

April 17, 2026
File No. 27224317.26

Mr. Mike Smith, P.E.
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Land Quality Bureau
6200 Park Avenue, Suite 200
Des Moines, Iowa 50321

Subject: 2026 Biennial Inspection Report
Great River Regional Waste Authority
Phase 1 MSWLF Unit (Closed)
Permit No. 56-SDP-07-80P (XI. Special Provisions – Closed Units)

Dear Mike:

This brief report documents the biennial inspection required in Section 7.k.1 of the Environmental Covenant (EC) filed with the Lee County Recorder on October 17, 2025, covering the closed Phase 1 municipal solid waste landfill (MSWLF) unit at the Great River Regional Waste Authority Sanitary Landfill. The inspection was made to verify that compliance with the property activity and use limitations enumerated in the EC had been maintained. The inspection was performed by Tim Buelow on March 19, 2026. A copy of the observation checklist used during the inspection is included in Attachment A.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTION OBSERVATIONS

Visual indications relative to the activity and use limitations were as follows:

- No excavations, including those less than 2 feet deep, had occurred on the MSWLF unit final cover.
- No deposited municipal solid waste had been excavated, disrupted, or removed from the MSWLF unit.
- No drinking water wells had been installed within the area subject to the EC.
- No residences had been constructed within the area subject to the EC.
- No placement or construction of enclosed spaces had occurred on the final cover.
- No controlled vegetation burns had occurred within the area subject to the EC.
- The leachate collection toe-drain on the south side of the MSWLF unit remains functional.
- Site access restrictions were the same as those in place at the time of enactment of the EC.
- The integrity of the final cover had been maintained. The vegetation was well established. Although the vegetation had not been mowed, the surface of the final cover was readily observable due to the dormant and flattened condition of the vegetation from the past winter's snowfall.
- There were no leachate seeps.



- Three small areas of sparse vegetation were present on the surface of the MSWLF unit as noted in the landfill inspection checklist (see Attachment A). Signs of erosion were not present in these areas.
- Ponded water was present in eastern portions of the three terraces on the south side of the MSWLF unit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The final cover appeared well maintained and in good condition. Recommended activities include regrading the terraces on the south side of the MSWLF unit to properly drain stormwater from the final cover and repairing a small area of erosion at the southwest corner of the MSWLF unit. This area may not be impacting the final cover at this time, but could in the future. No other activities are recommended at this time.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The observations presented in this report are based on data obtained from the field observations made at the site. This report provides a snapshot in time of the conditions present at the time of the inspection and does not reflect variations in conditions that may occur throughout the year.

SCS Engineers has prepared this report for the exclusive use of our client. This report is meant for the specific application discussed and has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted engineering practices. No warranties, expressly stated or implied, are intended or made.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Tim Buelow at (515) 681-5455.

Sincerely,



Timothy C. Buelow, P.E.
VP, Senior Project Advisor
SCS Engineers





Nathan Ohrt
Senior Project Professional
SCS Engineers

TCB/NPO

Copy: Mr. Trenton Burgess, Great River Regional Waste Authority
Iowa DNR Field Office #6

Encl. Attachment A - Sanitary Landfill Inspection Checklist

 <p>The seal is circular with a double-line border. The outer ring contains the text "LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER" at the top and "IOWA" at the bottom, separated by two stars. In the center, the name "Timothy C. Buelow" and license number "14445" are printed. A blue ink signature is written across the seal.</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this engineering document was prepared by me or under my direct personal supervision and that I am a duly licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Iowa.</p> <p> _____ Date: <u>4/16/2026</u></p> <p>Timothy C. Buelow, P.E. License No. 14445 My license renewal date is December 31, 2027.</p> <p>Pages or sheets covered by this seal: Great River Regional Sanitary Landfill Phase 1 2026 Biennial Landfill Inspection Report</p>
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ATTACHMENT A
OBSERVATION CHECKLIST

SCS ENGINEERS

**1690 All-State Court, Suite 100, West Des Moines, Iowa 50265
Sanitary Landfill Inspection Checklist**

Permit #: 90-SDP-09-93C (Rescinded)

Facility Name: <u>GRRWA Sanitary Landfill – Phase 1</u>	Responsible Official: <u>Trenton Burgess</u>
County: <u>Lee</u>	Address: <u>2092 303rd Avenue, Fort Madison, Iowa</u>
Facility Operator: <u>Trenton Burgess</u>	Phone: <u>(641) 683-0694</u>
Address: <u>2092 303rd Avenue, Fort Madison, Iowa</u>	Date Last Inspection: <u>April 18, 2024</u>
Phone: <u>(641) 683-0694</u>	Date This Inspection: <u>March 19, 2026</u>

At the Time of this Inspection:

- **Facility personnel present:** None
- **Surface conditions:** Damp
- **Wind direction and speed:** NNW 3 mph
- **Ambient temperature:** 72° F

Yes – compliance was being achieved; **No** – compliance was not being achieved;
N/A – not applicable or not observed; **PND** – previously noted deficiency (PND).



Observations

Yes	No	N/A	PND	Item	Yes	No	N/A	PND	Item
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Fill Cover: final	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Special Waste Handling
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Control of Face	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Recycling Activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Compaction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Operator Certification
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Cover erosion; Ponding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. Staffing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Drainage into fill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14. Equipment Backup/Maintenance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Leachate Mgmt. & Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. Interior Roads
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Litter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16. Perimeter fence, gate, signs, wells
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Wet Weather Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	17. Photos taken
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Construction & Demolition Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	18. Follow-up needed

Comments: The comments below correspond to the numbered observation items listed above.

1. Landfill vegetation was well-established and in good condition. The final cover had not been mowed; however, the surface was readily visible, as the vegetation was still generally dormant and somewhat flattened by the winter snowfall. Three small areas of sparse vegetation were noted: one near PZ-2, one between PZ-1 and PZ-4, and one south of the second terrace north of the leachate storage lagoon on the east side. No signs of erosion were present in these areas. Minor erosion was occurring to the southwest of the MSWLF unit, likely off but near the final cover edge, where stormwater runoff concentrates. The areas of erosion previously noted west of PZ-11 had been repaired and were well vegetated at the time of this inspection.
4. Ponding was present on the east sides of the three terraces on the south side of the MSWLF unit, where settlement had resulted in the retention of stormwater behind the terraces.
6. There were no leachate seeps observed on the surface of the MSWLF unit. Of special note, there were no seeps on the south end of the MSWLF unit where the interceptor trench was previously installed in 2019 (see Doc #95656), and the ground was firm. The interceptor trench is a gravity system and continues to function.
15. Interior roads were graveled and in good condition. There are no roads on the final cover of the MSWLF unit.
16. The perimeter fence, gate, and signs were in good condition. Abandonment of the groundwater monitoring wells associated with the Phase 1 MSWLF unit is planned to occur in 2026.

AUTHENTICATION

INSPECTOR	Timothy C. Buelow, P.E. 	Date: <u>4/17/2026</u>
REVIEWER	Nathan Ohrt 	Date: <u>4/19/2026</u>