

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD

Cherry Island Landfill

October 10, 2006

Notes

The October 10, 2006 meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Board (CAB) commenced at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Cherry Island Landfill Office. Pat Canzano, Chief Operating Officer for the Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) made introductions.

Attendees:

CAB

Scott MacKenzie (representing Governor Minner)
Marvin Thomas (representing Senator Margaret Rose Henry)

DSWA

Pat Canzano
Tom Houska
Robin Roddy
Angela Marconi
Pam Williamson

Dept. of Natural Resources & Environmental Control (DNREC)

James D. Werner
Robert Hartman

Cherry Island Landfill Overview

Robin Roddy, Cherry Island Landfill (CIL) Facility Manager, gave a brief overview of the landfill. She explained that due to the expansion program the 'Recycle Delaware' center had to be moved to Edgemoor. The new site is less than a mile away. The electronic goods container is still located at CIL and can be used during facility hours by the public. Mr. Thomas would like to see DSWA use local resources in the community to advertise the various programs available at DSWA. He suggested adding DSWA information to civic/community newsletters. He also thought that advertising on cable channel 22 would be beneficial because most the people in his area view that channel for local news. Mr. MacKenzie said that the residents of Bellefonte ask about recycling of petroleum products and other hazardous waste. Mr. Houska said that DSWA sponsors quarterly events to take those types of products. DSWA is hoping to establish a regular drop-off Household Hazardous Waste area at the Mercantile Store located at the Delaware Recycling Center in New Castle. Mr. Thomas wanted to know how the 'Recycle Delaware' sites are selected. Mr. Canzano said that property owners donate the land to put the igloos on. DSWA tries to position the sites so that they are available to all residents.

Citizens Advisory Board Charter

Mr. MacKenzie said that he was discouraged that all members of the board had not been appointed. He was going to call his councilman to let him know that someone needs to work on the appointment. Mr. Canzano said that a letter from DNREC broadened the criteria for the selection of members and that hopefully the last two members would be appointed before the next meeting.

Update on Cherry Island Expansion Project

Mrs. Roddy said that bids for the Expansion Project were received and the project was awarded to Severson Environmental Services with offices in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. The bid price for the project was \$86,000,000. Severson has mobilized their work trailers and have started on some of the clearing and grubbing. The whole project will take 39 months from the end of 2006 to complete. The construction should not have a major impact on the community. There is a separate construction entrance for this work so there will be no interference with landfill customers.

Update on Cherry Island Landfill Gas Treatment System and Flare

Mrs. Marconi updated the CAB on the status of improvements to the CIL gas treatment system. The Lo-Cat system will remove hydrogen sulfide from the landfill gas. Hydrogen sulfide is one of the major components of gas that causes odors at the landfill. New enclosed Low NOx flares are also being installed to lower emissions. The flares are the two silver stacks you can see from 495. Construction is ongoing although there have been a few delays because of tie-in issues with DSWA's existing gas plant. Ideally the system will be on-line by the end of the year. DSWA is now the owner of the gas plant and the well field piping. A private contractor owned and had been operating the gas plant and DSWA had limited control over its operation. This acquisition will allow DSWA full control over all the operations of the landfill gas system. Mr. Thomas wanted to know if the complaint calls from Brandywine Hundred area have reduced. Mrs. Marconi said they have dropped drastically over the last couple of years. Mr. Hartman said that there were two odor complaints from the area in September or October from a resident in Carneys Point, New Jersey. This person complained about a burning trash smell and that they can see the burning flare at night. The candlestick flares that are at CIL now are visible at night but there is no odor from them. The new flares will be enclosed and there will be no visible flame from them. Mr. Hartman told the CAB that DNREC takes every odor complaint seriously and thoroughly investigates every one. Mr. Canzano said that there was no incentive or motivation for DSWA to not follow the permit. DSWA does not want to create any problems for the community.

Update on Yard Waste Ban

Yard waste will be banned from CIL January 1, 2007 per the DNREC permit for the Cherry Island expansion. DSWA has notified haulers and developed public education programs to alert the public

in New Castle County. DSWA will be encouraging the public to do home composting. It is the desire of DNREC and DSWA that private companies will step in and develop composting businesses. Some haulers are worried about the enforcement of the ban. Mr. Houska said that some haulers would be offering yard waste pick-up service to their customers. The haulers are concerned that every company be compliant with the ban so there will be no raiding of customers. Mr. Werner said that there was more public outreach still needed and that DNREC had met and would continue to meet with the public and the haulers. He suggested that communities set up composting areas for the residents. Mr. Canzano asked the Board members if they knew about the ban. Mr. Thomas had just heard about it but it didn't impact him because he doesn't have a yard. Mr. MacKenzie knew about it and thought that Bellefonte would talk to IDS or DSWA about doing the collection. He said that the price was an issue. Mr. Werner said that another option would be for the community to take care of their own. Mr. MacKenzie said that the town didn't have any employees to take care of it so that wouldn't be an option. Mr. Werner said that the counties could get grants and set up sites. Mr. Canzano said DSWA would like to see green business take yard waste and the authority wants to be the point of last resort. If no private business steps up then Cherry Island Landfill has a place for it to be ground up and used. Mr. MacKenzie said that their needs to be articles and mailers to let the public know there is a place to take their yard waste. Mr. Thomas wanted to know if there were any programs to pick up Christmas trees. Mr. Werner said that several state parks would take the trees and use for mulch. Mr. Canzano suggested that Mr. MacKenzie talk to Rich VonStetten to obtain information on DSWA's yard waste recycling program for Bellefonte. Mr. Werner said that education and outreach programs would continue so that the public will take the steps to recycle.

Update on Draft Recyclables Diversion Plan

A draft of a Recyclables Diversion Plan was distributed for comment in early July. This plan was developed in order to comply with the Cherry Island Landfill Permit SW-06/01. Three public workshops were held in August in each county. The public comment period was open until September 30, 2006. Eleven written comments were received; six from individuals and five from organizations. The transcripts from the workshops are due in tomorrow. DSWA staff will review the transcripts, incorporate any comments from them and the written comments, and reissue a draft of the plan. A public hearing will then be scheduled to discuss the second draft. Mr. Hartman said that he believes the plan didn't meet the goal of 40% recycling and DNREC commented on that issue. It was the intent of the plan to reduce 40% of residential municipal solid waste by 2008. DNREC is an advocate of a larger recycling percentage. Mr. MacKenzie said that he would like to see an agenda for long-range plans for the State of Delaware. He would like to know what DNREC and DSWA are doing to site another landfill. He finds the mountain next to the highway to be offensive and doesn't want visitors to the state to remember it. Mr. Canzano said that the answer to that would be to recycle as much material as possible and that the Governor has made it clear that she would like that to happen. A good source of information is The Solid Waste Management Technical Working Group's report that looked at alternate technology in dealing with waste materials. It is available on DSWA and DNREC's websites. Siting a new landfill is going to be difficult in New Castle County and will probably take the Legislature and the Governor to make it happen. Mr. MacKenzie said that the public needs to know about any plans.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the CAB is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. in the CIL Administration Building. This meeting will be the annual to present an overview of the status of solid waste management in Delaware and the status of operations at CIL as required by Permit SW-06/01.