



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northwest District Office

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Bowling Green, OH 43402-9398

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

Re: Blanchard Valley Medical Associates
Infectious Waste Inspection
Hancock County

September 7, 2007

Terry Yunker
200 West Pearl Street
Findlay, OH 45840

Dear Mr. Yunker:

On August 17, 2007, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) conducted an inspection at Blanchard Valley Medical Associates (Facility). This Facility is a registered large quantity generator of infectious waste and must meet the standards set forth in Chapter 3745-27 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). I represented Ohio EPA. Matt Missler, Crystal Clark, Marty Barton, and you represented the Facility during the inspection.

The initial phase of the inspection consisted of examination of the infectious waste storage room. This represents the only storage area for the Facility. The door was properly labeled and locked at the time of inspection. Multiple rooms were also inspected for appropriate sharps containers and storage. All of the areas were satisfactory. Sharps containers were available in each area, were properly labeled, and were not overfilled.

A review of the spill containment and clean-up procedure followed. All of the required information, in accordance with OAC Rule 3745-27-30(B)(10), was present. However, Ohio EPA recommends that all of the information be found in one procedure manual. At the time of the inspection this information was found divided between the "Safety Procedure Manual" and the "Chemical Hygiene Manual."

The spill kit was inspected next. The kit had all of the required components as outlined in OAC 3745-27-30(B)(11).

The treatment shipping paper system was also reviewed. The owner/operator maintains a separate file for shipping papers that have not received a returned "white" copy back. The "white" copy had not been returned for the following dates: February 9, 2007; June 16 and 23, 2006; April 14, 2006; November 4, 2005; September 30, 2005; and February 14, 2003. In accordance with OAC Rule 3745-27-33(B)(6), the white copy of the treatment shipping paper shall "be returned to the generator within forty-five days of treatment of the waste at a treatment facility. If the copy is not returned then a legible copy of the original shipping paper and a brief letter outlining the generator's efforts to locate the waste shall be submitted to the board of health having jurisdiction and to Ohio EPA." No explanation was located at the facility during the inspection and no record is on file with Ohio EPA. **Blanchard Valley Medical Associates is in violation of OAC Rule 3745-27-33(B)(6) for failure to maintain a complete shipping paper system.** Please ensure the original white copy or legible copy is located and filed with the appropriate yellow generator copy.

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This correspondence addresses specific observations only for the areas of the Facility that were inspected. Nothing present in, nor absent from this correspondence is intended to mean that no other violations existed at the facility at the time of the inspection.

Compliance with the requirements in this letter, or the solid and infectious waste provisions contained in the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3734 and the rules promulgated thereunder, does not relieve the owner/operator of Blanchard Valley Medical Associates from their obligations to comply with other applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the Northwest District Office at (419) 373-3079.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Scoles, S.I.T., CHMM
Environmental Specialist
Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management

/csi

<pc: NWDO File: Hancock County, Infectious Waste >