



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Duneland 28

www.idem.IN.gov

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Facility Description:

- Duneland 28 Clean Fill Facility (Duneland 28) is a clean fill and registered composting facility located at 550 West 300 North, in Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana. The facility is allowed to compost vegetative matter and accept excluded material for final disposal. Duneland 28 is not allowed to accept materials that meet the definition of solid waste.
- Duneland 28 is responsible for screening incoming clean fill material to ensure it does not contain garbage, trash, or any other unauthorized material.
- The statute that authorizes the registration of composting activities requires the control of dust, odor, and noise associated with composting.

IDEM's Role:

- IDEM is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while allowing safe industrial, agricultural, commercial, and governmental operations vital to a prosperous economy.
- Facilities operating in Indiana must comply with all state and federal environmental rules and regulations. IDEM staff work appropriately to enforce the state and federal environmental laws and rules that fall under IDEM's jurisdiction.
- Clean fill facilities accept excluded material for final disposal and do not process the material for reuse. These facilities do not meet the definition of a solid waste disposal facility and are not required to apply for a solid waste permit. Excluded materials, listed in 329 IAC 10-3-1, include uncontaminated rocks, bricks, concrete, road demolition waste materials, dirt, grass, leaves, and natural growth wood. IDEM does not regularly inspect clean fill facilities. If IDEM suspects that a clean fill facility is accepting materials that meet the definition of solid waste, the agency will conduct an inspection.
- Composting facilities store and process vegetative matter for reuse. IDEM regulates compost facilities through a registration process in accordance with state statute found in the Indiana Code (IC) under IC 13-20-10. The registration establishes minimum criteria for protecting surface and ground water from contamination at the facility location. A public hearing is not required during the registration process for compost facilities. The registrations must be renewed every five years. IDEM inspects composting facilities and investigates environmental complaints to ensure composting facilities are not receiving unauthorized waste for processing or final disposal.
- IDEM issued a compost facility registration to Duneland 28 on August 8, 2010.

Citizen's Role:

- IDEM encourages citizens to remain informed about business activities in their neighborhoods. Concerns and questions should be directed to the appropriate company representatives or local zoning boards. Businesses are encouraged to work with neighbors to alleviate concerns or complaints.
- IDEM compliance and inspection staff will take swift action to resolve problems where business activities are posing a threat to human health or the environment. IDEM's approval of an operation does not override the need for compliance with any local zoning or land use ordinances.
- Citizens can learn about IDEM's regulatory programs by visiting the agency's website at www.idem.IN.gov.



- Citizens can report pollution complaints by contacting IDEM's Complaint Coordinator at (800) 451-6027, ext. 2-4464. Businesses and citizens should report environmental emergencies, such as spills, to IDEM's 24-hour toll free spill line at (888) 233-7745.

IDEM Activities:

- IDEM has responded to many complaints about Duneland 28 in relation to quality of life at nearby residences and the Union Township Schools. Between September 2011 and February 2012, the agency conducted 15 site inspections and multiple site visits. The inspections involved multiple IDEM staff, including Northwest Regional Office (NWRO) Deputy Director Bob Simmons, NWRO Director Hala Kuss and IDEM Commissioner Thomas Easterly.
- Notable IDEM activities include:
 - Responding to complaints from over 90 complainants
 - Taking nine water samples
 - Checking incoming materials for regulated waste
 - Inspecting the composting operations and berm
 - Investigating wetlands on and near Duneland 28 properties
 - Reviewing the facility's operation plans and suggesting best managements practices

Results:

- IDEM has not identified any significant concerns relative to compliance issues during any inspections.
- IDEM provided compliance assistance to Duneland 28 in order to resolve odor concerns from the composting operations. The facility is now managing grass differently to reduce odor in the composting operations. This has satisfied IDEM's concerns.
- Neither IDEM nor the federal government has specific air regulations relevant to odor from unregulated activities. Clean fill structures, such as the berm surrounding Duneland 28, are included in those unregulated activities. However, Duneland 28 has worked with IDEM to address odor issues with their berm.
- No evidence of animal carcasses was found in the composting operations or the berm.
- A wetlands inspection did not find impacts to regulated wetlands.
- Water samples were taken from nine residences near Duneland 28. The testing results show no cause for concern and all samples met water quality standards for consumption.

Future Activities:

- IDEM will sample water from the Union Township School's irrigation wells when they are opened in the spring of 2012.
- IDEM will conduct another wetlands site visit with the United States Army Corps of Engineers.
- IDEM will continue to inspect the composting facility and the clean fill operation to assure it is being operated in compliance with the law.

Additional Information:

- For complaints, concerns, and other communication with Duneland 28, please contact Kelly Travis (219) 299-9987 or duneland28@hughes.net.
- For additional information regarding Duneland 28's registration, please visit IDEM's Virtual File Cabinet at www.idem.IN.gov/6551.htm and search for Document Number 63908733.
- Media inquiries should be directed to Rob Elstro, IDEM public information officer, at (800) 451-6027, ext. 2-8499, or relstro@idem.IN.gov.
- Local zoning questions should be directed to the Porter County Plan Commission at (219) 465-3540 or plancomm@porterco.org.