Final Report

CY2020 Annual Inspection of Waste Clay Settling Area Dikes

On September 23, 2021, Ardaman & Associates, Inc., prepared the 2020 Annual Inspection of Waste Phosphatic Clay Settling Area Dikes, Nutrien Ltd - White Springs, Hamilton County, Florida. The report is submitted to the Department as required by Rule 62-672.670(5) Florida Administrative Code. This report recommended areas where "prompt remedial actions should be implemented" and "other areas where less-pressing measures are recommended."

On a December 7, 2021, Nutrien provided FDEP a series of responses and/or actions to the Ardaman report. As noted in the report, there were no findings of critical conditions requiring immediate corrective action. See Table 5 for a summary of the responses provided by Nutrien to FDEP.

On December 16, 2021, Nutrien and the County followed up with a conference call with FDEP Northeast District staff.

After investigating the matter and reviewing the periodic inspection reports for 2021, FDEP staff concluded in an email from Thomas Kallemeyn, Program Administrator, FDEP Permitting Program, dated April 21, 2022:

FDEP staff have reviewed the annual reports for the Clay settlement Areas. We also conducted a file review for other annual reports required by permit and rule. Although the annual clay settling area annual report did have an initial deficiency noted we did not find any evidence of actual release or harm to the environment through this review. To understand this issue further we have been working with Nutrien to be including [sic] on the upcoming inspections. We will have engineers/inspectors from FDEP accompany their third party vendor this year during the inspections next month. This will allow us to have a stronger understanding of all of the dike areas at the facility.

In May 2022, FDEP Inspectors visited and inspected the sites. Based on follow-up calls with Tom Kallemeyn, Program Administrator, and Dung Vo, Professional Engineer, with the FDEP Permitting Program, and they said that Nutrien has satisfied FDEP regarding the concerns raised during the 2020 Annual Inspection.

