

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

U34240092370814

FACILITY: Paragon Model Shop		SRN / ID: U342400923
LOCATION: 10083 Thompson Road		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: Freeport		COUNTY: IONIA
CONTACT: Matt Leestma , Project Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 02/12/2024
STAFF: Eric Grinstern	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS:
SUBJECT: Unannounced compliance inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Paragon Model Shop is a welding and fabrication operation. Paragon is a job shop that serves a wide range of industries, including material handling, agricultural and commercial construction. The facility is located in rural Ionia County, with the nearest village being Freeport.

REGULATORY ANALYSIS

The facility currently does not have any air use permits. Based on this inspection, the facility's current operations appear to be exempt from the requirements to obtain air use permits.

COMPLIANCE EVALUATION

Prior to entering the facility, a survey of the perimeter of the facility was made from the public roadway.

Staff did not observe any odors or emissions from the facility. At the facility, staff consisting of Eric Grinstern (EG) met with Matt Leestma, Project Manager. The facility has not previously been inspected by AQD.

The facilities operations are currently contained within one building.

Below is a summary of the facility's operations.

Welding – The facility conducts welding at numerous locations within the plant. Welding is conducted without specific capture or control of emissions. General building fans along the walls exhaust emissions to the outside atmosphere. Welding is exempt from needing an air use permit under Rule 285(2)(i).

Metal bending, forming – The facility has metal bending/forming processes that do not have capture or control systems. The processes are exempt from needing an air use permit under Rule 285(2)(l)(i).

Metal cutting and sawing - The facility has various metal cutting processes, including a band saw and a plasma water table. The cutting processes vent to the general in-plant environment and do not require an air use permit under Rule 285(2)(l)(vi)(B).

Surface coating – The facility has one paint booth that is equipped with an exhaust system with panel filters along with an exhaust stack. Adjacent to the paint booth is an area used to dry coated parts that also has exhaust with panel filters. The facility uses approximately 50 gallons of coatings per month in the booth. The facility has purchase records as well as customer order records to document coating usage. Surface coating operations are exempt from needing an air use permit under Rule 287 (2)(c), since usage is not more than 200 gallons per month, and the exhaust system is equipped with dry filter control.

Space Heating – The facility provides building comfort heating with three outdoor wood boilers. All three of the wood boilers are C800 Heat Masters. C800 Heat Masters have an approximate heat rating (depending on fuel quality) of 800,000 Btus/hr. The facility burns aged and split hard wood that is stored under a cover prior to use in the boilers. Observation of the stack of the boiler in use at the time of the inspection showed no emissions. The outdoor wood boilers are exempt from needing an

air use permit under Rule 282(2)(b)(iii), since the boilers each have a rated heat capacity that is less than 6 million Btu per hour.

Summary

Based upon the information and observations made during this inspection, the facility appears to be in compliance with the applicable air quality rules and regulations.

NAME Eric Grinstern

DATE 02/13/2024

SUPERVISOR HH