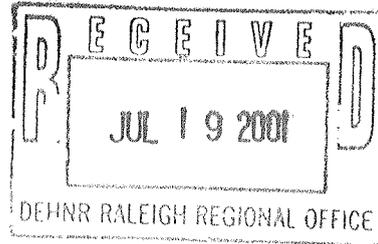


The Plumblin Corp. P.A.
Engineering & Land Surveying
121 Washington Avenue
WELDON, N.C. 27890
(919) 536-0203

July, 18 2001

E. B. GRANT, JR. P.E.
Registered Professional Engineer
N. C. No. 4402
Registered Land Surveyor
N. C. No. L-1592



Mr. Ben Barnes
Waste Management Specialist
Solid Waste Section, Raleigh Regional Office
Division of Solid Waste Management
State of North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
1626 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1628

Subject: J.S. Turner Saw Mill Site, Weldon
Coal Combustion By-Products
Structural Fill Beneficial Use Site

Dear Mr. Barnes:

As discussed during the site visit on May 31, 2001 and written in your corresponding letter dated June 20, 2001, several conditions must be clarified, addressed, and documented to allow the above mentioned project site to be in compliance with the requirements of the Beneficial Use of Coal Combustion By-Products regulations. In response to your compliance status concerns we are providing the following information, which consists of written descriptions, documentation from other sources, and revised plan drawings indicating the pertinent information requested.

The written descriptions are as following:

- The excavation performed on-site was not indicated on the original drawings submitted for project notification. Unfortunately, it was not depicted on the drawings because it is not specifically called-out in the Requirements for Beneficial Use Coal Combustion By-Products for incorporation onto the drawings. The revised plan drawings include the excavation area.
- An on-site groundwater test was performed in 1998 to determine groundwater elevation in reference to wetland hydric soils classification. Since the ash/groundwater separation was determined to be greater than 2 feet during this

test (actual separation was about 7 feet), it was believe no further notification was required. However, based on your concern, we have constructed several test pits/excavations to determine more accurate groundwater elevations in several areas within the 25 acre site. All July 17, 2001 tests indicated a separation of approximately 7 feet, which more than satisfies the 2 feet ash/groundwater separation criteria in the regulations. Refer to the attached Location of Seasonal High Water Table Report. Also within this report is the 10-16-98 letter regarding wetland referencing the groundwater elevation below 12 feet.

- A concern was mentioned that the original excavation was to a depth of 17 feet. Although a portion of the excavated area was dug to 17 feet, it was quickly determined that the integrity of the hole was poor due to the sandy soil, as evident by the caving in of the walls. Therefore, all excavated depths were limited to 10 feet only. The area previously dug to 17 feet was refilled with soil to meet the 10 feet limit. Refer to the attached Location of Seasonal High Water Table Report.
- To eliminate the inconsistencies in elevations, the proposed final elevations of the ash fill area have been accurately noted on the revised site plans.
- To eliminate the inconsistencies in the ash footprint, the proposed final footprint of the ash fill area has been accurately noted on the revised site plans.
- To eliminate the inconsistencies of the contours, the proposed final contours of the ash fill area have been accurately depicted on the site plans.
- To achieve compliance with the slope ratio criteria, the fill area slope on east side is in the process of being re-graded to a slope of 3:1, as required for ash slopes. The footprint on the plan drawings has also been adjusted to reflect this corrected slope ratio.
- To demonstrate that the project satisfies the siting requirement of a 100-foot distance from drinking water sources, the town records were surveyed for the homes adjacent to the 11.5 acre fill site. Based on these records, no drinking wells are located on these properties, thus the 100-foot separation criteria is has been met.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers made a site visit and determined the streams/surface water bodies/wetlands will not be impacted by the project. The Corps has documented this finding in a letter, which is attached. The 50-foot horizontal distance criteria will be met. The streams/surface water bodies/wetlands will be identified on the plan drawings, with a note indicating "no impact".
- The southern end of project is at the final elevation. To comply with the closure section of the Requirements for Beneficial Use Coal Combustion By-Products regulations, this area has been covered with 12 inches of soil and 6 inches of topsoil (obtained from another site). A mulch/seed mixture has been applied and grass growth is progressing.
- Because the agency does not want excavation to occur simply to allow for more on-site ash capacity, a concern was mentioned regarding the excavation performed on the site. We wanted to assure the agency that the excavation was

performed to obtain desired soil for cover and the intent was not to allow for more ash capacity. The original calculations included that the same quantity of ash would be used as structural filled with performing the excavation. Since the siting, design and construction criteria does not prohibit site excavation (or even mention excavation), it was just deem a prudent means of obtaining soil for the cover.

The documents are attached and include:

Location of Seasonal High Water Table Report
U.S. Corps of Engineers Letter

The revised plan drawings are attached and include:

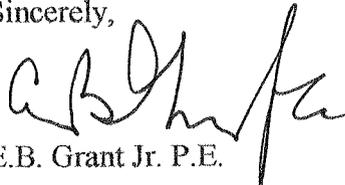
- 1 EXISTING SITE – SHEET 3 – 11.5 ACRE DRYING YARD
2. FINAL SITE – SHEET 7 – 11.5 ACRE DRYING YARD
- 3 DETAILS – SHEET 10

As we discussed during the site visit, we would like to utilize existing on-site soil from the north side for use as project site the cover. Of course, this would require additional excavation, but it purpose would be strictly for cover and not for increased ash capacity. We estimate that approximately 32,700 cubic feet of excavated soil would be necessary for 13.5 acre part of the site. Since the Requirements for Beneficial Use Coal Combustion By-Products regulations do not prohibit this construction technique, we believe the decision is at the discretion of the agency. Therefore, we formally request your consideration.

In conclusion, we believe this package will satisfy your information submittal request, eliminate your inconsistency concerns, and assure you that compliance has been achieved at the J. S. Turner Saw Mill Site. After review of this information, please confirm in writing that the concerns and/or variations have been corrected or proven to be acceptable and the entire site is in compliance with the regulations, and thus, work is allowed to proceed on the northern end of the project site.

Please do not hesitate to call me at (252) 536-0203 if you desire additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,



E.B. Grant Jr. P.E.

Cc: B. Hocutt
Q. Morrison
M. Estrada