



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bruce Walden, Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Bill Gray, Public Works Director
Rod Fletcher, Environmental Manager
DATE: February 3, 2004
RE: Landfill Remediation Status Report #6

This report is providing an update on landfill remediation activities. There are two main efforts underway. First is the investigation of seeps that have occurred intermittently along a 1500-foot stretch of the southern bank of the Saline Ditch. In particular, there is a stretch about 450 feet long where a petroleum based substance (PBS) has occurred that has been the focus of investigation work. City staff has continued to maintain oil absorbent booms across the Saline and oil absorbent socks along the bank to contain the PBS and monitors these measures on a daily basis. Sampling efforts have also been instituted to determine whether there is any negative environmental impact upon the Saline Ditch. To date, the results indicate that there has been no negative impact and water quality standards established for the Saline Ditch are being met, however IEPA violations still exist.

The City's environmental consulting firm GeoSyntec completed their site investigation and data collection along the Saline Ditch in September. Additional surveying work was required and completed in November. With this information, GeoSyntec prepared a preliminary report and reviewed their results with city staff in December. At that meeting several remediation options were presented for discussion and consideration.

On January 23 an informational meeting was held with local IEPA representatives who are overseeing the project. GeoSyntec reviewed the results of the site investigation and also presented a conceptual remediation option to address the PBS. While this option is still being refined, it involves the construction of a collection trench that will intercept and cutoff the PBS to the Saline Ditch. IEPA officials tentatively agreed that this was an acceptable solution that would meet their expectations. GeoSyntec will be preparing a report summarizing results of the site investigation and providing details of the remediation option. This report is expected to be complete within the next 45 days. GeoSyntec will then prepare engineering plans and specifications to solicit bids for actual construction targeted for this summer. Cost estimates should be available prior to bid letting, but firm costs will be known after bids are received.

The second effort involves the construction of a culvert approximately 570 feet long in the Butzow Ditch. Both banks of the Butzow Ditch have exposed 50 year old trash, that needs to be covered to comply with IEPA regulations.

Urbana Engineering staff has prepared preliminary plans and also shared that information with IEPA. Again IEPA officials indicated that the proposed project appeared to be an acceptable solution. Engineering staff is in the process of finalizing the plans and seeking appropriate authorizations from governmental agencies to proceed with a bid letting. This project is also being targeted for construction this summer.