



PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Time: 3:00 PM

Location: Municipal Building

2nd Floor, Room 200

20 Ontario Street

Canandaigua, NY 14424

April 24, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Singer, Supervisors Bateman, Hicks, Wickham, Lightfoote, and Venuti. Supervisor Guard joined via phone.

OTHERS PRESENT

County Administrator Mary Krause, Deputy County Administrator Brian Young, County Attorney Holly Adams, Planning Director Tom Harvey, Sustainability & Solid Waste Management Director Carla Jordan, Assistant County Attorney Art James, Sr. Planner Regina Sousa, Casella Manager Mark Clinker, Casella General Counsel Shelley Sayward, Casella Engineer Amy Dill, Casella Vice President of Engineering & Compliance Sam Nicolai, CEC Consultant Representatives Tim Nytra and Steven Menoff, SCS Consultant Representative Marcus Scrimgeour, Supervisors Campbell, Ingalsbe, Menikotz and Vedora, Reporters Steve Buchiere and Julie Sherwood, Steven Dressner, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Diane Foster.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Planning & Environmental Quality Committee was called to order at 3:00 pm. by Committee Chair Singer.

SUSTAINABILITY & SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

*Landfill Engineering Reports
Presentation*

Supervisor Singer noted that the reports that will be presented are an overview of a draft report put together by Civil Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC) and a review of CEC's report by SCS Engineers. Questions and comments will be restricted to the supervisors and any administrative staff and any questions from the public will be addressed after the final report is presented. A final report is anticipated to be complete in June. She introduced Sam Nicolai, Vice President of Engineering and Compliance with Casella.

Mr. Nicolai said the implementation of corrective action related to odor at the landfill have been occurring over a series of months. This report identifies some of the major findings and the recommendations to improve it. Mr. Nicolai stated CEC was retained by Casella as special experts in terms of evaluating the landfill in regards of its odor issues and making recommendations for necessary changes and improvements.

Mr. Tim Nytra with CEC began by saying they were retained in January 2019 by Casella and since then they have had four site visits from January through April. He reviewed their methodology through analysis

of infrastructure, waste acceptance, and procedures. They looked at the air dispersion model and received input incorporated from Odor Science & Engineering and Towpath Investigative Services. Mr. Nytra said they determined four causes of landfill odors. The first cause is biosolids; he went on to explain the effect of moisture on the biosolids as well as noting biosolids contain sulfur which can be released during break down. The second cause is active landfill gases and the gas collection system. He explained the installation of horizontal gas collectors and the lack of vertical landfill gas extraction wells and their difficulty of installing them. The third cause is insufficient cover/cap. There have been no interim temporary cover cap systems along the eastern perimeter and limited amounts of soil cover on the exposed sideslopes and the active disposal area. Finally, the fourth cause was the cell's tie in; after the most recent cell was constructed the leachate drainage stone was not properly sealed off and landfill gas migrated to exposed areas.

Mr. Nytra listed the primary recommendations to eliminate the odor. He said to keep in mind that his list is primary but going into the details, they came up with 50 individual improvements that the site could make. He said it boils down to three major factors:

- The installation of a temporary geomembrane cover.
- The improvement and the expansion of the landfill gas collection and control system infrastructure (GCCS)
- Reduction of incoming biosolids

Mr. Nytra explained each of the recommendations stating what will be done with Amy Dill explaining what Casella's actions have been to date with each factor. Mr. Nytra noted some additional improvements that are being made were expedited working face relocation to facilitate GCCS infrastructure construction, perimeter odor neutralizing system, portable odor neutralizers, and Aria, an independent 3rd party owner/operator of the landfill gas and energy plant (LFGTE Facility) permitting trim flare, noting the flare is installed and they are waiting on the permit to operate. Mr. Nytra showed a graph that showed a reduction of odor in the last month based on the odor complaints.

Sam Nicolai restated Casella's commitment to Ontario County and acknowledges the fact they have had inadequate odor prevention. He noted what CEC have identified; they are and have been moving forward on implementing their recommendations.

Marcus Scrimgeour, Project Manager with SCS Engineers presented a review on CEC's report. He noted that he specializes in landfill gas collection systems. He said they work with the County as technical experts to make sure that Casella are doing all they can do to prevent odors. They get information from the County/Casella at intervals to help the County understand what is going on so they can communicate and coordinate with Casella so they can make sure things are happening the right way. Mr. Scrimgeour reviewed their history with the County. Their current role regarding recent odor issues are the landfill gas system review and odor management study which include the review of CEC's

report and on-call services for consultation of ongoing discussions and review.

Mr. Scrimgeour stated that generally, CEC's report is very good and thorough. It correctly identifies the major odor sources and identifies reasonable measures odor mitigation. He said there are details that could be "flushed out" better, there are some technical details they might slightly disagree on, but at the end game, they agree with the kind of measures that need to be taken. He then proceeded to give a general review of the five categories CEC described.

- **Cover Systems:**
CEC discussed aggressively installing cover systems will mitigate odors, but they do not discuss daily cover practices and recent NYSDEC resistance to exposed geomembrane covers.
- **Gas Collection Systems (GCCS):**
CEC discussed aggressive GCCS expansion, but excludes detailed involvement of Aria Energy's operational involvement and the trim flare's purpose and a mechanism needed to monitor compliance. SCS encouraged continuing gabion drainage pads for new wells. SCS would like to know future intents for these wells. CEC discussed landfill gas dewatering indicating elevated liquid levels in LFG as a problem, but there is no information regarding dewatering pilot test. An important thing is the review of gas systems design. There is no operational data provided or reviewed, noting operations is just as important as infrastructure. CEC provided landfill gas recovery rates, but does not provide a model based estimate of available landfill gas.
- **Biosolids/Sulfur-Laden Waste:**
CEC identifies biosolids as a major odor source and presumes hydrogen sulfide is the source but no sulfur test data provided. CEC indicates biosolids deposition and incoming trucks as odor source but limited discussion on outgoing trucks where SCS recommends bed liners on incoming trucks. SCS would like to see discussion on limitations and handling of biosolids.
- **Biosolids Treatment:**
CEC recommends requirement of off-site pre-treatment of biosolids to reduce odor potential. SCS says this is good.
- **Other Items/Issues:**
Odor inspections are important and continue. SCS says the time of the inspections is very important and is unclear in the CEC report. SCS would like to see the instrumentation used during inspection. CEC proposed new meteorological station; SCS noted the intended data use was unclear. Lastly, SCS says the use of odor mask/neutralize is a last resort only, noting it does not address the underlying problem.

Mr. Scrimgeour went over the future roles and responsibilities of the various parties:

Casella/Aria/CEC:

- Continue discussions to optimize recommendations in CEC Report, implement final recommendations

- Co-operate on an ongoing basis to prevent odors
- Continue expanding GCCS and other systems to maintain odor control; remain proactive/vigilant regarding odor control
- Provide ongoing infrastructure upgrades and operational data to County for review

County/SCS:

- Review information provided by Casella, provide commentary/recommendations for optimization

NYSDEC:

- Have open dialog to identify and remedy issues

Lastly, Mr. Scrimgeour said all parties need to continue ongoing discussions regarding the CEC Report and recommendations and discussions for future infrastructure and operational changes and upgrades.

Supervisor Bateman asked how odor was measured to know when to turn away a load. Mr. Nicolai responded through the scale system. Staff has been trained to identify and scale the odor.

Supervisor Venuti noted the DEC's reports noting insufficient cover; he said he would like to see the reports have specific responses to DEC inspection reports.

Confirm Next meeting

April 29, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Supervisor Wickham seconded by Supervisor Lightfoote the meeting was adjourned at 4:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Diane Foster
Deputy Clerk to the Board