



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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Hancock County Board of Commissioners
300 South Main Street
Findlay, Ohio 45840

**Re: Hancock County Landfill, Hancock County
OAC Rule 3745-27-10(D)(7)(c)(ii), Decline to Approve**

Dear Commissioners:

On September 9, 2004, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management (DSIWM), Northwest District Office (NWDO) received a report titled Hancock County Landfill Demonstration of False Indication of Contamination of Chloride in MW-4 and Sodium in SW-5 (Report), dated September 2, 2004, for the March 22 through 24, 2004, and March 31, 2004, semi-annual sampling event and the May 4, 2004, and August 18, 2004 resampling events at the Hancock County Landfill (Facility).

The Report served as notification that statistically significant increases had occurred for chloride at monitoring well MW-4 and sodium at monitoring well SW-5 and also as the owner's or operator's request to keep these monitoring wells in the detection monitoring program pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 3745-27-10(D)(7)(c)(ii).

OAC Rule 3745-27-10(D)(7)(c)(ii) states, in part, that the owner or operator may demonstrate that a source other than the sanitary landfill facility caused the contamination or that the statistically significant increase over background resulted from error in sampling, analysis, or statistical evaluation or from natural variation in ground water quality. A report documenting this demonstration must be submitted to and approved by the director or his authorized representative.

Based on the information contained in the Report, the owner or operator has not provided sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the statistically significant increases in chloride at monitoring well MW-4 and sodium at monitoring well SW-5 were not a result of the landfill. Therefore, at this time, I decline to grant approval to continue ground water detection monitoring for chloride at monitoring well MW-4 and sodium at monitoring well SW-5.

Bob Taft, Governor
Jennette Bradley, Lieutenant Governor
Christopher Jones, Director

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A detailed account of Ohio EPA's review of the Report will be sent to you under separate cover.

If you have any questions concerning this document, you may contact Ben Smith of Ohio EPA, NWDO at (419) 373-3062.

Sincerely,

Christopher Jones
Director

CJ/BS/MM/sw

cc: Mr. John Shoop, Hancock County Health Department
Mr. Wesley Rhiel, Malcom Pirnie, Inc.
Mr. Jack Leow, DDAGW-NWDO
Mr. Randy Skrzyniecki, DDAGW-NWDO
Mr. Ben Smith, DSIWM-NWDO
Mr. Scott Hester, DSIWM-CO

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