



Collect and Control Landfill Gas

April 7, 2017



SYLMAR, CA (April 7, 2017) – Last week we shared with you the overview of Sunshine Canyon’s 2017 action plan to upgrade our systems and continue to serve as a good neighbor in our community. Over the next few weeks, we will provide a more in-depth explanation of how we are approaching each of the three action areas and the progress we have made against our plan. This week the focus is on collecting and controlling landfill gas. Please note that as we make progress on these plans over the next several months and upgrade our infrastructure, it is possible that neighbors may detect landfill gas odors offsite due to construction activities. Our team is taking precautions to prevent odors from escaping, and we appreciate your patience and understanding as we make these necessary site enhancements.

As waste decomposes in a landfill, it creates gas that must be collected and controlled so that it does not migrate and create offsite odors. Modern landfills use a sophisticated system of landfill gas wells that, when operating properly, keep landfill gas onsite where it is appropriately managed. At Sunshine Canyon, we have more than 600 landfill gas wells to collect and control landfill gas.

Of course, as part of normal, ongoing operations, we must add or replace gas wells at Sunshine Canyon to ensure the wells are operating properly and providing the most efficient coverage to collect and control landfill gas. Additionally, over the past five years, due to unconventional management practices we were required to follow, scores of our gas wells have become “watered in,” meaning water present in the landfill – called leachate – has gotten into the gas wells and prevented their proper operation.

Therefore, to address these issues, we are committed to upgrading our landfill gas collection and control system by adding or replacing more than 150 gas wells by July 30 to ensure proper gas well operations, and installing more than 250 pumps in gas wells by August 31 to remove trapped leachate that can impact performance. As of today, we have added or replaced 40 gas wells and have installed 195 pumps.

To complement improvements we are making to our gas system, we are also utilizing multiple enhanced landfill covers over 115 acres to prevent landfill gas from escaping. This short-term solution will help control landfill gas until the gas system is performing as it should. Actions include:

- Installing 21 acres of closure turf, an impermeable synthetic liner overlain by artificial turf, by August 31. The design is complete, and materials have been ordered.
- By August 31, applying 37 acres of a thick, flexible spray-on cover that serves as temporary cover in new waste fill areas. So far, we have applied four acres of spray-on cover.
- Establishing vegetative cover over 57 acres by the end of the year, to prevent erosion and soil thinning, and to act as a natural bio-filter. A five-acre test plot is currently underway.

Collecting and controlling landfill gas is critical to proper landfill operations. We are committed to improving our landfill gas collection and control system and practices at Sunshine Canyon Landfill.

In next week's update we will provide more details on how we are controlling waste odors at the site. If you have questions, be sure to contact us at sunshinecanyon@republicservices.com or visit us online at <http://sunshinecanyonlandfill.com/> to learn more.