

WAYNE DISPOSAL, INC. – BELLEVILLE, WAYNE COUNTY, MI PROPOSED HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE MODIFICATION - SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Materials Management Division (MMD), is accepting comments from the community regarding Wayne Disposal, Inc.'s (WDI) proposed major modification to their operating license. WDI submitted a request on January 21, 2021, to modify their landfill liner system. EGLE is in the process of reviewing the request to determine if the proposal meets the hazardous waste regulations. The modification request does not propose any other changes to the license.

Company Description

WDI operates a hazardous waste landfill located at 49350 North I-94 Service Drive in Belleville, Michigan. The landfill currently accepts only waste that is authorized by their license, including approved hazardous wastes, industrial wastes, technologically enhanced naturally occurring radioactive materials (TENORM), and polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) wastes.

REQUEST UNDER REVIEW

A request for a major modification is required under the hazardous waste regulations when a licensee wants to make a significant change to their existing operating license. EGLE is currently reviewing WDI's major modification request to determine if the design changes meet the landfill design requirements found in the hazardous waste regulations.

WDI proposes to incorporate the use of geosynthetic clay liners (GCL) instead of installing some of the compacted clay liner components specified in the currently approved liner design. Figure 1 shows the approved liner design. Figure 2 shows the proposed liner design. The proposed GCL is a manufactured barrier made with plastics and bentonite clay.

For EGLE to approve the modification, WDI must demonstrate that the proposed design will:

1. prevent the release of any hazardous chemicals into groundwater or surface water and be better than the currently approved design.
2. This is called an "equivalency demonstration."

WDI provided the equivalency demonstration as part of their application. EGLE is currently reviewing the demonstration. The GCL is made with plastics and bentonite clay. Bentonite clay is a natural occurring soil that has superior hydraulic and physical properties to compacted clay. For example, a quarter-inch thick layer of bentonite clay has the same property values as a three-foot thick layer of compacted clay. Due to the manufacturing of the liner, the GCL has superior reliability, resistance to freeze-thaw damage, resistance to stretching from the weight of the landfill material, and reduced permeability.

Figure 1: Cross-Section of Current Design

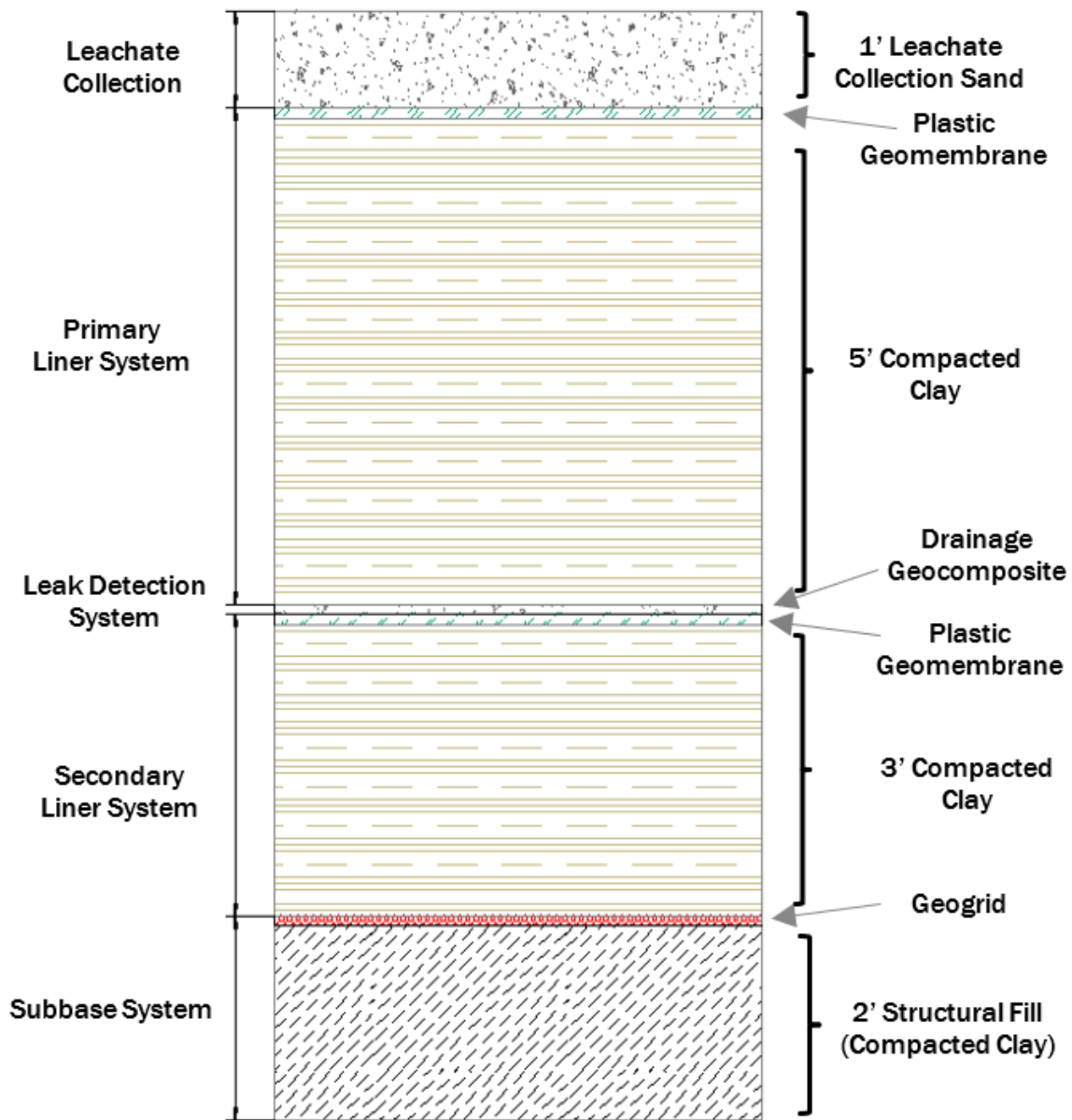
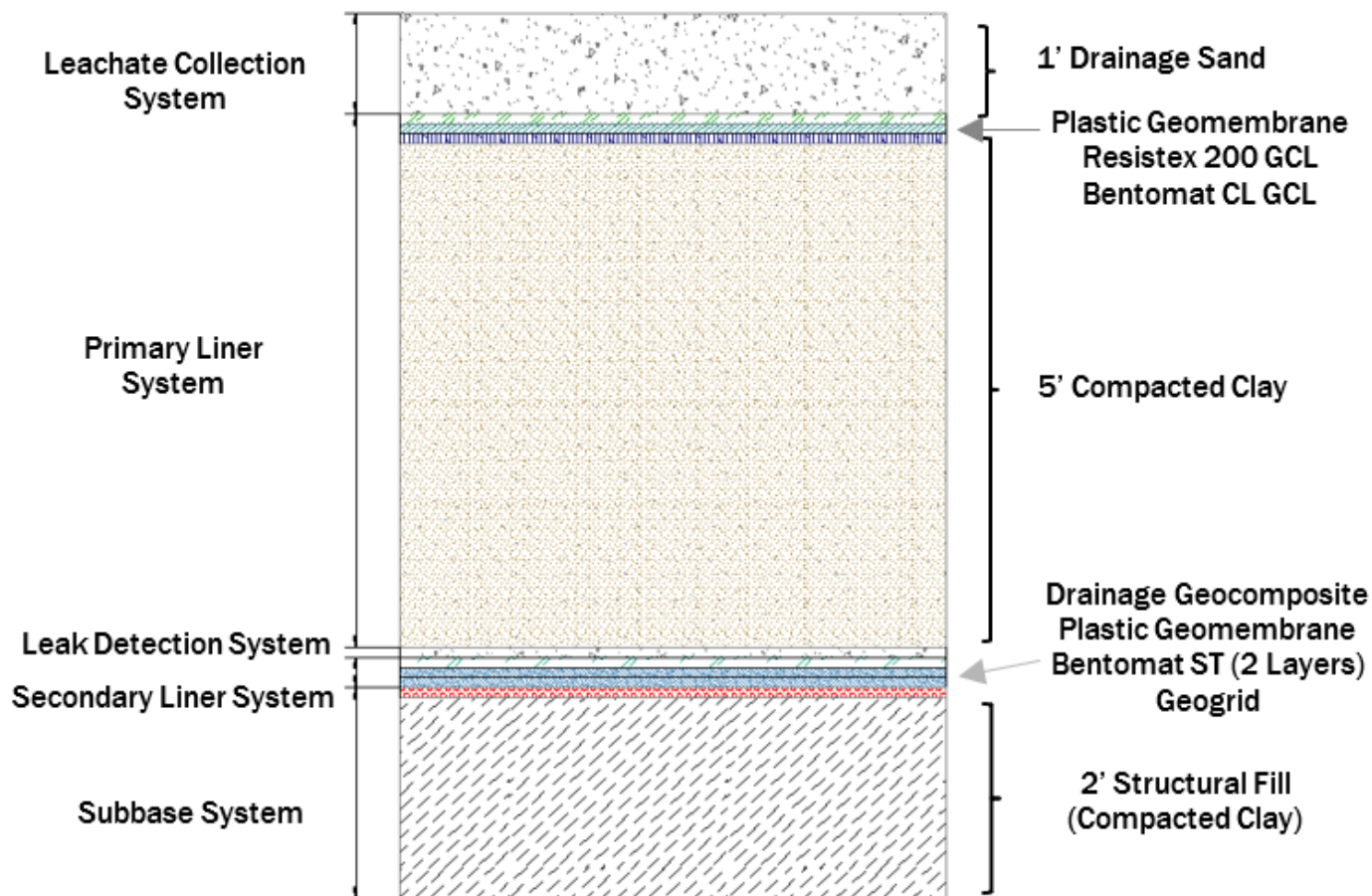


Figure 2: Cross-Section of Proposed Design



How will EGLE Ensure WDI is in Compliance?

WDI is required to continue to comply with all applicable laws and regulations. The proposed major modification continues to require specific actions to monitor for and if necessary, correct any releases, in the unlikely event they occur.

Under their operating license, WDI is required to conduct extensive monitoring of their environmental protection systems, including ground water, surface water, air, leachate, and leak detections systems and to report sampling results to EGLE on a quarterly basis.

EGLE will continue to inspect WDI on a quarterly basis. In addition, EGLE conducts groundwater and leak detection system audit sampling at least annually.

SUMMARY

EGLE is in the process of reviewing the proposed major modification of the liner design. This modification would not alter the capacity of the landfill or change what the landfill can and cannot accept. Before EGLE acts on the proposed modification, we are interested in hearing from you. EGLE will review all comments received from the public.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The purpose of public involvement is to ensure that the people interested in a proposed EGLE action are aware of the proposed action and have an opportunity to provide input on the EGLE decision under review before a final decision is made.

EGLE has established a WDI subscription list for receiving periodic updates from EGLE related to WDI activities and licensing. Please join us by going to [Michigan.gov/EGLEConnect](https://www.michigan.gov/EGLEConnect) and subscribing to the US Ecology Michigan Disposal Waste Treatment Plant and Wayne Disposal Inc. Hazardous Waste Landfill topic to get EGLE e-mail updates related to web resources, new license actions, public hearings, and meetings for both US Ecology facilities. The Michigan Disposal Waste Treatment Plant is co-located with WDI at the site and is licensed separately for its hazardous waste treatment and storage operations.

Comments

EGLE welcomes comments from the public. Comments can be made by mail or email and should include the name and address of the writer, the comment, and any supporting facts for the comment. Please send all comments to Ms. Christine Matlock, Senior Environmental Engineer, by email at MatlockC2@Michigan.gov, or by mail to:

Ms. Christine Matlock
EGLE MMD
Hazardous Waste Section
P.O. Box 30241
Lansing, MI 48909-7741

Complaints

Through your observations and reporting of activities of concern, you play a valuable role in helping the EGLE protect human health and the environment. To file a complaint or share details about improper waste handling or disposal, contact EGLE through the [Pollution Emergency Alerting System \(PEAS\) Hotline](#) at 800-292-4706.

MORE INFORMATION

Please visit our website at Michigan.gov/USEcologyWDI to find information related to WDI, the proposed major modification, and EGLE compliance oversight.

For questions or comments about the proposed major modification, or to share input on what works best for keeping you informed, please contact Ms. Christine Matlock at 517-290-4612 or MatlockC2@michigan.gov.

For questions about the hazardous waste operations oversight, please contact Mr. Michael Busse at 248-226-0975 or BusseM@michigan.gov.

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