



Fenimore Landfill Frequently Asked Questions August 16, 2013

1. When will the smell go away?

DEP has hired Handex to install a gas collection and treatment system. Testing for design of this system is under way. In the interim a temporary system will be installed in the next two weeks and it may take more time for the system to be fully operational. Once operational, H₂S odors should be reduced.

2. Will the air monitors be testing for things other than H₂S?

DEP conducted volatile organic vapors ambient air quality monitoring on the landfill. The results of this test will determine whether volatile organic vapors are coming from the landfill. Results of this test, due Tuesday will determine what if any additional monitoring is needed. In addition, the DEP is evaluating where additional monitors for H₂S may be needed.

3. What funds or programs will be offered to residents needing to relocate?

The DEP is researching this request to determine what programs might be available for Roxbury Township and its residents.

4. When will the DEP provide additional air and water testing and what will be tested?

Air

The DEP is evaluating the current H₂S monitoring system and anticipates expanding it with up to two more monitoring locations. Hand-held and on-site safety monitoring equipment used on site have consistently failed to register any readings of concern for other air pollutants. However, the DEP has conducted ambient air sampling at the site perimeter to analyze for a range of pollutants other than H₂S. The results will determine what additional sampling might be needed.

Water

The DEP sampled surface waters, specifically Ledgewood pond, during both dry and wet weather events in January and June of 2013. The results of this sampling showed concentrations of iron and manganese in levels that exceed groundwater quality standards. There are no surface water quality standards for iron or manganese. Iron and manganese are both metals which often occur naturally in groundwater and it is not unusual to find concentrations of these metals in excess of groundwater quality standards. There are no human health concerns associated with concentrations of these metals in off-site surface waters.

On-site sampling of leachate and the leachate pond found some pollutants at concentrations minimally above some surface water quality standards; however, downstream surface water sampling did not demonstrate any off-site impacts or concentrations exceeding water quality standards for these pollutants. Downstream surface water sampling did show elevated levels of iron and manganese, which, as noted above, do not demonstrate health concerns.

5. What is the time frame for the current testing of the abatement system?

DEP is pursuing two actions simultaneously to abate the Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S) gas: an interim solution to provide immediate relief from the H₂S, and then a long-term solution involving an active gas collection system with an impermeable landfill cap over the Strategic Environmental Partners (SEP) material. The interim solution involves an impermeable cover – Posi-Shell, which is a cement based spray on “cap”. DEP contractor Handex is providing on-site testing, design, and construction services to build a gas collection and treatment system. Vent testing for this system began on Monday.

Vent testing involves applying a vacuum to the existing gas vent to determine the total air flow and radial influence that a particular vent can produce. That information will be used to design the alternate collection and treatment system. DEP expects vent testing to be completed by August 19.

6. Why won't the DEP remove the material causing the odors? Just truck it out?

Digging up the landfill and removing material is not a practical solution. Breaking through the cap and removing material could expose the public to higher readings of H₂S for an extended period of time. Removal of the estimated 400,000 cubic yards of construction debris in the landfill would involve thousands of trucks over many months of work. Removal and disposal costs, at current rates, would be exorbitant.

7. What type of environmental assessment will the NJDEP be conducting? Such as taking borings, soil and effluent testing to determine what was accepted by SEP?

The DEP is currently evaluating the various testing that has taken place on the landfill before SEP deposited construction and demolition screenings in the landfill, after SEP deposited these materials in the landfill, and since the DEP's taken over of the landfill in late June. A report of the testing and the results is

being prepared for the township. The department expects that report to be completed in the next couple of weeks.

8. What is the status of the permanent closure? Has design started on the permanent closure?

DEP is already working on the long-term solution. A contractor has been hired and has begun the design work. There are too many variables to commit to a completion date at this point, but we will implement the long-term solution as soon as possible, taking into account the public procurement process, ongoing litigation and construction season. The system that is being designed will include a liner to keep rainwater out and gases in, an active gas abatement system, a soil and grass layer to prevent erosion. We have instructed our engineering contractor to work as fast as possible, but it takes months to design such a system.

9. Will the NJDEP reimburse residents for air purifiers for their homes?
(See answer to Number 3)

10. Can the number of air monitoring stations be increased?

The DEP was in Roxbury Township on August 15 conducting an assessment of wind direction and odor complaint locations to determine the proper location and how many additional stationary air monitors will be needed.

11. With a flare system in place will SO₂ and/or other gasses be monitored?

The original plan to capture and burn H₂S through the use of solar spark flares has not performed as DEP had expected. The DEP has hired the contractor Handex to build a gas collection and treatment system. Testing for this system is underway. Any additional testing is depending on the treatment system that will be selected.

12. Can I still call in odor complaints to the DEP? Who do I call if I have more questions or concerns?

Yes. If you wish to file an odor complaint, please call 1-877-WARNDEP. This number is operational 24/7. If you wish to ask questions and not file an odor complaint, you can call DEP at (609) 341-2875. This number is operational during regular business hours 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. If you wish to email your questions, you can contact DEP at: RoxburyTwpFenimoreQuestions@dep.state.nj.us

13. If the DEP agrees to water supply testing for how long into the future will they provide this testing?

Previous tests of potable water supplies and groundwater by the DEP did not show evidence of contamination, nor have surface water quality tests shown that the landfill is contributing to surface water quality problems. DEP therefore does not believe that further testing is necessary or cost-effective; however, residents are free to have their water tested as they deem appropriate.

14. What is the future vision of the site once the permanent 'capping' is completed?

The DEP has committed its resources to fulfilling the Emergency Order to control odor on Fenimore landfill.

15. What are the schools doing about this if the smell comes in the buildings during school hours?

The DEP is aware that Roxbury Township schools currently have a plan in place for addressing odor problems from the landfill. However the department has no information on the details of this plan.

16. Will the DEP provide reimbursement for residents purchasing air cleaners/purifiers for their homes?

(See answer to number 3)