

## **Indiana Department of Environmental Management**

We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.

100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204 (800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • www.idem.IN.gov

Eric J. Holcomb

Bruno Pigott
Commissioner

April 06, 2021

<u>Via Email to:</u> billh@claycountyin.gov Mr. Bill Hale, Registered Environmental Health Specialist Clay County Health Department 18 N. Walnut Brazil. Indiana 47834

Dear Mr. Hale:

Re: Inspection Summary/ Noncompliance Letter
Town of Coalmont

Coalmont, Clay County

An inspection of the above-referenced facility or location was conducted by a representative of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Office of Water Quality, pursuant to IC 13-18-3-9. A summary of the inspection is provided below:

Date(s) of Inspection: April 01, 2021

Type of Inspection: Complaint Investigation (#95168)

Inspection Results: Violations were observed.

The following concerns were noted:

A complaint, that was originally submitted to EPA on November 9, 2020, was forwarded to the IDEM inspector on March 25, 2021. The complaint states that complainant lives in a town (Coalmont) that has no sewage system. Water from sinks and washers run into ditches, along with possibly sewage. The complainant is concerned about public health issues related to septic wastewater in roadside and back yard ditches.

IDEM inspectors (including a former County Health Department Septic Environmentalist) conducted a field visit and inspection of the ditches in Coalmont on April 1, 2021. Inspectors observed numerous septic systems that appeared to be discharging directly into road ditches throughout the Town (see photos).

410 IAC 6-8.3-52 states that: No person shall throw, run, drain, seep, or otherwise dispose into any of the surface waters or ground waters of this state, or cause, permit, or suffer to be thrown, run, drained, allowed to seep, or otherwise disposed into such waters, any organic or inorganic matter from a dwelling or residential on-site sewage system that would cause or contribute to a health hazard or water pollution.

- (b) The:
- (1) design;
- (2) construction;
- (3) installation;
- (4) location;
- (5) maintenance; and
- (6) operation;

of residential on-site sewage systems shall comply with the provisions of this rule.

Based on inspectors observations, many septic systems in the Town may not be compliant with the aforementioned Indiana State Department of Health rule. This information is being forwarded to the County and State Health Departments for further investigation and follow-up.

This information is being forwarded to the State and County Health Departments for further review. Please direct any questions to Holly Zurcher at 317-954-8028 or by email to hzurcher@idem.in.gov.

Sincerely,

Samantha Groce, Chief Wastewater Inspection Section Office of Water Quality

**Enclosure** 

Cc: Mike Mettler, ISDH Complainant



# NPDES Wastewater Facility Inspection Report INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

	S Permit Number:	Facility Type:					Facility Classification:			TEMPO AI ID
	No Permit NA				Minor		NA			
Date	Date(s) of Inspection: April 01, 2021									
Туре	e of Inspection: Comp	olaint Invest	igation	(#95168)						
Name	and Location of Facility Inspec	cted:		,		Receiving Waters:			Perm	it Expiration Date
Town of Coalmont										
					Various ditches Design Flow:			gn Flow:		
	lmont	IN 4784	15 C	lay						
	te Representative(s): acility rep was met at the	site.								
Was a verbal summary of findings presented to the on-site representative? <b>No</b>										
Certifi	ed Operator:	Number:	Class:	Effective Dat		piration Date: Email:				
Cybe	er Security Contact:									
Name: Email:										
	onsible Official: Bill Hale, Registered Envi	ronmental F	lealth S	pecialist				alth Depar	tmer	<u>it</u>
	l. Walnut			p = 5.5		Email: billh@cla	aycounty	/in.gov		í
	To M. Wallat					Phone:				Contacted?
Brazil, Indiana 47834 Fax:								No		
	_			NSPECTION	ON FI	NDINGS				
$\bigcirc$ Conditions evaluated were found to be satisfactory at the time of the inspection. (5)										
OViolations were discovered but corrected during the inspection. (4)										
	O Potential problems were	e discovered	l or obse	erved. (3)						
	<ul><li>Violations were discove</li></ul>	ered and req	uire a su	ıbmittal fron	n you	and/or a follow-up ins	spection	by IDEM. (	2)	
	O Violations were discove	ered and may	y subjec	t you to an a	approj	priate enforcement res	sponse. (	(1)		
						RING INSPECTION				
	D					satisfactory, N = Not Eve				2.1
N			N Facility/Site		N	Self-Monitoring	N	<u>'</u>		
N	Effluent	N	Opera		N	Flow Measurement		Pretreat		
N	Permit	N	Mainte	nance	N	Laboratory	N			s Compliance
N	Collection System	N	Sludge		Ν	Records/Reports	U		Vater F Septics	Pollution/Failed
			DETA	AILED ARE	EA E\	/ALUATIONS				
Effluent Limits Compliance:										
No 1. Were DMRs reviewed as part of the inspection?										
Comments:										
Other:										
Water Pollution/Failed Septics										
Comments: A complaint, that was originally submitted to EPA on November 9, 2020, was forwarded to the IDEM inspector on										
										CIOI UII
March 25, 2021. The complaint states that complainant lives in a town (Coalmont) that has no sewage system. Water from sinks and washers run into ditches, along with possibly sewage. The complainant is										
concerned about public health issues related to septic wastewater in roadside and back yard ditches.										

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1 of 2

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State Health Departments for further investigation and follow-up.								
IDEM REPRESENTATIVE								
Inspector Name:	Email:	Phone Number:						
Holly Zurcher	hzurcher@idem.IN.gov	317-954-8028						
Other staff participating in the inspection:								
Name(s)	Phone Number(s)							
Kevin Stark	812-525-9411							
IDEM MANAGER REVIEW								
IDEM Manager:		Date:						
Andy Schmidt		4/5/2021						

## **Inspection Photographs**





## **Town of Coalmont**

Photographer: Kevin Stark

Date: 4/1/2021

Others Present: Holly Zurcher

Location/Description:

Cleaning debris to reveal sewage discharging into road ditch.

Time:



Facility:

## **Town of Coalmont**

Photographer: Kevin Stark

Date: 4/1/2021 Time:

Others Present: Holly Zurcher

Location/Description:

Downstream of pipe above.



Facility:

## **Town of Coalmont**

Photographer: Kevin Stark

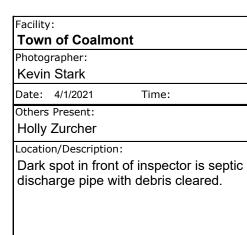
Date: 4/1/2021 Time:

Others Present: Holly Zurcher

Location/Description:

Another septic pipe discharging into road ditch.







Facility:
Town of Coalmont

Photographer:
Kevin Stark

Date: 4/1/2021 Time:
Others Present:
Holly Zurcher

Location/Description:
Septic pipe discharging in ditch.



Town of Coalmont

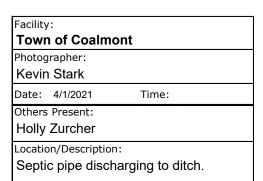
Photographer:
Kevin Stark

Date: 4/1/2021 Time:
Others Present:
Holly Zurcher

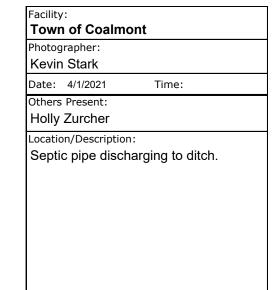
Location/Description:
Downstream view of septic discharge in ditch.

Facility:









Facility:

**Town of Coalmont** 



Photographer:
Kevin Stark

Date: 4/1/2021 Time:
Others Present:
Holly Zurcher
Location/Description:
Septic pipe discharging to ditch.