



NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FACT SHEET

(Pursuant to the Solid Waste Disposal Regulations of the Nevada Administrative Code [NAC] 444.641.3[b])

Permittee Name: Hawthorne Utilities

Facility Name: Hawthorne Landfill

Permit Number: SW1200201

Description of Proposed Permit Modification

None at this time

Location Information

The location of the landfill property is described by the Public Land Survey system as the SE Va, SE 1/4, Sec. 31 and the SSW Va, SW Va, Sec. 32, Twp. 8 N, Rng. 30 E., M.D.B.& M.

Proposed Action

None at this time

Facility Summary

Site Information

The Hawthorne Landfill serves the Town of Hawthorne and all county communities, and, as the only operating landfill in the county, is considered the Mineral County Landfill. The facility receives more than 20 tons of waste per day from both private and public utility collection vehicles from Hawthorne, and from the transfer station serving the towns of Mina and Luning. Waste is also accepted from a commercial hauler serving the town of Lee Vining, California. Landfills at Mina and Luning have been closed.

Site Location

The Hawthorne Landfill is located on the eastern flank of the Wassuk Range, approximately three miles west-southwest of the Town of Hawthorne in Mineral County, Nevada. The landfill is open five days per week, Tuesday through Saturday, between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. The landfill is closed on all major holidays, including Christmas, New Year's Day, Thanksgiving and the day after, Nevada Day, Presidents Day, the Fourth of July, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, and Martin Luther King Day. The access road to the Hawthorne Landfill is paved to the entrance of the site. The county is responsible for year-round road maintenance and snow plowing during the winter months. On-site access roads are cleared and maintained using landfill equipment and operators. Access to the site is maintained throughout the year.

Surface Waters

The closest surface water is Corey Creek, located approximately 1.25 miles south of the facility. Walker Lake is located over six miles north of the site. Ground water was proven during a detailed site investigation to be in excess of 400 feet beneath ground surface in the area of the landfill. Run-on and run-off control systems will prevent contact waters from leaving the site. Gas monitoring wells will be installed at the site to allow for the detection of methane gas concentrations in excess of 25 percent of the lower explosive limit (LEL), thereby preventing the uncontrolled migration of landfill gas at the site.

Adjacent Properties



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The Hawthorne Landfill is surrounded on the north, south, and east by publicly owned land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The 40-acre parcels immediately west and northwest of the leased property are owned by Mineral County. The landfill does not lie within one-fourth mile of a residence or place of public gathering, or within 1,000 feet of a highway or surface water body. In addition, subsurface investigations have documented that ground water beneath the site is deeper than 400 feet below ground surface.

Site Operation

The landfill operator is responsible for maintaining the equipment; routine maintenance is performed on site. Major repairs are contracted through a Reno based authorized repair center. One gate attendant and one equipment operator is present during all hours of landfill operation. An additional equipment operator is present during the majority of the operating hours, and provides maintenance and operational support at the transfer station located at Mina/Luning. The operations manager periodically visits the site and is available for consultation during operating hours. Personnel positions for the Hawthorne Landfill include the following:

- Operations Manager/Safety Officer/Administrator;
- Equipment Operator/Load Checker/Litter & Fence Maintenance;
- Equipment Operator/Transfer Station Maintenance; and,
- Gatekeeper/Record-keeper.

Litter control measures are implemented at the Hawthorne landfill to prevent scattering of papers and other lightweight debris. The primary control measures include daily compaction and covering of waste. Portable litter fences are placed downwind and within 100 feet of active disposal areas. Litter collection is performed as needed by landfill personnel.

Wastes Accepted

The majority of the waste stream received at the Hawthorne Landfill consists of household and commercial wastes. All aspects of household and commercial waste management are performed in accordance with applicable federal and state regulations, as described in this Plan of Operations. Industrial wastes may only be accepted at the Hawthorne Landfill if the level or quantity of hazard is below regulatory standards established for hazardous or toxic waste disposal. Therefore, all industrial wastes are subject to the restrictions of the Hazardous Waste Exclusion. Only those wastes which are non-hazardous will be accepted, and empty containers may require triple rinsing prior to disposal. Pursuant to the Nevada Revised Statutes 449 et. seq., industrial waste generators are responsible for determining whether the materials to be disposed of are subject to hazardous waste regulations. If requested by the landfill attendant, the waste generator must present appropriate verification that the waste is not classified as hazardous. An industrial waste manifesting and verification program may be implemented at the facility at the discretion of Mineral County, and pre-arrangement of deliveries may be required.

Yard waste is a general term used to refer to vegetative wastes, which may include cuttings from trees and brush, grass clippings, straw and hay, and wastes from seasonal or special events. Yard wastes are disposed of with the municipal waste stream. According to provisions of NAC 444.6675, infrequent open burning may be used for the disposal of agricultural or silvacultural wastes, debris from land clearing, diseased trees, or debris from emergency cleanup operations at the discretion of Mineral County and with the approval of the Solid Waste Management Authority. Applicable permits will be obtained prior to initiating a controlled burn of these types of waste.



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Construction and demolition debris are screened by the site attendant and must be inert and non-hazardous to qualify for acceptance. All construction and demolition debris is deposited at the base of the active working face and covered with either municipal waste or cover soil on a daily basis in accordance with NAC 44.688. Deliveries of large quantities of construction and demolition wastes will be cross separated into discrete areas along the active face and covered to minimize the potential for the spread of accidental fires, in accordance with the requirements of NAC 444.652, and to minimize the potential for differential settlement.

Medical wastes are accepted for disposal at the Hawthorne Landfill. Medical waste transport to the landfill must be in accordance with NAC 444.662, which requires segregation of the medical waste stream from all other types of waste. The landfill does not accept non-incinerated medical wastes that are deposited in containers with other solid waste, with the exception of household medical waste. Medical waste is currently received at the landfill in red or orange plastic bags which are well marked as potential bio-hazards. Medical wastes are deposited in a small, excavated pit within the waste mass and away from the active disposal face. Medical waste is immediately covered with a minimum of 12 inches of cover material to prevent contact with the public or landfill employees. Medical wastes are not compacted. Incinerated medical waste does not qualify as a special waste, and is buried with the municipal solid waste stream. After each medical waste burial area is completed, it will be covered with a layer of suitable cover material compacted to a minimum uniform depth of 36 inches.

Dead animals, slaughterhouse wastes, and other putrescible solid waste are accepted for disposal at the Hawthorne Landfill. They are placed in a small, excavated pit within the waste mass and away from the active disposal face. Putrescible wastes are covered upon receipt in order to prevent contact with the public or landfill employees.

Asbestos waste is accepted at the landfill, if packaged and manifested in accordance with all applicable regulations. As described by NAC 444.971, friable asbestos must be wetted with a water and surfactant mixture prior to transport, and must be stored in any one of the following types of containers: a plastic bag not less than 6 mils thick and sealed to prevent leaking; a combination of plastic bags which equal at least 6 mils in thickness; or, a container made of cardboard or metal which is lined with plastic. All containers used to dispose of asbestos must be labeled in conformance with the requirements specified in NAC 444.974.

The landfill will not accept asbestos waste unless the transporter has notified the operations manager at least 24 hours in advance of delivery. Asbestos deliveries will be inspected by landfill staff to verify that each container and label complies with the requirements prescribed in NAC 444.971. If there is any noncompliance with those requirements, the operator will contact the solid waste management authority, as required by NAC 444.975. After acceptance at the facility, the waste is deposited in disposal cells separate from the working face which are located at the discretion of the site attendant. The locations of the asbestos waste cells is noted in the operations log and on the landfill site plan. Once an asbestos cell is completed and covered with a minimum of 36 inches of compacted soil, landfill development above that cell may occur. The majority of household hazardous wastes are managed as part of the municipal solid waste stream. Hawthorne Utilities is currently pursuing the acquisition of a waste oil storage tank to be stationed at the landfill. Waste oil collected at the landfill will be used as fuel for a waste oil burner, which will be installed in the Hawthorne utility shop. Waste antifreeze is not accepted for disposal at the landfill. Auto batteries will be pulled from the waste stream, stockpiled on pallets in a designated area of the landfill, and periodically removed for recycling. In addition, local battery suppliers currently accept used automotive batteries for recycling. No other provisions are currently provided for the disposal of household hazardous wastes.

Tires are accepted at the Hawthorne Landfill and are deposited at the base of the active working face with municipal solid waste. Bulk tires incorporated with other wastes are placed on the ground surface at the bottom or top of the fill and covered with a suitable material before other wastes are placed over them. Disposal of tires



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by open burning, or by open dumping into ravines, canyons, trenches, or gullies, is prohibited. If large quantities of tires are to be placed in the landfill but not mixed with other wastes, they will be baled, chipped, split, stacked by hand ricking, or otherwise handled in a manner which will prevent migration within the landfill.

White goods, scrap metals, and scrap automobiles are not accepted at the Hawthorne Landfill. Incoming loads containing these materials are directed to the local wrecking yard.

Procedures for liquid waste management will be implemented at the Hawthorne Landfill, in accordance with NAC 444.692. Sewage sludge, septic tank pumpings and raw sewage are not accepted at the facility; only dry waste is allowed. Liquids which are in bulk form or not in containers are not permitted for disposal in the landfill. To qualify for acceptance, liquid-filled containers must be part of the household waste stream, small and similar in size to a container which would normally be found in household waste (five gallons or less), and must be designed to hold liquids for uses other than storage. Operational elements of the management program will include waste stream observation and separation, and container management. Landfill staff will be trained to recognize liquid-filled containers which may require segregation from the waste stream. In the event that a suspect container is observed, the spotter (hauler, gatekeeper, or equipment operator) will determine whether or not the container is empty. Only empty, vented containers which do not contain hazardous materials are accepted for disposal. In order to dispose of suspect containers or materials, the generator must be able to provide documentation of a non-hazardous designation upon request. The landfill attendant/equipment operator will be instructed not to open containers without first checking with a field supervisor.

Containers which do not meet the criteria described above will be removed from the waste stream and returned to the generator. If the generator is unknown and the container is not empty, it will be stored in a designated fenced area until a hazardous waste determination can be performed by trained personnel. If the contents are determined to be non-hazardous, they will be mixed with soil and the soil and container will be disposed of on-site. Arrangements will be made with a licensed transport and disposal facility to remove the container from the landfill premises. Notations will be made in the operating record that include a complete description of the actions taken and the final decision to accept or reject a suspect load. The record will also contain a complete description of the generator, including name and vehicle description.

The Hawthorne Landfill periodically receives grease trappings from the El Capitan Hotel in Hawthorne. Upon acceptance at the landfill, the grease trappings are mixed with borrow soil and deposited at the base of the active working face after a visual verification of the absence of free liquids. Only dried sewage sludge which passes the paint filter test (EPA Method 9095) are accepted for disposal at the Hawthorne Landfill. The sludge is mixed with waste and soil and placed at the bottom of the working face. Septic tank pumpings and untreated sewage are not accepted for disposal.

Document Availability

The ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD, which includes the DRAFT PERMIT, and correspondence are available for public review by appointment between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, at the Division offices located at: 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 4001, Carson City, NV 89701-5249.

Contact: Paul Eckert at (775) 687-9477, or by e-mail at: PEckert@ndep.nv.gov

Procedure for Public Review

Questions or comments may be submitted on or before the end of the public comment period.

In writing: Paul Eckert, P.E.
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Waste Management



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Phone: (775) 687-9477; fax: (775) 687-5856; e-mail: PEckert@ndep.nv.gov; or
web: [News and Public Notices](#)

The Division's Notice of Intent to approve the modified Permit for this facility, subject to the conditions contained in the Permit, will be published in a local newspaper. Additionally, the Public Notice will be mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. The Division will accept written comments on the proposed draft permit from all interested persons until the end of the public comment period.

Will there be a public hearing?

N/A

When does the comment period end?

N/A