

June 6, 2024

Luke LeMond Site Manager Solid Waste Program State of Washington Dept. of Ecology Central Regional Office 1250 West Alder St. Union Gap, WA 98903-0009

Re: DTG Yakima – Agreed Order No. DE 21624 – Monthly Progress Letter – May

Dear Mr. LeMond:

In accordance with Section 7.3 of Agreed Order (AO) No. DE 21624, the following is a description of the actions taken during May 2024 to implement the requirements of this AO.

Activities:

On-site activities included weekly gas probe and every other week ambient monitoring. The once per month regulatory review meeting was also held on May 16, 2024 to assess conditions and the data. The data summary through May 2024 from Landfill Fire Control, Inc. (LFCI) is attached.

Ambient air and gas probe sampling results from the sampling performed March 26-28, 2024 were provided to Ecology on May 21, 2024.

A fire response/MTCA review meeting was held with Ecology and YHD on May 28, 2024 to discuss the data and monitoring conditions that would require additional site investigation.

The draft Limited Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan was submitted to Ecology on May 31, 2024.

Groundwater monitoring wells MW-5S and MW-6S were installed.

Deviations from Plans (if any): None.

Deviations Description from the Scope of Work and Schedule: None.

425.549.3000



Customer Focused. Planet Obsessed.

All Data Received or Collected:

Ambient and gas probe data for gases and temperature were emailed, separately, to Ecology weekly after measurements were taken. Gas probe data was entered into the tracking spreadsheets and assessed by LFCI. The summary of the data has been included as an attachment.

Final air sampling laboratory data was provided and the emission assessment report is underway.

Deliverables for the Upcoming Month:

Deliverables will include:

- Final Emission Assessment Report
- Weekly ambient and gas probe data
- Groundwater well pump assemblies will be ordered
- June Progress Report

Please contact me to discuss any of the above items.

Respectfully,

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Ian Sutton Director of Engineering DTG Recycle isutton@dtgrecycle.com

Enclosures: Focused Review of Trigger Levels - May 2024

cc: <u>mbrady@parametrix.com</u> <u>steven.newchurch@co.yakima.wa.us</u>



DTG LPL Landfill fire investigations and mitigation

FOCUSED REVIEW OF TRIGGER LEVELS



Agenda

Typical Landfill Temperatures Typical CO Landfill CO Concentrations Monitoring Data Review CO, Temp, O₂, VOC, H₂S, LEL, CH₄ Spatial Plot Analysis Radiant Heat Flow Combustion Gas Diffusion and Advective Flow Overall Interpretation

Temperature Trigger Value

In landfills with no history of landfill fire, LFCI uses 170F as initial trigger of anomalous thermal activity as this flags temperatures above normal aerobic decomposition temperature.

Second state trigger is 220F, which indicates onset of exothermic thermal activity.

In assessing thermal response one must be mindful of heat flow due to convective and radiant heat distribution.

Gases will distribute heat unevenly due to gas migration through worm holes.

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176	80	Tra	Maximum Biological Temperature per LFCI experience	
175	79	ide at	Trigger for Elevated Temperatures in Gas Extraction Wells	
170	77	÷ й č		
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Raglan Mine Landfill Fire Suppression April - 2022



Barhole Temps

Affected near surface probes are GP-3 and GP-12.

GP-3 has highest temps, suggesting hottest portion of fire is near surface.

GP-12 is close to and above T-1, very close to fire.



Convective Heat Distribution

DTG situation is consistent with this model. Fire is occurring near T-1.

Convective gas flow is taking heat and gases upward and toward southwest, toward







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LFCI CO Assessment Scale

No Fire Indication	0 - 200
Possible Fire in Area	200 - 500
Potential Smouldering Nearby	500 - 750
Fire or Exothermic Reaction Likely	750 - 1000
Fire in Area	> 1000

Initial concern level for CO is 500 ppm.

Typically, when fire is occurring, fire centroid is above 10,000 ppm CO.

Due to subsurface dispersion of gases through worm holes and diffusive effects, CO interpretation needs to be carried out spatially.

looking for decreasing overall trend and average

looking for shrinkage of centroid of high CO concentration

important to be mindful of cross-contamination issues

CO Concentrations

Highest CO concentrations have been in T-3, followed by GP-7.





O₂

Both areas of landfill (upper and lower bench) are reading high oxygen in past three weeks. This may be due to the fire not consuming any more of the oxygen.

Oldest portion of Landfill is probably relatively inert and biologically inactive, producing very little methane. As a result, pore space is full of atmospheric air.

Some GPs susceptible to swings in pressure – LFCI believes this is causing the spikes.





Atmospheric Pressure

Large swings in pressure since Nov. 2023 have cycled atmospheric air into landfill, particularly in February and March, 2024.







Soil Cover Placement

Soil cover in excess of 3' was placed and compacted in area shown between Sept. and November, 2023.





CO Levels by Individual Wells

H₂

Hydrogen seems to be similar to the CO levels.

T-3 is trending downward, and has decreased significantly after cover was applied.

Even if H2 data is scrubbed from the CO data, GP-7 and T-3 remain high in CO. This month has shown very positive trends in H2 and CO



VOC's

T-3 has now decreased significantly to just over 200ppm.

Decreasing trend visible in all locations since January.

VOC concentrations are function of fire / smolder activity.

Intensity of combustion is decreasing as indicated by drops in CO, H2, VOC.



H_2S

H₂S data continues to be noisy, likely affected by atmospheric pressure fluctuation.

Of note, GP-7 has remained high for past few months, and T-3 has remained stable around 10ppm.



Lower Explosive Limit

Many data points fluctuating wildly – methane composition is a better indicator of levels within the landfill.

Upward trend in methane is visible, with the data showing more even distribution.

GP-10 at top of landfill has highest methane. Youngest garbage at top of landfill produces most methane. Also, concentrations highest during stable low Pressure.





CH₄ (%)

GP-10 has dropped significantly since last month.

South upper bench area slightly elevated, at around 2-4%.

Methane has increased slightly, then decreased since early March as a result of very large atmospheric pressure swings. Now CH4 is down below 3% in all wells except GP-10.





Fire Path



Data Interpretation

Suppression efforts are working. CO levels and temperatures have decreased dramatically since cover fill was placed. VOC's, H2 have also dropped, indicating less fire activity.

Temperatures have been on steady decline. Highest temps have been at GP-3, therefore, most active fire zone is actually shallower depth.

Centroid of fire is around GP-3 and T-1. Fire was burning along lower bench from T-1 spreading to north. Hot zone has shrunk over time.

Slight uptick in temperatures in T-1 and GP-3 this week, probably a function of increased O2.

In LFCI experience, CO has been best indicator of suppression at other landfill sites. CO levels in GP-7 and T-3 have dropped significantly in past month.

High O2 below lower bench road continues, has expanded to extent of monitoring - this is likely due to large atmospheric pressure swings and pervious waste mass allowing entry of ambient air.

Overall, it appears that the waste is smoldering underneath GP-3 and T-1 (elevated temperature) and a 'chimney' effect is occurring, causing higher CO and VOC's in T-3 and GP-7.

Trigger Levels

Triggers for action need to recognize this is an active fire that has been burning for more than a year.

Key metrics to watch are highest temperatures and CO levels, and whether those are trending downward.

Location of centroids and heat maps provide indication whether things are getting better or worse or if a new fire zone is developing.

Fixed number triggers at individual wells cannot be used without taking into account spatial distribution of nearby heat and gas sources (radiant heat, gas convection / diffusion).

LFCI's experience is that if fire starts in an area CO will spike to 10,000 ppm and a heat centroid will develop.

Gas concentrations and temperatures at this site are strongly influenced by atmospheric fluctuations. Long term trends indicate low pressure over summer months, which should result in improved conditions (less O2 incursion).