



**FOR RELEASE:** December 22, 2011  
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## **Apex and Ohio EPA Reach Settlement Over Solid Waste, Odor Violations at Jefferson County Landfill**

Apex Environmental LLC has worked with Ohio EPA to address violations of solid waste and odor management plan requirements at Apex Sanitary Landfill, located at 11 County Road 78, Amsterdam, Jefferson County. The company will address the violations and pay a civil penalty.

To protect public health and the environment, the Agency establishes conditions for permits to ensure that facilities are operating in compliance with state and federal environmental standards, laws and regulations. In December 2009, Ohio EPA approved final solid waste and air permits for the facility. The solid waste permit authorized a vertical expansion of the landfill and an increase in the daily waste receipt limit from 5,250 tons per day to 7,500 tons per day. The air permit established emission limits for the flare (which controls emissions captured by the facility's landfill gas collection system) and particulate (fugitive dust) related to the facility's unpaved roadways, parking areas, material handling and rail unloading areas.

Apex is expected to operate its landfill in strict compliance with these permits, including the odor management plan. This plan contains odor monitoring practices, best management practices for active waste disposal operations, major odor control systems and landfill gas control and collection systems. Apex is required to implement the plan to monitor and control odors emanating from the landfill.

During multiple inspections between October and December 2011, Ohio EPA and the Jefferson County General Health District detected odors emanating from the landfill and documented these inspections in letters to Apex. On these days, Ohio EPA determined that Apex failed to implement its odor management plan to control odors, thereby violating its permit and Ohio law.

Apex proposed to install 19 gas collection wells along the eastern and western sides of the landfill to help address odors. At the direction of Ohio EPA, Apex began installing 23 additional landfill gas collection wells and two horizontal collectors to control odors.

In early October, Ohio EPA and the health district also observed leachate (water that comes into contact with landfill waste) breaching an area of the landfill and failure of a rain flap meant to contain leachate; within two weeks, Apex indicated to the health district that it had repaired the rain flap, thereby abating the leachate outbreak violation.

Apex agreed to achieve compliance with Ohio laws and rules according to a compliance schedule, including:

- Complete installation and begin operation of the 23 landfill gas collection wells by Dec. 31, 2011;

- Provide Ohio EPA sample results of the leachate taken from the sumps closest to the October outbreak by Jan. 15, 2012;
- Complete installation and begin operation of additional agreed upon gas collection measures by March 1, 2012;
- Submit to Ohio EPA, for review and concurrence, a proposed plan for the expansion of the landfill gas capture, collection and control system to maximize odor control by February 1 and August 1 every year following this settlement until terminated by Ohio EPA;
- Complete installation and begin operation of expanded landfill gas collection system components within 90 days of Ohio EPA's written concurrence(s) of Apex's proposed plan(s);
- Implement odor control measures as necessary, including monthly surface emissions monitoring to evaluate the effectiveness of the landfill gas collection and control system;
- Submit to Ohio EPA a report that analyzes correlations between a) the types of wastes Apex receives (i.e., sewage, long haul and other odorous wastes); b) Apex's acceptance methods for such wastes; c) Apex's control logs; d) Apex's odor complaint database; and e) Apex's daily operating logs; the report also shall analyze and propose potential revisions to operating hours and volume of wastes received to control odors;
- Implement revisions to landfill operations and waste acceptance procedures in light of this report and as directed by Ohio EPA; and
- Limit the total amount of wastes received for disposal at the landfill, including solid wastes and construction and demolition debris, to 6,500 tons per day, until odors have been abated for an extended period of time and Ohio EPA discontinues the limit or issues related orders.

More information, including copies of this settlement, Apex's approved permits and Ohio EPA's notices of violation, is available [online](#) and at Ohio EPA's Southeast District Office (2195 Front St., Logan) by first calling (740) 385-8501 or (800) 686-7330 to schedule a file review.