



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region



Linda S. Adams  
Cal/EPA Secretary

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013  
Phone (213) 576-6600 FAX (213) 576-6640 - Internet Address: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles>

Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

September 2, 2008

Khalil M. Gharios, Division Manager  
Solid Resources Processing and Construction Division  
City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation  
1149 S. Broadway, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

### **PARTIAL APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO FINAL CLOSURE PLAN -LOPEZ CANYON SANITARY LANDFILL, LAKE VIEW TERRACE, CALIFORNIA (FILE NO. 69-068, ORDER NO. R4-2004-0176, CI-5636)**

Dear Mr. Gharios:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board), has received from the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation (BOS) a document titled *Revision IV, Volume IV of IV Replacement, Amendment to Final Closure Plan, Lopez Canyon Sanitary Landfill, Lake View Terrace, California* (Amendment to FCP), prepared by Geosyntec Consultants, dated July 31, 2008, and received by the Regional Board on August 8, 2008. The Amendment to FCP was submitted in response to a Notice of Violation (NOV) that was issued to BOS by the Regional Board Executive Officer on May 22, 2008, for missing the deadline of final closure for the Lopez Canyon Sanitary Landfill (Landfill).

The Landfill, which is regulated under waste discharge requirements (WDRs) adopted by this Regional Board on December 13, 2004 (Order No. R4-2004-0176), is a Class III municipal solid waste disposal facility that was operated from October 1975 to July 1996. The 166-acre disposal area of the Landfill is divided into four sub-areas known as Disposal Areas A, B, AB+, and C. According to a Final Closure Plan that was approved in the WDRs, Disposal Area C and the slopes of the Disposal Area B would be closed with prescriptive covers specified in Section 21090(a) of California Code of Regulations, Title 27 (27 CCR), while the other areas of the Landfill would be closed with an engineered alternative final cover, which consists a monolithic soil layer at least five feet thick, as allowed in Sections 20080(b) and (c) of 27 CCR. Section C.3. of the WDRs requires that "*Unless otherwise approved by the Executive Officer, the Discharger shall complete all final closure construction activities at the Landfill no later than May 9, 2008.*" To date, final cover construction at Disposal Areas A, B, and the deck of Area AB+ has been completed, while the final cover construction at Disposal Area C and part of Disposal Area AB+ slope has not been completed.

The Amendment to FCP includes a revised final cover design for Area C that consists of an evapo-transpirative (ET) cover that is similar to the monolithic cover that has been constructed at Areas A, B, and AB+ of the Landfill, instead of the currently approved 27 CCR prescriptive cover system, a revised stability evaluation for Area C that reflects the proposed ET cover, an updated financial closure cost estimate, and a revised final closure schedule to complete final closure at the Landfill by December 2010. In addition, the Amendment of FCP mentioned that a truck driver training academy would be constructed and operated on top of the closed Landfill.

Mr. Khalil Gharios  
Lopez Canyon Sanitary Landfill

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September 2, 2008

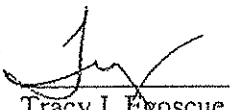
We have reviewed the information provided and partially approve the Amendment to FCP as follows:

1. The proposed ET cover for Area C meets the requirement in Sections 20080(b) and (c) of 27 CCR for engineered alternatives and is hereby approved in accordance with Section C.8. of the WDRs, which requires that *"Design specifications, including any alternative design proposal meeting the prescriptive standards and/or performance goals of 27 CCR, are subject to the Executive Officer's review and approval prior to construction of any containment structure"*;
2. The proposed completion date of December 31, 2010 for final closure of the Landfill is hereby approved; and
3. The proposed truck driver training academy at the Landfill is **not** approved for the following reasons:
  - a. The Regional Board has not received any document prepared under the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) that addresses the environmental impact of such a facility; and
  - b. The Amendment to FCP did not provide any information on how such a facility would be constructed and operated.

Please be advised that, in accordance with 27 CCR, Section 21860(a), the City of Los Angeles Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) also must concur with the Amendment to FCP and the California Integrated Waste Management Board also must approve the amendment before its implementation.

Should you have any questions, please contact Dr. Wen Yang at (213) 620-2253.

Sincerely,

  
Tracy J. Egoscue  
Executive Officer

cc: Peter Jan, Remediation, Closure and Technical Assistance Branch, CIWMB  
David Thompson, Department of Environmental Affairs, City of Los Angeles (LEA)  
Yonas Zemuy, Geosyntec Consultants, Huntington Beach  
Marlene Rader, Resident of Sunland