

Crow Lane Landfill Update —September 30, 2015

This update is being provided by MassDEP concerning the closure activities that are currently underway at the Crow Lane Landfill.

In addition to this web page update posted on the MassDEP Northeast Region website at: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/about/contacts/crow-lane-landfill-newburyport-monitoring-reports-data.html>, an email was sent to an interested persons list. Please send your questions, comments and suggestions to: crowlane.information@massmail.state.ma.us.

Superior Court – Status Conference Recently Held

The Superior Court held a status conference with New Ventures and the Commonwealth on Friday, September 18, 2015. The Court continued to stay (keep on hold) the Contempt Complaint filed by the Attorney General's Office on behalf of the Commonwealth and MassDEP. The Court directed the parties to meet and negotiate to see if the issues can be resolved.

Following the Court Status Conference

At the Court's direction, MassDEP and the AGO met with New Ventures (NV), its counsel, Blue Granite (NV's landfill gas and flare consultant) and SITEC (NV's Engineer of Record for the Landfill). As a result of the meeting, a plan for moving forward was developed, including the following items. We anticipate that Blue Granite will soon conduct a landfill gas balancing and tuning exercise, with MassDEP staff in attendance. SITEC will also be on-site soon, together with MassDEP staff, to investigate whether there are any identifiable landfill gas leaks on top of the landfill. (Such leaks may occur due to settling, etc.). Any leaks that are detected would then be scheduled for repair. SITEC is also submitting a revised plan to repair the landfill's southeast side slope, which has partially slumped due to issues in the sand drainage layer. The parties also discussed NV's consultants submitting certain additional information as a supplement to its closure certification.

NV reported that it has reestablished the Crow Lane Landfill Complaint Line (978-462-5240). MassDEP has confirmed that the line is currently in service. As noted previously, in addition to call the Complaint Line, real-time emails to the Crow Lane Information mailbox regarding any perceived odors or issues at or near the Landfill may allow us to deploy inspectors real-time, and are much appreciated.

Moving Forward

MassDEP will issue an update prior to the SITEC visit to evaluate potential gas leaks, as the flare will need to be turned off for a period of about 48 hours prior to the assessment.

MassDEP has been working with Mayor Holaday, Senator O'Connor-Ives and Representative Kelcourse concerning these recent Landfill issues.

MassDEP Oversight

MassDEP and/or personnel from MassDEP's consultant (CBI/Shaw Environmental Inc.) continue to monitor the landfill on a regular basis. MassDEP and/or Shaw personnel are scheduled to be at the Landfill several times per week.

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