



REGION 3

PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

Report Title: Clean Air Act Inspection of Best Auto Shop
Inspection Date(s): 12/06/2023
Regulatory Program(s): NESHAP

Company Name: Best Auto Shop
Facility Name: Best Auto Shop
Facility Location: 1800 Adams St NE
Washington, D.C. 20018
Latitude: 38.92023 **Longitude:** -76.97867
County/Parish: District of Columbia
AFS/ICIS-Air Number: 03000DC00011
Permit Number: N/A
NAICS Code: 811111, 811121 **SIC:** 7532
DSBID #: ECAD-80

Facility Representatives: Mesfin Gebreab, Owner **Point of Contact** ☒
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EPA Inspectors:
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State/Local Inspectors:
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EPA Lead Inspector

Signature

Carly Joseph

Date

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Supervisor

Signature

Kristen Hall

Date

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I. Introduction

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a Clean Air Act (CAA) inspection at Best Auto Shop (Best Auto or Facility) to verify compliance with applicable State and Federal regulations. The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) was notified of the inspection on November 20, 2023 via email.

The inspection included an evaluation of the Facility's processes and its compliance with the CAA. All information included in this report is the result of statements by the Facility representatives, materials shown to the inspectors by the Facility representatives, and/or documents provided by the Facility representatives to the inspectors at the time of, or subsequent to, the inspection. In addition, information gathered prior to the inspection from a review of EPA and State records may be included in Section A. Summary of the Facility.

A. Summary of the Facility

The Facility is located at 1800 Adams St. NE, Washington, DC 20018. Best Auto Shop performs general maintenance and mechanical work on cars. The Facility's primary work is body work on cars.

The Facility does not have any federal or state air permits. The Facility is subject to, or potentially subject to, the following federal regulations:

- 40 C.F.R Part 63 National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: – National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Paint Stripping and Miscellaneous Surface Coating Operations at Area Sources Subpart HHHHHH

B. Inspection Opening Conference

At 1:30 PM on December 6, 2023, EPA inspectors arrived at the Facility for a CAA Inspection and conducted a brief opening conference. Best Auto was represented by owner, Mesfin Gebreab. Also, Kush Kharod from DOEE was present. EPA inspectors, Carly Joseph and Dean DeLuca, presented their credentials and explained the purpose of the visit was to conduct a CAA inspection to determine compliance with their permit and any applicable regulations. Additionally, EPA informed the facility representatives of their right to claim any confidential business information (CBI). At that time, Mesfin Gebreab did not claim any photos or documentation as CBI.

II. Site Activity/Process Description

Best Auto began operation on November 27, 2023. All Make Auto previously operated at his location under a different operator before Best Auto Shop. Mr. Gebread indicated that he just began renting the building from Amazing Property but owns the spray booth. The Facility explained they had not begun painting operations on vehicles but are offering mechanical work until they were ready to begin painting operations. The Facility currently has two full time employees including Mesfin Gebreab. Best

Auto's primary business is auto body work. The Facility also offers mechanical work and plans to conduct spray painting services in its enclosed spray booth in the future. Best Auto consists of a single building with multiple bay garages and an enclosed spray booth. Mr. Gebreab stated Best Auto does not conduct any paint stripping services methylene chloride or any other chemicals.

III. Observations

EPA inspectors were led on a walkthrough of the Facility at 1:32 PM by Mesfin Gebreab of Best Auto Shop and Kush Kharod from DOEE was also present for the walkthrough. EPA inspectors noted Dean DeLuca would take photos during the Facility walkthrough (Attachment 1).

The inspection team observed the outside of Best Auto from the parking lot. The facility consisted of one building with a few bays and an enclosed spray booth. A vehicle was observed inside the garage. The vehicle did not appear to be receiving maintenance during the time of the team's walkthrough. The team entered Best Auto garage through a bay. Mr. Gebreab led the inspection team to the enclosed spray booth. All filters appeared to be in place. Multiple filters were heavily covered in dirt, dust, or paint overspray. The inspection team asked the Facility to turn on the booth so they could see the airflow through the booth. At the time of the inspection, the booth was operating at a negative pressure and there were no indications that the booth had been operated recently.

Next, the team observed the Facility's paint storage area. Mr. Gebreab indicated that the paint was purchased by the previous owner and that the Facility has not purchased any of its own paint. Mr. Gebreab also indicated that Best Auto has a new storage container for all paint and supplies and will be converting the prior paint storage area to a parts storage area. Lastly, the inspection team observed the Facility's spray guns. One spray gun was an Devilbliss GTI and the other was a Kobalt SGY-Air70NB. The team also observed a box of Viskon-Aire Air filters, item number: 017-202.

IV. Closing Conference

After the walkthrough, EPA inspectors, Mesfin Gebreab, and Kush Kharod had a brief closing conference to ask additional questions and discuss observations. EPA informed the Facility of Subpart HHHHHH—National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Paint Stripping and Miscellaneous Surface Coating Operations at Area Sources regulation and how to access the regulation. EPA recommended the Facility review the rule before beginning spray painting operations in their enclosed spray booth. The EPA inspectors noted that the investigation is on-going, and any areas of concern identified in the final report do not necessarily reflect a violation or deviation, rather, they are areas that will require further investigation. EPA also noted that they would issue an inspection report within 60 days, with a copy to the DOEE. The inspection concluded at 1:55 PM.

No areas of concerns were noted at the closing conference.

DSBID #: ECAD-80

V. List of Attachments

Attachment 1: Photo Log

Attachment 1:

PHOTO LOG

Facility: Best Auto Shop

Location: 1800 Adams St NE, Washington, DC 20018

Inspection Date: December 6, 2023

EPA Inspector(s): Carly Joseph and Dean DeLuca

Photographer: Dean DeLuca



Photo Number: 82

Photo Description: Exterior of Best Auto Shop

Best Auto Shop, December 6, 2023



Photo Number: 83

Photo Description: Interior of Enclosed Paint Booth

Best Auto Shop, December 6, 2023



Photo Number: 84

Photo Description: Exterior of paint booth

Best Auto Shop, December 6, 2023



Photo Number: 85

Photo Description: Paint Storage Area