



Butler County Landfill Information Sheet

April 2014

History

Butler County Landfill, located near Poplar Bluff in Butler County, was issued Permit Number 0102302 in 1980. The facility is currently owned by Republic Services, Inc. (Republic). The landfill disposal area is approximately 37.9 acres and is surrounded on the north, east and south sides by U.S. Forest Service property.

In 2001, landfill gas was originally detected at the landfill property and a Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued on April 4 of that year to Allied Waste Industries of Missouri, the owner at the time. In response, the facility proposed and, as the landfill expanded in size, implemented the installation of gas monitoring probes to determine extent of the migration, a passive gas venting system and as needed, an active gas extraction system. The waste fill area's proximity to the property line (the line of compliance) resulted in landfill personnel being unable to prevent migration of methane from the property. On July 22, 2008, the department met with the owner about the ongoing gas migration. In response to these discussions, the facility proposed to place additional monitoring wells at the site and to build a gas extraction trench near the affected wells to further control the migration of landfill gas.

Methane Migration and Monitoring Wells

In December 2009, Republic installed six off-site gas monitoring wells along State Highway T (GMP-11 through GMP-16) in order to detect further gas migration. In November and December 2010, the facility added trenches to the gas extraction system to prevent additional landfill gas migration off the property. Despite actions taken by Republic, the methane migration continued with methane exceeding the regulatory limit in gas monitoring wells: BCLFGP01, BCLFGP03, BCLFGP04, and BCLFGP05. As a result, the department issued Butler County Landfill a NOV on Dec. 7, 2010.

In accordance with the department's notification requirement, Republic informed the local fire department and sent notification letters to the fire department and property owners who occupied structures within 1,000 feet of any well with elevated methane concentrations. Republic also conducted methane monitoring inside structures as well as providing methane detectors to those who desired these safety precautions.

Summary of Corrective Actions at the Site

Republic has been working with the department to address the gas migration at the landfill. To further address ongoing landfill gas migration, Republic purchased property adjacent to the landfill

from the U.S. Forest Service on June 4, 2012. Republic requested to expand the permitted boundary to encompass the additional land purchased from the U.S. Forest Service and to designate new wells along the perimeter of the expanded property boundary as the new points of compliance for the landfill. This request was approved by the department on Feb. 14, 2013. Republic revised their gas monitoring plan and the landfill gas corrective action plan, with both sets of revisions approved by the department in 2013. Since the expansion of the permitted boundary and movement of the points of compliance to wells along the perimeter of the new property, methane concentrations have been below the regulatory limit. As of February 2014, concentrations of methane in wells at the property line have been below the regulatory limit for one year's time, and Republic has been approved to return to quarterly monitoring required of all permitted facilities that have gas monitoring wells.

The department will continue working with Butler County Landfill as they finalize expansion of the landfill's permitted boundary. There is one remaining document for Republic to complete, obtain approval from the department on, and file with the Butler County Recorder of Deeds' Office to meet all regulatory requirements. Once that compliance action is completed, the department will close the enforcement case.

For More Information

Department of Natural Resources
Solid Waste Management Program
573-751-5401 or 800-361-4827

www.dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/methane.htm