



CONNECTICUT RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY

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CRRA to Close a Second Portion of Hartford Landfill **Contract for Capping of 45-Acre Section to Augment Closure of Part of Ash Area**

HARTFORD, Conn. – A second phase of the final closure of the Hartford landfill is expected to start later this year under a contract awarded by the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority.

The CRRA Board of Directors has approved a contract worth roughly \$12.7 million to R. Bates & Sons Inc. to install a permanent cap on about 45 acres of the landfill's 80-acre main landform where CRRA deposits waste that cannot be turned into electricity at its Mid-Connecticut Project trash-to-energy facility. The project also calls for the construction of a new access road on the southern slope of the landfill.

Under a revised closure plan approved earlier this year by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, CRRA will install a permanent cap on portions of the landfill that have already reached their capacity.

The main southern section of the landfill currently receives two types of material:

- process residue, or non-burnable waste that is screened out of trash delivered to the Hartford trash-to-energy plant; and
- bulky and non-processible waste, or material such as rolls of carpet that is too big to fit through the plant's processing lines.

In years past, the main landform has also received combustor ash produced by the trash-to-energy process. Western portions of the landfill have already reached their permitted capacity and are ready for closure.

“The people of Hartford asked us to close the landfill as quickly as possible and to close it with a state-of-the-art synthetic cap, and that's what we're doing,” said Thomas D. Kirk, CRRA president.

In June, CRRA awarded a \$2.3 million contract to install a permanent cap on 7.2 acres of the landfill's 16-acre ash residue area. CRRA has now contracted for the closure of more than half of the Hartford landfill, more than a year before it accepts its final delivery of waste.

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The landfill cap will include

- an impermeable plastic membrane,
- two layers of protective fabric,
- one layer of engineered drainage material,
- three soil layers designed to protect and provide for drainage and vegetative growth and
- surface drainage channels.

The total thickness of the landfill cap will be a minimum of 24 inches. Grasses and other appropriate types of vegetation will be planted in the topsoil, creating a natural look on the side of the landfill facing Interstate-91.

CRRA's revised closure plan stipulates that no material – ash or other permitted solid waste – will be delivered to the landfill after Dec. 31, 2008.

CRRA has leased the landfill from its owner, the City of Hartford, since 1982. The City opened the landfill in 1940 and operated an incinerator on that site from 1955 to 1976.

Since leasing the landfill, CRRA has installed significant environmental safeguards, including a groundwater flow control system that ensures the landfill does not impact either the Connecticut River or the surrounding groundwater, and a gas collection system, which captures odorous gases created by the decomposition of waste and burns those gases to generate enough electricity to power 1,500 homes.

The Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority is a quasi-public agency whose mission is to work for – and in – the best interests of the municipalities of the state of Connecticut. CRRA's new board of directors and new management team develop and implement environmentally sound solutions and best practices for solid waste disposal and recycling management on behalf of municipalities. CRRA's four solid waste projects serve 118 Connecticut cities and towns. CRRA also runs environmental and recycling educational programs through the Trash Museum in Hartford and Garbage Museum in Stratford. For more information about CRRA and its activities, visit <http://www.crra.org>.