

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
AIR QUALITY DIVISION  
ACTIVITY REPORT: On-site Inspection

N145463142

FACILITY: HERMEL DIE CASTING CORP		SRN / ID: N1454
LOCATION: 7240 1ST ST, EAU CLAIRE		DISTRICT: Kalamazoo
CITY: EAU CLAIRE		COUNTY: BERRIEN
CONTACT:		ACTIVITY DATE: 06/02/2022
STAFF: Rachel Benaway	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: On-site inspection to verify compliance with all state and federal air use regulations.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

An unannounced inspection of Hermel Die Casting Corp. (N1454) was completed by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Air Quality Division (AQD) staff, Rachel Benaway, on 6/2/2022. Hermel Die Casting Corp. was an aluminum and zinc die casting facility located in Berrien County at 7240 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Eau Claire, MI. The purpose of this inspection was to verify Hermel Die Casting Corp. is in compliance with their Permits to Install (PTI) #710-86 and #173-97 and all state and federal air use regulations. Hermel Die Casting Corp. was a minor source of emissions for NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, CO, Pb, PM, and VOCs. The facility was not subject to any New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) or National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP). The last inspection was completed at the facility on 6/16/2009. Ken Kamp was the Vice President and responsible official for the facility.

At the time of the last inspection in 2009, the facility was temporarily shut down and informed Matt Deskins (AQD Staff) that they had just laid off their last three employees. The die cast machines, milling and lathing equipment, and melt furnaces were still on the property. The furnaces had not been used in years.

At the time of this inspection, Staff learned from the new owners, Chris Walters and Gerald Maier, of The Machine Works, LLC, that the property was purchased on March 23, 2022 from Hermel Die Casting Corp. The new owners have begun demolition and renovation activities at the facility. Per AQD request, the new owners sent electronic notification that all equipment related to the air use permits have been sold or scrapped and completely removed from the property. That email is included with this report. Staff was able to confirm that the permitted equipment and all other equipment previously mentioned no longer exists on site by a thorough walkthrough of the property. The new owners have no intention of utilizing the permits nor installing any similar equipment.

The facility appears to be in compliance with the permits at this time. A request has been issued by AQD Staff to have both permits voided.

NAME Rachel Benaway

DATE 6/30/22

SUPERVISOR RL 7/13/22