

COMPLAINT RECORD

FACILITY:

52. SDP. 1. 72 P

FILE:

- Iowa City - Sanitary

Landfill SDP

DATE

PENDING

COMPLETED

DATE COMPLAINT IS RECEIVED: 10/21/2011 @-0805

COMPLAINT No. 10/11-18

RECEIVED BY: STAFF INITIALS MH

FIELD OFFICE No. 6

OR CENTRAL OFFICE

COMPLAINANT:

NAME: Larry Jewell

PHONE:

ADDRESS: 53 Tuscon

COUNTY: Johnson

CITY: Iowa City

ZIP CODE: 52246

COMPLAINT AGAINST:

NAME: City of Iowa City - Sanitary
Landfill

PHONE: 319-356-5185

ADDRESS: 3900 Hebl Avenue SW

COUNTY: Johnson

CITY: Iowa City

ZIP CODE: 52246-8305

PROGRAM AREA:

☐ WASTEWATER ☐ WATER SUPPLY ☒ AIR QUALITY
☐ FLOODPLAIN ☐ LUST/UST ☐ STORMWATER
☐ SOLID WASTE

☐ ANIMAL OPERATION (OPEN LOT)
☐ ANIMAL OPERATION (CONFINEMENT)

STATEMENT OF COMPLAINT: Called to report that the odor from the IA City Landfill has started again. He indicated that this has been going on for ~2 years and that the landfill has failed to address the issue.

REFERRED TO:

BY: *Sam*

DATE:

10/24/11

IF COMPLAINT IS AFO RELATED:

COUNTY OFFICIAL CONTACTED:

DATE:

PHONE:

ACTION/RESOLUTION AND DATES:

10-28-11 Larry called again to report that odors were real bad last night.
11-4-11 Drove around subdivision - didn't smell gas odor. Talked to one lady walking who lives near Rohrer - she occasionally smells it but said it's not too bad.
11-22-11 met Jon Thomas @ Landfill - no odors detected. Currently filling up in FY06.

See Memo. KL



STATE OF IOWA

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

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ROGER L. LANDE, DIRECTOR

MEMO

DATE: 12/21/11
TO: Complaint No. 10/11-18
FROM: Kurt Levetzow, FO6 *KL*
RE: Odor complaint investigation
FACILITY: Johnson County Sanitary Landfill
FACILITY NO. 52-SDP-1-72P

On 10/21/11, FO6 received an odor complaint against the Iowa City Landfill. This complaint was the first odor complaint FO6 has received against the landfill in over a year (several similar complaints were filed in 2009). I emailed Dave Elias, Landfill Superintendent, to ask him about the complaint and he replied on 10/28/11 (see his response below):

Kurt,

I have been sort of expecting calls but no one at all has contacted any of us at the Landfill. About a month ago we started to fill the new cell. We have the requirement of course, of getting the liner covered before it is impacted by frost. Since we did not get access into it until now, we knew we would not have enough time or material to get it covered before freeze up.

We stockpiled select waste (without C&D material) in an area of cell FY09, under daily cover. When we could get access into the new cell we extended the contractor's scope to move nearly 50,000 CY into it quickly. He finished that last Friday, Oct. 21. So he had been opening back up stuff that had been on-site since August, which is why I expected odor complaints. The contractor is placing intermediate dirt over the area now. That should provide a good odor seal.

We are now in the process of shaping cell 09 with waste to drain properly and putting intermediate cover on it for a long rest. That will take us a couple months and then that area should be sealed well.

We will then move down to the new cell and start covering the rest of the floor with garbage, shaping it to drain, covering the leachate collection lines and sealing off the tire drainage layer. (We have 3' of tire shreds as insulation over the remaining open floor.) We expect it to take us 4-5 years to cover the rest of the floor and get it stabilized. After that, we will move back up to the existing cells and finish the final filling sequences there.

The activities described above which were necessary to transition into the new area and the fact that we've had gentle breezes out of the west has no doubt led to the complaints you received. I am hopeful that completing this phase will leave us with a good sealed up system. However, there is some potential for odors to slip out of some leachate lines that are only covered by shredded tires. We will be watching that situation.

(Next week I will be gone on Monday (doctor) and Tuesday morning I have a meeting with Wastewater Engineers. Other than that, I would be happy to meet with you.)

Dave Elias

Iowa City Wastewater Landfill
319-887-6106 office
319-325-1809 mobile

On 11/4/11, I drove around the subdivision, which is located 1 mile east of the landfill, where many of the complainants live, to check for presence of odor associated with landfill gas. There was a westerly breeze, and I could not detect landfill gas odor while on my tour of the subdivision. I spoke with a lady who was out walking her dog, she said she occasionally smells the "gas odor", but said it's not "too bad and is spotty".

On 11/22/11, I met with Jon Thomas, Landfill Manager, at the landfill. We discussed the nature of the complaint and observed the working face. He said that the big move of waste is now complete and that likely generated the odor complaints. He said that his staff have continued to monitor all the parameters required in their TV Permit, and said the flare is getting good draw on the gas wells.

FO6 has not received any odor complaints against the Iowa City Landfill since late October 2011.

KRL:J:\FO6\SHARED\klevetz\SW\SDP\2011\Iowa City SDP odor complt 10-11.doc

xc: ~~S~~olid Waste Section, DNR, Des Moines
Iowa City SDP File

Levetzow, Kurt [DNR]

From: Dave Elias [Dave-Elias@iowa-city.org]
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2011 10:11 AM
To: Levetzow, Kurt [DNR]
Cc: Jon Thomas
Subject: RE: odor complaints are back

Kurt,

I have been sort of expecting calls but no one at all has contacted any of us at the Landfill. About a month ago we started to fill the new cell. We have the requirement of course, of getting the liner covered before it is impacted by frost. Since we did not get access into it until now, we knew we would not have enough time or material to get it covered before freeze up.

We stockpiled select waste (without C&D material) in an area of cell FY09, under daily cover. When we could get access into the new cell we extended the contractor's scope to move nearly 50,000 CY into it quickly. He finished that last Friday, Oct. 21. So he had been opening back up stuff that had been on-site since August, which is why I expected odor complaints. The contractor is placing intermediate dirt over the area now. That should provide a good odor seal.

We are now in the process of shaping cell 09 with waste to drain properly and putting intermediate cover on it for a long rest. That will take us a couple months and then that area should be sealed well.

We will then move down to the new cell and start covering the rest of the floor with garbage, shaping it to drain, covering the leachate collection lines and sealing off the tire drainage layer. (We have 3' of tire shreds as insulation over the remaining open floor.) We expect it to take us 4-5 years to cover the rest of the floor and get it stabilized. After that, we will move back up to the existing cells and finish the final filling sequences there.

The activities described above which were necessary to transition into the new area and the fact that we've had gentle breezes out of the west has no doubt led to the complaints you received. I am hopeful that completing this phase will leave us with a good sealed up system. However, there is some potential for odors to slip out of some leachate lines that are only covered by shredded tires. We will be watching that situation.

(Next week I will be gone on Monday (doctor) and Tuesday morning I have a meeting with Wastewater Engineers. Other than that, I would be happy to meet with you.)

Dave Elias

Iowa City Wastewater / Landfill
319-887-6106 office
319-325-1809 mobile

From: Levetzow, Kurt [DNR] [<mailto:Kurt.Levetzow@dnr.iowa.gov>]
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2011 9:10 AM
To: Dave Elias
Subject: odor complaints are back

Dave,

I've received 3 calls in the past couple of days, from 2 different callers. They claim the odor is back, worst at night. I have been either on other projects or out of town, today iam going to Fairfield, so early next week I plan on coming up to discuss this with you. I know you've been building a very large expansion to your landfill, so I assume that's not causing any odor changes. I have to assume your guys are doing their required checks on the gas collection system to

ensure your getting optimal draw and I have to assume the flare is working.....so what else could all of the sudden have changed? I also plan on going around the neighbor hood again to query other neighbors to see if they too are experiencing odors.

Kurt Levetzow
Iowa DNR - Field Office 6
1023 W. Madison St
Washington, IA 52353
319-653-2135 office
319-653-8081 mobile