

**Department of Environmental Management  
Office of Waste Management**

**FIELD INVESTIGATION REPORT**

**Facility Name:** Portsmouth Town Dump  
**Date of Investigation:** September 12, 2014  
**Facility Address:** East Main Road, Portsmouth

**Investigators:** Mark M. Dennen

**Findings:**

I arrived at the site at approximately 2:30 PM. I followed a truck into the site. When I arrived, Brian Almeida from Oliveira Construction was onsite. The truck that was in front of me was labeled M Field, Graton, MA and has a license MA 89292. Driver referred me to the truck behind him for the paperwork. That paperwork (attached photo) indicated with was from the Omega Pond Dam (copies of paperwork attached). The material they both dumped was a black sand with cobbles and boulders as well as pieces (many of them large) or highly weathered wood. The rocks in the load seems to be a blue mica schist. I did not detect any odor from these soils. I used a shovel to dig into the pile and collect a sample as per SOP's (see attached chain of custody). Mr. Almeida indicated this material met residential standards. They were spreading the material out as it was coming in, I asked why they were not using the material as cover, Mr. Almeida said that it was too difficult to screen out the pieces of wood and boulders to be able to work with the material.

They were actively filling the boundary near VHB-13 and had constructed soils berms to contain the area. There was another relatively fresh surface, I asked where that material had come from. Mr. Almeida said it was from a mansion in Newport. It was a very dark, sandy material without large cobbles and wood, I took a sample of this material as well by digging a few inches from the top. Copies of paperwork are also attached.

We also walked the site and he showed me the new area on the northeast corner of the site that had been cleared and fenced. The fill was very visible as shown in the picture. When they finish the area they are working it, this will be the next area filled. We also looked at the eastern boundary of the site and I mentioned the renewal requires they start loaming and seeding by 9/20 and finish by the end of November.

Although it has been very dry lately, dust control on the access road in the site was good. Material being dumped was relatively moist and did not seem to create a dust problem when dumped. However, there was an area just southeast of the active face. This area had a layer of dust a few inches thick, it had the consistency of talcum powder and was very dry. It seemed possible this was dust that had settled out from work being done in the area. It was so fine and dry that just walking over it kicked up dust. I asked Mr. Almeida to wet this area and stayed to observe it being done. After observing him wet it, I opined that wetting it may not be adequate and that perhaps he should cover this. He said he was thinking he would finish wetting it and then scrape and bury this material. I thought that would work also.

Staying to observe the wetting of the area precluded me from dropping off the samples at ESS, therefore I locked the samples in the sample refrigerator and RIDEM and I dropped the samples at ESS on Monday morning as shown in attached paperwork.

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Mark M. Dennen

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Date

Photo 1: Freshly dumped sediments from East Providence with boulders and wood fragments looking west. Sample was taken from halfway up right side of this pile.



Photo 3: Area of bare soils on eastern boundary of property where grading and seeding will need to be done this fall. Looking south.



Photo 2: Looking north near property boundary showing bermed area and sedimentation controls (to left)



Photo 4: Newly fenced area in Northeast corner of property showing fill material that requires cover. Looking northeast.



Photo 5: Soils reportedly from Newport that had been spread out in the area around TP-27 that



were sampled.

Photo 6: Photo taken on the way in showing fairly good dust control on road.

