

M4703

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

M470340709

FACILITY: BI RITE TRANSMISSIONS		SRN / ID: M4703
LOCATION: 2300 MICHIGAN AVE, DETROIT		DISTRICT: Detroit
CITY: DETROIT		COUNTY: WAYNE
CONTACT: Ronald Schwesing Sr., Owner		ACTIVITY DATE: 07/06/2017
STAFF: Terseer Hemben	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: Minor
SUBJECT: Waste oil furnace operation (PM)		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

SCHEDULED INSPECTION: BI-RITE TRANSMISSION PARTS

Address: 2300 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, MI 48216

SRN: M4703

Present: Ronald Scwesing Sr. (Owner)

Inspector: Terseer Hemben (AQD)

Phone: 313-894-2810; FX: 313-496-1715

Background:

Bi-Rite purchases used transmissions from sources for reusable parts. The transmission parts are disassembled for parts inspection. The disassembling includes draining the torque convertor of remaining transmission fluid. The transmission fluid is burned during the winter months to heat the Bi-Rite facility at the 2300 Michigan Avenue address. The Wayne County Permit C-10214 was issued for the transmission fluid burning. The furnace utilizes a clean-burn multi-oil furnace technology, Model# CB-2800.

Inspection Narrative:

I arrived at the facility address on July 6, 2017 at 1000 hours. Purpose of the visit was to conduct a scheduled compliance inspection of the operation of Clean Burn furnace at the transmission parts recycle business. Temperature at the hour was 76 F with wind speed Calm, and humidity was 62%. I met Mr. Schwesing Sr., the owner, who welcomed my visit. We settled down to a pre-inspection interview. Mr. Schwesing informed nothing had changed at the facility with regards to operating conditions. We examined the equipment and stack, and concluded my visit with a post inspection conference. Mr. Schwesing offered to send copies of fuel use to AQD via facsimile transmission. The records were sent in timely. Records are attached. I left the area at 1120 hours.

Process Description:

The oil burning furnace used at Bi-Rite is rated at 280,000 Btu per hour. There are four small size fuel tanks, a feed tank, and three spare tanks. Transmission fluid is supplied to the feed tank from other tanks during burning season. Transmission fluid is further pumped directly to the furnace for burning. Storage capacity at the facility is approximately 1050 gallons. The tanks met exemption from permits under Rule 284(2)(c) for their use for "storage and surge capacity of lubricating, hydraulic, and thermal oils and indirect heat transfer fluids"..

Equipment Controls:

The controls for the Clean Burn furnace are built-in efficiencies of the furnace itself. When the transmission fluid is insufficient for heating during the winter periods, Bi-Rite is permitted to burn only virgin #1 and #2 fuel oils with low sulfur content.

Compliance History:

There has not been any complaint attributed to Bi-Rite operations in the last 5 years,

Permit # C-10214 Conditions:

Rule 201(1): There has been no modification to the equipment since installed.

Condition# 17: The visible emissions from the equipment were zero at the time of inspection.

Condition# 18: The maximum heat input limited to 280,000 Btu per hour per furnace design was still observed.

Condition# 19: The facility did not burn waste oil fuel over the permit limit of 2560 gallons in the previous year. Per the rate of usage at 2.0 gallons per hour stated in the permit, the source did not use an appropriate format for logging. In conversation with Mr. Ron Schwesing, the owner explained the numbers recorded for certain dates represented the amount of waste oil used in topping the oil that was used over the period covering previous top up date to the recorded date. For example, on January 12, 2017, 68 gallons of waste oil were used to top up. The facility burned the oil from the said date through January 24, 2017. The facility used 80 gallons of waste oil to top up on the 24th of January and continued to burn through the week up to January 31 (Tuesday) when 100 gallons were again used to top up for future use. The 80 gallons used for topping up represented the quantity of waste oil burned in 12 days averaging 0.24 gallons per hour. The amount of waste oil recorded reflected periodic usage and not the daily cum hourly usage. Technically, the design of furnace limits the capacity for hourly usage [Records attached, Pgs. 5-9]. The owner pledged to redesign the format for properly recording waste oil usage to reflect the exact hourly burn rates.

Condition# 20: Bi-Rite agreed to burn only virgin# 1 and # 2 fuel oils if the transmission fluid is not available for heating needs. Mr. Schwesing stated this situation has not occurred in the history of the company.

Condition# 21: No hazardous waste material has been burned in the furnace.

Condition# 22: The sulfur content of the transmission fluid fuel was laboratory verified in 1993 to be 0.62% by weight, and proven that transmission fluid does not contain appreciable amounts of sulfur. Results of sulfur analysis are on AQD file.

Condition# 23: Bi-Rite indicated the facility had odor abatement plan that was submitted in 1993 in place and maintains cleanliness on the property.

Condition# 24: The exhaust stack that was installed at the time of permitting was not modified. Staff visually inspected the structural integrity of the stack and determined it was operated in compliance.

Condition# 25: Waste oil burning records were kept on site and the owner made it easily available upon request.

Compliance Determination:

The AQD staff inspected the Bi-Rite facility as part of the scheduled compliance inspection. The inspection observed the facility was operated in accordance with permitted conditions. Records were kept and maintained as specified in the permit. The facility was determined to have been operated in compliance with the air pollution regulatory permit rules.

NAME lh

DATE 9/5/2017

SUPERVISOR JK