



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

November 28, 2005

Dear Concerned Citizen,

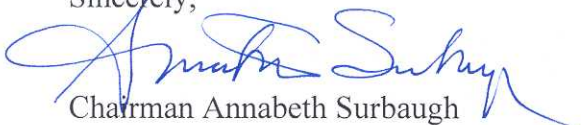
Since early summer, you doubtless have noticed periodic "rotten egg" odors in the vicinity of your home or business. These odors are coming from the APAC-Reno Construction and Demolition Landfill located at 167th Street and Metcalf, and are caused by hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) gas that forms when large quantities of gypsum board (dry wall) become excessively wet in low oxygen conditions. We know you are concerned about these odors and we take your concerns very seriously. Therefore, we want to update you about this situation.

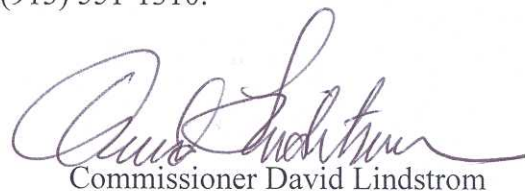
The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), with assistance from the Johnson County Environmental Department (JCED), has required the landfill to take a number of actions to eliminate the odors. While some actions are still being implemented, many others have been completed, and as a result, we hope you have noticed an overall decrease in the H₂S odors despite a temporary setback the week of October 31.

In response to your concerns, KDHE and JCED held a public meeting on September 19 to discuss the odor situation and answer questions. Since not everyone was able to attend the meeting, a comprehensive summary of questions and answers has been posted to JCED's web site and may be accessed at <http://jced.jocogov.org>. Additional information about corrective actions and H₂S emissions is also available at this web address. Persons without internet access may request a hard copy by contacting Phil Askey with JCED at (913) 492-0402. Additional public meetings will be scheduled as new information becomes available and you will be notified about those opportunities.

H₂S odors can be detected by the human nose at very low levels. Higher levels sustained over a period of time may pose a health risk, especially to persons with pre-existing conditions such as asthma. As a precaution, the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), an arm of the Centers for Disease Control, has agreed to conduct additional monitoring in some neighborhood locations near the landfill. Due to other demands on ATSDR's resources, this monitoring may not begin for a few months. In the meantime, however, we urge you to contact either of us with any questions or concerns you may have at (913) 715-0430. You may also contact JCED at (913) 492-0402, KDHE at (785) 296-1596, or ATSDR at (913) 551-1310.

Sincerely,


Chairman Annabeth Surbaugh


Commissioner David Lindstrom