



Levetzow, Kurt <kurt.levetzow@dnr.iowa.gov>

RE: Concover SW pics

1 message

Jennifer Jordan <Jennifer-Jordan@iowa-city.org>
To: "Levetzow, Kurt" <kurt.levetzow@dnr.iowa.gov>

Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 5:15 PM

Hi Kurt,

We did move to flat fill around then and the lifts do have a larger surface area. Mike Smith called a while back and had reached out to a national contact he has to see if other landfills utilizing flat fill have seen increases in bird population. I haven't followed up but will do so. We have seen a pretty significant increase in compaction with the transition to flat fill, as was the intent. This saves a lot of space and saves our entire service area financially by delaying the next cell's design and construction.

We did talk a little about organics this morning, in reference to the compost facility. I think the real issue is that 35 or so percent of what is going into the hole is food waste. I firmly believe that once we have completed our site planning efforts (underway with SCS now), we'll be expanding our compost facility to be able to divert more food waste there. We have a lot more control over the material in the compost facility than in the hole, and I think the anticipated reduction in food waste would help reduce our attraction to birds.

I'll have staff start regularly taking pictures at the end of the day and send them your way.

I'll be in Des Moines Thursday morning for the Iowa Recycling Association/ISOSWO legislative breakfast but Jason will be here. Todd, Jason and I will all be here Friday, if that is an option.

Thanks,

Jen

Jennifer Jordan**Resource Management Superintendent**

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From: Levetzow, Kurt <kurt.levetzow@dnr.iowa.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 4:33 PM
To: Jennifer Jordan <Jennifer-Jordan@iowa-city.org>
Subject: Concover SW pics



Hi Jen,

I've been thinking about this bird complaint today. I recall visiting the Iowa City Landfill conducting routine inspections and visits, dating back to ~2004 through ~2012 or so, and I don't recall bird complaints or bird problems worse than any other landfill. So what changed? Something Tyler said that keeps sticking out in my mind is "this bird problem started 2 to 2.5 yrs ago". Therefore, I am curious, when did you guys start implementing the flat fill/pancake method of landfilling larger lifts? Would these larger working faces be more difficult to prevent vectors such as flocks of birds?

I was looking through your SDP permit today, down in Section 8 as you pointed out, and since Mr. Rogers thinks you guys aren't adequately covering daily garbage, **would you be willing to have your operators snap a few pictures at the end of each working day, after they apply the Concover SW, just so i can have it for the file.** I think this would help me be able to assure him, that you guys are doing what you need to do, to comply with your permit.

Would it work for your schedule if I came up for a visit this Thursday morning?

Kurt



Kurt Levetzow - Environmental Program Supervisor

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