



Des Moines Co. SLF
WW lagoon

67681

STATE OF IOWA

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CHUCK GIPP, DIRECTOR

February 18, 2014

Hal Morton, Director
Des Moines County Solid Waste Commission
1818 West Burlington Ave.
Burlington, IA 52601

SUBJECT: Des Moines County Landfill Lagoon, Facility #6-29-00-9-03
ECHO Database (EPA Enforcement and Compliance History Online)

Dear Mr. Morton:

I am writing in regard to the Des Moines County Landfill's waste treatment lagoon showing up on EPA's ECHO database for non-compliance. A quick check of ECHO showed the lagoon as being in significant non-compliance (SNC) for effluent violations for the 2nd & 3rd quarters of 2013. I cross-checked that with our DNR NPDES database and the actual DMR's you had submitted to this office.

Review of the data for the second quarter shows that 2 discharges occurred, the first one from 4-22-13 to 5-9-13 and the second one from 5-29-13 to 6-10-13. During the first discharge the ammonia-nitrogen (NH-3) and TSS were over the effluent limits. During the second discharge, the NH-3 was over the limits. That is why this showed up on ECHO, however, both of these discharges were emergency discharges, for which you had obtained prior approval from this office. At the time, most of SE Iowa was experiencing heavy rain and flooding. The Des Moines County Landfill lagoon was full and this office gave authorization to discharge it down to the 2' freeboard level in order to protect the integrity of the lagoon berms.

Review of the data for the third quarter, 2013, shows your lagoon did not discharge at all. Therefore, the third quarter SNC in ECHO is in error, most likely due to data transmission problems at that time.

While I can explain why your facility showed up on ECHO, it is an EPA data base and this department cannot change the information on it. When on the ECHO page, I noticed in the upper right hand portion of the screen it says, "contact us". I would recommend contacting ECHO and determine if they can make the necessary changes in view of these circumstances.

Page 2

If you have questions, feel free to contact me at this office.

Sincerely,

FIELD SERVICES & COMPLIANCE BUREAU

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Brandt".

Paul Brandt
Environmental Specialist Senior

J:\pbrandt\ww\dsm-slf-0214-ltr

xc: DNR Records Section, DNR, Des Moines
File - Industrial WW