

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY,

Complainant,

V.

RANDY W. JOHNSON,

Respondent.

AC 2026-

(IEPA No. 154-25-AC)

NOTICE OF FILING

To: Randy W. Johnson
1406 N. 10th Street
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on this date I electronically filed with the Clerk of the Pollution Control Board of the State of Illinois the following instrument(s) entitled ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION, AFFIDAVIT, and OPEN DUMP INSPECTION CHECKLIST.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle M. Kiper
e-signature valid for IPCB e-filings ONLY

Michelle M. Ryan
Assistant Counsel

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
2520 West Iles Avenue
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
(217) 782-5544

Dated: October 14, 2025

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL	)	
PROTECTION AGENCY,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	AC 2026-
	)	
v.	)	(IEPA No. 154-25-AC)
	)	
RANDY W. JOHNSON,	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

JURISDICTION

This Administrative Citation is issued pursuant to the authority vested in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency by Section 31.1 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, 415 ILCS 5/31.1 (2024).

FACTS

1. That Randy W. Johnson is the present owner and operator of a property located at 1406 N. 10th Street, Mt. Vernon, Jefferson County, Illinois. The property is commonly known to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency as Mt. Vernon/Johnson, Randy W.
2. That said facility is an open dump operating without an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Operating Permit and is designated with Site Code No. 0818105020.
3. That Respondent has operated said facility at all times pertinent hereto.
4. That on September 8, 2025, Garrison Gross of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Marion Regional Office inspected the above-described facility. A copy of his inspection report setting forth the results of said inspection is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

5. That on October 14, 2025, Illinois EPA sent this Administrative Citation via Certified Mail No. 7015 0640 0005 6905 7999 to Randy W. Johnson.

VIOLATIONS

Based upon direct observations made by Garrison Gross during the course of his September 8, 2025 inspection of the above-named facility, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has determined that Respondent has violated the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (hereinafter, the "Act") as follows:

- (1) That Respondent caused or allowed the open dumping of waste in a manner resulting in litter, a violation of Section 21(p)(1) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/21(p)(1) (2024).
- (2) That Respondent caused or allowed the open dumping of waste in a manner resulting in open burning, a violation of Section 21(p)(3) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/21(p)(3) (2024).
- (3) That Respondent caused or allowed the open dumping of waste in a manner resulting in deposition of general construction or demolition debris or clean construction or demolition debris, a violation of Section 21(p)(7) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/21(p)(7) (2024).

CIVIL PENALTY

Pursuant to Section 42(b)(4-5) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/42(b)(4-5) (2024), Respondent is subject to civil penalties of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) for each of the violations identified above, for a total of Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500.00). If Respondent elects not to petition the Illinois Pollution Control Board, the statutory civil penalties specified above shall be due and payable no later than July 13, 2025, unless otherwise provided by order of the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

If Respondent elects to contest this Administrative Citation by petitioning the Illinois Pollution Control Board in accordance with Section 31.1 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31.1 (2024), and if the Illinois

Pollution Control Board issues a finding of violation as alleged herein, after an adjudicatory hearing, Respondent shall be assessed the associated hearing costs incurred by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Pollution Control Board. Those hearing costs shall be assessed in addition to the One Thousand Five Hundred Dollar (\$1,500.00) statutory civil penalty for each violation.

Pursuant to Section 31.1(d)(1) of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31.1(d)(1) (2024), if Respondent fails to petition or elects not to petition the Illinois Pollution Control Board for review of this Administrative Citation within thirty-five (35) days of the date of service, the Illinois Pollution Control Board shall adopt a final order, which shall include this Administrative Citation and findings of violation as alleged herein, and shall impose the statutory civil penalty specified above.

When payment is made, Respondent's check shall be made payable to the Illinois Environmental Protection Trust Fund and mailed to the attention of Fiscal Services, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, 2520 West Iles Avenue, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276. Along with payment, Respondent shall complete and return the enclosed Remittance Form to ensure proper documentation of payment.

If any civil penalty and/or hearing costs are not paid within the time prescribed by order of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, interest on said penalty and/or hearing costs shall be assessed against the Respondent from the date payment is due up to and including the date that payment is received. The Office of the Illinois Attorney General may be requested to initiate proceedings against Respondent in Circuit Court to collect said penalty and/or hearing costs, plus any interest accrued.

PROCEDURE FOR CONTESTING THIS
ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION

Respondent has the right to contest this Administrative Citation pursuant to and in accordance with Section 31.1 of the Act, 415 ILCS 5/31/1 (2024). If Respondent elects to contest this Administrative Citation, then Respondent shall file a Petition for Review, including a Notice of Filing, Certificate of Service, and Notice of Appearance, with the Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, 60 E. Van Buren Street, Suite 630, Chicago, Illinois 60605. A copy of said Petition for Review shall be filed with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Division of Legal Counsel at 2520 West Iles Avenue, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276. Section 31.1 of the Act provides that any Petition for Review shall be filed within thirty-five (35) days of the date of service of this Administrative Citation or the Illinois Pollution Control Board shall enter a default judgment against the Respondent.



Andrew Armstrong, Chief Legal Counsel
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Date: 10/09/2025

Prepared by: Dawn A. Hollis, Legal Assistant
Division of Legal Counsel
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
2520 West Iles Avenue
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
(217) 782-5544

REMITTANCE FORM

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	AC 2026-
	)	
v.	)	
	)	(IEPA No. 154-25-AC)
RANDY W. JOHNSON,	)	
	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

FACILITY: Randy W. Johnson

SITE CODE NO.: 0818105020

COUNTY: Jefferson

CIVIL PENALTY: \$4,500.00

DATE OF INSPECTION: September 8, 2025

DATE REMITTED:

SS/FEIN NUMBER:

SIGNATURE:

NOTE

Please enter the date of your remittance, your Social Security number (SS) if an individual or Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) if a corporation, and sign this Remittance Form. Be sure your check is enclosed and mail, along with Remittance Form, to Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Attn.: Fiscal Services, 2520 West Iles Avenue, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276.

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Bureau of Land – Field Operations Section

Inspection Report**General Facility Information**

BOL ID	0818105020	Evaluation Date	9/8/2025
USEPA Id	N/A	Region	Marion
Site Name	Johnson, Randy W.	County	Jefferson
Address	1406 N. 10th Street	Phone	618-231-4964
City/State/Zip	Mt. Vernon, IL 62864	EJ Status	Low Income
Limited English	No	Primary Language	English

Observations

Time	12:01 - 12:13
Weather Conditions	clear skies, moderate breeze, dry surface
Temperature	75° Fahrenheit
Photos Taken	Yes (18)
Amount of Waste	~95 cubic yards
Number of Tires	~30 tires

Evaluation Type

Solid Waste Program - Open Dump Inspection

Owner

Randy Johnson
1406 N. 10th Street
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Operator

Randy Johnson
1406 N. 10th Street
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Inspection Participants

<u>Person</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Garrison Gross	IEPA FOS Primary Inspector	618-993-7254
Brittini Finley	IEPA FOS Secondary Inspector	618-993-7243

Persons Interviewed

<u>Person</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
N/A		

Executive Summary

On Monday, September 8, 2025, I (Garrison Gross) conducted a follow-up open dump site inspection at property owned by Randy Johnson. The residential site is located at 1406 North 10th Street, Mt. Vernon, Illinois 62864. The last inspection was conducted on August 5, 2024. The follow-up inspection was conducted to evaluate cleanup activities at the site. Brittini Finley accompanied me during the inspection. No one was home when we arrived. Eighteen photographs were taken. Apparent violations were found and are discussed below.

Evaluation Narrative

Site History: The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) inspected the site on December 5, 2023, and sent an Administrative Citation Warning Notice (ACWN) for alleged violations including open dumping, open burning, and used or waste tires. Mr. Johnson did not respond to the ACWN in writing but called the inspector and promised to get the site cleaned up. Mr. Johnson submitted a text message in April 2024 and provided a disposal receipt for 2,260 pounds of scrap metal. He reported two waste or derelict vehicles had been removed from the site. The site was reinspected on August 5, 2024. Violation Notice L-2024-00293 was issued to Randy Johnson on September 5, 2024. Mr. Johnson did not respond to the letter. A Notice of Non-Issuance letter was sent on December 5, 2024. Mr. Johnson sent a text message on December 18, 2024 showing some non-metal wastes were loaded in a dumpster and other items had been properly stored in an dilapidated mobile home. No other responses have been received.

Open Dumping: We arrived at the site. Two photographs were taken from the street (photos 1 and 2). I attempted to make contact with Mr. Johnson at the residence. No one answered the door. I left my business card between the door and the weather stripping. I continued the inspection by walking and photographing the site. I observed many of the same items I had observed during previous inspections. These items included but were not limited to tires (30), fans, sinks, white goods (appliances), covered electronic devices (CEDs) (televisions), various sets of lawn furniture, plastic containers, buckets, drums, plastic coolers, lumber, fence pickets, bicycle tires, plywood, doors, grill, mail box, fiberglass spray tank, and several buckets of old golf balls (photos 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, and 18). The residential site exceeded the Illinois EPA limit of twelve used or waste tires at a residential property. Most of the used or waste tires were off rim, and they were being stored outside. Although the tires were dry, they have contained water in the past and I observed dried vegetation stuck to the interior surface. There was no evidence to suggest they had been altered to drain water. Mr. Johnson has reported that he works at a local golf course. It appears that some of the items at his site are golf-related items.

New Evidence of Open Burning: I observed new evidence of open burning (photos 9 and 14). During the first inspection I observed evidence of open burning of landscape waste mixed with lumber and plywood. During the second inspection, I did not observe any open burning of materials other than landscape waste. The alleged open burning violations were dropped. During this inspection, an area approximately 10 feet in diameter had discolored vegetation. A mound of what appeared to be melted plastic was observed. The plastic was approximately one foot high at its highest point. Along the west edge of the burn pile, I observed metal wiring and fresh ash that appeared to have been generated from burning insulation off metal wiring.

Waste or Derelict Vehicles: I observed two waste or derelict vehicles at the site (photos 9, 10, 13, 16, and 17). These included a fiberglass boat and a white box van. These waste vehicles were observed during the initial inspection and were in their same locations. A champaign colored Chevy Blazer appeared to be inoperable and was observed in the same location during both previous inspections (photo 3). The interior was filled with household items and the front drivers side tire was flat.

Waste or Derelict Mobile Home: A waste or derelict mobile home was observed at the site (photo 15). The mobile home was not level, and siding was missing from the left front section. The front door was not attached, and it was propped up with a board. At least two windows were broken out. Repairs had not been made to make it intact.

Evidence of Cleanup: I noticed that all the bicycles and lawn mowers had been removed from the lawn area. It appeared that some of the tires had been removed. Many of the plastic items previously observed were no longer observed at the site. These included the numerous plastic coolers, plastic bins, and plastic barrels. During previous inspections several pole-mounted green wooden boxes were observed. Only one of them was observed during this inspection and it had been moved from the used / waste tire location to the edge of the burn pile.

Electronic Filing: Received, Clerk's Office 10/14/2025 **AC 2026-003**

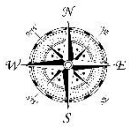
Additional Remarks: I called the last known number for Mr. Johnson on Tuesday, September 9, 2025. The phone when straight to voicemail and it did not have a personalized message greeting. The message said the mailbox was full and I was unable to leave a message. Information concerning property ownership / control was obtained through tax records available from the Supervisor of Assessment's Office in Jefferson County. The tax bill is mailed to Randy Johnson, 1406 N. 10th Street, Mt. Vernon, Illinois 62864. The property is referred to as parcel 07-20-304-011 (Lot 12). The Supervisor of Assessment's Office shows (Lot 18) parcel 07-20-304-008 as being owned by Mark Harper.

Summary of Apparent Violation(s)			
Status	Date	Violation	Narrative
Continuing	8/5/2024	21(a)	Cause or allow open dumping
Continuing	8/5/2024	21(e)	Dispose, treat, store, abandon any waste, or transport any waste into Illinois at or to sites not meeting requirements of the Act
Continuing	8/5/2024	21(p)(1)	Cause or allow open dumping of any waste in a manner which results in litter
Continuing	8/5/2024	21(p)(5)	Cause or allow open dumping of any waste in a manner which results in proliferation of disease vectors
Continuing	8/5/2024	21(p)(7)	Cause or allow open dumping of any waste in a manner which results in deposition of general or clean construction or demolition debris
Continuing	8/5/2024	55(a)(1)	Cause or allow open dumping of any used or waste tire
Not Evaluated	8/5/2024	55(k)(1)	Cause or allow water to accumulate in used or waste tires
New	9/8/2025	21(p)(3)	Cause or allow open dumping of any waste in a manner which results in open burning

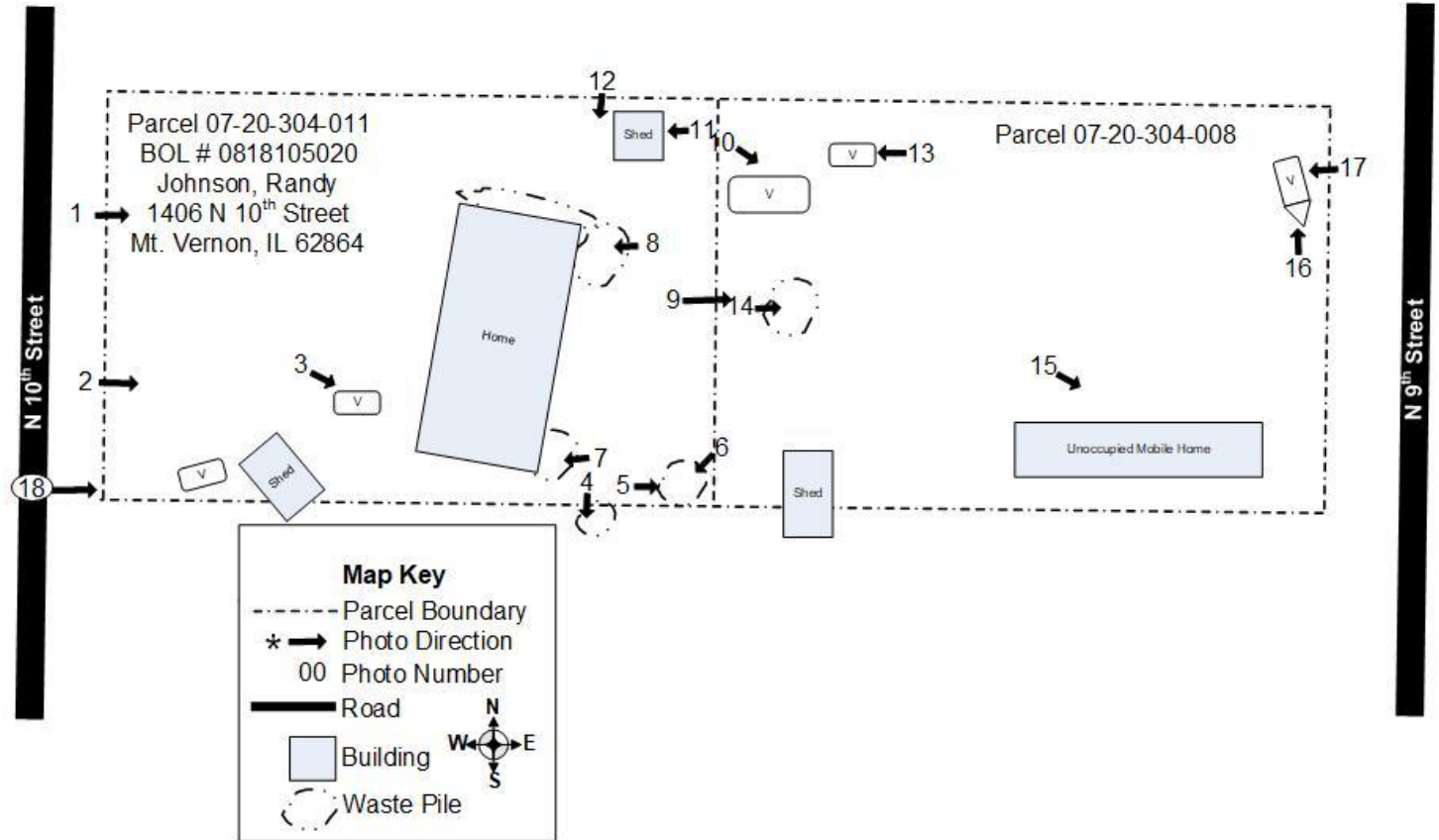
Attachment Listing

Type	Description
N/A	

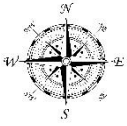
Site Diagram



0818105020



Site Diagram



0818105020



Digital Photographs



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 1
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:01:47 PM
Direction: east
Taken By: Garrison Gross

View of the property from 10th Street.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 2
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:01:59 PM
Direction: east
Taken By: Garrison Gross

View of the property from 10th Street.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 3
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:02:14 PM
Direction: southeast
Taken By: Garrison Gross

The vehicle was observed during the previous inspection and does not appear to be operable in its current condition.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 4
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:03:02 PM
Direction: south
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Makeshift shed with old fence pickets and plywood stacked around it and bicycle tires on the top.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 5
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:03:08 PM
Direction: east
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Off-rim used or waste tires, container, vehicle parts, and old lumber.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 6
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:04:03 PM
Direction: southwest
Taken By: Garrison Gross

On and off-rim used or waste tires old lumber, basketball goal. No water was observed in the tires, but they had held water in the past. Dried vegetation was observed along the interior of the tires.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 7
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:04:44 PM
Direction: west
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Waste items including white goods, windows, containers of golf balls and a broken backboard,



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 8
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:05:11 PM
Direction: west
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Waste items including containers, coolers, plywood, old mailbox and an old grill.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 9
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:05:22 PM
Direction: east
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Open burn area and the field beyond the yard. White good and other waste items next to the waste or derelict vehicle.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 10
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:05:38 PM
Direction: southeast
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Waste or derelict vehicle and items around it including white goods, containers, and furniture.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 11
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:05:50 PM
Direction: west
Taken By: Garrison Gross

A shed surrounded by waste items including containers, shower door, sink basins, wooden posts, hoses, wiring, weed eaters, and vinyl siding



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 12
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:06:07 PM
Direction: south
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Waste items around the shed and the north end of the house including, grass catchers, sink basin, pallet, lumber, lawn furniture, wheelbarrow, and container.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 13
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:06:37 PM
Direction: west
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Utility trailer loaded with scrap metal and non-metal items including white goods, plastic lawn furniture, lumber and golf clubs.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 14
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:07:11 PM
Direction: east
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Evidence of new open burning. It appeared that wiring had been burned to remove the insulation. The area also had a mounded-up debris pile that appeared to be melted plastic. The mound was not present during the last inspection.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 15
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:07:46 PM
Direction: southeast
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Uninhabited mobile home.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 16
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:08:17 PM
Direction: north
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Waste or derelict vehicle (boat), lawn equipment parts, covered electronics and lumber.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 17
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:08:33 PM
Direction: west
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Covered electronic devices near the boat.



Bureau Id: 0818105020
Photo No.: 18
Photo Date: 9/8/2025
Photo Time: 12:12:17 PM
Direction: east
Taken By: Garrison Gross

Old fiberglass (golf course style) spray tank.



JB Pritzker, Governor

James Jennings, Acting Director

IN THE MATTER OF:

IEPA DOCKET NO.

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY,
Complainant

vs.

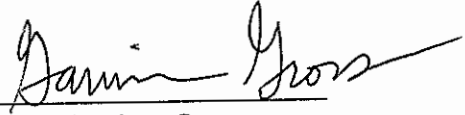
Randy W. Johnson,
Respondent

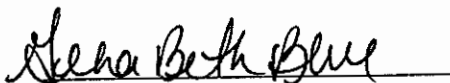
AFFIDAVIT

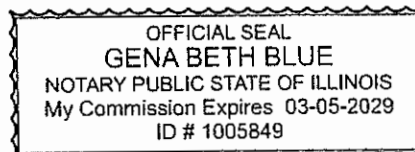
Affiant, Garrison Gross, being first duly sworn, voluntarily deposes and states as follows:

1. Affiant is a field inspector employed by the Bureau of Land of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and has been so employed at all times pertinent hereto.
2. On September 08, 2025, between 12:01 PM and 12:13 PM, Affiant conducted an inspection of the site in Jefferson County, Illinois, known as Johnson, Randy W., located at 1406 N. 10th Street, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864, and designated Bureau of Land Site # 0818105020.
3. Affiant inspected said site by an on-site inspection, which included walking the site.
4. As a result of the activities referred to in Paragraph 3 above, Affiant completed the Inspection Report attached hereto and made a part hereof, which, to the best of Affiant's knowledge and belief, is an accurate representation of Affiant's observations and factual conclusions with respect to the site.

Subscribed and Sworn to before me
this 29 day of September


Garrison Gross


Notary Public



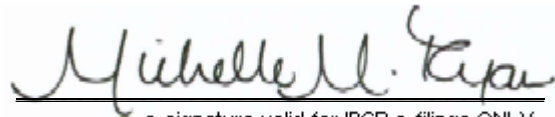
PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I did on the 14th day of October 2025, serve with postage thereon prepaid, by depositing in a United States Post Office box a true and correct copy of the following instrument(s) entitled ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION, AFFIDAVIT, and OPEN DUMP INSPECTION CHECKLIST

To: Randy W. Johnson
1406 N. 10th Street
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

and the original via electronic filing on October 14, 2025

To: Don Brown, Clerk
Pollution Control Board
60 E. Van Buren St., Ste. 630
Chicago, IL 60605



e-signature valid for IPCB e-filings ONLY

Michelle M. Ryan
Assistant Counsel

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
2520 West Iles Avenue
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
(217) 782-5544