



Public Interest Center | P.O. Box 1049 | Columbus, OH | 43216-1049

FOR RELEASE: March 19, 2010
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Ohio EPA, Rumpke Agree to Address Concerns at Hughes Road Landfill

Ohio EPA and Rumpke Sanitary Landfill Inc. have reached a settlement to address issues at the company's landfill located at 10795 Hughes Road. The settlement requires Rumpke to follow an action plan developed in cooperation with local, state and federal agencies. The company also must pay a \$98,000 penalty for air pollution violations.

"I am very pleased with the cooperation between the company, regulators and safety services which have been working together to address this situation in the best way possible," said Ohio EPA Director Chris Korleski. "I expect this cooperation to continue as the action plan is fully implemented."

Public Meeting Scheduled to Discuss Rumpke Action Plan, Orders

6:30 p.m.
April 1, 2010
Colerain Community and Senior Center
4300 Springdale Road, Colerain
Township, Hamilton County

In the fall of 2009, the facility reported elevated temperatures in gas extraction wells and poor gas quality. Excessive settlement on the surface of the affected area of the landfill was reported late in 2009. Rumpke immediately contacted and began working with the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services, Hamilton County Public Health, Colerain Township Fire, Ohio EPA and U.S. EPA on a response plan.

To date, response measures taken include:

- placement of additional clay soil on the affected area to seal it off and prevent odors;
- installation of a buttress to stabilize and prevent potential slope movement;
- installation of additional gas and leachate collection and control structures; and
- enhanced monitoring of landfill gases, temperatures and pressure at multiple locations in the affected area.

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Experts from the local, state and federal agencies will continue working with Rumpke on implementing the action plan which is designed to monitor and control the abnormal conditions in the affected area of the landfill. It is suspected that these conditions are being caused by a subsurface fire within the landfill. The objectives of the action plan include:

- ensuring the health and safety of both workers and the public;
- controlling offensive odors;
- maintaining the structural integrity of the landfill;
- closely monitoring the affected area;
- preventing the spread of the subsurface fire and returning the area to normal conditions as quickly as possible;
- preparing for any emergency situations which may arise; and
- ensuring compliance with permits, authorizing actions, and other regulatory obligations.

The facility must comply with the action plan and any revisions made to the plan by Ohio EPA immediately. If the objectives of the action plan are not met, the facility may be required to implement other remedial measures to prevent a nuisance or an adverse impact to public health or safety or the environment.

Rumpke has agreed to a \$98,000 civil penalty due to air pollution violations which stem from elevated temperatures in landfill gas extraction wells. Of the total penalty, \$19,600 will be paid to Ohio EPA's Clean Diesel School Bus Program Fund and the remaining \$78,400 will be split equally to administer air pollution control programs and to fund the Ohio Environmental Education Fund.

Local, state and federal agencies will host a community update meeting on April 1, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. in the Colerain Community and Senior Center. Presentations explaining the orders, action plan and progress at the landfill will be discussed. Representatives from the agencies will be available for questions from the public.

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www.epa.ohio.gov

Rumpke Orders and Action Plan:

www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/27/enforcement/year_2010/RumpkeSanitaryLandfill_031810.pdf