simpson.com, Phone: (360) 495-2075
Toyah Myhre, Safety and Training Coordinator
Email: toyah.myhre@simpson.com

Responsible Party/Official: Phil Steklinski, President
400 West Simpson Ave
McCleary, WA 98557
Phone: (360) 495-2075

Inspector Signature(s)



Anna Rose Wallace
Industrial Facility Manager

3-24-2025

Date

Reviewer Signature



John Diamant
Unit Supervisor

3/24/2025

Date

C. Facility Description and Background

D. Inspection Narrative and Observations

1. Permit Documentation and Records Review

I met with Kert Brown and Toyah Myhre at Simpson Door's main office on a bright sunny February day. I met Toyah who is the new Safety and Training Coordinator. Kert showed me the hard copy records they keep onsite which are lab reports, chain of custody and sampling logs etc. The DMRs and a copy of the permit are kept as electronic documents. All the documents looked to be in good order.

Kert shared that they have less wastewater because they have stopped slicing at the facility. Right now, they are only discharging boiler water. They are still hauling hazardous waste offsite and use Clean Harbor for their Haz waste disposal. The onsite paint booth is a new addition to the facility. Simpson made sure to select clean paint and approved the selection through ORCA.

2. Site Walkthrough

After the records review and discussion, we started the site walk through. We began at the cutting building (Photo 1). And made our way to the outfall (Photo 2). The outfall looked clean, and there was no process water violations observed.

We then circled around to the boiler room (Photo 3). Simpson is no longer using diesel to operate the boiler but have switched to propane. In the boiler room there were several different barrels of corrosive chemicals (Photos 4, 6-10 and 12). These chemicals are used to keep the boiler lining from corroding. The boiler is checked once per year to ensure that the lining is in good shape. Simpson contracts with a company who comes to check this and makes sure that the chemicals are dosing properly. I noted that the barrels in the boiler room did not have secondary containment and suggested that Simpson obtain secondary containment for all the barrels and buckets of chemicals in the boiler room.

There was also a water softener system in the boiler room. The black barrel full of white chunks is assumed to be the water softening agent (Photo 11). However, there was not a visible label. I encouraged Simpson to put a visible label on this barrel. Just inside the boiler room, there was a pallet of Sure Soft cubes for water softening (Photo 13). Just outside of the boiler room was another boiler under a cover (Photo 14).

We left the boiler room and continued to the main facility where the doors are assembled. Kert shared that they have a warm room that keeps the exotic wood safe.

The DOT 2581 class 8 corrosive material (aluminum chloride) is a catalyst used for activating the glue (Photo 17). All of it is recycled so there is no hazardous waste (Photo 18). The tote and other chemical stored beneath are all in secondary containment (Photo 19).

Photo 20 shows a machine that pushes the ends of the stacks of wood to make the stacks even. Photo 20 is a barrel of wax that is used to help the wood slide.

Hazardous waste is generated from cleaning the saw blades. They work to keep the grinding fluid under 250 lbs./month to stay in the “small quantity generator (SQG)” classification (note that the regulation for a SQG is 220 lbs. or less). Photo 24 shows a 126 lbs. of hazardous waste. Simpson door has moved to sonic wash for cleaning the blades to eliminate hazardous waste (Photo 27).

FUN FACT: All the doors at Hogwarts in Harry Potter were made by Simpson door!

Our final stop was the new paint room (Photos 33-36). Kert noted that they have been working the painter to ensure that the painting room is kept in good condition as some of the paint booth filters needed to be replaced.

Kert asked how Toyah can become authorized to be the signatory authority. and I said I would get them the form to make that change. The document needs to be uploaded to PARIS. Section G1 of the permit contains more information on signatory authority.

E. Areas of Concern/Action Items

Simpson Door’s facility is properly maintained regarding process water. However, hazardous and chemical storage needs significant improvements.

BOILER ROOM

- 1) Please provide secondary containment for all the corrosive and otherwise hazardous materials in the boiler room (Photos 4, 6-10 and 12).
- 2) Provide hard copies of SDS for all materials stored in the boiler room. Ensure that the SDS are clearly labeled and in readable condition.
- 3) Please provide a spill response kit in the boiler room and an eyewash station or directions to the nearest eyewash station. Eye wash station may take no more that 10 seconds to reach as per [WAC 296-800-15030](#)
- 4) Provide a hard copy of the SPCC plan in the boiler room.
- 5) Please label the black container in the boiler room (Photo 11).
- 6) Please label the blue 55-gallon drum on the left in Photo 4.
- 7) Please provide a written report as required by Special Condition S3.G of Permit No. ST0006178 detailing the spill that occurred in the boiler room. Include preventive measures.
- 8) The barrel in photo 10 is labeled “return condensate treatment” is this spent chemical for disposal or chemical provided to treat the boiler. Please label as such.
- 9) Please address the corrosion, leaking and of pipes etc. of the metal barrel attached to yellow metal stilts in photo 4.

MANUFACTURING BULIDING

- 10) Buckets of toxic and other chemicals are improperly stored underneath the tote of $AlCl_3$ (Photo 17). A spill from the $AlCl_3$ could contaminate the buckets and cause greater problems for cleanup. Please provide separate secondary containment for the buckets of chemicals, this includes ensuring that the

chemicals stored together are compatible (e.g. oxidizers cannot be stored with flammable chemicals etc.).

- 11) There is not secondary containment for the spigot that dispenses AlCl_3 . Please expand the secondary containment for the AlCl_3 to ensure that all spills are contained.
- 12) Kert shared that 100% of the AlCl_3 is recycled, thus no hazardous waste is generated. It is unusual that there would never be spent or otherwise uncontaminated AlCl_3 . Please provide documentation as to how 100% of the AlCl_3 is recycled.
- 13) Photo 18 shows an eyewash station behind the AlCl_3 tote. The eyewash station is not accessible and could also be contaminated by a spill or splashes from dispensing AlCl_3 . Please ensure a safe and accessible eyewash station.
- 14) Ensure that there is a spill response kit close to the AlCl_3 tote.
- 15) Please verify that sink disposal is the proper method for disposing of the of the material contained in the barrels in Photo 23.
- 16) Please label the barrels in Photo 23.
- 17) Photo 28 shows a dirty sink next to a drinking water fountain. Ensure health and safety for the use of the drinking water fountain.

OTHER

- 18) The SPCC plan submitted May 2024 lists action items to be completed:

“Within six months from the date of this plan, Simpson Door will implement the following actions to meet the requirements of the SPCC Rule.

- a. Provide secondary containment for Substation 1.*
- b. Provide secondary containment for the Package Boiler Substation.*
- c. Fix the breaches in the secondary containment curbs at Substation H (5 and 6).”*

Please provide documentation that these items were completed.

Anna forgot to address significant digits during the meeting for records review. We noticed the significant digit for pH was missing on a few of the DMR submittals. Reminder that pH measurement must be reported as 2 significant digits, e.g. 6.0, not 6. The significant digit is specified in the permit limit. Please see the “2004 Significant Digit” enclosure for Ecology’s guidance on rounding for significant digits.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this inspection report, please contact Anna Rose Wallace at annw461@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 522-6216.

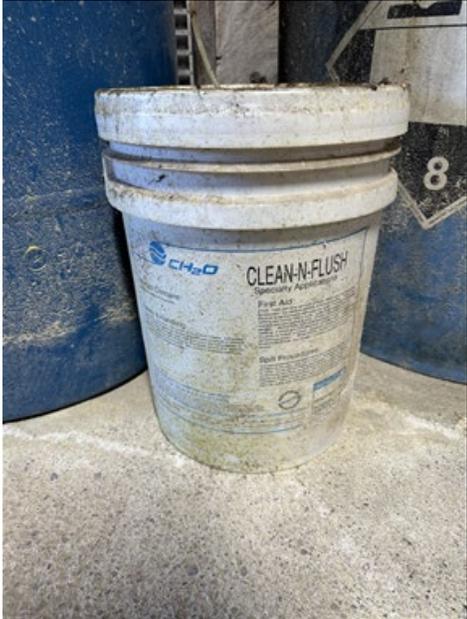
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Description	Photographs	Facility
Photo 1. Cutting building	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY
Photo 2. Sample site, outfall.	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY

Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 3. Boiler</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 4. Chemicals for treating inside of boiler. The chemicals help prevent erosion on the inside of the boiler.</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 5. Grate in boiler room. Does not drain to anything. Collects minor spills.</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 6. Chemicals in boiler room.</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 7. Corrosive chemical. DOT classified hazard 8 pH less than 2 or greater than 12.</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 8. Chemicals in boiler room</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

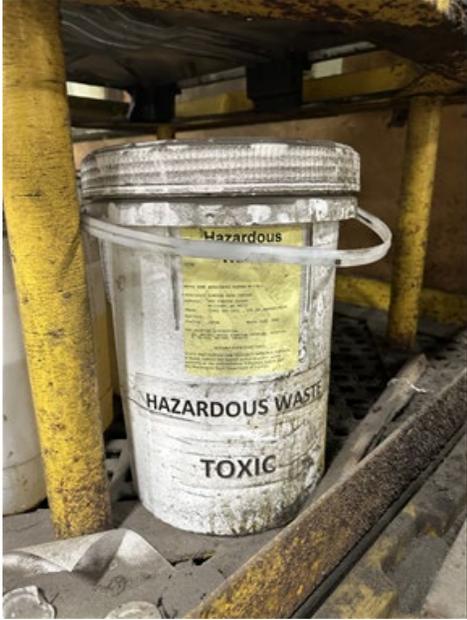
Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 9. More DOT class 8 corrosive chemicals</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 10. Chemicals in Boiler room</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

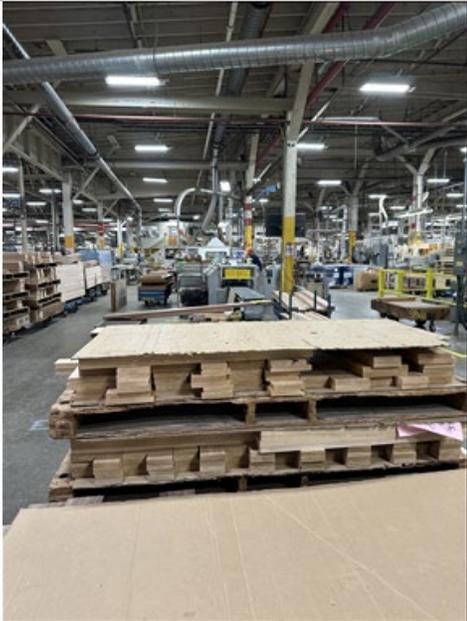
Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 11. Bucket of white material. Label not visible. Assumed to be water softening agent. Advised to label visibly.</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 12. Flammable liquid, also corrosive DOT number 2924.</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

Description	Photographs	Facility
Photo 13. Water softener	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY
Photo 14. Another boiler in operation	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY

Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 15. Stacks of wood for making doors</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 16. New machine for door processing</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 17. Aluminum chloride hazard class 8 corrosive chemical. They use very little each year. All of it is recycled so there is no hazardous waste generated.</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 18. Container for catching spills from the aluminum chloride tote</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

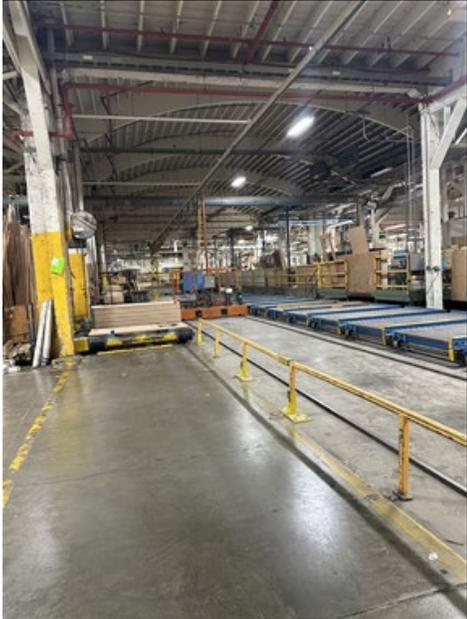
Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 19. Hazardous waste stored beneath the aluminum chloride tote</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 20. Machine that pushes the ends of the stacks of wood to make the stacks even.</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 21. Barrel of wax like substance that helps slide the wood</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 22. More of the warehouse</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 23. Barrels of chemicals</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 24. Hazardous waste generated from cleaning saw blades</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

Description	Photographs	Facility
<p>Photo 25. More barrels in the saw blade cleaning area</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>
<p>Photo 26. Machine that sharpens the saw blades</p>	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	<p>SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY</p>

Description	Photographs	Facility
Photo 27. Small sonicator for cleaning saw blades	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY
Photo 28. Washing station	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY

Description	Photographs	Facility
Photo 29. Aerosol disposal	 Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY
Photo 30. Orange machine, the "mouse."	 Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY

Description	Photographs	Facility
Photo 31. Other operations at the facility	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY
Photo 32. Other operations at the facility	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY

Description	Photographs	Facility
Photo 33. Pump that sends paint wash water to waste stream	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY
Photo 34. Sink for washing paint	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY

Description	Photographs	Facility
Photo 35. Tote full of white paint - non-hazardous	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY
Photo 36. Heater for drying painted doors	 <p>Ctrl+Click HERE to view full size image</p>	SIMPSON DOOR COMPANY