



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

Shawn Hamilton
Interim Secretary

June 29, 2021

Robert Vargas, Owner
Robert and Sons Tires Corporation
507 Nilsen St
Haines City, FL 33844
robertandsonsdistributor@gmail.com

Re: RJ Tires
Facility ID No. 106464
Warning Letter #WL21-41SW53SWD
Polk County

Dear Mr. Vargas:

Department personnel conducted a file review of the above-referenced facility on June 16, 2021. Based on the information reviewed, the facility was determined to be in compliance. The violations detailed in Warning Letter No. WL21-41SW53SWD have been resolved, therefore the Department is closing this case file. A copy of the inspection report is attached for your records.

Please note that during our file review we did notice there are still items you need to address with Haines City and your fire inspection report.

The Department appreciates your compliance efforts. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Kelby Callahan at (813) 470-5945, or via e-mail at: Kelby.A.Callahan@FloridaDEP.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelley Boatwright", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

For Kelley Boatwright
Southwest District Director
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Enclosures: Inspection Report

ec: Pamala Vazquez, DEP – SWD, Pamala.Vazquez@FloridaDEP.gov
Steven Tafuni, DEP - SWD, Steven.Tafuni@FloridaDEP.gov
Kelby Callahan, DEP - SWD, Kelby.A.Callahan@FloridaDEP.gov
Steve Morgan, DEP -SWD, Steve.Morgan@FloridaDEP.gov



**Florida Department of
Environmental Protection
Inspection Checklist**

FACILITY INFORMATION:

Facility Name: RJ TIRES
On-site Inspection Start Date: 06/16/2021
On-site Inspection End Date: 06/16/2021
WACS No.: 106464
Facility Street Address: 507 NILSEN ST
City: HAINES CITY
County Name: POLK
Zip: 33844

INSPECTION PARTICIPANTS:

(Include ALL Landfill and Department Personnel with Corresponding Titles)

Principal Inspector: Kelby A Callahan, Inspector

Other Participants: None Present, null;

INSPECTION TYPE:

Routine Operation Inspection for WPF - Waste Tire Processing Facility

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

9.0 - SECTION 9.0 - WASTE TIRE FACILITIES

RJ TIRES

Inspection Date: 06/16/2021

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)				✓

RJ TIRES

Inspection Date: 06/16/2021

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)	✓			

RJ TIRES

Inspection Date: 06/16/2021

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)				✓

RJ TIRES

Inspection Date: 06/16/2021

Current Areas of Concern:

Rule: 62-711.540(1)(d)

Question Number: 9.10

Explanation: On 10/05/2020, the Haines City Fire Department conducted a fire safety inspection at the facility. During the inspection, the Fire Department noted two items that required remediation by the facility; these items were supposed to be corrected within six months of issuance of the report.

Corrective Action: Within 30 days of receipt of this inspection report, please correct the violations that were addressed in the fire safety inspection report. Please notify the Department once these actions have been completed.

Attachments:**Fire Inspection Report Remarks****Inspection Remarks**

Key lock box SHALL be installed prior to occupancy. The Haines City Fire Department requires KNOX® brand lock boxes, which can be ordered directly from their website www.knoxbox.com. Enter "Haines City Fire Dept." when ordering for the Fire Department/Agency or location where product will be installed. Order a Knox Box 3200 series or larger, preferably with a hinged lid.

#2 Where automatic sprinklers are installed, ceilings necessary for the proper actuation of the fire protection device in accordance with NFPA 13 shall be maintained.

Inspection passed with the understanding that both violations will be needed to be fixed within 6 months of inspection. 10/5/2020

COMMENTS:

The facility was visited by Department staff on 2/23/2021. During the site visit, Department staff observed that the facility was storing greater than 1,500 tires on site and was processing waste tires (de-rimmed, doubling, and packaging tires for shipment overseas) without a Department Solid Waste Permit authorization. On 6/16/2021, the Department sent a Notice of Intent to Issue the Solid Waste Permit to RJ Tires. Therefore, the violations mentioned in the previous inspection report will be resolved once the permit is officially issued.

ATTACHMENTS:

Waste Tire Pile (1/2)



Waste Tire Pile (2/2)



Inspection Date: 06/16/2021

Signed:

Kelby A Callahan _____

Inspector _____

PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR NAME

PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR TITLE

 _____

DEP _____

06/23/2021 _____

PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR SIGNATURE

ORGANIZATION

DATE

None Present _____

REPRESENTATIVE NAME

REPRESENTATIVE TITLE

NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED _____

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: 06/28/2021 _____