

37 H2  
1-27-09  
#63

January 27, 2009

TO: Members, Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Janice V. Goss, Director, OC Waste & Recycling  
SUBJECT: **STATUS REPORT #2: EMERGENCY RESPONSE – OLINDA ALPHA LANDFILL DAMAGE**

RECEIVED  
2009 JAN 15 PM 1:56  
CLERK OF THE BOARD  
OF ORANGE COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On December 16, 2008, your Board directed OC Waste & Recycling to provide a report every 14 days until the actions required by this emergency are terminated. Following is the second status report for the period December 17 through December 31, 2008, along with recommended actions.

**Summary:**

On November 15, 2008 the Freeway Complex Fire was observed burning near the Olinda Alpha Landfill at about 10:45 a.m. The fire burned along the slopes of the southeast basin of the landfill, causing severe damage to various facilities and equipment including the Landfill Gas Extraction and Control System (LFG System) and the Groundwater Control and Monitoring System (Groundwater System). Operation of these systems is mandated by law.

As the systems were rendered inoperable, staff notified regulators – Local Enforcement Agency (LEA), Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD). Staff also applied for variances and compliance monitoring requirements to protect against fines and allow for continuing landfill operations during restoration of the systems.

Estimated repair costs for the LFG system and Groundwater System are \$2,840,000 and \$160,000 respectively.

All repairs are on schedule.

OC Waste & Recycling is pursuing cost recovery through the County of Orange Risk Management and with FEMA.

County Risk Management is following up on reports of the origin of the Brea fire and will make a determination on what actions will be taken.

**Status Report:**

**Regulatory Actions**

- November 17 – 21: OC Waste & Recycling applied for and obtained an emergency variance with the AQMD in order to avoid possible LFG related violations and fines.

- December 9: the LEA noted a violation due to elevated methane in a perimeter probe on the west side of the site. This violation will recur until the LFG system is restored.
- December 30: A hearing was held at AQMD to request a variance extension until the LFG system is restored. The variance extension request was granted.

**Landfill Gas Extraction and Control System Emergency Repair Phase I Status: December 17-30**

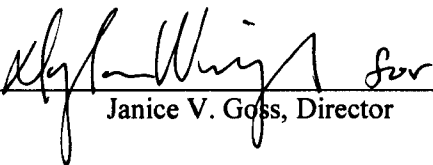
- December 17-19: Work was cancelled due to rain and area saturated from previous storm.
- December 22: Resumed work by installing and fusing 150' of 18" on the reducer. Work terminated at 10:00 am due to intensifying rain.
- December 23-26: Cancelled work scheduled due to wet conditions on the project area and the Christmas holidays.
- December 29: Excavated slope and road for 36" road crossing alignment and start fusing for 36" line section for the header which includes flanges under the road.
- December 30: Continued to excavate road and trench to accommodate 36" fusing machine, assemble and fuse 36"x36"x36" tee, flanges and 36"x18" reducer assemblies.
- December 31: Assembled and connected 36" header road crossing and 36"x36"x36 tee connection and 36"x18" reducer. Laid assembly of 36" spool and 36"x18" reducer inside road crossing trench on.

**Ground Water Control and Monitoring System Emergency Repair Phase I and II Status: December 17-30**

- December 17: Rained.
- December 18-29: Connected air and water lines for six (6) extraction wells. Investigated the integrity of inside monitoring MW-20 with a video camera. Installed two of the three cleanout vaults on the Phase I lines. Replaced lighting arrestor on the leachate PLC panel.

**Recommended Actions:**

1. Receive and file the December 31, 2008 status report on the Emergency Response - Olinda Alpha Landfill Damage.
2. Find that the situation warrants a continuation of emergency under Public Contract Code 22050 (a) (2).

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Janice V. Goss, Director

Attachment

**OLINDA ALPHA FIRE 2008  
ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS REPAIR REPORT**

**DECEMBER 17 TO DECEMBER 31, 2008**

<i>Task</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Action Items</i>	<i>Estimated Completion Date</i>	<i>Comments</i>
<b>Phase I - Repair</b> Phase I - Repair: complete header lines and lines to gaging and dry plant and flow station. (approximately 60% of system to be repaired; one expansion and three operations)	Completed damage assessment and work plan (three phases). Contractor mobilized 12/9/08.	Complete installation of Phase I headers, valves and fittings; excavation of road crossing. Conduct system start-up and testing.	June 2009 (all phases)	Rain and holidays delay: 7 days
<b>Phase II - Restore</b> Phase II - Restore system components in the south and east portions of Olinda and Olinda Alpha Canyon	In preparatory stages. Materials and drill rig ordered.	Deliver materials and mobilize drilling rigs; Begin work week of January 12, 2009.	March 20, 2009	Extraction well drilling will be concurrent with Phase I start-up and testing.
<b>Phase III - Restore</b> Phase III - Restore remaining system components in the east and north-east of Alpha Canyon and restore punch systems	In preparatory stages. Materials and drill rig ordered.	Begin work week of March 2, 2009.	June 29, 2009	Extraction well drilling will be concurrent with Phase II start-up and testing.

Task	Status	Action Items	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Groundwater System Repair	Completed damage assessment and work plan (two phases). Contractor mobilized 12/8/08.		February 2009 (both phases)	
Phase I Restore system components in Olinde Canyon	Connected air and water lines for six (6) extraction wells; repaired MW-20 well head. Installed two cleanouts boxes; replaced lightning arrester.	Complete Phase I repairs including pipe, storage tank, and cleanouts connections.  Conduct Phase I system start-up and testing.	January 9, 2009	Rain and holiday delay: 7 days
Digging/Rebuild system components in the south and east portions of Olinde/Alpha Canyon	Began trenching for replacement lines – 20% completed.	Complete trenching and line replacements and tie-in discharge line to storage tanks and from extraction wells	February 13, 2009	Anticipate system will be operational by mid-February, subject to weather conditions and start-up testing.