

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AIR QUALITY DIVISION
ACTIVITY REPORT: Self Initiated Inspection

K261424499

FACILITY: Humane Society of Macomb		SRN / ID: K2614
LOCATION: 11350 22 MILE RD, UTICA		DISTRICT: Southeast Michigan
CITY: UTICA		COUNTY: MACOMB
CONTACT: Shirley Burgess , Director		ACTIVITY DATE: 03/05/2014
STAFF: Francis Lim	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Self-initiated inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

On February 5, 2014, Robert Elmouchi and I conducted a self-initiated compliance inspection at Humane Society of Macomb, located at 11350 22 Mile Road in Utica, Michigan. The purpose of the inspection was to determine compliance with the Federal Clean Air Act; Article II, Part 55, Air Pollution Control of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 Public Act 451; Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division (MDEQ-AQD) Administrative Rules; and Permit-to-Install (PTI) No. 61-70I.

Ms. Cheryl Burgess is the Director of the facility and she assisted us during the inspection. Ms. Sharon Shipman, Supervisor (off that day), is responsible for the operations of the incinerator. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, either Ms. Burgess or Ms. Shipman is present.

Humane Society of Macomb was issued Permit to Install (PTI) No. 61-70I for a pathological incinerator on April 16, 1970. The incinerator is a Model PAH-150, manufactured by Affiliated. The rating capacity is 150 lb/hr. The fuel used to run the incinerator is propane. The incinerator has a primary and secondary (afterburner control) chamber. The permit states that for the secondary chamber, temperature of maximum is 1400 °F. This means that temperature of maximum heating zone in the secondary chamber should be 1400 °F. The primary chamber has a burner that fires down toward the animal resting on the bed and the secondary chamber located below the bed has the afterburner control.

Permit No. 61-70I does not contain any special conditions. The permit application specifies that the type of waste to be incinerated is Type IV.

During this inspection, the incinerator was not running. Cremations occur one or two times per week, typically on one weekday and on Saturday. Most cremations are group cremations unless one large animal needs cremation. The cremation of a large animal is scheduled for the first charge of the day. Ms. Burgess also stated that they limit cremations to 150 pounds or less per load. But sometimes they receive animals that are more than 150 pounds. But they cannot cut up the animal to make it weigh below 150 pounds.

We verified the installation of the thermocouple for the secondary chamber (afterburner). The thermocouple is connected to a portable temperature indicating device. The afterburner was installed to resolve a violation dated June 4, 2013 issued by the AQD. Ms. Burgess said that they operate the afterburner first for at least 20 to 30 minutes before igniting the primary burner. The switches that control the primary and secondary burners were not labeled. The left switch controls the secondary burner and the right switch controls the primary burner. There is a switch that is located a bit further to the left of the left switch, which controls an exhaust fan, which is used to vent the interior building atmosphere and excess heat. We requested Ms. Burgess to label the burner switches.

Once cremation is complete, the ashes are shoveled out through the clean-out door and into a wheel barrow. The ashes are eventually buried in the backyard. The exhaust stack appeared to be at least 30 feet in height.

Repair on the incinerator is contracted out to Jar Incinerator Repair (W 734-285-3360, C 313-247-3626). John Topolie recently was on-site to adjust and extend the length of the thermocouple probe.

Sections 129 of the Clean Air Act authorized the establishment of rules for the performance standards for solid waste incinerator units. Pathological waste incinerator units that burn 90% or more by weight (on a calendar quarter basis and excluding the weight of auxiliary fuel and combustion of air) of pathological waste are exempt from 40 CFR 60 Subpart CCCC, Standards of Performance for Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incineration (CISWI) Units if the operator/owner meets the following two requirements: 1) Notify the AQD that it meets the exclusion criteria; 2) Keep records on a calendar quarter basis of the weight of pathological waste and the weight of all other fuels and wastes burned in the unit.

We verified that the facility is keeping a record of the weight of the pathological waste burned in the incinerator. A weighing scale is used for this purpose.

A copy of the Incinerator Operation and Maintenance Guidelines document will be sent to Ms. Burgess so it could be posted near the crematorium.

NAME J. A. Z. DATE 03-14-14 SUPERVISOR CTE