









EXHIBIT

Complainant's

C



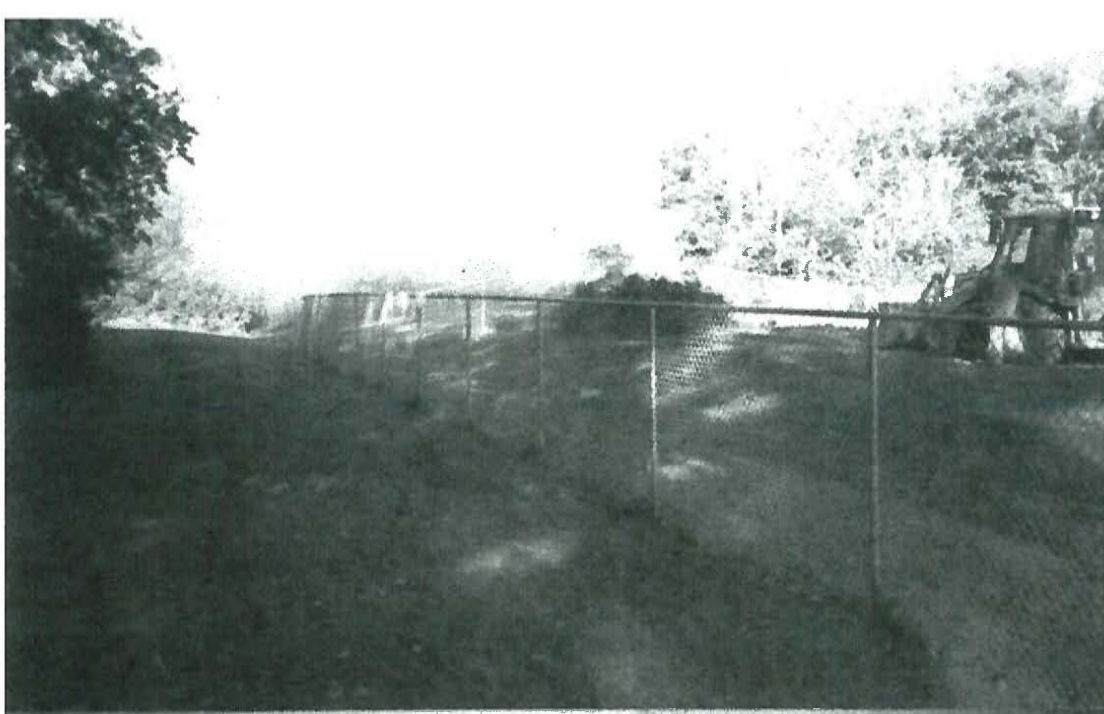
II

4

5

6

C. 50



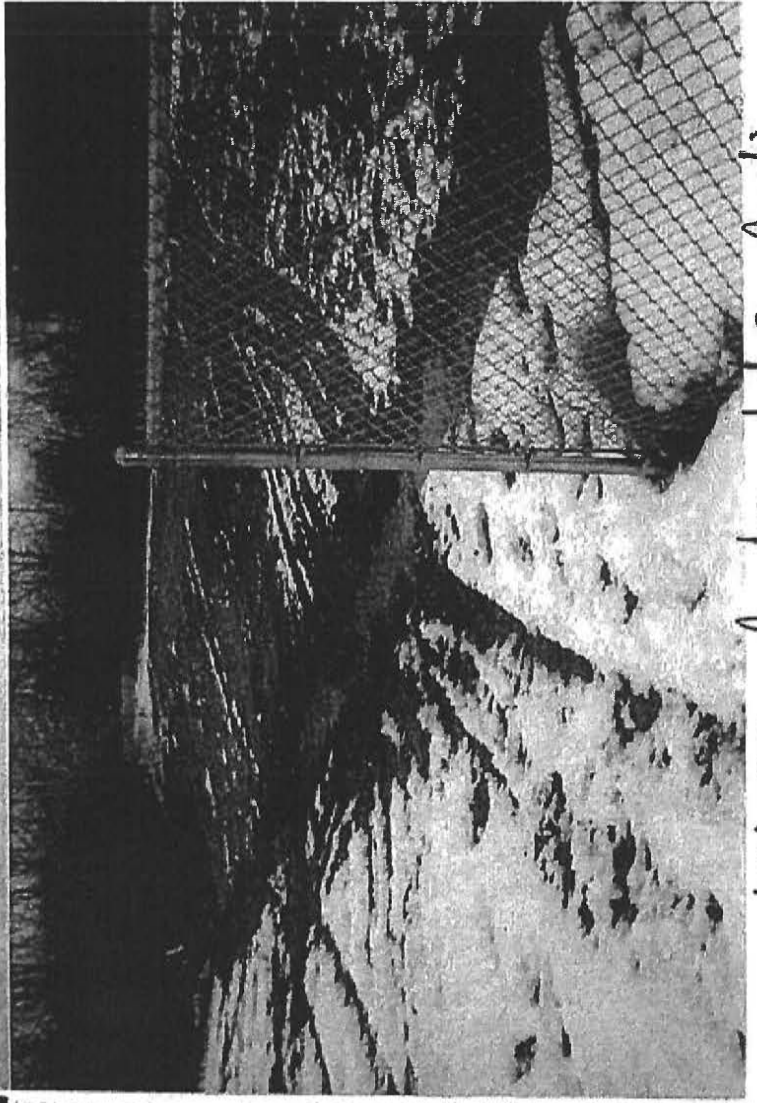
Amohel
8/3/15



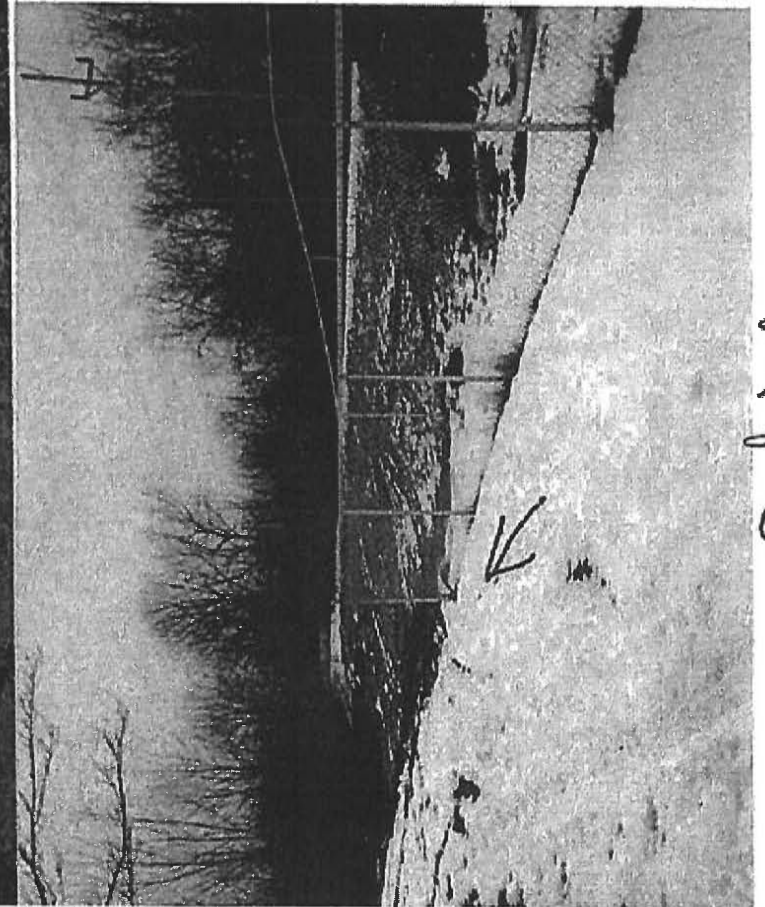
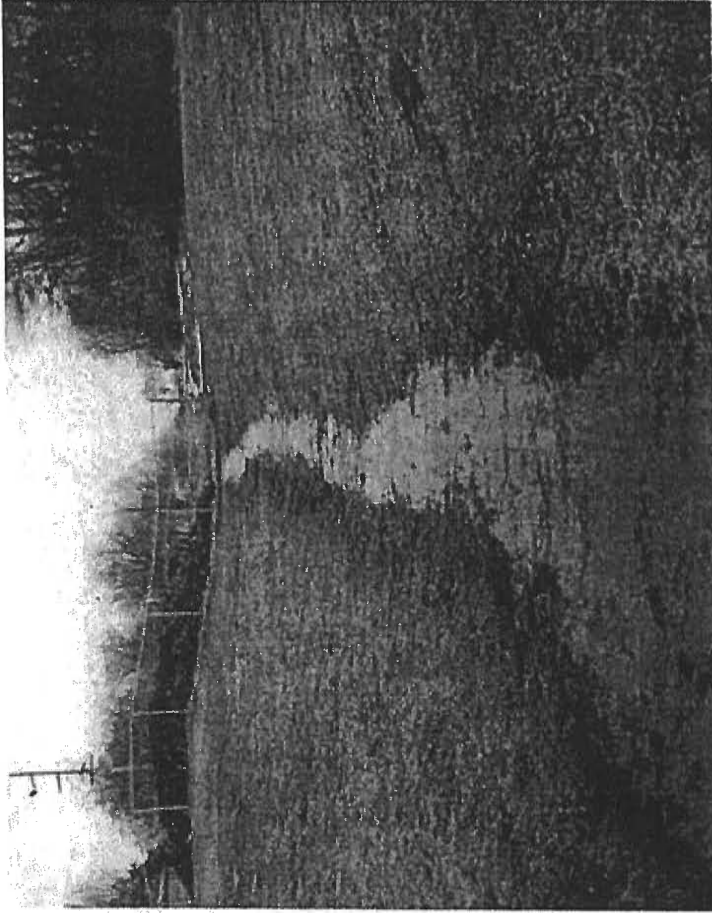
Amohel
8/17/15



Amohel
9/15/15



#67 (Formal and Amended Complaint)



Creek 7.5"



4#
oil + Chem
Hardcore Waste
Ash



Plastic



Mature
Walk!



Installation
#4



Make
Porous
smoke

JB

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Air
Complaint Record

Complaint No.:
 Received by: Todd A. Bennett
 Date: 3/11/2014
 Time: 11:07 AM
 Received Via: Phone Mail USEPA
 DLPC DWPC ERU
 Other:

Suspect Source Information	Complainant Information
Name: Village of Rankin	Name: [REDACTED]
Address:	Address: [REDACTED]
City, County: Rankin, Vermilion	City, County: [REDACTED]
State, Zip: Illinois, 60960	State, Zip: [REDACTED]
Tel. No.:	Tel. No.: [REDACTED]
I.D. No.: 183070AAB	Return call requested: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Directions to Source: Take US Route 150 toward Danville. Turn north (left) on IL Route 49 to Rankin. Turn west (left) on 5th Avenue. Turn north (right) on Guthrie Street. The suspect source is on the west side of the street, along the former railroad right-of-way.

Complaint Description: There are a lot of large tree pieces about to be pushed into the landscape waste collection site, and the work was done by a tree service company. The smoke is going to be terrible just when the weather allows us to open up our windows! Anything you can do would be appreciated. The work might have been done by Newcomb Tree Service [(815) 867-0150] in Cissna Park or Rainwater Tree Service [(217) 748-6271] in Rossville.

Referred to: BOA/DAPC/FOS-Champaign

Assigned Engineer: Todd A. Bennett

Investigation Findings:

At 10:43 AM, Todd A. Bennett, FOS-Champaign, called and left a message with Newcomb Tree Service.

At 10:50 AM, I called and left a message with Rainwater Tree Service.

At 11:00 AM, Jerry Newcomb returned the call. I explained to him that there have been citizen concerns about smoke from the landscape collection site in Rankin and that one of the complainants provided his contact information. I explained that any waste generated by a tree service is considered trade waste and cannot be burned or left at the community landscape waste collection site. I informed him that some residents will continue to make careful observations of activity around Rankin and at the site and report possible violations to IEPA. He said that he has done work in that area recently and was unaware of the trade waste regulations. He appreciated the information and said that he would be sure to haul away any wastes his business generates.

XC: BOA - Control
XC: Bek

EPA-DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT
RELEASEABLE

Complainant contacted: Yes No JUN 01 2014 Date contacted: Yes N/A
 Date: _____ Name: _____ Date: _____

REVIEWER MED

R's EXHIBIT
A

At 11:35 AM, Brent Rainwater returned the call. I again explained the same information. He said that he had heard of some of the concerns from the Rankin area, but has not done any work there recently; none of his wastes have been left at the Rankin landscape waste collection site.

FOS-Champaign recommends taking no additional action at this time. FOS-Champaign will wait for any additional calls from complainants in the Rankin area reporting dumping/burning of trade waste at the landscape waste collection site.

Complainant contacted: Yes No
Date:

USEPA contacted: Yes N/A
Name: _____ Date:

8


 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
 Bureau of Air
 Complaint Record

Complaint No.:
 Received by: Todd A. Bennett
 Date: 4/8/2014
 Time: 2:16 PM
 Received Via: Phone Mail USEPA
 DLPC DWPC ERU
 Other:

Suspect Source Information	Complainant Information
Name: Village of Rankin	Name: [REDACTED]
Address:	Address: [REDACTED]
City, County: Rankin, Vermilion	City, County: [REDACTED]
State, Zip: Illinois, 60960	State, Zip: [REDACTED]
Tel. No.:	Tel. No.: [REDACTED]
I.D. No.: 183070AAB	Return call requested: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

EPA-DIVISION OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT
 RELEASEABLE
 SEP 15 2014
 REVIEWER JRM

Directions to Source: Take US Route 150 toward Danville. Turn north (left) on IL Route 49 to Rankin. Turn west (left) on 5th Avenue. Turn north (right) on Guthrie Street. The suspect source is on the west side of the street, along the former railroad right-of-way.

Complaint Description: There is about 150 yards of large trees at the landscape waste site, and they are getting ready to just push it together and burn it. Please come out and look at this and issue them a letter to get this stopped! I will look for you when you arrive and will meet you there.

Referred to: BOA/DAPC/FOS-Champaign Assigned Engineer: Todd A. Bennett

Investigation Findings:

At 1:55 PM on April 9, 2014, Todd A. Bennett, FOS-Champaign, arrived at the landscape waste collection site in Rankin, Illinois. The wind was out of the west at 10-15 MPH. There was no one at the site upon my arrival. There was a long pile of landscape waste extending along the access road to the site from the fenced area eastward approximately 100 yards. I walked the length of the pile and observed that the materials were almost entirely landscape wastes of various types and sizes; there were some non-landscape wastes within the pile, including plastic bottles, wrappers, etc., which the Village of Rankin could remove easily prior to moving the landscape wastes into the gated area for burning. Some of the landscape waste consisted of large sections of tree trunks that appeared to come from sick trees (significant portions were rotted out).

It is possible that a landscaping/tree service company could have left some of these landscape wastes, but there was no direct evidence to prove it. During a previous complaint investigation, a complainant provided two potential companies that may have left wastes at the site. I called and spoke with the owners of the two companies and informed them of the State's regulations regarding landscape and trade wastes and informed them

cc: BOA - Central
 cc: Rank

Complainant contacted: Yes No USEPA contacted: Yes N/A
 Date: _____ Name: _____ Date: _____

R's EXHIBIT
 B

that there were residents in the Rankin area keeping track of who was doing work in the area and where those wastes were going.

The fenced and gated area was mostly clear of landscape wastes. There was a relatively small pile located at the far west side adjacent to the fence. There was no burning activity during the investigation, and it appeared that Rankin has conducted no recent burning at the site.

At around 2:10 PM, a couple of residents dropped off leaves from their property. I asked them if there has been any discussion around town about the landscape waste site. They were unaware of any particular issues; the Village just asked them to drop their landscape wastes along the access road leading to the site.

I remained at the site until 2:25 PM. The complainant did not come to the site during the investigation.

According to observations during the inspection, the Village of Rankin appears to continue to manage the community landscape waste collection site properly. The vast majority of the materials clearly meets the definition of "landscape waste" in 35 IAC 237.101; the Village easily can separate out the non-landscape wastes before conducting any burning. The complainant is very concerned about the smoke that burning this landscape waste will generate in the neighborhood north and east of the site, but Section 9(f) of the Environmental Protection Act states that Section 9 shall not limit the burning of these wastes. FOS-Champaign recommends that IEPA take no additional action at this time.

Complainant contacted: Yes No

Date:

USEPA contacted: Yes N/A

Name: _____ Date:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Air
Complaint/Incident Record

Complaint No.: A2015-0817-002
 ID No: ~~183 070 AAG~~ 1830705007
 Received by: Darwin Fields
 Date: August 17, 2015 Time: 9:30 a.m. in BOL
 Received Via: Phone Mail USEPA incoming
 BOL BOW OER
 Other:

Suspect Source Information	Complainant Information
Name: Village of Rankin; Aaron Warren – Village President	Name: [REDACTED]
Address: West of North Guthrie Street	Address: [REDACTED]
City, County: Rankin, Vermillion	City, County: [REDACTED]
State, Zip: IL 60960	State, Zip: [REDACTED]
Tel. No.: (217)249-2795 – Aaron Warren	Tel. No.: [REDACTED]
	Return call requested: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Directions to Source: the burn site is west of N. Guthrie Street; west of W. 1st Avenue

Type of Complaint/Incident: Odor Open Burning Fugitive Dust Other

Description: smoke from open burning of landscape waste at Village of Rankin burn site

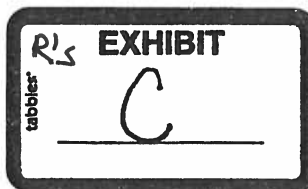
Investigating Inspector: Darwin Fields

Investigation Findings: On August 24, 2015, the Complainant sent to the Champaign FOS office copies of approximately 15 citizen complaints (sent to the Complainant) which the Complainant mailed to the Illinois Pollution Control Board on August 24, 2015. The complaints are attached. The citizen complaints object to the smoke from the open burning at the community burn site and many complaints request that the burn site be moved to a location northeast of Rankin so the winds will blow the smoke away from the residents rather than into the center of the village, which is the current situation. The complainant also included several photographs of concrete and other waste materials which were dumped at a location on the east side of Rankin west of Iroquois Street along the railroad right-of-way. The complainant stated that the path used by trucks to dump this refuse is clearly visible. The Complainant also stated that many persons other than residents of Rankin dump their landscape waste at the community burn site. The Complainant stated that an accelerant is used to start the fires because the Village of Rankin employees often burn green trees. The Complainant is concerned that this accelerant will wash into the nearby stream or contaminate the soil. requested that soil samples be taken to determine if soil contamination has occurred. also requested that water samples of the runoff from the burn site be taken to determine the presence of contaminants. This complaint will be forwarded to the Champaign-FOS BOW and BOL to determine if sampling is advised.

Section 9(f) of the Environmental Protection Act does not prohibit the Village of Rankin from performing the open burning of landscape waste as a service to the community. Section 9(a) of the Act also applies and the open burning of landscape waste must be performed in a manner which does not cause a citizen complaint. The complainant sent copies of 15 citizen complaints objecting to the smoke caused by the open burning of landscape waste by the Village of Rankin.

FOS recommends sending a NCA Letter to the Village of Rankin for violations of Section 9(a) of the Environmental Protection Act.

EPA-DIVISION OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT
RELEASABLE



NOV 30 2015
REVIEWER: JKS

On August 17, 2015, I contacted Aaron Warren, President – Village of Rankin, and informed him of the open burning complaint I received. Mr. Warren immediately identified [REDACTED] as the complainant. Mr. Warren stated that the Village of Rankin has a burn site with a security fence with a locked gate surrounding the site to prevent open dumping. He said that city employees sort the landscape waste prior to any burning and only landscape waste is burned. He said that the Village of Rankin burns landscape waste at this site three to four times per year as a service to the residents of Rankin and is collected by village employees or residents can dump their landscape waste outside the fenced in area and village employees will inspect the landscape waste to be certain that no refuse is present prior to taking the landscape waste inside the fenced in area to be burned. Mr. Warren also stated that the burn site is monitored by village employees. He was familiar with Section 9(f) of the Environmental Protection Act. Mr. Warren met with Todd Bennett when Mr. Bennett investigated previous open burning complaints made by the Complainant. According to Mr. Warren, the Complainant has filed a formal complaint with the Illinois Pollution Control Board regarding the open burning of landscape waste by the Village of Rankin. Mr. Warren has discussed this situation many times with the attorney representing the Village of Rankin. Mr. Warren was not sure of the current status of this complaint with the IPCB. Mr. Warren stated that the Complainant has also filed complaints that the Village of Rankin is poisoning [REDACTED] water. According to Mr. Warren, the Complainant [REDACTED] burn site. Mr Warren said that he will contact the Village employees and inquire as to the status of the burn site and ask if the wind is blowing the smoke toward the Complainant, or any residences. If it is, he will ask them to cease burning until the wind changes direction to blow the smoke away from the residences. He said that he has discussed this situation with the Village employees many times and they try to burn only when the wind will blow the smoke away from the residences but at times the wind changes direction so there are instances when the smoke may be blown toward nearby residences but they try to avoid this from happening. The Champaign FOS file has the most recent complaint investigation by Todd Bennet on 9-18-2012. The result of his investigation was NFA. Based on my conversation with Village of Rankin President, Aaron Warren, the open burning conducted by the village was described to be in compliance with Section 9(f) of the Act.

Complainant Contacted: Yes No Date : August 17 and 24, 2015

USEPA Contacted: Yes NA Name _____ Date _____

Final Disposition: NFA NCA VN Referred to: Champaign – FOS BOW and BOL



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 8, 2015

Sent via Email and Regular U.S. Mail
Mr. John Kim
Chief Legal Counsel
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Dear Mr. Kim:

The Illinois Attorney General's Office received a citizen complaint from a [REDACTED] alleging improper open burning of waste by the Village of Rankin. [REDACTED] allegations include the burning of plastic debris commingled with landscape waste, as well as air and water pollution caused by the excessive use of an accelerant. The location of the allegations is west of North Guthrie Street, west of West 1st Avenue in Rankin, Illinois. [REDACTED] has a history of similar complaints about the Village's burn site. Please find attached a copy of one of [REDACTED] annual complaints to the Illinois Pollution Control Board, with photographic evidence attached, as well as a copy of [REDACTED] complaint to our Office with supporting letters by other members of [REDACTED] community complaining of air pollution from the burn pile.

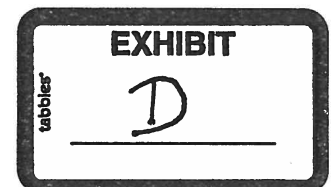
Please conduct an inspection of the site in question to determine if any violations of the State's environmental laws and regulations exist, and advise our Office on your findings. This matter has been assigned to Elizabeth Dubats (217-782-9035).

Thank you for your cooperation as we work together to protect the citizens and environment of Illinois.

Sincerely,

Andrew Armstrong
Bureau Chief
Environmental Bureau
500 South Second Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706
217-782-7968

cc: Elizabeth Dubats, AAG





ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

1021 NORTH GRAND AVENUE EAST, P.O. BOX 19276, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9276 • (217) 782-2829
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR LISA BONNETT, DIRECTOR

Voice: 217/278-5800

FAX: 217/278-5808

October 22, 2015

Village of Rankin
101 South Main
Rankin, Illinois 60960

Re: LPC#1830705007--Vermilion County
Rankin/Village of Rankin (Landscape Waste Burn Area)
Compliance File

RECEIVED

OCT 22 2015

IEPA/BOL

Dear Village Board:

On September 9, 2015, a complaint inspection of the above referenced site was conducted by Dustin Burger representing the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The purpose of this inspection was to determine the site's compliance with the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and 35 Illinois Administrative Code G regulations.

No violations were noted at the time of this inspection.

Please contact Dustin Burger at (217) 278-5800 if you have any questions regarding this inspection.

Sincerely,

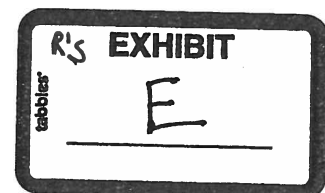
John P. Richardson, Acting Manager
Field Operations Section
Bureau of Land

Enclosure

IEPA-DIVISION OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT
RELEASABLE

NOV 30 2015

REVIEWER: JKS



4302 N. Main St., Rockford, IL 61103 (815)987-7760
595 S. State, Elgin, IL 60123 (847)608-3131
2125 S. First St., Champaign, IL 61820 (217)278-5800
2009 Mall St., Collinsville, IL 62234 (618)346-5120

9511 Harrison St., Des Plaines, IL 60016 (847)294-4000
5407 N. University St., Arbor 113, Peoria, IL 61614 (309)693-5462
2309 W. Main St., Suite 116, Marion, IL 62959 (618)993-7200
100 W. Randolph, Suite 11-300, Chicago, IL 60601 (312)814-6026

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Open Dump Inspection Checklist

County: Vermilion LPC#: 1830705007 Region: 4 - Champaign
 Location/Site Name: Rankin/Village of Rankin Landscape Waste Site
 Date: 09/09/2015 Time: From 10:45A To 11:00A Previous Inspection Date: 08/30/2015
 Inspector(s): Dustin Burger Weather: Overcast, mostly dry, 70s
 No. of Photos Taken: # 4 Est. Amt. of Waste: 0 yds³ Samples Taken: Yes # No
 Interviewed: Gary Polchow Complaint #: C16-027-CH
 Latitude: 40.4649 Longitude: -87.9006 Collection Point Description: -
 (Example: Lat.: 41.26493 Long.: -89.38294) Collection Method: -

Responsible Party
 Mailing Address(es)
 and Phone Number(s):
 Village of Rankin
 121 South Main Street
 Rankin, IL 60960
 217/397-2280

RECEIVED
 OCT 22 2015
IEPA/BOL

SECTION	DESCRIPTION	VIOL
ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT REQUIREMENTS		
1. 9(a)	CAUSE, THREATEN OR ALLOW AIR POLLUTION IN ILLINOIS	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. 9(c)	CAUSE OR ALLOW OPEN BURNING	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. 12(a)	CAUSE, THREATEN OR ALLOW WATER POLLUTION IN ILLINOIS	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. 12(d)	CREATE A WATER POLLUTION HAZARD	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. 21(a)	CAUSE OR ALLOW OPEN DUMPING	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. 21(d)	CONDUCT ANY WASTE-STORAGE, WASTE-TREATMENT, OR WASTE- DISPOSAL OPERATION:	
	(1) Without a Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(2) In Violation of Any Regulations or Standards Adopted by the Board	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. 21(e)	DISPOSE, TREAT, STORE, OR ABANDON ANY WASTE, OR TRANSPORT ANY WASTE INTO THE STATE AT/TO SITES NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS OF ACT AND REGULATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. 21(p)	CAUSE OR ALLOW THE OPEN DUMPING OF ANY WASTE IN A MANNER WHICH RESULTS IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OCCURRENCES AT THE DUMP SITE:	
	(1) Litter	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(2) Scavenging	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(3) Open Burning	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(4) Deposition of Waste in Standing or Flowing Waters	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(5) Proliferation of Disease Vectors	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(6) Standing or Flowing Liquid Discharge from the Dump Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(7) Deposition of: (i) General Construction or Demolition Debris as defined in Section 3.160(a); or (ii) Clean Construction or Demolition Debris as defined in Section 3.160(b)	<input type="checkbox"/>

IEPA DIVISION OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT
 RELEASABLE
 NOV 30 2015
 REVIEWER: JKS

LPC # 1830705007

Inspection Date: 09/09/2015

9.	55(a)	NO PERSON SHALL:	
	(1)	Cause or Allow Open Dumping of Any Used or Waste Tire	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(2)	Cause or Allow Open Burning of Any Used or Waste Tire	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.	55(k)	NO PERSON SHALL:	
	(1)	Cause or Allow Water to Accumulate in Used or Waste Tires	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(4)	Transport Used or Waste Tires in Violation of the Registration and Placarding Requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS RECYCLING AND REUSE ACT REQUIREMENTS			
11.	95(a)	NO PERSON MAY KNOWINGLY CAUSE OR ALLOW THE MIXING OF A COVERED ELECTRONIC DEVICE (CED) OR OTHER LISTED DEVICE WITH MUNICIPAL WASTE THAT IS INTENDED FOR DISPOSAL AT A LANDFILL	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.	95(b)	NO PERSON MAY KNOWINGLY CAUSE OR ALLOW THE DISPOSAL OF A CED OR OTHER LISTED DEVICE IN A SANITARY LANDFILL	<input type="checkbox"/>
13.	95(c)	NO PERSON MAY KNOWINGLY CAUSE OR ALLOW THE MIXING OF A CED OR OTHER LISTED DEVICE WITH WASTE THAT IS INTENDED FOR DISPOSAL BY BURNING OR INCINERATION	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.	95(d)	NO PERSON MAY KNOWINGLY CAUSE OR ALLOW THE BURNING OR INCINERATION OF A CED OR OTHER LISTED DEVICE	<input type="checkbox"/>
35 ILLINOIS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE REQUIREMENTS SUBTITLE G			
15.	812.101(a)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO DEVELOP AND OPERATE A LANDFILL	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.	722.111	HAZARDOUS WASTE DETERMINATION	<input type="checkbox"/>
17.	808.121	SPECIAL WASTE DETERMINATION	<input type="checkbox"/>
18.	809.302(a)	ACCEPTANCE OF SPECIAL WASTE FROM A WASTE TRANSPORTER WITHOUT A WASTE HAULING PERMIT, UNIFORM WASTE PROGRAM REGISTRATION AND PERMIT AND/OR MANIFEST	<input type="checkbox"/>
19.	815.201	FAILURE TO FILE AN INITIAL FACILITY REPORT WITH THE AGENCY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION CONCERNING LOCATION AND DISPOSAL PRACTICES OF THE FACILITY	<input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER REQUIREMENTS			
20.		APPARENT VIOLATION OF: <input type="checkbox"/> PCB; <input type="checkbox"/> CIRCUIT COURT CASE NUMBER: ORDER ENTERED ON:	<input type="checkbox"/>
21.	OTHER:		<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>

Informational Notes

1. [Illinois] Environmental Protection Act: 415 ILCS 5/1 et seq.; and The Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act: 415 ILCS 150/5 et seq.
2. Illinois Pollution Control Board: 35 Ill. Adm. Code, Subtitle G.
3. Statutory and regulatory references herein are provided for convenience only and should not be construed as legal conclusions of the Agency or as limiting the Agency's statutory or regulatory powers. Requirements of some statutes and regulations cited are in summary format. Full text of requirements can be found in references listed in 1. and 2. above.
4. The provisions of subsection (p) of Section 21, subsection (k) of Section 55 of the [Illinois] Environmental Protection Act shall be enforceable either by administrative citation under Section 31.1 of that Act or by complaint under Section 31 of that Act. Violation of the Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act shall be enforceable by administrative citation under Section 20(k) of that Act, or referral to the Attorney General, pursuant to Section 20(a) of that Act.
5. This inspection was conducted in accordance with Sections 4(c) and 4(d) of the [Illinois] Environmental Protection Act: 415 ILCS 5/4(c) and (d); and Section 20(a) of the Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act: 415 LCS 150/20(a).
6. Items marked with an "NE" were not evaluated at the time of this inspection.

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Land ♦ Field Operations Section ♦ Champaign

LPC#1830705007--Vermilion County
Rankin/Village of Ranking Landscape Waste Burn Site
FOS File
September 9, 2015 Inspection
Inspector: Dustin Burger
Complaint No. C16-027-CH

Narrative Inspection Report

I conducted an open dump complaint inspection at the above referenced facility on September 9, 2015. This inspection was conducted to determine the regulatory status and evaluate compliance with the Environmental Protection Act (Act) and Title 35 Illinois Administrative Code, Subtitle G: Land Pollution (Regulations). Four photos and no samples were taken. No one else was present at the time of the visit. No violations were noted as a result of the inspection.

Background

The above referenced site is located on the west side of Rankin along an old railroad right-of-way. The Village of Rankin uses the property to burn landscape waste collected throughout the village under the exemption in the Act that allows municipalities to collect and burn the material.

The facility was the subject of an open dumping investigation by the Vermilion County Health Department in 2008. The Health Department found construction debris in the pile of landscape waste being burned at the property. The Village agreed to watch the site more closely and remove any waste that was not landscape waste before burning.

Current Situation

Champaign FOS received a complaint investigation request from the Attorney General's Office regarding the Rankin landscape waste burning site. In addition, the complainant has called the Regional Office to speak with Darwin Fields and I about the situation. The complainant claims that the Village burns landscape waste, causing air pollution. They also complain that the village has burned other material and has used accelerants, creating hazardous waste and contaminating the land and water.

This inspection will not address the subject of air pollution, since that issue is handled by the Bureau of Air, and no burning was conducted during my visit.

When I arrived, I found the burn site fenced and locked. Two piles of mostly burned landscape waste were present inside the fence, and a pile of landscape waste was present outside the fence. I did not see any signs of wastes other than landscape waste in the piles, except for one small plastic grocery bag in the pile outside the fence.

I used a MiniRAE photoionization detector (PID) to check the piles of burned waste, and several areas around the fence for any signs of organic constituents. A PID is a portable device that can "sniff" organic molecules to find any signs of accelerants used in a fire. I disturbed the pile and used the PID to "sniff" for any organics in the soils around the piles and around the perimeter. I used a trowel to cut a slit in the soil to sniff the upper layer of soils. The PID did not register any organic constituents above background levels.

After the inspection, I contacted Aaron Warren, President of the Village, and spoke to him about the complaint. Warren said the Village has had issues with the complainant for years. He said the Village has fenced that area, and only burns when the smoke will blow away from the complainant (who lives four blocks away) and other residences. When I asked why waste was dumped outside the gate, Mr. Warren said the Village inspects the landscape waste prior to moving it inside the gate, and removes anything that is not leaves and brush. He said one reason the Village limits access is they are afraid the complainant will dump material in the piles and accuse the Village of wrongdoing. When I asked about the use of accelerants, Warren checked with the Public Works Department and found the employees use a propane torch to light the brush on fire, but no other accelerants.

The complainant called me after in the inspection and questioned my findings. They were sure that the land is contaminated, and did not believe I found no sign of contamination and demanded I take samples to prove his accusations. I explained that the PID is a very sensitive piece of equipment that can detect organic constituents down to the parts per billion ranges. The tool is used in arson investigations, and is used to screen clean-up sites for petroleum contaminates. The fact the PID found nothing supports the claim by the Village that no accelerants were used. If I did take samples of the area, I would likely find some levels of semi-volatile constituents left over from the historical use of the property as a railroad.

The complainant alleges that the burning of wood and plastic has caused both land and water pollution. The burning of landscape waste, or even minor amounts of construction or demolition debris, will not cause the widespread contamination as alleged by the complainant. The chief health hazard for the burning of demolition debris would be the release of asbestos, of which there is no evidence of any asbestos containing material being burned at the site. The burning of large amounts of plastics or shingles can cause the release of organic constituents, primarily in the air, but could cause local contamination. The contamination would generally be in the form of a melted blob of tar-like organic material. No sign of any of these substances was noted during the inspection. It is highly unlikely the burning of these materials would cause widespread issues unless burned in much larger quantities than the complainant alleges.

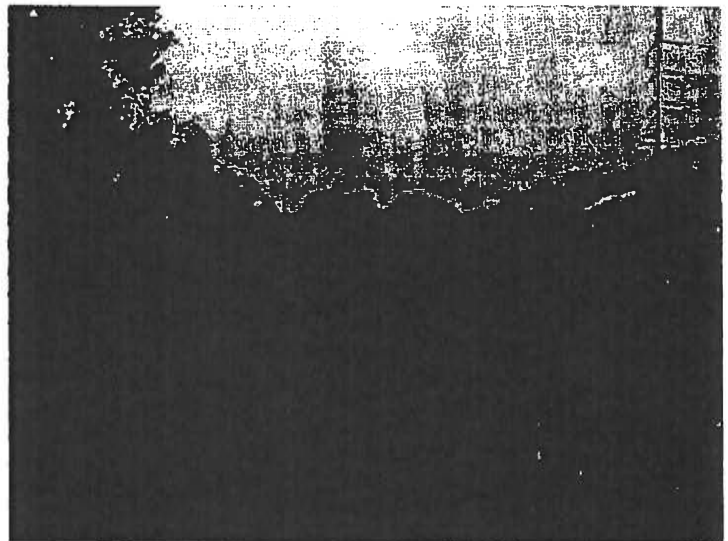


Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Land

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

LPC #1830705007—Vermilion County
Rankin/Village of Rankin Landscape Waste Burn Site
FOS File

DATE September 9, 2015
TIME 10:45-11:00 A.M.
DIRECTION: West
PHOTO by: Dustin Burger
PHOTO FILENAME
1830705007~09092015-001.jpg
COMMENTS:



DATE: September 9, 2015
TIME: 10:45-11:00 A.M.
DIRECTION: West
PHOTO by: Dustin Burger
PHOTO FILENAME
1830705007~09092015-002.jpg
COMMENTS:





Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Land

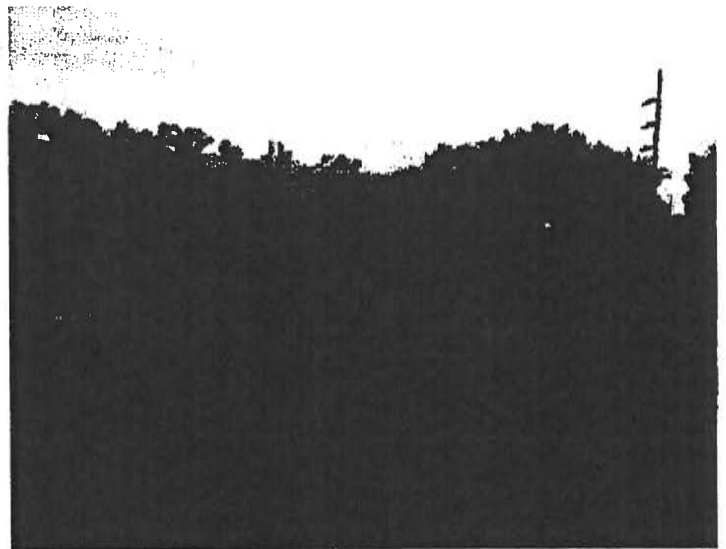
DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

LPC #1830705007—Vermilion County
Rankin/Village of Rankin Landscape Waste Burn Site
FOS File

DATE September 9, 2015
TIME 10:45-11:00 A.M.
DIRECTION: West
PHOTO by: Dustin Burger
PHOTO FILENAME
1830705007~09092015-003.jpg
COMMENTS:



DATE September 9, 2015
TIME 10:45-11:00 A.M.
DIRECTION: North
PHOTO by: Dustin Burger
PHOTO FILENAME
1830705007~09092015-004.jpg
COMMENTS:



**YARD
WASTE
ONLY**

**NO
DUMPING**
VIOLATORS
WILL BE
PROSECUTED

R's EXHIBIT
F