

STATUS REPORT
REGARDING WAIMANALO GULCH SANITARY LANDFILL (SP87-362)
PRESENTED TO
THE STATE LAND USE COMMISSION
BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
APRIL 21, 2006

I. OAHU'S MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE CONDITIONS TODAY

A. Introduction.

Over 1.76 millions tons of municipal solid waste annually

Collected by the City & County staff and by private commercial haulers

Two paths to handle municipal solid waste (MSW): recycling(including waste to energy conversion), and landfilling. The streams are integrated to provide solid waste disposal for Oahu. No one part stands alone; rather the two work together.

Over 1,150,000 tons of materials are recycled, with over 600,000 tons of MSW are recycled by conversion into energy at the H-POWER Waste to Energy Plant

About 250,000 tons of MSW are disposed in private landfills

The remaining 329,400+ tons of MSW are disposed of at Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill along with recycling residue, H-POWER ash and residue.

Our goal is to significantly reduce the City's reliance on sanitary landfill disposal through recycling

B. Recycling.

1. Greenwaste. Started curbside automated recycling collection of green waste for 50,000 homes. Most areas receive manual curbside collection of green waste now.

2. Other. Have over 75 school/community drop-off sites for newspaper, glass, cardboard and aluminum cans.

Mandatory commercial recycling of paper, newspaper, cardboard, beverage containers.

City agency recycling of paper, newspaper, cardboard, office paper, aluminum, glass, plastic containers.

3. Special recycling – E-waste special drop off, telephone book, abandoned and derelict vehicles, white goods.

4. H-POWER (generating energy from waste)

90% reduction by volume of all municipal solid waste processed

Annual operating contract for 561,600 tons per year

Process an average of 607,000 tons annually

Approximately 10 million tons processed since April 1990

Generated electricity equivalent to approximately 14 million barrels of imported oil to date

Generates 45 MW electricity (enough to power 40,000 homes) daily

Recycled 99.5% of all metals received (16,800 tons ferrous, 1,562 tons non-ferrous in FY05)

Facility operated by Covanta-HRRV under contract to the City

Ash and residue are landfilled (202,191 tons in FY05)

C. Landfill

Necessary to serve community needs

Provides disposal for non-hazardous materials, non-combustible wastes and any combustible wastes from overflow at H-POWER

Permitted by State Department of Health

Needed for disposal of recycling residue, ash and residuals

Unusual waste such as dead animals; out-dated products; and other special wastes

D. City Landfill Bans (to encourage recycling and diversion)

Green waste

Construction and demolition debris

White goods

Scrap metals

Automobile batteries and tires

Cardboard restricted to 10% of load

II WAIMANALO GULCH SANITARY LANDFILL OPERATIONS

A. Introduction

Commenced accepting solid waste in September 1989

200+ acre property owned by the City & County of Honolulu

Managed and operated by Waste Management of Hawaii, Inc.

B. State Special Use Permit (SUP)

Original State Special Use Permit issued in April 1987

Amended to add ancillary services area in October 1989

Amended to allow for 21-acre expansion on June 3, 2003

Amended in April 2004, to change date for City Council selection of new site to December 1, 2004.

C. Mayor's Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection

As per Condition 1 of LUC Permit, Committee consisted of professionals, environmental, government, and community representatives from areas with potential landfill sites, made its recommendation to the City Council by December 1, 2003.

One recommendation from the committee was that a Host Community Benefits package be negotiated with the affected community where a landfill is sited. In response to that recommendation, Mayor Hanneman had proposed a \$2 million benefits package in FY07 Operating Budget, which is presently awaiting City Council action.

D. City Council Actions

Hearings and gathering public testimony about landfill selection

No additional sites were suggested by this process

Selection of Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill by Resolution 04-348, CD1, FD1 on December 1, 2004, which fulfilled all requirements for Condition 1 of SUP.

Bill 37, CD2, which provided for landfill closure on May 1, 2008, was vetoed by Mayor Hannemann on February 28, 2006. On March 30, 2006, the City Council chose not to override the Mayor's veto, thereby providing for continuance of Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill into the future.

III. FUTURE PLANS FOR MANAGING SOLID WASTE

Our goal is to significantly reduce the City's reliance on sanitary landfill disposal. Additional efforts include:

Diversion of 8,000 dry tons (28,000 dewatered wet tons) of sewage sludge annually

Increase automated curbside collection from homes island-wide.

Expand no-call bulky item collection island-wide.

Develop two HI 5 redemption centers on City property in Waikiki and Nuuanu to support the State's program

Add 40 new locations to existing 75 school/community drop-off centers.

Provide more support to help schools increase recycling efforts, including an improved "Discover Recycling" Fair in 2006.

Issue a request for proposals for a municipal solid waste facility using combustion, gasification or vitrification technology later this year. (Condition 18)

Presently over 300,000 tons/yr MSW disposed in landfill

Plan to issue RFP in September 2006, with award in September 2007. Under this schedule, the facility would be operational in September 2010 and decrease MSW to 100,000 tons/year.

IV. FUTURE LANDFILL ACTIONS

Continue with environmental documents for full expansion of Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill. (Condition 17)

Request approximately 55 acres of landfill footprint, which would provide for 15+ years at the current inflow rate. If the inflow increases, the time will be shortened; if the inflow decreases, the time will be extended. Our expansion amendment will encompass approximately 100 acres to provide for auxiliary services and infrastructure.

We recognize that the existing LUC permit must be amended to delete inappropriate conditions. We plan to discuss the issues with the appropriate bodies before any amendments are sought.

V. NEW INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Plan to form committee with representatives of various environmental, government, professional and community groups to advise on solid waste direction and strategies, including recycling, alternative technologies, and landfill.

Consultant selected, contract in final processing

One study will be waste composition of materials being landfilled. Previously proposed wood, metal, and gypsum recycling. Need confirmation of type and volume of materials available before any program is initiated. This addresses a portion of Condition 19 of the permit.