

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

M273870065

FACILITY: Spectrum Health Big Rapids Hospital		SRN / ID: M2738
LOCATION: 605 Oak Street, BIG RAPIDS		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: BIG RAPIDS		COUNTY: MECOSTA
CONTACT: Greg McDaniel , Facilities Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 11/02/2023
STAFF: Scott Evans	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: On-site inspection to assess compliance with air quality rules and regulations.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Introduction

On November 2, 2023, State of Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Air Quality Division staff member Scott Evans (SE) conducted an on-site inspection of the Spectrum Health Big Rapids Hospital located at 605 Oak St. in Big Rapids, Michigan, to assess compliance with air quality rules and regulations. This facility is a hospital that operates multiple boilers and water heaters for daily operations. The facility is classified as a minor source facility for all pollutants including hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). This facility has one active permit to install (PTI): PTI No. 336-76.

Upon arrival, SE observed the facility exterior for visible emissions (VEs) and odors. There were no VEs or odors observed at this time. Upon entering the facility, SE was greeted by Greg McDaniel. A discussion regarding the purpose of the visit took place and then an inspection of all associated boilers and heaters took place.

PTI No. 336-76

This permit was approved on February 28, 1977. It contains three special conditions (SCs) labeled 9-11.

SC9 states that visible emissions from emission units are limited to no more than 20%. During the inspection, no visible emissions were observed.

SC10 states that all instances of oil burning for more than 12 consecutive hours must be reported. During the inspection it was discussed that no instances of oil burning beyond weekly 1-hour tests to ensure proper functionality have occurred since the last inspection conducted in 2018.

SC11 states that the AQD must be notified if there is any change to the natural gas supply to the units. No changes have been made to the natural gas supply.

Boilers

This facility has a total of six boilers and water heaters located on site.

Two boilers were installed in 1956 and have heat ratings of 1.775 mmBtu/hr. These boilers are covered by the above PTI. They are exempt from New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart Dc as they are less than 10 mmBtu/hr in size.

One boiler was installed in 1976 and has a heat capacity of 6 mmBtu/hr. This boiler is covered by the above PTI. It is exempt from NSPS 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart Dc as it is less than 10 mmBtu/hr in size.

One boiler was installed in 1994 and has a heat capacity of 6.28 mmBtu/hr. This boiler is exempt from air permitting requirements as well as NSPS 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart Dc as it is less than 10 mmBtu/hr.

Two water heaters were installed in 1998 and have heat capacities of 1.8 mmBtu/hr. These boilers are exempt from air permitting requirements as well as NSPS 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart Dc as they are less than 10 mmBtu/hr.

All of the above boilers are exempt from National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) 40 CFR Part 63 Subpart JJJJJ as they are natural gas fired boilers.

Exempt Equipment

This facility has a hydrogen peroxide sterilizer used to sterilize medical equipment. This unit is exempt from air permitting requirements per Rule 281(2)(i)

This facility has two natural gas-fired emergency generators on site. Both were installed before 2005 and so are exempt from NSPS 40 CFR Part 60 Subparts IIII and JJJJ as well as all NESHAP 40 CFR Part 63 Subpart ZZZZ. These units are also exempt from air permitting requirements under Rule 285 (2)(g) as their heat capacities are less than 10 mmBtu/hr.

Conclusion

Though all boilers appear to qualify for permit exemption as natural gas-fired units, it was discussed with the facility and the permits will remain active, as the permits allow for use of alternative fuels that would disqualify exemption status. This is important for the hospital as a halt in functionality would be critical to patients. As such, the permits will be maintained. At the conclusion of this inspection the facility appeared to be compliant with all permit requirements as well as all other applicable air quality rules and regulations.

NAME Scott Evans

DATE 12/8/2023

SUPERVISOR HH