



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO

GOVERNOR

MIKE D. McDANIEL, Ph.D.

SECRETARY

For Immediate Release

March 28, 2007

Contact: Rodney Mallett

Telephone: 225.219.3964

DEQ requires changes, approves permit modification for Slidell Landfill

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has approved a permit modification for the Slidell Landfill, though there are some changes from the original request submitted in 2004.

Slidell Landfill's original request was to increase the height of the landfill to 125 feet, and that was revised in 2006 to 85 feet. DEQ is allowing the maximum landfill height of 65 feet, which is its current height. Based on the permit application approved by DEQ, the landfill will fill an area between the old Slidell Landfill and two cells at the current operating landfill up to its current height.

As part of the permit approval, DEQ also set a closure date. The facility must cease accepting waste before Jan. 31, 2010. The final closure activities must be completed by May of the same year. This would allow "the facility sufficient time to reach proper grades and slopes for the purpose of closure and for the parish to find an alternate disposal for construction and demolition debris generated in the parish," according to DEQ's written basis for decision.

Two other conditions have to do with the operational issues. The facility will have a minimum of two spotters at the operating area to ensure that only waste that falls under the landfill's permit is disposed of at the site. Also, a Compliance Evaluation Form will be submitted by the facility to DEQ weekly.

Because the landfill was removed from DEQ's emergency declaration on March 20, Slidell Landfill will only be able to accept construction and demolition material that is in the original definition and not the emergency, hurricane-related definition of C and D. In other words, the waste stream reverts back to the same as it was before Hurricane Katrina made landfall and the emergency declaration was issued.

In the basis for decision, DEQ discussed the land use of the landfill, as well as air quality and water quality issues.

The complete basis for decision is available at www.deq.louisiana.gov

--30--

DEQ COMMUNICATIONS
WWW.DEQ.LOUISIANA.GOV