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2026-10-01_Ottumwa-Wapello County Landfill - 90-SDP-01-75P - DNR Comment Letter Response

1 message

Ohrt, Nathan <NOhrt@scsengineers.com>

Thu, Oct 1, 2026 at 12:19 PM

To: "khalid.algharrawi@dnr.iowa.gov" <khalid.algharrawi@dnr.iowa.gov>

Cc: Lori Creech <creechl@ottumwa.us>, "Buelow, Tim" <TBuelow@scsengineers.com>, "Jolly, Becky" <becky.jolly@dnr.iowa.gov>

Good afternoon Khalid-

In correspondence dated September 4, 2026 (Doc #118045), the Iowa Department of Natural Resources commented on the 2025 Leachate Control System Performance Evaluation Report, submitted as an appendix to the 2025 Annual Water Quality Report for the West municipal solid waste landfill unit (West MSWLF unit) at the Ottumwa-Wapello County Landfill, submitted on February 26, 2026 (Doc #116265). The comments are below in italics followed by the response.

Piezometer LPZ-10R will be investigated to determine if repair is practical.

Leachate piezometer LPZ-10R was investigated on September 30. The casing was able to be reset vertically and the leachate level could be measured. No further repair is planned unless other issues arise.

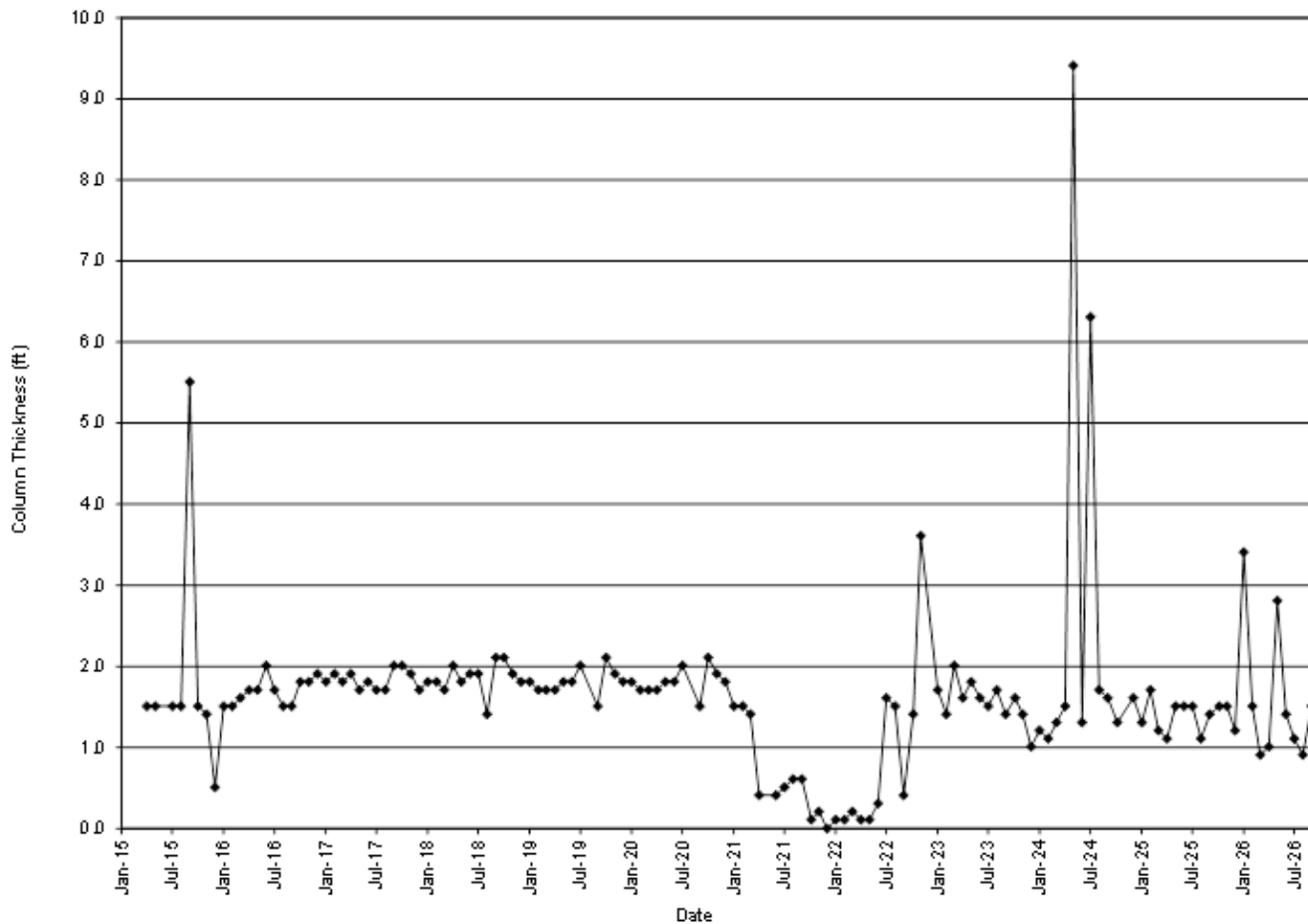
Cleaning requirement is severely past due; the last cleaning occurred in August 2017.

The leachate control system was jetted/cleaned by City of Ottumwa personnel in the summer of 2024.

More than 1 ft leachate thickness in LPZ-18 was observed. Please provide response by October 9, 2026.

A horizontal expansion of the West MSWLF unit, historically referred to as Area D, but more recently referred to as the West Cell, was approved for construction in the permit renewal dated June 9, 1993 (Doc #56577). This cell was constructed prior to the implementation of the US EPA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Subtitle D in Iowa. Subsequent cells constructed at the landfill are considered subtitle D compliant and future cells are designed in accordance with Subtitle D requirements.

Leachate piezometer LPZ-18 was installed in March 2015 (Doc #83104). Since installation, leachate thickness measurements have been generally steady near or below 2 feet, with 5 spikes measuring greater than 3 feet thickness. The spikes were followed by a return to more typical levels at or below 2 feet. Three measurements in 2026 were at or below 1 foot of thickness. A graph of the leachate thicknesses for LPZ-18 from April 2015 through September 2026 is below. Due to the steady to generally declining leachate thicknesses at LPZ-18, it is requested that monthly monitoring continue with no further action required.

LPZ-18 Historical Leachate Column Thickness

If you any comments or questions regarding this response, please contact me at the number below. Thank you.



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