

**Madison Harris**

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**From:** Stefanie Neubauer <stef@erwhisky.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 9, 2024 12:58 PM  
**To:** Scot Hunn; Madison Harris; Robert Creasy; Spence Neubauer  
**Subject:** Fwd: Environmental blackening around distilleries

Hey all!

I wrote to Dr. James Scott in Toronto this morning asking if he felt comfortable putting his zoom statements into writing and he just sent this back to me! I am delighted!

Thanks you all!  
Stef

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**EAGLE RIVER  
WHISKY**  
*Minturn E\W\R Colorado*

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** James Scott <james.scott@utoronto.ca>  
**Subject:** Environmental blackening around distilleries  
**Date:** December 9, 2024 at 12:49:09 PM MST  
**To:** Stefanie Neubauer <neubauer.stef@gmail.com>

Dear Stefanie,

In my experience, small numbers (<20,000) of spirit barrels emit insufficient ethanol vapour to result in fungal blackening of nearby outdoor surfaces. You mentioned you intend to age far fewer barrels than this on-site over the long-term, and therefore my expectation is that if you see any fungal blackening at all, it will be limited to the immediate proximity of your aging facility. Given that your premises are at elevation in a relatively dry climate, I believe the likelihood your facility emissions will contribute to non-trivial fungal blackening in the local area is further diminished.

I encourage you to take a series of baseline photographs of the areas around your aging facility that you might compare at points in the future to determine any divergence from my prediction. It may be useful also to collect and archive weather data to better understand your local climate, as your facility is rather distant from nearby weather stations and thus the local conditions are likely to be different.

From everything I know, I would not hesitate to be your neighbour!

Best wishes,

James

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**James Scott**, PhD, ARMCCM

Professor

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University Profile: <http://www.dlsph.utoronto.ca/faculty-profile/scott-james-a/>

Commercial Laboratory: <http://www.sporometrics.com>