

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Environmental Services Division

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 4, 2012

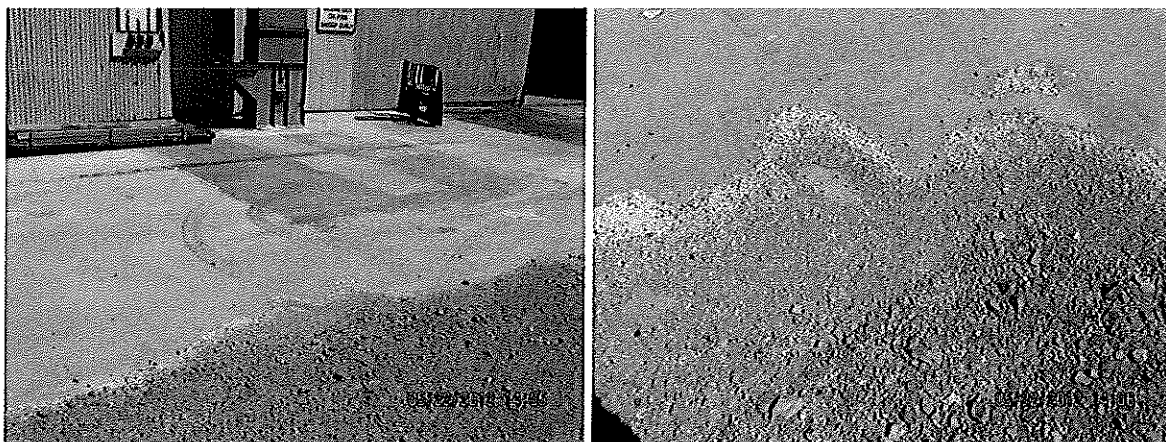
TO: Agriland FS - Casey Uncontrolled Sites File

FROM: Keith Wilken, Environmental Specialist, FO 4, IDNR *KW*

RE: Agriland FS - Canby Facility Follow Up Visit
1608 160th Street, Casey, Iowa
Adair County, Prussia Township, Section 5
HSI Number 052311-MAC-1145

On May 22, 2012, Tami Rice (DNR Contaminated Sites Section) and I visited the Canby Agriland FS facility in rural Casey, Iowa. Mr. Curtis Hoakison (Location Manager) was unavailable during our visit. We informed the office staff of our visit and subsequently inspected the facility. On May 23, 2011, Wilken responded to a report of a fish kill in a downgradient private pond. During this investigation, it was determined that the manual release of contaminated wastewater from a catchment basin at the Canby Agriland FS facility caused the fish kill. A site assessment was required at the Canby Agriland facility as a result of observations made during the fish kill investigation. Ms. Rice is the DNR project manager for the site assessment. The main purpose of our visit was to inspect operational improvements incorporated since the fish kill investigation. A secondary purpose of our visit was to familiarize Ms. Rice with the facility to assist her in the review of the site assessment report.

Spilled fertilizer was observed around the new concrete loading pad on the west side of the dry fertilizer storage building. Refer to the photographs below. Agriland FS employees were instructed to clean up the spilled fertilizer.



It was observed that a structure was built over the loading pad on the south side of the dry fertilizer building. This structure is designed to keep precipitation out of the loading pad and thus reduce the efforts needed to pump the liquid out and properly land apply it. Refer to the photograph below.



It was observed that the earthen catchment basin was extended to the east and to the north with additional dirt work. It was observed that all manual gate valves and tile intakes from the area have been removed as previously required.



It was observed that the catchment basin contained liquid, but was not completely full. A water sample was analyzed for ammonia concentrations using our field test kit. As observed in the photograph below, ammonia was not present in the catchment basin on the day of this inspection. This is further evidence that storage and handling practices at the facility have greatly improved.



The Canby Agriland FS facility is currently pumping the liquid out of the catchment basin and land applying it per an earlier agreement. The facility is considering supplying this water to the wind generator companies to be used as dust control on the gravel roads. Agriland FS has been advised that the

water must be tested prior to being used as dust suppressant. Agriland FS has been advised that the water can be used as dust suppressant only if no ammonia is present. The facility is also considering installing an aerator within the catchment basin in an attempt to reduce the amount of liquid that must be pumped out and land applied.

It was observed that a private well exists at the residence just west of the Agriland FS facility. The owners of the residence were unavailable on the day of this inspection. Therefore, it is currently unknown as to what this well is used for.

We subsequently met with Mr. Bill and Ms. Janet Crees (owners of the private pond). The Crees were extremely appreciative of our efforts with the Agriland FS facility. A portion of the Crees' pond was covered in a thick algae mat. Aquatic life in the form of very small fish was observed within the pond. The Crees attempted to hire a construction company to excavate contaminated material from the pond floor. It was reported that the company's excavator could not reach the complete extent of the pond. The Crees are still considering all options available to them.

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xc: Tami Rice, IDNR Contaminated Sites Section