

Notice of Informational Meeting

Informational Open House for St. Johns Landfill Closure Permit

Notice issued: January 30, 2003

Meeting date: February 27, 2003

Meeting location:

The meeting will be held at the St. Johns Community Center at 8427 N. Central, in the St. Johns neighborhood. TriMet buses that go to the Community Center are # 75-Lombard, #40-Mocks Crest, and # 4 - Fessenden.

Where can I get more information?

Name: Tim Spencer

Phone: (503) 229-5826 or
Toll-free in Oregon (800) 452-4011

Mailing address: (Office address)

Fax: (503) 229-6945

E-mail: spencer.tim@deq.state.or.us

How can I review documents?

You can review the permit application and related documents at:

DEQ's Northwest Region Office
2020 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 400
Portland. For a review appointment call
(503) 229-5353

What will happen at this meeting?

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) staff members will share information about the facility's proposed permit application and what DEQ plans to include in the permit. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and to share your input concerning the proposed permit.

What are DEQ's responsibilities?

DEQ is the regulatory agency that helps protect and preserve Oregon's environment. DEQ is responsible for protecting and enhancing Oregon's water and air quality, for cleaning up spills and releases of hazardous materials, and for managing the proper disposal of hazardous and solid wastes. One

way DEQ does this is by requiring permits for certain activities.

Who is the applicant?

The applicant is Metro, the landfill site owner.

Where is the facility located?

St. Johns landfill is located in North Portland near the Columbia Slough and Smith and Bybee Lakes at 9363 N. Columbia Blvd. The landfill stopped accepting waste in 1991.

What is proposed?

DEQ proposes to renew and modify the solid waste closure permit for St. Johns Landfill and simultaneously issue a consent order. The new closure permit will specify requirements for the landfill's continued long-term maintenance and monitoring. The consent order will require Metro to conduct a remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS), including a risk assessment to address existing and potential environmental contamination at the site. Metro already has completed extensive environmental investigations at the site and has constructed environmental protection improvements including a cover cap and gas collection system. The remedial investigation will focus on specific data gaps and areas of concern identified in the consent order and will evaluate the nature and extent of hazardous substances that have been released to the environment.

The risk assessment will evaluate the potential adverse effects of contaminants on ecosystems and human health. In this context, risk relates to contaminant toxicity and degree of exposure. Risk includes three essential elements: sources, pathways, and receptors. Sources are any media (i.e., soil, air, surface water, etc.) contaminated by hazardous substances released from the site under investigation. Pathways are any reasonably likely ways that people, plants, and animals might be exposed to contaminant sources. Receptors are the people, plants and animals who may contact a contaminant source because of current and reasonably likely future land and water use.



Northwest Region
Solid Waste
Program
2020 SW Fourth Ave.
Portland, OR 97201
Phone: (503) 229-5826
(800) 452-4011
Fax: (503) 229-6945
Contact: Tim Spencer
www.deq.state.or.us

The feasibility study evaluates alternative remedies or corrective measures for reducing site risks.

Permit type: Closure permit

Permit expiration: March 31, 2013

What are the special conditions of this permit?

The proposed permit will require Metro to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility (RI/FS) to investigate past and continuing releases of hazardous substances and other landfill-related contaminants that pose a risk to human health or the environment.

Compliance history:

Groundwater quality next to the landfill has been monitored since the 1970s and a network of 30 monitoring wells is now sampled semi-annually. Additional wells within the landfill monitor the leachate and landfill gas. Water samples from groundwater monitoring wells surrounding the site and within the landfill area are analyzed for general chemical properties and for hazardous contaminants such as lead, mercury, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), PCBs, and pesticides.

In 1995 DEQ placed the site on two formal lists of contaminated sites known as the Confirmed Release List and Inventory List. The lists identify sites that have had a release of a hazardous substance and need cleanup. As of 2001, 31 hazardous substances are known to have been released from the landfill site to groundwater. The list includes 19 volatile organic compounds, 1 semi-volatile compound, 10 trace metals, and 1 pesticide.

Various groups of substances in this list exceed DEQ numerical groundwater quality reference levels, EPA drinking water standards, and EPA Region 9 Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRGs) for tap water.

Who is affected?

Property owners and residents in the vicinity of St. Johns Landfill and persons who participate in the management or recreational use of the Smith and Bybee Lakes and lower Columbia Slough areas.

What legal requirements apply?

Applicable Oregon Revised Statutes include

the following solid waste and environmental cleanup program laws and regulations:

Solid Waste -- ORS 459.205, 459.235, 459.270, and OAR Ch 340 Division -93.

Environmental Cleanup Program -- ORS 465.200 through 465.455 and 465.900, OAR 340-122-0080, 340-122-0084, 340-122-0085, and 340-122-0090.

What happens next?

DEQ will review and consider all comments received during the Open House. Following this review, DEQ will complete the draft permit and consent order and provide public notice of at least 35 days to allow interested persons to submit written comments on those documents. DEQ will hold a public hearing at the end of the public comment period to allow interested persons to submit oral or written comments on the draft permit and consent order.

Accessibility information

DEQ is committed to accommodating people with disabilities at our hearings. Please notify DEQ of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in large print, Braille or another format. To make these arrangements, contact DEQ Public Affairs at (503) 229-5696 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-4011.

People with hearing impairments may call DEQ's TTY number, (local office TTY).

What other solid waste facilities does this owner operate?

Metro, the site owner, operates two regional solid waste transfer stations in the metro area in addition to their management of the landfill.

What are the known health effects or environmental impacts of the substances discharged or emitted by the facility?

The hazardous substances released by the landfill are regulated in drinking water because of health concerns. However, DEQ is not aware of any drinking water supply wells near the landfill. Landfill releases also pose a potential risk to the surrounding ecosystems of Columbia Slough and Smith and Bybee Lakes.

Jim - it's out! City has approved the LUR
-LMS

conditions of approval. Conditions generally pertain to addressing the trail requirement, obtaining a Site Development Permit to ensure proper installation of erosion control and mitigation plantings, and monitoring/maintenance of the site. With these conditions, this proposal should be approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION

Approval of the removal and replacement of a water control structure, installation of a fish ladder, planting of native vegetation along the berm, and the removal and replacement of soil and installation of plants to enhance turtle habitat in substantial conformance with the approved Exhibits C.2 through C.6 signed and dated January 8, 2003, subject to the following conditions:

- A. All permits:** Copies of the stamped Exhibits C.2 through C.6 from LU 02-113706 EN, shall be included as part of all plans submitted for permits (building, grading, site development, erosion, etc.). These exhibits shall be included on a sheet that is the same size as the plans submitted for the permit and shall include the following statement, **"No field changes without additional review and approval by BDS, Land Use Review Staff."**
- B.** The applicant shall ensure that the final design of the water control structure is capable of accommodating the trail, prior to any permits being issued for the structure, and the applicant shall accomplish one of the following within 3 years of this Decision:
- Document that a Site Development permit has been obtained for final inspection of the constructed trail, within the approved limits of disturbance for the water control structure, shown on Exhibit C .3, and as depicted on Figure 5 of the Smith and Bybee Lakes NRMP; or
 - Document that a Minor Amendment of the Smith and Bybee Lakes NRMP, has been approved by BDS LUR, demonstrating a revised alignment of the trail, but maintaining 40-mile loop trail connectivity as required by the NRMP. This plan amendment shall have been accompanied by a proposal to construct a proportional segment of the trail within the proposed new alignment, by a specified date, by the applicant; or
 - Document that a legislative process, or the procedure required by the Smith & Bybee Lakes NRMP, has been completed, eliminating the trail designation in the area of the water control structure, from the Smith and Bybee Lakes NRMP.
- C. Prior to any ground disturbing activities at the site,** the applicant shall obtain the required permits from the Bureau of Development Services. These permits shall include the following:
- 1. A Site Development Permit** to ensure and document proper installation of erosion control and mitigation plantings as per Exhibits C.3 through C.6. All sheets within the Site Development Permit plan set shall include the following written conditions:
- No mechanized construction vehicles are permitted outside of the approved "Limits of Construction Disturbance" delineated by the temporary erosion control fence. All planting work, invasive vegetation removal, and other work to be done outside the Limits of Construction Disturbance, shall be conducted using hand held equipment.
 - Mitigation plantings shall be installed within **six months** after issuance of the Site Development Permit. If this six month period falls outside of the planting season, the applicant may have until December 31 of the following year to plant.
 - The Site Development permit shall not be finalized until mitigation plantings are completed and inspected.
 - No field changes are permitted without additional review and written approval by the Bureau of Development Services, Land Use Review Planners.
- D. Written annual monitoring reports** shall be submitted to the Land Use Review Division of the Bureau of Development Services (1900 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 5000, Portland, OR, 97201, Attention: **Environmental Planner: LU 02-113706 EN**).
- The first report shall be submitted within 12 months of the final inspection of mitigation plantings as required above in Condition C. Reports shall be submitted annually for three years.