



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY  
KALAMAZOO DISTRICT OFFICE



PHILLIP D. ROOS  
DIRECTOR

September 16, 2024

Edward Jones  
Universal Casket Company  
17664 Chain Lake Street  
Cassopolis, MI 49031

SRN: P1371, Cass County

Dear Edward Jones:

**VIOLATION NOTICE**

On July 26, 2024, the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Air Quality Division (AQD), conducted an inspection of Universal Casket Company located at 17664 Chain Lake Street, Cassopolis, Michigan. The purpose of this inspection was to determine Universal Casket Company's compliance with the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act; Part 55, Air Pollution Control, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Act 451); the Air Pollution Control Rules; and the conditions of Permit to Install (PTI) number PTI 65-23.

During the inspection, staff observed the following:

Process Description	Rule/Permit Condition Violated	Comments
EUCREMATORY1	<p>PTI No. 65-23 , Special Condition III.1, and R 336.1910 (Rule 910). “The permittee shall not combust waste in EUCREMATORY1 unless a minimum temperature of 1600°F and a minimum retention time of 1.0 second in the secondary combustion chamber are maintained.”</p> <p>Special Condition III.2, and R 336.1910 (Rule 910) states “The incinerator shall be installed, maintained, and operated in a satisfactory manner to control emissions from EUCREMATORY1.”</p> <p>Special Condition IV.2, and R 336.1910 (Rule 910) states “The permittee shall not operate EUCREMATORY1 unless the secondary combustion chamber with afterburner is installed, maintained, and operated in a satisfactory manner.”</p>	<p>Facility records indicate EUCREMATORY1 is often operated below this minimum temperature while combusting waste. Only 3 of the 23 records provided by the facility showed an afterburner temperature above 1600°F during the entire combustion cycle of the remains. The complete combustion cycle consists of the time periods beginning approximately 25 minutes after the machine is turned on, when the facility reports putting the remains into the chamber, till the end of the combustion.</p>

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This also constitutes a violation of Rule 910 of the administrative rules promulgated under Act 451, which requires that an air-cleaning device shall be installed, maintained, and operated in a satisfactory manner and in accordance with the administrative rules and existing law.

Please initiate actions necessary to correct the cited violations and submit a written response to this Violation Notice by October 7, 2024 (which coincides with 21 calendar days from the date of this letter). The written response should include: the dates the violations occurred; an explanation of the causes and duration of the violations; whether the violations are ongoing; a summary of the actions that have been taken and are proposed to be taken to correct the violations and the dates by which these actions will take place; and what steps are being taken to prevent a reoccurrence.

Please submit the written response to Mariah Scott at EGLE, AQD, Kalamazoo District, at 7953 Adobe Rd, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009 or [scottm29@michigan.gov](mailto:scottm29@michigan.gov) and submit a copy to Jenine Camilleri, Enforcement Unit Supervisor at EGLE, AQD, P.O. Box 30260, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7760.

If Universal Casket Company believes the above observations or statements are inaccurate or do not constitute violations of the applicable legal requirements cited, please provide appropriate factual information to explain your position.

Thank you for your attention to resolving the violations cited above and for the cooperation that was extended to me during my inspection of Universal Casket Company. If you have any questions regarding the violations or the actions necessary to bring this facility into compliance, please contact me at the number listed below.

Sincerely,



Mariah Scott  
Environmental Quality Analyst  
Air Quality Division  
517-899-3519

cc: Annette Switzer, EGLE  
Christopher Ethridge, EGLE  
Brad Myott, EGLE  
Jenine Camilleri, EGLE  
Monica Brothers, EGLE