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New Solid Waste Transfer Station: Moving Right Along

Friday, October 27, 2006

Several residents have asked in recent weeks: "What's happening with the closure of the landfill and the construction of a new transfer station?"

While there may not have been much news that was apparent to the public this summer, the short answer is that this project for our new "Eco Station" is in the 90% design phase. The project design plans have been progressing well; however, one update to share with the public is that the project schedule has been extended and the construction cost estimate has increased. During 70% design, County staff discovered that there was a LANL utility duct bank running under the designed locations for the new buildings. It was determined that working around the duct would require significant redesign, a permit modification and loss of use of 25% of the site. Because of this discovery, the project expects to pay approximately \$500,000 to relocate the duct bank. With contingency and utility work, the new estimate for construction is \$4,800,000. The debt service on this new cost estimate represents an increase of approximately 4% in annual operating costs. This increase will be absorbed by the fees that were adopted in March 2006. The project team has also determined that a 12-month construction cycle is more realistic than the previously scheduled 8 months. Construction is currently estimated to begin in May 2007 and be completed in June 2008. The landfill has disposal capacity to support the community through that date.

As a side note: the new landfill scale entrance was recently opened. The new entrance is about 200 yards east of the old entrance. This relocation was made necessary by the DOE/NNSA's Security Perimeter Project.

Stop by the Municipal Building and view the display poster of the Eco Station!

Contact the Webmaster