



Meeting Notes

TREE Community Advisory Committee

Monday, August 15, 2005

Committee Members Attending:

Clifford A. Newton, Rochester State Representative; *Karen Pollard*, Economic Development Manager City of Rochester; *Bill Howard*, Waste Management; *Trey Dykstra*, NH Department of Environmental Services; *John Larochelle*, Rochester City; *Kenn Ortmann*, Rochester Planning Dept. Representative, *Wally Fournier*, Barrington Representative.

I. Meeting Notes

The committee accepted "Meeting Notes" of the Community Advisory Committee's previous meeting.

II. Review of Odor Complaint Log Data

Committee member Trey Dykstra, of the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES), briefed the committee regarding odor complaints since the last meeting.

Total odor complaints for the month of July totaled 26. He noted that it appears that landfill gas odors are under control but that working face odors – that is to say odors emanating from the area of the landfill open to accept the daily flow of waste – still are posing challenges.

Trey indicated that he had been in discussion with Al Davis regarding the issue. Waste Management representative Bill Howard indicated that the odors may be a result of the mixing of municipal bio solids with refuse. He stated that bio solids contained substances of greater volatility which could cause odors to travel further when vaporized directly above the working face of the landfill following their mixture with other waste products during the process of covering the material. He also added that incinerator ash may be useful cover material, in that it would possibly neutralize the municipal bio solids. A Waste Management application was recently approved by DES which would permit the use of incinerator ash for this purpose.

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The committee also discussed at some length the reoccurring issue of what is an “acceptable number” of odor complaints.

Committee member John Larochelle noted that observer error creates a problem in accurately accessing odor problems and other committee members offered their perspective on various aspects of the committee’s role in determining what level of odors should be considered “reasonable” and “unreasonable.”

The following represents a review of odor complaints as compiled by the DES:

Month	No. of Complaints (1)	No. of Complainants (2)	Odor Description(3)	
			Garbage(4)	Landfill Gas(5)
Jan-04	12	4	0	8
Feb-04	7	6	2	2
Mar-04	6	6	1	2
Apr-04	24	10	0	9
May-04	24	15	1	5
Jun-04	17	9	0	4
Jul-04	21	9	1	6
Aug-04	39	18	7	20
Sep-04	97	44	13	28
Oct-04	51	21	9	26
Nov-04	20	10	2	11
Dec-04	5	4	0	1
Jan-05	2	1	1	1
Feb-05	17	6	3	10
Mar-05	1	1	1	0
Apr-05	3	3	2	1
May- 05	1	1	1	1
Jun- 05	8	5	7	1
Jul- 05	26	12	17	2
Aug- 05				
Total:	387		70	141

III. Meteorological Impact on Landfill Odors

Due to the unavailability of computer and projection equipment John Larouchelle’s presentation to the committee was postponed to the next meeting.

IV. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Monday September 19, 2005.