



Case Study

Sunshine Canyon Landfill Permitting & Entitlements

Background

The Sunshine Canyon Landfill property straddles the City and County of Los Angeles boundary in San Fernando Valley. The City side of the property began accepting Los Angeles area waste in 1958. These operations ceased in 1991, and five years later, operations began on the County side of the property. In 1999 the City approved reopening operations on its side of the boundary line. Once the City side was operational in 2005, there were two separate landfills in operation. Bringing the City side back into operation was an important step in combining the two separate operations into a single, efficient landfill that would serve Countywide residents and businesses for at least the next 25 years.

DEI Scope of Work

DEI was hired to (1) coordinate engineering and project efforts for the development of the landfill's infrastructure to combine the City and County sides of the site; (2) obtain the permits required by city, state and federal agencies to reopen the City side of the landfill after the 1999 approval; and (3) implement the approvals process to bring the County side into conformance between the County's 1993 CUP and the City's 1999 approvals, leading the way to joining the two separate operations into a single operation.

DEI Tasks

DEI was responsible for the following work tasks:

- Managed and produced the reports and approval activities to obtain a replacement CUP from the LA County Board of Supervisors that provided conformance between the County's 1993 CUP and the City's 1999 approvals, laying the foundation for a combined landfilling operation
- Obtained all the City side permits and approvals required by City, State and Federal agencies including: Solid Waste Facilities Permit; Waste Discharge Requirements; 401 Certification; 404 Permit; 1603 Agreement; and 1150.1 Permit
- Managed: (1) all the City-required transportation system improvements; (2) clearance by a Technical Advisory Committee; (3) hiring of independent City monitors to review air quality reports; and (4) compliance with all conditions of the 1999 City zone change
- Produced reports and presentations to regulatory agencies, and served as client spokesperson at public hearings and agency presentations including: California Integrated Waste Management Board; LA Regional Water Quality Control Board; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; California Department of Fish and Game; South Coast Air Quality Management District; and City of Los Angeles Planning Department

Results

- All approvals and permits for the City side of the landfill were received in July 2005 and operations were restarted on the City side of the property.
- Approval for a replacement CUP by the County Board of Supervisors was granted on February 6, 2007.
- The landfill has been operating as a joint City/County landfill since 2008.