Minutes

VEOLIA ES EMERALD PARK LANDFILL, INC. STANDING COMMITTEE
&
WASTE FACILITIES MONITORING COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING

Monday, December 4, 2006
Subject to Approval at Next Meeting
(Note…Approved, as corrected by WFMC on 2/1/07…subject to further approval of the Veolia ES Emerald Park Standing Committee)

Chairman Wolff called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. Laverne "Skip" Bartes, Mr. James Bergmann, Mr. Steven Carlson, Mr. Don Counter, Mr. Nick Ioder, Mr. Roland Kieffer, Ald. Eileen Madden, Mr. Don Mateicka, Sr., Mr. Pat Murray, Ms. Margaret "Maggie" Wertz (6:42 p.m.), and Mr. Marvin Wolff

Mr. Tom Marach, Mr. Jay Warzinski representing Veolia.
Mr. Matt Rechtin, Mr. Mike Hackney representing Waste Management

ABSENT: Mrs. Karen Fiedler (excused), Mr. Mark Slocomb (excused)

It was noted that the meeting was posted in accordance with the open meeting law.

GUESTS: Mr. Stan Bugnacki , Mr. Ted Ignasiac, Ald. Skowronski,, Ms. Denise Lockwood (CNI Newspapers, Inc.), Jo Spear, Sr. , Jo Spear, Jr.

OPEN FORUM: Citizens in attendance elected not to address the committees.

BUSINESS:
Odor Control, Joint Meetings, Complaint Procedures
Chairman Wolff stated the meeting was called to try and determine the source of the odor problems. The two committees will work together to try and resolve the problem. He provided copies of "Regulatory Compliance Measures" report. The report consisted of Complaint or Information Record form, a chart on Landfill Gas Destruction, Startup/Shutdown/Malfunction Report Form, Metro Recycling and Disposal Facility Wellfield ~~Timing~~ Tuning Log, Site Drawing and other records kept at the Waste Management facility. He reviewed the document with the committee members. He mentioned that there was a rise in gas output since the slide occurrence in 2003. In regard to the wells, the gas temperature should not exceed 130 (F) degrees and the pW should be a minus, never a plus, and the %02 should be less than 5% at all times, unless a variance is approved. Mr. Spear, Sr. stated that both landfills put out the report for the WDNR (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources).

The site drawing depicted the area that the company hired by Waste Management walked and looked for gas leaks on the property. They do it ~~frequently~~ quarterly and something that is ~~not~~ mandatory. Another map showed the area that Bob Schick, a private individual hired by Waste Management, checks for odors and when there is a complaint after closing hours, he checks it out and makes a report. He does this every night between 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. There was a copy of a surveillance report and complaint form that Mr. Schick would generate on odors that come through after hours. Mr. Bergmann questioned how they would determine

if the Veolia torch were low, medium or high. Mr. Rechtin explained that they want Bob Schick to also check to make sure the flare is burning at Veolia and this is his visual determination; it's just a determination if the flare is on or off. In reviewing the complaint in the report, Mr. Ioder questioned how they knew it was a garbage odor and not a gas odor? Chairman Wolff, since methane does not smell, it would have to be a garbage odor. Mr. Ioder did mention that sometimes there are gas odors in the air. Mr. Jo Spear, Sr. said that gas odors would be sweet and caused by decomposition. Fresh garbage odor has a sour smell to it. Chairman Bartes asked what would produce the smell, would it be uncovered garbage, or fresh garbage? Mr. Spear, Sr. stated he very rarely had a garbage smell away from the active face. The odor is release through evaporation. Gas odor on the other hand has principal components of large organic molecules with ~~sulpher~~ sulfur in it. You could get the same odor coming off a swamp for the same reason organic material is decomposing. Chairman Bartes asked if you were noticing that odor, what kind of problem would you be looking for? Mr. Spear, Sr. said it could range from insufficient daily cover, thin daily cover, disruptive daily cover, open trenches, open areas of construction, channels through the waste mass, or a flare not operating to burn off the gas. Mr. Bergmann questioned how often would it happen that the flare would not be operating and if that is a factor toward transmitting an odor? Mr. Spear, Jr. said the information could come from the WDNR as both landfills submit a report on shutdowns and startups. Also, Mr. Jo Spear, Jr. said it would be reported in the audits they do on the sites and these are two weeks for Waste Management and weekly for Veolia.

Mr. Kieffer referred to it being said that there are no odors for certain gases such as methane. What percentage of gases burning in the flare is methane? Mr. Spear, Sr. said landfill gas is 50% methane, 50% CO2 and 5% trace contaminants. Mr. Kieffer said if the flare was shut off, the methane escapes and there is no odor, then there are other gases that would create odors. Mr. Spear, Sr. said there are volatile organics in the gas. Mr. Kieffer asked if the gas odor escaping is coming from the ground. Mr. Spear, Sr. said it could be coming from poor cover, no cover, or openings in the refuse mass or construction. Mr. Kieffer asked if he thought it was possible to eliminate all odors from the landfill. He could understand minimizing them to a point, but is it possible to eliminate all odors from the landfill. Mr. Spear, Sr. thought it was possible to eliminate all the odors sometime, but not possible all of the time. The day-to-day operations at the landfill often require leachate or header lines being placed in a waste mass. When that trench is open, there is an open conduit between the landfill gas generation source and the atmosphere. Mr. Kieffer said that at some point during the course of the year, they are going to have landfill smells no matter what. Mr. Mateicka, Sr. asked if the inversion at 92nd Street, could that be eliminated during the day and held in by the atmosphere over there. Mr. Spear, Sr. could not say as climatic data is very complex, it could be but not necessarily have to be. In his experience, there has been a reasonable short time period even with lofting effects and dropping it back into the atmosphere. This would not be weeks after generation of the gases, but it would be hours and it could be happening. Mr. Kieffer did not believe you could eliminate all the odors as landfill creates garbage and the garbage is rotting away for years and it creates an odor. When people question him about building near the landfill, he advises them to expect a smell, not every day but they are going to get a smell from the landfill.

Mr. Murray spoke on the leachate control. Is it possible there is something venting out of the leachate control systems at either landfill. He knew that from Waste Management, it left by a force main. A large part of the leachate at Veolia is being returned to the landfill by recirculation. Mr. Warzinski stated the lines can be anywhere from 15 feet to 120 feet. Mr. Murray thought that during the reinsertion back into the landfill, there is a pathway up, and those gases could escape there. Mr. Spear, Sr. said the production of landfill gas is limited by temperature and the temperature of the bugs that generate the gas and limited by moisture content. The more they return leachate to the landfill, the more gas flow and the faster rate of decomposition. Mr. Spear, Sr. continued to speak on the destruction of the gases. Mr. Bergmann asked what was more efficient, flaring or burning it through the turbine. Mr. Jo Spear, Jr. said the burning through the turbines was most efficient. However, both methods are totally acceptable. The turbines allow the landfill to recover a return on a waste product. Mr. Bergmann asked if it was more efficient odor wise to use the process. Chairman Wolff added

what is the ppm coming off of a flare compared to the turbine exhaust ppm? Mr. Spear, Sr. said it is a mixed bag, you're generating power and you want to get as much BTU as you can out of every cubic foot of gas. Mr. Bergmann would like to see any odor from the landfill become negligible. Mr. Jo Spear, Sr. said both operators had the experience with odor control technology, utilizing systems to reduce the impact of the odor emissions.

Chairman Bartes questioned at what psi the leachate was pumped through the lines. Mr. Warzinski was not sure of the pressure. There is pressure to get the leachate through the imperforated sections of the pipe and then it just flows by gravity.

Mr. Counter advised the committee that his neighbors are complaining about more water down by Loomis Drive, back off Eight Mile Road. They are attributing it to the landfill. He, also, has noticed wet areas in the summertime where in the past the area was dry. Is it possible some of the smell is being generated naturally by the ponds and grassy areas. Mr. Jo Spear, Sr. said they are not unlike garbage odors but really not the same. The ponds, bogs and marshes do generate a gas smell. The only place he seen that was generating odor was a low area behind Helmet Kopp's house where cornstalks are still rotting. He could not see neighbors away from the wetlands experiencing the odor. There is one section of stream, corner of Ryan and 112th Street, where Mr. Spear, Jr. felt someone was discharging septic tank as it does not freeze in winter and he did get a definite sewer smell.

Mr. Ioder said they have been talking about odor problems and control measures and it has been proposed that they would never be completely without odors. At one time, he was told that it was reasonable that odors should not be detected farther than a quarter of a mile from the landfill. Mr. Rechtin rebutted his previous statement, learning something new everyday in the business, and at that time, he did not have a total understanding at the time they took the tour, it was, however, his best knowledge at that time. Having dealt with the issue for about two years, there is a phenomenon that occurs with inversion and such, and it is irrational to make the same statement now. Mr. Ioder said the committee has to establish some criteria as to what is going to be acceptable and what is not and that is the direction the committees have to go.

Chairman Bartes commended Waste Management on hiring the individual to investigate where the problems occur. There needs to be a joint venture between the two entities to immediately spot the odor sources. He asked for any suggestions on a joint venture. Chairman Wolff questioned if Veolia would have any objection to hiring a company to come in and look for methane leaks. Mr. Warzinski had no objection, but suggested the funding come from the landfill compliance officer funds. He added that they now do it on a quarterly basis and report to the WDNR.

Mr. Bergmann suggested that the policymakers of both communities get together and attempt to tackle the problem and give the committees direction. If they are going to have odors fine, but what is tolerable and how much is tolerable. Ald. Madden did not think that the average councilperson or mayor would have the knowledge of how to even attempt to set policy. Mr. Kieffer added that his town board has appointed him to the committee; if they were to set policy, then they did not need him on the committee. Mr. Jo Spear, Sr. strongly recommended that each committee look at their host agreement and the procedure to deal with the odor complaints.

Chairman Bartes asked Mr. Hackney who received the complaints. Mr. Hackney said they get a copy of Bob Schick surveillance every morning. He gets the complaints after hours from the answering service. Chairman Bartes asked if when he gets a call, something could be worked out so that Veolia was notified also. Committee members discussed having a universal number citizens could call 24/7. Mr. Warzinski indicating his willingness to get phone calls on odors and to investigate at any time of the day. Some time was spent

discussing that over the years, Veolia has received relatively few complaints and no record of documented complaints called into city hall. It was noted that most of the Veolia standing committee members get the complaints and investigate them and contact the landfill. Mr. Bergmann would like to get a universal procedure for complaints to be used by the landfills.

Chairman Bartes asked what was Waste Management's follow-up procedure on Bob Schick's reports when they received them the next day. Mr. Hackney said that if it can be corrected by change in operations, that is what they do. If a complaint comes in during operational hours, then he or Mr. Rechtin will go out and talk to the person. Chairman Bartes said that if Mr. Warzinski investigates an odor, then what's accomplished by determining there is an odor. Mr. Warzinski said that is true for that point in time, but they can address it on site the next day.

Mrs. Wertz commented that people have lived in the area a long time and there always has been a dump. There has always been an odor and they have become use to it. When you move garbage around, you create a odor. It could be that they are finally tired of the smell.

Chairman Wolff commented that with the Waste Management expansion, people are looking at compensation for living near the landfill. The committees still need to figure out the source of the odor; not by eliminating it, but reducing it to a tolerable level. He thought it could be done between the landfills and the committees.

Mr. Ioder moved that the two chairmen meet and try to form some commonality here about the complaint system in general, how the complaints are initiated, and whether they want to try to copy what we are doing or work together to do something differently, this would be a good place to start. Mr. Bergmann seconded. Chairman Bartes asked if there was a time frame. Mr. Ioder said prior to year-end. Chairman Wolff commented this did not give them even thirty days. Do they want to include the aldermen from the districts. Mr. Ioder said that would be up to them. Mr. Bergmann said the two chairmen to put their proposal together and bring it back to the committee to work out. Upon a roll call vote of both committees, the motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting
Committee members did not set up another joint meeting date. Agenda for the next meeting will be to review the proposal presented by the chairmen of the committees.

ADJOURNMENT:
At 7:28 p.m., Mr. Ioder moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Bergmann. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Stella Dunahee
Stella Dunahee, CPS, Recording Secretary