City of Hamilton
Public Works Department
WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

M•I•N•U•T•E•S

Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee Meeting
Monday, March 31, 2008
Glanbrook Landfill Meeting Room
4:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

MEMBERS: Allan Freeman, Chair
Councillor David Mitchell
Sheila May
Andy Fevez
Dan Rodrigues (WRTF)

WASTE MANAGEMENT, CITY OF HAMILTON: Craig Murdoch, Manager of Waste Disposal
Fabiano Gondim, Supervisor of Landfills
Frank Falcone, Project Manager, Landfills

WASTE MANAGEMENT OF CANADA CORPORATION: Ron Wright (Resource)

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT: Joanne Placko (Resource) (MOE)

NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY: Joshua Diamond (Resource)

REGRETS: Reid Cleland (Resource) (WMCC)
Brook Ryan

Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting
Allan Freeman asked the members if there were any comments on the previous minutes and stated that the previous minutes have already been circulated and have been approved. There were no additional comments.

ITEM ACTION

1. Landfill Gas Project Update
Craig Murdoch updated the GLCC on the landfill gas project. Craig indicated that there hasn’t been a lot of work at the landfill since the last GLCC meeting when members had a tour of the facility. Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. (HRPI) is looking at the hookup agreement with Hydro One. Hydro One has a year backlog for hookup
reviews/agreements. HRPI has hired Dillon Consulting to work with Hydro One to get the application approved in a more timely manner. The application has now been assigned to a reviewer and we are now on a “go live date” of August 2008. Once the review is complete we can order all the parts to complete the hookup which has an 18 week lead time to deliver the parts. Once this is complete Hydro One will be installing the 7 km hydro pole line to bring three phase power into the site. The process of erecting the poles only takes a couple of weeks to complete.

Councillor Mitchell asked if the amount of energy that we are putting back into the grid will be measured.

Craig Murdoch stated that it will monitor the kilowatt hours produced since the City will be getting paid different rates depending on the time of day. During off peak hours the City will be receiving 11 cents per kilowatt hour compared to 14 cents per kilowatt hour during peak hours.

Councillor Mitchell would like to see wind generation at the landfill as well and use Niagara’s guidelines on wind generation that are currently being approved. Councillor Mitchell asked if wind generation could be hooked up to the system that we are currently installing as part of the gas to energy project.

Frank Falcone responded that the two systems are different and that it could not be hooked up to the gas to energy project. The electronics are more sensitive for wind energy and they require different technology to hook up to the grid.

Alan Freeman asked if there was any problem with freezing up of the temporary flare system pipes. Fabiano Gondim said that the City placed compost over the collection pipes to prevent them from freezing and they worked well. Additionally areas of the pipes were constructed in a way to allow them to be cut out and replaced when they collected water/ice.

2. Daily Cover

Frank Falcone updated the committee on the daily cover requirement at the landfill. Frank stated that through the direction of the committee it has contacted developers, contractors and City staff to make them aware that the City is accepting soil at the landfill. The City has now a one page attachment that will be placed in all City contracts that will make contractors aware that the landfill is one option to dispose of soil. The soil still has to meet certain criteria in terms of chemistry as per C of A.

The City currently has 400 loads of high quality, non-impacted clay lined up to be brought on site which equates to 4000 m3 of soil or 1 month supply for daily cover.

Joanne Placko of the Ministry of the Environment stated that the approvals are already in place to accept alternative soil. Allan Freeman stated that he would like to see an open house to explain what the City is doing when it accepts alternative soil and to explain the concept to anyone that attends.
3. **Status of Leachate Mound**

   - At the last meeting it was agreed that the cross section and leachate levels be presented to the committee once a year during the February meeting. The reason is that the level has not changed much and most recent levels would be just a copy of the previous levels. In order to follow any progress more closely, the committee would like the leachate cross section sheets presented every 6 months (or every other meeting). Staff agreed to supply the sheets as requested.

   - Alan Freeman asked if the City is planning to drill an additional borehole next to LM4.

   - Frank Falcone stated that just prior to the last meeting the City placed stone sinks in the vicinity of LM4 as part of the gas collection system construction. The City plans to monitor this for a year and then at that time reassess the situation.

   - Sheila May asked if the City can excavate into the waste and extract the leachate. Frank Falcone said that it is not as simple as digging a hole and pumping out the leachate. According to WMCC there was an access road in the vicinity of LM4 (6 m below current ground level) and this may be the cause of some high leachate levels (perched conditions). It is important to make sure the leachate levels are not high at the edge of the landfill. LM4 is in the middle of the landfill and does not pose a problem for leachate seeps. Frank Falcone said that seeps have not been observed in cell 4, indicating the perched leachate is not moving to the slopes. Fabiano Gondim said the City is taking a phased approach, once the landfill has its final cover the leachate mound will lower over time; the final cover will prevent further water from entering the waste. If LM4 does not show any improvement over the coming year, staff will then proceed with looking at alternative methods to get the levels down.

4. **Pond Data**

   - Frank Falcone presented to the committee the pond data since the last meeting and due to the high snow melt and rain the ponds have been frequently tested since the last meeting.

5. **Spill at the corner of Hall Road and Hwy 56 Manhole**

   - Sheila May notified the committee that she received an email from Kathy Dinney stating that there had been a leachate spill at the intersection of Hall Road and Hwy 56 in January 2008. Frank Falcone searched all spills records through the City’s Hansen system and found a spill that occurred on January 21, 2005 and not 2008 as indicated. Frank explained that Water and Waste Water would have taken the call and conducted the necessary cleanup. Waste Management was not aware of any spill in 2008. Joanne Placko said that the only record the MOE has was in January 21, 2005 and said the proper cleanup was done. Councillor Mitchell said there may have been a mix-up in reading 2008 instead of 2005.

6. **Landfill Operations contract update**

   Craig Murdoch reviewed the Motion from the previous meeting where it was recommended by the committee that WMCC’s contract be
extended. A report went to council recommending that the contract not be extended because the landfill portion of the contract is just one component and the City cannot remove that portion only from the overall contract. The City also requires that a competitive process be followed for large projects. Also the contract is outdated and there are new standards in place since it was signed in 1996 and it needs to be updated. Based on the report, Council accepted staff’s recommendation to not renew the contract; therefore the contract is going out as a Request for Proposals in May 2008.

Craig Murdoch said that he has contacted WMCC management and they have indicated that they intend to bid on the contract. The RFP is also set up with a scoring system that will give marks for previous experience. WMCC will get favorable marks with their experience in running the Glanbrook Landfill as well as other landfills.

Sheila May asked to be kept updated. Craig Murdoch agreed and mentioned that he is heading up the landfill and leaf & yard portion of the RFP and Emil Prpic is heading up the transfer station portion and waste haulage of the RFP so the committee will be updated on a regular basis.

7. **Protocol to approve future meeting minutes**

Craig Murdoch informed the committee that the General Manager of Public Works would like the minutes of the GLCC meetings to go to the Public Works Committee within 4 weeks of holding the meeting. In the past the committee has had one week to comment on the minutes but now there will be 3 business days to comment. The committee will still have the ability to make further comments on the minutes after they have been received by council on the next committee meeting minutes. Craig thanked the committee for their understanding.

Allan Freeman asked if the City can put a timeframe on the email title line when the minutes are sent out. That way, members know they have to respond quickly.

8. **Waste Reduction Task Force Update**

Dan Rodrigues updated the committee on the Waste Reduction Taskforce. Dan mentioned that Jim Sweetman is the new Chairperson of the Waste Reduction Taskforce. There have been changes to a few of the members. The task force has been reviewing the 19 recommendations that were part of the Solid Waste Management Master Plan.

Dan Rodrigues mentioned that April 21-27 is Pitch-In Week and encouraged members to get involved. Bags and gloves are available free of charge and can be obtained by calling 905-546-CITY.

The City is introducing the compostable mini-bin liner in the next few weeks that has the biodegradable symbol. These bags are now accepted by the City.

9. **Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority monitoring**

Fabiano Gondim explained how water samples from the Welland River and Buckhorn Creek around the landfill are taken regularly and a benthic invertebrate report is completed every two years. As has been
done in the past, the NPCA have been hired to do an independent study of the water quality upstream and downstream of the landfill. This has been done every other year for the last ten years. The study is to confirm that the landfill does not have any impact of the habitat in the creeks which the reports have confirmed in the past.

Joshua Diamond of the NPCA explained how the study will be done.

10. New Business

Sheila May asked about the status of the Niagara/Hamilton Waste Plan. Councillor Mitchell replied it has slowed down but discussions continue.

Councillor Mitchell said that the City is now spraying for Gypsy Moths and the landfill is going to be part of the spraying program because the area around Hall Road is highly affected.

Sheila May informed the City there are still instances of odour coming from the landfill. People have been telling her about it and she is passing it on. The odour seems to be near the Zimmerman residence and she has smelled it occasionally at her house too. Fabiano Gondim said that the fence line odour neutralizing system will be up and running within a couple of weeks when the weather is warmer and we’ll be calling Comcor to check the flaring system. Additionally the City will have the pipes reviewed for the temporary flares and they will be completely replaced if necessary.

Sheila May asked Ron Wright about the increase in gulls at the landfill. Ron Wright explained that there are more birds than usual and they are working on correcting the situation. Ron explained they need different means of gull control not only the falconer, like the pyrotechnic and bangers but they were not recommended by the committee due to past noise problems with local homeowners. WMCC will monitor the amount of birds and see if there is a trend and see if the program needs to be adjusted after a year. Presently it appears there are a lot of gulls everywhere in the Glanbrook area, not just the landfill. The gulls are having difficulty finding food due to the late winter and they are concentrating everywhere they can find food like flooded farmers fields or the landfill.

NEXT MEETING – Monday, May 26, 2008 @ 4:30 pm

Minutes prepared by Frank Falcone, reviewed by Fabiano Gondim and approved by the GLCC on April 10, 2008.