



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



Connecticut Department of
**ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

Crematory Air Permit Working Group: Kickoff Meeting

June 11, 2026

Jaimeson Sinclair, Director, Engineering Div.

CT DEEP – Bureau of Air Management



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Agenda

Time	Topic
20 mins	Welcome & Introductions
10 mins	Overview & Expected Outcomes
5 mins	Scope & Deliverables
10 mins	Roles & Responsibilities
10 mins	Timeline & Milestones
5 mins	Next Steps



Welcome

Emma Cimino,
Deputy Commissioner
Environmental Quality Branch



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Introductions

1. DEEP Team
2. DPH Team
3. CFDA
4. CFDA Members
5. Cremation Association of North America
6. Municipal Officials
7. Retort Manufacturer
8. Environmental Consultants
9. Other Interested Parties

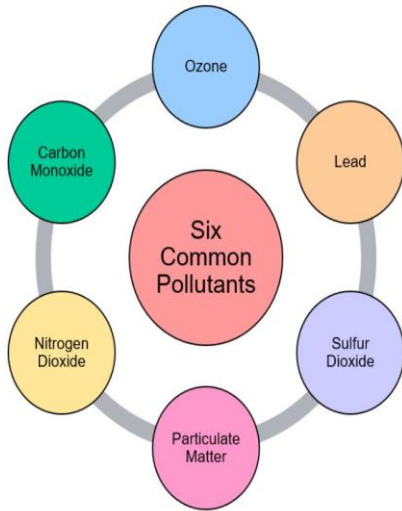


Overview

- Genesis: Special Act 26-33
- Vision: cross section of stakeholders critically review emissions factors for mercury vapor and fine particulate matter and how DEEP uses them
- Expected Outcome: Report and recommendations for the use of such emissions factors in the review of air permit applications, registrations and other approvals issued pursuant to the Air Pollution Statutes

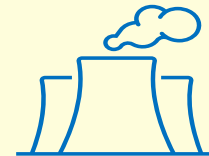
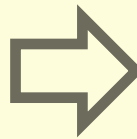


Permits Protect Ambient Air Quality and Limit Public Exposure to Hazardous Air Pollutants



- EPA promulgates and periodically revises **National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)** for 6 pollutants, including **fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5})** – these standards address how emissions affect human health and the environment.
- Clean Air Act and State Regulations **REQUIRE** air permits to **ensure that State air quality meets the NAAQS and to limit exposures to hazardous air pollutants, like Mercury Vapor (a potent, persistent, and bio-accumulating neurotoxin)**
- In CT, all the other New England States, and many other jurisdictions, human cremation retorts require air permits.

The air permit application and the Department review comprise a pre-construction analysis to assess whether or not a source of air pollution will comply with the NAAQS and Hazardous Air Pollutant requirements



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What is an emissions factor?

- “An **emissions factor** is a representative value that attempts to relate the quantity of a pollutant emitted with an industrial activity.”
 - <https://www.epa.gov/air-emissions-factors-and-quantification>, emphasis added
- for our purposes: it’s a **representative** value that attempts to relate the **quantity of air pollution emitted from a retort to the mass of material charged per cremation case**



How and why are emissions factors used?

How: Conservative, cost effective and efficient means of estimating the **mass of pollution emitted by a source and evaluating the impact of those emissions on air quality and compliance with environmental standards.**

Why:

1. Site specific, unit specific data may not exist;
2. Site specific, unit specific data may be costly to obtain.



Scope

- Scope –
 - evaluate available data, emissions factors and methodologies used to estimate mercury vapor emissions and fine particulate matter emissions from the cremation of human remains
 - assess variability in mercury vapor emissions, including, but not limited to, variability attributable to dental amalgam, operating practices and emissions control technologies;
 - identify best available practices and technologies for minimizing mercury vapor emissions and fine particulate matter emissions from crematories;
 - evaluate the manner in which emissions factors are used by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in permit application review and establishment of new setback guidelines for currently permitted crematories and whether updated factors are warranted; and



Deliverable

- Report to the Legislature – Due 1/15/2027
 - Findings of the evaluation and assessment
 - Recommendations for mercury vapor emissions factors and fine particulate matter emissions factors and related guidance to be used by the department in carrying out its responsibilities under section 22a-174 of the general statutes



Roles

DEEP	Non-DEEP
Workgroup Administration and Coordination	Data Collection, Presentation and Submission
Document and Information repository	Data Analysis and Review
Note Taking and Distribution	Submission of Recommendations
Data Collection, Presentation and Submission	Editorial Review of Report and Recommendations
Data Analysis and Review	
Submission of Recommendations	
Primary Authorship of Report and Recommendations	



Meeting Schedule

Meeting	Date	Topic
Kickoff	June 11, 2026	Overview, Scope, Roles
Meeting 1	July 23, 2026	Regulatory Review
Meeting 2	August 27, 2026	Emission Factors, Control Equipment and Best Practices
Meeting 3	September 24, 2026	Brainstorm Recommendations/Report Outline
Meeting 4	November 19, 2026	Distribute Draft Report to Workgroup



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Communications

- Peer to peer conversation is essential and encouraged....we'll circulate a listing of participants and contact information after this meeting.
- Communications to DEEP staff should be sent jaimeson.sinclair@ct.gov with cc's to olivia.harris@ct.gov and jordana.graveley@ct.gov



Next Steps

1. Calendar forthcoming meetings for participants
2. Distribute Air regulatory review presentation prior to next meeting.
3. Request that Equipment manufacturers generate a few slides to talk about the incinerations technology their models employ, emissions profiles, and emissions control equipment offered for their units



DEEP Staff contacts

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Questions?



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