

Fogelsonger Vault Company  
Sunset Valley Crematory  
1617 Lewis Street  
Bay City, MI 48706

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Saginaw Bay Division  
401 Ketchum Street, Suites B  
Bay City, MI 48708

I am writing to you in response to your letter dated February 7, 2014, concerning the operation of one of the cremation units, and black smoke coming out of the unit stack.

On the days mentioned in the letter, (January 31, and February 5 of 2014), a problem occurred regarding the emissions. Due to extreme cold temperatures, maintaining a proper temperature in the afterburner was difficult. We had completed a cremation in the same unit prior to loading the body for the next cremation. Before loading body, the proper temperature in the unit was attained, following the procedure employed on all the units. During the loading process, the temperature in the unit dropped significantly, so we delayed the ignition burner, and let the afterburner regain the correct temperature. At this point the cremation container ignited, the pollution control detected the opacity, preventing the ignition burner from turning on, thus the black smoke was emitted through the stack.

We do have a policy of strictly adhering to the recommended operation procedures of our cremation units, and do sincerely apologize for the emission problem. Please contact me at anytime if you have any further questions.

Respectively yours,

*Gary E. Fogelsonger*

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*Follow up w/cremation unit  
- manufacturer/maintenance  
to see if operating options  
or any procedure modifications  
available to address severe  
cold weather.*

*K. Brown  
2/19/2014*

*(March site visit)*

DEQ-AQD

FEB 19 2014

Saginaw Bay