



Report Date: February 14, 2017

File: 107156

Report Number: 047700

Douglas Regehr  
5042 Schubert Road  
Armstrong, BC V0E 1B4

Dear Douglas Regehr

**Re: An Investigation Referral, Information Order 107156, 5042 Schubert Road, Armstrong, Effluent**

**Please be advised that this inspection report will be published on the provincial government website in 7 days.**

On September 30, 2016, Ministry of Environment, Environmental Protection Division staff conducted an inspection of your facility, Douglas Regehr located at 5042 Schubert Road, Armstrong with authorization number 107156 under the *Environmental Management Act*.

For your information, this inspection record is being referred to the Conservation Officer Service for investigation.

Inspection Details:

Requirement Description:	1: Retain a Qualified Professional (QP) to compile and fully assess the farm's recent nutrient application rates for the field of concern and their potential linkages to nitrate levels in Steel Springs for the past three years using available data from previous soil sampling, groundwater sampling events, as well as current and previous manure analysis that the Farm may be able to provide. In addition, the QP should conduct further sampling as necessary to fully assess the situation. As a minimum, additional sampling should be conducted to assess the actual present nutrient levels in the soils nitrogen based on soil samples collected from 0-6, 6-12 and 12-24 inches soil horizons prior to March 15, 2014 and again in mid to late April. A report of the QP's findings, recommendations and conclusions relative to ensuring nutrients applied on the field (noted above) do not leach into the groundwater and impact nitrate levels in Steel Springs must also be submitted to the Director on or prior to July 15, 2014.
Details/Findings:	No report containing "recommendations and conclusions relative to ensuring nutrients applied on the field (noted above) do not leach into the groundwater and impact nitrate levels in Steel Springs" has been received by the Ministry of Environment as of September 30, 2016.
Compliance:	Out
Actions to be taken:	Retain a qualified professional to develop a report containing recommendations and conclusions relative to ensuring nutrients applied on the field (noted above) do not leach into the groundwater and impact nitrate levels in Steel Springs. Submit this report to the Director immediately.

Requirement Description:	<p>2: Submit a comprehensive nutrient management plan, developed by a QP, for the approval of the director for the entire farm in keeping with the recommendations in the Environmental Farm Plan Reference Guide and specifically including:</p> <p>a) a detailed contingency plan to deal with unforeseen incidents which result in the farm entering or finishing any given growing season with 20% more nutrients than normally expected. This specific requirement is only required if livestock on the farm produce more than 50% of nutrients required as fertilizer.</p> <p>b) a monitoring plan for soils, surface waters and groundwater on and around the farm to confirm that only the necessary levels of nutrients and fertilizer are being applied and the timing of the applications aren't impacting Steele Springs.</p> <p>The submission of these plans is required on or before September 1, 2014 and they should consider the findings and recommendations from the assessment in requirement #1 above.</p>
Details/Findings:	<p>On April 22, 2015, MoE staff received a copy of the 2015 Nutrient Management Plan dated April 22, 2015.</p> <p>On March 1, 2016, MoE staff received a copy of the 2016 Nutrient Management Plan dated February 29, 2016.</p> <p>A review of both plans show that there is a soil sampling plan, however no surface or groundwater plan is provided. While it is possible for there to not be any surface water on the lands, the absence of discussion around surface water and around groundwater monitoring is a data gap resulting in a non-compliance.</p>
Compliance:	Out
Actions to be taken:	Submit a comprehensive nutrient management plan covering all points listed in requirement #2 of Information Order #107516 for the 2017 year to the Director immediately.
Requirement Description:	<p>3: Submit an annual summary on and before February 28, of 2015, 2016 and 2017 calendar years, fully documenting the nutrient content of the manure applied on the farm the previous year, the nutrients applied to each specific field and when, as well the soil, surface water and groundwater sampling results obtained under the monitoring plan.</p>
Details/Findings:	No annual summaries have been received by the Ministry of Environment staff as of September 30, 2016.
Compliance:	Out
Actions to be taken:	Submit annual summaries for 2014 and 2015 to the Director immediately.

On March 6, 2014 an EMA Section 77 Information Order (the Order) was issued to Douglas Regehr of 5042 Schubert Road in Armstrong BC (the Land). The Order was issued as a result of increasing nitrate levels in the Steel Springs Water Source situated adjacent to the Land. On September 30, 2016, Environmental Protection Officer Devan Oldfield conducted a desktop inspection to verify compliance with the Order requirements.

Douglas Regehr has been determined to be out of compliance with requirement 1, 2 and 3 of the Order. This matter has been referred to the Conservation Officer Service for Investigation.

Provide a report, written by a Qualified Professional, that fulfills the obligations listed in requirement 1 of the Order. Submit a comprehensive nutrient management plan covering all points listed in requirement #2 of Information Order #107516 for the 2017 year to the Director immediately.

Provide an annual summary (requirement 3), written by a Qualified Professional, for 2014 and 2015. The 2016 Annual summary is due February 28, 2017.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Devan Oldfield

Environmental Protection Officer

cc:

**Attachments:**

**Deliver via:**

**Email:**

**Fax:**

**Mail:**

**Registered Mail:**

**Hand Delivery:**

**Ministry of Environment**

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**DISCLAIMER:**

Please note that sections of the permit, regulation or code of practice referenced in this inspection record are for guidance and are not the official version. Please refer to the original permit, regulation or code of practice.

To see the most up to date version of the regulations and codes of practices please visit

<http://www.bclaws.ca>

If you require a copy of the original permit, please contact the inspector noted on this inspection record or visit:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=DF89089126D042FD96DF5D8C1D8B1E41&title=Publically%20Viewable%20A%20uthorizations>

It is also important to note that this inspection record does not necessarily reflect each requirement or condition of the authorization therefore compliance is noted only for the requirements or conditions listed in the inspection record.