



Media Release

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Update on Caton Limited Purpose Landfill

Yakima, WA- On December 12, 2022, the Yakima Health District notified Caton Limited Purpose Landfill that their permit was suspended due to a series of fire events at the landfill. The Yakima Health District is working alongside Washington State Department of Ecology Central Region Office, Washington State Department of Ecology Spill Prevention, Preparedness and Response Program, Environmental Protection Agency, and Yakima Regional Clean Air Authority to conduct air sampling tests and remedy the fires.

Air sampling sensors have been placed throughout the landfill and towards the outskirts of the landfill near residential and business areas to ensure there are no public health concerns to the community. The purpose of these air sampling sensors is to gather data on what is being released from the smoke and fires and the distance it is traveling. The Yakima Health District anticipates having data results next week to inform the public.

Additionally, given the series of fire events that have occurred at the Caton Limited Purpose Landfill, fire consultants will be on site this week to perform an assessment of the ongoing fire situation to determine the cause of the fire. A workplan will be submitted by the fire consultants that demonstrates the source and/or cause of the fires, the remedy as to how the fires will not continue to happen in the short and long-term future, and a written response plan if a fire does happen at the facility in the future.

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