

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

N175667436

FACILITY: Kentwood Powder Coat Inc.		SRN / ID: N1756
LOCATION: 3900 SWANK SE, GRAND RAPIDS		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: GRAND RAPIDS		COUNTY: KENT
CONTACT: Len Vining III, President		ACTIVITY DATE: 05/18/2023
STAFF: April Lazzaro	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Unannounced, scheduled inspection.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Air Quality Division staff April Lazzaro conducted an unannounced self-initiated inspection of Kentwood Powder Coat Inc. located at 3900 Swank, in Kentwood. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the facility's compliance with state and federal air pollution regulations, Permit to Install No 848-87 and 115-05A. Upon arrival in the area around the facility, no odors or visible emissions were observed. During the inspection, I was accompanied by Len Vining III, President, Sara Rice, Controller and Paul Bowers, Plant Manager.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Kentwood Powder Coat conducts powder coating of automotive, appliance, and marine parts. The facility consists of a phosphate washer, two powder coating lines and two rack burn-off ovens.

COMPLIANCE EVALUATION

Powder Coating Line 1:

PTI No. 848-87 currently covers a powder coat booth, cure oven and one burn-off oven. The powder coating operation consists of 16 automated oscillating spray guns and 2 manual spray guns in a downwash booth. On this line, powder is captured in a hopper beneath the booth, air flow from the booth is sent to a fabric filter collector on the outside of the building. No problems were identified with the collection device. The powder coating is essentially conducted with an electrostatically charged part. Coated parts are cured in an oven from 350-425°F. No visible emissions were observed from this line.

Although the powder coating line is currently permitted under PTI No. 848-87, the equipment could be exempt under Rule 287(d). In addition, the burn-off oven covered under PTI No. 848-87 was replaced by an oven covered under PTI No. 115-05A. Because the powder coating booth could be exempt and the original burn-off oven is no longer at the facility, the company could have PTI No. 848-87 voided. This option was presented to the company for review.

Powder Coating Line 2:

The second powder coating line operates like the first powder coating line but has 16 automated spray gun nozzles and 4 manual spray guns which are controlled by a fabric filter collector which vents into the plant. This line utilizes a powder reclaim system to reuse powder as much as possible. This line is exempt from permitting under Rule 287(d). Again, the room housing this line was well kept. No visible emissions were observed from this line.

Two Rack Burn-off ovens

PTI No. 115-05A covers two natural gas-fired, rack burn-off ovens. EUBURNOFF1 is a Pollution Control Products Model 449 and EUBURNOFF2 is a PCP Model 390. The burn-off ovens are used to remove powder coat paint from part racks and are operated daily. The typical burn time is 4-7 hours per batch. At the time of the inspection EUBURNOFF1 was operating. The cycle had just been started and had an afterburner temperature of 1,474°F which is in compliance with the minimum temperature requirement of 1,400°F. According to

discussions held with facility staff, the primary chamber will not ignite until the afterburner is up to the required temperature.

The company is maintaining a logbook of temperature records for both burn-off ovens however, they need to do additional training of the operators to ensure that the correct values are being recorded. It seems like the oven temperature was the value typically being recorded, instead of the afterburner temperature. The operator log was observed, and a new operator training and implementation schedule was discussed. Since the ovens appear to be operating properly, I requested that the company submit a new operator log and training protocol by June 9, 2023. I also learned that an outside contractor had been at the facility to quote insulation and seal replacement on EUBURNOFF2. The information due on June 9, 2023, will include a schedule for when the replacements will occur, or confirmation that the work has been completed.

No visible emissions were noted from the rack burn-off ovens, which were observed from an off-site location before and after the inspection.

Miscellaneous:

The company has a seven-stage iron phosphate wash system which is exempt under Rule 281(2)(e). The company also has two small stand-alone electrically heated wash tanks that contain a non-solvent cleaner. These internally vented tanks are exempt under Rule 285(2)(r) (iv).

SUMMARY

Kentwood Powder Coat Inc. appeared to be in compliance at the time of the inspection, with the implementation of the updated burn-off oven recordkeeping protocol. PTI No. 848-87 will be voided upon request.

NAME April Lazzaro

DATE 06/01/2023

SUPERVISOR 