



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northwest District Office

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Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korleski, Director

Re: Semi-Annual Report of Assessment Activities
St. Marys Landfill, Auglaize County

October 10, 2007

Mr. Thomas Hitchcock
Director of Public Service and Safety
City of St. Marys
101 East Spring Street
St. Marys, Ohio 45885

Dear Mr. Hitchcock:

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) completed a review of the submittal titled, "Semi-Annual Report of Assessment Activities and Determination of Rate, Extent and Concentration of waste-derived Constituents in Ground Water" at the St. Marys Landfill (facility). The above referenced submittal was received on September 6, 2007. Following are Ohio EPA comments relating to the review of this document.

COMMENTS

VIOLATIONS

1. **The City of St. Marys is in violation of OAC Rule 3745-27-10 (E)(10), which requires the owner/operator to perform a semiannual determination of rate, extent and concentration, and OAC Rule 3745-27-10 (E)(12), which requires a semiannual assessment activities report be submitted which contains all data generated as part of the assessment program since the previous report. The City of St. Marys needs to submit the data for assessment wells MW-5, BW-5 and BW-6 and determine the rate, extent and concentration of the plume(s) in the area of these wells.**

In the current submittal of the semiannual assessment activities report the owner/operator provided the concentration data for assessment wells MW-2, MW-3, MW-4, AW-1, AW-2, AW-3, and AW-4. The owner/operator also provided their interpretation of the rate and extent information in the area of these wells. Wells MW-5, BW-5 and BW-6 are considered part of the assessment program by the owner/operator as documented in previous submittals. Ohio EPA concurs with these findings. Since these three wells are part of the assessment program the rate, extend and concentration must be determined and the data must be included in the semiannual report.

2. **The City of St. Marys is in violation of OAC Rule 3745-27-10(E)(3) which requires that the owner/operator submit a ground water quality assessment plan within one hundred and thirty-five days of notification of a statistically significant increase over background. The City of St. Marys needs to include wells MW-5, BW-5, and BW-6 in the site's assessment monitoring plan.**

Wells MW-5, BW-5, and BW-6 have been considered by the owner/operator to be in the assessment program for some time. Wells BW-5 and BW-6, for example, were required to be placed into the assessment plan, based on OAC Rule 3745-27-10 (D)(7)(c) by August 2004. These wells are not included in the assessment plan.

STATEMENTS

3. On page 3 of the submittal, the owner/operator states, "As previously discussed with Ohio EPA, monitoring well MW-5 is potentially impacted by chloride and negotiations with Ohio EPA are ongoing to determine possible assessment well locations. The determination of rate and extent in the vicinity of monitoring well MW-5 will be submitted upon the completion of negotiations with Ohio EPA, if merited."

The owner/operator is reminded that Ohio EPA is not and has not negotiated the locations of well locations. Assessment well locations are determined by an evaluation of site-specific hydrogeological data. The proposed number, location, depths, installation method and construction of assessment monitoring wells are to be included in the owner/operator's ground water quality assessment plan as discussed in OAC Rule 3745-27-10 (E). The owner/operator must meet the requirements of OAC Rule 3745-27-10. In addition, chloride concentration data submitted by the owner/operator has shown that well MW-5 is an affected well and has been an affected well for some time.

In addition, the owner/operator has indicated that well MW-5 has been incorporated into the assessment program for the facility. OAC Rule 3745-27-10 (E)(6) requires that the owner/operator implement the ground water assessment plan and determine rate, concentration and extent. Figure 2 in Appendix A-2 of the submittal is inconsistent with the statement noted above made by the owner/operator. It shows that the extent of the plume has not been determined in the area of MW-5. Not determining the rate, extent and concentration in the area of well MW-5 could result in a violation of OAC Rule 3745-27-10 (E)(6).

4. Wells BW-5 and BW-6 have displayed statistically significant increases of chloride and demonstrations in accordance with OAC Rule 3745-27-10 (D)(7)(c)(ii) were not approved by the director. Based on this rule and OAC Rule 3745-27-10 (E)(3), the owner/operator needs to comply with the provisions of paragraph (E) of OAC Rule 3745-27-10 including submittal of a ground water quality assessment plan which includes wells BW-5 and BW-6. These wells, therefore, are in the assessment program. The owner/operator has been cited in violation of these two rules. The owner/operator continues to be in violation of OAC Rule 3745-27-10 (E)(3). The owner/operator is encouraged to meet the requirements of this rule.
5. The legend for Figure 1 contains a line that is labeled "Proposed Limit of Solid Waste". This is an unusual label for a site which is no longer operating. The "Proposed Limit of Solid Waste", as defined in the legend, could not be found on the map.

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If you have any questions please feel free to contact Randy Skrzyniecki at the Ohio EPA Northwest District Office (419-373-3149). Any written correspondence needs to be sent to the attention of Mike Reiser, Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management, Ohio EPA Northwest District Office, 347 Dunbridge Road, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Reiser

Michael A. Reiser, R.S.
Environmental Supervisor
Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management

/csl

pc: Kelly Bensman, Hull & Associates, Inc.
Todd Flagle, City of St. Marys
File: Auglaize County, St. Marys Landfill, Ground Water

ec: Randy Skrzyniecki, DDAGW, NWDO
Jack Leow, DDAGW, NWDO

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