

Waimanalo Gulch Landfill Expansion  
Community Meetings  
Responses to Questions and Comments

The following questions/comments were raised by community members at the **July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting at Ben Parker Elementary School**. Responses were provided by the Department of Environmental Services except where noted.

- C:** Using blue bin for green waste when it is not big enough to accommodate what home owners previously left on the curb for pickup leads to green waste that previously did not go to the landfill ending up in the landfill – need to do something about that.
- A:** Households have the option of using their gray refuse bin as a second green waste bin, when needed. Also, the City is delivering additional 96-gallon green bins to households with large amounts of green waste.
- Q:** How does the DEIS tie-in with the comprehensive Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan?
- A:** A comprehensive integrated solid waste management plan should include a waste stream assessment component, a source reduction component, a recycling and bioconversion component, an energy-balance component, a special waste component, a household hazardous waste component, a public education and information component, a landfill and incineration component, a marketing and procurement of materials component, a program implementation component and a program funding component (Section 342G-25, Hawaii Revised Statutes). The City's next plan will fulfill the State requirements. The timing of the EIS for Waimanalo Gulch Expansion and the Solid Waste Integrated Management Plan (SWIMP) Update may be different; however, the SWIMP will recognize the continued need for solid waste landfill capacity. The goal of the SWIMP is to reduce the volume of waste going to landfill.
- Q:** The problem is facilities management now – what is being done to improve that?
- Answer provided by Waste Management of Hawaii.
- A:** For nearly two decades, Waste Management of Hawaii has been a partner with the City to provide safe, reliable and efficient waste disposal services to Oahu. Waste Management has been working closely with the City and County of Honolulu and the Hawaii Department of Health to improve operational practices at the Landfill. Waste Management of Hawaii has implemented many Best Management Practices that have greatly improved the Landfill's aesthetics and operations, including moveable fences to catch windblown litter and employees hired specifically to manage litter. Daily cover soil is placed at the end of each workday. Hydro seeding was completed over approximately 20 acres of the landfill in the spring of 2006 and more will be done in the fall.

- Q:** Is it possible for us to submit our comments or questions via the website?  
**A:** The City requests that all comments outside of those made at the scoping meetings be submitted in writing to maintain the integrity of the public comment process.
- C:** Yes, landowners and developers knew about the landfill, but they were given a closure date when they bought their property and this date has been extended and now is being proposed to be extended yet again. Why is this?  
More research is being done before an answer can be provided.
- Q:** What is the status of the EPA violations?  
Answer provided by Waste Management of Hawaii.
- A:** In the summer of 2005, WM installed a new management team in charge of managing its operations throughout the State of Hawaii. Waste Management's new team immediately began a thorough audit of all its operations. In August of 2005 WM notified the EPA of the items of non-compliance that have been subsequently noted in the EPA's Notice of Violation (NOV). Upon submitting this self-reported notice, Waste Management immediately began the process of correcting outstanding compliance issues. WM is in discussions with the EPA at this time.
- Q:** What is the status of other public and private landfill operations and proposed sites?  
**A:** The only State-permitted public operating landfill is Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill. The only State-permitted private landfill is PVT Landfill which accepts construction and demolition wastes. The City Department of Planning and Permitting has received the EIS Preparation Notice for Nanakuli B.
- Q:** Has the ash exceeded the required limits?  
Answer provided by Waste Management of Hawaii.
- A:** Waste Management and the City and County of Honolulu are working with regulatory agencies on revised grading plans for the ash monofill.
- Q:** How long will expansion take and how many acres will expansion take?  
How will the mix issues be addressed?  
This issue will be addressed in the DEIS.
- C:** Why weren't meeting notices posted on internet website.  
**A:** Meeting notices were previously posted and will be posted at [www.opala.org](http://www.opala.org)
- Q:** Will the comment deadline be changed since the 7/28/06 Kapolei Hale meeting is being changed to 8/10/06?  
**A:** Yes. The comments deadline has been changed to 8/30/06.

**Q:** Are food wastes taken to the landfill?

**A:** Some, including outdated product. Food wastes are taken to pig farms and to the rendering plant.

**Q:** Restaurant oil is being recycled into fuel on Maui. Are you looking into this?

**A:** Pacific Biodiesel on Oahu processes cooking oil into biodiesel fuel. This is the same company as on Maui.