

October 13, 2025

Mr. Brad Davison  
Environmental Specialist  
IDNR – Land Quality Bureau  
6200 Park Avenue, Suite 200  
Des Moines, IA 50321



**RE: SEMI-ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT – FALL, 2025  
FAYETTE COUNTY SANITARY LANDFILL (CLOSED)  
IDNR PERMIT NO. 33-SDP-02-83C  
HLW P.N. 6041-24A.750**

Dear Mr. Davison,

In accordance with Special Provision X.6 of the SDP Permit dated June 20, 2013, a semi-annual inspection of the Fayette County Sanitary Landfill was conducted the morning of October 9, 2025. The results of the inspection were discussed with Joan Swenka, Administrator, at the completion of the inspection. Conditions at the time of the inspection were clear with moderate winds and temperatures in the 50's.

### **Status of the Permit**

The Fayette County Sanitary Landfill Closure Permit was issued on June 20, 2013. The facility has received the following amendments to the Permit to date:

- Permit Amendment #1, July 16, 2013, approved the construction of the Leachate Loadout Facility Improvements.
- Permit Amendment #2, December 27, 2013, approved the change in submittal date for the Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR) to February 28 of each year.
- Unnumbered Permit Amendment, July 10, 2014, required a review of total suspended solids (TSS) and turbidity testing. This requirement was addressed and a correlation between TSS and field turbidity was approved in Permit Amendment #5.
- Permit Amendment #3, March 29, 2016, modified the frequency of Full Appendix II assessment monitoring to once every five (5) years.
- Permit Amendment #4, March 29, 2016, modified the groundwater elevation measurement frequency to semi-annually (at a minimum), during groundwater sampling events.
- Permit Amendment #5, March 29, 2016, approved the correlation between TSS and field turbidity at a ratio of 3:1 (3 mg/L TSS:1 NTU) based on the TSS and Field Turbidity Report dated February 17, 2016 (Doc #85476).
- Permit Amendment #6, May 10, 2017, approved the reduction of leachate head level measurements to quarterly.
- Permit Amendment #7, October 11, 2018, approved the boring logs and construction documentation of MW-31 through MW-37; concurred with the recommendation to replace point of compliance wells MW-27 and MW-28 with MW-32 and MW-33 respectively; and granted additional time to evaluate water quality in MW-24 following well head repair.

- Permit Amendment #8, August 22, 2019, approved the Assessment of Corrective Measures Report (Doc #93290) and the "Response to May 8, 2019 IDNR Letter" dated August 8, 2019 (Doc #95687).
- Amended Closure Permit, November 8, 2023 (Doc #108179) amended Special Provision 5 (Hydrologic Monitoring System Plan (HMSP)) by removing the deep bedrock wells from the HMSP. This revision was based on the HMSP Modification request dated August 4, 2023 (Doc #107397).
- Closure Permit Revision, August 14, 2025 (Doc #113673) amended Special Provision 10A by reducing the frequency of explosive gas measurements from quarterly to semi-annually, amended Special Provision 11C by reducing the frequency of leachate head levels from quarterly to semi-annually, and added Special Provision 13 to the Closure Permit requiring the completion of a Reduction/Termination Plan (RTP) by June 20, 2038. The RTP is to plan a demonstration that allows the post-closure period to cease, the Closure Permit to be rescinded, and the site to then be managed under an environmental covenant, rather than through a State-issued a Permit.

### **Special Provisions**

1. The thirty (30) year post closure period began on June 20, 2013.
2. The site is being maintained in general accordance with the approved Closure and Post Closure Plan.
3. Upon closure of the landfill, waste disposal on site was replaced by the use of the Fayette County Solid Waste Transfer Station. Waste received at the Transfer Station is hauled to the Black Hawk County Sanitary Landfill for disposal. There are no waste disposal, composting, or other related landfill activities on the closed landfill site.
4. This Special Provision addresses the submittal of Final Cover documentation for Cells 1A, 1D, and 2A.
5. Monitoring wells observed during this inspection were locked.
6. Formal inspections of the closed landfill are completed semi-annually, with a report submitted to IDNR.
7. All drainage and diversion systems on the landfill were observed to be in good condition.
8. The vegetative cover on the landfill cap is in excellent shape. The bare spot northeast of the North Leachate Manhole noted during past inspections is now covered with a gravel surface and used as a vehicle turn-around.

The majority of the site was mowed in 2022. Ms. Swenka reported that the County Conservation Director is consulted as needed to review vegetation and make recommendations.

Staff routinely walk the cap and remove trees as needed and evaluate the condition of the cap. No trees were noted on the cap during the inspection outside of the areas noted during the IDNR Field Office #1 inspection (discussed below).

The terrace intake repaired in the northwest corner of the site was observed. Settlement previously noted at the apron on both sides of the intake was repaired but has reoccurred at the south corner of the apron. Ms Swenka will contact the County Conservation Director for assistance with repairing this issue.

An erosion rill was noted on the northwest corner of the cap, downgradient from the terrace intake, during the Fall, 2021 inspection. The erosion was repaired; however, a hole then formed in a portion of the repaired area. In late 2022, the hole was repaired. During this inspection, three (3) holes were noted over the pipe downgradient of the intake, the pipe was visible in one of the holes. Stakes were placed in the field to mark the locations of the holes. The approximate location of the area needing repair is shown on the attached figure. Ms Swenka will contact the County Conservation Director for assistance with repairing this issue.

The upper terrace on the north side between GV-11 and GV-14 had a large gap in the terrace berm on September 22, 2022. The area was repaired in late 2022. Observation of the repair area indicates that the repair is successful. The area was seeded in 2022 and vegetation is established. The approximate location of the repair area is shown on the attached figure.

Three inactive rills were observed during the inspection: one in the upper terrace channel near GV-15, one on the slope southwest of MW-27, and one on the lowest terrace on the south side (near MW-30) outside of the historic waste boundary. There were no apparent changes to the rills in comparison to past inspections and the vegetation adjacent to the rills is in excellent condition. The rills will continue to be observed during future inspections. The approximate locations of the rills are shown on the attached figure.

The ponding in the lower terrace on the north side discussed in the Spring 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 inspections was not present during this inspection. Vegetation in this area is well established; however, vegetation differences in the channel provide evidence that ponding occurs occasionally and is a temporary condition after rain events until the channel has a chance to drain to the drop pipe. The approximate location is shown on the attached figure.

A rill was observed at the letdown (west end) of the lower terrace on the south side of the cap near Vent 25 in 2023. The rill was repaired and seeded in 2023 and again in 2024. Site vegetation is becoming established in the repair area. This area should be monitored to ensure vegetation is reestablished and that the rill does not reoccur. The approximate location of the repair is shown on the attached figure.

As noted in the 2022 inspection reports, the surface water intake manhole located along the west side of the landfill near GMW-1 had experienced settlement on the east side of the manhole. The area was backfilled late in the fall of 2022. Observation of the intake during this inspection indicates that the fill is still in-place and vegetation is becoming established. The approximate location of the repair is shown on the attached figure. Note that the intake manhole is outside of the waste boundary.

9. The integrity of the final cover is being maintained.
10. Methane monitoring is conducted semi-annually. Results are included with the AWQR.
11. Leachate is stored in a 15,000 gallon above ground storage tank and is hauled to the City of Oelwein POTW for treatment and disposal. Leachate head levels are recorded semi-annually and the volumes of leachate hauled for disposal will be included in the Leachate Collection System Performance Evaluation, which will be submitted with the AWQR.
12. An ERRAP was previously submitted for the closed landfill as well as the Fayette County Solid Waste Transfer Station, which is located on the closed landfill property.
13. A Post-Closure Care Reduction/Termination Plan will be submitted by June 20, 2038.

Based on observations during the inspection, the landfill facility appears to be in general conformance with the Closure Permit.

### **Annual Water Quality Report**

The 2024 AWQR was submitted to IDNR on February 17, 2025 (Doc #112367). IDNR comments on the 2024 AWQR were received on May 2, 2025 (Doc #113016). No response was required.

The 2025 Semi-Annual Water Quality Notification was submitted July 3, 2025 (Doc #113351).

A request to shut down the leachate collection system was submitted to IDNR on March 25, 2024 (Doc #109577). IDNR declined the request in the letter dated

October 1, 2024. The IDNR letter included items that would need to be addressed for consideration of such a request.

The selected remedy from the 2018 Assessment of Corrective Measures (ACM) Report was installed in 2020. The performance evaluation of the ACM remedy is on-going in 2025. Less than 1 gpm was flowing into the Passively Engineered Conveyance System (PECS) associated with the ACM during the inspection.

### **Additional Comments**

The site was last inspected by IDNR Field Office (FO) #1 on August 13, 2025. The report generated by the inspection noted two items:

- "A few small areas of small trees". The areas where the trees were noted by the FO were visited during the inspection. Staff has sprayed the trees in these areas.
- "Some areas of stressed, minimal vegetation". The area noted by the FO was visited during this inspection. No additional work is recommended here at this time but the vegetation in this area will be monitored during future inspections.

Ms Swenka reported that the leachate lines were cleaned on October 17, 2024. As per IDNR regulations leachate lines should be cleaned every 3 years.

2025 Financial Assurance documentation for this facility was received by IDNR on March 18, 2025 (Doc #112740) and approved on May 8, 2025 (Doc #113030).

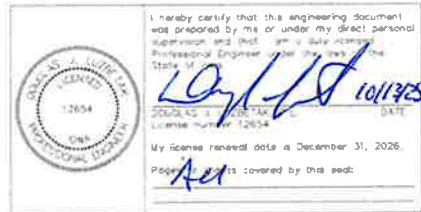
The former small wet seep area noted in previous inspections at the toe of slope in the southwest corner of the site between MW-5 and GMW-2 was observed during this inspection. The soil in this area was dry during this inspection.

Staff generally repair erosion rills and reseed areas on an as-needed basis. The overall appearance of the closed landfill is excellent.

This report is based on observations made at the site at the time of the inspection and the information sources referenced in the report. This report does not reflect the typical variations experienced at the site throughout the year or variations in conditions that may be observed at the site at other times.

## **Recommendations**

1. Repair settlement at the terrace intake in the northwest corner of the site and repair voids along the pipe below the terrace intake.
2. Continue to monitor repaired areas and reseed if needed.
3. Continue to monitor the inactive rills for signs of instability.
4. Continue to monitor vegetation and erosion and repair as necessary.
5. Continue tree removal as needed.
6. Continue to monitor diversion and drainage systems and repair as necessary.



cc: Jeff Bunn, Chair, Fayette County Solid Waste Management Commission (electronic copy)  
Joan Swenka, Administrator, Fayette County Solid Waste Management Commission (electronic copy)



