



## News for Immediate Release

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### **Odor Complaints, Other Violations Lead to \$22,000 Penalty for Seneca Landfill in Butler County**

Penalty Part of Consent Order and Agreement with DEP

**Meadville** – The Department of Environmental Protection has addressed chronic odor control deficiencies and other operational violations at Seneca Landfill in Butler County under a consent order and agreement that, among other things, imposes a \$22,000 fine on the facility.

The landfill is located in Lancaster and Jackson townships.

“Over the past six months, DEP has responded to numerous odor complaints from residents living near the landfill,” said DEP Regional Director Kelly Burch.

“Inspectors traced the odors back to the landfill and the facility’s failure to implement its odor control plan fully. Seneca has corrected the violations, but DEP inspectors will continue to monitor the landfill as they do with all others.”

DEP inspectors determined that a yard waste processing area and landfill gas were the sources of the odors.

To address the odors, the landfill began using odor controlling agents at the site and relocated the yard waste processing area. The landfill also installed additional landfill gas collection wells and a temporary synthetic cap over a portion of the landfill.

Inspectors noted that the landfill failed to have adequate daily cover in certain areas and failed to follow its leachate management plan. Leachate is the liquid that forms when waste material decomposes.

Currently, all of the violations have been corrected.

Since Jan. 14, DEP has issued three notices of violation to Seneca regarding the issues that led to the consent order and agreement.

Under the agreement, Seneca has 30 days to submit a revised odor control plan that more specifically addresses:

- More frequent odor monitoring and more proactive odor control procedures;

- The operation of the landfill gas collection system to minimize and control odors; and
- Seneca's timely response to landfill gas odors when they are detected.

The \$22,000 penalty will be directed to the state's Solid Waste Abatement Fund, which finances cleanups of illegal dumps and other hazards to public health.

For more information on waste management regulations, visit [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us), keyword: Waste management.

**Media contact:** Freda Tarbell, 814-332-6816

**Source:** Department of Environmental Protection Northwest Regional Office

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