



May 31, 2024

ANDREW PHILLIPS  
METRO WASTE AUTHORITY  
METRO PARK EAST LANDFILL  
12181 12TH AVE NE  
MITCHELLVILLE IA 50169-9802

**RE: Metro Park East Sanitary Landfill – Phase II Unit and CWTS**  
**Permit No. 77-SDP-01-72**  
**Alternative Source Demonstration: Nickel [MW-66] (Document No. [109500](#))**

Dear Mr. Phillips:

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has reviewed the Alternative Source Demonstration: Nickel, dated March 13, 2024, as submitted by HDR, and the DNR has the following comments:

The demonstration was performed to evaluate whether recent measured levels of nickel at monitoring well MW-66 are naturally occurring. While the explanation given appears to be plausible the DNR requests that the permit holder consider the potential impact to groundwater in this area that may have occurred due to a leak in the west storage lagoon noted in calendar year 2001 (see Release Response Activities report (Document No. [21277](#)), dated March 30, 2001, as submitted by Barker Lemar Engineering Consultants).

The Release Response Activities report indicated nickel concentration levels at the lagoon underdrain (UO-4) of 0.144 mg/l for the sample collected on January 22, 2001. The investigation determined an apparent leak from the lagoon indicated by unusually high flows at lagoon underdrain outlet UO-4. Lagoon repairs were documented in the report entitled Liner Repair Activities (Document No. [55826](#)), dated October 22, 2001, as submitted by Barker Lemar Engineering Consultants. However, the outlet of UO-4 appears to be near monitoring well MW-66 (about 40 feet), and thus warrants further evaluation.

Please provide a response **by July 1, 2024**. If you have any questions, please contact me at [\(515\) 229-8356](tel:5152298356) or [mike.smith@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:mike.smith@dnr.iowa.gov).

Sincerely,

Michael W. Smith, P.E.  
Environmental Engineer Senior

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