



**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 E CAPITOL AVE
PIERRE SD 57501-3182
danr.sd.gov

May 5, 2026

Richard Sweeney
CHS Farmers Alliance
1100 Elevator Road
Mitchell, SD 57301

Subject: Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources File Number – 2026.063: pertaining to a liquid fertilizer release that occurred due to a critical tank failure during transport on Old Hwy 16, approximately three miles west of Mt. Vernon.

Dear Mr. Sweeney,

The Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) is contacting you regarding the above referenced matter. A copy of the initial spill report form is enclosed.

Based upon the information provided, approximately 1500 gallons of liquid fertilizer were released when a transport tank failed. The procedures for performing cleanup work in response to releases such as this, were developed to prevent pollution of the state's water resources. In this case, DANR requires the following work be performed (DANR is aware some of the following actions may have already occurred):

- Excavate the contaminated ditch;
- Coordinate with the Davison County Highway Department to scrape up and dispose of contaminated gravel on the shoulder of the highway;
- Fertilizer-contaminated soil and gravel must either be disposed of at a permitted municipal solid waste landfill or land applied for use as a fertilizer. If land application is performed as directed by an agronomist, DANR pre-approval of land application will not be required;
- Any contaminated material that is stockpiled, must be placed on and covered by impermeable material or stored inside a building;
- By June 5, 2026, submit post cleanup photos and landfill receipts (if applicable) along with the enclosed Written Contamination Incident Follow Up Report form (this is a standard form so you can skip the questions that do not apply to your situation).

Jamison Smith will be the project manager for this case. He will review all information you provide and will contact you if he has questions or if additional cleanup is required.

Please do not hesitate to contact Jamison if you have questions. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Trish Kindt
Inspection, Compliance, and Remediation Program
Phone: (605) 773-3296

Cc Karen Wegleitner, Davison County EM
Andrew Uttecht, Geotek
Rusty Weinberg, Davison County Highway Superintendent