Subject: Lorain City Landfill, Lorain County  
Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 3745-27-13 Authorization

Dear Director Ziemnik:

On September 5, 2018, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), Division of Materials and Waste Management (DMWM), Northeast District Office (NEDO) received a document titled Request for Authorization Under OAC 3745-27-13, Proposed Black River Bikeway Extension, Phase 3B, Closed Lorain City Landfill, City of Lorain & Sheffield Village, Lorain County Ohio (Request). The Request was submitted in accordance with OAC Rule 3745-27-13 by HZW Environmental Consultants on behalf of Lorain County Metro Parks (Metro Parks) for the closed Lorain City Landfill (Facility) located in the City of Lorain and Sheffield Village, Ohio.

OAC Rule 3745-27-13 requires authorization from the director of Ohio EPA (director) before engaging in filling, grading, excavating, building, drilling, or mining on land where a solid waste facility was operated. The Facility operated as a licensed solid waste disposal facility from the late 1960s to 1975. The Metro Parks is proposing to construct an all-purpose recreational trail known as the “Black River Bikeway Extension” on a former Norfolk and Western railroad right-of-way located adjacent to the closed Facility. Specifically, the Metro Parks is requesting to perform activities along the proposed recreational trail such as clearing and grubbing within the construction limits, removing all remnant railroad features, excavating and embanking, installing a shallow pipe underdrain, installing storm sewer piping and structures, installing asphalt pavement, and installing a timber boardwalk. Although waste is not expected to be encountered during the construction, the Metro Parks took the conservative approach so that the work could be completed in the event waste is discovered.

Based upon a review of the Request, I have determined, pursuant to OAC Rule 3745-27-13, that the proposed activities, if conducted in accordance with the Request as submitted on September 5, 2018, along with the following conditions, will not result in
violation of applicable laws and regulations, will not create a nuisance, and are unlikely to adversely affect public safety or health or the environment. Therefore, the Metro Parks is hereby authorized to perform the activities outlined in this letter in accordance with the plans, specifications, and information submitted as part of the Request.

As part of this approval, the Metro Parks is subject to the following conditions:

**CONDITIONS**

**General Conditions:**

1. This approval grants authorization to perform activities at the Facility in accordance with the Request as submitted on September 5, 2018. All activities shall be conducted in strict accordance with the plans, specifications, and other information submitted as part of the Request. There may be no deviation from the approved plans without prior written authorization from Ohio EPA. Any future activities at the Facility may require additional Ohio EPA approval.

2. Not later than 72 hours prior to the start of the activities associated with this authorization, the Metro Parks shall submit written notification, which specifies the anticipated date of commencement, to Ohio EPA, DMWM, NEDO and the Lorain County Board of Health.

3. Access shall be allowed at the Facility to the director or a representative authorized by the director at any time to make inspections, conduct tests, or examine records and reports pertaining to the authorized activities.

4. All on-site activities shall be accomplished in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to environmental protection, including but not limited to the control of air pollution, leachate, surface water run-on and run-off, and protection of ground water.

**Operational Conditions:**

OAC Rule 3745-27-13(H)(4)

5. Any solid and/or hazardous waste to be removed from the Facility shall be collected and securely stored until these materials are properly characterized and disposed of in accordance with Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 3734 and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

6. Prior to any disposal of waste or contaminated soil from the Facility, the Metro Parks shall submit copies of sample analysis results, the treatment or disposal method selected, and a letter of acceptance from the treatment or disposal facility, to Ohio EPA, DMWM, NEDO, pursuant to OAC Rule 3745-27-13(H)(4).
ORC Chapter 6111

7. Any liquids, semi-solids, industrial wastes, and other wastes regulated by ORC Chapter 6111 that are removed during intrusive activities shall be collected and securely stored until these materials are properly characterized and disposed of in accordance with ORC Chapter 6111 and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

OAC Rule 3745-27-13(J)

8. All on-site activities shall be performed in a manner that:
   a. Prevents migration of leachate, explosive gas, or toxic gas from the Facility;
   b. Does not create a nuisance or adversely affect public safety or health or the environment;
   c. Controls fugitive dust and other air emissions; and
   d. Minimizes the potential for increased infiltration of surface water.

9. For the purposes of erosion control, the Metro Parks shall use best management practices and standards as specified in the National Resources Conservation manual titled Rainwater and Land Development prepared by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil & Water Conservation.

OAC Rule 3745-27-13(H)(6)

10. No boring or excavation shall occur within the limits of waste placement unless any excavated waste is replaced within previously existing horizontal and vertical limits of waste placement or is treated or disposed of at a licensed, permitted treatment or disposal facility, in accordance with ORC Chapter 3734 and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

OAC Rule 3745-27-13(H)(7)

11. If boring or excavation occurs outside the limits of waste placement at the Facility, the Metro Parks shall not use material consisting of solid waste or hazardous waste to backfill the bored or excavated areas.

OAC Rule 3745-27-13(H)(10)

12. Not later than 60 days after completing the activities authorized through this approval, the Metro Parks shall submit to Ohio EPA, DMWM, NEDO, a certification report in accordance with OAC Rule 3745-27-13(H)(10).
13. This authorization shall terminate 3 years after its effective date if the Metro Parks has not begun the activities authorized herein.

14. The director may revoke this authorization if the Metro Parks violates, or is likely to violate, any applicable law or if continued implementation of the approved plans may cause a threat to human health or safety or the environment.

**END OF CONDITIONS**

Nothing in this letter shall be construed to authorize any waiver from the requirements of any applicable federal or state laws or regulations except as specified herein. This authorization shall not be interpreted to release the City of Independence from responsibility under ORC Chapters 3704, 3714, 3734, or 6111; under the Federal Clean Water Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, or the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act; or from other applicable requirements for remedying conditions resulting from any release of contaminants to the environment.

You are hereby notified that this action of the director is final and may be appealed to the Environmental Review Appeals Commission pursuant to ORC Section 3745.04. 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 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 regarding this authorization, please contact John Hujar of Ohio EPA, NEDO at (330) 963-1122.

Sincerely,

Craig W. Butler
Director

CWB:JH

ec:  Tom Blackford, Lorain County General Health District
     Doug Wetzel, HZW Environmental Consultants
     Jeremy Carroll, Ohio EPA, Central Office, DMWM