

IESI Bethlehem Landfill Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2015
Time: 1:35 PM
Location: Lower Saucon Township Council Meeting Room
Attendance: Priscilla deLeon, Council Liaison; Al Schleyer, IESI; Chris Taylor, Hanover Engineering, Host Municipal Inspector; Haz Hijazi; and Diane Palik for the Township. Absent: Donna Louder.

The Landfill Committee members congratulated Al Schleyer on his new position at IESI as District Manager and said it's well deserved.

Mr. Schleyer reviewed the monthly tonnages for May. He reviewed four Form U Submittal's from May 6, 2015 through June 15, 2015.

Mr. Schleyer reviewed the annual groundwater trend analysis. The 2014 Annual Groundwater Trend report is complete and the 2Q15 Groundwater monitoring sampling was completed the week of June 15, 2015. Mrs. deLeon said we have had trouble opening and copying some disks from IESI and we have trouble copying them.

Mr. Schleyer said they had the general correspondence reports for Form U's, Abatement System report, NPDES Permit renewal application, 1Q15 Groundwater report; and the PPC Plan update which they will need to revise for personnel changes. Mr. Taylor asked if they have received the NPDES permit renewal yet? Mr. Schleyer said no. Mr. Taylor asked about various permitting requirements. Mr. Taylor asked if DEP accepts comments on this application? Mr. Schleyer said he's sure they do. Mr. Taylor said based on some recent storm events, it may be wise to send some comments to DEP. He will ask Mr. Cahalan to write a letter. Mr. Hijazi asked if this has to do with E&S control? Mr. Schleyer said the intensity of that rain event far exceeded design standards, not just them, but throughout the entire area were overwhelmed with storm water. Mr. Hijazi said that the NPDES permit covers more of the water quality at the point of discharge going off the site and going into the waters of the Commonwealth as opposed to storm water management on the site and where it's sent and how much goes in what direction. Mr. Schleyer said he has discussed this with Mr. Taylor on June 16th and IESI is re-evaluating their drainage system and will continue to work at that.

Mr. Schleyer reviewed the DEP protection inspections from May 14, 2015 through June 24, 2015. Mrs. deLeon ask if there were any highlights? Mr. Taylor said at the end of April and beginning of June PA DEP personnel as well as the Department of Health and the (ATSDRA) Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry, at the request of the Township, were at the site for an evaluation of the air quality from the landfill. On June 2nd the mobile lab from PA DEP air quality was set up at the landfill at two different areas and were monitoring for odors and emissions coming from the landfill. On June 1st they were in the surrounding areas doing background quality monitoring and on June 3rd and 4th they did some additional air quality monitoring in Steel City around Skyline and Hader Drive, and then went back into Steel City on June 4th and finished up in the afternoon at the Bethlehem Waste Water Treatment Plant. They are waiting for their report. Mrs. deLeon asked when was the NOV issued? Mr. Schleyer said May 12th, and that information was provided at the last Landfill Committee meeting. IESI did provide a response to the NOV. DEP hasn't replied to it yet. They had inspections and covered the previous areas with surface monitoring and the hot spot was LC-23 and it was passable this time. There were some areas that did exceed the 500 ppm (about nine or ten) and they will come back on Monday to complete their inspection. There were a few that were repeats and some areas that were new. Mrs. deLeon said Hanover issued a letter commenting on Martin and Martin's letter on the NOV.

Mr. Schleyer said Mr. Taylor and Mr. Schray did separate host municipal inspections from May 15, 2015 through June 25, 2015. Mr. Taylor said the June 16th inspection was a special one following the storm event and he issued a report from that inspection.

Mr. Schleyer reviewed the commercial waste vehicles report for May 2015. Mr. Schleyer said there was a Police Report from May 2, 2015 through May 28, 2015 with four violations noted.

Mr. Schleyer reviewed the BRE and Flare Operations from May 3, 2015 through May 28, 2015. Mrs. deLeon said you have in your report no odors were reported to the Bethlehem Landfill but there were residents including herself that called during that time period. Mr. Schleyer said that's why he was specific to them. Mr. Taylor said BRE was down this morning during inspection. Mr. Schleyer has informed Mr. Taylor it's a block or clog at the BRE plant. The flare immediately ramped up to take up the excess flow of gas and was running at a flow rate of 3,570 scf per minute, which is the highest flow rate that was recorded and indicates the flare can handle that much gas, which is good. If you ever had more gas than you did now, he doesn't know what you'd do. It might be time for a new flare or increase the capacity of that flare, but that's looking down the road. Mr. Schleyer said they've been considering that. Mr. Taylor asked what was proposed to handle additional gas flows? Mr. Schleyer explained how they are looking in the event there's more gas than the existing flare will handle, they will augment that with some kind of auxiliary flare. DEP will have to review that regardless of how it's approached.

Mr. Schleyer said they are just about wrapping up the gas work for the last major event they did. He said the North Slope perimeter road is not passable. It's heavily eroded. Mr. Taylor said there was a washout across the road and it started down the North Slope road and then down on Riverside Drive where it washed out a lot of gravel and cobbles which are still there. That had nothing to do with the part of Riverside Drive where the road bed is starting to collapse. They are two different sites and two different issues. IESI will come up with a game plan for the North Slope road. Mrs. deLeon read an email they just got from Ron Young from PennDOT regarding the Riverside Drive update. Mr. Schleyer said they will look into strengthening the channels for the flow so it doesn't get breached.

Mr. Schleyer said the abatement system continues to operate and discharge to the Bethlehem WWTP. Intermittent malfunctions of the well pumps and controls are repaired and replaced as needed. AGB #6 well pump was replaced. The leachate flow rates continue to be monitored and reported. There were two radiation monitoring events on May 2nd and May 12th, both were Iodine-131 both of which are approved on-site. They did construct ten vertical wells and there are three horizontal collectors and a whole series of header pipes and some replacement header pipes to improve gas collection in other areas. The major storm event on June 15th caused some sediment and debris to wash across the gate at Applebutter Road. He received a phone call from DEP that night about 10:45 p.m. He offered to come out and they told him the road was passable and he could clean it up first thing in the morning, which they did. Mr. Taylor said regarding the storm event there were two other areas affected by that storm. There was an inlet on the north side of Applebutter Road, east of your entrance drive, towards Ringhoffer where water was actually surging up out of the inlet and flowing across Applebutter Road. Mr. Schleyer said they did install a gate so that PennDOT can maintain their culvert and keep things open as needed. Mr. Schleyer said a lot of roads in the area had a lot of rain and had flooded over as well. Mr. Taylor said the other area was on Riverside Drive between the high tension line and the Hill Climb property. During his inspection, he determined the ravine leads to the bottom of the North Slope road where all the erosion had taken place. We need to have some sort of storm water control around the North Slope road to slow the water coming down to that natural ravine. There's also some work that needs to be done on Riverside Drive.

Mr. Schleyer said the complaints received by IESI were in last month's report and discussion. They did not receive anything new.

Mr. Taylor reviewed the leachate flows for May 2015.

The next meeting is Thursday, July 16, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned, the time was 2:36 p.m.