



DEQ-AQD

NOV 13 2017

SAGINAW BAY

NORTHERN OAKS RDF

513 North County Farm Road
Harrison, MI 48625
(989) 539-6111
(989) 539-6545 Fax

November 10, 2017

Ms. Gina L. McCann
MDEQ – Air Quality Division
401 Ketchum Street, Suite B
Bay City, Michigan 48708

**RE: Violation Notice Response
Northern Oaks Recycling and Disposal Facility (RDF), SRN: N6010**

Dear Ms. McCann:

The purpose of this correspondence is to respond to the Violation Notice (letter) from your office dated October 24, 2017. During your inspection on October 19, 2017, you reviewed the asbestos disposal log and associated map and identified approximately eight loads that were correctly logged but were not noted on the map. While Northern Oaks agrees with your finding, we respectfully disagree that this should constitute a violation. In addition, the timing noted in your letter is incorrect.

Northern Oaks RDF offers the following information related to the issue. As we discussed during your site inspection, personnel changed during late October 2016. Several loads of friable asbestos were received in November and December of that same year and were properly logged and mapped. Sometime during December 2016 (through July 2017) a different map (full-sized) was used to better represent the locations. This map could not be produced during your inspection. Subsequent loads received during July 2017 through September 2017 were located on the smaller map used previously.

Records of asbestos disposal locations are meticulously maintained at this facility, meeting the intent of 40 CFR 61.154(f). Simply showing the location on a map or diagram doesn't add any additional value to the logged information. While it is understood that the regulation specifically states the locations are to be on a map or diagram, the fact that they were temporarily absent from the map did not mean the information was not properly logged for each friable asbestos load received.

In addition, we would like the record to indicate that the alleged violation was resolved the day of your visit and this was communicated to you in an e-mail the morning of October 20, 2017.

It is for these reasons we believe your finding should not have been a violation.

From everyday collection to environmental protection, Think Green® Think Waste Management.

Northern Oaks RDF takes pride in its compliance record and did not have the understanding that the issue would be considered a violation when it was discussed during your visit at the facility.

As requested in your letter, the date the alleged violation occurred; an explanation of the causes and duration of the alleged violation; a summary of actions taken to correct the alleged violation and the date the actions took place were discussed above. The alleged violation is not ongoing as described previously. To prevent reoccurrence, the full-sized map now being utilized has been placed in the asbestos log binder for continued future use.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require any other information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Debora L. Johnston".

Debora L. Johnston
Environmental Engineer

c: Ms. Lynn Fiedler, DEQ
Ms. Mary Ann Dolehanty, DEQ
Mr. Chris Ethridge, DEQ
Mr. Thomas Hess, DEQ
Mr. Chris Hare, DEQ
Mr. Matthew Karl, DEQ
Mr. Terry Nichols, WM
Mr. Steve Forgacs, WM
Mr. Rich Paajanen, WM