



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Dexter Matthews, Director

Division of Waste Management

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor  
Dee Freeman, Secretary

February 3, 2010

Mr. Robert Allen  
Cherokee County Solid Waste Director  
75 Peachtree Street  
Murphy, NC 28906

Re: Groundwater Assessment  
Cherokee County Subtitle D Lined MSW Landfill, Permit #20-02

Dear Mr. Allen,

The Solid Waste Section (Section) has reviewed the *Groundwater Sampling Report and Statistical Analysis* for the second semiannual 2009 monitoring event submitted by Municipal Engineering Services Company, P.A. on behalf of Cherokee County. Laboratory analytical data from the second semiannual 2009 monitoring event is consistent with data submitted during previous monitoring events. Volatile organic compound (VOC) concentrations have been reported above the standards established in 15A NCAC 02L .0202 in monitor well MW-6S, MW-6D, and MW-7 groundwater samples.

The lateral extent of groundwater contamination in the surficial aquifer seems to be defined downgradient of MW-6S due to the lack of VOC detections in groundwater samples collected from P-18. However, further characterization of groundwater contamination in bedrock is necessary due to VOC exceedances in MW-6D groundwater samples. Consistent VOC exceedances in MW-7 groundwater samples also warrant the need for lateral and vertical delineation of groundwater contamination in that area. The nature and extent of groundwater contamination in the vicinity of MW-6D and MW-7 must be fully characterized so that an appropriate remedial strategy can eventually be chosen and implemented in accordance with 15A NCAC 13B .1635, .1636, and .1637.

Within 60 days of receipt of this letter, Cherokee County is instructed to submit for approval by the Section a groundwater contamination assessment plan to further characterize the lateral and vertical extent of contamination in the vicinity of MW-6D and MW-7. An assessment of corrective measures conducted in accordance with 15A NCAC 13B .1635 will be required after the nature and extent of groundwater contamination has been fully characterized.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (919) 508-8516 or by e-mail at [ervin.lane@ncdenr.gov](mailto:ervin.lane@ncdenr.gov). Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ervin Lane  
Compliance Hydrogeologist  
Solid Waste Section

Mark Brown, Municipal Engineering Services Company, P.A.  
Mark Poindexter, Field Operations Branch Head  
Deb Aja, Western District Supervisor  
Troy Harrison, Environmental Senior Specialist  
Solid Waste Central Files