

Public Notice: Request for Comments

Proposed Modification of the Solid Waste Permit for Finley Buttes Regional Landfill

The purpose of this notice is to invite you to provide written comments on this proposed permit modification.

DEQ's Role:

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is responsible for protecting and enhancing Oregon's water and air quality, for cleaning up spills and releases of hazardous materials, and for managing the proper disposal of hazardous and solid wastes. One way DEQ does this is by requiring permits for certain activities. DEQ issues permits to regulate the type and amount of waste disposed, and leachate and landfill gas produced at a regulated facility.

Notice issued: August 24, 2010.

Written comments due:

Written comments due: 5 p.m., September 23, 2010.

Where can I send my comments or get technical information?

Ken Lucas, Environmental Engineer
541-298-7255, ext. 224
400 East Scenic Drive, Suite 307
The Dalles, OR 97058-3434

Fax: (541) 298-7330
Email: lucas.ken@deq.state.or.us

Where can I get background information?

Information about this project is viewable online by clicking the following link(s):

[Draft Solid Waste Permit Addendum Permit Addendum Review Report](#)

You can review hard copies of the draft permit and related documents at:

Department of Environmental Quality
400 East Scenic Drive, Suite 307
The Dalles, OR 97058-3434
For a review appointment, call Liz Clark at (541) 298-7255 ext. 221.

What is proposed?

Waste Connections is proposing to conduct a three (3) year Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) project at the landfill. The project proposes to demonstrate the benefits

of enhancing the moisture content of the waste through the use of waste water for dust control.

DEQ proposes to modify the existing solid waste landfill permit for Finley Buttes Regional Landfill and is inviting public comment on the proposed action. During the comment period, the public is invited to make comments related to specific conditions within the proposed permit.

Permit modification expiration

This permit modification will be effective for three (3) years, expiring on October 1, 2013.

Who is the applicant?

Finley Buttes Landfill Company
PO Box 350
Boardman, OR 97818

Where is the facility located?

Finley Buttes Regional Landfill
73221 Bombing Range Road
Boardman, OR 97818

Who might have an interest?

Adjacent property owners, and people who work, live, and recreate in the area.

What does Finley Buttes Regional Landfill do that affects land quality?

The Solid Waste Permit authorizes about 510 acres to be developed as a landfill for burial of authorized solid waste, including residential garbage, construction and demolition waste, commercial waste, and industrial waste. Landfills can impact groundwater if they are not properly managed.

What legal requirements apply?

Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) Chapter 340, Division 93, and Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 459 give DEQ the authority to issue solid waste permits.

How does DEQ determine what requirements go in the permit?

Various federal and state regulations apply to a facility depending on the type of disposal site, the type and amount of waste disposed, and the location of the facility. All applicable regulations must be contained in the permit, including the appropriate recordkeeping,



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Quality

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2010
By: Liz Clark

monitoring, and reporting requirements to ensure compliance with these rules.

What are the known health effects or environmental impacts of the addition of liquid at Finley Buttes Regional Landfill?

The landfill is located in a very arid region of the state, which contributes to the waste mass having lower moisture content than landfills in more climates with higher rainfall. Because the waste mass at the landfill is large and dry, it does not decompose very fast. It is expected that adding liquid to the landfill will accelerate the decomposition process, which will result in quicker stabilization of the waste and increased gas production which will be recovered for energy.

A comprehensive, practical monitoring program will be implemented to ensure that there is no increased risk to human health and the environment due to the RD&D activities.

How are the permitted substances measured?

Based on moisture balance computations related to the waste and the application of liquids to the waste that were presented in the modification application, the moisture storage capacity of the existing waste is approximately 45.4 gallons per ton of waste.

Compliance history:

In October 2009, DEQ took formal enforcement action against Finley Buttes Landfill Company for failure to maintain access to two monitoring points in the secondary leak detection system and failure to notify DEQ of the damage to the access points. Finley Buttes Landfill Company has fixed the monitoring points and they are now accessible. No damage to the environment or harm to humans happened as a result of these violations.

What are the special conditions of this permit?

This permit modification will allow Finley Buttes Regional Landfill to participate in a Federal EPA study to determine the benefits of adding liquid to the waste already disposed of in the landfill. This permit modification would allow liquid disposal from a number of sources, including leachate from the Marion County Ash Landfill, liquid from the Finley Buttes leachate pond and other liquids on a case-by-case basis though FBRL's established special waste evaluation process.

What other DEQ permits are required?

Oregon Title V Operating Permit No. 25-0001, issued by DEQ's Air Quality Program.

What similar activities take place in the vicinity of the facility?

None.

What happens next?

DEQ will consider and provide responses to all comments received at the close of the comment period. DEQ may modify provisions in the proposed modification, but the permit writers can only modify conditions of the permit in accordance with the rules and statutes under the authority of DEQ. Participation in the rulemaking or the legislative process is the only way to change the rules or statutes. Ultimately, if a facility meets all legal requirements, DEQ will issue the facility's Permit Addendum.

Accessibility information

DEQ is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Please notify DEQ of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in large print, Braille or another format. To make these arrangements, contact DEQ Communications & Outreach (503) 229-5696 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-4011; fax to 503-229-6762; or e-mail to deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.

People with hearing impairments may call 711.

