

# CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD

Cherry Island Landfill

October 2018

## Notes

The October 29, 2018 meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Board (CAB) convened at approximately 5:00 p.m. at the Cherry Island Landfill (CIL), 1706 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Wilmington.

Attendees:

CAB

Vince D'Anna  
Jaehn Tindley Dennis  
Sandra Smithers

DSWA

Robin Roddy  
Lynsey Baer  
Uriel Mendonça

DNREC

Brad Richardson

### ***Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) Update***

Mr. Richardson reported that there were no odor complaints at CIL since 2013. Since the last CAB meeting, DSWA has reported eight (8) incidents, which included unpackaged asbestos deliveries, leachate spills, yard waste citations, a landfill fire and an incident involving the receipt of infectious waste. DNREC was immediately notified of all incidents and a written report of each incident was submitted to DNREC as required by the Permit.

The DNREC Environmental Compliance Specialist (ECS) dedicated to CIL is out on leave and anticipated to return within a few weeks. In the meantime, another DNREC ECS has been diverted to this site on a periodic basis.

On July 5, 2018 DNREC conducted the Annual Compliance Assessment of CIL. The site was found to be clean, secure and well maintained at the time of the Compliance Assessment. According to the on-site Compliance Assessment, the landfill is being operated in accordance with the conditions of their permit.

Mr. Dennis inquired as to the frequency of the Compliance Assessments and if they include air quality assessments?

Mr. Richardson responded that DNREC conducts one official full compliance assessment annually, however, DNREC conducts several other periodic site inspections during the year

as well. The annual compliance assessment does not include an air quality assessment, however, the Division of Air Quality conducts their own air quality compliance inspection.

Ms. Baer explained that the Division of Air Quality also does other periodic site inspections during the year as well.

### ***CIL Update***

- **Overview of CIL's Operations**

Ms. Baer reported that CIL is currently generating approximately 3,400 scfm of landfill gas and selling approximately 2,200 scfm to Cummins. Cummins then sells the gas to Croda and the City of Wilmington (COW) for power generation and boiler fuel respectively.

Mr. D'Anna inquired what happens with the gas that's not being sold and if it cannot be recovered.

Ms. Baer explained that all landfill gas that is not sold to Cummins gets flared. Croda has discussed installing another engine which would allow them to take more gas, however, that will most likely not occur until 2019.

Mr. D'Anna inquired what would happen if there wasn't a gas recovery system.

Ms. Roddy indicated that an active landfill gas collection system is necessary to control landfill gas and maintain compliance with DNREC regulations and permits. If the beneficial reuse project at Cherry Island was no longer viable, which is unlikely, DSWA would still collect the gas and flare the gas.

Ms. Baer continued reporting that in August five (5) new wells were drilled and ten (10) existing wells were re-drilled to ensure that we are collecting as much gas as we can.

Ms. Baer discussed the DeIDOT project on Hay Road. She stated that DSWA has two (2) landfill gas pipelines running underneath the bridge that go to Calpine. CIL currently doesn't use the pipelines however, DSWA maintains them for any potential future usage. The bridge is now open however, DSWA's pipelines are not yet completed. It is expected to be completed in the spring of 2019.

Ms. Baer stated that New Castle County (NCC) has started a repair on an 84" sewer forcemain adjacent to CIL. This 84" forcemain takes all of the waste water from NCC (50 MGD) directly to the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). NCC found a large piece of concrete broke off the interior of the pipeline and determined that it is in need of an

emergency repair. DSWA sends approximately 350,000 GPD of leachate (rain water that passes through trash) via that pipeline to the WWTP for treatment.

Mr. D'Anna inquired if DSWA is still using the line.

Ms. Baer responded that they are currently using the 84" forcemain. NCC will be installing three (3) 48" bypass lines to continue taking all of NCC wastewater, while the repairs are being completed. NCC will install two (2) tie in points to two (2) of the three (3) bypass lines for DSWA to be able to continue to send leachate to the WWTP.

Mr. D'Anna inquired if the break in the pipeline goes under the Christina River which could be a big problem or how do you know that the break is not under the Christina?

Ms. Baer responded that the repair location is just West of the CIL property fence along 495 North and closer to 12<sup>th</sup> street than the river. Ms. Baer indicated that the inspection and repair efforts is the responsibility of NCC.

Ms. Smithers inquired as to how often an inspection is done on this line?

Ms. Baer responded that she is unsure of that detail because this pipe is owned and operated by NCC.

Mr. D'Anna inquired if they're fixing it with three (3) 48" lines.

Ms. Baer explained that the three (3) 48" by-pass lines are just temporary while NCC makes the repairs. When the repairs are complete, the three (3) by-pass lines will be disassembled.

Ms. Smithers inquired if they will do an inspection when they repair the line.

Ms. Baer stated that she would assume an inspection would be completed of the two repair locations prior to putting the 84" back online, however, is unsure of what exactly NCC's plans are for inspections.

Ms. Smithers inquired if there is no safety protocol, i.e. every ten (10) or fifteen (15) years having an inspection to ensure that there is still some integrity to the line.

Ms. Roddy responded that there may be. However, so this Board is clear, this is not related to DSWA. NCC owns and operates and maintains the sewer line. DSWA has their own intact line that ties into NCC's forcemain. NCC is using DSWA's property to access their forcemain for the repair. Ms. Roddy stated that it would be unfair to assume that NCC had not done routine inspections, we just don't know.

Ms. Baer elaborated that as Ms. Roddy indicated, that this is not a DSWA project. She thought it was prudent to mention the project to the Board only because of the close proximity to CIL. Since NCC is using CIL for access there is some misconception that it is a DSWA project. Ms. Baer wanted to make sure the Board knew what the project is a NCC project

Ms. Baer continued that according to our operations permit, DSWA's Chief Operating Officer or Chief Executive Officer is required to give an annual presentation to the Board of the solid waste management in the state. Ms. Roddy is present today to provide the Board with this overview.

- **Overview of Solid Waste Management**

Ms. Roddy provided an overview of DSWA and its facilities.

Mr. D'Anna inquired as to what happens to the appliances?

Ms. Roddy explained that they are shipped off-site for metals recycling.

Mr. D'Anna inquired what is the tonnage compared to five (5) years ago?

Ms. Roddy indicated that solid waste tonnage declined in 2008 in conjunction with the slow down in the economy, since that time, tonnage at CIL and statewide has experienced an upward trend.

Mr. Dennis inquired if the Southern landfill has a contract like CIL and does waste from Maryland go there?

Ms. Roddy explained that the Southern landfill is operated with DSWA owned equipment and with DSWA employees. DSWA is prohibited from accepting out of state waste. DSWA has a screening program in place to prevent, to the extent practicable, the receipt of out of state waste.

Mr. D'Anna inquired as to what the life expectancy of the Central landfill is?

Ms. Roddy explained that DSWA owns land at the Central landfill facility to provide disposal capacity through that latter half of this century.

Mr. Richardson inquired if all the transfer stations waste goes to the Central landfill?

Ms. Roddy explained that currently, the waste from the Pinetree Transfer Station and Milford Transfer Station goes to the Central landfill and the Route 5 Transfer Station, which is in Harbeson, DE goes to the Southern landfill. No waste from any transfer station currently goes to CIL.

Ms. Smithers inquired what are the environmental repercussions for facilities/companies in residential areas going higher? For example, Diamond Materials stockpiles seem to be going higher and higher. She questioned if there is height restriction especially for facilities in neighborhoods?

Mr. Richardson responded that he believed that would be a county issue. He doesn't believe there is anything in the state regulations that address height. With landfills it is certainly on a case by case basis.

Ms. Roddy elaborated that with regards to CIL, there is a height restriction imposed by our operating permit.

Mr. Dennis explained that there's a lot of tires being dumped in communities and the City retrieves them and is wondering where they are going

Ms. Roddy responded that they're probably bringing them to CIL. CIL does segregate tires and has a tire stockpile onsite which gets picked up for recycling regularly.

***Next Meeting***

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 4/08/19 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cherry Island Landfill.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m.

**DSWA Cherry Island Landfill Summary for the Citizens Advisory Board**  
**Prepared by Brad Richardson, DNREC Solid & Hazardous Waste Management Section**  
**October 29, 2018**

1. DSWA has received no complaints for odors at Cherry Island Landfill (CIL) since 2013.
2. As described in the CIL permit, DSWA shall notify DNREC immediately in the event of “Reportable Incidents”. Since the last CAB meeting in April, there have been eight (8) reported incidents, including reports of Asbestos deliveries, Leachate releases, yard waste citations, a landfill fire and an infectious waste incident. All eight incidents were properly and immediately reported and each had been followed with a written report submitted to DNREC within the five (5) day window denoted in the permit. Each of these 8 “Reportable Incidents” were satisfactorily resolved.
3. As denoted in the CIL Permit, a DNREC Environmental Compliance Specialist (ECS) is the agency’s dedicated inspector for CIL operations. Typically, the ECS is onsite during Monday through Friday. Since June, the dedicated CIL ECS has been on leave and we hope to have him back within a few weeks. In the meantime, DNREC has been diverting another ECS to CIL on a periodic, yet, less frequent basis.
4. On July 5, 2018, the agency conduct the Annual Compliance Assessment of CIL. Overall DNREC found CIL clean, secure and well maintained at the time of the compliance assessment.
5. According to our on-site Compliance Assessment, frequent reports from our Environmental Compliance Specialist, DSWA incident reports and their follow-through actions, DSWA is operating CIL in accordance with the conditions of their solid waste facility permit.