

# SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL

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

Volume 1, Issue 4

August 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](http://www.sunshinecanyonlandfill.com).

## **Construction Status: Cityside Landfill**

Construction of the first cell of the Cityside landfill is complete. We have received sign-offs from all the appropriate agencies including our release from the Regional Water Quality Control Board and our occupancy permit from the City of Los Angeles Building and Safety Department. The new Cityside landfill opened for business on July 27.

## **Operation: Cityside Landfill**

The start of operations in this area is the culmination of more than six years of planning, permitting and construction work after the City of Los Angeles granted the General Plan Amendment in 1999. In order to operate, BFI worked with and obtain approvals from the following agencies:

- Solid Waste Facilities Permit (CIWMB, City Environmental Affairs)
- Waste Discharge Requirements (LARWQCB)
- 401 Certification (LARWQCB)
- 404 Permit (USACOE)
- 1603 Agreement (Calif. Fish & Game)
- 1150.1 Permit (SCAQMD)
- Oak Tree Removal Permit (City Dept. of Public Works)

The final step in the approval process was the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Department of City Planning. The TAC is comprised of nearly all of the City's departments to ensure that all conditions of approval are met prior to the start of operation. Final approval was received from the TAC on July 26.

## **County Replacement Conditional Use Permit**

A fourth hearing before the Regional Planning Commission is taking place on August 10, 2005. BFI is requesting that the County's 1993 Conditional Use Permit (CUP) be modified to allow Sunshine Canyon to operate more efficiently as a combined operation as opposed to two separate landfills – a Cityside landfill and a Countyside landfill.

The requested modifications do not increase the total disposal tonnage within Sunshine Canyon. They simply align and conform the County conditions with the City conditions, and adjust or eliminate duplicative limitations and requirements.

As a joint facility, the City/County landfill will handle 12,100 TPD within a single working face instead of separate operations of 6,600 TPD and 5,500 TPD at a County working face and a City work face, respectively.

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## **Bull Creek Restoration**

The restoration of Bull Creek is progressing smoothly with ongoing community input and involvement. The removal of non-native plants and palm trees, and the clean up of four 40-yard bins of trash, which included over fifty illegally dumped tires, was completed in March. On Saturday, June 11, 2005, BFI's project manager, Jim Aidukas, met with community members and representatives from Councilmember Greig Smith's office to tour the restoration area and answer questions. On July 20, the second phase of spraying non-native plants occurred. The effectiveness of this spraying will be evaluated after two weeks in order to verify that non-natives plants are eliminated. Replanting with native trees and shrubs is scheduled to begin in early October, the optimal time for their success.

## **Hotline Report — (800) 926-0607**

To date, all calls, with the exception of one call, ask questions about hours of operation, types of materials accepted and recycling services. Since the hotline became operational last year, the volume of calls remains very low and only one call has requested to cease operations and expansion. Landfill operations information, as well as Sunshine Canyon's history, background, environmental studies and community activities are available online at [www.sunshinecanyonlandfill.com](http://www.sunshinecanyonlandfill.com).

## **Chinese Delegation Tours Landfill**

On Wednesday, July 27 a delegation of 31 Chinese senior officials from the Chongqing and Yangzhou municipal governments toured Sunshine Canyon Landfill to get a first-hand look at its operations. The officials have government responsibilities for land use/construction, auditing, foreign trade, science, agriculture, urban planning and communications. Chongqing is the commercial, industrial and transportation hub of Southwest China and has more than 14 million people. Yangzhou is about three square miles with 4.6 million people. The delegation is in Los Angeles for an intensive three-month business management/public policy course administered by UCLA Extension International Custom Programs. In addition to Sunshine, other facilities visited by the delegates have included L.A. City Hall, the Port of Los Angeles, the AQMD and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

## **Traffic Signal Improves Intersection Safety**

BFI designed and installed a new signal at the intersection of Sierra Highway and San Fernando Road and re-stripped portions of Sierra Hwy. as part of the more than 200 conditions to which BFI complied prior to the opening of the City portion of the landfill. These improvements vastly improved an intersection that in the past has been viewed by many to be unsafe. The signal provides for safe movement of vehicles turning left onto San Fernando Road from Sierra Hwy. Previously, only a stop sign existed on Sierra Hwy. and the left turn onto San Fernando was dangerous. During construction several motorists actually pulled over and thanked the construction crew for the new installation.

## Resources & Information for Sunshine Canyon Landfill

14747 San Fernando Road ■ Sylmar, CA 91342

[www.sunshinecanyonlandfill.com](http://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](http://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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