



# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Protection

Southwest District  
13051 North Telecom Parkway  
Temple Terrace, FL 33637

**Ron DeSantis**  
Governor

**Jeanette Nuñez**  
Lt. Governor

**Shawn Hamilton**  
Secretary

August 1, 2023

Ali Belfakir, Owner  
US 27 Tires, LLC  
29612 US Highway 27  
Lake Hamilton, FL 33838  
[Us27tires@gmail.com](mailto:Us27tires@gmail.com)

Re: US 27 Tires  
Facility ID: 101295  
Polk County

Dear Mr. Belfakir:

Department personnel conducted a compliance inspection of the above-referenced facility on June 13, 2023. Based on the information provided during the inspection, the facility was determined to be in compliance; however, an area of concern is noted in the inspection report. A copy of the inspection report is attached for your records.

The Department appreciates your efforts to maintain this facility in compliance with state and federal rules. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Emily Weaver at 813-470-5781 or via email at [Emily.Weaver@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Emily.Weaver@FloridaDEP.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steven Tafuni".

Steven Tafuni  
Environmental Manager  
Compliance Assurance Program  
Southwest District  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Enclosures: Inspection Report

cc: Steven Tafuni, DEP Southwest District, [Steven.Tafuni@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Steven.Tafuni@FloridaDEP.gov)  
Emily Weaver, DEP Southwest District, [Emily.Weaver@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Emily.Weaver@FloridaDEP.gov)



**Florida Department of  
Environmental Protection  
Inspection Checklist**

---

**FACILITY INFORMATION:**

<b>Facility Name:</b>	US 27 TIRES, LLC
<b>On-site Inspection Start Date:</b>	06/13/2023
<b>On-site Inspection End Date:</b>	06/13/2023
<b>WACS No.:</b>	101295
<b>Facility Street Address:</b>	29612 HWY 27
<b>City:</b>	DUNDEE
<b>County Name:</b>	POLK
<b>Zip:</b>	33838

**INSPECTION PARTICIPANTS:**

(Include ALL Landfill and Department Personnel with Corresponding Titles)

Principal Inspector: Emily M Weaver, Inspector

Other Participants: Betsy Loaiza, Environmental Specialist II; Kevin Gutierrez, Engineering Specialist II; Ali Belfakir, Owner;

**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

Inspection Date: 06/13/2023

**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) Waste reports (annually) 62-701.500(4) 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)				✓

Inspection Date: 06/13/2023

**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) 100 feet from potable water wells (except on-site)? 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) Contact names and numbers 62-711.540(1)(e)1 List of emergency response equipment and locations on-site 62-711.540(1)(e)2 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)	✓			
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)	✓			

Inspection Date: 06/13/2023

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)	✓			
<b>Item No.</b>	<b>WASTE TIRE FACILITY - STORAGE OUTDOORS</b>	<b>Ok</b>	<b>Not Ok</b>	<b>Unk</b>	<b>N/A</b>
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)				✓
<b>Item No.</b>	<b>WASTE TIRE FACILITY - COLLECTION CENTER</b>	<b>Ok</b>	<b>Not Ok</b>	<b>Unk</b>	<b>N/A</b>
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)				✓

Inspection Date: 06/13/2023

**Current Areas of Concern:**

Rule: 62-711.540(2)(b)

Question Number: 9.20

Explanation: At the time of inspection, Department staff observed tire piles at the southwest side of the building that lacked the necessary 8-foot setback, per the permitted site plan. Department staff requested photo documentation of corrective actions onsite and via email on 6/16/2023.

Corrective Action: The Department received photo documentation of corrective actions via email on 6/19/2023. Per Attachment 2 of Permit Number 369009-001-WT/02 (modified by 369009-003-WT/TX), in the future please ensure that the permitted site plan is followed, including necessary pile sizes and setbacks.

**Attachments**

Tire Pile Lacking Setback



Facility Response



---

**Comments**

Item 9.10/9.11: The most recent annual fire safety survey for the Waste Tire Processing Facility was completed on 04/11/2023 by the Polk County Fire Rescue. Please ensure that future annual fire safety survey reports are submitted as part of the 1st Quarter Waste Tire Processing Report, due to the Department no later than April 15th of each year.

Item 9.13/9.14: The following documentation was reviewed at the time of the inspection: April 2023 Incoming Tire Receipts, May 2023 Waste Tire Disposal Receipts associated with Miranda's Tires, a registered waste tire collector (WACS ID: 99626) and the Emergency Preparedness Manual (last revised August 2018).

Item 9.15: As detailed in Section 2.A.4. of Permit No. 369009-001-WT/02 (modified by 369009-002-WT/MM), the facility's permit was issued until January 31, 2022 but may be extended up to five years from the date of permit issuance provided the following information is submitted to the Department including the following:

(1) No later than January 1, 2022, the permittee shall submit documentation of a renewed/extended lease issued to US 27 Tires, LC for the property on which the facility is currently located.

(2) No later than January 1, 2022, the permittee shall submit a request for permit time extension and \$50 application fee, signed by the permittee. The time extension request shall be for the length of the lease provided in accordance with Specific Condition #2.A.4.a. above, but shall not exceed 5 years from the date issuance of the permit.



Inspection Date: 06/13/2023

On December 3, 2021, pursuant to Sections 403.061(14) and 403.707, Florida Statutes, the Department issued modification number 369009-003-WT/TX. This modification extends the permit duration to the full 5 years from the date of issuance of Permit No. 369009-001-WT/02.

Attachments

Tire Disposal Area



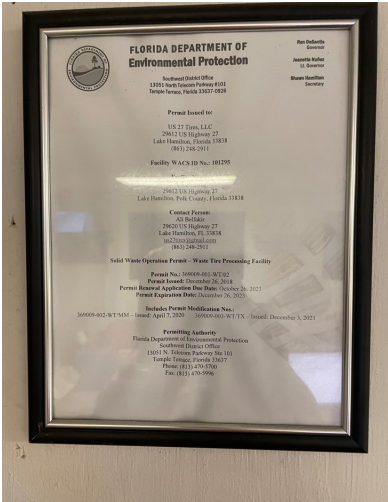
Double-Sided Racks & Tire Pile



Small Tire Racks



Permit

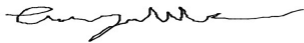


Inspection Date: 06/13/2023

Signed:

Emily M Weaver

PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR NAME



PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR SIGNATURE

Inspector

PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR TITLE

DEP

06/29/2023

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Betsy Loaiza

INSPECTOR NAME

NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED

INSPECTOR SIGNATURE

Environmental Specialist II

INSPECTOR TITLE

FDEP

ORGANIZATION

Kevin Gutierrez

INSPECTOR NAME

NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED

INSPECTOR SIGNATURE

Engineering Specialist II

INSPECTOR TITLE

FDEP

ORGANIZATION

Ali Belfakir

REPRESENTATIVE NAME

NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED

REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Owner

REPRESENTATIVE TITLE

US 27 Tires

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: 07/25/2023