

PROPOSED GENERAL PERMIT SUMMARY:

Crematory Units

Purpose

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Air Quality Division (AQD), is asking for comments from the public on a proposed General Permit to Install (general PTI) for crematory units. Comments will be accepted on the proposed general PTI until the close of the comment period on September 28, 2026. We will review all comments before we make a final decision on the proposal.

What is a crematory unit?

A crematory unit is a high-temperature, heat-resistant enclosure designed to safely and efficiently reduce human or animal remains to ash. These units are also called pathological incinerators.

What is a General PTI and why is one needed?

A PTI, commonly known as an air use permit, is required for projects that involve installing, constructing, reconstructing, relocating, or modifying most processes or process equipment that emit, or may emit, air contaminants, such as a crematory unit.

A general PTI is a permit that provides a streamlined permitting alternative for processes that are:

- Reasonably similar.
- Emit the same or similar air contaminants.
- Use the same or limited to a small number of specific alternative methods for capturing and controlling the air contaminants.
- Subject to the same emission limitations, monitoring requirements, federal standards, or state rules.

What is this general PTI for?

This general PTI would allow a company to install and operate a maximum of three propane or natural gas-fired crematory units at a facility. The unit(s) may have a maximum charge of 1,000 pounds with a maximum burn rate of 300 pounds per hour. The proposed permit conditions include requirements to make sure the equipment complies with all applicable air quality rules and regulations.

Why is the general PTI open for public comment?

When the AQD wants to create or modify a general PTI for a process, like a crematory, the law requires that the public be offered an opportunity for public comment.

What do I really need to know about the proposed general PTI?

If the proposed general PTI is approved, it has specific requirements a facility would have to follow. Key areas you may be interested in, or that you may want more details on, include:

- **Emission limits** –limits on the amount of air pollutants a facility could release.

Proposed General Permit Summary – Crematory Units

- **Material limits** - the maximum amount and type of material (either human or animal remains) allowed to be burned.
- **Recordkeeping** – records that must be kept to show the requirements in the general PTI are met.

What equipment will be included in the proposed general PTI?

The proposed general PTI is for the installation and operation of a maximum of three crematory units at the same facility. Each unit must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be equipped with a secondary combustion chamber and afterburner,
- Use propane or natural gas as fuel,
- Have a maximum charge rate of 1,000 pounds,
- Have a maximum burn rate of 300 pounds per hour, and
- Designed to incinerate either animal or human remains.
- No other crematory units can be installed at the facility.

Where can I find more information?

Other information, like the Technical Fact Sheet and the proposed permit conditions can be found at: Michigan.gov/EGLEAirPublicNotice

The Technical Fact Sheet has additional details about the general PTI and how it will meet the rules and regulations, such as:

- A summary of the reviews completed by AQD staff.
- A summary of the requirements in the proposed general PTI.
- A summary of the allowed emissions that are included in the proposed general PTI.
- The rules and regulations that apply to the proposed general PTI.

AQD staff can provide additional information upon request.

What are the next steps?

If approved, permittees will have a streamlined process to obtain a permit that meets the air quality rules and regulations. Therefore, we recommend approving the proposed general PTI.

However, before the AQD acts on the proposed general PTI, we are requesting comments from the public. We will review all comments received during the public comment period and virtual public hearing, if held. Then, the proposed general PTI will either be approved, approved with modifications, or it may be decided that the general PTI will not move forward.

Who can I contact?

For more information about the proposed general PTI, please contact Lauren Magirl, AQD, at: MagirlL@Michigan.gov or 517-582-0386 or Marina Ostaszewski, AQD, at OstaszewskiM1@Michigan.gov or 517-648-7995.

What public comments can EGLE consider?

Comments from the public are very important. But it is also important to know the law is clear about what we can and cannot consider when we make our decision. Some examples are below.

Proposed General Permit Summary – Crematory Units

What we can consider	What we can't consider
✓ Technical mistakes in the review ✓ Grammar and spelling mistakes ✓ Other rules that should be considered and why ✓ Why the general PTI will not follow the rules	• Air, land, or water issues not part of the general PTI • Indoor air pollution • Traffic • Noise and lights • Zoning issues • Anything unrelated to this general PTI

How can I make a comment?

The AQD welcomes comments from the public during the comment period. Visit “[Engage with EGLE](#)” and check out [Public Meeting](#) and [Public Comment](#) for more information.

Comments must be received by September 28, 2026. You can submit comments by:



Email

EGLE-AQD-PTIPublicComments@Michigan



Voicemail

by calling 517-284-0900



US Mail

Permit Section Manager, EGLE, AQD
P.O. Box 30260
Lansing, MI 48909-7760



At the virtual public hearing, if requested

Will a public hearing be held?

If requested, a public hearing will be held. To request a hearing, send a written request by email or US mail to the address listed above by September 15, 2026. If requested, a virtual informational session will be held on September 22, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. The informational session will further explain the proposed general PTI and the technical review that was done. There will also be a chance for the public to ask questions. The virtual hearing will follow immediately after. If requested, meeting details will be posted after September 15, 2026, at Michigan.gov/EGLEAirPublicNotice.

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