



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

**Southeast District Office**

2195 Front Street  
Logan, Ohio 43138

TELE: (740) 385-8501 FAX: (740) 385-6490  
www.epa.state.oh.us

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

February 2, 2010

Re: Ross County  
Open Burning  
Complaint 30001235

Certified: 70073020000178848319

Chief Dennis Ramsey  
The Jefferson Twp. Fire and Rescue  
247 Market St.  
Richmond Dale, Ohio 45673-0012

Dear Chief Ramsey:

On January 16, 2010, Mr. Mike Sherron of the Ohio EPA's Southeast District Office was called to the scene of a fire by Ross County Sheriff's Deputy Efav. Upon investigation, he found that Mr. Brian Peters was burning the remains of a barn and some plastic sheeting. You and two other members of the fire department were on scene, but the fire was not being put out. During Mr. Sherron's conversation with you, you indicated that you did not believe that the open burning rules applied because Richmond Dale is not an incorporated village.

Ohio's open burning regulations apply to all of Ohio. There are materials that cannot be open burned anywhere in Ohio. These materials include demolition wastes, buildings, plastic, garbage, tires, dead animals, plastic-coated copper wire, asphalt shingles, tarpaper, furniture and numerous other waste materials.

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule 3745-19-04 is the rule that applies to unrestricted areas, such as Richmond Dale. I am enclosing a copy of the entire rule for you. As a fire chief, local residents rely on you as a source of information for fire-related questions. Please be sure to read this rule carefully. You can also refer any questions about what type of open burning is permitted to me at this office. There are very few types of fires that are allowed in an unrestricted area. To burn any type of residential waste such as paper, leaves, tree trimmings, etc., the fire must be in an unrestricted area and at least 1,000 feet from the nearest inhabited building not located on the premises where the burning is taking place. Most residents in Richmond Dale are not going to meet the 1,000 foot distance requirement.

Chief Dennis Ramsey  
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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 740-380-5217.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Duvall".

Lisa Duvall  
Environmental Specialist  
Division of Air Pollution Control

LD/mlm

Enclosure