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State of North Carolina
Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources
Division of Solid Waste Management
P.O. Box 27687 · Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-7687

James G. Martin, Governor
William W. Cobey, Jr., Secretary

William L. Meyer
Director

January 10, 1992

TO: Landfill Owner/Operators and Sampling Contractors

FROM: Dexter R. Matthews, Section Chief, Solid Waste Section DRM

Re: Sampling Frequency At Solid Waste Management Facilities

Solid waste management facilities are currently required to perform ground and surface water monitoring on an annual basis. The Solid Waste Section feels more frequent sampling is necessary in order to provide an early detection of any ground or surface water contamination that could pose a threat to the public health or the environment. More frequent sampling also allows for a more reliable data set to be built up over a shorter period of time, thus enabling statistical analysis and the evaluation of trends as affected by seasonal fluctuations in the water levels.

Based on the recent RCRA Subtitle D Regulations and the Solid Waste Management Rules, 15A NCAC 13B .0600, the Division has determined more frequent water quality sampling to be necessary at all existing solid waste management facilities. Therefore, **effective January 1, 1993, all solid waste management facilities will be required to sample all ground water monitoring wells and designated surface water monitoring locations on a semi-annual basis.**

Landfill owner/operators should notify the Solid Waste Section in writing prior to July 1, 1992, of the months they will be performing each of their semi-annual sampling episodes for the 1993 calendar year. The two sampling events for any year should be scheduled six months apart. (For example, you may select to schedule your sampling for March and September of each year.) The Solid Waste Section will assume that your semi-annual sampling events will be scheduled for the same months in future years unless notified in writing of any changes.

Copies of the results of the analytical data from sampling events must be submitted to the Solid Waste Section within 15 days upon receipt by the owner/operator. The Section will expect to receive copies of the results of the test data within 60 days of the designated sampling date.

If for any reason a sampling event is delayed, the owner/ operators should notify the Solid Waste Section of the reason for the delay and the date sample results can be expected to be received in the Section office. Failure to meet the deadline for one sampling event will not be allowed to delay the scheduling of subsequent sampling episodes. (For example, if the March sampling event is delayed until April due to poor weather conditions, the next sampling event will still be required in September.)

The Solid Waste Section is not changing the current list of sampling parameters for existing solid waste management facilities at this time. However it should be noted that the RCRA Subtitle D Regulations will make additional changes in the sampling parameters necessary at some future date, probably to become effective in calendar year 1994.

If you have any questions or comments about this change in policy on sampling frequencies at Solid Waste Management facilities, please contact the Solid Waste Section at (919) 733-0692.