

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENT**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF TAOS REGIONAL LANDFILL BOARD  
FOR A SOLID WASTE FACILITY PERMIT  
MODIFICATION AND PERMIT REVIEW  
FOR THE TAOS REGIONAL LANDFILL**

**No. SWB 14-27(P)**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**Description of the Requested Action:** The New Mexico Environment Department (“Department”) will hold a public hearing to consider the matter of the application by Taos Regional Landfill Board (“Applicant”) for modification of the Taos Regional Landfill (TRLF) permit. The permit application was initially submitted to the Department on July 21, 2011. The Department is also providing notice of the review of the current solid waste facility permit. Information required for the permit review was submitted to the Department on June 23, 2011.

**Hearing Date, Time, and Location:** The hearing will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 15, 2015 in the Town of Taos Council Chambers, 120 Civic Plaza Dr., Taos, New Mexico. Public comment will be taken starting at 5:30 p.m. on January 15 and as additionally determined by the Hearing Officer. The hearing may continue on the following day(s) as determined by the Hearing Officer. In lieu of verbal public comments, written statements may be submitted for the record at, or prior to, the hearing.

The application for a solid waste facility permit modification has been reviewed by the Department for compliance with the New Mexico Solid Waste Act (“Act”) and the New Mexico Solid Waste Rules (20.9.2 to 20.9.10 NMAC). The Department deemed the application complete on December 9, 2014. The Secretary of Environment shall issue, issue with conditions, or deny solid waste facility permit modifications in accordance with the Act. The Secretary of Environment considers all public comments, including issues relating to public health and welfare, in his decision to issue, issue with conditions, or deny the permit modification.

**Name, Address, and Phone Number of the Applicant and Contact Person:**

Applicant/Owner of Taos Regional Landfill:  
Taos Regional Landfill Board  
c/o Town of Taos  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571  
Contact Person: Mr. Francisco Espinoza  
Phone: (575) 751-2047

**Anticipated Start-Up Date of Facility Modification and Hours of Operation:**

- (a) Anticipated Start-Up Date: TRLF is an existing solid waste facility operating under permit no. SWM-109103 issued in August 2001. If approved, the anticipated start-up date for the permit modification is the date of permit modification issuance, and activities pursuant to the permit modification are anticipated to begin in mid-2015.
- (b) Hours of Operation: TRLF operating hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; public access is limited to 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays. The current permit prohibits the operation of earth moving equipment, compactors, or solid waste collection vehicles before 7:00 a.m. or after 6:00 p.m. each day, unless necessary to apply daily cover on the working face or in an emergency situation.

**Description of the Facility:**

- (a) Location and Size: TRLF is located in Taos County at 24670 U.S. Highway 64 approximately seven miles northwest of the Town of Taos. The facility is located within projected Sections 34 and 35, Township 26 North, Range 12 East NMPM. The facility is 230 acres in size with approximately 100 acres intended for waste disposal. Under the current permit, 47.7 acres of the facility are presently authorized for waste disposal.
- (b) General Process: TRLF currently receives municipal solid waste, including construction and demolition debris (C&D), green waste, and tires from commercial haulers and the public. Solid waste is placed and compacted in lined cells that are served by environmental control systems (leachate collection, methane monitoring, groundwater monitoring, stormwater management controls, composite liners). At the end of each working day, the working face of the waste disposal area is covered with at least six inches of soil or an alternative daily cover approved by the Department. Limited recycling (scrap metal, white goods) is currently conducted at the facility. The pending application proposes permit modification to allow disposal of one special waste (sludge) in the lined cells.
- (c) Quantity and Rate of Solid Waste: TRLF received approximately 32,000 tons of solid waste in 2013, but the solid waste rate is expected to increase in future years. TRLF is seeking approval to accept one special waste (sludge). If approved, TRLF would accept sludge from the Town of Taos Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The WWTP presently generates approximately 3,200 to 6,000 tons of sludge per year (2,920 to 5,475 cubic yards of sludge per year).
- (d) Types of Solid Waste: TRLF is currently authorized to accept municipal solid waste (including C&D, green waste, and tires) and select recyclable materials (scrap metal, white goods). In addition to these wastes, TRLF is seeking a permit modification to accept sludge (a special waste).
- (e) Description of the Modification: TRLF is seeking permit modification for disposal of sludge, a special waste.

**Origin of Waste:** At present, all waste received by TRLF originates from Taos County. If the permit modification is approved, TRLF will accept sludge from the Town of Taos WWTP.

**Permit Review:** The Department is conducting a ten-year permit review in conjunction with review of the permit modification application. The Applicant submitted information required by 20.9.3.24 NMAC. The information addresses facility operations, compliance history, environmental monitoring results, applicant disclosure statements, and financial assurance. Comments on the permit review may be provided to the Department's Solid Waste Bureau (see address and telephone number below) prior to the hearing on the permit modification application or may be provided at the hearing.

**Hearing Procedures:** The public hearing will be conducted in accordance with the Permit Procedures of the Environment Department (20.1.4 NMAC), which may be obtained at no charge from the Hearing Clerk, Sally Worthington, P.O. Box 5469, 1190 St. Francis Drive, S-2103, Santa Fe, NM 87502, telephone 505-827-2002, fax 505-827-2836. The Permit Procedures are also available electronically at:  
<http://www.nmcp.state.nm.us/nmac/parts/title20/20.001.0004.htm>. Copies of the applicable Solid Waste Rules (20.9.2 through 20.9.10 NMAC) may also be obtained electronically at:  
[http://www.nmcp.state.nm.us/nmac/\\_title20/T20C009.htm](http://www.nmcp.state.nm.us/nmac/_title20/T20C009.htm) or by contacting George Schuman of the Solid Waste Bureau at (505) 827-2328.

Persons may speak at the public hearing or submit general written comments without filing any documents beforehand. However, any person wishing to be an interested party or present technical testimony at the hearing must file an Entry of Appearance or Statement of Intent to Present Technical Testimony with the Hearing Clerk and serve it upon other parties of record, on or before 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 31, 2014. Technical testimony means scientific, engineering, economic or other specialized testimony, whether oral or

written, but does not include legal argument, general comments or statements of policy concerning matters at issue in the hearing.

In accordance with 20.1.4 NMAC, the Statement of Intent to Present Technical Testimony shall:

- a) identify the person filing the statement;
- b) state whether the person filing the statement supports or opposes the application;
- c) identify each witness, including name, address, affiliation(s), and educational and work background;
- d) estimate how long the direct testimony of each witness will take;
- e) identify all exhibits that are part of the Record Proper and, for exhibits not part of the Record Proper, attach a copy;
- f) list or make available all technical materials relied upon by each witness in making each statement of technical fact or opinion contained in his or her direct testimony; and
- g) attach a summary of the testimony of each witness, stating any opinion(s) to be offered by such witness, and an explanation of the basis for such opinion(s).

To promote efficiency and fairness, and to avoid prejudice and surprise, a person's direct technical testimony at the hearing shall be limited to the data, views and arguments raised in that person's filed Statement of Intent. Submittal of a Statement of Intent to Present Technical Testimony shall also be considered an Entry of Appearance.

If any person requires assistance, an interpreter, or auxiliary aid to participate in this process, please contact Mr. J.C. Borrego by Wednesday, December 31, 2014 at the New Mexico Environment Department, Human Resources Bureau, P.O. Box 5469, 1190 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM, 87502, telephone 505-827-0424. TDD or TDY users should access Mr. Borrego's number through the New Mexico Relay Network (TDY users at 1-800-659-8331; TDD users at 1-800-659-1779).

The permit modification application and permit review documentation may be reviewed at the following locations:

New Mexico Environment Department, Solid Waste Bureau, 1190 South St. Francis Drive, Suite N-2150, Santa Fe, NM 87502; Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Contact John Offersen at 505-827-2385.

New Mexico Environment Department, Taos Field Office, 145 Roy Rd., Suite B, Taos, NM 87571 (phone: 575-758-8808).