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Solid Waste Section

Asheville Regional Office

OPERATIONS PLAN
SCOTT CREEK TRANSFER STATION
JACKSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Prepared for
Jackson County, North Carolina

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Prepared by
Chad S. Parker
Jackson County Solid Waste
401 Grindstaff Cove Road
Sylva, NC 28779

Chad S. Parker

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE OF PLAN

This plan has been developed as guidance for operations of the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Transfer Station (Transfer Station) that is located in the Addie community in Jackson County, North Carolina (County). The facility is located on a 2.5-acre portion of a 22.89-acre property owned by Jackson County. This plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Management Rules (15A NCAC 13B).

Note: The facility was originally permitted as a Transfer Station for C&D debris. An Operations Plan was developed in 2003 as part of an effort to modify the permit the facility so that MSW can also be transferred onsite.

The purpose of this plan is to provide the owner and operator with a reference document that includes necessary information and procedures for properly operating the Transfer Station and complying with the applicable rules concerning transfer stations. The plan addresses the following issues:

- Waste acceptance criteria;
- Facility operations;
- Erosion control requirements;
- Drainage control and water protection;
- Disease and vector control;
- Signs and safety requirements;
- Access and security requirements; and
- Facility inspections.

All personnel involved with the operation of the facility will be required to review the Operations Plan and to maintain the facility in conformance with the applicable requirements. A copy of the Operations Plan will be kept at the Transfer Station at all times.

B. FACILITY LOCATION

The transfer station is located in the Addie community of Jackson County. This area is approximately four miles northeast of Sylva. The entrance to the transfer station is at 48 Recycle Place off of 1172 Mineral Springs Drive (SR 1456) between Old US Highway 19 (SR 1432) and US Highway 23/74.

The Addie community includes a mixture of land uses. The community includes one of the Jackson County Staffed Recycling Centers, a large commercial sawmill and lumber kiln, a school, and several residences. The property occupied by the Transfer Station was formerly a strip mine.

Scott Creek is deeply incised in the alluvial plain in the vicinity of the Transfer Station. As a result, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood plain maps show that the flood plain is confined to a relatively narrow reach of land adjacent to the creek.

C. SERVICE AREA

The only service area for the Scotts Creek Transfer Station is Jackson County. Both MSW and C&D debris will only be derived from Jackson County.

II. OPERATIONS

A. OVERVIEW

The Transfer Station property is secured by a locking gate that blocks access to the site after closing each day. In addition, Scotts Creek and Ocher Hill Creek provide further isolation of the property. Although the primary purpose of the facility is the transfer of C&D debris and MSW, six additional activities are conducted on the Transfer Station property:

Beneficial Fill: Any lead free painted or unpainted concrete, asphalt or brick is used as beneficial fill on the property. No metal is allowed and rebar that is sticking out must be cut off. If the material is painted a test by a certified company for lead must be conducted and if lead is found the material is hauled to the landfill.

Tires: Automobile tires are collected in an enclosed trailer. The trailer is maintained in the vicinity of the scale house. When the trailer is full, it is transported by U.S. Tire Recycling to their recycling facility in Concord, North Carolina. The material is reduced to two inch pieces and then sold as fuel.

Metals: Recyclable metals identified in the waste stream are separated and stored on a 100-foot by 200-foot pad located on the Transfer Station property. DeSoto Trail hauls the metal away on a weekly basis.

Brush: Brush and pallets are stockpiled in an area east of the referenced concrete structure. Approximately two time per year, Jackson County contracts with a portable grinding operation to grind the brush. Following grinding, the material is available to County residents for use as mulch. Yard Trash is not allowed to be placed in to the Brush area. Yard trash is accepted at the transfer station and is composted in accordance with the requirements of 15A NCAC 13 B, Rule .1400.

Temporary Disaster Debris Staging Site (TDDSS #DS50-01): In the event of a disaster Jackson County will use the brush and stump area on the transfer station property to temporarily collect brush and stumps. This material would be ground into mulch and disposed or reused.

Batteries: Automobile batteries are stockpiled on a pallet located on the concrete slab adjacent to the scale house. When a pre-determined amount of batteries have been accumulated, approximately three times per year, the County notifies Interstate Batteries. This company will remove the batteries from the facility and recycle the usable materials.

Used Clothes: An enclosed trailer is placed on the property to collect used clothing. It is pulled out once it is full of the used clothing.

MSW/C&D: The Transfer Station operations consist of a scale and a pre-engineered metal building with a single loading bay. All vehicles conveying C&D debris and MSW are to be weighed upon entry and exit from the facility. The metal building is constructed on a concrete slab sloped to direct water that comes into contact with solid waste into the TWAS sewer system. Incoming waste from vehicles bearing C&D debris and MSW is deposited directly onto the 100 x 100 tipping floor. At this point, the two waste streams are mixed. A solid-tired loader is used to push the waste from the tipping floor into a trailer parked in the adjacent loading bay. A grizzly crane system is then used to pack the waste into the trailer for shipping. The waste is then shipped to the Waste Management Subtitle D landfill in Homer, Georgia (Permit No. 006-006D (SL); R&B Landfill; 610 Bennett Road; Homer, Georgia; 30547).

Refuse too large or otherwise not suitable for transfer in trailers is reduced in size by the waste generator so that it can be safely transferred by the County or its contractors.

Commingled Containers (Aluminum Cans, Glass Bottles, Plastic Bottles & Steel Cans): The commingled container operations consist of a pour concrete slab with a cantilevered edge. A trailer is parked below the concrete slab and vehicles conveying commingled containers are dumped down into the trailer. All vehicles conveying commingled containers are to be weighed

upon entry and exit from the facility. The material is then shipped to American Recycling in South Carolina.

Fiber (Paper/Cardboard): The fiber operations consist of a scale and a pre-engineered metal building with a single loading bay. All vehicles conveying fiber are to be weighed upon entry and exit from the facility. Incoming material from vehicles bearing fiber is deposited directly onto the tipping floor. A solid-tired loader is used to push the material from the tipping floor into a trailer parked in the adjacent loading bay. The material is then shipped to American Recycling in South Carolina.

Electronics/ TVs: The electronics operation consists of a 40 x 51 covered concrete area where electronics & TVs are dropped off for recycling. All materials will be stored in Gaylord boxes or on pallets and shrink wrapped for transport. Jackson County will contract with an electronics recycler who will pick up the material and transport the materials for processing.

Pesticide Container Recycling: *The Jackson County plastic pesticide container recycling program is geared for farmers and commercial pesticide applicators (private, public and commercial) for the purpose of properly disposal of their containers. It is not for use/disposal of home pesticide or pool chemical containers.*

Containers will be stored in a 7' x 14' trailer. Containers must be made of the rigid high density polyethylene (HDPE) that previously held products utilized in the following markets:

- **Crop Protection** – Containers that held EPA registered crop protection products labeled for agricultural uses. Containers that previously held non- registered products such as adjuvants; crop oils and surfactants are also eligible for recycling.
- **Specialty Pesticides** – Containers that held EPA registered products labeled for professional Structural Pest Control, Animal Health, Turf and Ornamental, Vegetation Management, Nursery and Greenhouse, Forestry, Aquatics, and Public Health uses are eligible for recycling, Containers that previously held non-registered products such as adjuvants, crop oils and surfactants are also eligible for pick up.
- **Pest Control Operators, Structural Pest Control** – Containers that held EPA registered products labeled for professional application.

Containers must be pressure washed or triple rinsed, completely empty and dry.

Caps and labels must be removed prior to bringing to the Transfer Station.

Normal working hours for the transfer station are 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. Saturday. The facility is closed on Sunday and the following holidays: New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

B. PERSONNEL

The facility is owned and operated by Jackson County. A minimum of two employees are stationed at the Transfer Station for routine operations. These employees are properly trained in basic safety procedures and inspection of incoming wastes (refer to section C, "Inspection and Acceptance of Wastes"). Training material published by the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), is utilized for initial training of onsite personnel and as part of continuing education. The Transfer Station employees also direct and coordinate the movement of collection vehicles into and out of the transfer station. As of July 1, 2003, the transfer station will, at all times, be staffed by at least one certified operator.

C. INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE OF WASTES

Access to the transfer station is controlled by properly trained employees. Waste screening takes place on the transfer station tipping floor. As the contents of collection vehicles are dumped, the transfer station operator inquires about the contents of the waste and visually inspects the container's contents. If unacceptable wastes are inadvertently dumped onto the tipping floor, the waste will be reloaded onto the vehicle and removed from the site. If necessary, a company listed on the waste inspection form will be called for cleanup in the event the load cannot be loaded back onto the vehicle. Examples of unacceptable wastes include hazardous or toxic wastes, PCB's, liquid wastes, sludge, asbestos-containing material, animal wastes, and containers that are either smoking or emitting noxious vapors. Inspections will also be conducted on a random basis. At a minimum, one percent of the monthly amount of waste will be inspected. The facility

“Waste Inspection Form” is attached as Appendix C, and will be used for each inspection.

If a burning or smoldering load is discovered upon arrival at either the scale house or the tipping floor, the attendants will not allow discharge of the waste. The vehicle operator will be advised to move the vehicle to a safe area as directed by facility staff. The load will be discharged at that location. The local fire department will be summoned in all cases. If the load is burning wood, it will be extinguished by use of an approved fire extinguisher. If the burning material is not wood, then facility staff will monitor the situation until arrival of fire department personnel. Once the fire has been extinguished and the cause determined, the load will be placed into the trailer for disposal, if appropriate.

If hazardous waste is identified in vehicles arriving at the Transfer Station or while on the tipping floor, personnel will immediately notify the driver and, as appropriate, contact DENR, Waste Management Specialist, (828) 296-4701 and the local Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team (Hazardous Materials), EM Director, (828) 586-7592. If such an event occurs, the public and untrained County personnel will be kept away from the area until Hazardous Materials personnel has arrive onsite. Available information concerning the waste will be provided to those personnel and the recommended measures will be taken.

All users of the Transfer Station establish charge accounts at the Transfer Station. Such users would typically include building contractors, private haulers, and private citizens. Parties responsible for these accounts will sign tickets with the County. The purpose of these tickets is to reduce the amount of unacceptable waste brought to the Transfer Station and to indemnify the County against the costs that might be associated with improperly deposited materials. The tickets, which are filed at the Finance Office, state that the signatories will deliver only acceptable C & D debris and MSW to the facility.

If any user of the Transfer Station develops a pattern of deceptive waste identification in order to circumvent proper regulation, the Jackson County Solid Waste Enforcement Officer will be notified within 24 hours of attempted disposal and informed as to the type of material and the hauler so that follow-up investigations can be conducted, if necessary.

D. TRAFFIC CONTROL

Access to the Transfer Station is controlled by a locking gate at the entry. During operating hours, site personnel control access. As vehicles arrive at the transfer station, site personnel will direct drivers to position the vehicle at the correct unloading location once there is sufficient room to maneuver on the concrete tipping floor. Self unloading vehicles will be directed to the tipping floor, while hand unloading vehicles will be directed to two bay doors located adjacent to the tipping floor doors. This area is approximately four feet higher in elevation than the tipping floor and these bays will hand unload into these bay doors. When the contents of the vehicle are emptied, the driver will be instructed to move the vehicle away from the unloading area/tipping floor and exit the area. The unloading areas/tipping floor will allow for two or more trucks to dump simultaneously. Directional signs located at the facility will aid traffic control.

Vehicles preparing to enter the facility will not be allowed to sit idle on Mineral Springs Drive (SR 1496). County-owned property off of the State Road includes approximately 300-feet of pavement between the entry and the scale house. This paved area will provide ample room for vehicles to maneuver while waiting to weigh-in and unload.

E. HOUSEKEEPING AND LITTER CONTROL

Incoming waste is transported to the Transfer Station in covered or enclosed vehicles. Outgoing transfer trailers are also covered or enclosed. Collected litter is placed in containers for proper disposal on a daily basis.

A trench drain exists along the edge of the tipping floor. Also, a drain in the trailer area is in place to collect any waste water. Water accumulating in the drains flows by gravity to a sewer line that is collected and pumped to the main Tuckasegee Water and Sewer Authority sewer line.

Approximately 160-tons per day are expected at the Transfer Station. Accordingly, no more than ten to twelve transfer trailers will be filled each day. At the end of each working day, the tipping floor will be scraped clean and rinsed with clean water. In no case will MSW be left on the

tipping floor overnight. Trailers containing MSW and C&D debris will be allowed to sit overnight on the facility grounds in the designated area for trailers, which is covered to prevent any rain or snow to accumulate in the trailers. The trailer parking area has a drain so that if leaking occurs it will be collected and diverted to the sewer line. Also, this area can be used to wash equipment that has been in contact with garbage. In no case will a trailer be allowed to remain onsite for more than 48 hours after filling.

Daily removal of waste in conjunction with daily housekeeping procedures effectively prevents development of vector related problems. The tipping floor and trailer parking areas are constructed of relatively impervious concrete, which can be readily cleaned.

F. DUST AND FIRE CONTROL

Since collection and transfer vehicles travel at low speeds on paved roads, significant dust is not generated at the facility. Fire control is provided by portable hand-held fire extinguishers. Fire protection will be provided by the local fire department, which has been apprised of conditions and operations at the facility. In the event that a fire occurs, the local authorities will be notified immediately. All employees are instructed to dial 911 for local fire, police, ambulance or any emergency services. If a fire were to occur at the facility, the DENR office would be notified within 24 hours and written notification would be submitted within 15 days. The Waste Management Specialist for Jackson County phone number is 828-296-4500.

G. WASTEWATER COLLECTION

Wastewater generation is minimized by the metal roofed building that covers the tipping floor and loading bay. Wastewater flow at the transfer station consists of small volumes of washdown water. As stated previously, this water is collected by sloping the tipping and loading floors to trenches in the floor. Water is collected and flows to a wet well where it is pumped to the TWSA sewer line. The transfer station building has a drain on the tipping floor and in the loading bay for the collection of any leachate created inside the transfer station building.

The area where loaded trailers will be parked awaiting transfer to the landfill will be a concrete pad with a drain to collect any leachate that could occur from the parked trailers. This area is also covered to prevent precipitation from entering a loaded trailer or the sewer system. All leachate collection areas are connected into the Tuckasegee Water and Sewer Authority's Sewer System. If any damage is noted, by an employee of the transfer station, to a trailer that could cause leachate to spill out the employee should notify the Transfer Station Manager and the trailer should be removed from service until repaired.

H. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND EROSION CONTROL

Areas adjacent to the Transfer Station are graded to direct stormwater away from the facility. Paved areas near the Transfer Station are also sloped in order to achieve the same end. The Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for the Transfer Station was approved by DENR in a letter to Jackson County dated February 2, 2001. A copy of the letter is included as Appendix A. A new approval letter will be included in this plan in Appendix A when it is issued for the new transfer station. The plan includes a permanent seeding program that is implemented as part of a long-term erosion control program. Gutters and downspouts are also positioned on the building to divert discharge of stormwater into natural or constructed drainageways.

I. ZONING

The Transfer Station site is not zoned. Refer to Appendix B for a copy of a letter dated June 17, 2008 from the Jackson County Planning Department verifying this statement.

J. FACILITY INSPECTIONS

Regular maintenance inspections of the facility are conducted on a weekly basis by the County Transfer Station Superintendent. The inspections are used to document the condition of site improvements (e.g., roads, scales, Transfer Station, erosion control features, litter, etc.) as well as operational issues. At a minimum, the inspections include the following items:

1. Transfer trailers
2. Building and foundations
3. Retaining wall and push walls
4. Fire extinguishers
5. Electrical systems
6. Floor drains and yard hydrant
7. Road conditions
8. Scale and scale house
9. Drainageways (natural and constructed)
10. Recordkeeping

If unsatisfactory conditions are noted during an inspection or by Transfer Station personnel at any other time, the concerns will be reported to the Jackson County Manager and Solid Waste Director. If threats to either human safety or the environment are identified, immediate action will be taken to rectify the situation. If necessary, operations at the Transfer Station will be suspended temporarily until the proper corrective actions have been taken. In the unlikely event of a severe accident, the proper authorities will be notified and offsite support requested.