

#### Inspection Report

To: David Burton, Facility Manager (NRG Indian River Generating Station)

From: Richard Southorn, P.E., P.G., CPSWQ

Re: Indian River Landfill – Annual CCR Unit Inspection Report No. 2

Inspection

**December 5, 2016** 

Date:

Memo January 18, 2017

Date:

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#### INTRODUCTION

Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 257 addresses, in part, the management of Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR Rule) in regulated units, including landfills. Specific to §257.84(b) of the Rule, existing and new CCR landfills must be inspected on an annual basis by a qualified professional engineer. For the Indian River Generating Station (owned by Indian River Power, LLC, a subsidiary of NRG Energy, Inc. [NRG]), this inspection requirement applies to the existing Indian River Landfill (IRLF) consisting of a closed Phase I and active Phase II. The closed Phase I is exempt from the regulations but since Phase II piggybacks onto Phase I, it was necessary to include Phase I within the annual inspection since it impacts the structural performance of Phase II.

In support of this obligation, Mr. Richard Southorn (a qualified professional engineer with CB&I Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc. [CB&I]) conducted an on-site inspection of the Indian River Landfill on December 5, 2016. The findings from this second annual inspection are summarized in the remaining sections of this correspondence.

As required, this report will be placed in the Indian River facility's operating record per §257.105(g)(9), noticed to the State Director per §257.106(g)(7), and posted to the publicly accessible internet site per §257.107(g)(7). Placement of the first annual inspection report into the facility's operating record was accomplished on January 18, 2016, meeting the January 18, 2016 deadline per §257.84(b)(3)(i). The following inspection report has been placed into the facility's operating record on January 18, 2017 per §257.84(b)(4).

#### BACKGROUND

The IRLF is an industrial waste landfill used solely for the disposal of CCR wastes or other industrial wastes generated at the station and is operated/maintained in accordance with the State of Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) Solid Waste Permit No. 12/01. The IRLF disposal areas are located approximately one half of a mile south of the Generating Station.

The landfill consists of two major phases, Phase I and Phase II. Phase I is unlined and has a 46 acre footprint. Phase I began accepting waste in 1980 and cap construction was approved and certified closed by DNREC on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Phase II has a composite liner, and is 28 acres in size. The Phase II expansion is comprised of two landfill cells (Cell 1 and 2) located

west of Phase I and a piggyback (filling over Phase I) expansion on the western slopes of Phase I. The piggyback expansion of Phase II is separated from Phase I by a composite liner system.

The Phase II expansion began accepting waste on September 17, 2010 within Cell 1. Cell 2 received operational authorization in 2015. Both cells are currently open and actively receiving CCR material. The facility is permitted to sell the CCR for beneficial reuse projects and will continue to seek opportunities to do so.

With respect to the IRLF, CB&I's evaluation has focused on the following items as outlined in §257.84(b)(1)(i-ii):

- A review of available information regarding the status and condition of the CCR unit, including, but not limited to, files available in the operating record; and
- A visual inspection of the CCR unit to identify signs of distress or malfunction.

Specific to CB&I's preparation of this annual inspection report, and per §257.84(b)(2) (i-iv), the following aspects of the CCR unit have been documented:

- Any changes in geometry of the structure since the previous annual inspection;
- The approximate volume of CCR contained in the unit at the time of the inspection;
- Any appearances of an actual or potential structural weakness of the CCR unit, in addition to any existing conditions that are disrupting or have the potential to disrupt the operation and safety of the CCR unit; and
- Any other change(s) which may have affected the stability or operation of the CCR unit since the previous annual inspection.

#### **OPERATING RECORDS REVIEW**

The operating records review of the facility's operating record and verification was performed during the site inspection. Files reviewed during the on-site inspection included but were not limited to: 2011 Phase II Landfill Expansion Application, NRG Permit SW-12/01, 2015 Annual Landfill Operations Report, Weekly Inspection Report, Leachate Collection System Daily Inspection Report, Phase I Cap Inspection Forms, Stormwater Conveyance and Discharge System Forms, and Daily/After Storm Event Erosion Control/Emissions Inspection Form. During the site inspection, Mr. Southorn interviewed Charlie Griggs (Landfill Manager) to verify the information contained within the operating record.

#### Environmental Control System Overview

a. Bottom Liner System - The Phase II has a composite liner system that consists of a geosynthetic clay liner (GCL) and geomembrane liner system. The composite liner system extends along the piggyback portion between Phase I and Phase II thereby creating a separate layer.

- b. Leachate Collection System Phase II has a 12-inch drainage system with a series of collection pipes that drain to two sumps located on the north perimeter of Cell 2 and the south perimeter of Cell 1. The leachate is then pumped via a below grade leachate forcemain to the existing above grade leachate storage tanks located west of the landfill. From the tanks, leachate is trucked to the Indian River Generating Station for reuse in the bottom ash system.
- c. Stormwater Management Non-contact stormwater is drained around the landfill in accordance with the current NPDES permit to stormwater detention basins/ponds located north and south of the landfill. Stormwater run-off from within the active area is collected and managed within the leachate collection system.
- Final Cover System Phase I has received a final cover system and is closed, no final cover system has been installed on Phase II – Cell 1 or Cell 2 which are still active units.

#### Summary of Landfill Construction

As of the date of this inspection, Phase I has been capped and closed. Cells 1 and 2 are currently open and actively receiving CCR material.

#### Review of Prior Inspections

- a. Weekly inspections: A review of previous weekly inspections dating back to October 2015 was conducted to understand any deficiencies and remedial actions. Some minor corrective actions were noted for cover and erosion repairs. All deficiencies were found to be remedied in a timely manner.
- b. Annual inspections: A review of the previous annual inspection has determined that there were no deficiencies or releases, actual or potential structural weaknesses, or concern to the stability of the land form. All environmental control systems were in good operating condition and functioning as intended.

#### Summary of CCR Volumes

Based on the CCR haul quantities provided by Indian River, approximately 784,850 tons of CCR have been disposed within Phase II as of December 5, 2016. Volumes for Phase I were not provided since the Phase I is a closed unit and therefore exempt from the regulations.

#### SITE INSPECTION

The site inspection was performed on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 by Mr. Southorn. Mr. Southorn focused on standard geotechnical signs of distress or malfunction such as slumping at the toe of slope, tensile cracking, abnormal or excessive erosion on the side slopes or stormwater management facilities, slope bulging, groundwater/surface water seepage or ponding, etc. These visual signs are potential indicators of structural weakness of the CCR Landfill unit.

#### Visual Signs of Distress or Malfunction

No visual signs of distress or malfunction were observed during the inspection. Stormwater drainage features, slope appearance and stability, leachate conveyance mechanisms, and overall site conditions were assessed. Closed portions of Phase I and stabilized intermediate cover areas of Phase II exhibited well established vegetative cover. A small area of the cover showed evidence of regrading, seeding, and stabilization. Upon discussion with the Landfill Manager, it was determined that this area was a corrective action area to address an erosion gully that formed in 2016. The repairs appeared to be appropriate. Please see Photograph 8 in Attachment 2 and the attached figure in Attachment 1 for the corresponding location.

#### Review of Environmental Control Systems

With no evidence to the contrary, the environmental control systems at IRLF are believed to be in good operating condition and functioning as intended. At the time of the inspection, leachate and stormwater conveyance systems were operating as designed. It is noted that a significant storm at the facility shortly before the inspection produced elevated leachate levels in Cell II of Phase II. The leachate could be seen to be safely and appropriately contained as it was being drawn down. A high-level alarm indicated the liquid level on the collection system control panel, as intended. This observation confirms the effectiveness of environmental controls.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

Based on a review of the facility's operating record, site interviews and a site inspection, the following conclusions were developed:

#### Changes in Geometry

As of the date of this inspection, Cell 1 and Cell 2 of Phase II are open and receiving CCR material. Active filling operations in Cell 2 in the approximate location shown in the attached figure at a peak elevation generally equal the surrounding perimeter road elevation.

#### CCR Volume

Based on the CCR haul quantities provided by Indian River, approximately 784,850 tons of CCR have been disposed within Phase II as of December 5, 2016. Volumes for Phase I were not provided since Phase I is a closed unit and therefore exempt from the regulations.

#### Appearances of an Actual or Potential Structural Weakness of CCR Unit

At the time of inspection, there were no signs of distress or malfunction that would indicate actual or potential structural weakness at either Phase I or II.

#### Changes that May Affect the Stability or Operation of the CCR Unit

There have been no changes to the Indian River Landfill area that poses a threat or concern to the stability of the land form.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the on-site inspection performed on December 5, 2016, CB&I recommends the following actions:

- 1. Continue operation and maintenance within the active landfilling area as currently performed.
- 2. Maintain adequate access to the closed portions of the landfill to maintain the ability to perform weekly visual site structural inspections.

There were no deficiencies or releases identified during the 2016 annual inspection that required the owner or operator to perform corrective actions as required under §257.84(b)(5).

#### PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER'S CERTIFICATION

In accordance with §257.84(b) of the Rule, I hereby certify based on a review of available information within the facility's operating records and observations from my personal on-site inspection (including the photographs contained in Attachment 2), that the IRLF does not exhibit any appearances of actual/potential structural weakness that would be disruptive to the normal operations of the IRLF. The unit is being operated and maintained consistent with recognized and generally accepted good engineering standards and practices.

Certified by:

Date: 1/18/17

David DAVID SOLUTION DAVID SOLUTION

Richard Southorn, P.E., P.G., CPSWQ Professional Engineer Registration No. PE 20894 CB&I Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc.

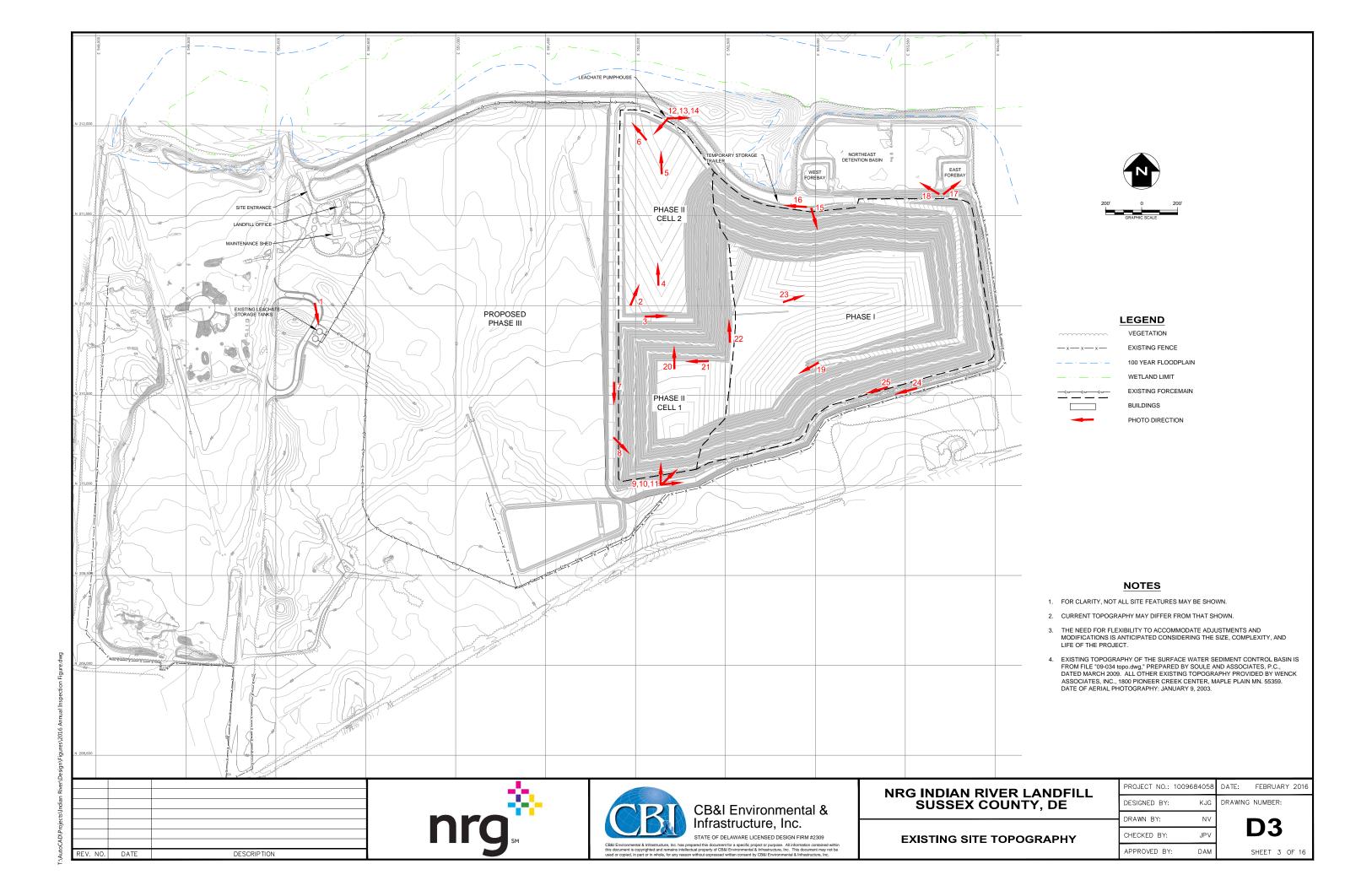
#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Site Map
- 2. Inspection Photo Log

#### REFERENCES

- Landfill Periodic Inspection Report 2016, January 2016
- 2016 Annual Landfill Operations Report NRG Energy Indian River Generating Station
- 3. 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 257.

# Attachment 1 Site Map



# Attachment 2 Photo Log



Project No.: 1009174008

## Photograph No. 1

Date:

Dec. 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

Southeast

Leachate Control Building and leachate storage vaults in secondary containment.
Secondary containment was dry with no evidence of staining.



#### Photograph No. 2

Date:

Dec. 5, 2016

Direction:

Northeast

## **Description:**

Active Phase II Cell II area. Lime pile in center of photograph. Active area is well maintained with no ponding areas and no dust being generated.





Project No.: 1009174008

## Photograph No. 3

Date:

Dec. 5, 2016

#### **Direction:**

East

## **Description:**

Phase II Cell 1/Cell 2 boundary looking toward Phase II separation berm. No erosion or dust observed.



## Photograph No. 4

Date:

Dec. 5, 2016

Direction:

North

## **Description:**

Cell II Phase II active area. Lime pile in center of photograph. Well maintained and graded.





Project No.: 1009174008

## Photograph No. 5

#### Date:

November 17, 2016

#### **Direction:**

North

#### **Description:**

Sump area of Cell II Phase II. Leachate collection riser building in the background.



## Photograph No. 6

#### Date:

Dec. 5, 2016

## **Direction:**

Northwest

## **Description:**

Sump area of Cell II Phase II. Leachate from significant recent rain is present, but has been effectively contained.





Project No.: 1009174008

## Photograph No. 7

Date:

Dec. 5, 2016

**Direction:** South

# **Description:**

Armored perimeter stormwater ditch of Cell I of Phase II.



## Photograph No. 8

Date:

Dec. 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

southeast

## **Description:**

Cover repair area on Cell 1. Cover material was regraded, seeded, and covered with erosion control blanket.





Project No.: 1009174008

# Photograph No. 9

Date:

Dec. 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

Northeast

Description:

Cell 1 Leachate pumphouse and stormwater culvert



# Photograph No. 10

Date:

Dec. 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

North

**Description:** 

Cell 1 leachate control panel





Project No.: 1009174008

## Photograph No. 11

Date:

November 17, 2016

**Direction:** 

east

#### **Description:**

Inside Cell 1 Leachate Pump House. Cleanout riser (bottom pipe), leachate pump risers, and T connection to forcemain shown.



## Photograph No. 12

Date:

November 17, 2016

**Direction:** 

East

## **Description:**

Leachate liquid level indicator and controls of Cell II Phase II leachate pumphouse. Red Light is indicating high leachate level due to recent rain.





Project No.: 1009174008

## Photograph No. 13

Date:

Dec. 5, 2016

**Direction:** Southwest

# **Description:**

Operations in Stage 2. No erosion gullies observed.



# Photograph No. 14

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

Direction:

East

## **Description:**

Leachate liquid level indicator and controls of Cell II Phase II leachate pumphouse. Red Light is indicating high leachate level due to recent rain.





Project No.: 1009174008

# Photograph No. 15

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

Southeast

Stormwater Letdown on north side of Phase I cover.



# Photograph No. 16

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

Direction:

West

**Description:** 

Perimeter stormwater channel with temporary storage trailer shown.





Project No.: 1009174008

# Photograph No. 17

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

Direction:

Northeast

Description:

East forebay of surface water sediment control basin



# Photograph No. 18

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

Northwest

**Description:** 

Non-contact stormwater outfall into perimeter non-contact water perimeter channel.





Project No.: 1009174008

# Photograph No. 19

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

Southwest



Final cover benching/stormwater terraces of Phase I. Terrace berms are clear of obstructions and functioning as intended. Vegetative cover is dense and healthy.



Photograph No. 20

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

Direction:

North

**Description:** 

Standing on top of Phase II Cell 1 plateau looking north into Cell 2 active area.





Project No.: 1009174008

## Photograph No. 21

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

West

# **Description:**

Looking west from atop the Phase II Plateau.



# Photograph No. 22

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

North

## **Description:**

Looking north on Phase I/Phase II border on plateau.





Project No.: 1009174008

# Photograph No. 23

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

Northeast

## **Description:**

Looking northeast, typical final cover of Phase I with thick vegetation.



# Photograph No. 24

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

Southwest

**Description:** 

Phase I perimeter stormwater ditch.





Project No.: 1009174008

# Photograph No. 25

Date:

Dec 5, 2016

**Direction:** 

Southwest

**Description:** 

Phase I terrace bench. Well maintained and functioning as intended.

