

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
AIR QUALITY DIVISION  
ACTIVITY REPORT: Scheduled Inspection

P094651108

FACILITY: Langeland Cremation Center		SRN / ID: P0946
LOCATION: 3926 South 9th Street, KALAMAZOO		DISTRICT: Kalamazoo
CITY: KALAMAZOO		COUNTY: KALAMAZOO
CONTACT: Greg Langeland , Owner		ACTIVITY DATE: 10/24/2019
STAFF: Monica Brothers	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Non Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Unannounced scheduled inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

This was an unannounced, scheduled inspection. Staff, Monica Brothers, arrived at Langeland Cremation Center at 10:20am and met with Greg Langeland. This facility operates two crematory units, one for human remains, and the other for animal remains. Upon arrival, no opacity was observed from either of the crematory stacks, although, I could see a heat signature coming from the human cremator. The cremation facility is currently operating under PTI #132-18. Greg said that there are only three employees that work in the crematory building. The cremators commenced operation in March of 2019, but they did not charge any materials until July 31, 2019. The cremators were not operating at the time of the inspection, and Greg said that their last charge was yesterday, October 23, 2019, and ended that day at about 3:00pm. The human cremator was still cooling down from yesterday's operations, and the heat could still be seen coming from the stack. Greg showed me the control panel, which said that the unit was still around 600 °F.

According to their permit, the cremator units may only burn pipeline quality natural gas, and Greg said that this is the case. They are limited to burning only pathological waste in each crematory, and Greg said that they only burn human remains and their containers in the human cremator, and animal remains in the animal cremator. They do not burn any other type of medical waste in the cremators. Greg showed me records for each of the charges that have been burned in the cremators. The records show the duration of burn and the weight of each charge, which are required by their permit to be recorded. They have only completed 89 burns in the human cremator so far, and the heaviest charge that they have had was 402 lbs. They are limited to 1,200 lbs per charge, so they are far under that limit. The pet cremator is limited to 700 lbs per charge, and Greg said that they've only done 4 charges so far, and the heaviest was about 20 lbs.

Their permit also requires continuous temperature records during operation. Greg did not know how to bring up the continuous temperature readings on the monitor, but he was able to email me the records after the inspection. The temperature records show that they continuously operate above the required 1600°F in the secondary chamber during each burn in the human cremator, however, the temperature graphs also show that the temperatures dip below 1600°F toward the end of each burn cycle. I asked Greg about this, and he said that this is when the burn cycle has been completed and they are raking out the cremator. The graphs for the pet cremator showed temperatures in the secondary chamber frequently dipping below the 1600°F limit in the secondary chamber. The graph of the cremation that occurred on October 1, 2019 showed that the secondary chamber temperatures were almost always under the 1600°F limit. This is a violation of their permit, and a violation notice will be sent. Greg said that there are temperature alarms set for 1600°F on the secondary chambers of each unit. If the temperature goes below this, an alarm is triggered, and the manufacturing company can remotely see what the issue is and try to fix it.

They are also required to keep maintenance and inspection records for each unit. Greg said that they haven't yet needed to do any maintenance and that the cremator company sends someone out after every 600 cremations to clean out the pressure sensor. They have not done 600 cremations yet, so there are no records of inspections or maintenance activities. I let Greg know that he would need to start keeping records of maintenance and inspections once they start occurring. They also have cameras on the roof to monitor opacity during cremations.

They have one emergency generator on the property. It is a 70kW Generac unit that operates on natural gas and was installed around 2004. It has an EPA certification sticker on it and runs for about 15 minutes every week for testing purposes.

Langeland Cremation Center was not in compliance at the time of inspection, and a violation notice will

be sent for their low secondary chamber temperatures in the pet cremator.

NAME *Monir Akh*

DATE 11/19/19

SUPERVISOR R12 11/19/19