

Site Visit Report: Florida Tire Recycling

Date of Visit: **October 14 and October 15, 2002**

Reason for Visit: **Tire Fire of October 13, 2002**

I arrived at the Florida Tire (FTR) site on Monday morning, 13 October, at 0900 and was greeted by the owner. He escorted me to the area of the fire. There were numerous pieces of fire equipment still on scene. Water was being drawn from a pond to the west of the property by a Fire Department pumper truck. This water was being sprayed onto three distinct areas. One stream was being sprayed onto the remains of a tire pile. The other two streams were being applied to piles of tire shreds that were seen to be smoking. Puddles of water were located in direct proximity to the tire piles. No water was seen running off the property either to the south or to the west. The owner stated that he had berms in place to contain the water on-site. I then returned to the office with the owner and departed the property. I did take approximately 10 to 15 digital pictures of the smoldering tire piles. No open flames were seen.

On Tuesday, 14 October, Indarjit Jagnarine and I returned to FTR. We arrived on site at roughly 1:30 PM. He and I met with Jack, the owner. Indar explained that we were here to verify that there were no off-site discharges. The owner drove us to the area of the fire. He escorted us to the areas of concern for potential discharges. The discharge structure had been covered with dirt as a temporary measure to ensure that no water would leave the site. The dry retention area next to the north stormwater pond was being filled with tire chips. This was being done to ensure that the fire in that material was extinguished. Jack stated that he would be cleaning up that material once he was assured there was no risk of more fire. The water in the pond, although murky, was not seen to be contaminated with petroleum product. There was no sheen visible on the surface of the water. This pond was surprisingly free of debris considering the event that had occurred on Sunday. There were some small pieces of rubber material seen floating on the surface of the pond but, again, no sheen.

We walked to the area of the outflow structure for the discharge pipe. This area is located on the east edge of the property just north of the office. The pipe that carries discharge water into the swale was clearly visible. No discharge was seen. The swale area looked to be undisturbed. Water lilies were floating at the pipe outlet. These lilies had not been disturbed. This provided further evidence that no off-site discharge had taken place. The water in the swale was clean. Jack stated that once he had completed clean-up he would reestablish his fire lanes and remove the berm from in front of the discharge pipe. It is his intention to ship all the fire debris to a local landfill. He was not sure of which one at the time of our visit.

Upon completion of our storm water/ discharge system inspection, we proceeded to the front portion of the facility. Jack gave us brief tour of the facility, as Indar had not been at the site in quite some time. The facility was in full operation. The fire had no impact on day to day operations. No buildings or equipment were affected and operations were normal. The working area of the site was clean and free of water.

Numerous digital photographs are available of the site. Pictures were taken of the stormwater pond, discharge structure, discharge pipe, and swale area.