



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CENTRAL OFFICE • 1980 WEST BROAD STREET • COLUMBUS, OH 43223
JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR • JERRY WRAY, DIRECTOR

February 18, 2016

Randall J. Meyer
Inspector General
Office of the Inspector General
30 East Broad Street—Suite 2940
Columbus, OH 43215-3414

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL
2016 FEB 22 PM 2:55

RE: IG File 2014-CA00032

Dear Inspector General Meyer:

Thank you for your investigation of the actions of certain ODOT employees in District 9 and the allegation of Violations of the Clean Water Act by the Illegal Dumping of Ditch Spoils in Salt Creek in April 2014. As a result of your investigation, ODOT has evaluated your recommendations and offers the following responses.

IG Recommendations 1 & 2

Review the actions of ODOT employees Highway Technician 3 J. Matthew Day and Highway Technician 2 Jeffrey Ragland, to determine whether their conduct warrants administrative action.

Review the actions of ODOT employee William D. Pickerrell, to determine whether his conduct warrants administrative action for failure to supervise.

ODOT Response: ODOT conducted an administrative investigations into the activities of Messrs. Day, Ragland, and Pickerrell, and as a result, the employees in question were found to have committed violations of WR 101, Subsections (I)(1)(A) (Poor, careless or incomplete work) and (I)(1)(C) (any other general neglect of duty). Mr. Pickerrell received a 3 day suspension; Mr. Day received a 2 day suspension and Mr. Ragland received a 1 day suspension.

Additionally, the investigation also lead to the actions of Ms. Andrea Woods and Messrs. George “Rick” Shannon, Donald Atchison and Dustin Pfeifer being reviewed for their roles in the incident. They were also found to have violated WR 101, Subsections (I)(1)(A) (Poor, careless or incomplete work) and (I)(1)(C) (any other general neglect of duty) and the four of them received written reprimands.

IG Recommendation 3: Review ODOT training policies governing the actions of ODOT employees involved in working around waterways and wetland areas and consider whether revisions are in order.

ODOT Response: ODOT is in the process of reviewing all training policies governing the actions of its employees working around waterways and wetland areas. If any revisions are in order, they will be implemented.

IG Recommendation 4: Upon concluding any changes to the policies governing work impacting waterways and wetland areas, consider whether additional training of employees is warranted.

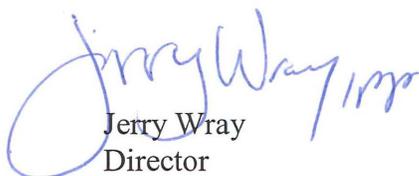
ODOT Response: If any changes to ODOT policies are implemented, employees will be provided with any additional training as warranted.

IG Recommendation 5: Establish a formal policy to select and evaluate areas for dumping fill material. Maintain an approved list of approved locations in each district environmental office.

ODOT Response: The agency is developing standard procedures for selecting and evaluating areas for dumping fill material. ODOT is also developing a list of approved locations to be placed with each district environmental office.

Thank you again for your careful review of this matter. Should you have any additional comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jerry Wray
Director

cc: Patrick J. Piccininni,
Chief Legal Counsel, ODOT