



NEWS RELEASE

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State of Ohio Goes to Court to End Nuisance Conditions at Columbiana County Landfill

Citing an immediate threat to public health, enjoyment and the environment, Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray is requesting the Columbiana County Court of Common Pleas order the owners of A&L Salvage Landfill in Lisbon to end nuisance conditions impacting residents living around the closed construction and demolition debris landfill. Today, Attorney General Cordray filed a motion for a preliminary injunction and a 20-count complaint at the request of Ohio EPA Director Chris Korleski.

"We have given A&L Salvage's owners every opportunity to comply with Ohio law and properly close that landfill," said Attorney General Cordray. "Instead, they have allowed conditions to deteriorate to a point where we now need the Court's help to make things right."

To alleviate nuisance hydrogen sulfide odors leaving the landfill and address other concerns on the site, the State is requesting the Court issue a preliminary injunction ordering A&L Salvage to cover the entire 42-acre site with an additional 12 inches of soil within six weeks of the order. The complaint seeks additional corrective actions, payment of past due landfill fees and consideration of a civil penalty. Copies of the motion for a preliminary injunction and complaint are online at: www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/media/alsalvage4.pdf.

A&L Salvage Landfill, located at 11225 State Route 45, ceased operating on February 20, 2009. For more than a year, the State has attempted to reach an agreement with the landfill's owners to end the nuisance conditions and properly close, cap and maintain the facility as required under Ohio law. More recently, Ohio EPA's inspector and residents living around the landfill report hydrogen sulfide odors have intensified and caused short-term health effects including headaches and nausea.

"This situation cannot continue as is," said Ohio EPA Director Korleski. "The odors need to be stopped and the landfill needs to be properly stabilized and closed once and for all."

Ohio EPA, U.S. EPA, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the Ohio Department of Health are tracking hydrogen sulfide odors around the landfill and gas monitoring wells inside the landfill to determine whether other gases may be leaving the facility. Lisbon residents experiencing nuisance odors may report it to Ohio EPA's odor hotline at (800) 686-6330, ext. 1212. More information on potential health effects from hydrogen sulfide exposure may be obtained from the Ohio Department of Health's Greg Stein at (614) 995-7017 or online at: www.odh.ohio.gov/ASSETS/7C15806D93994F47A7D34195557C832E/Hydrogen%20Sulfide%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf.