

P1238  
MANILA

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

P123868800

FACILITY: SYNERGY PSM CORPORATION		SRN / ID: P1238
LOCATION: 6760 METROPLEX DRIVE, ROMULUS		DISTRICT: Detroit
CITY: ROMULUS		COUNTY: WAYNE
CONTACT: Brandon Chearhart , Opertions		ACTIVITY DATE: 08/29/2023
STAFF: Gerald Krawiec	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Non Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: Minor
SUBJECT: FY2023 on-site inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

**AQD Inspection 8/29/2023**

AQD staff conducted an On-site Inspection for FY 2023 of Synergy PSM Corporation located at 6760 Metroplex Drive in the City of Romulus. The purpose of the inspection is to determine the facility’s compliance with PTI 91-21, PTI 2-22 and applicable state and federal air pollution rules and regulations. Oven Operator, Brandon Chearhart accompanied AQD staff on the inspection.

**Background:**

Synergy PSM Corporation is located inside the Detroit Tarp Building. There is not signage indicating that Synergy is located in this building. It was discovered that Synergy is leasing a 10,000 square foot space inside the Detroit Tarp Building, with two large bay doors. There was a small truck and trailer nearby these bay doors that did have signage however it was not obvious. General PTI No. 91-21 was issued November 16, 2021, for a Natural Gas-fired Burn-off Oven (EU-BURNOFF) with secondary chamber or afterburner with a maximum rated heat input of 560,00 Btu/hr. On January 11, 2022, Synergy was issued PTI No. 2-22 for a second similar Burn-off Oven (EU-BURNOFF2).

Synergy PSM Corporation has been in business for 12 years, however at this Romulus location for 2 years. This currently is the only facility in Michigan.

**Facility Description:**

Synergy receives paint hangers, racks, fixtures, and dies from various other coating operations. The facility currently is permitted for 2 batch type burn-off ovens. These ovens are designed to remove small amounts of organic materials such as cured paint, polymer, grease, oil, etc., from metal parts. The furnaces are batch loaded with metal parts and raised to 800 – 900 degrees Fahrenheit where the decomposition of the organic material into smoke and ash occurs. These emissions enter the afterburner chamber where it is burned by the 1400-degree afterburner flame. Batch loads cannot contain rubber, plastics, uncured paints, or any other materials containing sulfur or halogens such as plastisol, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or Teflon.

**Operating Schedule:**

Currently this facility is operating 12-hours a day, 5 days a week with 1 or 2 employees.

**Inspection Narrative:**

Upon arrival, Nick Zalewski of Detroit Tarp explained that Synergy was leasing space inside their building, and he led me to the Synergy's Oven Operator, Brandon Chearhart (734-771-4280). I conducted a pre-inspection conference with both men. Nick left the area and Brandon accompanied AQD staff as we toured this process. Both ovens are located next to each other on the west wall of the rented space. It was obvious that the oven on the left was no longer operational since the gas lines and the stack are no longer connected. Brandon stated that this oven is scheduled for removal soon. At this point, I am unable to identify which PTI is associated with either oven. Brandon has no idea how to distinguish one oven from the other. Fortunately, the special permit conditions are very similar. Compliance issues with the operating oven were apparent immediately. Although the burner temperatures were within the proper operating ranges, temperatures were not being recorded. The exhaust gases from the oven are not unobstructed and the stack height is approximately 2 or 3 feet above the building roof (too short). It is very hard to see from ground level.

Brandon called his supervisor, Mike Forstell, (734-735-1260). **Mike stated that he would shut down operation at this site ASAP until all permit conditions were in compliance.** He was not able to clarify which PTI was for which unit as he was not involved with the permitting. He is currently at another facility in Ohio, he will contact me tomorrow with a plan for compliance and the person to contact that worked on the permit.

The next day he called, and we further discussed the special conditions that needed to be addressed. He stated that Matt Bosh worked on the PTI's, and that Matt will contact me to clarify which PTI is for which oven.

This facility is not a fugitive dust source.

**Post Inspection:**

On 9/11/2023, I received an email from Mike Foretell to recap their compliance plan and inform me that the temperature recorder is installed on 9/7/2023. The ductwork for the stack has been ordered. He hopes to have the stack extended to 1.5 building height in about 3 weeks.

On 9/11/2023, I received an email from Matt Bosh clearing up the PTI confusion. The General PTI No. 91-21 was issued November 16, 2021, for a Natural Gas-fired Burn-off Oven (EU-BURNOFF) with the serial number 6604. This is the oven that was shutdown.

On 12/13/2023, I received an email from Mike Foretell stating that the stack has been erected to the permitted height. He is also requesting approval to operate this Burn-off Oven. I responded on 12/14/2023, stating that if the company is in compliance with the permit, they can start operating. I will make an inspection in a few weeks.

I conducted surveillance at this facility on 9/12/2023, 9/14/23, and 11/29/23 and found the facility closed on each date. On 2/7/2024, the facility was closed however, the new stack has been installed.

**Compliance Determination:**

**On 5/31/2024, AQD staff conducted a second On-site Inspection. Based upon this inspection of Synergy PSM Corporation located in Romulus, it appears this facility is operating in compliance with the company's General PTI No. 91-21, and applicable air quality rules and regulations.**

NAME

*B. Krawiec*

DATE

*5/31/24*

SUPERVISOR

*JK*