

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



West Lake Update

June 15, 2015

EPA Completes Yearlong Monitoring Effort in Spanish Village

In May 2014, EPA began off-site air monitoring in five areas around the West Lake Landfill to document baseline conditions prior to any potential on-site construction or work related to a potential isolation barrier.



EPA's air monitoring station in Spanish Village, near the West Lake Landfill. EPA plans to shut down the air monitor on July 30.

EPA's efforts to monitor the air and conduct a thorough scientific analysis are vital to be able to ensure any construction activities are protective of public health. The main purpose of EPA's monitoring system was to sample for alpha, beta, and gamma radiation, and typical solid waste landfill gases, including volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

Since EPA has collected the required baseline VOC data, four of the five stations ceased operating in February 2015. EPA has continued to operate the monitor in Spanish Village since February for radiological contaminants, compiling one full year of radiation data at that location. EPA will cease operation of the air monitoring station in Spanish Village at the end of July.

The last date of radiological constituent data collection at the Spanish Village air monitoring station will be July 30. EPA will then inventory and remove all equipment from the area. EPA will also shut down and remove the office trailer located at the Robertson Fire Protection District by mid-August.

EPA is confident that the results of the radiation and VOC data collected to date provide a sufficient baseline from which to compare any future off-site air monitoring for those compounds.

EPA expects the final air monitoring reports from the Spanish Village station to be available in September. EPA will make the final air monitoring reports

available to the public once all appropriate quality control procedures have taken place.

Sonic Coring Sampling Underway at West Lake Landfill

Contractors under EPA oversight began the Phase 1D Gamma Cone Penetration Testing (GCPT) at the West Lake Landfill in May. The GCPT testing served as a screening tool prior to the confirmation sampling conducted by the sonic coring sampling drill rig. Contractors have completed the GCPT testing and the sonic coring sampling is currently underway at the landfill.



Contractors under EPA oversight perform sonic coring drill sampling at the West Lake Landfill on June 8, 2015. The sampling at the site is being conducted in order to further define locations of radiologically impacted material within the landfill.

The core samples will be visually inspected and scanned for gamma radiation.

After core logging and gamma scanning of the core material is completed, samples for laboratory analysis will be identified, collected, and shipped in batches to the analytical laboratories. The samples will be dried and ground to promote consistency. They will be analyzed for the following isotopes: Radium-226, Radium-228, Thorium-230, Thorium-232, Uranium-234, Uranium-238, Actinium-227, Potassium-40, Protactinium-231, Scandium, and Lead-210.

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