APA-1

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control No. 335 Department or Agency **Environmental Management**
Rule No. **335-13-4-.27**
Rule Title: **Groundwater Monitoring and Corrective Action**

____ New X Amend ____ Repeal ____ Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety?	YES
Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare?	YES
Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public?	NO
Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree?	NO
Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule?	NO
Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public?	YES

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Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? NO

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

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Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Services Agency.

Signature of certifying officer Mindy Elliott

Date January 22, 2018

APA-2

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
LAND DIVISION

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

RULE NO. & TITLE:

335-13-4-.01	Landfill Unit Siting Standards (Amend)
335-13-4-.12	Plans and Operational Reports (Amend)
335-13-4-.13	Site Geology and Hydrology (Amend)
335-13-4-.16	Explosive Gases (Amend)
335-13-4-.18	Liners and Leachate Collection (Amend)
335-13-4-.20	Closure and Post-Closure (Amend)
335-13-4-.21	General Operational Standards for Landfill Units (Amend)
335-13-4-.22	Specific Requirements for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills (Amend)
335-13-4-.23	Specific Requirements for Inert-Construction/Demolition Landfills and Industrial Landfills (Amend)
335-13-4-.26	Requirements for Management and Disposal of Special Waste (Amend)
335-13-4-.27	Groundwater Monitoring and Corrective Action (Amend)
335-13-4-.28	Financial Assurance Criteria (Amend)
335-13-4-.29	Recordkeeping Requirements (Amend)
335-13-4-APPENDIX I	Constituents for Detection Monitoring (Amend)
335-13-4-APPENDIX II	List of Hazardous Inorganic and Organic Constituents (Amend)

INTENDED ACTION: Revise Division 13 of the ADEM Administrative Code.

SUBSTANCE OR PROPOSED ACTION: Revise portions of Division 13 Regulations to incorporate changes to ensure consistency with State and Federal Statutes; adopt certain State specific requirements; and provide clarification of State requirements for the management of solid waste, and adopt standards for the disposal of coal combustion residuals (CCR) in landfills and surface impoundments as promulgated by EPA.

Additionally, the definition of "municipal solid waste landfill unit" is proposed to be amended in accordance with EPA's Hazardous Waste Generator Improvements Rule (81 FR 85805, November 28, 2016).

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Comments may be submitted in writing or orally at a public hearing to be held Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 10:30

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE: March 21, 2018

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: Eric L. Sanderson, Chief of the Solid Waste Branch, ADEM Land Division (334-271-7755)

Lance R. LeFleur
Director

335-13-4-.27 Groundwater Monitoring and Corrective Action. The requirements for groundwater monitoring and corrective action at MSWLFs, C/DLFs, and ILFs are presented in the following paragraphs:

(1) Applicability.

(a) The requirements in this rRule shall apply to all MSWLF units and, when determined necessary by the Department to protect public health and the environment, the requirements in this rRule or any part thereof shall apply to C/DLF units and/or ILF units, except as provided in subparagraph (b) of this paragraph.

(b) Groundwater monitoring requirements under paragraphs (2) through (4) of this rRule may be suspended by the Department for a LF unit if the owner or operator can demonstrate that there is no potential for migration of hazardous constituents from that LF unit to the first saturated zone, as defined in 335-13-1-.03, during the active life of the unit and the post-closure care period.

This demonstration must be certified by a qualified groundwater scientist, as defined in 335-13-1-.03, and approved by the Department, and must be based upon:

1. Site-specific field collected measurements, sampling, and analysis of physical, chemical, and biological processes affecting contaminant fate and transport, and

2. Contaminant fate and transport predictions that maximize contaminant migration and consider impacts on human health and environment.

(c) Owners and operators of LF units must comply with the groundwater monitoring requirements of this rRule according to the following schedule.

1. All LF units must be in compliance with the groundwater monitoring requirements specified in paragraphs (2) through (4) of this rRule.

2. New LF units must be in compliance with the groundwater monitoring requirements specified in paragraphs (2) through (4) of this rRule before waste can be placed in the unit.

(d) Once established at a LF unit, groundwater monitoring shall be conducted throughout the active life and post-closure care period of that LF unit as specified in 335-13-4-.20.

(e) The Department may establish alternative schedules for demonstrating compliance with Department notification (and placement of notification in operating record) requirements of this rRule.

(2) Groundwater Monitoring Requirements.

(a) A groundwater monitoring system must be installed that consists of a sufficient number of wells, installed at appropriate locations and depths, to yield groundwater samples from the first saturated zone (as defined in 335-13-1-.03(126~~1~~)) that:

1. Represent the quality of background groundwater that has not been affected by leakage from a unit. A determination of background quality may include sampling of wells that are not hydraulically upgradient of the waste management area where:

(i) Hydrogeologic conditions do not allow the owner or operator to determine what wells are hydraulically upgradient; or

(ii) Sampling at other wells will provide an indication of background groundwater quality that is as representative or more representative than that provided by the upgradient wells; and

2. Represent the quality of groundwater passing the relevant point of compliance specified by the Department under subparagraph (a)3. of this paragraph.

(i) The downgradient monitoring system must be installed at the relevant point of compliance specified by the Department under subparagraph (a)3. of this paragraph that ensures detection of groundwater contamination in the first saturated zone.

(ii) When physical obstacles preclude installation of groundwater monitoring wells at the relevant point of compliance at existing units, the down-gradient monitoring system may be installed at the closest practicable distance hydraulically down-gradient from the relevant point of compliance specified by the Department under subparagraph (a)3. of this paragraph that ensures detection of groundwater contamination in the uppermost aquifer.

3. The relevant point of compliance shall be no more than 150 meters (492 feet) from the waste management unit boundary and shall be located on land owned by the owner of the landfill unit. In determining the relevant point of compliance, the following factors shall be considered, at a minimum:

(i) The hydrogeologic characteristics of the facility and surrounding land;

(ii) The volume and physical and chemical characteristics of the leachate;

(iii) The quantity, quality, and direction of groundwater flow;

(iv) The proximity and withdrawal rate of the groundwater users;

(v) The availability of alternative drinking water supplies;

(vi) The existing quality of the groundwater, including other sources of contamination and their cumulative impacts on the groundwater and whether groundwater is currently used or reasonably expected to be used for drinking water;

(vii) Public health, safety, and welfare effects; and

(viii) Practicable capability of the owner or operator.

(b) The Department may approve a multi-unit groundwater monitoring system instead of separate groundwater monitoring systems for each MSWLF unit when the facility has several units, provided the multi-unit groundwater monitoring system

meets the requirement of subparagraph (a) of this paragraph and will be as protective of human health and the environment as individual monitoring systems for each MSWLF unit. This approval will be based on the following factors:

1. Number, spacing, and orientation of the MSWLF units;

2. Hydrogeologic setting;

3. Site history;

4. Engineering design of the MSWLF units; and

5. Type of waste accepted at the MSWLF units.

(c) Well design and construction

1. Groundwater monitoring wells shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the following reference: "Design and Installation of Groundwater Monitoring Wells in Aquifers", ASTM Subcommittee D18.21 on Groundwater Monitoring, or otherwise as specifically approved by the Department.

2. Plans for groundwater monitoring well location, design, construction and/or abandonment shall be submitted to the Department for review and approval prior to installation.

3. The monitoring wells must be cased in a manner that maintains the integrity of the monitoring well bore hole.

(i) This casing must be screened or perforated and packed with gravel or sand, where necessary, to enable collection of groundwater samples.

(ii) The annular space (i.e., the space between the bore hole and well casing) above the sampling depth must be sealed to prevent contamination of samples and the groundwater.

4. The owner or operator must notify the Department that the design, installation, development, and/or abandonment of any monitoring wells, piezometers and other measurement, sampling, and analytical devices has been documented and placed in the operating record; and

(d) Monitoring wells, piezometers, and other measurement, sampling, and analytical devices must be operated and maintained so that they perform to design specifications throughout the life of the monitoring program.

(e) Abandoned wells and bore holes shall be abandoned in accordance with the following procedures in order to prevent contamination of groundwater resources. A plan of abandonment must be submitted and approved by the Department prior to implementing abandonment of any well.

1. A well shall be measured for depth prior to sealing to ensure that it is free from any obstructions that may interfere with sealing operations.

2. Where feasible, wells shall be completely filled with neat cement. If the well cannot be completely filled, the sealing materials for the top 20 feet must be neat cement and no material that could impart taste, odor, or toxic components to water may be used in the sealing process.

3. Liner pipe shall be removed from each well in order to ensure placement of an effective seal. If the liner pipe cannot be readily removed, it shall be perforated to ensure that proper sealing is obtained.

4. Concrete, cement grout, or neat cement shall be used as primary sealing materials and shall be placed from the bottom upwards using methods that will avoid segregation or dilution of material.

5. Complete, accurate records of the abandonment procedure shall be kept for each well abandoned. The record of abandonment shall include, at a minimum, the depth of each layer of all sealing and backfilling materials, the quantity of sealing materials used, measurements of static water levels and depths, and any changes made in the well during the sealing. A copy of these records shall be submitted to the Department and a copy placed in the operating record.

(f) The number, spacing, and depths of monitoring systems shall be:

1. Determined based upon site-specific technical information that must include thorough characterization of:

(i) Aquifer thickness, groundwater flow rate, groundwater flow direction including seasonal and temporal fluctuations in groundwater flow; and

(ii) Saturated and unsaturated geologic units and fill materials overlying the uppermost aquifer, materials comprising the uppermost aquifer, and materials comprising the confining unit defining the lower boundary of the uppermost aquifer, including, but not limited to: thickness, stratigraphy, lithology, hydraulic conductivity, porosity and effective porosity.

2. Certified by a qualified groundwater scientist and approved by the Department. Within 14 days of the Department's approval, the owner or operator must notify the Department that the certification has been placed in the operating record.

(g) The groundwater monitoring program must include consistent sampling and analytical methods that are:

1. Designed to ensure monitoring results that provide an accurate representation of groundwater quality at the background and downgradient wells which have been installed in compliance with subparagraph (a) of this paragraph.

(i) The groundwater monitoring program, and subsequent documentation, must be submitted to the Department for approval and appropriate copies placed in the operating record.

(ii) The program must include procedures and techniques for:

(I) Sample collection;

(II) Sample preservation and shipment;

(III) Analytical procedures;

(IV) Chain of custody control; and

(V) Quality assurance and quality control.

2. Appropriate for groundwater sampling and that accurately measure hazardous constituents and other monitoring parameters in groundwater samples.

(h) Groundwater samples shall not be field-filtered prior to laboratory analysis.

(i) The sampling procedures and frequency must be protective of human health and the environment.

1. Groundwater elevations ~~(MSL)~~ must be measured in each well immediately prior to purging, each time groundwater is sampled.

2. Groundwater elevations in wells which monitor the same waste management area must be measured within a 48 hour period to avoid temporal variations in groundwater flow which could preclude accurate determination of groundwater flow rate and direction.

3. The owner or operator must determine the rate and direction of groundwater flow each time groundwater is sampled.

(j) The owner or operator must establish background groundwater quality in a hydraulically upgradient or background well(s) for each of the monitoring parameters or constituents required in the particular groundwater monitoring program that applies to the LF unit, as determined under subparagraphs (3)(a) or (4)(a) of this rRule. Background groundwater quality may be established at wells that are not located hydraulically upgradient from the LF unit if it meets the requirements of subparagraph (a)1. of this paragraph.

(k) The number of samples collected to establish groundwater quality data must be consistent with the appropriate statistical procedures determined pursuant to subparagraph (l) of this paragraph. The sampling procedures shall be those specified under subparagraph (3)(b) of this rRule for detection monitoring, subparagraphs (4)(b) and (4)(d) of this rRule for assessment monitoring, and subparagraph (5)(b) of this rRule for corrective action.

(l) The owner or operator must specify in writing to the Department and place in the operating record one of the following statistical methods to be used in evaluating groundwater monitoring data for each hazardous constituent. The statistical test chosen shall be conducted separately for each hazardous constituent in each well.

1. A parametric analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by multiple comparisons procedures to identify statistically significant evidence of contamination. The method must include estimation and testing of the contrasts between each compliance well's mean and the background mean levels for each constituent.

2. An analysis of variance (ANOVA) based on ranks followed by multiple comparisons procedures to identify statistically significant evidence of contamination. The method must include estimation and testing of the contrasts between each compliance well's median and the background median levels for each constituent.

3. A tolerance or prediction interval procedure in which an interval for each constituent is established from the distribution of the background data, and the level of each constituent in each compliance well is compared to the upper tolerance or prediction limit.

4. A control chart approach that gives control limits for each constituent.

5. Another statistical test method that meets the performance standards of subparagraph (m) of this paragraph. The owner or operator must place a justification for this alternative in the operating record and submit it to the Department for approval to use this alternative test. The justification must demonstrate that the alternative method meets the performance standards of subparagraph (m) of this paragraph.

(m) Any statistical method chosen under subparagraph (l) of this paragraph shall comply with the following performance standards, as appropriate:

1. The statistical method used to evaluate groundwater monitoring data shall be appropriate for the distribution of chemical parameters or hazardous constituents. If the distribution of the chemical parameters or hazardous constituents is shown by the owner or operator to be inappropriate for a normal theory test, then the data should be transformed or a distribution-free theory test should be used. If the distributions for the constituents differ, more than one statistical method may be needed.

2. If an individual well comparison procedure is used to compare an individual compliance well constituent concentration with background constituent concentrations or a groundwater protection standard, the test shall be done at a Type I error level no less than 0.01 for each testing period. If a multiple comparisons procedure is used, the Type I experiment wise error rate for each testing period shall be no less than 0.05; however, the Type I error of no less than 0.01 for individual well comparisons must be maintained. This performance standard does not apply to tolerance intervals, prediction intervals, or control charts.

3. If a control chart approach is used to evaluate groundwater monitoring data, the specific type of control chart and its associated parameter values shall be protective of human health and the environment. The parameters shall be determined after considering the number of samples in the background data base, the data distribution, and the range of the concentration values for each constituent of concern.

4. If a tolerance interval or a prediction interval is used to evaluate groundwater monitoring data, the levels of confidence and, for tolerance intervals, the percentage of the population that the interval must contain, shall be protective of human health and the environment. These parameters shall be determined after considering the number of samples in the background data base, the data distribution, and the range of the concentration values for each constituent of concern.

5. The statistical method shall account for data below the limit of detection with one or more statistical procedures that are protective of human health and the

environment. Any practical quantitation limit (pql) that is used in the statistical method shall be the lowest concentration level that can be reliably achieved within specified limits of precision and accuracy during routine laboratory operating conditions that are available to the facility.

6. If necessary, the statistical method shall include procedures to control or correct for seasonal and spatial variability, as well as temporal correlation in the data.

(n) The owner or operator must determine and certify in writing to the Department if there is a statistically significant increase (SSI) over background values for each parameter or constituent required in the groundwater monitoring program.

1. In determining whether an SSI has occurred, the owner or operator must compare the groundwater quality of each parameter or constituent at each monitoring well to the background value of that constituent, according to the statistical procedures and performance standards specified under this rRule.

2. Within 30 days after completing sampling and receiving analytical results, the owner or operator must determine whether there has been an SSI over background at each monitoring well.

3. If an SSI over background groundwater quality is detected, the owner/operator must notify the Department within 14 days of this event.

(3) Detection Monitoring.

(a) Detection monitoring is required at LF units for all groundwater monitoring wells defined under subparagraphs (2)(a)1.(i) and (ii) of this rRule.

1. At a minimum, a detection monitoring program for MSWLF units must include ~~the~~ monitoring for the constituents listed in Appendix I of this Chapter.

2. Detection monitoring programs for C/DLFs or ILFs must include monitoring for constituents as specified by the Department.

3. The Department may delete any of the detection monitoring parameters for a LF unit if it can be shown that the removed constituents are not reasonably expected to be contained in or derived from the waste contained in the unit.

4. The Department may establish an alternative list of ~~inorganic~~ indicator parameters for a MSWLF unit, in addition to the Appendix I constituents~~lieu of some or all of the heavy metals (constituents 1 through 16 in Appendix I)~~, if the additional ~~alternative~~ parameters provide a reliable indication of ~~inorganic~~ releases from the MSWLF unit to the groundwater. In determining alternative parameters, the Department shall consider the following factors:

(i) The types, quantities, and concentrations of constituents in waste managed at the MSWLF unit;

(ii) The mobility, stability, and persistence of waste constituents or their reaction products in the unsaturated zone beneath the MSWLF unit;

(iii) The detectability of indicator parameters, waste constituents, and reaction products in the groundwater; and

(iv) The concentration or values and coefficients of variation of monitoring parameters or constituents in the groundwater background.

(b) Frequency.

1. The monitoring frequency for all constituents listed in Appendix I, or in the alternative list approved in accordance with subparagraph (a)4. of this paragraph, shall be at least semiannual during the active life of the facility (including closure) and the post-closure period. The owner or operator must submit a semi-annual report to the Department to coincide with and report the results of the semi-annual sampling event. The report shall be certified by a qualified groundwater scientist.

(i) A minimum of four independent samples from each well (background and downgradient) must be collected and analyzed for the Appendix I constituents, or the alternative list approved in accordance with subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, during the first semiannual sampling event.

(ii) At least one sample from each well (background and downgradient) must be collected and analyzed during subsequent semiannual sampling events.

2. The Department may specify an appropriate alternative frequency for repeated sampling and analysis for Appendix I constituents, or the alternative list approved in accordance with subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, during the active life (including closure) and the post-closure care period.

(i) The alternative frequency during the active life (including closure) shall be no less than annual.

(ii) The alternative frequency shall be based on consideration of the following factors:

(I) Lithology of the aquifer and unsaturated zone;

(II) Hydraulic conductivity of the aquifer and unsaturated zone;

(III) Groundwater flow rates;

(IV) Minimum distance between upgradient edge of the LF unit and downgradient monitoring well screen (minimum distance of travel); and

(V) Resource value of the aquifer.

(c) If the owner or operator determines, pursuant to subparagraph (2)(l) of this rRule, that there is an SSI over background for one or more of the constituents listed in Appendix I, or in the alternative list approved in accordance with subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, at any monitoring well at the boundary specified under subparagraph (2)(a)1.(ii) of this rRule, the owner or operator:

1. Must, within 14 days of this finding, place a notice in the operating record, and submit a copy of this notice to the Department, indicating which constituents have

shown statistically significant changes from background levels, and notify the Department that this notice was placed in the operating record; and

2. Must establish an assessment monitoring program meeting the requirements of subparagraphs (4)(a) through (j) of this rRule within 90 days except as provided for under subparagraph (2)(c)3. of this rRule.

3. May demonstrate that a source other than a LF unit caused the contamination or that the SSI resulted from an error in sampling, analysis, statistical evaluation, or natural variation in groundwater quality.

(i) A report documenting this demonstration must be certified by a qualified groundwater scientist, approved by the Department and be placed in the operating record.

(ii) If a successful demonstration is made and documented, the owner or operator may continue detection monitoring as specified in this rRule. If, after 90 days, a successful demonstration is not made, the owner or operator must initiate an assessment monitoring program as required in subparagraphs (4)(a) through (j) of this rRule.

(4) Assessment Monitoring.

(a) Assessment monitoring is required whenever an SSI over background has been detected for one or more of the constituents listed in Appendix I or in the alternative list approved in accordance with subparagraph (3)(a)4 of this rRule.

(b) Frequency.

1. Within 90 days of triggering an assessment monitoring program, and annually thereafter, the owner or operator must sample and analyze the groundwater for all constituents identified in Appendix II of this Chapter.

(i) A minimum of one sample from each downgradient well must be collected and analyzed during each sampling event.

(ii) For any constituent detected in the downgradient wells as the result of the complete Appendix II analysis, a minimum of four independent samples from each well (background and downgradient) must be collected and analyzed to establish background for the new constituents.

2. The Department may specify an appropriate subset of wells to be sampled and analyzed for Appendix II constituents during assessment monitoring. The Department may delete any of the Appendix II monitoring parameters for a LF unit if it can be shown that the removed constituents are not reasonably expected to be in or derived from the waste contained in the unit. The Department may establish an alternative list of parameters for a facility required to conduct groundwater monitoring, in addition to the Appendix II constituents, if the addition of the parameters is warranted based on waste handling practices at the facility. In determining alternative parameters, the Department shall consider the factors listed in 335-4-.27(3)(a)4.(i) through (iv).

(c) The Department may specify an appropriate alternate frequency for repeated sampling and analysis for the full set of Appendix II constituents required by subparagraph (b) of this paragraph, during the active life (including closure) and post-closure care of the unit considering the following factors:

1. Lithology of the aquifer and unsaturated zone;

2. Hydraulic conductivity of the aquifer and unsaturated zone;

3. Groundwater flow rates;

4. Minimum distance between upgradient edge of the MSWLF unit and downgradient monitoring well screen (minimum distance of travel);

5. Resource value of the aquifer; and

6. Nature (fate and transport) of any constituents detected in response to this rRule.

(d) After obtaining the results from the initial or subsequent sampling events required in subparagraph (b) of this paragraph, the owner or operator must:

1. Within 14 days, place a notice in the operating record identifying the Appendix II constituents that have been detected and notify the Department that this notice has been placed in the operating record;

2. Within 90 days, and on at least a semiannual basis thereafter,

(i) Resample all wells specified by subparagraph (2)(a) of this rRule with a minimum of one sample from each well (background and downgradient) being collected and analyzed during these sampling events,

(ii) Conduct analyses for all constituents in Appendix I or in the alternative list approved in accordance with subparagraph (3)(a)4. of this rRule, and for those constituents in Appendix II that are detected in response to subparagraph (b) of this paragraph, and

(iii) Record their concentrations in the facility operating record.

The Department may specify an alternative monitoring frequency during the active life (including closure) and the post closure period for the constituents referred to in this paragraph. The alternative frequency for Appendix I constituents, or the alternative list approved in accordance with subparagraph (3)(a)4. of this rRule, during the active life (including closure) shall be no less than annual. The alternative frequency shall be based on consideration of the factors specified in subparagraph (c) of this paragraph;

3. Establish background concentrations for any constituents detected pursuant to subparagraph (b) or subparagraph (d)2. of this paragraph; and

4. Establish groundwater protection standards for all constituents detected pursuant to subparagraph (b) or subparagraph (d)2. of this paragraph. The

groundwater protection standards shall be established in accordance with subparagraphs (h) or (i) of this paragraph.

(e) If the concentrations of all Appendix II constituents are shown to be at or below background values, using the statistical procedures in subparagraph (2)(l) of this rRule, for two consecutive sampling events, the owner or operator must notify the Department of this finding and may return to detection monitoring.

(f) If the concentrations of any Appendix II constituents are above background values, but all concentrations are below the groundwater protection standard established under subparagraphs (h) or (i) of this paragraph, using the statistical procedures in subparagraph (2)(l) of this rRule, the owner or operator must continue assessment monitoring in accordance with this rRule.

(g) If one or more Appendix II constituents are detected at statistically significant levels above the groundwater protection standard established under subparagraphs (h) or (i) of this paragraph in any sampling event, within 14 days of this finding, the owner or operator must:

1. Place a notice in the operating record identifying the Appendix II constituents that have exceeded the groundwater protection standard and

2. Notify the Department and all appropriate local government officials that the notice has been placed in the operating record.

3. And must, either:

(i) Characterize the nature and extent of the release by installing additional monitoring wells as necessary,

(ii) Install at least one additional monitoring well at the facility boundary in the direction of contaminant migration and sample this well in accordance with subparagraph (d)2. of this paragraph,

(iii) Notify all persons who own the land or reside on the land that directly overlies any part of the plume of contamination if contaminants have migrated off-site as indicated by sampling of wells in accordance with subparagraphs (g)3.(i) and (ii) of this paragraph, and

(iv) Initiate an assessment of corrective measures as required by subparagraphs (5)(a) through (d) of this rRule within 90 days;

4. Or may demonstrate that a source other than a LF unit caused the contamination, or that the SSI resulted from error in sampling, analysis, statistical evaluation, or natural variation in groundwater quality. A report documenting this demonstration must be certified by a qualified groundwater scientist or approved by the Department and placed in the operating record. If a successful demonstration is made, the owner or operator must continue monitoring in accordance with the assessment monitoring program pursuant to subparagraphs (a) through (j) of this paragraph, and may return to detection monitoring if the Appendix II constituents are at or below background as specified in subparagraph (e) of this paragraph. Until a successful

demonstration is made, the owner or operator must comply with subparagraph (g) of this paragraph, including initiating an assessment of corrective measures.

(h) The owner or operator must establish a groundwater protection standard for each Appendix II constituent detected in the groundwater. The groundwater protection standard shall be:

1. For constituents for which a maximum contaminant level (MCL) has been promulgated under Section 1412 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (codified) under 40 CFR 141, the MCL for that constituent;

2. For constituents for which MCLs have not been promulgated, the background concentration for the constituent established from wells in accordance with subparagraph (32)(a)1. of this rRule; or

3. For constituents for which the background level is higher than the MCL identified under subparagraph (h)1. of this paragraph or health based levels identified under subparagraph (i)1. of this paragraph, the background concentration.

(i) The Department may establish an alternative groundwater protection standard for constituents for which MCLs have not been established. —These groundwater protection standards shall be appropriate health based levels that satisfy the following criteria:

1. The level is derived in a manner consistent with EPA~~Agency~~ guidelines for assessing the health risks of environmental pollutants (51 FR 33992, 34006, 34014, 34028, September 24, 1986);

2. The level is based on scientifically valid studies conducted in accordance with the Toxic Substances Control Act Good Laboratory Practice Standards (40 CFR 792) or equivalent;

3. For carcinogens, the level represents a concentration associated with an excess lifetime cancer risk level (due to continuous lifetime exposure) with the 1×10^{-4} to 1×10^{-6} range; and

4. For systemic toxicants, the level represents a concentration to which the human population (including sensitive subgroups) could be exposed to on a daily basis that is likely to be without appreciable risk of deleterious effects during a lifetime. For purposes of this ~~subpart~~rule, systemic toxicants include toxic chemicals that cause effects other than cancer or mutation.

(j) In establishing groundwater protection standards under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Department may consider the following:

1. Multiple contaminants in the groundwater;

2. Exposure threats to sensitive environmental receptors; and

3. Other site-specific exposure or potential exposure to groundwater.

(5) Corrective Action Requirements.

(a) Within 90 days of finding that any of the constituents listed in Appendix II have been detected at a statistically significant level exceeding the groundwater protection standards defined under subparagraphs (4)(h) or (i) of this rRule, the owner or operator must initiate an assessment of corrective measures. Such an assessment must be completed within a reasonable period of time.

(b) The owner or operator must continue to monitor in accordance with the assessment monitoring program as specified in subparagraphs (4)(a) through (j) of this rRule.

(c) The assessment shall include an analysis of the effectiveness of potential corrective measures in meeting all of the requirements and objectives of the remedy as described under subparagraphs (c) through (i) of this paragraph, addressing at least the following:

1. The performance, reliability, ease of implementation, and potential impacts of appropriate potential remedies, including safety impacts, cross-media impacts, and control of exposure to any residual contamination;

2. The time required to begin and complete the remedy;

3. The costs of remedy implementation; and

4. The institutional requirements such as State or local permit requirements or other environmental or public health requirements that may substantially affect implementation of the remedy(s).

(d) The owner or operator must discuss the results of the corrective measures assessment, prior to the selection of remedy, in a public meeting with interested and affected parties.

(e) Based on the results of the corrective measures assessment conducted under subparagraphs (5)(a) through (d) of this paragraph, the owner or operator must select a remedy that, at a minimum, meets the standards listed in this paragraph. The owner or operator must notify the Department, within 14 days of selecting a remedy, that a report describing the selected remedy has been placed in the operating record and how it meets the standards in this paragraph. Remedies must:

1. Be protective of human health and the environment;

2. Attain the groundwater protection standard as specified pursuant to subparagraphs (4)(h) or (i) of this rRule;

3. Control the source(s) of releases so as to reduce or eliminate, to the maximum extent practicable, further releases of Appendix II constituents into the environment that may pose a threat to human health or the environment; and

4. Comply with standards for management of wastes as specified in subparagraph (m) of this paragraph.

(f) In selecting a remedy that meets the standards of subparagraph (e) of this paragraph, the owner or operator shall consider the following evaluation factors:

1. The long- and short-term effectiveness and protectiveness of the potential remedy(ies), along with the degree of certainty that the remedy will prove successful based on consideration of the following:

(i) Magnitude of reduction of existing risks;

(ii) Magnitude of residual risks in terms of likelihood of further releases due to waste remaining following implementation of a remedy;

(iii) The type and degree of long-term management required, including monitoring, operation, and maintenance;

(iv) Short-term risks that might be posed to the community, workers, or the environment during implementation of such a remedy, including potential threats to human health and the environment associated with excavation, transportation, and redisposal or containment;

(v) Time until full protection is achieved;

(vi) Potential for exposure of humans and environmental receptors to remaining wastes, considering the potential threat to human health and the environment associated with excavation, transportation, redisposal, or containment;

(vii) Long-term reliability of the engineering and institutional controls; and

(viii) Potential need for replacement of the remedy.

2. The effectiveness of the remedy in controlling the source to reduce further releases based on consideration of the following factors:

(i) The extent to which containment practices will reduce further releases;

(ii) The extent to which treatment technologies may be used.

3. The ease or difficulty of implementing a potential remedy(ies) based on consideration of the following types of factors:

(i) Degree of difficulty associated with constructing the technology;

(ii) Expected operational reliability of the technologies;

(iii) Need to coordinate with and obtain necessary approvals and permits from other agencies;

(iv) Availability of necessary equipment and specialists; and

(v) Available capacity and location of needed treatment, storage, and disposal services.

4. Practicable capability of the owner or operator, including a consideration of the technical and economic capability.

5. The degree to which community concerns are addressed by a potential remedy(ies).

(g) The owner or operator shall specify as part of the selected remedy a schedule(s) for initiating and completing remedial activities. Such a schedule must require the initiation of remedial activities within a reasonable period of time taking into consideration the factors set forth in this paragraph. The owner or operator must consider the following factors in determining the schedule of remedial activities:

1. Extent and nature of contamination;

2. Practical capabilities of remedial technologies in achieving compliance with groundwater protection standards established under subparagraphs (4)(gh) or (hi) of this rRule and other objectives of the remedy;

3. Availability of treatment or disposal capacity for wastes managed during implementation of the remedy;

4. Desirability of utilizing technologies that are not currently available, but which may offer significant advantages over already available technologies in terms of effectiveness, reliability, safety, or ability to achieve remedial objectives;

5. Potential risks to human health and the environment from exposure to contamination prior to completion of the remedy;

6. Resource value of the aquifer including:

(i) Current and future uses;

(ii) Proximity and withdrawal rate of users;

(iii) Groundwater quantity and quality;

(iv) The potential damage to wildlife, crops, vegetation, and physical structures caused by exposure to waste constituents;

(v) The hydrogeologic characteristic of the facility and surrounding land;

(vi) Groundwater removal and treatment costs; and

(vii) The cost and availability of alternative water supplies.

7. Practicable capability of the owner or operator.

8. Other relevant factors.

(h) The Department may determine that remediation of a release of an Appendix II constituent from a LF unit is not necessary if the owner or operator demonstrates to the Department that:

1. The groundwater is additionally contaminated by substances that have originated from a source other than a LF unit and those substances are present in

concentrations such that cleanup of the release from the LF unit would provide no significant reduction in risk to actual or potential receptors; or

2. The constituent(s) is present in groundwater that:

(i) Is not currently or reasonably expected to be a source of drinking water; and

(ii) Is not hydraulically connected with waters to which the hazardous constituents are migrating or are likely to migrate in a concentration(s) that would exceed the groundwater protection standards established under subparagraphs (4)(h) or (i) of this rRule; or

3. Remediation of the release(s) is technically impracticable; or

4. Remediation results in unacceptable cross-media impacts.

(i) A determination by the Department pursuant to subparagraph (h) of this paragraph shall not affect the authority of the State to require the owner or operator to undertake source control measures or other measures that may be necessary to eliminate or minimize further releases to the groundwater, to prevent exposure to the groundwater, or to remediate the groundwater to concentrations that are technically practicable and significantly reduce threats to human health or the environment.

(j) Based on the schedule established under subparagraph (g) of this paragraph for initiation and completion of remedial activities the owner/operator must:

1. Establish and implement a corrective action groundwater monitoring program that:

(i) At a minimum, meets the requirements of an assessment monitoring program under subparagraphs (4)(a) through (j) of this rRule;

(ii) Indicates the effectiveness of the corrective action remedy; and

(iii) Demonstrates compliance with groundwater protection standards pursuant to subparagraph (n) of this paragraph.

2. Implement the corrective action remedy selected under subparagraphs (e) through (i) of this paragraph; and

3. Take any interim measures necessary to ensure the protection of human health and the environment. Interim measures should, to the greatest extent practicable, be consistent with the objectives of and contribute to the performance of any remedy that may be required pursuant to subparagraphs (e) through (i) of this paragraph. The following factors must be considered by an owner or operator in determining whether interim measures are necessary:

(i) Time required to develop and implement a final remedy;

(ii) Actual or potential exposure of nearby populations or environmental receptors to hazardous constituents;

(iii) Actual or potential contamination of drinking water supplies or sensitive ecosystems;

(iv) Further degradation of the groundwater that may occur if remedial action is not initiated expeditiously;

(v) Weather conditions that may cause hazardous constituents to migrate or be released;

(vi) Risks of fire or explosion, or potential for exposure to hazardous constituents as a result of an accident or failure of a container or handling system; and

(vii) Other situations that may pose threats to human health and the environment.

(k) An owner or operator may determine, based on information developed after implementation of the remedy has begun or other information, that compliance with requirements of subparagraph (e) of this paragraph are not being achieved through the remedy selected. In such cases, the owner or operator must implement other methods or techniques that could practicably achieve compliance with the requirements, unless the owner or operator makes the determination under subparagraph (l) of this paragraph.

(l) If the owner or operator determines that compliance with requirements under subparagraph (e) of this paragraph cannot be practically achieved with any currently available methods, the owner or operator must:

1. Obtain certification of a qualified groundwater scientist or approval by the Department that compliance with requirements under subparagraph (e) of this paragraph cannot be practically achieved with any currently available methods;

2. Implement alternate measures to control exposure of humans or the environment to residual contamination, as necessary to protect human health and the environment; and

3. Implement alternate measures for control of the sources of contamination, or for removal or decontamination of equipment, units, devices, or structures that are:

(i) Technically practicable; and

(ii) Consistent with the overall objective of the remedy.

4. Notify the Department within 14 days that a report justifying the alternative measures prior to implementing the alternative measures has been placed in the operating record.

(m) All solid wastes that are managed pursuant to a remedy required under subparagraphs (e) through (i) of this paragraph, or an interim measure required under subparagraph (j)3. of this paragraph, shall be managed in a manner:

1. That is protective of human health and the environment; and

2. That complies with applicable RCRA requirements.

(n) Remedies selected pursuant to subparagraphs (e) through (i) of this paragraph shall be considered complete when:

1. The owner or operator complies with the groundwater protection standards established under subparagraphs (4)(h) or (i) of this rRule at all points within the plume of contamination that lie beyond the groundwater monitoring well system established under subparagraph (3)(a) of this rRule.

2. Compliance with the groundwater protection standards established under subparagraphs (4)(h) or (i) of this rRule has been achieved by demonstrating that concentrations of Appendix II constituents have not exceeded the groundwater protection standard(s) for a period of three consecutive years using the statistical procedures and performance standards in subparagraphs (4)(l) and (m) of this rRule. The Department may specify an alternative length of time during which the owner or operator must demonstrate that concentrations of Appendix II constituents have not exceeded the groundwater protection standard(s) taking into consideration:

(i) Extent and concentration of the release(s);

(ii) Behavior characteristics of the hazardous constituents in the groundwater;

(iii) Accuracy of monitoring or modeling techniques, including any seasonal, meteorological, or other environmental variabilities that may affect the accuracy; and

(iv) Characteristics of the groundwater.

3. All actions required to complete the remedy have been satisfied.

(o) Upon completion of the remedy, the owner or operator must notify the Department within 14 days that a certification that the remedy has been completed in compliance with the requirements of subparagraph (n) of this paragraph has been placed in the operating record. The certification must be signed by the owner or operator and by a qualified groundwater scientist or approved by the Department.

(p) When, upon completion of the certification, the owner or operator determines that the corrective action remedy has been completed in accordance with the requirements under subparagraph (n) of this paragraph, the owner or operator shall be released from the requirements for financial assurance for corrective action under ~~40 CFR 258, Subpart G~~335-13-4-.28(4).

Author: Russell A. Kelly, Heather M. Jones.
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