



**FACILITY COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT**  
**Division of Waste Management**  
**Solid Waste Section**

<b>UNIT TYPE:</b>											
Lined MSWLF		LCID		YW		Transfer		Compost	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SLAS	<b>COUNTY: Catawba</b> <b>PERMIT NO.: 18-06</b> <b>FILE TYPE: COMPLIANCE</b>
Closed MSWLF		HHW		White goods		Incin		T&P		FIRM	
CDLF		Tire T&P / Collection		Tire Monofill		Industrial Landfill		DEMO		SDTF	

**Date of Audit:** June 2, 2010

**Date of Last Audit:** April 16, 2010

**FACILITY NAME AND ADDRESS:**

City of Hickory Compost Facility  
 Cloninger Mill Road  
 Hickory, North Carolina 28601

**GPS COORDINATES:**    N: 35.78609      W: 81.30431

**FACILITY CONTACT NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:**

Andrew Ballentine, Solid Waste Manager  
 (828) 302-3747  
[aballentine@ci.hickory.nc.us](mailto:aballentine@ci.hickory.nc.us)

**FACILITY CONTACT ADDRESS:**

Post Office Box 398  
 Hickory, North Carolina 28601

**AUDIT PARTICIPANTS:**

Andrew Ballentine, Solid Waste Manager  
 Ed Bowman, Public Works Director  
 Steve Miller, Streets Manager  
 Charles Gerstell, NCDENR-Solid Waste Section

**STATUS OF PERMIT:**

Large, Type 1 Solid Waste Compost Facility. Permit was issued on September 12, 2005 and the renewal date is September 12, 2010.

**PURPOSE OF AUDIT:**

Follow-up audit

**NOTICE OF VIOLATION(S):**

No new violations.

You are hereby advised that, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 130A-22, an administrative penalty of up to \$15,000 per day may be assessed for each violation of the Solid Waste Statute or Regulations. For the violation(s) noted here, you may be subject to enforcement actions including penalties, injunction from operation of a solid waste management facility or a solid waste collection service and any such further relief as may be necessary to achieve compliance with the North Carolina Solid Waste Management Act and Rules.

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**STATUS OF PAST NOTED VIOLATIONS:**

**North Carolina Administrative Code 13B .1406(1)(a) requires that any person who maintains or operates a solid waste compost facility must follow the construction plans and conditions of the permit.**

**Permit Condition #1 of the approved permit states: Operation and maintenance of this facility shall be in accordance with the Solid Waste Compost Rules (15A NCAC 13B, Section .1400), the permit application and the Operation and Maintenance Manual submitted with the permit application.**

The approved Operation and Maintenance Manual for the facility states: *Undesirable wood waste or tailings from the grinding process are placed in the grinding pile. As needed, the Streets Division will haul the tailings to an appropriately permitted Solid Waste Management Facility.*

An inspection performed on April 16, 2010 found that a substantial portion of wood waste and tailings was disposed of on a separate area of the property (parcel ID# 371407691239) northeast of the Compost Facility. The waste was not taken to an appropriately permitted Solid Waste Management Facility as outlined in the approved Operation and Maintenance Manual. Therefore, the City of Hickory did not properly follow the approved Operation and Maintenance Manual. As a result, the City of Hickory is in violation of NCAC 13B .1406(1)(a) and Permit Condition #1.

During the inspection performed on June 2, 2010, material was being removed from the landfill area to the City of Hickory's permitted Type 1 Compost Facility. Work was in the early stages of removal. Mr. Ballentine explained that several delays were experienced since the previous inspection. These delays included a medical complication with a lead supervisor. Mr. Ballentine also explained that there were complications trying to locate a contractor that would agree to grind the material located at the landfill area. Mr. Ballentine requested an additional 30 days to comply with the Notice of Violation(s).

**The deadline for the Notice of Violation(s) has been extended 30 days from the issue date of this audit report.** As previously required, the City of Hickory must remove all wood waste and tailings that were disposed of on the property to a proper Solid Waste Facility permitted by the Division of Waste Management. This may include relocating the waste back to the approved boundaries of the Compost Facility or another permitted facility.

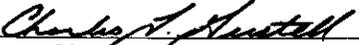
**AREAS OF CONCERN AND COMMENTS:**

1. The facility consists of a Large, Type 1 Solid Waste Compost Facility for the composting of yard and garden waste, silvicultural waste, and unpainted and untreated wood waste as described in the facility application.
2. The sign provided at the entrance to the site is correct. A new sign has recently been installed as a result of the previous sign being destroyed by a motor vehicle.
3. Gates have been provided at both entrances to the site to prevent unauthorized access when the facility is not in operation.
4. As material is removed from the landfill area and transferred to the compost facility, be sure to maintain all required buffers required by the North Carolina Administrative Rules Section 1400.

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Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding this audit report.

  
Charles T. Gerstell  
Environmental Senior Specialist  
*Regional Representative*

Phone: (704) 235-2144

Delivered on : <u>6/10/10</u> by	<b>X</b>	Electronic Correspondence		US Mail		Certified No.
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Cc: Mark Poindexter, Field Operations Branch Supervisor  
Deborah Aja, Western District Supervisor