

SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL

Managing today's waste while protecting tomorrow's environment.

Volume 1, Issue 3

April 2005

Browning-Ferris Industries of California (BFI) and Sunshine Canyon Landfill produce and distribute this quarterly newsletter to keep the community informed of current events at the landfill. Each newsletter is posted on the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Web site www.sunshinecanyonlandfill.com.

Construction Status

Construction of the new City-only landfill cell area is ongoing and we anticipate construction to be complete by June.

We have experienced significant rain delays due to the record levels of precipitation throughout Southern California this year with the site receiving well over 50 inches of rain this season.

Storm water diversion practices – channels, the new terminal basin, and erosion control and drainage features – have performed as designed.

County Health Study Report

The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services has found no evidence the Sunshine Canyon Landfill is having health impacts on neighboring communities. On March 3, 2005 the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services held a community meeting to post its findings of the investigation into health concerns voiced by several neighbors of Sunshine Canyon Landfill. This event was attended by roughly 30 community members. Representatives from BFI, the LA County Department of Health Services, the South Coast Air Quality Management District, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board and the City Local Enforcement Agency were on hand to answer questions and address individual concerns.

The results of this latest study are similar to a study commissioned by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board last year. The study did not find any unusual patterns or evidence of elevated rates of disease associated with Sunshine Canyon Landfill. Dave Edwards, Director of Projects for BFI said, "The County has conducted the most in-depth health study to date and it confirms what all of the previous studies have shown: the landfill is not harming our neighbors."

Mitigation Measure Areas of Concern

Throughout the development stages of the City-only landfill, BFI worked closely with the City of LA's Independent Monitors to ensure compliance with all applicable mitigation measures. On two occasions the Independent Monitors brought particular approaches to our attention.

Oak Tree Mitigation

As required by the Mitigation Reporting and Monitoring Program, BFI provided mitigation for removed trees on a 2:1 basis. The Independent Monitors observed all phases of removal and planting. During one such observational visit, the Monitors noted that a handful of mitigation trees were not spaced appropriately, per the requirements of the conditions of approval. They also noted they felt the planting pattern of a few trees was too linear.

BFI's arborist worked with the Independent Monitor to address the concerns in a manner acceptable to the Monitor, the Department of City Planning and BFI. On December 21, 2004, the Independent Monitor confirmed that BFI had made all necessary adjustments and had completed planting the mitigation trees.

Landslide

In January, a previously identified landslide had new movement on the City side of Sunshine Canyon. Per the conditions of approval, all slide material must be removed from the active project area. The landslide occurred outside the construction area and BFI's engineering geologist determined that the slide will be removed in the next phase of development as previously planned. Interim procedures are in place to monitor and mitigate any additional movement. All of BFI's construction work remains in accordance with applicable mitigation measures.

Ground Water Monitoring

Sunshine Canyon Landfill has implemented several corrective actions to address and mitigate Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's) that are due to the inactive City Landfill. These corrective actions include:

- 1) Construction of a cut off wall that collects and removes water from the groundwater zone down gradient of the City Landfill. Since its completion in October 2004, it has removed about 2.3 million gallons of water
- 2) Installation of six new groundwater extraction wells and three new groundwater observation wells
- 3) Installation of submersible pumps, related discharge piping, and controls to facilitate automated operation of the groundwater extraction system
- 4) Continued operation and maintenance of the City Landfill gas extraction system to control potential landfill gas impacts to groundwater

The full report is available at www.sunshinecanyonlandfill.com

Hotline Report – (800) 926-0607

Since December 1, 2004, the Landfill's 24 hour hotline has received 20 calls, all concerning hours of operation, types of materials accepted and recycling services. This information is available online at www.sunshinecanyonlandfill.com.

Gifted Student Studies Sunshine Canyon Landfill As Part of SAS Program

Congratulations to Northridge Nobel Middle Schooler Amber Hawthorne who received an A+ for her School for Advanced Studies (SAS) project on the operational facets of Sunshine Canyon Landfill, including recycling, the decomposition process, methane gas, groundwater protection systems and the concerns communities have about landfills.

Amber's display was presented March 9th and 10th at the 6th Annual SAS Museum Night entitled "Think Like a Scientist."

Resources & Information for Sunshine Canyon Landfill

14747 San Fernando Road ■ Sylmar, CA 91342

www.sunshinecanyonlandfill.com

24 Hour Sunshine Canyon Landfill Hotline: 800-926-0607

We encourage you to take a guided tour of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill to see first hand how the landfill operates on a daily basis. Tours begin with an informal question and answer period, and then a trip through the landfill. For general information or to schedule a tour call 818-833-6500.

Community Advisory Committee Meetings*:

County CAC: Meets on the second Thursday of every other month.

City CAC: Meets the second Monday of every month.

** More information about the CAC meetings can be found at www.sunshinecanyonlandfill.com*

SCAQMD 24 Hour Hotline 800-288-7664 ■ City of Los Angeles LEA (8:30 am to 5:00 pm M-F) 213-978-0892

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