

Site Location: Bellehaven Landfill

Project Type: Solar

Site Description:

Municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill owned by the Town of Bellehaven. Landfill began accepting non-hazardous MSW and construction debris in 1975 and was recently closed. Landfill is located within 0.5 mile of a densely populated residential area, which includes Bellehaven Middle School and a number of parks and athletic fields. The proposed site is an elevated plateau with an area of approximately 60 acres.

Site History:

The Town of Bellehaven discontinued the use of its landfill 5 years ago, and has conducted closure and post-closure care in compliance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the State DEP's specific standards. Two years ago, under its DEP-approved Closure Plan, the town capped the landfill, installed a leachate collection system, and established methane gas and groundwater monitoring systems. Under its DEP-approved Post-Closure Care Plan, the town conducts ongoing landfill maintenance and groundwater monitoring activities to protect against the release of hazardous constituents to the environment. The town still maintains ownership of the landfill and therefore is considering reuse options that will benefit the Bellehaven community. The town recognizes that any use of the landfill during the post-closure care period must not disturb the integrity or operation of any of the waste containment systems or the monitoring systems. The town is also aware that an amendment to the Post-Closure Care Plan (and approval by the State DEP) will be required for any changes to the use of the landfill in the future.

Current Status:

For the past several months, the Town of Bellehaven has been researching options for repurposing the landfill site. Because the nearby

residential areas could be impacted by future uses of the landfill, the public has been actively engaged throughout the closure and reuse planning process.

After engaging the public and considering a few recreational and community reuse options, the town favors converting the site to a solar farm, a potential revenue source for the town. The town has completed technical and economic feasibility assessments to confirm that the landfill site is suitable for a solar farm. The town must now examine various land development factors that are important to developing solar on the landfill.

The town recently selected a renewable energy project developer after a competitive bid and interview process, and is ready to get started with planning next steps.

To initiate this effort, the Town Planner from the Town of Bellehaven has scheduled a meeting with key stakeholders who have a role in the redevelopment process.