



Entsorga Moves Closer to Construction

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By Samantha Cronk (scronk@journal-news.net) , Journal News

MARTINSBURG - Following the Berkeley County Planning Commission's approval to advance the project to the final plat stage Monday, Entsorga WV LCC only lacks one permit before it can begin construction.

At Monday's meeting, planning commission members approved progress for Entsorga to build a \$19 million facility in Berkeley County. Emily Dyson, representing Entsorga at the meeting, called the approval a "big hoop" for the project.

"Berkeley County had to support it, and it has been well-supported. This was a big one for us to get," Dyson said.

Article Photos



Journal photo by Samantha Cronk

Emily Dyson, representing Entsorga WV LLC, describes Entsorga's efforts to begin construction on the \$19 million facility, located on the Berkeley County Solid Waste Authority's property, to the Berkeley County Planning Commission members Monday night.

With the county's advancement of the project, Entsorga can now conduct land-clearing activities, preparing the site for eventual construction.

The facility will be located on the Berkeley County Solid Waste Authority property.

Entsorga will lease more than 10 acres, with the potential to lease an additional 5.65 acres.

The entrance to the plant will be the same as for the BCSWA offices on Grapevine Road.

"We already have our West Virginia (Department of Environmental Protection) Stormwater permit for construction, and with this approval, that means we can start ground clearing activities so we can do grading activities and things like that," Dyson said.

"We can't do anything that involved a footer for an actual structure until we have the West Virginia Non-Disposal Solid Waste permit. Once we get that, then we're good to go," she said. "I would love to say that it will be within a month that we'll have a draft for review by Entsorga. I'm still optimistically shooting for July."

Entsorga will also have to hold a public hearing on the project and a 30-day public comment period. Currently, the public hearing has not been scheduled.

Per the lease agreement signed in January with the BCSWA, Entsorga must begin construction on the facility by January 2015.

The lease is a 30-year lease, with the potential to renew up to four periods at five years a period, or an additional 20 years. Entsorga has the ability to terminate the lease after the first 10 years with a one-year notice.

Once complete, Entsorga process at least 25 trucks a day, eventually increasing the number as the facility grows in capability, the number of trucks will increase.

When asked about the traffic impact on the road, Dyson said that the West Virginia Division of Highways reviewed and approved Entsorga's proposal with no changes, including the traffic upgrades suggested by Entsorga.

"We've met with them at the site, so they're very familiar with the road and what our proposal is. Actually, we requested a light be put at the intersection of Grapevine and (W.Va. 9), mainly because of

turning in and out of there, but we were told by DOH that that wasn't necessary, that it wasn't a problem," Dyson said.

The plant will practice a zero-waste concept that dictates that 90 percent of the waste entering the facility will not be transported to a landfill, but instead used for energy. The plant will also utilize a technology known as high-efficiency biological treatment, HeBIOT, that organizes incoming waste without the need for employees to sort the waste by hand.

The waste to be used for fuel would be dried out and shredded into a loose, confetti-like material. Entsorga plans to contract with Essroc to sell the material, which can co-burn with coal and reduce emissions.

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