



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

Re: Infectious Waste Inspection
Samaritan Hospital
#03-G-00030
Notice of Violation

June 20, 2012

Mr. Terry Kitts
Samaritan Hospital
1025 Center Street
Ashland, Ohio 44805

Dear Mr. Kitts:

On June 5, 2012, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) conducted an inspection at Samaritan Hospital. 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, and Robin represented the facility during the inspection.

The initial phase of the inspection consisted of a review of the treatment shipping paper system. The treatment shipping papers were inspected and found to be in good order. The spill containment and clean-up policy was also reviewed and found to be acceptable. The spill kit located in the boiler room was inspected and found to contain all of the components required by OAC Rule 3745-27-30(B)(11).

Several infectious waste storage rooms were inspected. The doors to these rooms are not kept locked when unoccupied, or labeled with the international biohazard symbol. Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 3745-27-35 (A)(3) states:

(A) For the purposes of this rule, a storage area means an area used to collect containers that are sealed, and/or bags that are sealed or otherwise closed, and tied, and/or closed sharps containers prior to transportation or treatment. Generators, transporters, and treatment facilities, as defined under chapter 3734. of the Revised Code, shall adhere to the following handling requirements for all in-use and stored containers of infectious waste:

3) Designate infectious waste storage areas. Those storage areas that are not locked, shall be visibly labeled with a sign stating "warning: infectious waste" and/or displaying the international biohazard symbol at all points of access

Mr. Terry Kitts
June 20, 2012
Page 2

The owner/operator is in violation of OAC Rule 3745-27-35 (A)(3) for failure to display the biohazard labels. During the inspection Robin stated that biohazard labels would be ordered that day. Please send pictures documenting that the biohazard labels are in place.

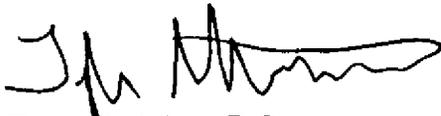
Infectious waste was properly packaged in the soiled utility rooms. Patient rooms in multiple areas were also observed. Infectious waste was properly segregated into sharps containers and red bags in these areas.

The owner/ operator needs to immediately take the necessary measures to return to compliance with Ohio's environmental laws. Within 14 days of receipt of this letter, the owner/operator is requested to provide documentation to this office including the steps taken to abate the violation cited above. Documentation of steps taken to return to compliance includes written correspondence, updated policies, and photographs, as appropriate, and may be submitted via the postal service or electronically to tyler.madeker@epa.ohio.gov.

Please be advised that violations cited above will continue until the violations have been properly abated. Failure to comply with Chapter 3734. of the Ohio Revised Code and rules promulgated thereunder may result in a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 per day for each violation. It is imperative that you return to compliance. If circumstances delay the abatement of violations, the owner/operator is requested to submit written correspondence of the steps that will be taken by date certain to attain compliance.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the Northwest District Office at (419) 373-3078.

Sincerely,



Tyler Madeker, R.S.
Environmental Specialist
Division of Materials and Waste Management

/llr

pc: NWDO File: DMWM-SW, Ashland Co., Infectious Waste

ec: Mike Reiser, DMWM-NWDO