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**Monitoring Committee Report
CMEI Annual General Meeting
April 24, 2012**

During the past year, the CMEI Monitoring Committee has continued to bring recommendations from the 2005 and 2009 Independent External Reviews of the Crane Mountain Landfill to the attention of the Waste Commission and the Department of the Environment, in order to ensure that they are carefully considered and acted upon. Protecting the domestic wells downgradient of the landfill has been a top priority and the focus of several initiatives this year.

In June, 2011, Monitoring Committee members and the CMEI Executive met with the Deputy Minister of the Environment and two Environment Department engineers to discuss the need for informed analysis of domestic well data. Documents were provided to show that Domestic Well monitoring was clearly set up as a part of the overall monitoring system of the landfill. We also renewed the request that we made at our meeting with DOE staff in 2010 that recommendations from the ADI Reviews be included in the upcoming Approval to Operate.

As a result, the 2012-2016 Approval to Operate includes a new condition: in March of each year, the Waste Commission will send a report to the Department of the Environment stating their response to the recommendations from the 2009 ADI Review that they targeted for consideration during the prior calendar year.

In December of 2011, the Commission voted to support the General Manager's plan to establish trigger concentrations and provide trending analysis of Monitoring Well data. This was one of the "actions" targeted for consideration in 2011. In March, 2012, \$25,000 was allotted by the Commission for this project.

In January 2012, representatives from CMEI made a presentation to the Waste Commission, urging the Commissioners to support and act upon three "action items" targeted for consideration in 2012: an examination of geochemical evolution of the groundwater flow downgradient of the landfill; the creation of a numerical model of groundwater flow and contaminate transport; and the construction of deeper groundwater monitoring wells to support the above.

In March 2012, the Waste Commission held a special meeting for the sole purpose of having an open discussion of environmental issues with representatives from CMEI. Issues related to landfill construction and monitoring were approached in the following context: that all landfills leak, and that the Crane Mountain Landfill is sited in the worst possible location for a landfill—in an aquifer, in fractured rock, upgradient of 1000 domestic wells. Given this context, what special measures are needed to protect the environment? The atmosphere of the meeting was positive; excellent and informative discussion took place. The Commissioners were asked by CMEI representatives to ensure that the special nature of this landfill would be reported to any new bodies that would be formed during the upcoming reorganization. Another Discussion Meeting may take place in the fall.

Finally, the major monitoring effort of the CMEI Board during the past year has been the project led by hydrogeologist John Sims of **exp.** (formerly ADI). The goal of this project is to understand the geological areas downgradient of the landfill and to create a system whereby independent experts engaged by CMEI can regularly assess and scrutinize data from the Domestic Wells and the Monitoring Wells downgradient of the landfill.

CMEI contacted the local residents whose wells are tested annually by the Waste Commission and asked them to sign permission slips, allowing CMEI to include the data from their wells in this and future studies. Permission was provided from 50 well owners, and data from their wells, collected from 1997 to the present, was sent to **exp.** Data from Monitoring Wells was also provided to **exp.**

A Report from the first phase of this project will now be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Lee
Chair, Monitoring Committee