

# Monmouth County Office of the County Administrator

VisitMonmouth.com

Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners

Thomas A. Arnone, Director  
Ross F. Licitra, Deputy Director  
Susan M. Kiley  
Dominick "Nick" DiRocco  
Erik Anderson



Hall of Records  
One East Main Street  
Freehold, NJ 07728  
Phone: 732-431-7384  
Fax: 732-409-4820

Teri O'Connor, County Administrator

March 5, 2024

Mr. Charles W. Terefenko, MPA, CPM  
Borough Administrator  
Tinton Falls Borough Hall  
556 Tinton Avenue  
Tinton Falls, NJ, 07724

Dear Mr. Terefenko:

On behalf of Commissioner Director Arnone, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide an update on the progress that has been made by Waste Management at the MCRC Landfill, over the past six weeks. Please feel free to share the information at the Township Council Meeting tonight. Some of these projects were started during December, 2023 and completed in January and February, 2024. In total they reflect a significant amount of work to address the odor issues as quickly as possible.

### **Vacuum Gas Collection Enhancement**

The first decision was to enhance the vacuum in the Gas Collection System, in order to decrease the amount of fugitive gas emissions and to increase the amount of gas that was processed through the system. This included the installation of "Surface Gas Collectors" that were placed in areas of the landfill that were emitting gas odors. By the end of January, there were 22 new Surface Collectors installed and completely connected into the gas collection system.

### **Cover Material and Flare**

In addition, Waste Management enhanced the amount of cover material that they placed on the slopes and, at the end of the day, on the area that was actively accepting trash for the day. This practice also has reduced the fugitive gas emissions due to the depth of the cover materials. Over the last two months, we employed the use of a second flare on site to supplement the capacity of the other flare that burns the collected gas and disposes of it with no odor. There are now two flares which have sufficient capacity to burn all gas collected and processed to the flares.

### **Temporary Cap**

Further, a decision was made to design and construct a temporary cap for the top of the landfill. Until now, there has been a temporary cap along a 15-acre section of the Phase 3 Landfill, which is the active landfill. However, with the increase in trash collection over the last three to four years, there has been a strategy to re-claim airspace at the landfill. The reclaiming of airspace was required due to the prolonged review of the plans for Phase 4 of the landfill, which was under review in the Department of Environmental Protection for over 8 years. Without a clear indication of the future of the permit, there was a very real concern that the landfill would run out of airspace. This activity did not allow for the placement of a temporary cap since the grading of the landfill was not complete. Over the past six weeks, Waste Management has been bringing the top of the landfill to final grade in preparation for the new temporary cap system.

Mr. Charles W. Terefenko  
Page 2  
March 5, 2024

At the same time, Tetra Tech, the County's Consulting Engineer, has been designing the temporary cap for the top of the landfill, as well as the permanent cap, primarily on the slopes on the south side and north side of the landfill. Materials and supplies for the capping project have already been ordered and are due for delivery by the middle of March, 2024.

The capping project, both temporary (Spring 2024) and permanent (Start Fall 2024), will be significant steps in controlling odors from the landfill. This Spring, the capping project will cover 32 acres of the Phase 3 landfill. In the fall, there will be the start of the project to provide a permanent cap on the slopes of the Phase 3 landfill which will cover another 35 acres. Combined with the existing 15 acres of cover, by the end of 2025 over 75% of the landfill will be covered. The only section that will not be covered will be the area where active landfilling is taking place.

#### **Well Drilling Plan**

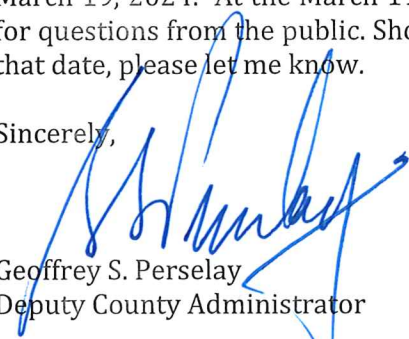
Finally, a well drilling plan has been completed by Waste Management in conjunction with Tetra Tech. Over the last six (6) years, the County has installed a completely new gas collection system. To date, over that period of time, there have been 136 wells drilled to collect gas, drain liquid from the landfill and provide a vacuum connected to the overall gas collection system. Over the next 6-8 weeks, Waste Management will undertake a project to install 21 additional vertical wells in areas where it was determined to be necessary to collect more gas than is currently collected.

#### **Future Projects**

There are several other projects which will be undertaken over the next 30 days, which include: ordering materials for the two operational flares, to enhance their performance; engage the contractor for the well installation plan and start the well drilling project by the middle of March; and continue to perform daily odor related inspections. In addition, the County is exploring the update of the MCRC Website to be more pro-active in supplying information, such as monthly reports on projects at the MCRC and other information as appropriate. We are open to suggestions from Tinton Falls, like the information provided by Councilman Manginelli and the Landfill Monitoring Committee regarding the Atlantic County Utilities Authority Website and the information provided.

As we discussed, this review is provided as Monmouth County was originally scheduled for the Township Council Meeting tonight. Due to the unavailability of County Staff, we agreed to move the appearance to March 19, 2024. At the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will be providing further information and will be available for questions from the public. Should you have any questions or require any additional information prior to that date, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey S. Perselay  
Deputy County Administrator

cc: Thomas A. Arnone, Commissioner Director  
Teri O'Connor, County Administrator  
Michael Fitzgerald, County Counsel