



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

**PUBLIC INTEREST CENTER**

P.O. Box 1049, 122 South Front Street  
Columbus, OH 43216-1049

Tele: (614) 644-2160 Fax: (614) 644-2737

# NEWS RELEASE

**For Release:** February 28, 2006

**Contacts:**

Mike Settles  
Ohio EPA  
(614) 644-2160

Tamara McBride  
Cleveland Department of Public Health  
(216) 857-5099

**General Environmental Management, LLC, Agrees to  
Address Nuisance Odors Impacting Clevelanders**

The Cleveland Division of Air Quality, Ohio EPA and Attorney General Jim Petro have reached an interim agreement with General Environmental Management, LLC (GEM) to address ongoing odor problems at its liquid waste treatment and recycling facility located at 2727 and 2655 Transport Road in Cleveland.

The order requires GEM to perform an engineering study to identify all potential nuisance odor sources and take any corrective actions necessary to control those odors. In addition, the company will revise and fully implement an existing odor abatement plan.

GEM also agreed to develop a community outreach and response plan. The plan will require the company to:

- establish and publicize a 24-hour odor complaint hotline to neighboring businesses, residences and organizations that may be affected by odors emanating from the facility;
- establish procedures for promptly notifying the Cleveland Division of Air Quality of odor complaints; and
- implement an existing odor complaint response plan.

GEM receives and processes liquid industrial wastes and produces fuel oils, solvents, inert residual solids and wastewater for discharge to the local wastewater treatment plant. The Cleveland Flats facility has been identified as a source of numerous odor complaints from neighboring businesses and citizens living downwind. In April 2005, the Cleveland Division of Air Quality — Ohio EPA’s contractual representative for air pollution issues in Cuyahoga County — cited the company for violating odor nuisance ordinances.

The interim order is expected to result in an accelerated resolution of odor problems. In the meantime, Attorney General Jim Petro is pursuing a final consent order to address any remaining violations at the facility.

A complaint and the agreed interim order have been filed with the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas.