

DEQ Public Hearing  
Thursday, March 31, 2011  
7:00 pm.  
Nansemond River High School

Listed below are several comments regarding questions or statements that were made during the Public Hearing portion of the public hearing.

1. **Selling the Landfill** – The Suffolk City Council must approve any sale of the landfill if one were to take place. No decision has been made by the SPSA Board regarding this issue.

2. **Out of state waste in the Landfill** - The landfill is not permitted to accept “out of state waste” so none can be deposited in it. DEQ would have to change the permit and the City of Suffolk would likely have a voice in the matter as well.

3. **Trees Cut Down** – The property where the trees were cut down is not owned by SPSA; rather, it is owned by a private citizen.

4. **Recycling** – SPSA does not participate in residential or business recycling other than white goods and household hazardous waste. Private companies provide the disposal service for or purchase the metals from SPSA. Recycling is a now a City issue.

5. **Trash Along Roads** – Trash is picked up through an arrangement that SPSA has with the Regional Jail. The Regional Jail is a great supporter of this effort and they do a very fine job. It should be remembered that SPSA is not the only waste hauler or carrier that uses the Landfill, transfer station or Rt. 58. But SPSA does have all the waste picked up when the Regional Jail crews perform the work.

6. **Impact to Suffolk** – At \$145 per ton, which is the current municipal rate paid by 6 of the members of SPSA (Suffolk pays no tipping fee), the estimate this year is that the landfill saves the citizens of Suffolk approx \$5.8 million. Suffolk residents don't have to pay for the “disposal” of waste collected by the City. But they do pay the City for the collection of the waste by the City. Over the years since 1985 the Landfill has saved City taxpayers many millions of dollars.

It should be remembered that Mt Trashmore fronts on the road leading into Virginia Beach. Mr. Trashmore was a landfill at one time. SPSA is required to provide a landscaping plan and the implementation of that plan when the Landfill is no longer in use.

7. **Other landfills in the area -**  
Chesapeake – Higginson Buchanan  
Portsmouth – Craney Island  
VB Landfill and a privately owned new C&D Landfill in front of the VB landfill  
Bethel

Waverly

8. **Responsibility for Odors** was never denied by SPSA. SPSA pointed out that there were other contributors to the odors at times that were not landfill related. From the beginning SPSA has taken many steps and spent considerable funds to limit or reduce the odors that may be coming from the landfill.
9. **Landfill Gas System** – A system has been installed for many years (since the early 1990s) and has been added to over the years). Gas has been drawn from the currently used Cell VI since just before October 1, 2010, which is approx. 2 years before it was required by state law. Gas is currently being burned, conveyed to BASF and used to make electricity. A permit for a new flare which can handle more gas has been submitted for approval to DEQ.
10. **Public Health Threat** - Based on an engineering study completed last year and involved air samplings from the Nansemond Parkway neighborhoods, the study concluded that there were no gases being released which pose a health threat to residents.