

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

U61210308859266

<b>FACILITY:</b> Maintenance Services Media Blasting		<b>SRN / ID:</b> U612103088
<b>LOCATION:</b> 349 W. Hovey, Muskegon Heights		<b>DISTRICT:</b> Grand Rapids
<b>CITY:</b> Muskegon Heights		<b>COUNTY:</b> MUSKEGON
<b>CONTACT:</b> Corey Wanerus , Owner		<b>ACTIVITY DATE:</b> 07/01/2021
<b>STAFF:</b> Scott Evans	<b>COMPLIANCE STATUS:</b> Non Compliance	<b>SOURCE CLASS:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Response to complaint leading to on-site inspection. Compliance issues were identified regarding exempt equipment. Follow up actions will follow.		
<b>RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:</b>		

### Introduction

On July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, State of Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Air Quality Division (AQD) staff member Scott Evans (SE) responded to a complaint regarding dust entering residential property that originated from an outdoor sand blasting operation. This operation was conducted by Maintenance Services and Media Blasting located at 349 W Hovey Ave. in Muskegon Heights, MI. During the complaint investigation it was determined by SE that the operation warranted a full air quality inspection to determine compliance with air quality regulations.

The facility is a sand blasting operation that accepts equipment from nearby industrial facilities that need high pressure sand cleaning. Much of the equipment that needs cleaning includes large crates and metal equipment that cannot easily be brought into the interior of the facility and so are sand blasted in a rear yard of the facility. This work is completed with a single, stationary sand blasting unit. The yard is surrounded by tree cover that the facility had previously been using for containment of fugitive dust emissions. The facility is unpermitted and, until this inspection, has not been visited by AQD staff.

### Inspection

Upon arrival at the facility (SE) observed some dust leaving the facility. These visible emissions appeared to have a maximum opacity of about 5%. Upon entering the facility, SE was greeted by facility owner Corey Wanerus (CW). A discussion regarding the nature of the complaint and the purpose of the visit followed, and, after that, an inspection of the facility was conducted. During the inspection, the sand blasting unit and operational yard space were inspected as well as the interior workspace of the facility.

The interior is used mostly as storage. There are some small parts washers, which were closed during the inspection and are exempt from air permitting under Rule 281(2)(h). The facility had no boilers or generators on site.

The sand blasting unit uses high pressure air with coarse sand to remove substances such as paint or rust from large metal equipment. This unit can be moved as needed and so is considered a portable unit for air quality and permitting purposes. As stated above, when working on large equipment, sand blasting operations are conducted in the yard of the facility with only the surrounding tree line used as containment for the sand with the intention of meeting air permitting exemption Rule 281(2)(d). The facility utilizes capture methods such as tarps and yard raking to capture and clean up larger, falling debris from the sand blasting process. This waste is then disposed of to landfill or by other methods as required by the nature of the debris.

During and after the inspection, it was determined that the tree line at the facility does not meet the qualifications of Rule 281(2)(d) as the trees do not serve as a true "enclosure" and could be seen to allow visible amounts of dust to escape the facility. This was discussed with CW who agreed to work with AQD to design and implement an enclosure system for the unit when being used in the yard.

**Conclusion**

Though at the time of the inspection the facility was not in compliance with all air quality regulations, no Violation Notice will be issued at this time. The facility will be given an opportunity to resolve the issue in a timely manner and will be inspected again in October of 2021 to verify that an appropriate enclosure has been installed for the unit. If such an enclosure can be established to meet the exemption Rule 281(2)(d), the facility will be able to continue to operate without an air quality Permit to Install.

NAME Scott Evans      DATE 8/11/2021      SUPERVISOR HH