

## FACT SHEET



### INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

## Elkhart County Landfill Major Modification

Office of Land Quality – Solid Waste Permits

(317) 232-8603 • (800) 451-6027

[www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)

100 N. Senate Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46204

### Background:

- Elkhart County Landfill is a permitted municipal solid waste landfill (SW Program ID 20-04) located at 59530 County Road 7 South in Elkhart County, Indiana, south of the City of Elkhart. The landfill is owned and operated by County of Elkhart c/o Board of Elkhart County Commissioners.
- The approximately 430-acre site has been operated as a sanitary landfill since 1974. The site includes 73.1 acres closed in 1992, and 126.9 acres of permitted and currently operating landfill area.
- On July 24, 2020, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) received an application (VFC #83023098) for a major modification concerning the vertical expansion of the landfill.
- The proposed vertical expansion includes a 'piggyback' area to be constructed on and within the closed portion of the landfill and consists of eight cells (PB-1 to PB-8), totaling 43.1 additional acres.
- The proposed piggyback area includes a new base liner to be constructed on top of a portion of the closed landfill. The vertical expansion consists of an additional vertical airspace over the piggyback area and the adjoining 126.9-acre active landfill area.
- The proposed vertical expansion capacity is calculated to be approximately 13.2 million gross cubic yards, or 7.4 million tons of capacity.

### IDEM's Role

- IDEM is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while providing for safe industrial, agricultural, commercial, and governmental operations vital to a prosperous economy.
- IDEM's Office of Land Quality is responsible for reviewing modifications to permitted landfills. Engineers and geologists evaluate design drawings and operating plans to ensure they meet or exceed the rule requirements before granting an approval or modifications to an approval.
- In addition to issuing approvals that comply with federal and state environmental regulations designed to protect public health and the environment, IDEM is also responsible for overseeing permitted activities and monitoring compliance at permitted facilities.
- IDEM will ensure all submitted materials related to the municipal solid waste landfill are publicly available through IDEM's Virtual File Cabinet (VFC).

### Citizen's Role

- You can review the application and related correspondence online at IDEM's Virtual File Cabinet (VFC) web site using the following steps:
  - Go to <http://vfc.idem.IN.gov/>, which is the VFC's "Document Search" page.
  - Once there, click on the **Alternate Field** dropdown menu.
  - Select **SW Program ID**.
  - Enter the SW Program ID, **20-04** in the **ID #** box to the right of the **Alternate Field** menu.
  - Click the **I'm not a robot** checkbox and wait until a green checkmark appears.
  - Click the **Search** button, which produces one or more links to the documents for this facility.
  - To find and review the permit decision, click the highlighted numbers in the **Doc #** column to view individual documents.
  - Click on the **x out of y Pages** dropdown menu to view additional pages with document links.
- Comments may be addressed to Kira Wren, the Solid Waste Permit Manager assigned to this facility, at the following address:

**Kira Wren, Permit Manager  
Indiana Department of Environmental Management  
Office of Land Quality  
Solid Waste Permits  
IGCN 1101  
100 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251**

Comments may also be submitted by email to Kira Wren at [KWren@idem.IN.gov](mailto:KWren@idem.IN.gov).

- All comments are due by **February 25, 2021**.
- When IDEM makes a final decision about the major modification, a Notice of Decision will be mailed to owners of land within one mile of the facility, individuals who submitted comments with a return address, and individuals who requested notification.

#### **Additional Information**

- You can direct questions to Kira Wren at 317-233-7090 or [KWren@idem.IN.gov](mailto:KWren@idem.IN.gov).
- For more information about activities managed through IDEM Solid Waste Permits Section, please visit IDEM's website at [www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov).