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

P138872980

FACILITY: BURTON EXCAVATING INC		**SRN / ID:** P1388
LOCATION: 1320 WEST 3 MILE ROAD, SAULT S MARIE		**DISTRICT:** Marquette
CITY: SAULT S MARIE		**COUNTY:** CHIPPEWA
CONTACT: Rob Thompson , Crushing Compliance		**ACTIVITY DATE:** 07/23/2024
STAFF: Drew Yesmunt	**COMPLIANCE STATUS:** Compliance	**SOURCE CLASS:** MINOR
SUBJECT: Targeted Inspection FY24		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Facility: Burton Excavating Inc. (SRN: P1388)

Location: 1396 E Easterday Ave S, Sault Sainte Marie, Chippewa County, MI

Contact(s): Rob Thompson, Compliance

Regulatory Authority

Under the Authority of Section 5526 of Part 55 of NREPA, the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy may upon the presentation of their card, and stating the authority and purpose of the investigation, enter and inspect any property at reasonable times for the purpose of investigating either an actual or suspected source of air pollution or ascertaining compliance or noncompliance with NREPA, Rules promulgated thereunder, and the federal Clean Air Act.

Facility Description

Burton Excavating is an excavation and construction company based out of Sault Ste. Marie, MI. The company operates a portable nonmetallic crusher plant throughout the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The facility conducts its crushing operation under PTI No. 89-23A.

Process Description

A crushing plant produces smaller size aggregate from larger size rock. A crushing plant may consist of loaders, haul trucks, generators, crushers, screens, conveyors, and stockpiles. The plant is normally located within a quarry and crushes stone generated from blasting. The final product may be used for a variety of applications, including infrastructure projects and landscaping.

The process begins with raw material being fed into a primary crusher via loader, producing an initial size product. From the primary crusher, the product is conveyed into a screen plant that separates the crushed aggregate into various sized products. Smaller material is filtered out and leaves on separate conveyors to stockpiles, while larger material is transported to a secondary crusher. The secondary crusher will break the aggregate down to a smaller size aggregate before it enters the screen plant again or continues to a tertiary screen and crusher. A crushing plant

may have several crushers, screens, and conveyors depending on how many sizes of aggregate are to be produced.

Emissions

Non-metallic mineral crushing can cause point and fugitive emissions of PM, PM10, and PM2.5. Emissions from process operations are considered fugitive unless the source of emissions is vented through an air pollution control device or contained and emitted through a force-air vent or stack. Fugitive sources of emissions are generated from machine movement and wind erosion. Emission sources can include hauling, crushing, screening, and transferring of material. The primary factors affecting PM emissions are wind and the moisture content of the material. Moisture on the surface of the material can cause fine particles to adhere resulting in a dust suppression effect.

Emissions Reporting

The facility is a considered a true minor source for all criteria and hazardous air pollutants. The facility is not subject to the federal New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) Subpart OOO – Standards of Performance for Nonmetallic Mineral Processing Plants as the permitted crushing equipment was constructed prior to 08/31/1983, and the actual emissions from the source do not meet the reporting threshold. Thus, this facility is not required to submit annual emissions to the MiEnviro each year.

Compliance History

The facility has received one violation notice in the past five years. The violation was issued June 30, 2023, as a violation of Rule 201 for operating a portable crushing unit without a permit. The violation was resolved on July 21, 2023, after the facility had acquired a Permit To Install (PTI) for the crushing equipment (PTI No. 89-23). No further violations have been filed against the facility.

Inspection

On July 23, 2024, AQD staff (Drew Yesmunt and Michael Conklin) conducted a targeted inspection of Burton Excavating. The facility's crusher plant was operating in the 15 Mile Pit located at 5996 E 15 Mile Rd, Barbeau, MI. At the time of inspection, the facility had not yet sent in a relocation notice as the crusher plant had only operated at the 15 Mile Pit since the facility's permit was issued. AQD staff arrived at the facility and met with Rob Thompson, the facility's compliance contact. It was explained that the purpose of the inspection was to ensure compliance with PTI No. 89-23A and all other applicable air pollution control rules and federal regulations. A tour of the facility was then provided.

AQD staff observed that all permitted equipment was present onsite. No equipment was operating during the time of inspection. It was explained to AQD staff that although the crushing season had started, the Telesmith Jaw Crusher (CR4002) on-site was jammed with material, causing a temporary shutdown. It was observed by AQD staff that the facility's second transfer conveyor (TRANSFER #2) was not properly labelled as per special condition 1.11. It was conveyed to the facility that all equipment needs to be labelled as per the permit conditions. The facility responded stating that the conveyer would be labelled as soon as possible.

During the tour, two unpermitted recycle conveyors were observed on-site, labelled ROCK1 and ROCK2. The facility explained that they had initially considered the recycle conveyors to be included as part of the permitted Gyrasphere Cone Crusher (CR4004). AQD staff explained that the conveyors are considered separate equipment, and a new PTI application would need to be submitted to include the conveyors.

During the inspection, the facility appeared to be following all operational requirements of its fugitive dust plan. No visible emissions were observed while on-site, and water sprays were observed on all necessary equipment. The facility explained that water is also applied as needed to the plant yard and roadways, although dust suppressant application records were not maintained as required by the facility's fugitive dust plan. AQD staff explained this was an area of non-compliance and could lead to a violation notice if the record is not maintained. The facility responded, providing verbal commitment to maintain the record going forward.

Following the inspection, AQD staff sent a records request to the facility. The records requested included material processing records for all sites for 2023 and 2024, a photo demonstrating that TRANSFER #2 has been properly labelled, and for a new PTI application to be submitted to include the recycle conveyors. Material processing records were provided and showed the facility produced 37,443 tons of material in 2023 and 4,115 tons in 2024, under the facility's 12-month rolling limit of 1,000,000 tons. The facility also provided an updated PTI application to include the recycle conveyors. It was also noted by AQD staff that records of Method 9 visible emissions testing for all equipment, including the two recycle conveyors, were available and kept on file.

Compliance

Based on this inspection and the records reviewed, Burton Excavating Inc. appears to be in compliance with PTI No. 89-23A and all other applicable air pollution control rules and federal regulations. It was conveyed to the facility that the two recycle conveyors needed to be included in the permit, and all equipment needed to be properly labelled. Records review indicated that the issues were quickly handled. It was also conveyed that going forward, record of dust suppression activities must be maintained.

First of two unpermitted recycle conveyors (ROCK1)

Second of two unpermitted recycle conveyors (ROCK2)

The facility's second transfer conveyor (TRANSFER #2)

NAME _____ DATE 8-26-2024 SUPERVISOR _____