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SOLID WASTE SECTION
ASHEVILLE REGIONAL OFFICE



August 27, 2009

Mr. Allen Gaither
Regional Engineer
Solid Waste Permitting Section
Division of Waste Management
North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
2090 U.S. Highway 70
Swannanoa, North Carolina 28778

Fac/Perm/Co ID #	Date	Doc ID#
8516	8,28,09	8516

RE: Request for Blasting – MSW Phase 3
White Oak MSW Landfill Permit # 44-07
Haywood County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Gaither:

During the construction of the Municipal Solid Waste Landfill (MSW) Phase 3 waste area, the contractor has encountered rock pinnacles that can not be excavated with standard excavation methods. The rock is located within the limits of the Phase 3 waste area and sediment basin #6. The attached drawing shows the approximate location of the rock. Based on a survey of the exposed rock, the rock covers an area of approximately 2 acres. We project from 4' to 15' feet of vertical cut is necessary to reach the proposed grades and to provide the required 4' separation from the base liner system. We estimate approximately 25,000 cubic yards of rock material needs to be removed.

We have calculated approximately 15,000 cubic yards of waste volume would be lost in Phase 3 alone if the rock is not removed. At the current compaction rates, this lost airspace would translate to more than 7,000 tons of waste. In addition, due to the location of the rock, revising the base grades to avoid the rock would also impact the grades and waste airspace for the future Phase 4 waste area. Haywood County can not afford to lose this waste airspace.

We have discussed the situation with the Phase 3 landfill contractor, Thalle Construction. Thalle Construction has experience with rock removal on landfill projects. They have provided the attached Site Specific Blasting Plan for removal of the encountered rock as prepared by National Quarry Service. Based on the attached information, we are confident that we can successfully remove the encountered rock with out detrimental impacts.

On behalf of Haywood County, we are requesting approval to remove the encountered rock for the Phase 3 area to the elevations that allow the landfill to be constructed as permitted. Thank you for your attention to this request. Since we are currently under construction, we would like to expedite the review as soon as possible. Please call should you have any questions or need any additional information.

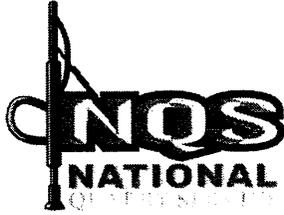
Sincerely,
McGILL ASSOCIATES, P.A.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey R. Bishop", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

JEFFREY R. BISHOP, P.E.
Senior Project Manager

Enclosures

cc: Stephen King, Haywood County Solid Waste Director, w/ enc



8/24/2009

Sarah R. McKee, E.I.

Thalle Construction Company, Inc.

900 NC Hwy 86 North

Hillsborough, NC 27278

Re: Blasting at Haywood County Sanitary Landfill

Ms. McKee,

At your request, National Quarry Service has prepared a site specific blasting plan for removal of the rock encountered in the proposed phase three of the Haywood County Sanitary Landfill. After visiting the site and speaking with Thalle Construction personnel it is sure that all mechanical means of excavation have been exhausted and drilling and blasting is the last resort for the removal of the rock. We believe that well designed and executed blasting would achieve the intended results without risk of damage to the existing cells, underlying bed rock or hydrology of the site.

The rock to be excavated occurs in various depths between elevation 2510' and elevation 2550'. According to borings done at the site and our experience in this area of North Carolina, we expect to find a medium to hard layer of weathered rock overlying hard granite with layers of gneiss, quartz and feldspar. National Quarry Service intends to use non-electric type blasting caps to initiate high explosive primers approximately 1' above the blast hole bottom. We expect that the area will be free of ground water and will use ammonium nitrate/ fuel oil blasting agent to load the holes to required weight and depth. The holes will then be stemmed to the collar with crushed stone for maximum confinement. Drill pattern and blast hole size will be manipulated so that a powder factor of 1 pound to 1.25 pounds per cubic yard of rock will be maintained with the holes being drilled to a depth 3' below proposed sub-grade. This industry accepted standard for blasting of unconfined mass rock will result in desired fracturization of the rock while

minimizing disturbance outside of the actual blast area. Maximum pounds per delay will be expected to occur in an area of cut between 27' and 29' approximately 450' from existing phase 1. Using the calculated scaled distance of 46.134 and an "H" factor of 160, the maximum peak particle velocity at the nearest corner of the structure is predicted to be less than 0.4 inches per second. In addition, there is an area of excavation to below proposed sub grade separating the blast area from the existing cell which would be expected to reduce the conductivity of ground vibration. We would recommend that a thorough survey be done of the existing conditions of the structures as near prior to blasting as possible. Seismic monitoring will be done at all areas of concern and readings will be reviewed after each blast to assess the effects of the blast and the need for changes to blast designs.

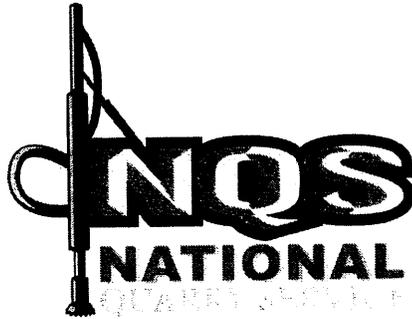
All other procedures as to the general blasting on the site are outlined in the General Blasting Plan for the Haywood County Sanitary Landfill. I hope I have included enough information for you to make a determination in proceeding. If you have any questions, please call myself (336) 624-2190 or Chris (518) 210-3353. Thank you for the opportunity to assist in this and all Thalle Construction projects.

Regards,

Jim Schultz

National Quarry Service

Va. Blaster Cert. #691037525



GENERAL BLASTING PLAN

Haywood County Sanitary Landfill

Haywood County, NC

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GENERAL BLASTING PLAN

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Blasting plan identifies measures to be taken by National Quarry Service Inc. to ensure that blasting operations are carried out in accordance with federal, state and local regulations and restrictions.

Measures identified in this blasting plan apply to work within the project area as defined as, the right-of-way, access roads, temporary use areas and other areas used during construction of the project.

Contractors sub – contractors and all site personnel are to be thoroughly familiar with this plan.

1.1 Purpose

The project encounters one or more areas of surface and subsurface rock where mechanical equipment will be unable to rip or excavate rock to allow construction. There is estimated to approximately 25,000 cubic yards of this type of rock on this project. In these areas blasting will be used to fracture the rock to allow for grading and excavation.

This plan describes safety standards and practices that will be implemented during construction to minimize health, safety and environmental concerns related to blasting on the project.

2.0 Blasting Procedures

2.1 Notifications

National Quarry Service Inc. will notify all appropriate federal, state and local authorities at least 24 hours prior storing or using explosives on the project. In addition, the following notifications will be needed throughout the project.

Prior to any detonation of explosives in the vicinity of existing facilities (such as pipelines, dwellings, structures, overhead or underground utilities, farm operations, or public crossings), a minimum of 24 hours notice will be given to appropriate authorities, and the owners or operators of any facilities that may be affected by the blasting.

2.2 Blasting Process

Drilling - Scaled Distance formulas will be used as guidelines to determine maximum pounds within any 8ms delay period and appropriate drill hole spacing and diameter will be applied.

Loading - Explosive type will be determined by drilling reports and ground water encountered. Cartridge and or bulk explosives will be primed with an appropriate primer in the bottom of the blast hole. Once loaded to a predetermined depth, all holes will be stemmed with #78 crushed stone. All delay and ignition caps will be non – electric type and will be connected and inspected by a certified blaster. Tail caps of will be of sufficient length that visual inspection after the blast will be possible to insure that all holes have detonated.

Matting/Covering – Whenever necessary blasting mats or earth cover will be used to protect surrounding property from blasting debris.

Warning – The blaster inspects the blast area to ensure that vehicles and personnel have withdrawn to a safe distance. Access to the area is restricted and warning signals are sounded.

Blast – Following the warning signals, the blast will be detonated.

Clearance – National Quarry Service personnel will conduct a thorough post blast inspection of the blast area to ensure that all explosives and blasting caps are detonated prior to any other work proceeding. Once the area is verified clear, the all clear will be sounded.

2.2.1 Misfires/Cut-offs

If during the post blast inspection of any shot it is determined that all of any part of the shot did not detonate, the immediate area of the shot will be secured and will be treated as an area where explosives are being loaded. No additional work, other than that necessary to remove the hazard, shall be performed, and only those persons needed to do such work shall remain at the blast site. As soon as practical, notifications will be given and blasting procedures outlined in section 2.2 will begin.

2.3 Restrictions

Special blasting controls will be required in the vicinity of power lines, telephone lines, fiber optic lines, existing pipeline facilities, structures, water wells, springs, or buildings or where directed by National Quarry Service, Inc. to preclude the possibility of damage due to fly-rock, shock waves, vibrations, or changes to hydraulic conductivity of the

bedrock near important springs and wells. This will be accomplished by a combination of blast design, adequate collaring, and matting. Matting to control fly-rock includes, but is not limited to, fabricated mats, overburden, and sand-pad matting.

3.0 EXPLOSIVES STORAGE & TRANSPORTATION

National Quarry Service inc. will obtain necessary permits and comply with 27 CFR Part 55 & 13 NCAC 07F.0707 regulations and NFPA 495, state and local governments having jurisdiction as to storage and transportation of explosives. National Quarry Service will maintain an inventory and use record for all explosives and detonating caps that will be reconciled at the end of the working day. Inventory and use records will be available on site for inspection by any jurisdictional authorities at all times.

4.0 SAFETY MEASURES

Standard safety measures will be employed during blasting operations to prevent damage to adjacent resources, residences, utilities, and roadways. As discussed above, these measures will include blasting controls to limit fly-rock, air blast, and vibrations near sensitive areas. Warning signals, signage, and procedures to protect human health and safety are discussed below.

4.1 General Safety Measures

National Quarry Service Inc. will at all times protect its workers and the public from any injury or harm from drilling or the use of explosives. Only workers thoroughly experienced in handling explosives will be permitted to supervise, handle, haul, load or fire explosives. In those jurisdictions where the licensing of blasters is mandatory, National Quarry Service, Inc. will provide proof of the necessary certification for every person so required before any crew assignment.

National Quarry Service Inc. will not leave holes loaded overnight, unattended or unprotected. Explosives will be primed immediately before use. Loading and blasting will be conducted only during daylight hours. No explosives will be abandoned on the right of way.

During the blasting procedure, all personnel not involved in the actual detonation will stand back from the time the “blast imminent” signal is given until the “all clear” has been sounded. The Contractor will post flagmen on all roadways passing the blast area to stop all traffic during blasting operations.

The Contractor will ensure that no members of the general public are in the area when a blast occurs.

4.2 Warning Signs and Signals

The Contractor will install “Blast Zone Ahead” signs along roads, public ways, in the vicinity of occupied buildings immediately adjacent to the blast area, and other locations deemed necessary to warn the public of the blasting area. Additional signs warning to turn off electrical devices shall be required if electric blasting caps are used. NQS will install “Leaving Blast Zone “to notify the public that they are leaving blast area.

4.2.2 Blast Signals

National Quarry Service will use an acceptable air horn or siren to give the blasting warning and “All – Clear” signals. The warning system used for blast signals will produce a sound that is distinct from any other signals used on the site. Use of vehicle horns as blast signals will not be permitted. The blast warning signals will be given as follows.

Three minutes prior to blasting - Blast Imminent; the blaster in charge will give three short blasts of an air horn.

One minute prior to blasting – The blaster will give two short blasts of an air horn.

Prior to blasting – the Blaster in Charge will shout “Fire in the Hole” and the explosives will be fired.

If there is any interruption to the blast routine once the “Blast Imminent” signal has been given, the entire procedure will begin again.

All Clear Signal – The blaster will check the blast site to ensure all charges have been detonated and give one long blast of the air horn

Safety Standard Operation Procedures

1. This General Blasting Plan will be made available to all personnel involved in field activities. Prior to the start of field activities, all personnel working on the site will be thoroughly briefed about the type of work to be done, potential hazards, safety equipment to be used and worn, safety precautions, emergency procedures, and procedures for reporting accidents or injuries.
2. A fully stocked first-aid kit will be on site at all times.
Eye wash kits will be available on-site.
Drinking water will be available at all times.

3. Personal safety protection will be used in the immediate area of drilling by all personnel including hearing protection, safety glasses and hard hats.
4. No blasting activities will be conducted during thunderstorms or during periods of potential lightning.
5. National Quarry Service Inc. will adhere to all Federal, State and Local restrictions.
6. Emergency response procedures will be understood by all site personnel. Any visitors to the site will be briefed by the project manager.