

1. INTRODUCTION

On June 9, 2014, We conducted the annual inspection of the closed, de-listed CertainTeed Pile, also known as Operable Unit 2, of the Ambler Asbestos Superfund Site. The inspection focused on post-closure maintenance requirements, as specified in the site post closure plan and included inspection of:

- . access areas and access controls:
- . erosion controls;
- . the fill pile cover material; and
- . the vegetative cover of the fill pile.

The 2014 inspection was the Twelfth inspection since the most recent five-year report, which had been prepared by ELM in 2002.

2. JUNE 2014 SITE INSPECTION

We completed the site inspection on June 9, 2014, which focused on the maintenance aspects of the Site Post-Closure Plan, as defined in the ensuing sections.

2.1 Access Areas and Access Controls

All access areas, including roadways and paths, need maintenance to ensure authorized access. In addition to the roadways and paths which provide access directly to the fill area, there is also an access road to a PECO electrical substation which is at the southeast corner of the pile. That access road was cleared of obstructions and overgrowth.

All access controls, including the fencing, gates and warning signs are intact. The section of fence along the rail line, as well as the fence in the southwest corner of the landfill, have had all trees and vines removed from them. All damaged sections of fence have been repaired.

The locks at the fence gates along the southern fence line are in good condition. The keys are kept by U.S. EPA, PADEP, the Ambler Sewer Authority, which operates a waste water treatment plant south of the site, and DC Ambler Properties LLC. A lock is also maintained on the gate leading to the PECO access road, the key to which is also held by PECO. All gates are in operating order.

2.2. Erosion Controls

Erosion controls include the vegetative cover (addressed separately below), the hard structure Slope protection (rip rap) on the southern toe of the fill pile slope and hard armored stream erosion controls (gabions) which prevent the erosion of the stream banks during high flows and eliminate the potential for undercutting of the toe of the southern fill pile slope. Both the slope toe protection and the stream bank stabilizing hard structures are in excellent condition with no need for maintenance.

Rip Rap

During the maintenance activities of 2013, trees and other deep-rooted vegetation were cleared from the rip rap and adjacent slopes. We removed all trees from side slopes during 2010 maintenance. Only small vegetation was visible in rip rap and was removed.

Gabions

During the June 2014 inspection, there was no accumulated sediment in the eastern region of Stuart Farm Creek within the armored reach of the stream. . The debris that do accumulate are removed during the course of monthly maintenance.

2.3. Fill Pile Cover Material

The fill pile cover consists of a permeable soil cover with an overlying geotextile net which served to stabilize the slope until the vegetative cover (see below) became established. We inspected the soil cover to determine whether there were any areas where surface water Run-off has resulted in erosion rills, channels or gullies.

At the time of the 2014 inspection, no notable erosions rill, channels or gullies were observed on the sides of the fill pile.

We also inspected the top and perimeter of the fill pile for depressions that could result in cracking of the cover material. No evidence of surficial cracking was observed in the cover material. Consequently, there is a very low potential for the rainwater depressions to affect the integrity of the fill pile cap. Maintenance of the fill pile cover material is not necessary at this time.

2.4. Vegetative Cover

The entire pile is blanketed with a dense, healthy vegetative cover consisting of some rye grasses, crown vetch, and some volunteer species, which will ultimately succeed the vetch. The vegetative cover is in sound condition and satisfies its functions as a stabilizer of the cover soil.

2.4.1. Trees

During the 2014 inspection, all trees and vines that had been observed in the fence line in the previous inspection had been cleared.

Most of the trees on the side slopes have been removed.

2.4.2. Non-Woody Vegetation

As described above, reeds were observed at the northeastern and northwestern areas of the landfill.

During the maintenance activities of 2001, these reed stands had co-established with thick stands of black walnut and sumac saplings. As part of the tree removal operations, the strands of reeds were also cut back. A seed mixture was applied to the cut stand of reeds after trimming. Re-establishment of the reeds is acceptable for the long-term stability of the slopes; therefore no maintenance activity is necessary for this species of flora.

2.5. Additional Observations

The remaining vegetation in the buffer area which is adjacent to the pile is in excellent health and provides a tall visual screen which blocks lines of sight to the fill pile from adjacent areas to the east.

3. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In general, all post-closure systems are in good condition. However, minor maintenance will be necessary at some time within this five-year review period.

**2014 Annual Report
of Post-Closure Inspection of the
Ambler Asbestos Piles
Operable Unit 2
Certain Teed Pile**

Ambler, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania

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