

Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill Expansion Fact Sheet

General Information

The Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill property is owned by the City & County of Honolulu. Waste Management of Hawaii is contracted by the City to manage and operate the landfill.

Location

The landfill is located in Kapolei on the Leeward side of Oahu in Waimanalo Gulch, Kahe Valley (see map) at:

92-460 Farrington Hwy.
Kapolei, HI 96707



Size of Landfill

The Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill property is approximately 200 acres. About half of the property is permitted for landfilling and support operations.

The City & County of Honolulu expansion proposal requests use of the remaining space within the property so that it can meet the municipal landfill needs of all of the communities of our island. An Environmental Impact Statement and new permits will be filed to utilize this space.

Waste Intake

The landfill accepts two types of refuse: municipal solid waste (MSW), which is waste generated by residential, commercial, some military and agricultural activities; and H-POWER ash and residue, a by-product of incinerating waste to generate electricity.

The island of Oahu produces more than 1.74 million tons of MSW a year. The Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill accepts about 300,000 tons of MSW and about 100,000 tons of ash and residue from H-POWER annually.

Landfill Expansion

Based on a process initiated by the previous administration, potential landfill sites were evaluated by several groups including the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection, the Department of Environmental Services, Honolulu City Council and the City Administration. Through this process, the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill emerged as the most viable site for Oahu's landfill needs.

The present Solid Waste Operating Permit and the State Special Use Permit will expire in 2008; however, the physical potential of the landfill site could be used past the 2008 timeframe if the required permits are obtained from the regulatory agencies.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process

The EIS process for utilizing the remaining space is scheduled to take about a year to complete and should be finished by mid-2007. During this process there will be several opportunities for the public to express their concerns regarding issues that should be addressed in the EIS. The City has already held public scoping meetings for this purpose and plans to hold additional public meetings to inform and advise the community about the project.

Landfill Regulations

Operation of the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill is primarily regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency and the State Department of Health. The Solid Waste Operating Permit, the State Special Use Permit, and the project EIS, are the major regulatory documents that the City will file to meet and ensure the safe operation of the facility.

Landfill Operations

Waste Management of Hawaii, is a partner with the City to provide safe, reliable and efficient waste disposal services for Oahu and continues to work closely with both the City and the State Hawaii Department of Health to improve how the landfill is managed.

Current activities to improve the landfill's operations and aesthetics include the expanded use of moveable fences to catch windblown litter; the hiring of employees to specifically remove litter that has escaped from active work areas; the daily covering of soil at the end of each work day over all working areas of the landfill to minimize odor, litter and vector problems; hydroseeding approximately 20 acres of the landfill in Spring 2006; and the scheduling of additional hydroseeding that will occur in the Fall.