

As part of an ongoing investigation, Waste Management is coordinating with the cities of Batavia and Geneva and Kane County in an effort to detect and monitor methane levels in and around the Midway and Settler's Hill landfills. Earlier this month, Waste Management reported that its ongoing monitoring detected methane gas deep underground outside of waste areas but within the landfill complex. Since then, more than 200 other tests have been conducted at 22 other locations that included underground utilities in Batavia's Highlands community. No methane has been found.

As a further update, Waste Management also has installed three deep probes in and around the Highlands residential area and has found no methane. In addition, it has tested two homes with no methane detected. The initial indications are that methane is not present in the Highlands community. If methane is detected, the Company will expand its monitoring to additional homes in the Highlands.

Monitoring in a single probe installed along Raddant Road just south of Fabyan Parkway has shown the presence of methane. This probe is in the industrial park whose buildings are constructed on slabs that do not have basements or underground structures where methane may accumulate. Based on testing to date, the methane appears to be present east of Nagel Boulevard.

Monitoring on all sites continues on a daily basis and Waste Management is in regular communication with Batavia, Geneva, Kane County and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency regarding the results of the tests.

Waste Management has begun working on a longer-term plan to resolve the methane issue completely. The Company is expanding its monitoring and gas extraction systems by installing a series of deeper gas monitoring probes to detect methane in the deep geologic unit beneath the Midway Landfill. It also is installing gas extraction wells, which will be used to capture any methane that has migrated beyond waste areas. These improvements will increase the site's ability to collect the methane and convey it to the center of the facility to the landfill's gas-to-energy facility, where it can be used as fuel to generate electricity.

As an extra public safety measure, Waste Management will be installing additional monitoring probes south of Fabyan Parkway in both the Highlands community and industrial park. If methane is detected, the Company will expand its methane monitoring to homes working closely with officials of the City of Batavia Fire and Public Works departments. Waste Management is providing daily briefings on the progress of its methane remediation program to Batavia, Geneva and Kane County.

The Company has established a telephone line for residents who may have questions. The toll-free number is 1 855-964-4663. An attendant will take their information and a Company representative will respond. The public may also obtain information on the City of Batavia and Kane County websites: www.cityofbatavia.net/midway and www.countyofkane.org.