

Fenimore Landfill Update

February 17, 2017



What has been happening at the site for the past year?

DEP has been operating the gas collection and treatment system and conducting maintenance on the impermeable cap, both of which are functioning as designed. The impermeable cap continues to contain the hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) gas, virtually eliminating any fugitive emissions, and the gas collection and treatment system is effectively oxidizing the H₂S and removing the sulfur dioxide (SO₂) produced when the H₂S is oxidized. The system continues to operate 24/7, with operators on site during the day and remote operation during the evening hours.

Are there any changes planned to the operations?

Remote operation during the evening has worked effectively and now can be expanded to include weekends. Beginning in February, operators will be on site six days a week, excluding Sunday, and then five days a week in March. As always, if a problem should develop, the operators will continue to monitor the system remotely and can be on site if necessary within hours.

Have the neighborhood monitors detected any hydrogen sulfide or sulfur dioxide?

The impermeable cap and treatment system have virtually eliminated any emissions of H₂S and SO₂. The perimeter air monitors have not detected any exceedances in the past year and no odor complaints have been attributable to the site. The DEP and Roxbury Township's consultant routinely evaluate the data from the monitors and periodically evaluate the operation of the offsite monitors.

What is the status of the long-term treatment system for the site?

The levels of H₂S, although much lower than initially found at the site, still require oxidizing the gas using the existing technology. The DEP has an engineering firm working on the design of an alternative treatment technology that will "filter" the H₂S from the landfill gases. This new technology will be tested at the site in the coming months to establish certain design criteria. Following the design, construction of the new system will be competitively bid. The existing treatment system will continue to operate during this design and construction period.

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