

**NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF DRAFT EIS And
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING****Lead Agency:** Chemung County Legislature**Address:** 203 Lake Street, 5th Floor, Elmira, New York**Date:** January 14, 2014

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement has been completed and accepted for the proposed actions described below. Comments are requested and will be accepted by the Clerk of the Chemung County Legislature until 4:30 p.m. on February 18, 2014. A public hearing on the Draft EIS will be held on January 30, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Legislative Chambers, John H. Hazlett Building, 203 Lake Street, 5th Floor, Elmira, New York 14901 (mailing zip code 14902-0588).

Name of Action: Proposed Chemung County Landfill Expansion

Description of Action: Chemung County is currently proposing to increase the annual tonnage limit at the Chemung County Landfill. In addition, the County and its site operator, Casella, propose to expand the lined landfill area to the south and east of the current Municipal Solid Waste landfill footprint in accordance with the Operations Management Lease (OML) Agreement. The Cell V expansion will include the construction of approximately 31.7 acres of new liner system along the eastern boundary of the existing active landfill (Cells II and III-A), which includes approximately 1.8 acres of liner over previously developed unlined landfill areas. The Cell VI expansion will be located adjacent to the southern boundary of the Area 5 landfill and Cell V, consisting of approximately 22 acres of new liner system, which includes approximately 7.1 acres of liner over previously developed landfill areas. Additional site modifications include the development of an 18.8 acre soil borrow area and construction of three stormwater ponds, a leachate storage lagoon, a landfill gas to energy facility, and site access roads. Creation of an Environmental Stewardship Education Center is also proposed.

Location of Action: Town of Chemung, Chemung County, New York**Potential Environmental Impacts:**

Topography and Subsurface Geologic Conditions: Potential impacts to the subsurface geologic conditions will involve the disturbance of spoils and the potential for instability of constructed slopes during construction. Mitigation measures have been identified.

Surface Water Conditions: Stormwater runoff from developed areas will increase. Mitigation measures include the construction of three new stormwater ponds and the elimination of existing stormwater ponds.

Groundwater Conditions: Potential impacts include lowering of the groundwater table and impacts to groundwater quality due to the placement of waste. The potential for the occurrence of these impacts will be minimized by adherence to design standards and monitoring requirements, including a dual composite liner system and groundwater collection and drainage system.

Air Quality, Greenhouse Gases and Odors: Over time, decomposition of solid waste in the landfill will produce landfill gas. This project includes a landfill gas to energy facility to manage landfill gas.

Agricultural Resources: Approximately 50 acres of former agricultural land to the east of the landfill will be transitioned to soil borrow area and landfill support infrastructure over the course of the project. This property has not been used for agricultural activities for several years.

Property Values: No negative impacts to assessed values from the existing operation have been documented; however, the operator has implemented a Property Protection Plan which will continue.

Transportation Facilities and Traffic: There will be increased truck traffic; however, it is projected that the newly constructed interchange between Route 60 and Interstate 86 will accommodate the increase without an impact to the highway level of service.

Historical and Archaeological: The Riverside Cemetery and Chemung Battlefield sites are adjacent to portions of the project site, but no impacts to these historic sites are anticipated.

Visibility: The maximum permitted elevation of the landfill will not be changed and significant visual impacts are not expected.

Noise: A noise impact assessment has been conducted and some increase in noise is anticipated. Mitigation measures are proposed in the form of equipment mufflers and maintenance, strategic use of operating area, construction of a screening berm for the soil borrow area and expansion of the existing real-time noise monitoring system.

A copy of the Draft EIS may be obtained from the Chemung County website (www.chemung-county.com) or from:

Contact Person: Ms. Linda Palmer, Clerk of the Chemung County Legislature**Address:** John H. Hazlett Building, 203 Lake Street, 5th Floor, Elmira, New York 14901 (mailing 14902-0588)**Telephone Number:** (607) 737-2066
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