



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

**Northwest District Office**

347 North Dunbridge Rd.  
Bowling Green, OH 43402-9398

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

Re: Allen County  
Lima Compost Facility  
Construction  
Storm Water

July 9, 2009

Wright Mulch Inc.  
Mr. Aaron Wright  
700 East Hanthorn Road  
Lima, Ohio 45804

Dear Mr. Wright:

On June 4, 2009, I inspected the Lima Compost Facility at 1227 E. Hanthorn Rd., Lima (pictures taken). The purpose of my visit was to evaluate compliance of the site with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for storm water discharges associated with construction activity (Construction General Permit), Facility ID No. 2GC02257. The inspection was conducted under the provisions of Ohio's water pollution control statutes, Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 6111. Ohio EPA has no record of other permittees for this site.

As a result of the inspection, I have the following comments:

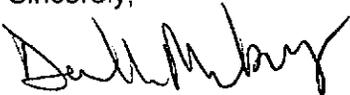
1. At the time of inspection, the site was inactive. The building, pavement, and ponds have all been installed. It appeared that the property had reached final grade. Due to the absence of personnel or a construction trailer, the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWP3) and inspection logs were not available for review.
2. There appeared to be a retention pond at the center of the site. This structure is required to meet the design requirements for a sediment settling pond until construction activities have ended and a perennial vegetative cover of 70% density has been achieved over the tributary area. Without reviewing the SWP3, I am unable to determine if the pond meets the requirements of the permit. *Permit Requires:* Sediment settling ponds must meet the following criteria: a dewatering volume with a maximum depth of 5 feet, sized at 67 cubic yard per drainage acre, and for drainage areas of 5 acres or more: a minimum 48 hour dewatering time; a sediment storage volume of 1000 cubic feet per disturbed acre provided below the dewatering zone; and at least a 2:1 length to width ratio between the nearest inlet and the outlet. *Please see Part III.G.2.d.ii. of the permit.* It will be necessary to modify the pond if it does not already meet all of these requirements.
3. Rills and gullies were present on the sides of the stockpiles on the north and west sides of the property. It appeared that the ground has remained idle at final grade for several weeks as there was weed growth and pillaring, as well as evidence of erosion on the banks of the pond on the north side of the lot.

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*Permit Requires:* Portions of the construction site which will be inactive for more than 21 days must have temporary stabilization initiated within the first seven. **Permanent stabilization is required within 7 days on any portion of the site that has reached final grade** or will be idle for longer than 1 year. Permanent seeding and mulching is required before construction activity is completed throughout the entire site. If seasonal conditions prohibit the establishment of vegetative cover, other means, such as mulching and matting, must still be used and maintained until more permanent methods can be implemented. *Failure to do so is a violation of Part III.G.2.b.i. of the permit.* At a minimum, temporary stabilization must be applied to bare idle areas of the site. I recommend applying a cover of straw mulch at 2 tons per acre, using a disc or a tackifier. This method would need to be maintained until fall, when weather conditions are suitable for seeding.

Within 10 days of the date on this letter, please submit to this office **written notification** as to the actions taken or proposed to prevent any future violations. Your response should include the dates, either actual or proposed, for the completion of the actions as well as a current copy of the site's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, including those portions that demonstrate compliance with the post construction storm water management requirements of the permit. The latter would include a site map delineating the drainage area and location of each post construction control, the rationale for each control, and any detail drawings and water quality design calculations. If there are any questions, please contact me at (419) 373-3006.

Sincerely,



Danielle Meienburg  
Division of Surface Water  
Storm Water Program

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pc   
Follow up file  
Kirk Niemeyer, Lima City Engineer