Post Closure-Care for Subtitle D Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

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Craig Dufficy
U.S. EPA
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery
Overview

• Purpose.
• Need for guidance.
• 258 PCC Criteria.
• EPA’s current thinking.
• Additional considerations.
• Case studies
Purpose

• Assist regulators in evaluating conditions at MSW landfills subject to Subtitle D Post Closure Care (PCC) that are approaching the end of the original 30 year PCC period.

• Provide information to assist facility owners and operators in preparing documentation to inform the regulators’ evaluations.

• Aid the regulated entities understand what may be necessary to ensure protection of human health and the environment. This enables owners/operators to have a better understanding of the costs associated with long-term waste management strategies.
Need for guidance

- Provide a recommended process for evaluating MSW landfills nearing the end of the PCC period.

- Discuss additional information such as periodic settlement measurements, vegetation, cover system, surface water system, landowner concurrence, and PE certification. This additional information will be important for decision makers when evaluating the adequacy of the PCC period.
258 Criteria to Consider in Evaluating PCC

- Cover system
- Leachate collection system
- Ground water monitoring system
- Gas monitoring system
Additional factors to consider

In addition to the four systems to consider, there are two overall general factors that may be appropriate to consider in evaluating the length of PCC.

- Technical evaluation criteria-
  - Containment
  - Detection
  - Migration and attenuation
  - Risk potential
- Site specific technical factors-
  - Facility characteristics
  - Waste type and characteristics
  - Environmental and health considerations
EPA’s Current Thinking

EPA’s current thinking is that States should review:

- Ground water monitoring data
- Leachate monitoring data
- Methane monitoring data
- Post closure inspection reports
- Environmental monitoring systems
Additional considerations

Additional information from the owner/operator should also be supplied to assist in the decision making process:

- Periodic settlement measurements
- Vegetation
- Cover system
- Surface water system
- Landowner concurrence
- PE Certification
Case studies

- EPA will look at 9 landfills throughout the 48 states based on precipitation and temperature.
Case studies

The case studies will review the data from each site and will look at:

- Analysis of flow data and liner leakage rates
- Analysis of chemical data
- Conclusions/lessons learned for long-term landfill management.

The EPA has a preliminary target date of October, 2017 to finish the case studies and the draft guidance publish date of December 2017
Questions?

Craig Dufficy

Email: Dufficy.Craig@epa.gov

Telephone: 703-308-9037