

STW IGP_TXR05S302_CO_20170302_Final Report
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Investigation Report

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Customer: Blue Ridge Landfill TX, LP
Customer Number: CN602820599

Regulated Entity Name: BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL

Regulated Entity Number: RN102610102

Investigation # 1401135

Incident Numbers

253606

251718

Investigator: DUSTIN ROBERTS

Site Classification MULTISECTOR GENERAL
PERMIT FOR INDUSTRIAL
WW

Conducted: 03/02/2017 -- 03/02/2017

NAIC Code: 562212

SIC Code: 4953

SIC Code: 1521

Program(s): STORMWATER

Investigation Type: Compliance Investigation

Location: LOCATED ON 2200 FM 521

Additional ID(s): TXR05S302

Address: 2200 FM 521 RD,
FRESNO, TX , 77545

Local Unit: REGION 12 - HOUSTON

Activity Type(s): SWCMPL - SW Complaint

Principal(s):

Role	Name
RESPONDENT	BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL TX LP

Contact(s):

Role	Title	Name	Phone
REGULATED ENTITY MAIL CONTACT	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER	MR BURGESS STENGL	Work (713) 676-7669 Cell (713) 851-0506 Fax (713) 676-7882
PARTICIPATED IN	LANDFILL OPERATION'S MANAGER	MR MATT MONTAGNA	Cell (832) 347-9496 Fax (281) 835-6146 Work (713) 676-7664 Office (281) 668-9739

Other Staff Member(s):

Role	Name
QA Reviewer	NICHOLE NUNES
Supervisor	KARINA ROCHA
Investigator	ISAIAH LONGORIA

Associated Check List

Checklist Name
WQ COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION

Unit Name
CMPL

Investigation Comments:

INTRODUCTION:

On January 31, 2017 and February 28, 2017, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Houston Office received complaints (Incident No. 251718 and 253606) alleging that the Blue Ridge Landfill in Fresno, Texas is discharging stormwater contaminated with landfill leachate. No prior notification was given for the investigation. A complaint investigation was conducted to determine compliance with applicable regulations. A verbal exit interview, explaining the results of the investigation, was conducted on the same day as the investigation with Matt Montagna, Landfill Operation's Manager. A copy of the TCEQ Exit Interview Form was received by Mr. Montagna (Attachment No. 1). Based on the findings of this investigation, a General Compliance letter was issued to acknowledge compliance. A letter was sent to the complainant regarding the investigation findings. This complaint will be closed with no violations noted.

GENERAL FACILITY AND PROCESS INFORMATION:

The Blue Ridge Landfill (BRL) is located at 2200 Farm to Market (FM) 521 Road, Fresno, Texas 77545. BRL has an active industrial stormwater multi-sector general permit (MSGP) (No. TXR05S302) with the TCEQ (Attachment No. 2). Coverage under the permit began on April 17, 2005. The permit allows for the discharge of non-contaminated stormwater and uncontaminated groundwater, subject to monitoring requirements for Sector L: Landfills and land application sites.

Sector L has the following benchmark sampling requirements: Total Suspended Solids (TSS) (100 mg/L), and Total Iron (1.3 mg/L) semi-annually. The facility has a waiver for annual hazardous metals monitoring (Attachment No. 3). The facility met the sampling waiver criteria in the MSGP for, Part III, Section C.1. (d)(3): Sampling conducted by the permittee, from the first available discharge from the facility, occurring during the first sampling period of the permit, indicated that none of the listed hazardous metals are present in detectable levels.

Non-contaminated stormwater and uncontaminated groundwater seepage is discharged to a ditch along the border of the landfill; thence to a drainage / surge channel that crosses under FM 521 to the Shadow Creek Ranch Subdivision; thence to Clear Creek Above Tidal in Segment No. 1102 of the San Jacinto-Brazos Coastal Basin.

Landfill cells utilize a landfill liner system to prevent groundwater contamination and to contain leachate as prescribed in the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Permit No. 1505A. Drainage systems on top of the landfill liner system collect leachate which is routed to sumps, pumped to storage tanks, and hauled off-site to Intergulf (Solid Waste Registration No. 39068) for disposal. Leachate was previously discharged to the City of Pearland Reflection Bay Water Reclamation Facility, Permit No. WQ001034008. Drainage systems below the landfill liner system collect groundwater seepage which is pumped to the stormwater ditch. Due to the depth of the cells, groundwater flows upwards towards the composite liner and is pumped off-site to prevent excessive accumulation.

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION DESCRIPTION:

On March 2, 2017, TCEQ Environmental Investigators, Dustin Roberts and Isaiah Longoria conducted a site investigation at BRL. The investigators met with Mr. Montagna, Landfill Operation's Manager, on-site.

An opening conference was conducted to discuss the nature and scope of the complaint investigation. Mr. Montagna discussed the progression of the active phase construction of the landfill and its relation to the stormwater ditch. The stormwater ditch is moved as construction progresses and is maintained outside the boundary of the active portion of the landfill. Mr. Montagna stated that the ditch is primarily comprised of the groundwater seepage that continuously collects underneath the cell liners.

The facility's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) was reviewed to determine permit compliance. The SWP3 contained the following: annual training documentation; list of responsible staff members; weekly inspections at active cells; rainfall documentation in cover logs; weekly leachate level sump log; monthly stockpile verification inspections; quarterly visual analysis inspections; benchmark monitoring results; groundwater monitoring well reports; annual effluent limitation monitoring for hazardous metals; and documentation for erosion and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) utilized on-site. The SWP3 was properly maintained and current. Benchmark monitoring was performed as required with no documented exceedances in the past three years of reviewed records. Benchmark monitoring is performed by Providence Engineering and ESC Lab Sciences conducts the laboratory analyses. The laboratory is certified under the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) for the parameters analyzed.

A site review was also conducted to determine compliance with applicable water regulations. The complaint alleged that contaminated surface water from a retention pond in the active portion of the landfill is being discharged off-site. A retention pond was not observed in the active phase. Non-contaminated stormwater and uncontaminated groundwater seepage is conveyed through a ditch along the border of the landfill, to Outfall 001 at FM 521. The stormwater ditch was observed to be located outside the boundary of the active portion of the landfill. Diversion berms were observed around the working face to divert stormwater from coming into contact with the active portion of the landfill. There did not appear to be any potential for contaminated stormwater and leachate to enter the stormwater ditch. Outfall 001 was not discharging at the time of the investigation, and the receiving stream appeared to be free of any adverse impacts.

BACKGROUND:

A TCEQ Consolidated Compliance and Enforcement Data System (CCEDS) search and database review was conducted pursuant to this investigation. No previous stormwater investigations or complaints were noted for this facility.

CONCLUSION:

The allegation that contaminated stormwater was being discharged from BRL was not confirmed and the complaint will be closed with no violations noted.

No Violations Associated to this Investigation

Signed


Environmental Investigator

Date

4/13/17

Signed


Supervisor

Date

4-18-17

Attachments: (in order of final report submittal)

- ☒ Enforcement Action Request (EAR)
- ☒ Letter to Facility (specify type): Gen Comp
- Investigation Report
- ☐ Sample Analysis Results
- ☐ Manifests
- ☐ Notice of Registration

- ☐ Maps, Plans, Sketches
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Correspondence from the facility
- ☐ Other (specify):
 - 1- Exit Interview Form
 - 2- Permit Information
 - 3- Annual Hazardous Metals Monitoring Wai

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., *Chairman*
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*
Jon Niermann, *Commissioner*
Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

April 18, 2017

Burgess Stengl, Environmental Manager
Blue Ridge Landfill TX, LP
P.O. Box 879
Fresno, Texas 77545

Re: Compliance Investigation at:
Blue Ridge Landfill
2200 Farm to Market 521 Road, Fresno, (Fort Bend County), Texas
Regulated Entity No.: RN102610102, TCEQ ID No.: TXR052302

Dear Mr. Montagna:

On March 2, 2017, Mr. Dustin Roberts and Isaiah Longoria of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Houston Region Office conducted an investigation of the above-referenced facility to evaluate compliance with applicable water quality requirements. No violations are being alleged as a result of the investigation.

The TCEQ appreciates your assistance in this matter and your compliance efforts to ensure protection of the State's environment. Please note that the Legislature has granted TCEQ enforcement powers which we may exercise to ensure compliance with environmental regulatory requirements. Self-reported violations may be subject to enforcement, including penalties, upon review by the Enforcement Division. If you or members of your staff have any questions regarding these matters, please feel free to contact Mr. Dustin Roberts in the Houston Region Office at 713-767-3631.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "K. Rocha", written over a horizontal line.

Fol: Karina Rocha, Team Leader
Water Quality
Houston Region 12
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

KR/DAR

**Blue Ridge Landfill
2200 FM Rd 521
Fresno, Texas 77545
Investigation No.: 1401135
Incident Nos.: 251718, 253606
Complaint Investigation**

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

1. Exit Interview Form
2. Permit Info
3. Annual Hazardous Metals Monitoring Waiver

Attachment 1

TCEQ EXIT INTERVIEW FORM: Potential Violations and/or Records Requested

Regulated Entity/Site Name	Republic Services/Blue Ridge Landfill		TCEQ Add. ID No. RN No. (optional)	TXR055302
Investigation Type	Contact Made In-House (Y/N)	Purpose of Investigation	Complaint	
Regulated Entity Contact		Telephone No.	281-666-9739	Date Contacted NA
Title		Fax No.		Date Faxed

NOTICE: The information provided in this form is intended to provide clarity to issues that have arisen during the investigation process between the TCEQ and the regulated entity named above and does not represent final TCEQ findings related to violations. Any potential or alleged violations discovered after the date on this form will be communicated by telephone to the regulated entity representative prior to the issuance of a notice of violation or enforcement. Conclusions drawn from this investigation, including additional violations or potential violations discovered (if any) during the course of this investigation, will be documented in a final investigation report.

Issue		For Records Request: identify the necessary records, the company contact and date due to the agency. For Alleged and Potential Violation issues: include the rule in question with the clearly described potential problem. Other type of issues: fully describe.
No.	Type ¹	Description of Issue
		No violations

¹Issue Type Can Be One or More of: AV (Alleged Violation), PV (Potential Violation), O (Other), or RR (Records Request)

Did the TCEQ document the regulated entity named above operating without proper authorization?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Did the investigator advise the regulated entity representative that continued operation is not authorized?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Document Acknowledgment. Signature on this document establishes only that the regulated entity (company) representative received a copy of this document and associated continuation pages on the date noted. If contact was made by telephone, document will be faxed to regulated entity; therefore, signature not required.

Investigator Name (Signed & Printed)	Date	Regulated Entity Representative Name (Signed & Printed)	Date
Matthew Distinberts	3/2/17	MATT MONTAGNA	3-2-17

If you have questions about any information on this form, please contact your local TCEQ Regional Office.

Individuals are entitled to request and review their personal information that the agency gathers on its forms. They may also have any errors in their information corrected. To review such information, call 512-239-3282.

Attachment 2

[Questions or Comments >>](#)[Search Again](#)[CR Query](#)[TCEQ Home](#)**Water Quality General Permits and Registration Search****Summary of Authorization TXR05S302**

Permit/Registration Number: TXR05S302
Authorization Status: ACTIVE
Date Coverage Began: 04/17/2005
Date Coverage Ended:

Authorization Details

Site Name on Permit/Registration: BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL
Authorization Type: INDUSTRIAL
Activity Code : LF
Ms4 Operator : CITY OF FRESNO AND FORT BEND COUNTY
Sector : L
Outfall Number : 001
 OUTFALL LATITUDE - 29.566586
 OUTFALL LONGITUDE - (-95.438272)
 DISCHARGE TO MARINE OR FRESH - MARINE WATER
 RECEIVING WATER BODY - CLEAR CREEK ABOVE TIDAL

Permittee or Registrant Information

Operator: CN602820599 - Blue Ridge Landfill TX, LP
Address: PO BOX 879 FRESNO TX 77545 0879
Annual Fee Billing Address: MICHAEL MACK
 PO BOX 879 FRESNO TX 77545 0879

Permitted Site Information

RN: RN102610102
RE Name: BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL
Site Location: 2200 FM 521 RD FRESNO TX 77545 8214
County: FORT BEND
TCEQ Region: REGION 12 - HOUSTON
Latitude: 29.58
Longitude: -95.43

Regulated Entity Site Information

RE Name: BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL
Site Location: 2200 FM 521 RD FRESNO TX 77545 8214
County: FORT BEND
TCEQ Region: REGION 12 - HOUSTON
Latitude: 29.58056
Longitude: -95.43194

Application History for this Authorization

Application Type	Status	Received Date	Final Action Date
NOTICE OF INTENT	APPROVED	04/22/2005	08/31/2005
NOI-RENEWAL	APPROVED	11/20/2006	05/31/2007
NOI-RENEWAL	APPROVED	10/19/2011	10/19/2011
NOI-RENEWAL	APPROVED	09/30/2016	09/30/2016
NOTICE OF CHANGE	APPROVED	10/24/2016	11/30/2016

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Attachment 3



Hazardous Metals Monitoring Waiver for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity Under the TPDES Multi-Sector General Permit (TXR050000)

Complete this form for the outfalls listed in the facility's stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP). Use additional forms as needed. Keep this form on site with the SWPPP and make sure that it is readily available to TCEQ investigators on request.

TPDES Permit Number: TXR05|5|3|0|2|

Outfall (as listed in the SWPPP)	These metals are excluded from monitoring if checked:											
	As	Ba	Cd	Cr	Cu	Pb	Mn	Hg	Ni	Se	Ag	Zn
Outfall 01	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Key to metals: As = arsenic; Ba = barium; Cd = cadmium; Cr = chromium; Cu = copper; Pb = lead; Mn = manganese; Hg = mercury; Ni = nickel; Se = selenium; Ag = silver; Zn = zinc

I certify under penalty of law that the hazardous metals checked in the above table meet at least one of the three criteria found in Part III, Section C.1. (d) (1) to (4) for the discharge location/respective outfall that is authorized by the TPDES Multi-Sector General Permit:

- That the regulated facility does not use a raw material, produce an intermediate product, or produce a final product that contains one of these hazardous metals.
- That any raw materials, intermediate products, or final products which contain a hazardous metal are never exposed to stormwater or runoff.
- That a sample of the discharge from the facility has been analyzed for one or more of the listed hazardous metals, and the results indicate that the metal(s) is/are not present in detectable levels. Test methods utilized are sensitive enough to detect the following parameters at the minimum analytical level (MAL) as specified in Part III.D.1.(e)(iii) of the TPDES Multi-Sector General Permit.

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Operator/Representative Name (printed or typed): Burgess Stengl
Signature: Burgess Stengl Date (mm/dd/yy): 11/4/16