



Tolson and Associates Rubble Landfill Vertical Expansion

What You Need to Know

Project Manager: Samuel Ogbogu, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Solid Waste Program, 410-537-3318 or toll free 1-800-633-6101 x3318

Applicant & Property Owner: Tolson and Associates, LLC

Operator: Tolson and Associates, LLC

SITE INFORMATION

LOCATION: The proposed vertical expansion will increase the existing height of the Tolson and Associates Rubble Landfill from 230 feet above mean sea level (ft-amsl) to 244 ft-amsl, within the currently permitted footprint of 72.38-acre fill area on a 184.25-acre site. The landfill is located at the end of Capitol Raceway Road, Crofton in Anne Arundel County, Maryland

FACILITY: The active Tolson and Associates Rubble Landfill is currently permitted under Refuse Disposal Permit # 2019-WRF-0580, issued to Tolson and Associates, LLC. Tolson and Associates, LLC has applied to increase the height of the landfill vertically and lowering the bottom of the landfill. The proposed expansion will occur within the footprint of the existing landfill and will increase the maximum permitted elevation of the landfill within the limits of the County's local zoning approval, to provide a more efficient use of the airspace that allows an increased overall capacity from 230 ft-amsl to 244 ft-amsl and lower the bottom of the landfill from 122 ft-msl to 100 ft-msl.

The landfill is a non-hazardous solid waste acceptance facility that accepts land clearing debris and construction and demolition debris for disposal and/or recycling. The proposed landfill expansion will be required to have a liner and leachate collection system to capture and collect water that infiltrates into the landfill. There will also be a network of monitoring wells around the landfill, monitoring the quality of the groundwater beneath the site.

SITE STRATIGRAPHY: The site is regionally located on the Atlantic Coastal Plain Physiographic Province. The Coastal Plain sediments in the Anne Arundel County area consist predominantly of unconsolidated sediments of the Potomac Group which consists of the Patapsco, Arundel, and Patuxent Formations. The Patapsco Formation, about 200 feet thick below the site, consists of silts, sands and gravels which represents the upper unconfined aquifer in the area. Underlying the Patapsco Formation is the Arundel Formation. It is a thick confining bed of clay with an approximate thickness of more than 100 feet beneath the site which serves as a continuous confining bed for the Potomac Group. Below the Arundel Formation is the Patuxent Formation which consists of interbedded sands and clays with an approximate thickness of over 200 feet overlying the crystalline bedrock.

GROUNDWATER & GAS MONITORING: The current groundwater monitoring network at the landfill consists of 18 groundwater monitoring wells (MW) that are sampled on a semi-annual basis for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), inorganics, and general chemistry parameters.

The 2nd 2020 groundwater monitoring event sampled for VOCs, inorganics, and general chemistry parameters. Some low level VOCs were detected in several wells, but none of these detections are above the groundwater protection standard. For inorganic parameters, cadmium was detected above the primary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) in MW-26A. MW-26A has returned cadmium above the MCL every event since the baseline sampling event on November 21, 2016 prior to any waste placement in the Tolson and Associates Rubble Landfill.

Mercury was above the MCL in MW-27A. These inorganic chemicals can occur in natural Maryland groundwater due to their presence in some minerals. It has been hypothesized that these inorganic exceedances are attributable to the exposure of native black soils onsite due to the sand and gravel mining operations. None of the parameters detected over a MCL were detected in the leachate sample from the landfill.

The current gas monitoring network consists of 13 gas probes that surround the active portion of the landfill. These probes are sampled on a quarterly basis. A total of 20 gas probes will monitor the site as additional landfill cells start accepting waste. The current probes GP-1 through GP-10 and GP-21 through GP-23 monitors the active portion, while GP-11, GP-12, and GP-22 serve to distinguish a gas release from the closed Cunningham Landfill.

Monitoring was conducted in August and November 2020. Probes GP-6 and GP-7 detected methane at levels below the LEL during both events. None of the other probes detected methane. The scale house did not detect methane during either event. Probe GP-6 historically has detected methane since monitoring began in March 2017, and the methane detections are hypothesized to be related to decomposing organic matter in the soil fill material used to rebuild the mined area.

APPLICATION PROCESS

May 9, 2019, MDE received 13 copies of the Phase I Report and Refuse Disposal Permit Application for the proposed expansion of the Tolson and Associates Rubble Landfill.

May 9, 2019, MDE received a letter from Anne Arundel County, Office of Planning and Zoning, which said that provided the potential revisions to the design and construction of the Tolson Rubble Landfill met Conditions # 10 and B3 stipulated in Special Exception Case Nos. BA 65-92S, BA 66-92S, BA 68-92S and BA 69-92S, the Office believes that revising the design will not affect the Special Exception approval.

May 9, 2019, MDE received a letter from Anne Arundel County, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Waste Management Services, stating that the Tolson and Associates Rubble Landfill is in conformity with the adopted Ten-Year Solid Waste Management Plan (2013-2023) for Anne Arundel County.

May 30, 2019, MDE sent the Phase I Report to interested agencies for their review and comments.

June 25, 2019, MDE conducted a joint plan review meeting on the Phase I Report and a site visit of the proposed landfill expansion area.

September 20, 2019, MDE sent a letter to the County Executive requesting clarification to the 11/27/2018 county zoning and land use requirements letter.

November 20, 2019, MDE received zoning and land use letter from the County approving the cell floor lowering and the footprint expansion to be addressed in the future separately.

August 14, 2020, MDE received the Phase II Geology & Hydrology and Phase III Engineering Plan and Specifications Reports.

August 27, 2020, MDE distributed the Phase II/Phase III Reports for the vertical expansion to interested agencies and scheduled a virtual joint plan review meeting for 09/29/2020.

September 29, 2020, MDE held the Phase II/Phase III virtual joint plan review meeting.

November 5, 2020, MDE sent the Phase II/III comment letter to the applicant.

November 13, 2020, MDE received response to comment letter on the Phase II/III Report.

January 21, 2021, MDE received replacement sheet and drawings in response to comments on the Phase II/III Report.

February 24, 2021, MDE received a complete revised Phase II/III Report.

March 10, 2021, MDE sent a letter notifying the applicant that the Phase II /III is complete.

April 29, 2021, MDE sent copy of the Draft Permit for applicant's review for completeness.

May 13, 2021, MDE sent a letter to the applicant with the Date and Time for tentative determination, informational meeting and public hearing scheduled for June 29, 2021.

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING

MDE's permitting process includes review of the permit application and comments on the proposed project solicited from several State, federal and local agencies. Provided all minimum requirements of the permit application are satisfied, MDE schedules, advertises and holds a required public informational meeting and hearing.

MDE published the Notice of Application Received and Informational Meeting in the August 28th and September 4th, 2019 editions of the Maryland Gazette and Capital Newspapers.

On September 10, 2019, MDE held an Informational Meeting regarding this application at the Nantucket Elementary School Cafeteria located at 2350 Nantucket Drive, Crofton, Maryland.

MDE published tonight's Notice of Tentative Determination, Informational Meeting and Public Hearing in the **June 9th and June 16th, 2021** editions of the Capital and Maryland Gazette Newspapers. Written comments regarding the application may be addressed to Ms. Kaley Laleker, Director, Land and Materials Administration, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 610, Baltimore, Maryland 21230.

To view or participate in the Virtual Informational Meeting and Public Hearing, a participant must register using the following link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2725956921518384400>.