

Bethlehem Landfill Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday July 10, 2024

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Lower Saucon Township

Present: **Bethlehem Landfill**: Astor Lawson and Cody White; **Hanover Engineering**: Scott Brown; **Staff Members**: Cathy Gorman, Stacy Werkheiser; **Council Liaisons**: Victoria Opthof-Cordaro and Priscilla deLeon; **Resident Member**: Matt McClarin. Absent: **Resident Member**: Brian Mauro.

Scott Brown

We're going to get the July 10th meeting of the Bethlehem Landfill Committee started. I'm Scott Brown and the Host Inspector. I'm going to turn the meeting over to Astor to go over the landfill operations. And I guess there's a slight deviation under Section 4 we're going to try and get the flare operation and gas collection section and the update on the Archaea energy plant and pull that to the front of the meeting to accommodate Priscilla.

Ms. deLeon

Thank you, I appreciate that.

Scott Brown

Go ahead Astor.

Astor Lawson

For landfill gas, I guess June, Archaea came online to start commissioning their equipment. And that's where the gas is going.

Ms. deLeon

What date is that?

Astor Lawson

I didn't, just in June, do you remember the exact date? So, I mean, that's the...

Ms. Gorman

Excuse me just for a second. Can you hit the mic? Thank you.

Astor Lawson

So, Priscilla, we have Jake and I'm not sure who the other gentleman is. But we have some....

Ms. deLeon

Do you guys want to sit up here while we're talking about this.?

Fielding Lewis

If you would like us to.

Ms. deLeon

Absolutely, grab two chairs. Just share your name into the record.

Fielding Lewis

Thank you, Council members. My name is Fielding Lewis. I'm the Director of Operations for Archaea's Renewable Natural Gas (RNG).

Jake Padula

I am Jake Padula, the Operation Superintendent for the facility.

Ms. deLeon

Okay, thank you for coming. We appreciate that.

Fielding Lewis

Thank you for having us.

Ms. deLeon

I'm Priscilla DeLeon, by the way.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Thank you for coming. We appreciate you coming, and I know this is your first time so we appreciate it. I am Victoria Opthof-Cordaro, I'm also on Council.

Fielding Lewis

Nice to meet you. Thank you.

Astor Lawson

Usually, we just talk about the gas going to the flare. I don't know if you had questions or what it is specifically you wanted to discuss.

Ms. deLeon

If you could give us a history of like when you were presented this plan to Council or the Township and like, you know where it started and to where we are today. I'd like a history.

Fielding Lewis

I would love to give you specifics on where it started at, but that was before my or Jake's time.

Ms. deLeon

Okay, which is a timeline of?

Fielding Lewis

I was started with Archaea a few years ago.

Ms. deLeon

Okay.

Fielding Lewis

I have a large background in a lot of similar industry. But the facility I do believe was in the works several years ago.

Ms. deLeon

Oh, yes. Yeah. Right. Right. Right. Right.

Fielding Lewis

Jake, the same.

Jake Padula

Yes. Correct. I started October 2022.

Scott Brown

I can give you a ballpark it looks like towards the end of 2019, 2020 was when they first kind of makes

Ms. deLeon

Can you give me that date again?

Scott Brown

Bethlehem Renewable Natural Gas facility, preliminary final plan land development plan dated July 22, 2019. And by February 24, 2020, that was one of the, I think it was one of the first submissions that we had with council I'd say. There's another Martin & Martin letter that we had around that same February 26, 2020 and a preliminary final land development plan was submitted to the Township July 22, 2019 and revised March 11, 2020.

Ms. deLeon

So, when did Council approve that then?

Scott Brown

I don't have that.

Ms. deLeon

You don't have that, okay. So, the March date was what?

Scott Brown

March 11, 2020.

Ms. deLeon

Okay. So, I don't know, I just want to timeline to where we are now and get right down to it. Residents, Council members are not happy with the hourglass or whatever you're calling that flare that goes on and lights up the whole side of that area. Not happy at all.

Fielding Lewis

Understood, thank you for allowing us to come here and explain kind of what the facility is, its purpose. I'll give you a kind of what a statement we have to share, first on flaring. Flaring is a normal event that the landfill uses also to

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Can you use, I'm sorry, we have a YouTube channel that broadcasts us but they nobody can hear it on the other end unless we're talking to the mic. I appreciate I know, it's a little complicated. But unfortunately, our tech system isn't.

Fielding Lewis

Absolutely. Okay.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Thank you.

Fielding Lewis

So, Archaea Energy is a renewable natural gas facility at the Bethlehem Landfill comes online, it will be conducting what is known as commissioning, and during that commissioning, of course, safety is our highest priority. During the commissioning phase, neighbors and others may see an orange flame coming from the landfill which is a little bit more significant than what you've seen in the history. This flaring process offers us a safe and effective way to manage emissions when the plant isn't producing renewable natural gas. Over the past several years, the landfill has been equipped with a methane flare to limit their emissions. Once the RNG facility is fully operational, landfill gas will be turned into a renewable resource and the RNG will be put into the local natural gas pipeline. We maintain an open line of communication with local authorities and appreciate the public's patience as we prepare to safely go online. That being said, what you see as an orange flame is fully combusted methane, it is processed biogas. That combustion reaction is basically turning that methane and oxygen into CO₂ and steam. So, the emissions that the RNG facility is actually curbing overall, is making a large impact in overall emissions as we partner with the landfill.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Can you describe the difference between the landfill flare that had been historically burning off the landfill gas and this flare? I understand its purpose. It's not meant to handle the landfill gas; you're trying to convert it into natural gas. But what is the difference between your flare and the landfill flare?

Fielding Lewis

There are a lot of similarities between the two flares. However, I will leave it up to Astor or his representative to talk about the landfill operations, and we will speak exclusively to the flare that we have. We know it much better.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, the biggest difference is the neighbors have observed, is that ours is enclosed. So, you don't necessarily see the flame outside of maybe a startup, but then the flame itself will go back down into the cylinder and you don't see it. Theirs is.....

Fielding Lewis

Ours is shielded, but it's not fully enclosed. And it's usually only used for startup purposes, or for emergency safety purposes.

Ms. deLeon

So, it will always be there?

Fielding Lewis

No, ma'am. It is there for just those purposes. So ideally, if the plant is running as is intended to run, you should see no flare.

Ms. deLeon

But it's there in case you need to use it?

Fielding Lewis

Correct. It's the best way to curb emissions or to safely destruct any emissions instead of it going to atmosphere.

Ms. deLeon

So, is there any way you can shield it?

Fielding Lewis

It is currently shielded, but because of the startup conditions we are in...

Ms. deLeon

Have you seen the videos? And you call that shielded? I.....

Fielding Lewis

Yes ma'am.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Is it possible to have the same type of system that the landfill has on your flare so that aside from the initial ignition, I'm understanding from Astor it, then there is no longer a flame shown. Is there a way for your flare, and I understand it's a backup and you have to test it right now and that's apparently what was going on. But is there a way for you to shield the flare as landfill does that the flame is not out?

Ms. deLeon

Didn't I just ask that?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

You did.

Ms. deLeon

Okay.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

But....

Fielding Lewis

As it sits right now, there's not that apparatus in place so we can take your concerns and bring them back to our folks to maybe look at that again to see if there's an ability to do something different with this style of flare that we have.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. Another question I have is, with the flare system, I understand it is for emergencies, but are you envisioning that you're going to be able to process 100% of the gas that the landfill gas that comes in? Or is there going to be gas that you have to divert because it's unusable or too dirty to send into the system?

Fielding Lewis

No, historically, our facilities run at 95% efficiencies, and 95% uptime, and that's 365 days a year, 24-hours a day. So, to say that it's going to run 100% of the time and never flare ever would be not accurate. But I will tell you that it will run the majority of the time because that is our goal is for the plant to run 24/7, 365.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

So, while it's running though, I guess my question is, is the gas that you accept in, like the all of the gas that gets piped into your facility, is all of it being converted? Or is there a portion of like residual or parts of the gas that you can't put into the system that you have to do something else with?

Fielding Lewis

Fair question. Yes, all the gas available from the landfill, we will be able to process at the facility, half of the gas constituents that come from the landfill, it's not just all methane. And that's really what we're trying to recover and put into the local infrastructure for the gas pipeline. Half of that, roughly half of that gas stream is made up of CO₂ carbon dioxide, and we do safely destruct that per our DEP air permit to our thermal oxidizer, which is an enclosed type flare.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay, so you have a thermal oxidizer enclosed flare that takes gets rid of the CO₂ compounds of the gas, the other components of the gas, you convert to natural gas and it is piped to the system.

Fielding Lewis

Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

So, is this other candlelight flare designed to be a backup for the components that can't go to the natural gas line? Or how does that when does that flare go on?

Fielding Lewis

The flare should only, the candlestick flare that you see that is obviously prevalent while we're starting up right now. You should only see during a startup condition. It would be temporary, right now, it's probably on more than you would like to ever see it on. And I'm sure that it's bright. But due to the natural gas pipeline not being necessarily as ready as we are to produce, is why we are working bugs out of that system during the commissioning phase. And that's why it's on a little bit more than it would ever be normally.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. And I understood that I heard some somewhere along last couple weeks, somebody said there was a difference in your readiness versus the natural gas line readiness or the electrical system. So, during that, what was the time that you were ready to process that you had this issue with the natural gas line? Do you remember what date that was?

Fielding Lewis

I do not have a specific date at this point. But I can get that information to you and the Council.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. Can you say whether it was like a month ago, two weeks ago, two months ago?

Fielding Lewis

It's been at least two weeks to my knowledge.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay.

Fielding Lewis

Maybe a little bit longer than that. But I wouldn't say we're too, too far beyond what that timeline is currently.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. And you, during that time you were accepting all of the gas from the landfill, but you couldn't convert, send it over? So, is that why the flare was burning?

Fielding Lewis

Correct. That's part of the commissioning phases. There's a lot of equipment that has to work together for the plant to work as one. And while you start with equipment up newly you make sure all of the so-called bugs are worked out of the system. So, it runs like a like an engine runs in your car.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

So, you keep on referring to a commissioning stage. Can you describe what that is?

Fielding Lewis

Sure. When you first start up a facility like the renewable natural gas plant, there are several pieces of equipment and components that have to work together as one for it to work properly. And when you start things up, when you start everything up at one time, some things don't work as intended. Maybe there's an electrical issue, maybe there's a mechanical issue, maybe there's an instrumentation issue. So, during that time, we would flare the gas that we are processing in order to mitigate those issues, fix them. So, when we do go back into processing, we're able to do it consistently. So that's the commissioning portion.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Was the flare operating as it had been designed to operate during the two weeks that it was flaring, or at least two weeks?

Fielding Lewis

Yes.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Were there any...

Ms. deLeon

The new flare or the old flare? The old.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

His flare.

Ms. deLeon

Okay.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Your flare.

Fielding Lewis

Yes, if our flare....

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Your flare vs. the landfill flare....

Fielding Lewis

If we're not processing gas at the facility, and our flare is not lit, then the landfill will be flaring their gas.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay.

Ms. deLeon

Wait, wait, say that again. So

Fielding Lewis

If we're not processing it and it's going to pipeline or we're not flaring it, the landfill will flare their gas.

Ms. deLeon

See, that was always my understanding when this was presented back in 2019-20, whatever, that there would only be two flares, yours, or I shouldn't say flare, the old flare, and then your facility and your facility would handle whatever the amount of gas was, or methane coming out of the landfill. But then if there was an issue, it would go back to the old flare. That's why they didn't want to dismantle the old flare. So that would handle and then all of a sudden, we see this like 8000-foot flare. Or, you know, and wondered. I had no idea that was going to be there.

Fielding Lewis

That's our flare that you can see visually. And the landfill's is enclosed, where you cannot see the flame.

Ms. deLeon

Right? I understand it was enclosed, just like the sewer plant is open, you can see the flare.

Fielding Lewis

Yes, the open candlestick style flare is ours.

Ms. deLeon

Right.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I just had a question about the flame on the flare. I think you have the video; can you play the video? Some of the, what we've seen is that the flare is operating at like a light, a lower height, so to speak of the flame. And then at some point in time, it like, blows up high, and then like lights the sky up, like Apocalypse style, like bright orange, and then it comes back down. So, somebody looking at it from afar, like, feel like oh, maybe like a meteorite, like hit the ground and it went up or who knows what it is. But I just want you to see what, at least what the videos that we've seen and observed. Is this, how the flare is intended to operate when it's being used?

Fielding Lewis

It is. The fluctuation you're seeing is just different pressure going to the flare. So, gas rates go up and down as we're compressing gas. So, you'll see that it may get bigger and get smaller at times, but it is operating normally. Yes.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Is there, I've never seen the landfill flare fluctuate like that. Is there a reason why like the, like you said the fluctuation of how much gas is coming through? Is there a way to control that so it's not fluctuating in the height of the flame? Control the flame?

Fielding Lewis

Yes. Still part of the commissioning phase, I guess you could say.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Is your design intended to regulate the flame height so that it's consistent?

Fielding Lewis

I'm sorry, can you repeat the question?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Is your plan intended to regulate that flame height, so that it stays in a consistent height? It's not like changing.

Fielding Lewis

Our intent is for that to be a little bit more regular if it is on in the future, but because of the commissioning phase, we are working through different issues. You may see it fluctuate as it is right now.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay, so was there an issue with the regulation of it like so? I guess I'm what I'm trying to get down to are you in? Is it intended to be regulated? And just that there was a concern or issue with it being regulated? Or is it, it's not regulated, but we're going to look into seeing how we could regulate it?

Fielding Lewis

We understand it's most probably a concern for those that are not up to speed on what the process is. Our intent is to minimize that flare being on altogether. So, in the future, if it is on it should be fairly consistent and regular. Right now, because of our commissioning phase, it may regulate a little bit as you see there and it's especially going to be prevalent or easy to see at night rather than during the day.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Right.

Ms. deLeon

I mean, our fire companies have gotten numerous phone calls.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Yeah, I think, at least I had asked the Fire Company if he could, his name is Ty Johnson, our Fire Chief, and I asked him if he could provide me like how often he had been called and he said he went six times this year. One was for an alarm sounding, and five for the flare. So, like, if we had the flare going last two weeks, approximately, they've been called five times, I don't know, what was the....the police also provided a list of what they responded to or had to respond to. And I appreciate the information, I would think our expectation would be that you either, if you haven't had it in your plans already to put in your plans that you will regulate the flare so that it doesn't go above tree height, and that it stays at a consistent level when it's used. And the other question is, do you have, and I know it's an emergency flare. During this commissioning phase, while you're trying to figure out how to do that? Can you ship it back to the landfill right now? Can that be something that you're doing right now until the other parts of the commissioning phase are?

Ms. deLeon

Right, so that the flame wouldn't be there at all?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Right. Right now.

Fielding Lewis

Unfortunately, as we process gas that is coming from part of our facility, passed from the custody transfer point from when they give us the gas, so that gas going to that flare is not necessarily routed to be able

to go back to their flare, nor is it rated for their flare, it's a high purity methane, is what you're seeing there. That's why it's so bright. So, and of course, there isn't any CO₂ in it. It's very, it's ready to go to the pipeline. It's just bright because of full combustion – it is going to give out that kind of light with methane.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

So, there's a breaker system, or there's a point in time in which you cannot go back, so to say.

Fielding Lewis

Correct. Correct.

Scott Brown

I guess, earlier on, you said, it's going to be 95% of the time it's functioning. So, in essence, the flare, you'd only ever see the flare 5% of any day or any year.

Fielding Lewis

Our goal is 95% or better, yes.

Scott Brown

So, and then also, you, I'm assuming you need the gas flow, when you're calibrating your equipment, you need the gas flowing in there, even while you're doing the calibration. So that's why it's going to the, getting to the flare on, you need that gas to do what you got to do to make the adjustments.

Fielding Lewis

Correct.

Scott Brown

Okay.

Fielding Lewis

If our plant was to shut down, then all the gas would be routed back to the flare at the landfill.

Ms. deLeon

The old flare.

Fielding Lewis

Correct.

Ms. deLeon

So is there a way that you could notify the 911 Center that the flares there, because when people call in, they can maybe kind of tell them, Oh, that's a normal thing. You know, I don't know if that can happen or not.

Fielding Lewis

That can happen. We need to communicate with our local authorities to make sure they have the right people involved and informed. So, I'll take that as an action.

Ms. deLeon

I appreciate that.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

How much longer do you intend the commissioning period to occur? Like where it's flaring, like, on a regular basis?

Fielding Lewis

Optimistically, by the end of the week.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay.

Ms. deLeon

That's like in two days.

Fielding Lewis

Realistically, potentially next week.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. And then that's where you would hopefully be able to convert to the 95%?

Fielding Lewis

Ideally, we won't have the flare on at that point. That's the game plan. We do not like that flare just as much as probably might not quite as much as you don't like it, but it does us no good either.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I understand it doesn't make you any money.

Fielding Lewis

So, I assure you. We want it off as well.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Yeah. Okay. Is it possible to have an action item that you could come back to us and say, like, we were able to calibrate, thank you for the word, it's like recalibrate your flare, so that it's not, and provide some like, so that's not as bright and when you do have to use it, so it's not so shocking for the community? Can we ask for that as an action item?

Fielding Lewis

There's a lot behind answering that yes or no. To be honest. There's a lot of engineering that goes into a facility like this, and it takes a lot of people with a lot of smart people, but their brains together to make sure that happens right. That takes a lot of counsel with a group of folks to make sure they can attack this the right way. I can bring this concern from the community and the Council to our senior management. Yes.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. Would it help you; I know that you know you're here, and I appreciate you coming and spending your time. Would you like a letter from Council to support you in that effort? Is there anything that we can provide to help you in providing the information for them to understand why we would necessarily be asking for them? And I understand it might be a modification to what you had initially submitted.

Fielding Lewis

If you feel it necessary, by all means, sure.

Ms. deLeon

Okay. Our next meeting is the 24th.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Yeah.

Ms. deLeon

We can put that on the agenda.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I think the more open the communication lines are the better. So, if you have any updates about when you're converting from the commissioning stage to the online stage, I'm just going to call it that, that you could let us know right away. And then, hopefully, we can open a line of communication with you about addressing the flare and what it will look like when it's used in the future. And for now, somebody said it got shut off or that it was you guys shut off the lines and sent it back to the landfill? Is that true?

Fielding Lewis

So, if our facility is not running, the landfill will flare their own, yes.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay, but right now it's running.

Fielding Lewis

Correct.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. Is it flaring today?

Fielding Lewis

It is flaring.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

It is flaring today. Okay.

Fielding Lewis

I'd love to speak to all the details. But there's a whole lot that I probably want to make sure I explain the right way, which is, there's nothing unsafe about the flaring. I know it's an eyesore, but it is very safe. And that is intended to do that. Just so you know that there's a lot of folks that made sure that it is in the right place, it is sized correctly, it is made of the right materials, and everything around it is of safe distance for it to be at maximum capacity without an issue. So, it is a safe apparatus. It just looks bad.

Ms. deLeon

So, during the day, you don't technically see it? You only see it at night?

Fielding Lewis

I wouldn't say that. No, you could probably see that during the day, but not as prevalent. Not as prevalent.

Ms. deLeon

Is there.....sometimes, you know, like when you're on I-78 or 33, and they build sound walls. Is there any way that you could build some kind of a wall that would like hide it? I don't know. I just thought I would throw that out there.

Fielding Lewis

You know, along with any concerns you or the Council brings or community brings, we will definitely take that back and discuss that with our senior management group.

Ms. deLeon

Well, and you are invited to come to our meeting on the 24th.

Fielding Lewis

Sure.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Matt McLarin is one of our Landfill Committee members as a resident and he just came in. I just wanted to make sure that he.... no it's okay, I just want to. So, the Aria gas representatives are here and they're giving us explanation of the flare. So, I don't know if you had any questions about the flare, specifically, but I just want to make sure you know.

Matt McClarin

Me and my son were out and we see this flame and I'm like, it's got to be a fire out at the warehouse. It is a real foggy night. We go down I'm like, I'm an idiot. You know what I mean? We chased it all the way down through it. I mean, it was that night, it was just there was so much fog in the air, it almost seemed like something was

Ms. deLeon

from out of space.

Matt McClarin

Yeah, exactly. So

Ms. deLeon

I asked

Fielding Lewis

When there is an overcast sky, it is probably going to be more prevalent than it would normally be, especially at nighttime.

Matt McClarin

Oh yeah, because you have the gas facilities lights down there too. So, it was like the whole sky was orange over there.

Ms. deLeon

Well, just to let you know that you didn't miss the whole meeting, I asked to have these two items put up first because I have to leave in about five minutes. So, they graciously accepted that. Well, I can't think of any other questions for me.

Scott Brown

One last thing. I did find the date of August 19, 2021 was when the plan was approved.

Ms. deLeon

Okay, I'll look that up.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Did the plans have any, we don't know if they have any specifics on the regulation or the calibration of the flare? You don't know that?

Scott Brown

Okay, I wasn't I wasn't around during that.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay.

Scott Brown

The plans were just land development plans, so I don't (inaudible) the technical operation of how the flare (inaudible).

Ms. deLeon

It was just a site plan type thing.

Scott Brown

Site plan, right.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Have you had any communications with DEP about the flare?

Fielding Lewis

Specifically, me? No.

Ms. deLeon

Well, your company. Your company.

Fielding Lewis

We have to. In order to build a facility of this nature and to have a flare in general, you have to have an air permit that is approved by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I think I've seen the permit. I'm just curious if they've, if you've had any communications with them about the flare since you started the commissioning process.

Fielding Lewis

Prior to us starting it up initially, I'm sure there is a period of where you have to make a notification before you start up. Yes.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Anything after the commissioning, after the startup?

Fielding Lewis

Not unless they communicate with us, and we of course, take any sort of compliance extremely seriously.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. You, do they have any concerns at this time? Are you aware of any?

Fielding Lewis

None.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I appreciate you coming, and like I said, and I really look forward to hearing what we can do to put some more mitigating components onto that flare so that it's not as visible.

Fielding Lewis

We're not trying to keep you awake at night, I assure you, that's not our goal. We want to be as quiet and out of the way as possible and improve the air quality in the community. That's the purpose of this facility.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I appreciate it. Priscilla, do you have

Ms. deLeon

Yeah, I do too.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Priscilla, do you have

Ms. deLeon

No, I think we're good. He answered a lot of my questions. But like I said, you know, we'll learn more between now and the 24th, so.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I appreciate it. There is a resident wanting to, do you want to ask a question about this air about the flare, specifically?

Donna Louder

Yes.

Fielding Lewis

Hello.

Donna Louder

Donna Louder. Steel City resident. Just a few questions for you guys. I know that you're with Archaea. How long have you been with Archaea?

Fielding Lewis

I have been with Archaea since July of 2022. And Jake has been with Archaea since October of 2022.

Donna Louder

Okay, and what is your background? As far as renewable gas? Like, have you done this before? And you moved into a different company? Or is this like I'm going to get my hands and feet wet right now in Lower Saucon Township?

Fielding Lewis

No ma'am.

Donna Louder

Okay.

Fielding Lewis

I have over a decade, over 12-13 years of experience in this industry of all variety, from the entry level operator to the senior manager. So, I understand and a community member, so I understand where you're coming from.

Donna Louder

Okay, because we did have a company come into Lower Saucon and work with the landfill, and I think they used to make chocolates before. Not sure. But anyways, it was a disaster. And that was one question. So, the other thing is your facility sits there? Is it manned 24/7?

Fielding Lewis

While it is running there is somebody there? Yes.

Donna Louder

24/7?

Fielding Lewis

Right now, yes, there is somebody there 24

Donna Louder

365?

Fielding Lewis

We haven't gotten that far yet. To be honest

Donna Louder

Okay.

Fielding Lewis

There are three dedicated operators at that facility. They all share a schedule, which covers seven days a week with an on-call responsibility.

Donna Louder

Okay. Is it monitored by a computer?

Fielding Lewis

Yes ma'am.

Donna Louder

Okay. So, once you get online, and the flare is pretty much just there for backup for service to whatever would happen in the plant. What's the next step? Where is this energy going that you're creating?

Fielding Lewis

So, we take all the landfill gas and strip everything out of it besides methane.

Donna Louder

Correct.

Fielding Lewis

And then that gets injected into your local natural gas infrastructure pipelines to go to your community or businesses and residents.

Donna Louder

Is that part of the company set up to inject it into the community's pipelines?

Fielding Lewis

There's very high standards on the quality of gas that has to go into that pipeline.

Donna Louder

I understand.

Fielding Lewis

Yes, ma'am. That's the normal path.

Donna Louder

But is it already hooked up? Or do you have to run pipe down to Easton Road to the UGI plant?

Fielding Lewis

No, it is hooked up. However, the reason why we're flaring so much right now is because of that connection.

Donna Louder

I'm not worried about your flare.

Fielding Lewis

Sure.

Donna Louder

I don't like seeing it, but I'm not worried about it.

Fielding Lewis

Yes, it is connected.

Donna Louder

I'm more concerned about the next steps. Because I'm assuming that you have all these years' experience, you can pretty much tell how long it's going to take to get this plant up and running to your 95%. And if you're telling me next week, then that's what we can expect next week. Right?

Astor Lawson

But just to jump in real quick, I think the issue right now is that the, it's out of yours and our control, it's with the people that are accepting the gas that are having that issue. So

Donna Louder

And who are those people?

Astor Lawson

TC Energy.

Fielding Lewis

The gas utility is Trans Canada?

Donna Louder

Well, maybe somebody needs to call them

Fielding Lewis

Oh, we've called them every day, every hour it seems we're waiting on them to do their part.

Donna Louder

What do they have to do?

Fielding Lewis

There is power that needs to be supplied to a portion of equipment at their site that they are having problems mechanically with.

Donna Louder

And where are they located?

Fielding Lewis

Roughly a quarter mile from the facility. As in physically where the injection site is at or where their offices are?

Donna Louder

Where's the guy on the other end of the phone?

Fielding Lewis

He answers the phone. But we're pressing them very hard. Very hard.

Donna Louder

Okay. I'll take your word for it. And what is the name of them again?

Fielding Lewis

TransCanada Pipeline is the TransCanada Energy is the utility, which I do believe owns the pipeline, but it's probably UGI that distributes gas to the community.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I was going to just ask that question, because I heard it was UGI.

Donna Louder

Okay. And hold on....I think I am good. Okay, we look forward to your report. And maybe the TransCanada Energy people can have a report too.

Fielding Lewis

We hope so.

Donna Louder

I do too. Thank you for your time.

Fielding Lewis

Thank you.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Go ahead.

Russ Sutton

Hi, my name is Russ Sutton. I live in Steel City. And I have a couple of questions. What you're burning off at the flare, you're producing CO₂, correct?

Fielding Lewis

That is the reaction of a flare, yeah.

Russ Sutton

Yeah. And that's a greenhouse gas, correct? It is. CO₂.

Fielding Lewis

I don't know how exactly how to answer that question. I'm not an environmental scientist.

Russ Sutton

Right. But CO₂ is an environmental gas. The next question I have if you have a malfunction at that plant, what kind of alert system do you have for the neighborhood? Because I've heard sirens going off a couple times at the at the plant, not the plant, but the dump. And I didn't know what the sirens are for. But what kind of emergency procedures do you have to warn the neighborhood if there will be an incident there or a gas leak.

Fielding Lewis

If you've heard a siren at the facility, it's for emergency purposes, testing purposes.

Russ Sutton

Okay.

Fielding Lewis

As we bring up the new facility online, we have to test everything to make sure it works properly and document that accordingly to OSHA standards, all sorts of process safety management standards.

Russ Sutton

Okay.

Fielding Lewis

By alerting the community, we would alert our emergency personnel in the community and they would alert the community if there is a larger issue.

Russ Sutton

Larger issue. Okay. The main reason I'm up here is not about the flare but my problem is with the vulture problem at the landfill. I have many pictures.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Russ, I just wanted to isolate the comments about the flare for now.

Russ Sutton

Just the flare. Okay, I will do that later.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Yeah, like generally comments about the landfill we could take at the end after the rest of the meeting. Do you have anything else about the flare?

Russ Sutton

Okay, that's fine.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Do you have anything else about the flare?

Russ Sutton

Just the flare, I was concerned about the CO₂ and their warning systems in case something would happen at the plant. That was my major concern. Because we've already had a major derailment in our village which could have been disastrous if there was leaking tanks but there wasn't, so we were fortunate. And there was just a derailment and Bethlehem with Norfolk Southern so I was just concerned about this plant. What kind of emergency procedures you had to protect a neighborhood?

Fielding Lewis

Yep, we have to have rigorous safety standards in place for procedures, for not only operating the facility, but emergency procedures. So, evacuation procedures, fire procedures, loss of power procedures, those types of things.

Russ Sutton

Do you have a fire suppression system?

Fielding Lewis

We do.

Russ Sutton

Okay.

Fielding Lewis

Yes.

Russ Sutton

Okay. Thank you.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Do you have our fire company's information and our police information for like providing updates? I know that you've indicated you were trying to work on

Fielding Lewis

We do.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro
Okay.

Fielding Lewis

We do. I'd like to say I know what, everybody's doing their job right now on like our safety folks that made those communications, but I know they have initially. But considering the flare going off and that the fire department being alerted right away is an action item I would take personally care of that.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Appreciate it. I think we're okay with that on the agenda. Any other residents have any questions about the flare or comments about the flare specifically?

Donna Louder

I'd like to ask one more question. I just, do you have a personal interest in this company? Or is it owned by Archaea? And you're just an employee?

Fielding Lewis

I am an employee.

Donna Louder

Okay. Sorry.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I think we're, we're good with that. Thank you. I mean, you're welcome to stay for the rest of it. We go through all the landfill stuff. I'm sure you saw the agenda. But we appreciate you coming.

Fielding Lewis

Thank you. Thank you, Council members. I appreciate it.

Astor Lawson

Thanks for coming out.

Scott Brown

Alright Astor do you want to start yours off?

Astor Lawson

I. Waste Activities

MONTHLY TONNAGES			
	April	May	June
MSW	21,243.36	20,387.37	20,070.17
C&D	5,360.52	7,136.59	6,510.56
Residual (Total)	778.15	1,027.14	622.89
Asbestos	0.00	0.00	0.00
Alternate Daily Cover	0.00	1,640.30	0.00
Sewage Sludge	509.42 (1.8%)	738.04 (2.4%)	295.77(1.1%)
Out of State (Total)	14,058.82(50%)	14,268.16(46%)	11,358.88(41%)
Recycle	7 (71.43%)	8 (75%)	6 (83.3%)

Recycling Loads in April, we took in 7 that came through. 71% were Lower Saucon Road residents. In May, we took 8 loads recycling 75% of those were Lower Saucon Road residents. In June, we took 6 loads recycling which was 83% Lower Saucon Road residents. Our recycling is picked up by Republic Disposal and disposed of at Greenstar Recycling in Northampton.

Astor Lawson

Form U Submittals:

Form U Submittals	Waste	Dates
Gilbane Bldg Co.	Contaminated Soil	04/30/2024
Cera Met LLC	Ceramic Waste	05/03/2024
Gilbane Bldg Co.	Contaminated Soil	05/08/2024
American Atelier	Plant Trash	05/21/2024

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Astor, just to clarify. I want everybody, when you say approved it just means that you got approval to accept it onsite.

Astor Lawson

Correct.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

So that those items went into the landfill just went.

Astor Lawson

No, it's not automatic. It just means that the company submitted an approval for us to take it if they did bring it

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Oh okay.

Astor Lawson

Correct. Yeah, sometimes depending on what you know, like with the Loch Shedrake WWTP, a lot of time, just like for us with our leachate, we have to have a backup disposal option in case something were to happen with our main option and so with a lot of places that's all they're doing is making sure that if something were to happen to their main outlet per se that there's a backup plan. So just because it's approved, doesn't mean that we took it.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay, so we don't know what happened to these items?

Astor Lawson

I would have to go check the records. Yeah, but these are the ones that were approved which are all submitted. When they are submitted, they're all sent to the Township.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

And when you say approved, meaning?

Astor Lawson

The DEP approved for us to take it.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

To be disposed of but you can't say whether or not they were disposed of at

Astor Lawson

I could if I looked into it but I don't know off the top of my head if I did or not. I'd have to check.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. That's great. Is it possible next meeting you could have that information for those items?

Astor Lawson

Sure.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Thank you.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, no problem.

- Form U Submittals Continued:

Form U Submittals	Waste	Dates
NYC SCA	Contaminated Soil	05/31/2024
NYC SCA	Contaminated Soil	05/31/2024
NYC SCA	Contaminated Soil	05/31/2024
Loch Shedrake WWTP	Sewage Sludge	06/06/2024
Koch Filter Corporation	Plant Trash	06/14/2024

II. Annual Groundwater Trend Analysis

Q2 sampling event was May 13 through May 17 2024.

III. Correspondence Reports

06/04/2024: Revised 1 QTR Groundwater Report submitted.

IV. Landfill Operations

DEP Inspections

04/12/2024: Matt Vipond, Amy Faulch, Erin McNulty, and Kinny

04/12/2024: Engineering Inspection with Matt Glogowski

05/13/2024: Amy Faulch, Matt Vipond and Kolessar from DEP

05/22/2024: Matt Glogowski, Engineering Inspection.

06/12/2024: Vipond, Ariachi and Jenkins, DEP Inspection. Ariachi is the new air quality guy.

06/14/2024: Ariachi, Air Quality Inspector.

06/20/2024: Matt Glogowski, Engineering Inspector for DEP.

Host Municipal Inspections

Scott Brown was out on the following dates:

April 4, 2024
April 18, 2024
April 22, 2024

May 2, 2024
May 16, 2024

June 6, 2024
June 20, 2024

Commercial Waste Vehicles

	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
Total # Trucks	2,580	2,827	2,724

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Can I just ask a question about trucks?

Astor Lawson

Sure.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Since we're on trucks. Somebody recently emailed the Township and asked about status of trucks coming from Island Park Road, Lower Saucon, like down of that route, as opposed to the 78 route. And then our manager brought like our minutes from January, I'm just trying to remember. My understanding was if it was a local trash hauling truck, they can come from any direction, any place. But the permit requires like a dump truck or an 18-wheeler, anything that's a large truck like that to do the 78 to 412, Farmersville Applebutter route. Is that right?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, the way that the traffic compliance plan works. Yeah, I mean, so any customer that we sell to we advocate for them to do the route, unless there is say, you know, like, if they're picking up the trash on Cherry Hill Road, for example, obviously there will come from right there.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Like the local trash trucks, they can go from anywhere.

Yeah, we just got a request. And like, some of them are local haulers. So, I think that was, the but there were the report of what I think Chrin, there was like a list of five different companies again, that and I spoke to the resident and they, I explained to them that if it's a local trash hauler, they can come from anywhere and they are okay. It's okay if they come down Lower Saucon Road that direction. But she was reporting that they were dump trucks. I don't know if they had. And the other question is, if it's bringing in like, daily cover, do they have to follow the same route?

Astor Lawson

But there's also a lot of trucks too like with the, was it SES? They have their spot, I know their trucks drive up that way back and forth. Chrin, their trucks drive back and forth up and down that road, there's a couple farms over there. So, you know, again, if there's suspicion or somebody thinks that those trucks are coming for us and going out of the wrong route, you know, for somebody to let us know to look into, it'd be helpful.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Yeah, we just got a request. And like, some of them are local haulers. So, I think that was, the but there were, the report of what I think Chrin, there was like a list of five different companies again, that and I spoke to the resident and they, I explained to them that if it's a local trash hauler, they can come from anywhere and they are okay. It's okay if they come down Lower Saucon Road that direction. But she was

reporting that they were dump trucks. I don't know if they had....and the other question is, if it's bringing in like, daily cover, do they have to follow the same route?

Astor Lawson

We do ask them to just make it easier. Now, I know that Lower Saucon Road or the Island Park Road or whichever was closed for a while.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Yeah.

Astor Lawson

I don't know what work was being done over there that trucks might have been coming back and forth from that, again, may not even be associated with us. That's why I say if there is an issue, if people let us know that we can look into it and ensure that they're coming from us or at least let you guys know, so you have an answer on if those trucks belong to us and if they do belong to us and then they need to go a different route then we can address it and maybe go another route.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. Yeah, I so I guess I'm just providing you the report that there's I think

Astor Lawson

Because again Chrin I mean, that's outside of my purview. I don't operate Chrin. The SES trucks, I'm not responsible for.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

When you say you're not like so, is, what's

Astor Lawson

I don't manage Chrin. So, if the Chrin trucks are driving up Applebutter and taking Lower Saucon Road to get to Chrin Landfill, I don't have anything to do with that.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Oh, you're saying no, no, but no, these people I think people are worried they are coming.

Astor Lawson

Because I mean I see them go that way. And then Swint is right up the road too. I mean, I guess my thing is, is just because there's a truck on the road doesn't mean it's affiliated with me.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

It's from you..

Astor Lawson

So, unless somebody lets me know, then there's not a whole lot I can do about it.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay, um, let me just

Donna Louder

With the Main Street in Freemansburg closed, are you telling all your truckers to come all the way down 78 through Hellertown? Some of them get off 33 and come through Freemansburg and that's going to cause a disaster for the folks in Freemansburg.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, well, they're not supposed to be doing that either. So again, that would be local. Technically, it should be for local, the people that are picking, like Whitetail picks up and Freemansburg so they would be coming that way.

Donna Louder

I'm talking trailers, tractor trailers.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, and if you're seeing that so I know that Freemansburg police have caught some of those guys and fined them quite a bit of money. But if you see that too again reported to us and you know we suspend trucks for that when we catch them.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Sorry, I'm just trying to find email

Astor Lawson

but I did see that Donna, that was.....

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

You don't have that email to you Cathy? The one that we got from, that talked about the trucks? She listed a list of them. Okay, so Whitehall Disposal which I think is a local truck. Chrin, Swint, Mascaro, and SES use the roads.

Astor Lawson

Chrin, Swint, and Mascaro, all of their yards are right there so.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Those are local haulers. So, I just if you could maybe put another reminder out to the

Astor Lawson

Well and then Chrin come to us.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Chrin doesn't come to you at all?

Astor Lawson

No, they go to their landfill that's five miles away from mine.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

So, wait, I'm, I think that they're coming, they're going down

Astor Lawson

They drive, I mean, I do see them pass from my office I see Applebutter and I, they drive past us to get up to Lower Saucon, to go to Island Park to go to Chrin Landfill.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay.

Astor Lawson

Because they're all the same company so.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. All right.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, it's kind of what I was saying. So, if there is, you know getting that list helps me because again Swint's yard is half a mile from the entrance of the landfill across from Red Barn Auto.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Right. No, and I know were Swint is.

Astor Lawson

The Whitetail, that would be us so I can talk to them because you know, if they're coming from Easton, they still need to come around the proper route and not take the back roads. So again, that's type of thing where if you let me know who the hauler is, and we can reach out.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay.

Astor Lawson

Then SES, their yard is on the backside of the landfill so I'm sure they're going to and from their yard over there off of Riverside Drive there.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay, yeah, I just have Whitetail, Chrin, Swint, Mascaro and SES Waste.

Astor Lawson

Then same with JP, but JP, they have a transfer station in Allentown. So, they may or may not be coming to the landfill, they might just be picking up over there.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. All right.

Astor Lawson

But again, you know, best thing is let me know then I can look into it. And if it is us, then we can manage it appropriately.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. Thank you.

Astor Lawson

No problem.

Donna Louder

Victoria, a friend of mine lives on the corner of Ringhoffer and Easton Road and tractor trailers get hung up on that bridge. So, I don't know if you want to check with the police department to see if you to find out who those trucks belong. But I know that the tractor trailer drivers can't make that turn and they get jammed up.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Wait, Donna. Can you come to the microphone? Tell me that again. I'm sorry. Sorry.

Donna Louder

A friend of mine lives on the corner of Easton Road and Ringhoffer.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Oh, that spot.

Donna Louder

Right. So, I know that there have been tractor trailers taking Ringhoffer thinking they're going to get on to Easton Road.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Recently?

Donna Louder

I'm not sure how far away they were but I know her living there, she's the one who ends up calling because a tractor trailer now taking down the bridge to get onto Easton Road because they get jammed up, they can't make that turn. So, I don't know if you want to check with the police department to see whose trucks those belong to.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

That bridge hasn't been out recently, that was a while ago. Right? We put the new

Donna Louder

No, you're too far up. Come back down. Come back Ringhoffer and Easton Road. The Sportsman's Club?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Yeah, yeah, that turn there. Yeah, that's recently?

Donna Louder

I don't know, you'd have to check with the police department. But I'm just saying for if you want to find out who the trucks belong to, because like I said, they get jammed up there, and then the police get called and then that gets whatever.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Thank you.

Astor Lawson

I think I left overweight, so overweights.

Commercial Waste Vehicles Cont'd

	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
Overweight	55	89	27

Warnings	44	83	24
Suspensions	11	6	3

Flare Operations and Gas Collection

In April and May, our flare was the main source for the gas system. Starting in June, obviously, with Archaea guys, they went online to start commissioning their plant. So, our average flow in April was 3,329 SCFM. And in May, the average flow was 3,948 SCFM. And then for June when the flare was running, our average flow was 3,970 SCFM.

And then says this is based on the average of both the flare and Archaea plant operating during that period, either the flare or the Archaea RNG plant was taking all field produced gases.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

You don't know if, when they finish their recommissioning and that when they're going to be reporting any of the flare volumes like you do? Do you know that?

Cody White

So, they're going to be in communication with SCS, and we will get access remotely to see their flows so they are metering as well.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay.

Cody White

We are still going to have to report that because that's greenhouse gas emissions.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Right. Okay, so we'll get those. Are you going to be able to delineate area versus landfill?

Cody White

Well, if our flare is running, then we're taking gas, and if it's not then

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

No, I just meant like on the report, so we know

Cody White

Oh yeah, yeah, I can.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Thank you.

Astor Lawson

It was separated just because it'd be two different entities there.

April: The total downtime of the flare in April was 1.2 hours out of a total 720 runtime hours.

May: The total downtime of the flare was zero out of 744 total run hours.

June: The total downtime of the flare for June was zero hours, zero minutes out of 720 total run time.

That would be including both us and Archaea.

North Slope Road:

During Q2, the has not needed repairs, nor the swell since we repaired it last.

Abatement System: Continues to operate and discharge to the City of Bethlehem WWTP.
Leachate Collection: We received our new discharge permit from the City of Bethlehem on June 27, 2024. Water Carbon began discharging to the WWTP July 1, 2024.
Radiation Monitoring: There were zero radioactive loads from April to June 2024.
Southeast Realignment Construction Activities: Waste operations have begun fully in the northern realignment - 1.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

If I could just interrupt real quick Cathy, can you just double check to see that the Township received the wastewater treatment plant permit? I don't know if we did or if we didn't get it. We can request it. Thank you. Okay, sorry. Go ahead. Astor.

Scott Brown

Water carbon, is that the PFOS part?

Astor Lawson

Correct. Yeah. So, water carbon, they're doing the PFOS treatment. And then so they went online discharging into the wastewater treatment plant on July 1.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Are you providing levels of your PFOS to Bethlehem now that you started discharging?

Astor Lawson

Per the permit we will in our semi-annual report. So being this started the next report, it will be issued to them.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. Cathy, can you if we have to do a request? Can you ask that they send us their semi-annual PFOS reporting?

Astor Lawson

The complaints are attached and then you have your Leachate Demand reports which we usually just cruise through so if you have any questions on those Cody will take those. What was that?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Oh, I was asking Scott if he reports. I'm sorry, I might have missed you. You want to go through the rest of the packet?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, I usually we do the complaints and then we have the stuff but I know you do your report now.

Scott Brown

Hanover Engineering Inspection Reports:

Odor Issues for April - These all occurred during the inspections Astor listed previously.
April 4th: Had a slight odor waste odor detected along Applebutter Road between Ringhoffer and Red Barn Auto.
April 18th: No landfill gas odors were detected before after the landfill inspection along Applebutter Road through Steel City and along Riverside Drive.
May 2nd: Landfill gas odor was detected along Applebutter Road between the landfill entrance and the self-storage buildings. That was prior to the landfill inspection.

May 16th: The landfill gas odors detected along Applebutter Road between the landfill entrance and the self-storage units before and after the landfill inspection.

June 6th: A slight gas odor was detected along Applebutter Road between Red Barn Auto and the self-storage areas. Again, before and after.

June 20th: No landfill gas odor was detected before and after landfill inspection. There was a brief, I'm not sure if this is the right word, but pleasant odor in the area of Applebutter Road and Ringhoffer Road and it smelled like it possibly could be from the mister, you had new blowers up and I was wondering catching a little bit of that down there. It was a nice odor that I never smelled.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, not sure. I know Cody and I have caught something over there, I don't think it was from us. It's like a cinnamony, I don't know, holiday-type smell. It was interesting. I don't know if that's what you caught, but I know Cody and I caught something similar.

Scott Brown

It definitely wasn't offensive.

Status of Action Items:

April 4th: The design and contract for the construction of 12 new gas wells was ongoing. Removal of sediment around the blue leachate tank was continuing. Construction of stormwater drainage channel north of sediment pond 4 was continuing. Placement of additional cover over the exposed garbage area was needed along the North Slope of SE-2AB, and repair of the damaged northern perimeter fence was kind of ongoing. As trees fall, they fix the fence.

April 18th: Again, construction of the contracting and construction of the 12 gas wells that was still ongoing at that time. Removal of the sediment around the blue leachate storage tank was completed and there was just some cleaning of the mechanical piping around the tank that was ongoing. Construction of stormwater drainage channel north of sediment pond 4 continued. The placement additional soil cover on the North Slope of SE-2AB was completed. And again, repair of any damaged fencing, that was still ongoing. Sedimentation Trap A NPDES permitting process is ongoing. That's the sedimentation trap that's just to the west of the maintenance garage.

May 2nd: The gas well construction is ongoing. They were still waiting for their crews to get there. Removal of sediment, I just kept that in, sedimentation around the tank is complete. The drainage channel north of sedimentation pond 4 is still ongoing. And again, the NPDES permitting for the sedimentation trap west of the maintenance garage is still ongoing.

May 16th: The gas well construction is still in progress. The removal of all sediment around the blue storage tanks was all now complete. The construction of the down channel north of sedimentation pond 4 is ongoing. There was a repair to the fence was made. After the May 2nd inspection, there was there was some damage and that damage was fixed. The new portable double mister was delivered to the site but was not set up yet. And the NPDES permitting for Sed Trap A is ongoing.

June 6th: Contract for the construction of the new gas wells had been awarded and installation would be started shortly. The down channel north of sedimentation pond 4 was completed. Again, the portable double blower mister was on site but not set up at that time. And the permitting for sed trap A is still ongoing.

May 20th: Construction of the gas wells started in the recently capped area of SE-2AB. Repair of fencing just as needed. Set up of the double blower mister is also completed and that was functioning. There was a repair made to the erosion channel that was to the south of the access road at the northeast corner of the permit boundary. And then sedimentation trap A, permitting is still ongoing.

DEP Inspection Reports

Violations:

April 17th: It was noted there was insufficient daily cover and uncompacted waste. DEP noted that Bethlehem Landfill has responded to the February 8, 2024 Notice of Violation regarding fugitive air

emissions by proposing 12 new wells that I was just talking about previously in the recently closed southern portion of the capped southern portion cell SE-2AB.

May 13th: The report had no violations. Again, DEP noted in that report that Bethlehem Landfill has responded to the May 10th Notice of Violation generated by its April 17, 2024 inspection of the uncompacted waste. Bethlehem Landfill is providing daily photos to DEP to show that they've done the proper coverage at the end of the day. DEP noted that Bethlehem Landfill has responded to February 8, 2024 NOV regarding fugitive air emissions. Again, that is by proposing and getting started on the gas wells to control the gas odors.

June 12th: There were no violations noted. Same as the May report that DEP noted that BL responded to the NOV generated on May 10th and they're providing photos as requested to show they're complying with the daily cover requirements. And the same thing again noted that they're addressing the February 8, 2024 NOV regarding fugitive air emissions by proposing that they install 12 gas wells in the southeast corner, southeast side of SE-2AB.

Observations:

General observations that DEP inspector noted.

April 17th: They noted that there was exposed waste and inadequate alternative daily cover applied over approximately 75% of the waste. He also noted two leachate seeps were observed behind a soil stockpile north of the active working face and that those leachate seeps were covered by the end of that day. And two additional seeps were also noted on the south slope.

May 13th: Form 37 Construction Certification for the final cover was received and approved by DEP. Gas odors continued to be detected at the southeast corner near the active working face. The foam alternate daily cover issue was discussed and BL found that there were some issues with the container with some micro bacteria?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, that is how they described it.

Scott Brown

It was actually kind of destroying the foam or taking it, not performing the way it was once it was sprayed out. And that issue has been, the tanks were cleaned and seems to be working fine now. Two leachate seeps were observed on the north side of the active face again. And that's whenever we have heavy rains, those seeps can pop up and you just take care of them by digging into the waste and to help get rid of them. Scouring was observed on the downslope of the North access road, but it wasn't in an area of active waste so it was just soil erosion that was occurring.

June 12th: A strong landfill gas odor was detected at the southeast corner of the landfill and Bethlehem Landfill was advised they need to install the wells. So that was being addressed for the last several months. Odor patrol conducted prior to the landfill inspection noted a slight intermittent odor of liquefied natural gas along Easton Road adjacent to the UGI plant and I guess that's kind of to be expected. A slight intermittent odor of landfill gas was detected on Sherry Hill Road near Applebutter Road and a slight to moderate intermediate odor of landfill gas was detected along Applebutter Road from Sherry Hill Road to the Red Barn Auto. The elevated surface emissions between 100 ppm and 500 ppm. 500 ppm is the regulatory limit. North and east of the temporary cap were detected at 350 ppm. And then they also noted some elevated readings above 500 ppm at the runner pipe, and I'm not exactly sure where this is - you might be able to help me, Cody.

Cody White

It's above the temporary cap on the southeast corner.

Scott Brown

That was pretty much it from the major items on the DEP reports.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Question on the status of the wells, I know you are consistently talking about and I think you've ordered the permit. Where are they? Where are they now? What is

Astor Lawson

They are onsite drilling. So today the drill rig was on the south facing slope, about two benches down so they're actually doing the work as we speak right now.

Scott Brown

There are seven wells drilled.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay 7 out of 12. Do you have an approximate completion time for that?

Cody White

Drilling possibly next week, weather permitting.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

What is the process after the drilling is done to actually have them online and collecting gas?

Cody White

Going to have to run vacuum to them. And then once they're hooked up the vacuum then they'll be in line.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. Any idea like what that timeline is you think in like August, September?

Cody White

I'd say end of July to beginning of August probably.

Astor Lawson

Putting the header lines on is usually the quickest part. It's drilling, again, the drill rig on site and drilling the wells, that's usually the more time-consuming part of it. So, once they get the drill rigs in and getting the header line going, I mean, again, all construction is always weather pending. But I would say, you know, end of July is a safe bet.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Can you talk about the daily cover issue from April?

Astor Lawson

We've been using this, let me backtrack a little bit. There was, right after COVID, we had issue getting soil, just supply chain, whatever. And so, one of the things we talked about doing was getting this foam from Atmos. So, we got that foam, we've been using it. And then obviously, they came in early in the morning, and it was dissipating. That's why it says it was 75% covered. So, talking to them, and this is also the same material that the DEP is requesting Keystone Landfill to use. So, it's something that's used everywhere. But what I found out

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Do you know what the foam is made of? Do you know what it is?

Astor Lawson

I would have to have somebody from Atmos tell you what it's made of exactly, but it's all approved by the DEP. They work closely with the DEP. But the way it was told to me is that inside the tank, it's a food grade quality type of material. And so, I guess if there's a bacteria in the tank, it can affect the, the word escapes me that I'm looking for, like the integrity of the material, which you don't see as you're spraying it on. But when you come in the next day, and it's dissipating faster, because really should last like three days when you put it on. So, when I reached out to them, so all their response and their statements were submitted in the NOV response that we sent to the DEP. And then they, again, came out, emptied the tank, cleaned it and refilled the tank all on their charge. So, I mean, it's admittedly, you know, the error was on their side, just unfortunately, we didn't catch it until the DEP came out. Because again, we have the pictures from the day before. We were taking pictures of the daily cover at the end of the day already. And then now it's just a requirement for us to actually send those pictures. But, you know, again, all those information and statements and stuff were submitted to the DEP in our NOV response from that day.

Maryanne Garber

And that written response, that was submitted on May 24th, and we always copy the Township on that correspondence. So that should be in your files.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I appreciate that. I just, I noted on the June 12th DEP Inspection Report, it seems like there was a subsequent complaint about daily cover on June 25th.

Maryanne Garber

Yeah, that's curious. Actually, Astor and I were talking about this this morning, because then it looks like photographs at the site submitted confirmed that tarps were in fact being used. So, we actually want to reach back out to DEP just to sort of close the loop on this because we're not quite sure why this comment keeps showing up.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. Did you guys see the photos that they, I don't know if I've seen them. The photos from the 25th.

Maryanne Garber

I have not seen them.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. So that's still an action, like this item that you're trying to dig to understand. But you have photos from the 25th that shows something different than what is reported on this report.

Astor Lawson

Yeah. This is post NOV. We had to send pictures of the cover to the DEP.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. And you're still sending daily photos?

Astor Lawson

Every day, yeah.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Are you still using that foam?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, we're, we still use it with the tarps and the soil.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay.

Maryanne Garber

And I think Scott, you noted that it looks like the issue with a foam has been addressed because the foam seems to be sticking based on your observations. It's not dissipating.

Scott Brown

Yeah.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

What is the status of the misters? I know that they were saying that, are they online? The new misters?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, everything's up and running.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay, is there, are the misters like, what are they emitting? Is it like something that's has some kind of scent to it? Or?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, there's what they call like an odor neutralizer. Right now, I'm using one from Weaver and then I was looking at another supplier. I forget the name of them. They just came out and visited me. But they used to actually be NCM then they sold to Atmos and I don't use Atmos'. Again, right now, I'm using Weaver's and then I might entertain this other company's.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. And that's stationed at the southeast corner?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, so we have line sprayers on the, I guess it would be the southwest corner. We have the trailer and the vapor system on the south side. And then right now these new fans that we have which are much bigger and they have the ability to run for a couple days, so that way we can just set it and it runs. That one is up on the northern side, northeast corner.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

That's in the northeast corner?

Astor Lawson

Yes

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay.

Astor Lawson

So southeast, northeast, and then the, like Southwest, we have covered.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

What is the status of the northern realignment construction or I think it, are you now disposing?

Astor Lawson

We're filling the northern realignment.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay, now you're disposing. How have your odor patrols been looking at that southeast corner? Are you still detecting issues over there?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, there's still. When we're on site, it's been less, but it's, there's still been catching it.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay.

Scott Brown

So that will probably really won't change significantly until they get the wells done.

Astor Lawson

Once we get the header line on, we started actually pulling the gas.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Do you have any questions?

Matt McClarin

So as part of the of the northern realignment construction, the approval from DEP, there were several action items attached to that approval. One, being the notice of violation from 2020 on the final cover, was that resolved completely?

Astor Lawson

I would have to double check. I mean, as far as they're concerned, yes.

Scott Brown

That's been done.

Matt McClarin

Yeah. So that was resolved?

Astor Lawson

Yeah. That's probably one of the first things we did. We were on schedule. We were caught up to the schedule we should have been on.

Matt McClarin

Where you're at.

Astor Lawson

Yeah.

Matt McClarin

Okay. The other one was, obviously the gas plant was to be fully operational I saw, which I guess they're close enough, right?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, that took, that was the last thing we went back and forth on quite a bit with that one.

Matt McClarin

Then the only other thing like all the borings have been done, when does the wall construction actually start?

Astor Lawson

The MSE wall is set in the schedule for later, later down the road.

Matt McClarin

Later down the road.

Astor Lawson

Yeah.

Matt McClarin

And all those investigative borings have all been completed?

Astor Lawson

I would have to get the answer for you on that one, I don't know off the top of my head.

Scott Brown

They're still ongoing or are being evaluated.

Matt McClarin

And typically, when they do those investigative borings, for like what they require in the permit thing? Do you witness those? Does Hanover witness those when they're boring, or no?

Scott Brown

No.

Matt McClarin

You pretty much, they hire their own geotechnical engineer, they submit the results top DEP, the DEP reviews.

Scott Brown

Yes.

Matt McClarin

So, we have no outside firm that basically inspects this as it's going on?

Scott Brown

No.

Matt McClarin

I think it'd be a good idea to have one for something like that. Whether it was done or not to date, I don't know yet. But I don't think it'd be a bad idea. Something that massive and large. I mean, some of that wall is going to, whether you want to call it a wall or a berm is, I think proposed to be, you know, 90-foot tall.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, about 100 feet in some sections.

Matt McClarin

Yeah. And then my last question is, so the elevation you're at, right now in the northern realignment area is actually higher than what was already proposed. That's just temporary, your final grade matches what would have been in the western part of the landfill where that MSE wall is, correct? Like that grade across the top should be flat

Astor Lawson

Yeah, it says 725 feet from sea level is our permitted height.

Matt McClarin

And that's already established on the western portion of the landfill that is complete by the MSE wall that's already there?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, that's where they would have stopped on that, yes.

Matt McClarin

So that's 725. Because I noticed the pile you have up there now looks like it's

Astor Lawson

Yeah, the part on the western side is not, it's I mean it settles with the landfill over time, it does settle down. We did a flyover in May and we were within our limits in May when we did our flyover.

Matt McClarin

On the northern part where you're at no, just looking on the ground, it looks like there's a 30-foot difference between the old section to the new section. So, you're telling me it settled. And that should just be the appearance of

Astor Lawson

I mean, I have my concerns with it too because it was higher, but again, when they came out and flew, I was told it was within my limits there.

Matt McClarin

So, if this is the landfill, this is Applebutter Road. This was the old section where the MSE walls made, the water tanks up here. This section of landfill on this side looks like it's at least minus 20 feet from what they have stockpiled up here now. The northern realignment wall is going to come around like this, right? So, this section of landfill looks like it's a lot higher than what is already completed on this section. If you are looking at the mountain from Freemansburg.

Stacy Werkheiser

There is a pointer on the table if you need it.

Matt McClarin

No, I don't need it. It would be good if we had a sideview from Freemansburg Ave.

Astor Lawson

Again, I, I know they just did the flyover. So that report should be coming out soon.

Matt McClarin

So, this has and as built basically of a certain elevation

Astor Lawson

Right.

Matt McClarin

Of where we're at, and it's probably based, I would assume the tower has an as built too. So, you're telling me that this is at 725 right now or close to it?

Astor Lawson

Again, we did the flyover. So, the report should be coming out and I can get that at the next

Maryanne Garber

That information is all provided in the annual reports that we have to submit to DEP and I think that the annual, and the way that it works is, the annual report for the prior year submitted is in June. So, I think it was June 1, perhaps that the annual report was submitted. But yes, they have to survey that flyover every year to make sure they are compliant.

Scott Brown

They must have been close, because they know before the northern realignment cell was complete, it was getting tight up there and they were moving west.

Matt McClarin

Yeah.

Scott Brown

And then they had surveyor, or it was just flown.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, we had Brien come out.

Scott Brown

And there was still some additional height that they could go so that's

Astor Lawson

Yeah, we're doing a lot of sliver fills on the side. And yeah,

Matt McClarin

I mean, I'm telling you, it looks 30 feet higher than what's there now.

Scott Brown

That's what I'm saying is the new stuff. I mean, somebody was just out recently.

Astor Lawson

That's why we were doing that.

Scott Brown

They have more room to go.

Matt McClarin

Yeah. Does DEP verify the benchmark that you guys have set? Or does anybody else verify that benchmark?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, that is something that I mean, that's,

Scott Brown

I think their surveyor would have to seal to that.

Matt McClarin

The engineer would seal where they're at?

Astor Lawson

I mean, that would be a Matt Glogowski. That is the type of thing Matt Glogowski deals with when he comes out.

Scott Brown

Matt just said he was done.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay. Can we just have everybody come one at time to the speaker so

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Go ahead Donna. What we're going to do at this point is like, all your questions is now your point in time to ask it. When you're finished, you sit down, we're going to move to the next person. And that's how we are going to go through this part.

Donna Louder

Okay. The report that was up, it said that there were hits above the ground. DEP inspection that were above the 500 ppm, I think it was limit, I guess you would probably be the best one to ask this. Was there any ballooning?

Cody White

No.

Donna Louder

Under temporary cap, no?

Cody White

The parts where they had the hits, were the extraction wells that were on the temp cap.

Donna Louder

Okay, I just didn't know if the temporary cap was lifting because I know that had happened years ago.

Scott Brown

That's on the far west side, is where you're talking. Just the furthest west part you can see where the access road goes up on the west side.

Donna Louder

Yes.

Scott Brown

Adjacent to that is where that used to happen.

Donna Louder

Right. I understand, yeah.

Scott Brown

These are on the east side.

Donna Louder

Okay. I just wanted to ask if that had happened or not. The daily cover, and I'm going to stand here and say I told you so. Every meeting I came to from January, February, March, and I kept saying how the daily cover used to take care of this, the daily cover used to take care of this. Now you got your hand slapped. The daily cover takes care of it, and dirt takes care of it better than anything else. So, this foam, is it a approved cover from the DEP, or is it a recommended cover from the DEP?

Astor Lawson

It's an approved cover from the DEP. Again, this is something with the, not that I don't have any affiliation with Keystone, but I know it was part of their violation that they got, it was required from the DEP to use for them. So, but again, for us, we're a dirt-poor site. Generally, for landfills, you know, if you're taking dirt from one area to fill, right? Then you have an excess of dirt. We're dirt poor, because we do these piggybacking situations. So, we're at the mercy sometimes so like I just spent \$60,000 yesterday on buying dirt because again, like we're just can't find it out there. So, we're hitting the quarries. That particular time when, the reason why we even started using the foam is I couldn't even get dirt from the quarries like we're trying to buy it and we couldn't find it. And then that's when we got the violation for the thin cover on the south side.

Donna Louder

Okay.

Astor Lawson

Because we had all the flagging there and then that's when we made some compromise with the DEP of like we'll have the foam as a backup and then they added that condition to our you know, with that NOV for that, that we would have five days' worth of soil. But unfortunately, at that point in time, I just couldn't find it in anywhere, because both generally I get it from Bayshore. But again, as a dirt-poor site, I find myself in situations where it's hard to get clean fill.

Donna Louder

Okay. And you said this is the talk about anything else we want to talk about?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Landfill related.

Donna Louder

Well, yeah, yeah, I'm not going to ask what you're having for dinner. I don't care. Vultures, protected species, understood. I also understand loud noises will make them move away. I also understand that if you disrupt their nesting, they will go away and not come back. But you have to be diligent about continuously making noise and disrupting their nesting. Trash day, Steel City is Tuesdays. They come visiting every time in fact, I have video from yesterday where they were all over somebody's front porch, which is disgusting. They usually sit on the Mennonite Church in Steel City on Tuesdays, but they were all over. I know they're drawn to the smell of garbage. And that's why we're seeing them but they really are becoming a nuisance. I don't know. Like, I know I reached out to you before, what is the status of getting any kind of resolution to getting them moving on to another area? Send them down to Chrin's.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, so I did reach out to the Falconer, basically the depredation company that I'm working with, looking for options, adding them to the depredation permit. He didn't give me a whole lot of solutions. The only other solution he gave me initially, which I did see online is, I guess it's called an effigy. This is basically like hanging a dead vulture around to get him to go away. I don't know how great that is.

Donna Louder

To do what excuse me?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, that's what it's called. It's called effigy. And it's basically hanging a vulture. Yeah, but it's a vulture. I guess that makes him go away if you hang a dead one around, but again, you know, that's no, it's just another complaint would happen if I start hanging dead vultures around the landfill. So yeah, I am trying to figure out what my options are to do some sort of mitigation.

Donna Louder

Okay. So, I mean, now this morning, none. Garbage day was yesterday, garbage was all gone. So usually, I'm guessing like Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, they're around I don't know if people's garbage starts to stink, or if that's the time people start putting it out for their Monday pickup or Tuesday pickup. But that's when I'm seeing the most. Keep looking around to see what you can do for us. Appreciate it. Thank you.

Astor Lawson

Yup.

Russ Sutton

I have a picture here that Matt was referring to about the height. You can see the originals here, and you can see a much higher this one is.

Astor Lawson

Yeah. I see it. And that's where that's where I ask the question, because I mean I see it too when I am coming in, yeah, I don't I don't deny that. That definitely looks different.

Matt McClarin

When you're looking at, it looks like it is higher. From over there on Freemansburg Ave., I'm telling you.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, no, I, I see it. My son practices baseball in Bethlehem Township. So, I see it from both sides. And, you know, so that's, that's why I had asked the questions even though my engineers, but I'll continue to look into it.

Russ Sutton

I have a couple questions. Where you have your tanks, your blue tanks. Are there any kind of retention ponds around there to prevent spillage?

Astor Lawson

The blue? I'm not sure....

Scott Brown

Leachate storage tank?

Russ Sutton

Yeah

Astor Lawson

The one tank that is on the side?

Russ Sutton

The leachate tanks, are there?

Astor Lawson

When you are saying tanks, I only have one.

Russ Sutton

Well but is there a retain

Astor Lawson

Yeah, there's secondary containment there

Russ Sutton

Is there like a berm there that prevents it there if there is spillage?

Astor Lawson

Correct, yeah.

Russ Sutton

Because that is right on the very top of the mountain.

Cody White

Then you're talking about the water tower, you're not

Scott Brown

Yeah, that's the water tower.

Russ Sutton

Not the water tower, I am talking about the leachate tanks.

Astor Lawson

You're talking about the two diesel tanks that were owned by the

Russ Sutton

They used to be

Astor Lawson

tank farm

Russ Sutton

used to be the tank farm

Astor Lawson

Those are empty and we don't use those for leachate.

Russ Sutton

Oh, you are no using them?

Astor Lawson

Nope.

Russ Sutton

So where is your

Astor Lawson

We have no attachment to those other than we own the property that they're on. But eventually they'll go away.

Russ Sutton

Oh okay, because well where is the leachate tank?

Scott Brown

The blue tank you see from Applebutter Road?

Russ Sutton

Right.

Scott Brown

Its right off the road

Astor Lawson

It's across from the RNG plant.

Russ Sutton

Oh okay. So, you're not using those tanks on the top of the mountain?

Astor Lawson

We don't use any of the facilities that are up on top. There's just, when we bought the land over there, that was part of the was it the Gilbert terminal. NRG was the owner that we bought the property from so I mean, there's office buildings up there.

Russ Sutton

You own the property though?

Astor Lawson

We own the property, but we don't have any pipelines or anything that run up there that, there's no leachate going up. There's nothing in those tanks; the tanks are empty. And it does have secondary containment, fire protection, all that but it's all

Russ Sutton

Okay because I saw, I just saw a lot of work going on up there. I didn't know what it was.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, that was part of the RNG plant and them tying into the TC energy line.

Russ Sutton

Oh okay. I have many pictures of the vultures. And at any given time, I can count between 500 and 1000. And I used to be a biology major, I used to study migratory patterns. And they do not migrate because they have a feeding source there. And they roost in my backyard. They wake me up three o'clock in the morning running across my roof, about 60 at a time or they're staring on my balusters looking in my front door, and the whole neighborhood is full of vultures. And basically, they're flying rats. I called the DEP, the EPA, the health bureau. I spoke to one of the DEP newly, I forget her name, but she spoke recently

Audience Member

Amani Reid

Russ Sutton

What's that?

Audience Member

Amani Reid.

Russ Sutton

Oh yeah, Amani Reid, I spoke to her personally and she took my information. And the thing is, they're a vector problem. They're infectious vector. And there's also avian flu now, and they can spread that as well. And this is from wildlife management, from Agriculture Department of Pennsylvania. And basically, they say that property damage, they actually my neighbor's, they destroyed his chimney, a brick chimney, I don't know what kind of beaks they have unless they are armored or what, but they destroyed his chimney. They tear and remove window caulking, screened enclosures, roof shingles, vinyl seat covers from boats and tractors, windshield wipers, door seals on cars and plastic flowers. They loaf on roofs, the house, office buildings, constructions. And there's a major problem there with St. Luke's because you have medevac. And one of them, birds weigh between 3.3 and four pounds, one hit on a medevac you're going to take it out. Also, we're in the landing pattern of ABE, the landing pattern goes right over that area. And these birds can go up to 30,000 feet. So that's a problem as well. And they also have contamination occurs coliform bacteria from droppings and in water towers or springs from which residents draw water. So, they're, they're like a flying rat, basically. And I contacted the game warden, and she said, I can actually get a permit to hunt them.

Astor Lawson

Yes.

Russ Sutton

So, I'm, I'm applying for that.

Astor Lawson

And that's when I mentioned that earlier about the depredation permit. That's what I was talking about as well.

Russ Sutton

Right, and the problem is, it's not just garbage nights, they're there. They're there almost every night in my woods. And I have some dead ash which I took down, but they roost all over my woods in the back. My woods in the back used to be green, it's white from their droppings. And I got bird feathers everywhere. And it's a major problem. It's a major health issue. And it's a major aviation problem with medevac. And I also notified St. Luke's and let them know what's going on as well and they are quite aware of it too.

Astor Lawson

Alright.

Maryanne Garber

May I ask a question? And you don't want to answer it if you don't want to answer it. I'm just curious, because I feel like I've heard you mentioned that this is a problem that has exacerbated I suppose. I'm just curious, like, when did you notice that the vultures were being more of an issue?

Russ Sutton

There's more? Oh, well, sometimes it's seasonal, spring/fall. But they're there all the time now because they have a food source.

Maryanne Garber

How long but my question is, how long have you

Russ Sutton

noticed a

Maryanne Garber

when did you start to notice a difference? Because you've lived in Steel City for a really long time.

Russ Sutton

30 years. Yeah, I would say the last 10 years, they've increased in, well the flocks have increased in size. So there, there's many more now than there used to be. I didn't see that many 20 years ago, not very many. Now I see hundreds and they roost in Steel City because a lot of the forests are gone and they have no place to roost. So that's where they're roosting because we still have forests there. And it's very annoying to be woken up three o'clock in the morning. It sounds like 1000 midgets run across your roof. And not only that, they will tear your shingles off your roof as well. So, they do damage as well. And I don't appreciate cleaning bird shit off my cars every other day from the vultures and also the mess they make of the whole area. And the thing is they're an infectious vector with avian flu and who knows what else they carry. And down on the playground. They've been all over the play equipment that the kid, the children use, they were covered, and the Mennonite Church. I have pictures of that as well. There were 60 of them on the roof because I counted them. But the on the playground on all the play equipment. There were vultures, it was an area about this size. There must have been 150 vultures sitting on the fence and on all the play equipment.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I think what maybe we can possibly do like from the Township's perspective is we can do a letter indicating we have these concerns. So, if there are like other residents like Ms. Louder, and anybody else in the audience, you have photographs of like, of vulture stuff going on, and you can provide a date for when that happens, update some of that you could send them into the Township. And then what we can do is we can direct our Township to write letters to the DEP and ask that they see what options we have as a township working with the landfill to try and mitigate those. I think the other question also would be the elevation on the northern realignment.

Russ Sutton

I noticed we had less of them when you were using air cannons. But I guess the people complained about the air cannons. And they also, you have a falconer up there as well?

Astor Lawson

I do have a falconer for the seagulls during the winter when they come in.

Russ Sutton

Yeah, because I, you notice a little bit of difference when they're there. But the air cannon seemed to work. But again, people complained about the noise.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, generally, no matter which site I've ever been at, the bangers usually draw complaints.

Russ Sutton

Right.

Astor Lawson

That's why I turned to the falconer.

Russ Sutton

Right.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Is there a predatory bird for these vultures?

Russ Sutton

Nope.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

You don't know of any, nobody knows?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, I mean, that's, I mean, that would be, I know when I first started thinking about it. Again, we have the falconer that comes on for the seagulls but I mean, we have two bald eagles that frequent landfill. Red-tailed hawk, a couple other birds of prey. And yeah, the vultures don't seem to worry about them much.

Matt McClarin

On a typical day, are they usually there when you get in? And they're there all day? Or when the tailgate start banging and stuff? They're gone? They leave?

Maryanne Garber

Well, and yeah, and talk about like, what your observations, because the observations are in Steel City, obviously. What are your observations on the site?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, I mean, generally, for me that my observation when I'm driving around the site is there you know, where we have the perm fence or yearly posted up there on top of the perm fence, the black vultures hang out by the ponds, they seem to like to be near the water where all the geese are at. So, I mean, generally they're just there, if they are around that I see, they're in the vicinity. I know yesterday or the day before, they were over the RNG plant, basically just circling above there, which I'm guessing is probably from the warmth of the flare.

Russ Sutton

Yeah, they usually like their fencing. Like you can see them. This is trash that is not covered, and they're all over and there's like, a metal fence up there. They seem to hang on that. You had this metal

Astor Lawson

Above it. Yeah, we had

Russ Sutton

They seem to roost on that a lot.

Astor Lawson

Right. Generally, my observation is I don't see them in the trash, like the seagulls and the crows are like in the trash.

Russ Sutton

Right.

Astor Lawson

You know, they're usually trying to take stuff out. The vultures usually might be hanging around it, but generally I don't see them rummaging through it. Like you do see the seagulls or the crows do.

Russ Sutton

Yeah, but on this picture, you can see them rummaging through the trash.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, I

Maryanne Garber

When was that photo taken?

Russ Sutton

Um, I forget the date on it; it was not that long ago. But you can see, I mean, there. This is actually the trash. And this is them on the trash. Evidently there wasn't any fill that day.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, they tend to hang out with other birds, but you know, again, like as far as birds I've seen like trash in their mouth. It's usually the black birds, crows or the seagulls are usually the ones that fly in and take stuff and leave. The vultures are just kind of hanging out with the rest of the birds.

Russ Sutton

waiting to see what's leftover. Yeah.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, I don't know.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Can you like send the pictures with a date so that we can show what they, when and where and what they are doing?

Russ Sutton

Yeah, and I can get the ones from Steel City from the playground and the Mennonite church.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Yeah, but we need a date.

Russ Sutton

Okay.

Maryanne Garber

I think it would also be helpful to note the location that they're taken from as well.

Russ Sutton

Sure, okay.

Matt McClarin

Yeah, because I don't know if him chasing them off every day is going to make the situation worse. And they go down to the neighborhood and they hang out there and then they go back to the landfill. You know what I mean? Do you do put a big pile of something out there at the end of the day and let it let them feast? How to have the DNR dump the dead deer carcasses up there and let them stay up there? You know, I don't know?

Maryanne Garber

I mean, I'm just I think everybody obviously knows that some, we're all just trying to get to the root of the problem. But, you know, I think that with all the development that's going on in the area as well, that animals are relocating and roosting in different places, and there are different food sources for these birds in the vicinity as well. So, I think, I think we're all wanting to work to create a solution but you know, I think it's more of a global, perhaps issue and not necessarily just a landfill created issue.

Maria Giles

Hi, I'm Maria Giles. I'm from Bethlehem Township.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Thank you for coming.

Maria Giles

Yeah, I came all this way. I live right behind your landfill. I face, the mountain, the north side. I guess I kind of need to know who everybody is here. I'm not real sure. I'm assuming you're on the board for the Council for Saucon.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I'm Victoria Opthof-Cordaro, Lower Saucon Township Councilwoman, I am the Township Liaison to the Landfill Committee.

Maria Giles

Okay.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

The Landfill Committee meets quarterly, four times a year. There is, what's called a Host Municipal Agreement that we have with the landfill, the Township has with the landfill, that dictates when we have our meetings. So, we have meetings, and then we try to deal with issues here. The Township can then during our Council meetings, which we have most of the time, twice a month, but July and August are once a month. We also can direct action from the Council at that point in time. Our main contacts are the landfill, which they can introduce themselves.

Maria Giles

So, we've got landfill, sorry, landfill. Scott?

Scott Brown

I'm the Host Inspector so I

Maria Giles

The Host Inspector working for?

Scott Brown

Host Municipal Inspector, so DEP has a program that any township that has a landfill in it can get somebody like myself certified to go out and inspect the landfill.

Maria Giles

So, you don't work for the landfill?

Scott Brown

No

Maria Giles

Okay, you're just an independent surveyor.

Scott Brown

I work for Hanover Engineering and we are hired by the Township to

Maria Giles

Okay. And then you sound like you're from Bethlehem somewhere. So, I'm just I'm just

Matt McClarin

I'm just a resident. I actually live in Steel City. So, there's two residents that sit on the board.

Maria Giles

Okay, gotcha. Okay. And then you are?

Maryanne Garber

I'm the outside counsel for the landfill.

Maria Giles

Outside counsel, that's what I kind of figured. Real quick. You asked him how long he's been living in Steel City and how long he's been seeing the vultures. I understand where you were going with that question. However, I've lived in my home for two and a half years, and only this summer have we seen the vultures. And when I say vultures, they're in my backyard. I don't mind vultures. I've lived with vultures in Florida. And no, vultures don't go after other birds. And no vultures are not going after trash. They are carnivores, essentially, is what they eat. They don't really just go and pick through random trash or just sit there. They wait for dead things. They have a purpose like the sharks do in the oceans. As far as the smell and the odor and the vultures and everything, this started, at least in my opinion, this past winter, December, January. So, I watched the mountain on again, I'm facing the north a few if you go west, I watched you bring that down. I was told it was only coming down 400 feet. I was concerned because we had eagles. We had eagle nests. We had all kinds of wildlife back there. You came down your 400 feet. You used it. You put grass on it. You moved going what, east? So now I think going to what he was saying the first side you built on the West was like this big. Now you're coming down. And you made a comment that you're allowed to go 725 feet

Astor Lawson

from sea level

Maria Giles

From sea level

Astor Lawson

That's just elevation

Maria Giles

So that you can come, so sea level I'm assuming would be the river? Or

Astor Lawson

I don't know what the elevation of the Lehigh River is.

Maria Giles

Okay, so you're telling us you can come all the way down the mountain essentially, if you wanted?

Astor Lawson

No.

Scott Brown

No.

Maria Giles

What is that 725?

Astor Lawson

I have a permitted boundary. That's the height. So, because we were talking about surveying it. And you know, when they, that would be the permitted height.

Maryanne Garber

(Inaudible) peak.

Astor Lawson

Which is what Matt was asking about.

Maria Giles

At the peak? Okay. So, what we're seeing on the northern face as far as you've come down now, where I think all the problems have started, in my opinion, and probably my neighbor's because we are we are smelling this almost daily now. It's, it's, we're calling constantly the DEP. So, you did a, you have essentially, from January to June here listed your complaints the six months you have 650 complaints. I'm assuming that's going to be 10-fold for the next six months if it continues the way it's going. I don't know why, I thought there was a gas leak over the winter because it smelled so bad. It smells like rotten eggs. It smells like, I can't even. It's methane. So, I've come to find out it's methane. I do you know that people are having eye conditions, allergy conditions, there are things that are affecting us. I don't know which way your mists are blowing. But whatever we're getting our way are making people ill. So, when you sit here and you say you don't have soil to cover your trash, which I hear is from New York, and out of state. And you're using a foam, when did you start using the foam?

Astor Lawson

I think it was, at some point over the summer, I don't remember the exact date that we started using it.

Maria Giles

You starting using the foam

Astor Lawson

Yeah, like from last year, so 2023.

Maria Giles

2023. So why is this smell so bad, all of a sudden, where we can't even sit outside?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, so I mean, there, we've had an issue on the southeast corner, that's what we were talking earlier with the odor. So, when we were filling there, just the amount of rain that we got. And we've seen this issue, just that other landfills have seen in the news and other landfills, we're kind of all experiencing the same issue. We had some really big storms last year, and I think the moisture getting in there sped up the degradation of where we were filling, which is on that southeast side, which basically, you know, again, expedited the gas generation.

Maria Giles

So, I'm on the north, east side?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, I'm not sure exactly.

Maria Giles

I am across the river.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, I would say that is the north side so

Maria Giles

So, what am I smelling? It wouldn't be the southeast.

Astor Lawson

That's how that corner is.

Maria Giles

Oh, so it's that bad on the southeast side that it's effecting the northeast side.

Astor Lawson

Correct, yeah, but depending on the wind direction. And that's why we're drilling those wells, I don't know if you've seen that tall stick that's on top of the hill. But that's what it's doing is it's drilling gas wells. And we're going to put pipe into which Victoria was asking about, we'll attach that to the header. And then that will go into the GCCS system that you see in here, which is the gas collection system, and then that goes to the two guys that were here speaking earlier. Their vacuum is going to pull all that to their plant, and then that'll go into the TC Energy line. So, as we started having that issue in the southeast corner, over the last, you know, six months to a year, you know, we've been trying different things, whether it was you know, adding more cover clay with the like these vegetative mats, and then we did a temp cap on the bottom, but then, you know, the gas and leachate follow the path of least resistance. So, when you cover that, then it goes and finds another way out. So that's where, now we've bid, and they're actually installing the gas well. So, the hope, and we're confident that once we get those gas wells in, because that's how we control it already is with those gas wells, that that'll help keep the gas in the landfill instead of coming out.

Maria Giles

So, we're smelling the methane gas?

Astor Lawson

Correct. Because, in that corner, because we were currently filling there. There were no gas wells to extract that gas out of the landfill. So, it's just gas.....(inaudible)

Maria Giles

So, how long should we anticipate having these issues?

Astor Lawson

Again, we're, as we talked about earlier, we're hoping all the construction on this you know weather pending, which as dry as it's been

Maria Giles

Okay.

Astor Lawson

Hopefully, the goal is to be done by before the end of July.

Maria Giles

Okay.

Astor Lawson

And then once we have that online, and RNG is online, then we have the RNG plant to help pull that extra gas.

Maryanne Garber

There is a hotline number on the Township's website. So, if you experience an odor in addition to calling DEP, we always recommend that you also call the (inaudible) line.

Maria Giles

Okay. Yeah, I think we're calling everybody at this point.

Maryanne Garber

Okay.

Maria Giles

Yeah, we're covering all bases

Maryanne Garber

Because people on the site are the ones that can usually get out there the fastest.

Maria Giles

Okay. Okay.

Maryanne Garber

Which is why we encourage people to (inaudible).

Maryanne Garber

Okay, maybe I'll get that number then.

Astor Lawson

And then, just to be clear too, sometimes for that notification, you know, sometimes with the odors, obviously, you know, it's like I tell people, if there was a switch I could flip to flip it, obviously I prefer not to be a nuisance, and prefer not to get the phone calls. And if it was that easy. But that being said, I like to be notified because if there is a problem that is that simple. Because sometimes there are certain things where maybe the flare went down or something happened, then at least if I know then I could try to make an immediate fix. I can't promise you I can make an immediate fix, but there are certain things where as long as I know about it, I can react a lot faster than, because generally what happens a lot of times if I'm not notified, then the DEP gets notified. And then four days later, I'm getting told hey, we got a complaint. So, that's why I do ask, and I never, I've gone on record many times, that I never tell you do not call DEP; call, call them, just throw me a line too. That's all I ask because it makes it easier for me to actually try to fix it than waiting four days later.

Maria Giles

Okay.

Astor Lawson

You know what I mean? It's tough to go and figure

Maria Giles

You knew about it a year ago.

Astor Lawson

four days later.

Maria Giles

You just said a year ago.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, no doubt.

Maria Giles

So

Maryanne Garber

There's been a lot of work done over the course of the past year to address the problem. And there's actually, I would encourage you, maybe do a Right-to-Know to the Township for the May 24th letter that we wrote in response, and that details it out, so it's sort of in an iterative process

Maria Giles

But it would seem like you would try and rectify a situation before adding to it, I guess is the question I have, when you covered up the north side. A lot of things dissipated. We didn't see as many vultures, we didn't see, you know, all this stuff that's now happening. Now you're bringing them the landfill down, and here it's even tenfold than it was. So, I guess my question is, you have that covered up pretty quickly. Now I'm looking at the bare land where you're coming down, how far down are you going from where it is now? And when will that be grassed over then?

Astor Lawson

So, where we're filling right now is on top of the old landfill. So that whole northern realignment is all on top of which I'm not sure if you know the height of that I don't know the height of the old landfill. The original.

Maria Giles

But how close are you to?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

We don't know the height of the old landfill. But I think, so right now, the only

Astor Lawson

I can get it; I just don't know off the top of my head.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

expansion that they have been granted is what's called the northern realignment. And forgive me if I'm wrong, but well the final approval just came through, but that process, that gives them the opportunity to go vertical. There is this new brown area, like dirt, that we're seeing everybody's talking about from Freemansburg Avenue, And so people think it's like the Phase Five expansion or something else. But it's not; it's related to the northern realignment. I just don't know why we saw green before and now we are just seeing dirt.

Maria Giles

So, you are taking all those trees down.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

So that's what they're doing right now. I think what's important is that you also in addition to coming here, it's very important for us to hear from other communities, but also tell your elected officials.

Maria Giles

Oh, absolutely.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I don't know when their meetings are, but I would go to their meetings and talk to them. I know that they have had involvement in the past. So, it's helpful that they hear from you so that they know what is going on.

Maria Giles

Yeah, I was just asking, though these guys like, what...Okay, we're taking the trees down. We're coming down the north side now.

Astor Lawson

We're not taking the trees down. We're building on top of old landfill. So, they're no trees on top of the landfill.

Matt McClarin

The part, right there where that dirt is right or no, am I wrong?

Astor Lawson

Yeah. So, the part to the left.

Matt McClarin

Right here.

Astor Lawson

That's where we're filling right now.

Matt McClarin

That's the dirt. And then eventually, this is a wall.

Astor Lawson

Yeah, that's how they have it designed right now.

Matt McClarin

That's the wall like how this is?

Astor Lawson

Correct.

Maria Giles

Okay. So. Okay. Okay.

Astor Lawson

And again,

Maria Giles

And that's a 90-foot wall?

Astor Lawson

There's, there's sections up there that I think

Maria Giles

Okay and then real quick, I'm sorry, people. Where's pond four?

Astor Lawson

Basin four is in the front. That would be the north side. Near the entrance.

Scott Brown

Along Applebutter Road near that blue tank if you go.

Maria Giles

Okay, that's what pond four is. Okay, thank you.

Scott Brown

Any other any other audience questions?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Okay, so for the Bethlehem Township, for their benefit, if I if I get this right, this is Applebutter Road. This is on the other side of the mountain that you should never see. Okay? This is the active landfill. And then this is the northern realignment, am I right with?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, that whole section right now. We're all the way to the left on in section one. There's three sections.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Over here?

Astor Lawson

Correct.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

The dirt that people see from Bethlehem Township is that

Astor Lawson

Well, they're seeing the side slope of the southeastern realignment that has been built up.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

They are seeing this?

Astor Lawson

I mean, the best way, I'd take him out there, give him a tour. I mean, as far as dirt that goes up there. I mean, it's I mean, this is where we're filling right now, right? This is all southeastern realignment. And I mean, this is all slope. So, there's that green wind defender that's right here. That will be moving soon. And this is all just side slope.

Maria Giles

So where does it stop?

Astor Lawson

So, all of northern realignment is this whole section right here.

Maria Giles

Okay.

Astor Lawson

And then right now we're filling it here.

Maryanne Garber

Astor, can you point out that like the southeast corner that we keep talking about where the wells are being drilled?

Astor Lawson

Yeah, this is the corner. So, as you can see in this photo, this is where we're filling. And so, as we're coming up, so right here, there's, you know, we've attached to the leachate cleanouts, which, you know, the leachate, there's clean outs. So, we were just, you know, thinking there's gas coming out of there. So, we attached to those, we've installed a couple horizontals. But in this corner, until now, there is no gas extraction just because it was so new. And so that's what we're doing now. So, and then we do think that'll make a difference.

Audience Member

Will it look better for the future? Are we always going to see that brown now?

Astor Lawson

Over I mean, over time, it'll be hydroseeding and it will be vegetated.

Maryanne Garber

If you can you point out green, like where you see those green areas

Astor Lawson

Here.

Maryanne Garber

That is what, it will be covered.

Astor Lawson

This is all final cap. This is final cap too, it's just whatever they planted with, it's all, that's not even actually dirt. That's just dead vegetation.

Maryanne Garber

As the landfill is constructed, it's constructed, one of our experts explained it. It's like a quilt where there are cells and so you construct a cell, you fill that cell, you cover that cell, you construct the next cell, so it is

Audience Member

So, it's almost full?

Maryanne Garber

covered over time.

Astor Lawson

That last section we have approved right now permitted is this northern realignment.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Forgive me if I am wrong with the northern realignment, is like a four-year proposed four-year fill cycle, right?

Maryanne Garber

Permitted.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Oh, permit for like four years, so over a period of four years from now.

Maryanne Garber

And just to be clear, it really is a space that can be filled up as quickly or as slowly as there is volume going into the landfill. So, it is a finite amount of space that we fill up over time, we have limits as to the amount of waste that we're allowed to accept on a daily basis, we can't accept more than that. We can accept less than that. And so, it depends on the level of waste acceptance as to how long it will take for a cell to fill.

Audience Member

So about how much percentage do you think is full right now?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

They just literally started. And the thing about it also is that when they fill, after they finish filling a cell, there's like a temporary cap. And then they have a certain amount of time given to them by the state to do a final cap, a final cover with the grass. So, like, for instance, the southeast corner that's emitting all of the odors that we think is the cause for most of the odors that people are smelling. That finished disposal like a year ago or two, how long ago was that? That was like a little while ago.

Astor Lawson

Right now.

Scott Brown

Yeah, they just finished that.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

So, they just finished that. So, they're doing the gas wells, but it's going to take a time before they, they accelerated their normal time so that they could cap it because of this odor. But they're given like two years, I think it's two years from the date that you've you finish putting garbage in it to do a final cover.

Maria Giles

Yeah, but it smells worse now than it did last year.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I agree.

Scott Brown

That's why they're doing

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

that's why they accelerated, I just wanted to give you an idea because you asked about how long will you have to see what you're seeing. And I'm trying to say that it's four years plus two

Maria Giles

for us to smell

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I don't know about the odors.

Astor Lawson

No, not necessarily.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

I am just saying the color from brown to green. And then that plus two that's like when they I guess put the grass in. So, I hopefully I don't know how the grass grows. But

Maria Giles

I mean we've never smelled the dump, like literally in one year. We never smelled the dump. Now all the sudden we do.

Astor Lawson

This is, hands down, the worst year in that corner. And again, this is something that just in the northeast, in this industry, we all saw it this year, Keystone saw it. I saw an article with Middlesex Landfill in Jersey saw like just with this. And I don't know if it because again, we had some very large storms. Like overall the rainfall wasn't more, I think I read something the other day that the rainfall was like one inch over the average for the total year. But some of the storms we had, we saw like six, seven inches all at once. So that's just in there. And I think that moisture and that water that gets in there, you know, even the stuff that goes straight to the leachate, it soaks into the garbage and anyways, that basically accelerates the decomposition which creates the gas. And so that's where we see this problem and generally that's why, permitted wise, when you build a new cell, you have a timeframe to put the wells in. And we're way, way ahead of that because of the gas odors because again, generally they don't come up that quick.

Maryanne Garber

So, we accelerated the capping, we accelerated the installation of these wells that normally wouldn't have to go in until later but we're doing it now because we want to address the issues associated with these extreme weather events and we're not (inaudible)

Maria Giles

You got the permit I guess June 27th from Bethlehem, is that correct?

Astor Lawson

That was for our, because we direct line sewer leachate to the WWTP.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

That's leachate. So that's like all of the water, the garbage water, I call it garbage water.

Astor Lawson

And that was just a renewal really.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

But that gets collected and sent to the Bethlehem WWTP. Their permit was up last year sometime, I thought, and then they had been working with the City of Bethlehem to get a new permit because

Maryanne Garber

It is not a new permit; it is a renewal of our existing permit.

Astor Lawson

A renewal, yeah.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

So, the City of Bethlehem issues like industrial waste permit, if I get it right. And they issue that to the landfill and other industries that operate in the City of Bethlehem to accept water from those facilities. So, the leachate that is collected through the piping system goes there, and they've updated their system. I can tell you; I am not happy that it's been over a year that we've had odors, and this is the ongoing concern that we have. So, we try our best to work with the landfill and to see what we can have done.

Maria Giles

And we have to expand it some more?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

That's the question. That's the question.

Maria Giles

I know for you guys it's a job but why do we need to keep expanding it?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

There are different opinions. You know, our Council changed this year because of that issue.

Maria Giles

Okay. I'm Sorry.

Audience Member

So, it is Bethlehem? It's called the Bethlehem Landfill, but it's on Saucon side or?

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

It's in Lower Saucon.

Astor Lawson

It used to be owned by the City of Bethlehem.

Scott Brown

It's all in Lower Saucon Township.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

It's all in Lower Saucon Township.

Audience Member

Okay, we're just smelling all of it.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

But that's why I encourage you to speak to your local representatives, because they can then work with our Township, our elected officials and we can do what we can working with the state to try and mitigate what we currently have, and deal with whatever may be coming down the pipe. So, there was a lot of stuff that happened last year. Wherever that ends up, I don't know. But we're doing what we can to try and help the community as best we can. So, thank you for coming.

Audience Member

(inaudible) get your number, you said we should call the landfill.

Astor Lawson

Yeah.

Stacy Werkheiser

I have it up here on the scree

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Yeah, there's a DEP number too. That's on our website. But

Stacy Werkheiser

It's on here too, right here, 610-317-3200 Option 4. Right Astor?

Astor Lawson

Yes.

Maria Giles

Is there a Cody?

Cody White

That's me.

Maria Giles

Oh, I was going to call you the other day. Good. Nice to put a face.

Cody White

Call me whenever you want. Did you call the Township and talk? Do you talk to Todd at the Township I think it is. I've got a couple calls from them that's all.

Maria Giles

I didn't call you.

Cody White

That's fine.

Maria Giles

I let it go.

Cody White

Alright, I'll wait.

Maria Giles

I'll be calling you tomorrow.

Cody White

I'll answer.

Maria Giles

Well, thank you, everybody.

Scott Brown

Is that it for the audience?

Audience Member

Thank you.

Scott Brown

Thank you. That's, that's it. We'll wrap this up and adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Thank you. And our next Council meeting is July 24th. So, feel free to come down and then we have our next quarterly meeting. I don't know September for the landfill. October, October. So, we will cover third quarter and October but, in the meantime, go to your elected officials. Thank you