

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 7, 2009

To: Concerned citizens and other interested persons who were in attendance at the March 12, 2009, DHEC Community Meeting regarding the Lee County Landfill

From: Nancy Whittle, Community Liaison
Environmental Quality Control (EQC)
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)

Re: Follow-up to the March 12, 2009, DHEC Community Meeting
Lee County Landfill
Bishopville, Lee County, South Carolina

DHEC thanks you for attending the March 12, 2009, Community Meeting regarding the Lee County Landfill located at 1431 Sumter Highway in Bishopville, South Carolina. We appreciate the comments and concerns that were voiced by residents at this meeting. We take these concerns seriously and are following-up on the issues that you raised. Enclosed you will find an information sheet on municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills. It is intended to give you a better understanding of general terms and operations of landfills like the Lee County Landfill.

Since the meeting, we have received the following information concerning operations at the landfill that we want to share with you:

- An additional permanent flare was installed at the landfill on Monday, March 16, 2009, and became fully operational on March 17, 2009. The new flare and existing flare, together, are capable of burning all of the gas currently being captured by the gas management system. This does not include gas generated in the current operating cell. Some of the gas from the current operating cell is being burned by a temporary flare that pulls gas from the leachate collection line in that cell. Leachate is liquids that are part of the landfill and any water (i.e., rainwater) that comes into contact with the garbage. The leachate is collected and discharged to the City of Bishopville Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- The landfill will soon begin construction of lateral (horizontal) gas lines in the current operating cell. This extended gas collection system will be tied into the main system and is expected to be completed by May 31, 2009. Once operational, the extended gas collection system should help with the odors coming from the area where waste is currently being buried.
- Santee Cooper reconnected to the gas management system on Thursday, March 19, 2009. Santee Cooper plans to install a new waste to energy generator in May 2009. This new unit will utilize more of the landfill gas for energy production.

We heard many concerns at the meeting about the air quality and air monitoring, or testing. We are currently reviewing available information to determine the best methods to evaluate local air quality. We will provide you with updates as we progress. This may be done through another community meeting in the near future.

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We also heard concerns at the meeting about the water quality of Gin Branch Creek. We are currently looking into these and will keep you updated on this as well.

As discussed at the meeting, complaints concerning daily operations at the landfill or excessive odors may be reported by contacting Chris McCluskey or Greer McLaurin in our local DHEC EQC Sumter Office at (803) 778-6548. Tours of the Lee County Landfill may be arranged by contacting Bart Keller, Division Manager of Republic Services, Inc., at (803) 428-2400, or by e-mail at: bkeller@repsrv.com.

In an effort to keep the community near the Lee County Landfill informed, DHEC will continue providing updates to the citizens on our mailing list who have expressed an interest in this site. In addition to regular updates, we have created a web page (www.scdhec.gov/leecountylandfill) where DHEC information related to the Lee County Landfill may be accessed more easily. Anyone interested in receiving updates by e-mail may visit the website to sign-up. We are also willing to meet with residents in the future to further discuss these issues.

We appreciate the feedback we received on the meeting evaluation forms and thank you for taking the time to complete these. This information is very helpful and will be used in improving our public participation efforts.

Should you have any questions, or if you would like future meetings, please feel free to contact me at (803) 896-8967, or by e-mail at: whittlnc@dhec.sc.gov.