

Mike DeWine, Governor Jon Husted, Lt. Governor Laurie A. Stevenson, Director

March 12, 2019

Huffco Holdings, LLC 4447 South Airport Highway Stockton, California 95206 Re: Huffco Holdings, LLC Director's Final Findings and Orders (DFFO) DFFO Scrap Tires Ashland County ST023342

Subject: Final Findings and Orders of the Director

Dear Sir or Madam:

Transmitted herewith are the Final Findings and Orders of the Director concerning the matter indicated for Huffco Holdings, LLC.

You are hereby notified that this action of the Director of Ohio EPA (Director) is final and may be appealed to the Environmental Review Appeals Commission pursuant to Section 3745.04 of the Ohio Revised Code. The appeal must be in writing and set forth the action complained of and the grounds upon which the appeal is based. The appeal must be filed with the Commission within thirty (30) days after notice of the Director's action. The appeal must be accompanied by a filing fee of \$70.00 made payable to "Treasurer, State of Ohio." The Commission, in its discretion, may reduce the fee if by affidavit it is demonstrated that payment of the full amount of the fee would cause extreme hardship. Notice of the filing of the appeal shall be filed with the Director within three (3) days of filing with the Commission. Ohio EPA requests that a copy of the appeal be served upon the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Environmental Enforcement Section. An appeal may be filed with the Environmental Review Appeals Commission at the following address:

Environmental Review Appeals Commission 30 East Broad Street, 4th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

If you have any questions, please contact Teri Finfrock at (614) 644-3037.

Sincerely,

Main

Jeri Main, Administrative Professional Unit Division of Materials & Waste Management

Enclosure

ec: Kelly Jeter, DMWM, CO Bruce McCoy, DMWM, CO Teri Finfrock, Legal Sue Hardy, DMWM, NWDO 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.

BEFORE THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

In the Matter Of

Huffco Holdings, LLC 4447 South Airport Highway Stockton, California Director's Final Findings and Orders

Respondent

I. JURISDICTION

Ohio EPA MAR 12'19 Entered Directors Journal

These Director's Final Findings and Orders ("Orders") are issued to Huffco Holdings, LLC ("Respondent") pursuant to the authority vested in the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency ("Ohio EPA") under Ohio Revised Code ("ORC") Sections 3734.13 and 3734.85.

II. PARTIES BOUND

These Orders shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent, and heirs and successors in interest liable under Ohio law. No change in ownership of the Property (as hereinafter defined) shall in any way alter Respondent's obligations under these Orders.

III. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise stated, all terms used in these Orders shall have the same meaning as used in ORC Chapter 3734. and the rules promulgated thereunder.

IV. FINDINGS

The Director of Ohio EPA has determined the following findings:

- 1. Respondent is the owner of the property located at 1226 Elm Street, Ashland, Ashland County, Ohio. The property is identified as Parcel Number P43-009-0-0147-00 with the Ashland County Auditor's Office ("the Property").
- 2. There are an estimated more than one hundred (100) scrap tires illegally disposed on the Property.
- 3. Respondent is a "person" as that term is defined in ORC Section 3734.01(G), and in Ohio Administrative Code ("OAC") Rule 3745-27-01(P)(3).

- 4. The Property is not validly registered, permitted or licensed as a scrap tire collection facility, a scrap tire storage facility, a scrap tire recovery facility, a scrap tire monocell or monofill, or a solid waste disposal facility in accordance with ORC Chapter 3734. or OAC Chapter 3745-27.
- 5. Scrap tires are included in the definition of "solid wastes" under ORC Section 3734.01(E) and OAC Rule 3745-27-01(S)(23).
- 6. OAC Rule 3745-27-01(S)(6) defines "scrap tire" as "a type of solid waste and means any unwanted or discarded tire, regardless of size, that has been removed from its original use."
- 7. ORC Section 3734.01(I) defines "Open dumping" as follows: "The depositing of solid wastes into a body or stream of water or onto the surface of the ground at a site that is not licensed as a solid waste facility under section 3734.05 of the Revised Code or, if the solid wastes consist of scrap tires, as a scrap tire collection, storage, monocell, monofill, or recovery facility under section 3734.81 of the Revised Code; the depositing of solid wastes that consist of scrap tires onto the surface of the ground at a site or in a manner not specifically identified in divisions (C)(2) to (5), (7), or (10) of section 3734.85 of the Revised Code; the depositing of untreated infectious wastes into a body or stream of water or onto the surface of the ground; or the depositing of treated infectious wastes into a body or stream of water or onto the surface of the ground at a site facility under section 3734.05 of the ground; or the depositing of treated infectious wastes into a body or stream of water or onto the surface of the ground at a site that is not licensed as a solid waste facility under section 3734.05 of the Revised Code."
- 8. OAC Rule 3745-27-01(O)(4)(b) defines open dumping as, "[t]he deposition of solid wastes that consist of scrap tires into waters of the state, and also means the final deposition of scrap tires on or into the ground at any place other than a scrap tire collection, storage, monofill, monocell, or recovery facility licensed under section 3734.81 of the Revised Code, or at a site or in a manner not specifically identified in division (C)(2), (C)(3), (C)(4), (C)(5), (C)(7), or (C)(10) of section 3734.85 of the Revised Code, or at any licensed solid waste facility if the deposition is not in accordance with Chapters 3745-27 and 3745-37 of the Administrative Code."
- 9. The open dumping of scrap tires is a violation of ORC § 3734.03 which states that "[n]o person shall dispose of solid wastes by open burning or open dumping," and OAC Rule 3745-27-05(C) which states that "[n]o person shall conduct, permit, or allow open dumping. In the event that open dumping is occurring or has occurred at a property, the person(s) responsible for the open dumping, the owner of the property, or the person(s) who allow or allowed open dumping to occur, shall promptly remove and dispose or otherwise manage the solid waste in accordance with Chapter 3734, of the Revised Code, and shall submit verification that the solid waste has been properly managed."
- 10. OAC Rule 3745-27-60(B) provides that "[t]he storage of scrap tires in any amount outside or inside a trailer, vehicle, or building is deemed a nuisance, a hazard to

public health or safety, or fire hazard unless the scrap tires are stored in accordance with" the standards in OAC Rule 3745-27-60(B).

- 11. OAC Rule 3745-27-60(C) states, "Anyone storing scrap tires shall maintain mosquito control as follows:
 - (1) One or more of the following shall be done to control mosquitoes:
 - (a) Remove liquids from scrap tires within twenty-four hours of accepting the scrap tires.
 - (b) Store scrap tires such that water does not accumulate in scrap tires or containers. Tires shall be kept free of water at all times.
 - (c) Within twenty-four hours of accepting scrap tires containing liquid, arrange for the application of a pesticide or larvicide, which is registered for use as mosquito control by the Ohio department of agriculture.

(2) Maintain mosquito control by keeping all tires dry or by continuing applications of a pesticide or larvicide to all scrap tires stored outdoors at no greater than thirty-day intervals or as recommended by the manufacturer or formulator.

(3) Maintain mosquito control records at the premises indicating the name, type, amount used per tire, and EPA registration number of the pesticide or larvicide, the date and time of the application, and the name of the person who applied the pesticide or larvicide. The property owner or the owner or operator of the premises shall make the mosquito control records available for inspection by the director or the health commissioner during normal operating hours. The owner or operator shall retain copies of mosquito control records for a minimum period of three years."

- 12. Scrap tires, if not properly managed, may become a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Mosquitoes are a common disease vector for St. Louis encephalitis, La Crosse encephalitis, Yellow Fever, West Nile Virus and Dengue Fever.
- 13. Given that the scrap tires on the Property constitute a breeding ground for mosquitoes, and given the potential that a scrap tire fire could occur, and given the proximity of the scrap tire piles to sensitive sub-populations such as an elementary school and a senior care center, the Director has determined that the accumulation of scrap tires on the Property constitutes a danger to the public health or safety or to the environment.
- 14. On August 22, 2018, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency observed the following violations at the Property:
 - a. ORC Chapter 3734. and OAC Rule 3745-27-05(C) for open dumping of solid wastes, including scrap tires; and
 - b. OAC Rule 3745-27-60(C) for failing to control for mosquitos.

These violations were documented in a Notice of Violation letter ("NOV") from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to the Respondent dated November 13, 2018. Respondent has not responded to this NOV to date.

- 15. ORC Section 3734.85 provides in relevant part that "[i]f the director determines that an accumulation of scrap tires constitutes a danger to the public health or safety or to the environment, the director shall issue an order under section 3734.13 of the Revised Code to the person responsible for the accumulation of scrap tires directing that person, within one hundred twenty days after the issuance of the order, to remove the accumulation of scrap tires from the premises on which it is located and transport the tires to a scrap tire storage, monocell, monofill, or recovery facility licensed under section 3734.81 of the Revised Code, to such a facility in another state operating in compliance with the laws of the state in which it is located, or to any other solid waste disposal facility in another state that is operating in compliance with the laws of that state."
- 16. ORC Section 3734.85 provides in relevant part: "If the recipient of an order issued under this division fails to comply with the order within one hundred twenty days after the issuance of the order or, if the time for compliance with the order was so extended, within that time, the director shall take such actions as the director considers reasonable and necessary to remove and properly manage the scrap tires located on the land named in the order. The director, through employees of the environmental protection agency or a contractor, may enter upon the land on which the accumulation of scrap tires is located and remove and transport them to a scrap tire recovery facility for processing, to a scrap tire storage facility for storage or disposal. The director shall enter into contracts for the storage, disposal, or processing of scrap tires removed through removal operations conducted under this section."
- 17. ORC Section 3734.85 further provides, "If a person to whom a removal order is issued under this division fails to comply with the order and if the director performs a removal action under this section, the person to whom the removal order is issued is liable to the director for the costs incurred by the director for conducting the removal operation, storage at a scrap tire storage facility, storage or disposal at a scrap tire monocell or monofill facility, or processing of the scrap tires so removed, the transportation of the scrap tires from the site of the accumulation to the scrap tire storage, monocell, monofill, or recovery facility where the scrap tires were stored, disposed of, or processed, and the administrative and legal expenses incurred by the director in connection with the removal operation. The director shall keep an itemized record of those costs. Upon completion of the actions for which the costs were incurred, the director shall record the costs at the office of the county recorder of the county in which the accumulation of scrap tires was located. The costs so recorded constitute a lien on the property on which the accumulation of scrap tires was located until discharged."

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V. ORDERS

Respondent shall achieve compliance with ORC Chapter 3734. and the rules promulgated thereunder according to the following compliance schedule:

- 1. Not later than fourteen (14) days after the effective date of these Orders, Respondent shall establish scrap tire storage piles and fire lanes at the Property in accordance with OAC Rule 3745-27-60(B).
- 2. Not later than fourteen (14) days after the effective date of these Orders, Respondent shall implement mosquito control measures at the Property in accordance with the provisions of OAC Rule 3745-27-60(C).
- 3. Not later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the effective date of these Orders, Respondent shall remove or cause the removal of all scrap tires from the Property including, but not limited to, scrap tires dumped onto the ground and buried scrap tires, and shall arrange for their transportation, by a registered transporter, to a scrap tire storage, monofill, monocell, or recovery facility licensed under ORC Section 3734.81, to such a facility in another state operating in compliance with the laws of that state in which it is located, or to any other solid waste disposal facility in another state that is operating in compliance with the laws of that state that is operating in compliance with the laws of that state that is operating in compliance with the laws of that state that is operating in compliance with the laws of that state that is operating in compliance with the laws of that state that is operating in compliance with the laws of that state. During the 120 day period, Respondent shall remove, transport and dispose of at least 100 scrap tires within 30 days of the effective date of the Orders, and Respondent shall remove, transport and dispose of at least 100 scrap tires with all of the scrap tires being removed, transported and disposed within 120 days after the effective date of these Orders.
- 4. Not later than ten (10) days after removal of the first 100 scrap tires in accordance with Order No. 3 above, and thereafter on a monthly basis by the tenth day of each month, Respondent shall obtain and forward to Ohio EPA Northwest District Office receipts from the registered transporter and the disposal facility, indicating weight, volume and number of scrap tires transported and received.
- 5. Respondent shall continue to comply with Order Nos. 1 and 2 above until such time as all scrap tires have been removed from the Property.

VI. TERMINATION

Respondent's obligations under these Orders shall terminate when Respondent certifies in writing and demonstrates to the satisfaction of Ohio EPA that Respondent has performed all obligations under these Orders and the Chief of Ohio EPA's Division of Materials and Waste Management acknowledges, in writing, the termination of these Orders. If Ohio EPA does not agree that all obligations have been performed, then Ohio EPA will notify Respondent of the obligations that have not been performed, in which case Respondent shall have an opportunity to address any such deficiencies and seek termination as described above. Director's Final Findings and Orders Huffco Holdings, LLC, Respondent Page 6 of 9

The certification shall contain the following attestation: "I certify that the information contained in or accompanying this certification is true, accurate and complete."

This certification shall be submitted by Respondent to Ohio EPA and shall be signed by Respondent.

VII. OTHER CLAIMS

Nothing in these Orders shall constitute or be construed as a release from any claim, cause of action or demand in law or equity against any person, firm, partnership or corporation, not a party to these Orders, for any liability arising from, or related to, Respondent or the Property.

VIII. 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 or the Property.

IX. NOTICE

All documents required to be submitted by Respondent pursuant to these Orders shall be addressed to:

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Northwest District Office, Division of Materials and Waste Management 347 N. Dunbridge Road Bowling Green, Ohio 43402 Attn: Unit Supervisor, DMWM

or to such persons and addresses as may hereafter be otherwise specified in writing by Ohio EPA.

X. <u>RESERVATION OF RIGHTS</u>

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 3734. 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.

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Nothing in these Orders shall be construed to limit the authority of Ohio EPA to seek relief for violations not addressed in these Orders.

XI. EFFECTIVE DATE

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

IT IS SO ORDERED:

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Laurie A. Stevenson, Director