



City of Seattle
Seattle Public Utilities

July 15, 2020

Mr. Jerome Cruz, Project Manager
Washington State Department of Ecology
Toxic Cleanup Program
3190 160th Avenue S.E.
Bellevue, WA. 98008-5452

RE: South Recycling Center and South Park Landfill Regulatory Considerations under the Consent Decree

Dear Mr. Cruz:

As discussed during our June 9th phone call, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) has determined that rescoping the South Park Project is the best path forward at this time to preserve future opportunities for site development.

Background

SPU has minimum project requirements as a result of:

- The Interim Action Work Plan and Consent Decree
- Minimal operational improvements
- Commitments to the City Council resulting from street vacation for South Transfer Station
- City Code

SPU leadership has decided to decouple constructing the recycling center from fulfilling the minimum requirements under the South Park Consent Decree, minimum operations requirements, commitments to the City Council and the community regarding site perimeter improvements associated with the Street Vacation granted for STS and City Code requirements.

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This decision will allow for a holistic planning review of needs and opportunities in south Seattle prior to making further site development decisions.

South Park Landfill Consent Decree Requirements

The South Park Landfill Consent Decree requires the following general actions:

- *Maintain a landfill cap/cover to protect people and animals from direct contact with the landfill contents.*
- *Install and operate landfill gas controls to prevent or mitigate subsurface migration of landfill gas into on-site and nearby buildings and structures.*
- *Install and maintain stormwater controls to (1) prevent stormwater from coming into contact with solid waste, (2) maintain the landfill cap/cover, and (3) meet regulatory requirements.*
- *Conduct long-term monitoring of groundwater to confirm that the residual vinyl chloride, iron, arsenic, and manganese in the groundwater system remains at low concentrations and continues to degrade over time.*
- *Conduct long-term monitoring of the cap/cover, the landfill gas controls, and groundwater to ensure that the cleanup remedy is effective and provides long-term protection of human health and the environment.*
- *File environmental (restrictive) covenants to ensure long-term compliance with regulations and maintenance of the cleanup remedy*

SPU project requirements include the following elements:

- Street improvements (i.e., pedestrian path, etc.) associated with the landfill gas system installation that is outlined in the Interim Action Work Plan.
- Need to maintain trailer parking.
- Need for a trailer parking canopy to eliminate stormwater flow to sanitary system.
- Need for crew quarters.

Path forward

The SPU project team estimates that this will delay the start of construction between two and three years which translates to a construction start date in 2022 or 2023. We will provide additional schedule detail when it is available. When the project scope elements are re-confirmed internally the project team will begin revising the project documents including the Basis of Design Report, Engineering Design Report, plans, and specifications to the revised project scope.

Can you please let us know if you will accept this proposed delay under the existing Consent Decree? Please feel free to contact me or Aaron Werner if you would like any additional information.

Sincerely,



Jeff Neuner
Landfill Closure Business Area Manager
Kent Highlands Landfill

cc: Jeff Fowler SPU, Solid Waste Line of Business Deputy Director
 Susan Fife-Ferris SPU, Solid Waste Line of Business/Solid Waste Planning Director
 Susan Saffery, SPU, Government Relations Director
 Megan J Joplin SPU, Law Department, Attorney
 Hui Yang SPU, SRDS Redevelopment Project Manager
 Aaron Werner SPU, SRDS Project Engineer

South Park Landfill File