



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

May 25, 2012

Re: Coshocton County
Open Burning
Complaint 30002336

Mr. Joe Pahoundis
Walhonding Recycling
20298 Perry Township Road 411
Walhonding, Ohio 43843

Dear Mr. Pahoundis:

I am writing this letter in response to a complaint received by this office on April 27, 2012. The complaint alleges that you scrap metal from tanks, vehicles, motors and other sources and burn unknown materials near the back of your property.

On May 9, 2012, I investigated this complaint and spoke to you at Walhonding Recycling. You informed me that two cars had caught fire when they were being cut apart. The Walhonding Valley Fire Department responded to two fires at your facility. On April 15, 2012, the fire department found two cars and a 10 X 10 pile of scrap metal on fire. On April 23, 2012, the fire department responded to another fire call, and found workers putting out small spot fires with fire extinguishers and water. I conducted an inspection of the recycling facility and did not see evidence of a burn pile. There were no piles of burnable waste materials on site. Fire extinguishers and water are used to put out accidental fires, but the fire department is called for fires that are considered too large for you to extinguish.

During my investigation, I explained to you that a business cannot burn for waste disposal purposes and that adequate measures must be taken to prevent accidental fires.

I am enclosing contact information for the Ohio EPA's small business assistance program. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 740-380-5217 or 1-800-686-7330.

Sincerely,

Lisa Duvall
Environmental Specialist
Division of Air Pollution Control

LD/cs

Enclosure

cc: Dean Ponchak-DAPC