

Compliance monitoring assessment for Southern Landfill 2018

Consent No:	WGN940045 WGN970233 WGN030091	Date: 8/2/2019	Monitoring officer: Claire Baldwin
Activity:	Various consents associated with the operation of Southern Landfill and composting operations		

Your compliance rating

WGN970233 [2290]	COMPLYING
WGN970233 [1521]	Well done!
WGN940045 [35860]	
WGN940045 [4956]	
WGN940045 [5963]	
WGN940045 [20346]	
WGN030091 [22421]	

Thank you for submitting the annual monitoring report through to May 2018. This was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) on 1 November 2018 (extension agreed to by GWRC) and reviewed by contaminated site expert Dr Bull from Hail Environmental on behalf of GWRC.

This compliance report covers the period from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018 to align with GWRC's strategic compliance programme. This report assesses consent suites WGN940045 for landfilling, and WGN030091 and WGN970233 for composting activities at Southern Landfill which are under the management of Wellington City Council. Consent WGN080137 managed by Nova Energy is assessed in a separate report.

I inspected Southern Landfill on 9 February 2018 and 29 January 2019. Photos included at the end of this report were taken on 29 January 2019.

Overall compliance summary for Southern Landfill:

VERY GOOD

Overall excellent management of site and consents. The consent holder is proactive in meeting their consent requirements. There were either no breaches of consent conditions, or only minor breaches of an administrative nature that were promptly corrected by the consent holder.

Comments

Water Quality

The annual report was reviewed by Dr Bull. Dr Bull's comments are as follows:

I remain of the opinion that, based on this information, this landfill does not appear to be causing even minor adverse effects on water quality. There are occasional detects of various contaminants and occasional missed observations at individual locations, but nothing systematic that might give me cause for substantive concern.

Dr Bull goes on to say that he is of the opinion that the monitoring should continue to follow the required monitoring programme, and notes that the consent holder continues to do slightly more sampling and analysis than required by the consent, which is gratifying and should not be discouraged. AECOM audited the monitoring process in 2017 and were apparently satisfied, however Dr Bull recommends further audits are undertaken, but not until 2020.

Dust and Odour

Odour continues to be a nuisance to some members of the public, who inform GWRC or WCC directly. Overall, the number of complaints received in 2018 had not noticeably changed from the previous year. GWRC officers did not detect any offensive or objectionable odours relating to the landfill or compost when investigating odour complaints. Due to the proximity of other odour generating activities to the landfill, it is difficult to determine the source of the odour during GWRC and WCC led investigations.

The previous compliance report notes that during the 9/2/2018 inspection, gas odours near the vertical extraction wells on Stage 3 were detected. On the most recent inspection (29/1/2019) distinct/strong gas odours were detected on Stage 3 of the landfill, but not necessarily when standing near a gas well or collection pipe. An investigation is currently underway for issues with the gas collection and destruction system.

A key component of odour control is daily cover. At the time of my inspection in January 2019, the active tip face was against a steep edge of Stage 3. I believe there is a risk that filling this area during wet weather may make applying daily cover difficult. H.G.Leach Ltd, your contractors for the filling of the landfill believe they will be out of this area before the wet months.

Gas System

At the time of my inspection on 29/1/2019 it was brought to my attention that the gas fired generator plant had been inoperative since 17/1/2019, and all gas was being combusted by the flare. It is noted that there is only one flare, and no secondary flare. Under the National Environmental Standard for Air Quality, the lack of a secondary flare is acceptable for short term maintenance and malfunction, but is not suitable for ongoing operations. This situation is currently being assessed and will be reported on in the 2019 compliance report.

Alternative Daily Cover

WCC's request to change conditions of their consent to allow for the use of alternative daily cover was granted on 13 December 2018. Please familiarise with all new conditions of this consent.