Subcommittee For Reducing or Terminating Groundwater Monitoring at Solid Waste Landfills – October 26, 2016 Update

Wisconsin DNR Waste and Materials Management Study Group
September 23, 2016 Subcommittee Meeting – DNR SC Region Office

- Subcommittee Members
  - Joe Lourigan, DNR
  - Adam Hogan, DNR
  - Tim Curry, Advanced Disposal
  - Larry Buechel, Waste Management
  - Erik Lietz, Ayers Associates
  - Tom Karwoski, SCS Engineers
Background

• Subcommittee focused on revisions to current guidance
• Guidance for reducing or terminating groundwater monitoring at solid waste landfills has been in place for many years
• Existing guidance PUB – WA 1013 was last revised in 2014 by Joe Lourigan
Subcommittee Suggestions for Guidance Revision

• Lay out a clear set of steps within the guidance so closed landfill owners can follow a path to reducing or terminating groundwater monitoring
• Include an evaluation so owners can decide if their landfill is ready to be considered for a monitoring reduction or termination
• In addition to the data trends, consider that some landfills may present more risk than others – more receptors
• Create a road to reduction or termination and confirm within the guidance what is required at each step to get there
Subcommittee Suggestions for Guidance Revision (Continued)

• Create a road map within the guidance for:
  1. Reducing frequency of monitoring rounds
  2. Reducing the size of the monitoring network and/or reducing the number of required parameters
  3. Termination of monitoring
Subcommittee Suggestions for Guidance Revision (Continued)

• The steps can also provide incentive to take action toward reduction/termination of monitoring – reduction of annual costs

• Consider reducing monitoring frequency beyond current minimum of 1 year for landfills that qualify (i.e. 2 year or 5 year frequency)

• 2 year or 5 year monitoring frequencies would likely require an annual monitoring well inspection report to maintain competency of monitoring network
Subcommittee Suggestions for Guidance Revision (Continued)

• Potential to set up review committees within DNR to review requests for monitoring reductions/termination

• Review committees improve consistency of decisions and allow a sharing of knowledge

• Potential to use the ICE system to notify landfill owners when reporting is due
Next Steps

- Create outline for revised guidance which includes the stepped approach (Joe Lourigan)
- Committee members review similar guidance and regulation from other States
- Next committee meeting TBA:
  - Review and revision of revised guidance outline
  - Consider ideas from other States programs