



State of New Hampshire  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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February 12, 1998

Mr. Larry Lackey  
North Country Environmental Services, Inc.  
501 South Street, Box E, Suite 302  
Bow, New Hampshire 03304

**SUBJECT: NORTH COUNTRY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (NCES) LANDFILL  
LETTER DATED DECEMBER 26, 1997 - GRAY WATER SUMMARY  
REPORT**

Dear Mr. Lackey:

The Department of Environmental Services (Department) has completed review of the Subject document prepared by Sanborn, Head & Associates (SHA). The document was prepared in response to the Department's letter of January 3, 1997 which requested North Country Environmental Services (NCES) prepare a summary report of the data collected during 1997 from the detention ponds and monitor well installed by detention pond 2.

Given that the results for total and fecal coliform analyses for detention pond 2 are probably consistent with background levels, the Department concurs with the SHA conclusion that no further monitoring for coliform is warranted in detention pond 2. The presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the detention ponds has been suggested by NCES and SHA to be attributed to leachate breaking out of the sideslopes of the landfill prior to closure. NCES and SHA explain capping Stage I has corrected this problem as shown by the November sampling data. To verify this conclusion and due to the fact the facility continues to operate Stage II, Phase 1, the Department included sampling the detention ponds for VOCs three times in 1998 in the facility's Groundwater Management and Release Detection Permit (Permit) which was renewed in 1997. SHA has explained the presence of lead and chromium in the detention ponds being attributed to leachate breakouts, as well as vehicle emissions. Since the levels for lead and chromium are above background levels (as measured in monitor well MW-401) the Department will require continued assessment monitoring at all the detention ponds for lead and chromium during April, July and November 1998. The continuation of the monitoring program for the detention ponds will help the Department assess the effectiveness of the capping system placed over 14 acres of Stage I and the facilities implementation of management practices to prevent future leachate outbreaks on the remaining slopes of the landfill. Following the review of 1998 data, the Department may choose to revise the Permit to require continued monitoring and perhaps additional action.

Though the report did not include or provide a summary of the analytical data from the new monitor well (MW-701) at the outlet of detention pond 2, NCES has provided the Department with the data as part of the regular groundwater sampling program. VOCs and SDWA Metals were not detected in the two sampling rounds from this well and indicator parameters were within acceptable ranges. The Department has added this monitoring point to the group of release detection wells in the Permit.

Mr. Larry Lackey

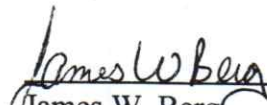
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If there are any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. James Berg, Project Manager, Solid Waste Compliance Section, Waste Management Division at 863-1125 (M, W & F in the Grantham office) and 271-2925 (T & Th in the Concord office).

Sincerely,

  
James W. Berg  
Waste Management Specialist III  
Solid Waste Management Bureau

  
Richard S. Reed  
Administrator  
Solid Waste Management Bureau

RSR/JWB/neo/a:letters/nces/012698.ltr

cc: Pamela Sprague, PDRS  
John Cotton, SWMB  
Town of Bethlehem, Board of Selectmen  
R. Scott Shillaber, P.E., Sanborn, Head & Associates  
Bethlehem - NCES File/DB