



State of New Jersey

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Governor

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Lt. Governor

Department of Environmental Protection
Compliance and Enforcement
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CATHERINE R. McCABE
Commissioner

April 13, 2020

To all Human Crematory Operators:

This is to advise you that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) intends to exercise its authority to modify DEP permits that govern daily hourly operating limits at human crematories pursuant to the Air Pollution Control Code, N.J.A.C. 7:27, et seq., specifically N.J.A.C. 7:27-11.

The DEP understands that there is and may continue to be an increased need to properly dispose of human remains during the Public Health Emergency declared by Governor Phil Murphy in Executive Order No. 103 (EO 103) due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The DEP also recognizes that crematories are or may be unable to meet this need within permitted daily hourly operating limits.

Accordingly, the DEP is hereby temporarily amending daily hourly operating limits in any air permit governing the operation of a New Jersey human crematory. For the duration of EO 103, human crematories may operate in excess of any permitted daily hourly operating limits as may be necessary to satisfy increased service needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Notwithstanding this temporary amendment of operating hours, and to ensure the continued protection of public health, safety and the environment, operators shall remain in compliance with all other conditions of any governing permit, statute or regulation. These conditions include, but may not be limited to, (1) limits on operating temperatures, (2) hourly loading and charging capacity, (3) residence time, (4) compliance with the visible emission standards, and (5) prohibitions on fugitive emissions and offsite odors. Finally, all monitoring, recordkeeping, and submittal requirements remain in effect and shall be fully observed.

This temporary amendment of operating hours shall remain in effect until the expiration or revocation of EO 103, unless otherwise revoked or modified by DEP.

Any questions concerning this notice or its applicability should be directed to Richelle Wormley, Director of the Division of Air Enforcement, via email at Richelle.Wormley@dep.nj.gov.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Dragon, Assistant Commissioner
Compliance & Enforcement

c: Judith Welshons, Executive Director, New Jersey Cemetery Association

