



Public Interest Center | P.O. Box 1049 | Columbus, OH | 43216-1049

**FOR RELEASE:** April 27, 2011  
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## **Ohio EPA to Hold Public Hearing on Draft Permits Issued for Perry County Landfill**

Ohio EPA will hold another public meeting to officially accept public comments about the draft solid waste, wastewater discharge and air permits issued to Tunnel Hill Partners LP. The permits, if issued final, would allow a proposed expansion of the landfill at 2500 Township Road 205, Route 2 in New Lexington. The landfill spans Pike, Harrison and Clayton townships in Perry County.

### **Public Hearing**

The information session and public hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2011, at 6 p.m. at the New Lexington Community Building (600 Senior Center Dr.). During the information session, Ohio EPA representatives will explain the proposed expansion and answer questions about the draft permits. During the hearing, the public can submit comments for the record that will be considered before Ohio EPA issues or denies the final permits. Ohio EPA places a high priority on public involvement and encourages citizens to become involved in the decision-making process.

Ohio EPA held an information session in New Lexington on June 3, 2010, to explain the proposed landfill expansion after receiving the company's solid waste permit application. Before issuing the draft permits, Ohio EPA reviewed the technical aspects of the applications and determined that they met the requirements of state and federal clean air and water quality standards and solid waste rules. Emission and discharge limits and other permit conditions were established to ensure compliance with environmental laws and to protect public health and safety.

### **Proposed Expansion**

The company proposes a 69-acre lateral and vertical expansion at its 544-acre facility. This would bring the landfill's footprint to 118 acres. (Currently, the landfill's developed footprint is 11.7 acres, though it has been previously approved to occupy 49 acres.) The company also proposes an increase of 28.6 million cubic yards of airspace which would bring the landfill's approved capacity to 37.7 million cubic yards. (Currently, the landfill's filled volume is approximately 511,250 cubic yards, though it was previously approved to occupy 9.1 million cubic yards.)

Additionally, the company is seeking to increase the authorized maximum daily waste receipt from 5,000 tons to 8,000 tons. If the landfill took in 8,000 tons of waste per day, it would take 11.5 years to fill. However, at the anticipated average of 2,000 tons of waste per day, the life expectancy of the landfill is estimated at 46 years.

The landfill design includes a composite liner; leachate collection (i.e., the water that has come in contact with buried landfill wastes); surface water management; ground water monitoring; and final closure cap. The permit also would incorporate 30 years of post-closure care and financial assurance for closure and post-closure care.

### **Draft Permits**

Ohio EPA has issued a draft modification to the landfill's current wastewater discharge permit since the surface area contributing storm water runoff to the sedimentation pond will change. The current sedimentation pond, discharge quality and outfall locations would remain the same. In the short term, the surface water discharge would be the same as under the current permit. The total area draining to the pond discharge point eventually would increase from a proposed 192 acres (as in the current permit) to about 199 acres. The area draining to the sediment pond would include the cap area of the landfill, stockpile areas to the west of the landfill and support areas to the south of the existing landfill.

The draft wastewater permit limits discharges of pollutants into Rush Creek. The discharges may result in a change from current water quality conditions, but they cannot cause violations of water quality standards that protect human health and the environment.

The [draft air permit](#) establishes allowable emissions from unpaved roadways and parking areas, the municipal solid waste landfill and rail unloading areas based on an anticipated increase in the waste acceptance rate. The draft air permit also establishes requirements for landfill gas collection and control.

### **Public Comment Period**

In addition to oral comments provided at the May 11 public meeting, Ohio EPA will equally consider written comments received through Wednesday, May 18, 2011. Interested parties can send comments to Kimberly Reese at [Kim.Reese@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:Kim.Reese@epa.ohio.gov), Systems Management Unit, Ohio EPA, DSIWM, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, OH 43216-1049.

The draft air permit is online at [http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/permits\\_issued/456895.pdf](http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/permits_issued/456895.pdf). Copies of the other draft permits and related materials are available for review at Ohio EPA's Southeast District Office (2195 Front Street, Logan, Ohio 43138) by first calling (740) 385-8501 or (800) 686-7330. Interested parties also may write to Ohio EPA at the Logan address for more information.