



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Waste Management

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Governor

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Secretary

April 26, 2013

Sent Via Email – jerry.mears@buncombecounty.org

Mr. Jerry Mears
Buncombe County Landfill Manager
81 Panther Branch Road
Alexander, NC 28701

Re: *Condensate Spill Clean Up Results*
Buncombe County MSW Landfill
Solid Waste Permit Number 11-07
DIN 18854

Dear Mr. Mears:

The Solid Waste Section has completed a review of the *Condensate Spill Clean Up Results* dated March 27, 2013 (DIN 18820) and submitted by SCS Engineers, PC on behalf of Buncombe County for the Buncombe County MSW Landfill. The *Condensate Spill Clean Up Results* were submitted in response to release that occurred at the facility on December 18, 2012. During that same day, Buncombe County notified the Solid Waste Section and took immediate action to address the problem. The County also collected soil samples and a surface water sample per the Solid Waste Section's request on December 19, 2012.

Sampling activities were conducted on January 3, 2013 to evaluate any residual contamination from the release at the facility. Soil samples were collected between one to two feet below ground surface. A background soil sample was collected and one soil sample was collected within the area of the spill. In addition, one surface water sample was collected within Sediment Pond 10. The samples were analyzed by a North Carolina certified laboratory.

The analytical soil results indicated that no volatile organic compounds exceeded NCDENR's Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals. However, the volatile organic compound, acetone, was detected above the laboratory's reporting limit within the soil sample collected from the spill location, but below its Protection of Groundwater and its Residential Health Based Preliminary Soil Remediation Goal.

The analytical soil results also indicated elevated concentrations of metals at the facility. Concentrations of arsenic, cobalt, and vanadium exceeded the Protection of Groundwater and the Residential Health Based Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals. Documentation was provided within the *Condensate Spill Clean Up Results* to ascertain that the elevated concentrations of the metals detected within the soil samples are from a source other than the landfill.

In addition, the surface water sample collected from Sediment Pond 10 indicated only one exceedance, copper. Copper exceedances have been present within the background surface water sample used during the landfill's semiannual water quality monitoring events. Also, the indicator parameter sulfate was detected within the surface water sample, however sulfate was not detected within the soil samples.

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As a result, because Buncombe County was proactive and took immediate action after the release occurred and based upon the analytical sampling results for this specific sampling event, no additional environmental assessment associated with this leachate release is required at this time. However, in the future, the Solid Waste Section may require additional soil excavation, additional environmental sampling (soil, groundwater, and surface water), the installation of groundwater monitoring wells, and/or corrective action in response to this leachate release.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please contact me at 919-707-8294 or by email at jaclynne.drummond@ncdenr.gov. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

Sincerely,



Jaclynne Drummond
Compliance Hydrogeologist
Solid Waste Section

cc sent via email: Kristy Smith, Buncombe County Bioreactor Manager
Jason Watkins, Western District Supervisor
Andrea Keller, Environmental Senior Specialist
Ed Hilton, SCS Engineers