

## INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO. R5-2008-\_\_\_\_\_  
STANISLAUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES  
FOR OPERATION OF  
FINK ROAD CLASS II AND CLASS III LANDFILLS  
STANISLAUS COUNTY

The Fink Road Landfill is in western Stanislaus County, about 20 miles southwest of the city of Modesto. The site is 3.5 miles west of Crows Landing, near the intersection of Fink Road and Interstate 5. The Fink Road Landfill facility is owned and operated by Stanislaus County (Discharger).

The Fink Road Landfill facility consists of five waste management units (WMUs):

LF-1: A closed 18.3-acre Class III municipal solid waste landfill, final cap constructed in 1997.

LF-2: An active 92.3-acre Class III municipal solid waste landfill consisting of seven cells, four of which have been constructed.

LF-3: An active 37-acre Class II ash monofill consisting of six cells, three of which have been constructed.

SI-1: A 1-acre Class II surface impoundment for leachate from the leachate collection and removal system (LCRS) of LF-3.

SI-2: A 1.4-acre Class II surface impoundment for leachate from the LCRS of LF-2.

A waste-to-energy (WTE) cogeneration facility, operated by Covanta Stanislaus, Inc., occupies a 16.5-acre area at the southwest corner of the site.

The closed 18.3-acre LF-1 was previously permitted for the disposal of municipal solid waste, infectious waste, and construction debris. These wastes are classified as "nonhazardous solid waste" or "inert waste". Landfill operations in LF-1 ceased in June 1993 following construction and commencement of operations of LF-2, Cell 1. Detection of volatile organic compounds in the groundwater downgradient of the LF-1 indicated a release from this WMU. The Discharger implemented the first phase of corrective action in 1997. The first phase consisted of final grading, final drainage, and placement of a final cap over LF-1. The second phase included a landfill gas collection system installed in 1998. The Discharger also conducts corrective action monitoring to determine the effectiveness of the corrective actions.

LF-2 is a Class III Municipal Solid Waste Landfill. With the current revision of the WDRs, Cell 4 and future cells of LF-2 are also permitted to accept treated wood waste as allowed under Section 25150.8 of the Health and Safety Code and Section 67386.11 of Title 22, CCR. Cells 3 and 4 are currently active, and Cells 1 and 2 have reached capacity. Municipal solid wastes are currently being disposed of in LF-2, Cell 3. On 27 April 2004, the Discharger submitted a performance demonstration for a proposed single composite liner design to be used for future Cells III at LF-2. The liner design consists of from bottom to top: a prepared sub-grade, a pan lysimeter under the leachate sump and the LCRS troughs, 1-foot of compacted soil with a hydraulic conductivity of  $10^{-6}$  cm/sec or less, a GCL with a hydraulic conductivity of  $5 \times 10^{-9}$  cm/sec or less, a 60-mil thick HDPE geomembrane, 0.5 feet thick blanket LCRS, and a minimum 24 inch thick operations layer. An electronic leak detection test and repairs are required prior to the discharge of waste. The liner demonstration projected

VOC concentrations in groundwater less than detection limits and increases in salt concentrations less than the natural variability in background groundwater. These WDRs find that the proposed liner design will be installed at least 10 feet above groundwater level, which meets the performance standard for Class III landfill units.

LF-3 is a Class II ash monofill that accepts only ash from the adjacent waste to energy plant. The plant and LF-3 have been in operation since 1988. LF-3 has a total capacity of 3.13 million cubic yards. Double composite base liner was previously approved for use in LF-3. Previous Waste Discharge Requirements approved the use of a double composite liner design that consists of two composite liners separated by an LCRS and also overlain by a second LCRS for use in Class II cells at LF-3. There has also been a release of wastes from LF-3. LF-3 was placed in evaluation monitoring during 1997 due, in part, to elevated levels of inorganic constituents in downgradient compliance well MW-16. The cause of the release was determined to be leachate that was backing up in LF-3. During 1998, the Discharger reconfigured the leachate piping so that leachate would drain properly. The leachate impoundment SI-1 was also reconstructed and made larger, partially in response to a release from that unit. Additional monitoring wells MW-20, 21 and 22 were also installed around LF-3 to provide better groundwater monitoring. Monitoring of these wells continues to indicate a release from LF-3, including elevated inorganic constituents in MW-17, 20, and 21, and methyl-tertiary butyl ether in MW-17. This Order requires the discharger to investigate the release, and to submit a work plan and reports to address the investigation and corrective action.

The Discharger reconstructed SI-1 in 1999 to increase the impoundment storage capacity from approximately 218,000 gallons to 5 million gallons and replaced the existing two-foot thick low-permeability layer with an engineered alternative. This alternative consists of, from bottom to top: a GCL; an 80-mil HDPE geomembrane secondary liner; an HDPE geonet; and an 80-mil HDPE geomembrane primary liner. The Regional Water Board approved this engineered alternative in Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 98-184.

Surface drainage for the northern quarter of the site is to the South Fork of Little Salado Creek, a tributary of the San Joaquin River. The remaining three quarters of the site drains to the east via a closed conduit under Interstate 5 and the California Aqueduct and thence via an open channel to Crow Creek, a tributary of the San Joaquin River.

WLB: 8/13/2008