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## **Monitoring Committee Report Annual General Meeting, May 5, 2015**

During the past year, the CMEI Monitoring Committee has continued to bring recommendations from ADI's 2005 and 2009 Independent External Reviews of the Crane Mountain Landfill to the attention of the landfill's General Manager and to the Department of the Environment in order to ensure that they are carefully considered and acted upon. CMEI is receiving ongoing independent assessments of various landfill issues from hydrogeologists at **exp.Services.** (formerly ADI) and bringing these forward as well.

In June, 2014, the Monitoring Committee met with Department of the Environment staff to recommend that additional monitoring requirements be put into the 2016-2019 Approval to Operate for the Crane Mountain Landfill. At this time, CMEI presented and discussed a number of recommendations that were provided by **exp.**

Members of the Committee have met with General Manager Marc MacLeod about a variety of issues that have come to our attention during the year. In November and December, we inquired about the causes of odours emanating from the landfill that Board members had detected, and asked that the public be alerted when landfill operations might cause the release of gasses. We also met with him to discuss an incident when excess leachate had to be pumped into the sedimentation pond. We were informed that plastic covers would be placed on the sides of the cells in order to keep this from happening again.

Another consultation was held to request that monitoring data be put into the Statistical Program that was drawn up for the Waste Commission several years ago by a statistician from the University of Moncton. Through a review from **exp.**, CMEI has provided information to the General Manager about important hydrogeological components that should be added to that program. To date, that program has not been put into practice.

The UNB study of the evolution of the groundwater flow downgradient of the landfill by two undergraduate students was completed in the spring of 2014, and copies were sent to FRSW and CMEI. This study was initiated in response to recommendations from the 2009 ADI review and funded by the landfill. At the request of CMEI, hydrogeologist Fred Baechler from **exp.** reviewed the two theses in September of 2014, and pointed out areas for additional work that could be done in order to better understand the groundwater system. CMEI has given Baechler's review and suggestions for future work to General Manager Marc MacLeod. The Monitoring Committee met with Mr. MacLeod in March of this year to discuss where to go from here and to emphasize the importance of moving forward with this project.

Several years ago, CMEI members detected problems with the 24-hour monitoring system of the cell underdrains at the landfill. Landfill staff have been trying to fix these problems; however problems still persist, and our Board members are keeping a watchful eye on the system.

In September, 2014, the annual testing of the 69 domestic wells in the area from South Bay through Martinon took place. In response to CMEI's request, Gemtec provided more convenient times on Saturdays for water testing appointments, and CMEI wrote letters to well owners urging them to make sure their wells were tested. As a result, more of the 69 wells were tested. Data from those who gave permission to CMEI were sent to **exp.** and put into the system they have developed for plotting and trending.

CMEI has financed annual aerial photos of the landfill site for a number of years now. These photos show clearly the development of the landfill. A slide show can be accessed on the CMEI website, and an example will be shown here tonight as well.

CMEI Board members are responding to their mandate to provide independent monitoring of the landfill by keeping abreast of the landfill operations and monitoring data, by conferring with the General Manager, the Fundy Regional Services Commission, and the Department of the Environment, by engaging independent experts to work on their behalf, and by being open to concerns or suggestions from residents of the area from South Bay through Grand Bay-Westfield.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta W. Lee, Chair of the Monitoring Committee