

M3499

MAWILA

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

M349960140

FACILITY: Southern Michigan Services LLC		SRN / ID: M3499
LOCATION: 12700 Fairlane, LIVONIA		DISTRICT: Detroit
CITY: LIVONIA		COUNTY: WAYNE
CONTACT: James Santeiu ,		ACTIVITY DATE: 09/24/2021
STAFF: Jill Zimmerman	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Non Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Target Inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

**DATE OF INSPECTION** : September 24, 2021

**TIME OF INSPECTION** : 11:00 am

**INSPECTED BY** : Jill Zimmerman

**FACILITY PHONE NUMBER** : 734-422-6700

**FACILITY EMAIL** : JSanteiu@hotmail.com; santeiusms@gmail.com

#### FACILITY BACKGROUND

Southern Michigan Services, LLC is located in Livonia in an industrial area. The facility operates a human crematory with six units.

#### REQUIRED PPE

During the onsite inspection, I wore steel toed shoes and safety glasses.

#### COMPLAINT/COMPLIANCE HISTORY

No complaints have been received regarding this facility. No violations have been issued to this facility in the past.

#### PROCESS EQUIPMENT AND CONTROLS

The facility brings in the bodies which are identified by the funeral home, family and medical examiner. Each body is given a label and a metal coin engraved with the identification code. Typically, a body is cremated within 24 hours of arriving at the facility, through there is refrigeration area available for longer storage. The facility will cremate approximately 40 bodies per day.

The facility operates 6 natural gas fired units. Two newer units are automated, and burn based on the weight. The four older units do not burn charges over 200 pounds. Matthews performs routine maintenance on all the units approximately 2 to 3 times per year.

## INSPECTION NARRATIVE

I arrived at the facility, and I did not observe visible emissions from the exhaust stacks. Next, I met with Mike, who is the operator at this facility. Mike explained that he had been working with this company for approximately thirty years. Together we discussed the operations of the equipment. There are computer recorders or chart records on the units to record the temperature. When asked if the bodies are weighed, Mike stated that though they do have a scale on site, the bodies are not weighed because the facility does not have time. An electronic copy of the State issued permits (45-18 and 398-07) was emailed to the owner of the facility, James Santeiu as well as the office manager for review and so that the company could better understand their permit requirements.

During the onsite inspection, the units operating had a temperature set point of 1650 F. Mike explained that the temperature tends to spike when a body is added, then the unit brings the temperature back to the set point.

## APPLICABLE RULES/PERMIT CONDITIONS

This facility currently has two state air permits (45-18 and 398-07) as well as four Wayne County permits which cover all cremation units (C-9954, C-9955, C-10305 and C-11161).

The conditions for 45-18, which was issued on May 15, 2018, are evaluated below:

The emission unit for this permit is EUCREMATORY6

### I. Emission Limits

1. Compliance – The PM limit is 0.20 pounds per 1000 exhaust gas corrected to 50% air. During the onsite inspection no opacity was observed during the preinspection surveillance.

### I. Material Limits

1. Compliance – Only human bodies are burned in this unit.
2. Undetermined – The maximum size of charges was not discussed during the onsite inspection.
3. Compliance – The unit is fueled only by natural gas.

### I. Process / Operational Restrictions

1. Compliance – The unit has a temperature set point of 1650 F which is above the permitted minimum temperature of 1600 F.
2. Compliance – Maintenance is preformed on the unit as needed.

### I. Design / Equipment Parameter

1. Compliance – The secondary combustion unit is installed and operating properly.
2. Compliance – A temperature monitor is located on the unit and continuously records the temperature while the unit is operating.
3. Compliance – A scale is located onsite. However, Mike explained that the charges are not typically weighed due to time constraints.

- I. Testing / Sampling NA
- II. Monitoring / Recordkeeping
  1. Undetermined – I did not ask to review past records. Mike had explained that the duration of the burn and description of the waste is not recorded.
  2. Compliance – The temperature is continuously recorded when the unit is operating. The daily sheets are kept onsite.
  3. Noncompliance – Mike explained that the duration of the burn and the description of the waste is not recorded. However, typically the funeral home includes a data sheet with each body that includes a description of the body (name and weight) and this form stays with the ashes when they are returned to the funeral home.
  4. Undetermined – I did not ask to review past records since I was told duration of burn and description of waste is not kept.
  5. Compliance – Temperature records are maintained onsite.
  6. Undetermined – I did not ask to review the maintenance log while onsite. The units are maintained as needed.
- I. Reporting NA
- II. Stack / Vent Restriction
  1. Compliance – The stack of installed properly and has not been modified.

The conditions for 398-07, which was issued on January 28, 2008, are evaluated below:  
The emission unit for this permit is EUCREMATORY4

1. Undetermined – No testing has been performed on this stack nor is any testing required at this time. During the preinspection surveillance, no opacity was observed from the stack.
2. Compliance – Only human bodies are burned in this unit.
3. Compliance – The minimum temperature set point is 1650 F, which is about the permitted minimum temperature of 1600 F.
4. Compliance – Maintenance is performed on the units as needed. The maintenance log was not received during the onsite inspection.
5. Compliance – A temperature recording device is located on the unit and records continuously when the unit is operating.
6. Noncompliance – Mike explained that the duration of the burn and the description of the waste is not recorded. However, typically the funeral home includes a data sheet with each body that includes a description of the body (name and weight) and this form stays with the ashes when they are returned to the funeral home.
7. Compliance – A temperature recording device is located on the unit and records continuously when the unit is operating.
8. Compliance – The stack was installed properly and has not been modified.

The facility has four additional units permitted under Wayne County Permits C-9954 and C-9955 (issued December 7, 1992), C-11161 (issued on March 4, 1996) and C-10305 (unknown issued date). The units have a temperature recording on all the units with a set point of 1650 F.

#### **MAERS REPORT REVIEW**

Southern Michigan Services, LLC is not required to submit MAERS.

#### **FINAL COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

Southern Michigan Services, LLC does not appear to be operating in compliance with all as all permit conditions. Specifically, the proper records may not be maintained.

However, some of this information may be kept with the paperwork with each body. No complaints have been received regarding this facility.

NAME 

DATE 4/28/2023 SUPERVISOR JK