
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

INTRA-DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION



TO: File

FROM: James O'Rourke, SWMB, NHDES

SUBJECT: Leachate Spill on May 3, 2021
Communications of May 3, 2021

FACILITY: North Country Environmental Services, Inc.
North Country Environmental Services, Inc. Landfill
581 Trudeau Road, Bethlehem, NH
Permit No. DES-SW-SP-03-002

DATE: May 11, 2021

Monday, May 3, 2021

On Monday, May 3, 2021 at about 9:30 AM, I retrieved my voicemails, which included a voicemail from John ("Joe") Gay of NCES reporting a leachate spill at the subject facility. Mr. Gay stated that he was calling to report a leachate spill from one of the facility's underground storage tanks (USTs) observed by Kevin Roy, NCES, that morning. Mr. Gay indicated; "Our UST overfilled and leachate drained down into the storm water pond..." NCES was in process of "...dealing with that and getting it cleaned up". Mr. Gay stated that NCES had reported it to the NH spill response hotline and Jaime Colby (NHDES-SWMB). Mr. Gay also indicated that Tim White (Sanborn, Head & Associates (SHA)) was going to dispatch someone to NCES to oversee the clean-up. The voicemail was left at approximately 8:23 AM.

At approximately 9:33 AM I discussed with Jaime Colby and she stated she would follow-up directly with Joe Gay.

At approximately 9:57 AM I had a phone call with William (Gardner) Warr, NHDES-SRCIS, and he indicated Andrew Madison of SRCIS was responding.

At approximately 3:52 PM I received a call from Tim White (of SHA). Mr. White, was now on-site. We discussed the incident and he observed that the overfill did not appear to impact ground surface from the UST but from a vault that overfilled adjacent to the storm water pond. The leachate from the overfilled vault flowed overland and into the pond, specifically it's forebay. We discussed which leachate indicator parameters to sample and analyze for as an initial response. Mr. White indicated the focus for the response at that time was to limit impact and prevent additional impact as a result of potential rain events. I confirmed that they would be tracking the volumes of soil and water being removed and that the work was being overseen by SHA.