



October 22, 2018

Jeremy Klatt  
Environmental Specialist  
Field office #2  
2300 15<sup>th</sup> St. SW  
Mason City, IA 50401

RECEIVED

OCT 22 2018

IOWA DNR  
FIELD OFFICE 2

RE: Iowa Cage-Free (ID #66175)

Dear Mr. Klatt:

This letter is response to your notice of violation letter dated October 1, 2018.

Planting and maintaining trees and shrubs is a requirement of our construction permits. Pursuant to the permit requirements, Iowa Cage-free initially installed the landscaping in 2011 and has replaced the landscaping on three occasions. In 2013 we replaced 8 spruce trees. In 2014 we replaced 35 choke cherries and 9 silver maples. In 2015 we replaced 4 silver maples. We have had difficulty maintaining the windbreak due to the area being poorly drained during wet weather, which causes root damage and subsequent tree death.

Here is our plan moving forward. First, we have replanted the replacement evergreen trees during the week of October 15, 2018.

Second, we are working with the neighboring property to the south, to install additional tile drainage which will extend into the ICF property to reduce the length of standing water along the south side of the ICF property.

Third, we will replant the balance of the windbreak in the spring/summer of 2019 after installation of the drainage tile and when it will be more conducive to the trees/shrubs survival.

It is ICF's intention to be a good neighbor and we have full intentions in complying with the landscape requirements that are included in our construction permits. Please note that the requirements of our permit issued on October 22, 2018 will supersede the landscaping along the west and south of Layer Barn No. 7 and ICF will follow the new landscaping plan.

Please contact me if you want us to take additional or different action at this time. Also please let me know if you need any further information regarding our efforts to maintain compliance with this permit requirement or if you have any questions.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Rowles".

Craig Rowles DVM



Klatt, Jeremy <jeremy.klatt@dnr.iowa.gov>

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## Re: Complaint Regarding Lack of Landscaping at Iowa Cage Free

1 message

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Craig Rowles <crowles@versova.com>  
To: "Klatt, Jeremy" <jeremy.klatt@dnr.iowa.gov>

Mon, Oct 22, 2018 at 3:17 PM

Jeremy, I have made an error in my letter response. I said the initial windbreak was in 2011. That is incorrect. I am working to get you the original date.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 21, 2018, at 11:33 AM, Klatt, Jeremy <jeremy.klatt@dnr.iowa.gov> wrote:

Craig -

We have received a complaint about the lack of landscaping around the current buildings. Iowa Cage Free took points in the master matrix for landscaping around the building in both 2009 and 2016. I have attached the landscaping plan from the 2009 application.

The complainant sent a picture, but I will drive by at some point next week to determine if the landscaping does not meet the design that was committed to in 2009. Darrin, if you give me your phone number I can give you a call and let you know when I will be there. If you're not around, it shouldn't be a problem since I should be able to see everything I need to from the road.

If it is inadequate, I will send a Notice of Violation and require you submit a plan to remedy, ideally involving re-planting it this fall.

Let me know if you have any questions,

Thanks,



**JEREMY KLATT** | Environmental Specialist  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Field Office #2 | 2300 15th St SW, Mason City, IA  
50401  
P 641-424-4073 | F 641-424-9342  
[www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov)

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