

Officer responsible Waste Manager	Author Mike Stockwell, Waste Manager
Corporate Plan Output: Solid Waste	

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress towards the establishment of a Regional Canterbury Landfill.

BACKGROUND

Councillors will be aware that Christchurch City Council in partnership with five other Canterbury Territorial Authorities (Waimakariri, Hurunui, Banks Peninsula, Selwyn and Ashburton, i.e. the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee) have formed a joint venture company (i.e. Transwaste Canterbury Ltd), with Waste Management Ltd and Envirowaste Services Ltd (i.e. Canterbury Waste Services Ltd).

The primary operative for Transwaste Canterbury Ltd (TCL) is to find a site for a new Regional Landfill, gain a Resource Consent, construct and operate the Landfill and transport waste from territorial local authorities transfer stations to this landfill.

This project began in early 1996 with the formation of the Canterbury Waste Joint Standing Committee (now the Canterbury Joint Standing Committee) and it is now at the point where the joint venture company TCL has completed its search for a site and is ready to announce a preferred site location.

NEXT STEPS

Transwaste Canterbury Ltd has indicated that the favoured site location for the Regional Landfill is likely to be announced sometime in the week starting 11 October 1999. This follows in depth consideration of around 25 possible sites that were identified by the company in the Canterbury region during extensive investigations by a team of experts covering disciplines including engineering, hydrology, geology, environmental science and so on.

Following announcement of a favoured site the company will undertake intensive detailed scientific investigations and public consultation to produce an Assessment of Environmental Effects for the favoured site (AEE). Dependent upon a positive AEE, a resource consent application will then be made for the favoured site in terms of the Resource Management Act with the usual provision for public submissions, hearings and appeals etc.

The earliest practicable time a resource consent application could occur is mid 2000, with the actual resource consent process itself taking another 12 to 24 months after that.

Allowing six months for construction of the first cell gives an earliest startup time for the new landfill of sometime between mid 2002 and mid 2003, (AEE preparation nine months, resource consent 12 to 24 months, cell construction six months). All of this assumes that the AEE for the favoured site proves suitable for progressing through to a resource consent application. If not, then another site will have to be sought extending the timeframe further.

WHO IS HANDLING THE SITE SEARCH AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Our commercial joint venture partner Canterbury Waste Services (WML & ESC) are handling the site search and associated public relations. If Councillors or staff wish to know more about this they should contact Gareth James, General Manager of Canterbury Waste Services (025 819 236) or Chris Rennie of Price Rennie (03 355 4535).

SUMMARY

The announcement of a favoured site for the Canterbury Regional Landfill is likely to be made by Transwaste Canterbury Ltd in the week starting 11 October 1999. This will be followed by preparation of an AEE for the site and (if this is favourable) followed by resource consent application in terms of the Resource Management Act. Allowing for AEE preparation, resource consent procedures and first landfill cell construction leads to an earliest landfill opening date of sometime between mid 2002 and mid 2003.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.