BEFORE THE

OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OHIO E.P.A.

FEB 15 2008

ENTERED DIRECTOR'S JOURNAL

In the Matter of:

I certify this to be a true and accurate copy of the official documents as filed in the records of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

Christopher Vincent
310A N. Jay Street
Rockford, Ohio 45882

:
:
By: _____ Date: 2-15-08

Director's Final Findings and Orders

I. JURISDICTION

These Director's Final Findings and Orders ("Orders") are issued to Christopher Vincent ("Respondent") pursuant to the authority vested in the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency ("Ohio EPA") under Ohio Revised Code ("ORC") §§ 3704.03 and 3745.01.

II. PARTIES BOUND

These Orders shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and heirs and successors in interest liable under Ohio law.

III. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise stated, all terms used in these Orders shall have the same meaning as defined in ORC Chapter 3704 and the rules promulgated thereunder.

IV. FINDINGS

The Director of Ohio EPA has determined the following findings:

1. Respondent resides at the property located at 310A N. Jay Street in Rockford, Mercer County, Ohio. The property is located in a "restricted area" as defined in Ohio Administrative Code ("OAC") Rule 3745-19-01(J).

2. OAC Rule 3745-19-03(A) prohibits "open burning," as defined in OAC Rule 3745-19-01(H), in a restricted area except as otherwise provided in OAC Rule 3745-19-03(B) to (D) and ORC § 3704.11. The provisions of OAC Rule 3745-19-03(B) to (D) and ORC § 3704.11 do not provide for the open burning of trash, plastic, aerosol cans, construction and demolition debris and metal in a restricted area.

3. ORC § 3704.05(G) states, in part, that no person shall violate any order, rule, or determination of the Director issued, adopted, or made under ORC Chapter 3704. OAC Chapter 3745-19 was adopted by the Director pursuant to ORC Chapter 3704.

4. On September 1, September 3, September 10, October 16 and October 24, 2007, the Mercer County Sheriff's Department, Rockford Police Department, Rockford Fire

Department or a combination of there of, responded to complaints of open burning at Respondent's property located at 310A N. Jay Street. During each of these events, local authorities documented that Respondent was open burning items such as trash, plastic, aerosol cans, construction and demolition debris and metal and that the fires were too large and had to be extinguished.

5. On November 6, 2007, Ohio EPA conducted a complaint investigation at Respondent's property. During the complaint investigation, Ohio EPA observed remnants of a burn pile and determined that Respondent had unlawfully open burned items such as trash, plastic, aerosol cans, construction and demolition debris and metal in a restricted area.

6. Open burning of such waste material is prohibited by rule, and the open burning was not otherwise exempted from the prohibition of OAC Rule 3745-19-03(A).

7. Based on the above Findings, the Director of Ohio EPA finds that Respondent violated the following ORC law and OAC rule:

- ORC § 3704.05(G), for violating a rule the Director adopted under ORC Chapter 3704; and
- OAC Rule 3745-19-03(A) which prohibits the open burning of such waste materials.

8. On November 7, 2007, Ohio EPA sent a notice of violation letter to Respondent for the open burning violations identified above.

9. OAC Rule 3745-19-06(A) states that the Director of Ohio EPA may assess a violator not more than two hundred fifty dollars per day for each separate violation of the rules in this Chapter for open burning on residential property. Respondent conducted illegal open burning activities on five occasions as referenced in Finding No. 4. of these Orders. Since Celina Municipal Court fined Respondent for the September 3, 2007 open burning incident, Ohio EPA is only assessing penalties for the other four illegal burning incidents.

10. Should Respondent fail to comply with these Orders, the Director of Ohio EPA may refer this matter to the Ohio Attorney General's Office where, under the authority of the Ohio Revised Code § 3704.06, the Director may request that the Attorney General pursue litigation and seek civil penalties of up to $25,000 per day of violation.

11. The Director has given consideration to, and based his determination on, evidence relating to the technical feasibility and economic reasonableness of complying with the following Orders and their relation to benefits to the people of the State be derived from such compliance.

V. ORDERS

The Director hereby issues the following Orders:

1. Upon the effective date of these Orders, Respondent shall achieve compliance with the requirements of OAC Chapter 3745-19 and shall maintain compliance thereafter.

2. Within thirty (30) days after the effective date of these Orders, Respondent shall pay Ohio EPA the amount of one thousand dollars ($1,000) in administrative penalties pursuant to OAC Rule 3745-19-06. Payment shall be made by an official check made payable to "Treasurer, State of Ohio" for $1,000. The official check shall be submitted to Brenda Case, or her successor, with a letter identifying the Respondent, to:

Ohio EPA
Office of Fiscal Administration
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049

3. A copy of the check shall be sent to James A. Orlemann, Assistant Chief, SIP Development and Enforcement Section, or his successor, at the following address:

Division of Air Pollution Control
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049

VI. TERMINATION

Respondent's obligations under these Orders shall terminate upon Ohio EPA's receipt of the official check required by Section V of these Orders.

VII. OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS

All actions required to be taken pursuant to these Orders shall be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of all applicable local, State and federal laws and regulations. These Orders do not waive or compromise the applicability and enforcement of any other statutes or regulations applicable to Respondent.

VIII. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent Ohio EPA from seeking legal or equitable relief to enforce the terms of these Orders or from taking other administrative,

legal or equitable action as deemed appropriate and necessary, including seeking penalties against Respondent for noncompliance with these Orders and/or for the violations described herein. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent Ohio EPA from exercising its lawful authority to require Respondent to perform additional activities pursuant to ORC Chapter 3704 or any other applicable law in the future. Nothing herein shall restrict the right of Respondent to raise any administrative, legal or equitable claim or defense with respect to such further actions which Ohio EPA may seek to require of Respondent. Nothing in these Orders shall be construed to limit the authority of Ohio EPA to seek relief for violations not addressed in these Orders.

IX. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of these Orders is the date these Orders are entered into the Ohio EPA Director's journal.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Chris Korleski
Director

Date 2/11/08