



# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Protection

Southwest District Office  
13051 North Telecom Parkway #101  
Temple Terrace, Florida 33637-0926

**Ron DeSantis**  
Governor

**Jeanette Nuñez**  
Lt. Governor

**Noah Valenstein**  
Secretary

December 11, 2020

Marissa Alexander, Solid Waste and Recycling Manager  
Hardee County Solid Waste Department  
685 Airport Road  
Wauchula, FL 33873  
[Marissa.Alexander@hardeecounty.net](mailto:Marissa.Alexander@hardeecounty.net)

Re: Warning Letter #WL20-200SW25SWD  
Hardee County Regional Landfill  
WACS ID: 40612  
Hardee County

Dear Ms. Alexander:

A compliance inspection was conducted at your facility on November 18, 2020. During this inspection, possible violations of chapter 403, Florida Statutes, and chapter 62-701, Florida Administrative Code were observed.

During the inspection, Department personnel noted the following (please see attached inspection report for additional information):

- The current filling operations do not conform with the authorized sequence of fill.
- The initial cover on the center portion of Phase II Section II is inadequate and waste is exposed.
- The intermediate cover on the south portion of Phase II Section II is inadequate.
- The current litter policing methods are insufficient.
- A leachate discharge from the leachate collection and removal system was observed.
- Leachate seeps were observed within the landfill.
- Ponding of leachate was observed within the landfill.
- The mixing of stormwater and leachate is not minimized or prevented.
- The waste compactor was not functional during the inspection.

Violations of Florida Statutes or administrative rules may result in liability for damages and restoration, and the judicial imposition of civil penalties, pursuant to sections 403.121, 403.141 and 403.161, Florida Statutes.

Please contact Steven Tafuni at 813-470-5792, or via email at [Steven.Tafuni@floridadep.gov](mailto:Steven.Tafuni@floridadep.gov), within **7 days** of receipt of this Warning Letter to arrange a meeting to discuss this matter. The

Department is interested in receiving any facts you may have that will assist in determining whether any violations have occurred. You may bring anyone with you to the meeting that you feel could help resolve this matter.

Please be advised that this Warning Letter is part of an agency investigation, preliminary to agency action in accordance with section 120.57(5), Florida Statutes. We look forward to your cooperation in completing the investigation and resolving this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary E. Yeargan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" and last name "Yeargan" clearly legible.

Mary Yeargan, P.G.  
Southwest District Director  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

ec: Alexis Black, DEP Southwest District, [Alexis.Black@floridadep.gov](mailto:Alexis.Black@floridadep.gov)  
Steven Tafuni, DEP Southwest District, [Steven.Tafuni@floridadep.gov](mailto:Steven.Tafuni@floridadep.gov)  
Kelley Boatwright, DEP Southwest District, [Kelley.M.Boatwright@floridadep.gov](mailto:Kelley.M.Boatwright@floridadep.gov)  
Ryan Mcmillan, DEP Southwest District, [Ryan.D.Mcmillan@floridadep.gov](mailto:Ryan.D.Mcmillan@floridadep.gov)



**Florida Department of  
Environmental Protection  
Inspection Checklist**

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**FACILITY INFORMATION:**

**Facility Name:** HARDEE COUNTY REGIONAL LANDFILL  
**On-site Inspection Start Date:** 11/18/2020  
**On-site Inspection End Date:** 11/18/2020  
**WACS No.:** 40612  
**Facility Street Address:** 685 AIRPORT ROAD  
**City:** WAUCHULA  
**County Name:** HARDEE  
**Zip:** 33873

**INSPECTION PARTICIPANTS:**

(Include ALL Landfill and Department Personnel with Corresponding Titles)

**Principal Inspector:** Alexis R Black, Inspector

**Other Participants:** Ryan Mcmillan, Environmental Specialist I; Marissa Alexander, Solid Waste & Recycling Manager;

**INSPECTION TYPE:**

Routine Operation Inspection for Landfill - Class I

Routine Operation Inspection for WPF - Source-Separated Organics Proc Fac (SOPF)

Routine Operation Inspection for Other - Waste Tire Collection Center

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE INSPECTION CHECKLIST:**

This Cover Page to the Inspection Checklist may include any or all of the following attachments as appropriate.

**Note: Checklist items with shaded boxes are for informational purposes only.**

1.0 - SECTION 1.0 - FILE REVIEW

2.0 - SECTION 2.0 - LANDFILL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

9.0 - SECTION 9.0 - WASTE TIRE FACILITIES

10.0 - SECTION 10.0 - REGISTERED SOURCE-SEPARATED ORGANICS PROCESSING FACILITIES

Inspection Date: 11/18/2020

**1.0 - SECTION 1.0 - FILE REVIEW****Requirements:**

The requirements listed in this section provide an opportunity for the Department's inspector to indicate the conditions found at the time of the inspection. A "Not Ok" response to a requirement indicates either a potential violation of the corresponding rule or an area of concern that requires more attention. Both potential violations and areas of concern are discussed further at the end of this inspection report.

Item No.	FILE REVIEW (Pre- or Post-Inspection, as appropriate.)	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
1.1	For landfills and C&D disposal facilities, does the facility have a current plan for the method and sequence of filling wastes? 62-701.500(2)(f) for landfills; 62-701.730(7)(a) for C&D debris sites	✓			
1.2	For landfills, are the following records being reported to the Department?(Check any that are Not OK) <input type="checkbox"/> Waste reports (annually) 62-701.500(4) <input type="checkbox"/> Annual estimate of remaining life 62-701.500(13)(c)	✓			
1.3	Is gas monitoring being performed as required by the permit? 62-701.500(9), 62-701.530(2)	✓			
1.4	Are the results of the gas sampling reported to the Department quarterly? 62-701.530(2)(c)	✓			
1.5	Is water quality sampling and testing performed according to standard procedures and at the required frequencies? 62-701.510(2) for landfills; 62-701.730(8) and 62-701.730(10) for C&D debris sites; 62-713.400(3) for stationary soil treatment facilities.	✓			
1.6	Do the results of the water quality testing suggest there may be adverse impacts to water quality from the operation of the solid waste facility? 62-701.510(3) and (4); 62-701.730(4)(c) and (10) for C&D debris sites; 62-713.400(3) for stationary soil treatment facilities.			✓	
1.7	For closed landfills and C&D disposal facilities with final elevations higher than 20 feet above grade, has a final survey report verifying the final elevations and contours of the facility been submitted to the Department? 62-701.600(6)(b), 62-701.730(9)(e)				✓
1.8	Is financial assurance adequate? 62-701.630 for landfills; 62-701.710(7)(a) and 62-701.710(1)(d)1. for waste processing facilities; 62-701.730(11)(a) for C&D debris facilities; 62-713.600(6)(a) for stationary soil treatment facilities; 62-711.500(3) for waste tire facilities. NOTE: The Solid Waste Financial Coordinator in Tallahassee can assist with this information.	✓			
1.9	Are cost estimates current and adjusted every year? 62-701.630(4) for landfills; 62-701.710(7)(a) and 62-701.710(1)(d)1. for waste processing facilities; 62-701.730(11)(a) for C&D debris facilities; 62-713.600(6)(b) and 62-713.600(6)(c) for stationary soil treatment facilities; 62-711.500(3) for waste tire facilities.	✓			
1.10	For C&D debris disposal and disposal with recycling facilities, is an Annual Report submitted to the Department for the disposal operation by February 1st of each year? 62-701.730(12)				✓
1.11	For C&D recycling facilities with no disposal, is an Annual Report for the recycling facility submitted to the Department by February 1st of each year? 62-701.710(8)(b)				✓
1.12	For compost facilities, has the compost product been sampled and analyzed every 20,000 tons or every 3 months (whichever is sooner)? 62-709.530(1)				✓
1.13	For compost facilities, has the annual report been submitted by June 1st? 62-709.530(3)				✓



## HARDEE COUNTY REGIONAL LANDFILL

Inspection Date: 11/18/2020

**2.0 - SECTION 2.0 - LANDFILL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

## Requirements:

The requirements listed in this section provide an opportunity for the Department's inspector to indicate the conditions found at the time of the inspection. A "Not Ok" response to a requirement indicates either a potential violation of the corresponding rule or an area of concern that requires more attention. Both potential violations and areas of concern are discussed further at the end of this inspection report.

Item No.	SOLID WASTE PROHIBITIONS (unless "grandfathered" in, see 62-701.300(18))	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
2.1.1	Unauthorized storage, processing, or disposal of solid waste except as authorized at a permitted solid waste management facility or other exempt facility. 62-701.300(1)(a)	✓			
2.1.2	Unauthorized disposal or storage prohibited, except yard trash, within 500 feet of a potable water well? 62-701.300(2)(b)	✓			
2.2	Unauthorized storage or disposal of yard trash prohibited within the minimum setbacks of (Check any that are Not OK) 62-701.300(12) <input type="checkbox"/> 100 feet from potable water wells (except on-site)? <input type="checkbox"/> 50 feet from water bodies?	✓			
2.3	Unauthorized disposal or storage prohibited in any natural or artificial body of water including ground water and wetlands? (Does not apply to standing water after a storm event.) 62-701.300(2)(d)	✓			
2.4	Unauthorized disposal or storage prohibited, except yard trash, within 200 feet of any natural or artificial body of water, including wetlands without permanent leachate controls, except impoundments or conveyances which are part of an on-site, permitted stormwater management system or on-site water bodies with no off-site discharge? 62-701.300(2)(e)	✓			
2.5	Unauthorized open burning of solid waste prohibited except in accordance with Department requirements? 62-701.300(3)	✓			
2.6	Are the following unauthorized wastes or special wastes properly controlled, managed and disposed? (Check any that are Not OK) <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous waste 62-701.300(4) <input type="checkbox"/> Biomedical waste 62-701.300(6) <input type="checkbox"/> Yard trash 62-701.300(8)(c) <input type="checkbox"/> Whole waste tires 62-701.300(8)(e) <input type="checkbox"/> Regulated asbestos waste 62-701.520(3), 62-701.730(19) <input type="checkbox"/> Used oil and oily wastes, except as exempted 62-701.300(11) <input type="checkbox"/> PCB wastes 62-701.300(5) <input type="checkbox"/> Lead-acid batteries 62-701.300(8)(a) <input type="checkbox"/> White goods 62-701.300(8)(d) <input type="checkbox"/> Liquids 62-701.300(10) <input type="checkbox"/> CCA treated wood 62-701.300(14) <input type="checkbox"/> Biological waste - Disposal of dead animals due to disease 62-701.520(5)(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Biological waste - Disposal of dead poultry and hatchery residue 62-701.520(5)(b) <input type="checkbox"/> Biological waste - Disposal of captive wildlife, fish or marine mammals, and domestic animals that have not died due to disease 62-701.520(5)(c)	✓			
2.7	Are only permitted waste types disposed at facility? 62-701.340(2), 62-701.500(6)(a), 62-701.500(2)(c)	✓			
2.6.5	Recommended guidance for Item 2.6 above. Facility was provided a copy of the Department's Disposal of Deceased Domestic Animals Guidance Document dated November 9, 2018. (Note: The Guidance Document is to provide direction regarding the disposal of deceased domestic animals pursuant to Chapter 62-701.520(5), F.A.C. and Chapter 823.041, F.S.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A				

## HARDEE COUNTY REGIONAL LANDFILL

Inspection Date: 11/18/2020

Item No.	LANDFILL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
2.8	Is there a trained operator on-site at Class I and III landfills when receiving wastes? 62-701.500(1)	✓			
2.9	Is there at least one trained spotter at each working face when receiving wastes at Class I and III landfills? 62-701.500(1)	✓			
2.10	Are the following records or plans current and available on-site? (Check any that are Not OK) <input type="checkbox"/> Training Plan 62-701.320(15)(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Operating Plan 62-701.500(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Waste weight records 62-701.500(4) <input type="checkbox"/> Precipitation records 62-701.500(8)(g) <input type="checkbox"/> Load-checking program records 62-701.500(6)(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Training records 62-701.320(15)(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Operation record 62-701.500(3) <input type="checkbox"/> Quantity of leachate 62-701.500(8)(f)	✓			
2.11	Is the operation plan substantially followed? 62-701.500(2)		✓		
2.12	Is incoming waste weighed? 62-701.500(4)(a) and 62-701.500(2)(d)	✓			
2.13	Is the method and sequence of filling waste according to plans? 62-701.500(2)(f)		✓		
2.14	Is access properly controlled to prevent unauthorized waste disposal? 62-701.500(5)	✓			
2.15	Is waste compacted as required? 62-701.500(7)(a)	✓			
2.16	Are the working face and side slopes above ground graded to a slope no greater than 3 feet horizontal to 1 foot vertical rise? 62-701.500(7)(c)	✓			
2.17	Is a narrow working face practiced? 62-701.500(7)(d)	✓			
2.18	Is the frequency, amount and quality of initial cover, as required? 62-701.500(7)(e)		✓		
2.19	Is the frequency, amount and quality of intermediate cover, as required? 62-701.500(7)(f)		✓		
2.20	Is litter controlled and are litter control devices maintained? 62-701.500(7)(i) and 62-701.500(11)(f)		✓		
2.21	Is erosion control adequate? 62-701.500(7)(j)		✓		
2.22	Is the leachate collection and removal system maintained and operated as required? 62-701.500(2)(j), 62-701.500(8)(b) and 62-701.500(8)(h)		✓		
2.23	Is leachate disposed of or treated as required? 62-701.500(8)(b), 62-701.500(8)(c) and 62-701.500(8)(d)	✓			
2.24	If leachate recirculation is practiced at the facility, is it done in accordance with Department requirements and the Operation Plan? 62-701.400(5)	✓			
2.25	Is gas controlled to not cause objectionable odors beyond the property boundary? 62-701.530(3)(b)	✓			
2.26	Is gas controlled to not allow combustible gas concentrations to exceed specified limits? 62-701.530(3)(a)	✓			
2.27	Are gas vents intact and functioning properly? 62-701.500(9), 62-701.530(1)(a)3	✓			
2.28	Is mixing of leachate and stormwater prevented or minimized? 62-701.500(10), 62-701.400(9)(b)		✓		
2.29	Is stormwater management system maintained and operated as required? 62-701.500(10)	✓			
2.30	Is there sufficient operating equipment? 62-701.500(11)(a)		✓		
2.31	Is there sufficient reserve equipment (or other arrangements)? 62-701.500(11)(b)		✓		
2.32	Are communication facilities adequate? 62-701.500(11)(c)	✓			
2.33	Are approved dust control methods adequate? 62-701.500(11)(d)	✓			
2.34	Are fire protection and fire fighting capabilities adequate and operational? 62-	✓			

Inspection Date: 11/18/2020

Item No.	LANDFILL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
	701.500(11)(e)				
2.35	Are there required signs for operational directions and public information? 62-701.500(11)(g)	✓			
2.36	Are all-weather access roads and inside perimeter roads properly maintained? 62-701.500(12)	✓			
2.37	Are groundwater wells intact and properly maintained? 62-701.510(2)(b), 62-701.620(8)	✓			
2.38	Are all additional specific conditions (not otherwise addressed above) in the permit, Department order, or certification, if any, being followed? 62-701.320(1), 403.161, F.S.	✓			

Inspection Date: 11/18/2020

**9.0 - SECTION 9.0 - WASTE TIRE FACILITIES****Requirements:**

The requirements listed in this section provide an opportunity for the Department's inspector to indicate the conditions found at the time of the inspection. A "Not Ok" response to a requirement indicates either a potential violation of the corresponding rule or an area of concern that requires more attention. Both potential violations and areas of concern are discussed further at the end of this inspection report.

Item No.	SOLID WASTE PROHIBITIONS (unless "grandfathered" in, see 62-701.300(18))	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
9.1.1	Unauthorized storage, processing, or disposal of solid waste except as authorized at a permitted solid waste management facility or other exempt facility? 62-701.300(1)(a)	✓			
9.1.2	Unauthorized disposal or storage prohibited, except yard trash, within 500 feet of a potable water well? 62-701.300(2)(b)	✓			
9.2	Unauthorized storage or disposal of yard trash prohibited within the minimum setbacks of (Check any that are Not OK) 62-701.300(12) <input type="checkbox"/> 100 feet from potable water wells (except on-site)? <input type="checkbox"/> 50 feet from water bodies?	✓			
9.3	Unauthorized disposal or storage prohibited in any natural or artificial body of water including ground water and wetlands? (Does not apply to standing water after a storm event) 62-701.300(2)(d)	✓			
9.4	Unauthorized disposal or storage prohibited, except yard trash, within 200 feet of any natural or artificial body of water, including wetlands without permanent leachate controls, except impoundments or conveyances which are part of an on-site, permitted stormwater management system or on-site water bodies with no off-site discharge? 62-701.300(2)(e)	✓			
9.5	Unauthorized open burning of solid waste prohibited except in accordance with Department requirements? 62-701.300(3)	✓			
Item No.	WASTE TIRE FACILITY - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR STORAGE	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
9.6	If the facility accepts tires from the public, is a sign posted at the facility entrance stating operating hours, cost of disposal and site rules? 62-711.540(1)(a)	✓			
9.7	Are operations involving the use of open flames conducted no closer than 25 feet of a waste tire pile? 62-711.540(1)(b)	✓			
9.8	If the facility accepts tires from the public, is an attendant always present on site when the site is open for business? 62-711.540(1)(c)	✓			
9.9	Are fire protection services assured through notification to local fire protection authorities? 62-711.540(1)(d)	✓			
9.10	Is an annual fire safety survey conducted? 62-711.540(1)(d)	✓			
9.11	Is a copy of the annual fire safety report made part of the next quarterly report? 62-711.540(1)(d)	✓			
9.12	Does the facility have an Emergency Preparedness Manual (EPM) on-site? 62-711.540(1)(e)	✓			
9.13	Does the EPM contain the following information? (Check all that are Not OK) <input type="checkbox"/> Contact names and numbers 62-711.540(1)(e)1 <input type="checkbox"/> List of emergency response equipment and locations on-site 62-711.540(1)(e)2 <input type="checkbox"/> Procedures to be followed in the event of a fire 62-711.540(1)(e)3	✓			
9.14	Is the operator at the facility maintaining records of the quantity of waste tires received at the site, stored at the site, and shipped from the site? 62-711.540(1)(g) and 62-711.400(5)	✓			
9.15	If the operator of the site is not the owner of the property, has written authorization been obtained from the property owner to operate the facility? 62-711.540(1)(h)	✓			
9.16	Is adequate communications equipment available at the site? 62-711.540(1)(i)	✓			
9.17	Is the owner or operator providing for control of mosquitoes and rodents so as to protect the public health and welfare? 62-711.540(1)(j)	✓			

## HARDEE COUNTY REGIONAL LANDFILL

Inspection Date: 11/18/2020

Item No.	WASTE TIRE FACILITY - STORAGE INDOORS	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
9.18	Are waste tire piles more than 50 feet in width? 62-711.540(2)(a)				✓
9.19	Are waste tire piles along a wall more than 25 feet in width? 62-711.540(2)(a)				✓
9.20	Are widths of main aisles between piles less than 8 feet? 62-711.540(2)(b)				✓
9.21	Is there less than 3 feet of clearance between the top of storage to sprinkler detectors or roof structures? 62-711.540(2)(c)				✓
9.22	Is there less than 3 feet of clearance between waste tire piles and unit heaters, etc.? 62-711.540(2)(d)				✓
9.23	If waste tires are stored up to 15 feet high, do walls between adjacent warehouse areas and between manufacturing and warehouse areas have at least a four-hour fire rating? 62-711.540(2)(e)				✓
9.24	If waste tires are stored over 15 feet high, do walls between manufacturing and warehouse areas have a fire rating of not less than six hours and do steel columns have one-hour fireproofing? If the top of storage exceeds 20 feet in height, do columns and their connections with other structural members have two-hour fireproofing? 62-711.540(2)(f)				✓
9.25	Is the access controlled through the use of doors, fences, gates, natural barriers or other means? 62-711.540(2)(h)				✓
Item No.	WASTE TIRE FACILITY - STORAGE OUTDOORS	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
9.26	Is the waste tire site operated within 200 feet from a body of water? 62-711.540(3)(a)	✓			
9.27	Does the waste tire pile have a width less than 50 feet? 62-711.540(3)(b)	✓			
9.28	Does the waste tire pile have an area less than 10,000 sq. ft? 62-711.540(3)(b)	✓			
9.29	Does the waste tire pile have a height less than 15 feet? 62-711.540(3)(b)	✓			
9.30	Is there a 50 feet wide fire lane around the perimeter of the waste tire pile? 62-711.540(3)(c)	✓			
9.31	Is there unobstructed access to the fire lane? 62-711.540(3)(c)	✓			
9.32	Is the access controlled through the use of doors, fences, gates, natural barriers or other means? 62-711.540(3)(d)	✓			
9.33	Is the site kept free of grass, underbrush, and other potentially flammable vegetation? 62-711.540(3)(f)	✓			
9.34	Is the site bermed or given other adequate protection to prevent liquid runoff from entering water bodies? 62-711.540(3)(e)	✓			
9.35	Are residuals contained on-site and disposed of in a permitted solid waste management facility or properly recycled? 62-711.540(5)	✓			
9.36	Does the waste tire site qualify for the exceptions to the technical and operational standards as allowed by rule? 62-711.540(6)	✓			
Item No.	WASTE TIRE FACILITY - COLLECTION CENTER	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
9.37	Are no more than 1,500 tires at the collection center at any one time? 62-711.550(1)(a)	✓			
9.38	Are all waste tires, which are not used tires, removed from site yearly for recycling, processing, or disposal? 62-711.550(1)(b)	✓			

**HARDEE COUNTY REGIONAL LANDFILL**

Inspection Date: 11/18/2020

**10.0 - SECTION 10.0 - REGISTERED SOURCE-SEPARATED ORGANICS PROCESSING FACILITIES****Requirements:**

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<b>FACILITY TYPE(S)</b>	<b>MATERIAL(S) PROCESSED</b>	<b>PRODUCTS</b>	<b>METHOD OF COMPOSTING</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Yard Trash Transfer Station	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yard Trash	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mulch	<input type="checkbox"/> Windrow
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yard Trash Recycling	<input type="checkbox"/> Manure	<input type="checkbox"/> Firewood	<input type="checkbox"/> Passive aerated windrows
	<input type="checkbox"/> Animal byproducts	<input type="checkbox"/> Fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerated static piles
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-consumer vegetative waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Compost	<input type="checkbox"/> In-vessel composting
	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetative waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Amendment	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Soil	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL REGISTERED SOURCE-SEPARATED ORGANICS PROCESSING FACILITIES</b>	<b>Ok</b>	<b>Not Ok</b>	<b>Unk</b>	<b>N/A</b>
10.1	Unauthorized storage, processing, or disposal of solid waste except as authorized at a permitted or registered solid waste management facility or other exempt facility? 62-701.300(1)(a)	✓			
10.2	Have objectionable odors been caused or allowed in violation of Chapter 62-296, F.A.C.? 62-709.300(7)(a)	✓			
10.3	Unauthorized storage or processing in a way or location that violates air quality or water quality standards? 62-709.300(7)(b), 62-701.300(1)(b)	✓			
10.4	Do geological formations or subsurface features provide support for the facility? 62-709.300(7)(b), 62-701.300(2)(a)	✓			
10.5	Unauthorized disposal or storage prohibited, except yard trash, within 200 feet of any natural or artificial body of water, including wetlands without permanent leachate controls, except impoundments or conveyances which are part of an on-site, permitted stormwater management system or on-site water bodies with no off-site discharge? 62-701.300(2)(e), 62-709.320(3)	✓			
10.6	Unauthorized storage or processing in any natural or artificial water body (e.g. ground water and wetlands within DEP jurisdiction)? 62-709.300(7)(b), 62-701.300(2)(d)	✓			
10.7	Unauthorized storage or processing on the right of way of any public highway, road, or alley? 62-709.300(7)(b), 62-701.300(2)(f)	✓			
10.8	Unauthorized open burning of solid waste except in accordance with Department requirements? 62-709.300(7)(b), 62-701.300(3)	✓			
10.9	Unauthorized incorporation of CCA treated wood into material that will be applied as a ground cover, soil or soil amendment? 62-709.300(7)(b), 62-701.300(14)	✓			
10.10	Unauthorized unconfined emissions of particulate matter in violation of paragraph 62-296.320(4)(c), F.A.C.? 62-709.300(7)(b), 62-701.300(15)	✓			
10.11	Does the facility have the necessary operational features and equipment - unless otherwise specified? Including: 62-709.320(2)(a)				
10.11.1	Effective barrier to prevent unauthorized entry and dumping? 62-709.320(2)(a)1	✓			
10.11.2	Dust and litter control methods? 62-709.320(2)(a)2	✓			
10.12	Does the facility have the necessary fire protection and control provisions to deal with accidental burning of solid waste? Including 62-709.320(2)(a)3				
10.12.1	20-foot all-weather access road all around the perimeter? 62-709.320(2)(a)3.a.	✓			
10.12.2	No material mechanically compacted? 62-709.320(2)(a)3.b.	✓			

**HARDEE COUNTY REGIONAL LANDFILL**

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Item No.	REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL REGISTERED SOURCE-SEPARATED ORGANICS PROCESSING FACILITIES	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
10.12.3	No material more than 50 feet from access by motorized firefighting equipment? 62-709.320(2)(a)3.c.	✓			
10.13	Is the facility operated in a manner to control vectors? 62-709.320(2)(b)	✓			
10.14	Is the facility operated in a manner to control objectionable odors per with Rule 62-296.320(2), F.A.C.? 62-709.320(2)(c)	✓			
10.15	Are any installed drains and leachate or condensate conveyances kept cleaned? 62-709.320(2)(d)	✓			
10.16	Is the received solid waste processed timely as follows? 62-709.320(2)(e)				
10.16.1	Is yard trash size-reduced or removed within 6 months or time needed to receive 3,000 tons or 12,000 cubic yards, whichever is greater? (Separated logs with 6 inch diameter or greater can be stored for up to 12 months before being size-reduced or removed.) 62-709.320(2)(e)1	✓			
10.16.2	Is putrescible waste (e.g. vegetative wastes, animal byproducts or manure) processed and incorporated into the composting material, or removed from the facility, within 48 hours? 62-709.320(2)(e)2	✓			
10.17	Is any treated or untreated biomedical waste; hazardous waste; or any materials having (PCB) concentration of 50 ppm or greater containerized and removed immediately? 62-709.320(2)(f), 62-701.300(4), 62-701.300(5), 62-701.300(6)	✓			
10.18	Have all residuals, solid waste and recyclable materials been removed and recycled or disposed and has any remaining processed material been properly used or disposed upon the facility ceasing operations? 62-709.320(2)(g)				✓
10.19	If temperature is used to show disinfection or vector attraction achieved, are records kept for at least three years? 62-709.320(4)(b)				✓
10.20	Is the registration for the facility current and on file with the Department? 62-709.320(3)(b)				✓
10.21	Are renewal applications for annual registration of the facility submitted to the Department by July 1st, if applicable? 62-709.320(3)(c)				✓
10.22	Are monthly records of incoming and outgoing material kept on-site or at another location as indicated on the registration form for at least three years? 62-709.320(4)(a)	✓			
10.23	Are Annual Reports, based upon the preceding calendar year, summarizing monthly records, submitted to the Department as required? 62-709.320(4)(a)	✓			
Item No.	REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS APPLICABLE TO YARD TRASH ONLY FACILITIES	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
10.24	Unauthorized storage or processing within 100 feet from off-site potable water well that existed before facility registered? 62-709.300(7)(b) and 62-701.300(12)(a)	✓			
10.25	Unauthorized storage or processing within 50 feet from any body of water, including wetlands? (Does not include parts of permitted stormwater system, or water bodies totally within facility with no discharge to surface waters.) 62-709.300(7)(b), 62-701.300(12)(b)	✓			
10.26	Is processed material removed from facility within 18 months, unless longer storage authorized by permit? 62-709.330(2)	✓			
10.27	Is the facility accepting only yard trash, and bags used to collect yard trash and containerizing any other material? 62-709.330(3)	✓			
Item No.	REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS APPLICABLE TO ONLY THOSE FACILITIES THAT BLEND MANURE OR COMPOST VEGETATIVE WASTES, ANIMAL BYPRODUCTS OR MANURE	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
10.28	Unauthorized storage or processing within 500 feet off-site potable water well that existed before facility registered? 62-709.300(7)(b) and 62-701.300(2)(b)				✓
10.29	Unauthorized storage or processing within 200 feet from any body of water, including wetlands? (Does not include parts of permitted stormwater system, or water bodies totally within facility with no discharge to surface waters.) 62-709.300(7)(b), 62-701.300(2)(e)				✓
10.30	Unauthorized storage or processing within 10,000 feet of any licensed and operating airport runway used by turbine powered aircraft, or within 5,000 feet of any licensed and operating airport runway used only by piston engine aircraft, unless applicant demonstrates that the facility is designed and will be operated so that it does not pose a bird hazard to aircraft? 62-709.300(7)(b), 62-701.320(13)(b)				✓

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Item No.	REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS APPLICABLE TO ONLY THOSE FACILITIES THAT BLEND MANURE OR COMPOST VEGETATIVE WASTES, ANIMAL BYPRODUCTS OR MANURE	Ok	Not Ok	Unk	N/A
10.31	Is the carbon:nitrogen ratio of the blended feedstocks greater than 20? 62-709.350(2)				✓
10.32	Do piles exceed 12 feet in height? 62-709.350(3)				✓
10.33	Is all material removed within 18 months, unless longer storage authorized by permit? 62-709.350(5)				✓
10.34	Is there documentation showing that disinfection has been achieved? Note that this is not required if they are composting only pre-consumer vegetative waste with or without yard trash. 62-709.350(6)				✓
10.35	Is there vector attraction reduction controls that include one of the following? 62-709.350(7) <input type="checkbox"/> Temperature monitoring records showing the waste was composted for at least 14 days, with temperature no lower than 40 degrees Celsius and average temperature of the material being composted higher than 45 degrees Celsius. or 62-709.350(7)(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Results of testing showing the specific oxygen uptake rate (SOUR) for material being composted or blended equal to or less than 1.5 milligrams of oxygen per hour per gram of total solids (dry weight basis) at a temperature of 20 degrees Celsius. 62-709.350(7)(b)				✓



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**Current Violations:**

Rule: 62-701.500(2)

Question Number: 2.11

Explanation: See all other items noted below.

Corrective Action: See all other items noted below.

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Rule: 62-701.500(2)(f)

Question Number: 2.13

Explanation: Per Condition C.5.c. of the facility's Permit (No. 38414-016-SO/01), the sequence of waste filling shall follow the sequence of fill plans provided in section K.2.f of the facility's Operation Plan.

A) Per section K.2.f of the facility's Operation Plan, documentation demonstrating that monthly surveys of the landfill to confirm and monitor waste filling elevations, slopes, and dimensions were unavailable to review during the inspection.

B) Per section K.2.f.2 of the facility's Operation Plan, Fill Sequence 4 involves the filling of the south portion of Phase II Section II. During the inspection, it appeared that the top lifts of Fill Sequence 4, elevations between 108.5 and 113.5, were not filled in entirely to connect this portion of Phase II Section II to the side slope of Phase II Section I. On the Fill Sequence 4 drawings, these elevations are contained within lifts 4C and 4D and are represented by the attachments entitled "Fill Sequence 4".

C) At the time of the inspection, it was unclear if the south and center portions of Phase II Section II were offset from the edge of the disposal at the correct distance. Per the Fill Sequence 4 drawings, it appears that each lift within these portions of Phase II Section II must be offset six feet and two inches from the edge of disposal, as depicted in the attachment entitled "Distance Between Edge & Lifts".

Corrective Action: A) Please provide the Department with the past three monthly surveys of the landfill to demonstrate compliance with the method and sequence of fill requirements outlined in the Operation Plan within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the attached Warning Letter.

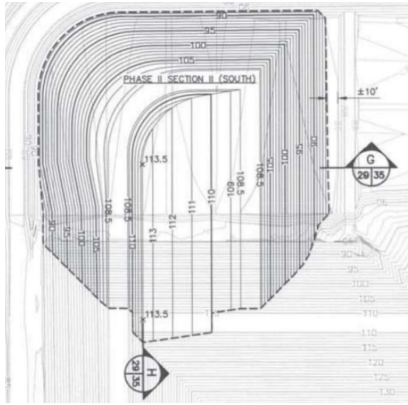
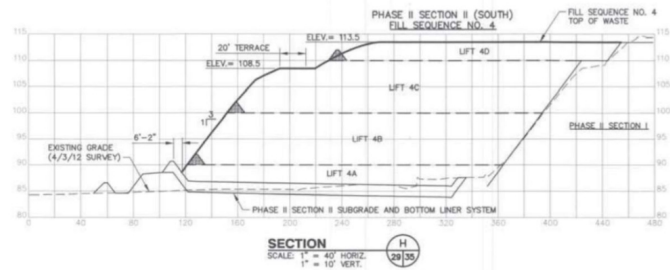
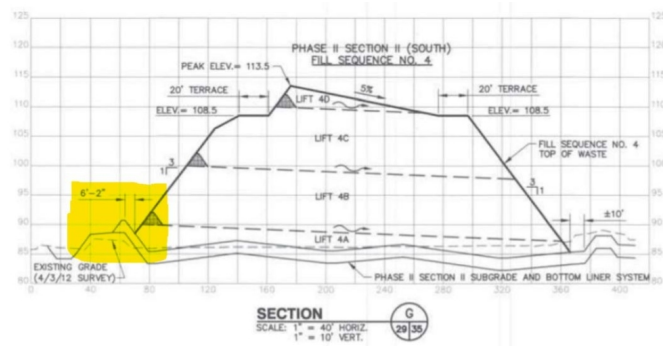
B) Please provide photo documentation demonstrating that the waste lifts contained between the elevations of 108.5 and 113.5 were filled in accordance with the Fill Sequence 4 drawings. In addition, following the filling of these lifts, please provide a survey of the landfill to demonstrate that Fill Sequence 4 has been completed in accordance with the operation plan and drawings. Please provide this documentation to the Department within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the attached Warning Letter. Please also see Item 2.19 for additional information regarding this matter.

C) Please provide documentation demonstrating that the distance between the waste and the edge of disposal meets the distance requirement outlined in Fill Sequence 4 for the south and center portions of Phase II Section II. This documentation can be presented within the landfill survey requested in Item A above. Please provide this documentation to the Department within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the attached Warning Letter.

**Attachments:**

**HARDEE COUNTY REGIONAL LANDFILL**

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**B) Fill Sequence 4****B) Fill Sequence 4****C) Distance Between Edge & Lifts**

Rule: 62-701.500(7)(e)

Question Number: 2.18

Explanation: Per Condition C.8.a. of the facility's Permit (No. 38414-016-SO/01) and Sections K.7.e. and K.7.f. of the Operation Plan, initial cover shall consist of six inches of compacted soil. Other approved types of initial cover include processed waste tires, mulch, and tarps. However, these non-soil types of cover are only allowed to be used when waste will be deposited within the disposal area within 18 hours. A load of processed waste tires was deposited at the working face during the inspection. Department staff observed that a small area of waste located between the working face and the Phase I side slope was covered with a tarp. In the southern and northern sections of the center portion of Phase II Section II, poor application of soil initial cover was observed.

Corrective Action: Within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the Warning Letter, please provide the Department with photo documentation demonstrating that the area of waste beneath the tarp was instead covered with soil and that the southern and northern sections of the center portion of Phase II Section II was covered with soil initial cover.

Attachments:

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Looking South in Phs. II Sec. II



Looking NW in Phs. II Sec. II



Looking SW in Phs. II Sec. II



Waste Beneath Tarp



Processed Tires for Cover



Rule: 62-701.500(7)(f)

Question Number: 2.19

Explanation: A) Please see Item 2.13, Item B for information regarding this Violation. Per Item 2.13, Item B, the top lifts of the south portion of Phase II Section II must be filled in with waste. Intermediate cover must be applied in this area in accordance with Condition C.8.b. of the facility's Permit (No. 38414-016-SO/01) and Section K.7.g of the Operation Plan.

B) The cover on the side slopes of Phase I could not be inspected thoroughly due to the slopes not being mowed. Photo documentation demonstrating that portions of the eastern and western side slopes of this Phase were mowed was provided via email by the facility on November 23, 2020. However, photo documentation of



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the south side slopes of Phase II Section I mowed was not provided. Per the photo documentation provided on November 23, it is apparent that the cover on the eastern and western side slopes of Phase I is not adequate in some areas due to there being bare spots. Photo documentation demonstrating that the bare spots on the eastern and western side slopes of Phase I was seeded was provided to the Department on December 9, 2020.

**Corrective Action:** Within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the Warning Letter, please provide the Department with photo documentation for the following items.

A) Documentation demonstrating that intermediate cover was applied to the top lifts of the south portion of Phase II Section II.

B) Documentation demonstrating that the south side slopes of Phase II Section I were mowed so an evaluation of the cover can be completed.

**Attachments:**

A) Area Needs Intermediate Cover

11/23/20 - Mowed E. Phase I



11/23/20 - Mowed W. Phase I



11/23/20 - Mowed N. Phase I

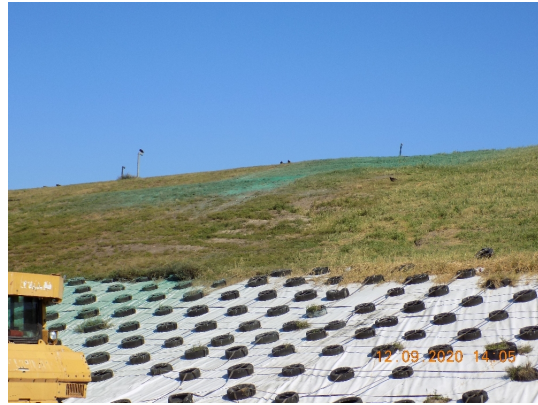


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12/9/20 - Seeded E. Phase 1



12/9/20 - Seeded W. Phase I



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Rule: 62-701.500(11)(f), 62-701.500(7)(i)

Question Number: 2.20

Explanation: The Department acknowledges that there are litter control devices in place, like the orange fencing around the active area of the landfill. But, overall, litter management was not sufficient in multiple areas around the facility, including the south portion of Phase II Section II and the stormwater swales across from Phase II Section II.

Corrective Action: Please continue to follow the litter policing methods outlined in Sections K.7.j. and K.11.f. of the facility's Operation Plan. Within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the attached Warning Letter, please provide photo documentation demonstrating the facility to be free of litter.

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Rule: 62-701.500(7)(j)

Question Number: 2.21

Explanation: Please see Item 2.22, Item C regarding this Violation. In the area where the leachate seep is observed, erosion of the cover is evident.

Corrective Action: Within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the Warning Letter, please provide the Department with photo documentation demonstrating that intermediate cover was applied to this area. The intermediate cover requirements for this area are discussed in Item 2.19, Item A.

**Attachments:**

Erosion of Cover



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Rule: 62-701.500(2)(j), 62-701.500(8)(b), 62-701.500(8)(h)

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Question Number: 2.22

- Explanation:
- A) During the inspection, a flex hose connected to the Leachate Collection System (LCS) and Leachate Detection System (LDS) riser pipes discharging leachate. The pump was turned off immediately by facility personnel. Photo documentation demonstrating that the connector for the flex hose that was discharging during the inspection was replaced was provided via email on December 7, 2020. This is the second leachate discharge observed by Department at this facility within the last 1.5 years.
- B) At the time of the inspection, the facility was experiencing some issues with the Phase II Section I control panel. Department personnel advised that the facility have a vendor take a look at the panel to ensure it is working properly in accordance with the Leachate System Standard Operating Procedure incorporated into the facility's Permit (No. 38414-016-SO/01). Via email correspondence with the facility on December 7, 2020, the facility explained that Pro Controls inspected the panel and determined that the settings in the panel were incorrect, so the system was constantly running. Within this same correspondence, facility personnel indicated that the control panel now has the correct settings and is functioning correctly.
- C) A leachate seep was observed in the area between the south portion of Phase II Section II and the western side slope of Phase II Section I. The leachate was flowing down the northern side slope of the southern portion of Phase II Section II into the center portion of Phase II Section II, which is actively being utilized for disposal. Although the leachate seep was contained within the lined landfill area of the facility, leachate seeps should not be occurring within the landfill. Please see Item 2.21 for additional information concerning this Violation. Also, photo documentation demonstrating that that the area where the leachate seep was observed was mowed, covered, and seeded was received via email on December 9, 2020.
- D) Leachate was ponded along the flow channel of this leachate seep between the western side slope of Phase I and the center portion of Phase II Section II. Leachate was ponded in tire ruts on the top of the south portion of Phase II Section II. Leachate was also ponded within an area located between the edge of disposal and the active disposal area. The reason as to why ponding existed in these areas was unknown during the inspection, but facility personnel indicated that these areas would be excavated to ensure that no impermeable surfaces are causing leachate to pond in the landfill. Photo documentation provided for Item C above demonstrates that cover was applied in proximity to the areas where the leachate seep flow channel and tire ruts were observed. However, this photo documentation does not entirely demonstrate that the ponding in the described areas has been addressed.
- Corrective Action:
- A) Due to the repeated nature of these discharges, it may be warranted that some type of measure be taken to ensure leachate is not discharging outside of the landfill areas in the future. Please continue to ensure that the flex hoses and their connections to the LCS and LDS riser pipes are in good condition and do not leak when in operation.
- B) No further action is needed for this item at this time. However, please ensure that the protocols outlined in the Leachate System Standard Operating Procedure incorporated into the facility's Permit is followed to make sure that the LCS and LDS system functions correctly.
- C) Within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the Warning Letter, please provide documentation indicating if leachate seeps have reestablished in this area. If leachate seeps are observed, please provide the Department with an



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action plan describing what actions the facility will take to address the seeps.

D) Within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the Warning Letter, please provide documentation indicating the cause of the ponded leachate, documentation showing that the areas are no longer ponded with leachate, and that the area have been covered with either initial or intermediate cover (if applicable).

**Attachments:**

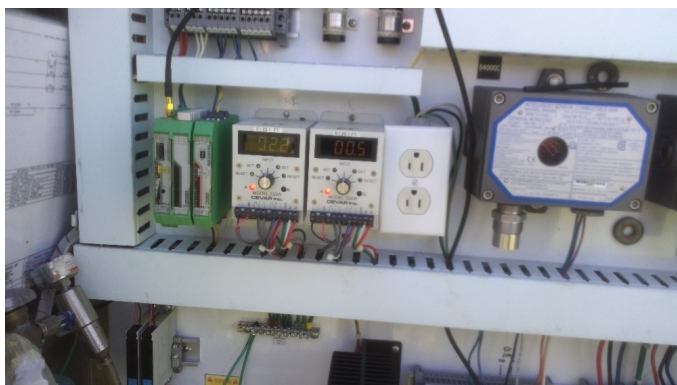
A) Leachate Discharge



A) 12/7/20 - New Hose Connector



B) Control Panel



C) Origin of Leachate Seep



C) Origin of Leachate Seep



C) Leachate Seep Flow Channel





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C) Leachate Seep Flow Channel



D) Seep Flow Channel, Ponding



D) Tire Ruts, Ponding



D) Ponding, Near Edge of Disposal



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Rule: 62-701.400(9)(b), 62-701.500(10)

Question Number: 2.28

Explanation: Per Sections K.7.d. & K.7.g. of the facility's Operation Plan and Condition C.12.a of the facility's Permit (No. 38414-016-SO/01), a berm comprised of clean soil must always be placed around the working face to prevent the mixing of leachate and stormwater. At the time of the inspection, the berm that separates the active area from the north portion of Phase II Section II did not appear to adequately preventing the mixing of leachate and stormwater as liquid was observed where part of this berm collapsed.

Corrective Action: Please provide documentation to the Department within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the attached Warning Letter demonstrating that a new berm comprised of clean soil separates the active area from the north portion of Phase II Section II.

Attachments:



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## Collapsed Berm



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**Current Areas of Concern:**

Rule: 62-701.500(11)(a)

Question Number: 2.30

Explanation: At the time of the inspection, the facility's compactor was non-functional due to a mechanical failure that occurred multiple days before the inspection. In order to continue landfill operations, a dozer was utilized in-place of the compactor to compact the waste.

Corrective Action: Please provide photo documentation to the Department within 30 calendar days of the date listed on the Warning Letter demonstrating that the compactor that was non-functional is repaired and currently compacting waste.

**Attachments:**

Dozer In Use During Inspection



Rule: 62-701.500(11)(b)

Question Number: 2.31

Explanation: See Item 2.30.

Corrective Action: See Item 2.30.

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**COMMENTS:**

Item 1.2 & Item 10.23: This facility is required to submit a waste quantity report each year by February 1st. The facility is in-compliance with this requirement. In addition, the facility is authorized to operate a yard trash processing facility per section 1.C. of the facility's permit (No. 38414-016-SO/01). Yard trash processing facilities are required to submit an annual report to the Department. However, separate

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annual waste quantities of the facility's yard trash and Class I waste has not been documented. Please ensure that the 2020 waste quantity report distinguishes between the Class I wastes and yard trash handled at the facility.

Item 1.6: This comment is for informational purposes only. Groundwater monitoring data was reviewed for groundwater standard exceedances, completeness, and quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC); however, a review of historical trending was not performed.

Item 2.29: A tree was observed to be growing within the stormwater system behind Monitoring Well 1. Photo documentation demonstrating this tree removed from the stormwater system was provided to the Department via email on November 23, 2020.

Item 2.6: The following information pertains to special wastes managed at this facility.

A) Two metal drums were observed within the scrap metal pile within the scrap metal storage area of the facility. Department staff inspected the drums with facility personnel and determined that no liquids were contained within the drums. Please ensure that any drums that are at the facility were cleaned and dried to make sure that any and all compounds that were contained within that drum do not pose a possibility of leaching into the environment. Additionally, please ensure that any and all metal drums accepted at the facility for the scrap metal storage area do and/or did not contain hazardous wastes as the acceptance of hazardous wastes is prohibited at this facility.

B) The land adjacent and below the scrap metal storage area contained small rivets in the ground that allowed for ponding. Photo documentation demonstrating that the scrap metal pile was removed and the land regraded was provided via email to the Department on November 23, 2020.

Item 2.6.5: The Department's "Disposal of Deceased Domestic Animals" guidance document was provided to the facility via email on December 7, 2020.

Item 2.33: During the inspection, dust was prevalent near the working face and on the facility's access roads due to high winds. Please ensure that the facility's access roads and the area adjacent to the working face are sprayed with water to prevent dust from migrating off-site in accordance with section K.11.d of the facility's Operation Plan.

Item 2.37: The entire monitoring well network was not inspected. Monitoring wells 1 and 12 were inspected and appeared to be secure and maintained.

Item 9.10: The latest fire safety survey was conducted in January 2020. During this inspection, the facility indicated that the 2021 fire safety survey is planned to be completed in December 2020 or January 2021. In addition, per a review of the January 2020 survey, a determination regarding if the waste tire area meets fire protection standards per Rule 62-711.540(1)(d), Florida Administrative Code, was not included within this survey. Please ensure that the 2021 survey includes such a determination so as to demonstrate that the waste tire area complies with any and all applicable fire protection standards.

Item 9.38: During the inspection, the waste tire pile was being removed by the facility's contractor.

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**ATTACHMENTS:**



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Overview of SOPF Facility



Overview of SOPF Facility



Scrap Metal Storage Area



White Goods, Correct Postion



11/23/20 - Scrap Metal Stor. Area



Monitoring Well 1



Monitoring Well 12



Overview of Waste Tire Facility





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Overview of Leachate Tanks



Overview of HHWCC



Overview of HHWCC



E-Waste in MRF Facility



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**Signed:**

Alexis R Black

Inspector

**PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR NAME****PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR TITLE**

DEP

12/09/2020

**PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR SIGNATURE****ORGANIZATION****DATE**

Ryan Mcmillan

Environmental Specialist I

**INSPECTOR NAME****INSPECTOR TITLE**

NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED

DEP

**INSPECTOR SIGNATURE****ORGANIZATION**

Marissa Alexander

Solid Waste &amp; Recycling Manager

**REPRESENTATIVE NAME****REPRESENTATIVE TITLE**

NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Hardee County

**REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE****ORGANIZATION**

NOTE: By signing this document, the Site Representative only acknowledges receipt of this Inspection Report and is not admitting to the accuracy of any of the items identified by the Department as "Not Ok" or areas of concern.

**Report Approvers:****Approver:** Steve Tafuni**Inspection Approval Date:** 12/10/2020