



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FOR
ROWAN COUNTY**

**Landfill Gas to Energy Project(s)
Environmental Management**

2026-002

ROWAN COUNTY

130 West Innes Street
Salisbury, NC 28144
704-216-8178

jody.farrow-bennett@rowancountync.gov

Date Issued: Sunday, November 23, 2025

Date Due: Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 2:00 PM

Administered By: Jody Farrow-Bennett, Purchasing Director

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Landfill Gas to Energy Project(s)

Rowan County (County) is issuing this Request for Proposals (RFP) to obtain proposals to identify the most qualified firm or firms to develop one or more landfill gas to energy (LFGTE) or other beneficial use project(s) utilizing landfill gas (LFG) from the Rowan County Landfill (Title V Permit No. 10405T03) (Landfill). The responses to the RFP are expected to include finance, design, permitting, construction, ownership, operation and management of LFG collection, handling, and/or processing equipment for conversion of the LFG to a revenue-generating product or products.

Proposals for the Rowan County Landfill Gas to Energy Project(s) 2026-002 will be accepted until Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 2:00 PM ET at the Rowan County Purchasing Department, 130 West Innes Street, Suite 31, Salisbury, North Carolina 28144. Bid documents may be obtained from the County website at:

<https://www.rowancountync.gov/675/Purchasing>

The County is not responsible for any interpretations or conclusions drawn from this RFP. Proposers shall not take advantage of any errors or omissions in this RFP and shall promptly notify the County of any omissions or errors found in this document.

Once the RFP is public, all questions related to the RFP shall be directed to the Purchasing Director. Any contact related to the RFP with County Staff and/or Board of Commissioners will be prohibited and cause for rejection.

Rowan County reserves the right to award and/or reject any and/or all proposals and waive any technicalities or irregularities. For complete details, consult the bid package.

This is the 23rd day of November 2025.

Rowan County



By: Jody Farrow-Bennett
Rowan County Director of Purchasing
and Contract Administration

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Attachments

- Attachment A: GCCS Design Plan (2017)
- Attachment B: Rowan LFG 2024 Expansion (Issued for Construction Drawing Set)
- Attachment C: Excerpt from Parnel Blower/Flare Manual (System Description)
- Attachment D: EPA LandGEM LFG Generation Model
- Attachment E: Wellfield Liquid Levels Technical Memorandum
- Attachment F: Monthly Well Head Readings
- Attachment G: Financial Proposal Forms

1 Introduction, Purpose and Intent

Rowan County (County) is issuing this Request for Proposals (RFP) to obtain proposals to identify the most qualified firm or firms to develop one or more landfill gas to energy (LFGTE) beneficial use project(s) utilizing landfill gas (LFG) from the Rowan County Landfill (Title V Permit No. 10405T03) (Landfill). This RFP and the resulting project(s) is/are being developed for the County by the Engineering and Environmental Services Department (Department), which is generally responsible for municipal solid waste (MSW) disposal in the County, including operations at the Landfill. This RFP is generally intended to result in:

- A Developer to assume full operational responsibility for LFG collection and control, and for controlling LFG emissions at the Landfill (currently handled by the County);
- A new LFGTE project or projects (Project) to beneficially utilize the collected LFG at the Landfill; and,
- Expansion of the LFG collection and control system (GCCS) by the Developer as necessary to control LFG emissions, comply with applicable regulations and/or provide additional fuel for the Project.

The responses to the RFP are expected to include finance, design, permitting, construction, ownership, operation and management of LFG collection, handling, direct thermal usage and/or electricity generation and/or processing equipment for conversion of the LFG to a revenue generating product or products.

1.1 Schedule

The County’s anticipated schedule is shown below. The County reserves the right to modify, extend and revise this schedule.

Table 1-1. Procurement Schedule

Date	Activity
November 23, 2025	Request for Proposals Available
January 7, 2026	Non-Mandatory , pre-proposal conference at 9:00 am EST (Virtual login information can be provided by addendum upon request)
January 7, 2026	Same-day optional landfill tour at 10:00 am EST
February 4, 2026	Deadline for questions about RFP (5:00 pm EST)
February 13, 2026	County responses to questions published by Addendum
February 25, 2026	Proposals due to County by 2:00 pm EST

1.2 Submittal Information

Respondents are required to submit **four (4) SEALED** hard copy proposals to Rowan County by the stated deadline. Electronic submissions are **not accepted** as official bids. However, the County request that respondents also provide an **ADA-compliant electronic copy**—either via email or via a portable data storage device that connects to a computer via a USB Port—for accessibility purposes. Please ensure any confidential information is clearly marked within the document to facilitate redaction, if necessary.

The electronic submittal is intended **solely for ADA compliance** and does **NOT** replace the requirement for a sealed proposal to be delivered to:

Rowan County Purchasing
130 West Innes Street, Suite 31
Salisbury, NC 28144

Sealed proposals may be mailed or delivered in person but must be received **prior to the opening on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 2:00 PM sharp**. Late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances. Please ensure the sealed proposal is properly labeled and delivered in accordance with the instructions outlined in the bidding documents. Failure to submit a sealed physical bid will result in disqualification.

This will be a public proposal opening. Once the proposal is awarded all respondents will receive notification.

Sealed Proposals are due on **Wednesday, February 25, 2026**, at 2:00 PM ET; opening will be held in the J. Newton Cohen, Sr. Administration Building at 130 West Innes Street, Conference Room 101, Salisbury, North Carolina. Failure to submit a Proposal by this deadline will disqualify the respondent from consideration in this project.

All responses received will become a part of official County public records and may be subject to disclosure. Proposers are expected to thoroughly examine all specific information and instructions set forth in this RFP. Each Proposer shall furnish the full information required by this solicitation. Specific proposal requirements are found in **Section 7** of this RFP document.

The County will not be bound by or be responsible for any interpretations or conclusions drawn from this RFP. All questions or requests for clarification or additional information must be submitted in writing no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, February 4, 2026. These written questions or requests must be submitted to Jody Farrow-Bennett, Purchasing Director, by mail or e-mail. Any questions the County feels are pertinent to all interested respondents will be delivered to all participants as an addendum to this RFP. All addendums will be posted on the County website: <https://www.rowancountync.gov/675/Purchasing> and it is the responsibility of the participants to check for any addendums. The addenda for clarification will be posted by 5pm Friday, February 13, 2026.

Proposals should be reasonably succinct but shall include the listed information as detailed in **Section 7** of this RFP document.

Proposers shall not take advantage of any errors or omissions in this RFP and shall promptly notify the County of any omissions or errors found in this document.

All Proposers must disclose in writing with their bid the name of any owner, officer, director, or agent who is also an employee of the County. All Proposers must also disclose in writing with their bid the name of any employee of the County who owns, directly or indirectly, an interest of five percent (5%) or more in the Proposer's firm or any of its branches or subsidiaries. By submitting a proposal, the Proposer certifies that there is no relationship between the Proposer and any person or entity which is, or gives the appearance of, a conflict of interest related to this RFP or project.

1.3 Pre-Proposal Conference and Landfill Tour

A **non-mandatory** pre-proposal conference and site tour will be held at 9:00 am EST, January 7, 2026. At the pre-proposal conference, County staff and representatives of the County will be available to answer questions and explain the intent of this RFP. Questions about the RFP documents will be addressed to the extent possible. After the pre-proposal conference and site tour, the County may choose to prepare written documentation in response to questions that were raised at the pre-proposal meeting.

The location of the pre-proposal conference and tour will be:

Rowan County Landfill
789 Campbell Road
Woodleaf, NC 27054
704-278-2211

Interested Proposers may participate in these voluntary events, and Proposers are encouraged to attend. No additional tours of the Landfill will be scheduled.

1.4 Additional Information

Additional information concerning the Landfill and general solid waste operations at the County may be found on the County website:

<https://www.rowancountync.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Rowan-County-Landfill-26>.

1.5 Rights of the County

The County reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and may elect to make a decision without further discussion or negotiation. This RFP is not to be construed as an offer of any kind. The County is not liable for any costs incurred by any Proposer in the preparation of a response to this RFP or in any subsequent negotiations or response to questions by the County and its consultants, advisors and agents. The County may withdraw, supplement or modify this RFP at any time. The County reserves the right to award contracts to Proposer(s) who is (are) deemed to offer proposal(s) in the best interests of the County.

The County may select one Proposer (Preferred Proposer) with which it will commence negotiations, or the County may elect to conduct simultaneous negotiations with two or more Proposers (Preferred Proposers).

1.6 Intention to Contract

By submitting a proposal, the Proposer generally agrees to the expected Project and contract characteristics as detailed in **Sections 5 and 6** of this RFP document, unless otherwise clearly stated. Proposals that are conditional on specific contractual provisions will be accepted at the County's discretion. Proposers should assume that the terms and conditions contained in this RFP represent the minimum expectations of the County. The contract will be negotiated once the Preferred Proposer is chosen.

2 Landfill and Existing GCCS Description

The information presented in this section is excerpted from the following documents provided in their entirety in **Attachments A – C**:

Attachment A – GCCS Design Plan (2017)

Attachment B – Rowan LFG 2024 Expansion (Issued for Construction Drawing Set)

Attachment C – Excerpt from Parnel Blower/Flare Manual (System Description)

2.1 Site Information

The landfill property consists of approximately 375 acres. A closed land clearing and inert debris (LCID) landfill and a closed construction and demolition (C&D) landfill are located on the eastern portion of the property. In 1989, Phase I of the lined Subtitle D landfill was constructed. The completed landfill will consist of Phases I through IX for a total design capacity of approximately 15.071 million cubic yards for municipal solid waste (MSW). **Figure 2-1** shows the Landfill footprint, and all permitted and future-contemplated phases/cells.

Currently Phases I through V are permitted and constructed, with waste actively being placed in Phase IV and Phase V. **Figure 2-2** shows the Landfill footprint and permitted phases/cells with the current GCCS as of 2025. The landfill is permitted under the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) Permit No. 80-03.

Site life analysis and calculation is performed annually. The Landfill had approximately 2,748,917 cubic yards (CY) of permitted and constructed capacity remaining as of May 31, 2024. Based on the estimated remaining volume, waste receipt, and estimated density projections; the Landfill (active and permitted Phases I through V) is therefore currently expected to reach capacity in 2032 (although these projections may change over time). **The estimated total gross capacity of the full Landfill (Phases I – IX) is 15,071,000 CY and has a currently estimated full date of 2051.**

Detailed historical annual waste receipt tonnages are provided in **Section 3** for Proposer use in LFG generation modeling, with discussion about assumptions for future growth rate.

2.2 GCCS and LFG Collection

The County currently owns and operates a regulated (i.e. required by NSPS Subpart OOO and NESHAP) LFG collection and control system (GCCS) at the landfill. Pursuant to these (and previously applicable) regulations, a GCCS Design Plan was approved by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) in December 2017 outlining the capacity, sizing and design of the GCCS. This document is provided in its entirety for Proposer review in **Attachment A**. The GCCS was designed to handle the maximum expected LFG collected flow rate of 1,500 scfm over a 15-year system lifespan. The GCCS currently includes the following components:

- Active Vertical Landfill Gas Extraction Wells.
- Active Gas Extraction on the Leachate Collection System.

- 4-inch or 6-inch HDPE pipe, serving as landfill gas collection laterals connected to the wells.
- 10-inch HDPE pipe serving as the landfill gas header, connected to all laterals.
- Four condensate drip legs, installed at the low points in the main header collection system, to catch liquids that collect in the system. The drip legs drain to the existing leachate collection system.
- Several isolation/flow control valves on the 10-inch header.
- Several header access points, equipped with stub outs that are fitted with blind flanges, to allow future connection of additional lateral lines and extension of the system.
- Landfill gas flare station, including blower assembly, candlestick flare, and associated controls and alarms.

The originally-proposed GCCS design in the GCCS Design Plan included sixty (60) vertical extraction wells for Phases I – IV:

- Twenty-seven (27) vertical extraction wells were installed in Phase I and Phase II beginning in November 2016 with completion in May 2017.
- Eleven (11) vertical extraction wells were installed in Phase I and Phase III beginning in October 2020 with completion in December 2020.
- Sixteen (16) vertical extraction wells were installed in Phases III and IV in 2024, after waste placement in new Phase V commenced.
- Therefore, the system is currently composed of fifty-four (54) vertical extraction wells.
- Additional wells will be installed in Phases III through IV within 2 years after final grades are reached or 5 years after final waste placement in the cell.

Attachment B includes site drawings depicting the existing Gas Collection and Control System (GCCS) as of 2025, including the expansion completed in late 2024. **Figure 2-2** illustrates the current layout of the GCCS, incorporating the recently added components.

Future GCCS expansions beyond the original 15-year system lifespan contemplated in the GCCS Design Plan will be designed, permitted, and installed for future landfill lateral expansions (Phases V-IX) in accordance with scheduling requirements set forth in the applicable regulations or an approved alternative schedule.

2.3 Blower/Flare Station

Collected LFG from the landfill is routed to a blower/flare station where the gas is combusted by candlestick flare. The LFG inlet piping includes thermocouples for temperature monitoring and control. The thermocouples are used to monitor for startup/shutdown/malfunction events. The candlestick flare is designed to provide a minimum 98 percent NMOC destruction efficiency required by NESHAP (40 CRF 63 Subpart AAAA).

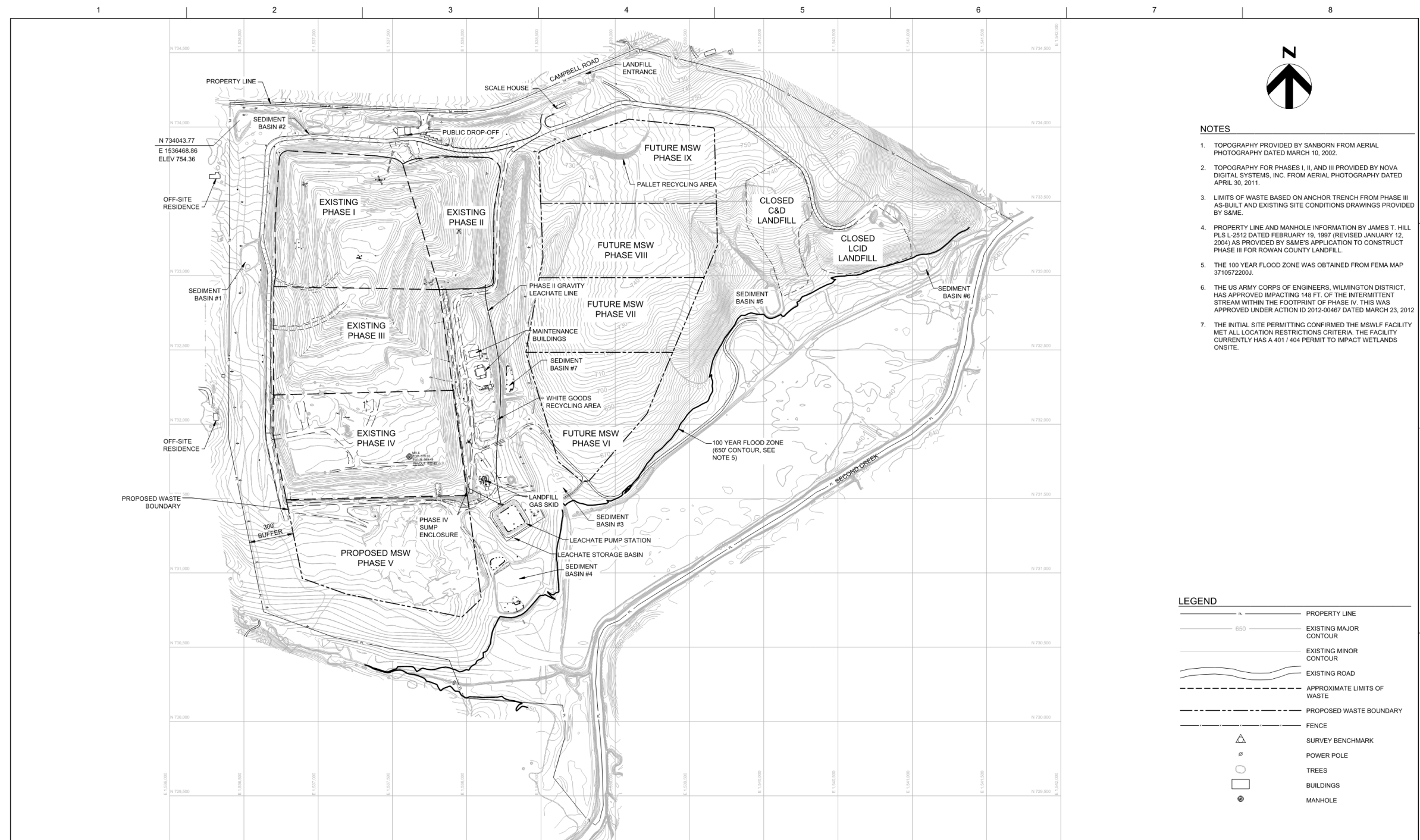
The blower/flare station currently providing wellfield vacuum and LFG destruction is rated for 1,500 standard cubic feet per minute (scfm). **Attachment C** provides an excerpt from the Parnell Biogas, Inc. operating manual, showing process specifications, plan drawings and detailed schematics showing the attributes and operating characteristics of the blower/flare station.

2.4 Liquids Management

LFG condensate generated within the GCCS is currently drained from driplegs into the lined waste cells' leachate collection system and is pumped back up the sideslope and comingled with leachate. Leachate (and therefore condensate) is managed at the Landfill by gravity drain or pumping to a lined surface impoundment. Similarly, condensate from the blower/flare station (knockout pot, etc.) is pumped to a manhole that then discharges to the same surface impoundment. Leachate is aerated at the impoundment and final discharge is directly to sanitary sewer connection.

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Figure 2-1: Permitted Site Plan



- NOTES**
1. TOPOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY SANBORN FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY DATED MARCH 10, 2002.
 2. TOPOGRAPHY FOR PHASES I, II, AND III PROVIDED BY NOVA DIGITAL SYSTEMS, INC. FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY DATED APRIL 30, 2011.
 3. LIMITS OF WASTE BASED ON ANCHOR TRENCH FROM PHASE III AS-BUILT AND EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS DRAWINGS PROVIDED BY S&ME.
 4. PROPERTY LINE AND MANHOLE INFORMATION BY JAMES T. HILL PLS L-2512 DATED FEBRUARY 19, 1997 (REVISED JANUARY 12, 2004) AS PROVIDED BY S&ME'S APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT PHASE III FOR ROWAN COUNTY LANDFILL.
 5. THE 100 YEAR FLOOD ZONE WAS OBTAINED FROM FEMA MAP 3710572200J.
 6. THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, WILMINGTON DISTRICT, HAS APPROVED IMPACTING 148 FT. OF THE INTERMITTENT STREAM WITHIN THE FOOTPRINT OF PHASE IV. THIS WAS APPROVED UNDER ACTION ID 2012-00467 DATED MARCH 23, 2012.
 7. THE INITIAL SITE PERMITTING CONFIRMED THE MSWLF FACILITY MET ALL LOCATION RESTRICTIONS CRITERIA. THE FACILITY CURRENTLY HAS A 401 / 404 PERMIT TO IMPACT WETLANDS ONSITE.

- LEGEND**
- PROPERTY LINE
 - 650 — EXISTING MAJOR CONTOUR
 - EXISTING MINOR CONTOUR
 - EXISTING ROAD
 - - - APPROXIMATE LIMITS OF WASTE
 - - - PROPOSED WASTE BOUNDARY
 - FENCE
 - △ SURVEY BENCHMARK
 - ⊕ POWER POLE
 - TREES
 - BUILDINGS
 - ⊙ MANHOLE

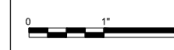


HDR Engineering, Inc.
 440 South Church Street, Suite 1200
 Charlotte, NC 28202
 704-338-6700

PROJECT MANAGER		P. WESTMORELAND, PE
PROJECT ENGINEER		P. WESTMORELAND, PE
CADD		
DRAWN BY		N. PINEBURY, E.I.
PROJECT NUMBER		10337481
1	04/2022	ISSUED FOR APPROVAL
ISSUE	DATE	DESCRIPTION



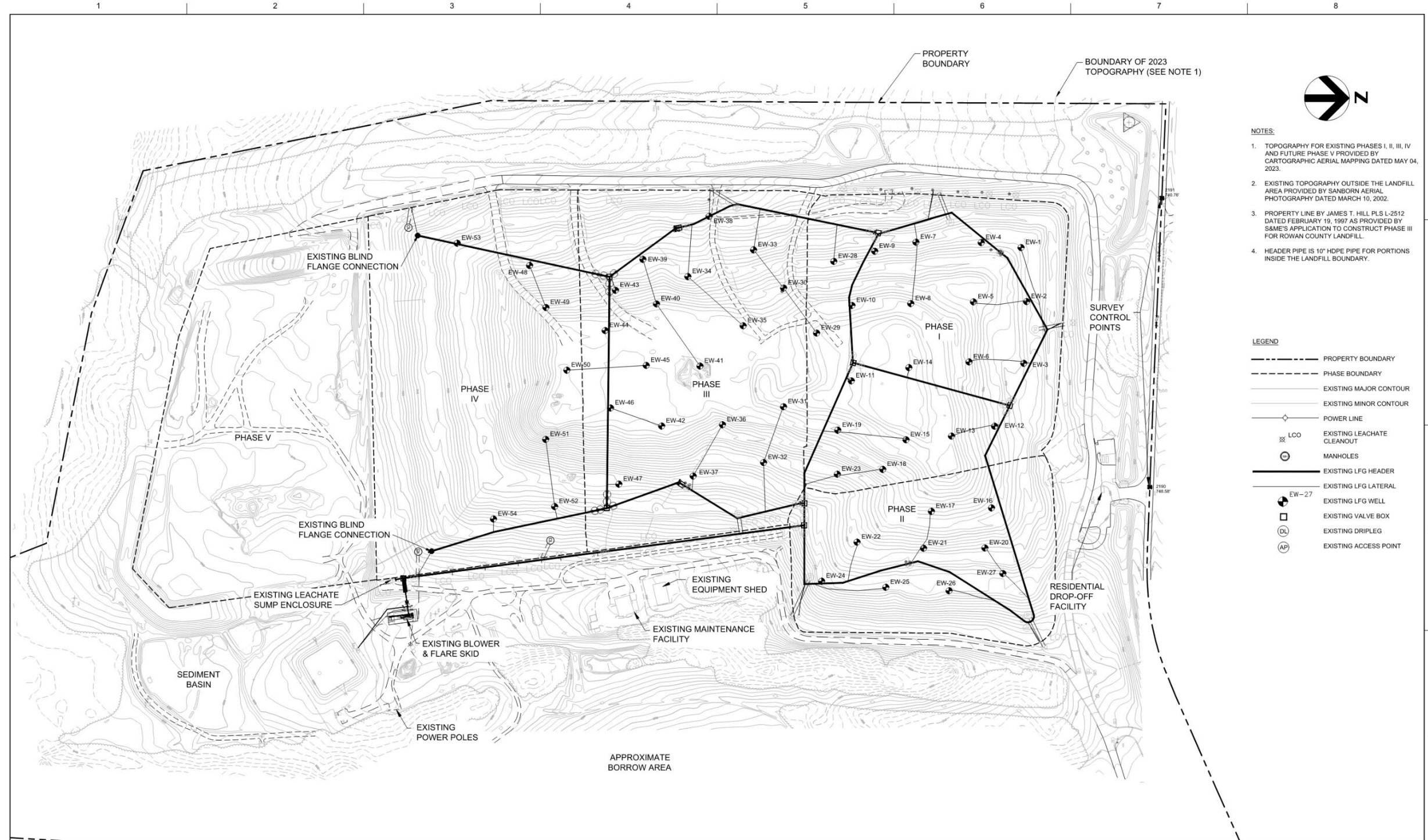
ROWAN COUNTY LANDFILL
PHASE V
CONSTRUCTION PERMIT
APPLICATION



FILENAME | 01G-01.DWG
 SCALE | 1" = 250'

SHEET
01G-01

Figure 2-2: Existing Site Map and GCCS (Including 2024 GCCS Expansion)



HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas
 449 S. Church Street, Suite 1200
 Charlotte, NC 28202-2075
 704.338.6700
 N.C.B.E.L.S. License Number: F-0116

ISSUE	DATE	DESCRIPTION

PROJECT MANAGER	M. PLUMMER, P.E.
DRAWN BY	B. BLUNKER
PROJECT NUMBER	10405881



Rowan County Landfill
 789 Campbell Road
 Woodleaf, NC 27054
 NORTH CAROLINA



EXISTING CONDITIONS

FILENAME | 01C-01.DWG
 SCALE | 1" = 150'

SHEET
01C-01

3 LFG Generation and Collection - Current

The County originally commissioned the development of LFG generation and collection modeling for the Landfill as a requirement in the development of the GCCS Design Plan. The results of this original modeling (performed in 2017) are provided in detail in the complete original document provided in **Attachment A**. Excerpts from this document and updates to this modeling are provided below.

Note that the LFG generation, quality and recovery estimates included in this RFP are for informational purposes only, and no warranty is made or implied regarding future LFG generation, quality and/or collection at the site. Proposers are expected to satisfy themselves with regard to future LFG generation modeling and estimates. Reasonable requests for independent testing, monitoring or sampling by Proposers will be allowed at County discretion.

3.1 Waste Receipt

Table 3-1 provides a breakdown of annual waste tonnages for Proposers to generate their own LFG generation models. These tonnages have been provided by the County and are consistent with regulatory reporting. For additional information, publicly available reporting data for the EPA GHG Mandatory Reporting Rule (40 CFR Subpart HH) can be found here:

<https://ghgdata.epa.gov/ghgp/service/facilityDetail/2022?id=1006996&ds=E&et=&popup=true>

Table 3-1: Rowan County Annual Waste Receipt Tonnages¹

Year	Annual Total Waste Disposal (tons/year)	Year	Annual Total Waste Disposal (tons/year)	Year	Annual Total Waste Disposal (tons/year)
1989	11,120	2001	69,301	2013	120,435
1990	11,120	2002	71,240	2014	121,286
1991	11,120	2003	76,258	2015	131,138
1992	11,120	2004	77,345	2016	144,064
1993	54,249	2005	87,036	2017	140,578
1994	101,273	2006	96,595	2018	141,370
1995	93,876	2007	90,595	2019	144,225
1996	74,509	2008	111,649	2020	170,877
1997	68,701	2009	135,137	2021	180,363
1998	67,787	2010	132,708	2022	199,558
1999	72,263	2011	125,314	2023	190,189
2000	75,092	2012	117,765	2024	192,857

These tonnages are consistent with the GHG values submitted in the annual EPA GHG Mandatory Reporting Rule. The Landfill does not have a waste characterization study to share with proposers. Since 2008, the Landfill has commingled limited amounts of construction and demolition/debris (C&D) waste with the municipal solid waste (MSW), however, waste is generally consistent with MSW (“bulk waste” in GHG Reporting).

¹Tonnage data for years 1989-2024 from the EPA greenhouse gas reporting website:
<https://ghgdata.epa.gov/ghgp/service/facilityDetail/2022?id=1002554&ds=E&et=&popup=true>

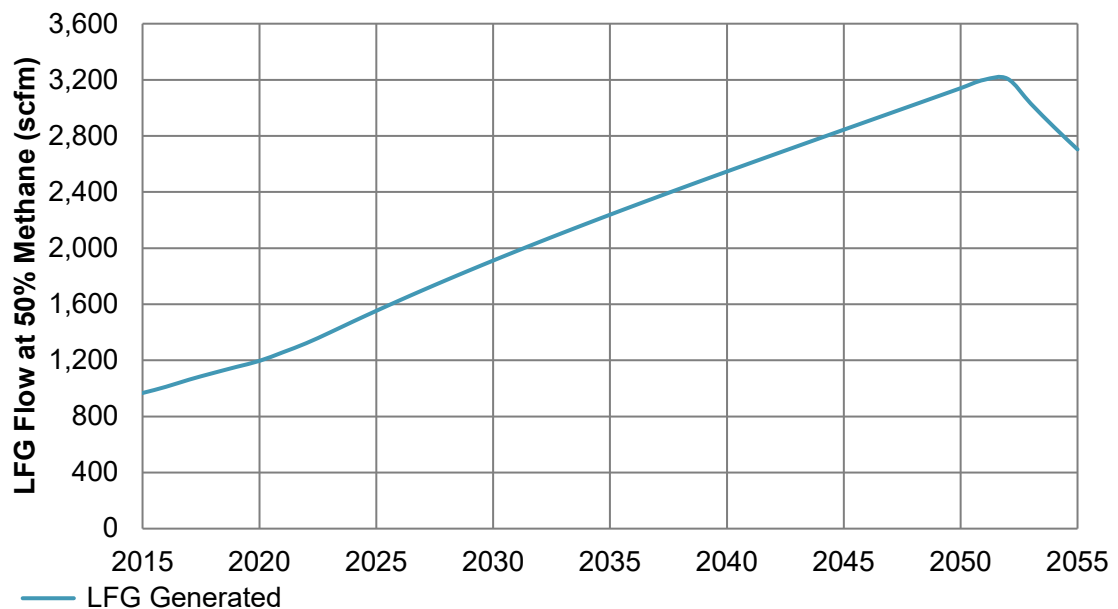
3.2 LFG Generation Modeling Summary

The original GCCS Design Plan document, developed in 2017 and provided in **Attachment A**, presents an LFG generation model for Phases I – IV projected through 2032 (as required by regulation). However, **Attachment D** provides an updated LFG generation model that utilizes the EPA LandGEM (version 3.1-Beta) and incorporates the following information and assumptions:

- Updated waste receipt tonnages through 2024 (see **Table 3-1**)
- Future waste receipt growth rate is assumed at a nominal 1.50% to match county-specific population data obtained from the United States Census Bureau (average annual growth rate 2019-2024).
- Updated assumptions for L_0 and k variables to “best fit” the model to current estimates of LFG flow and collection efficiency. Specifically, values of $110 \text{ m}^3/\text{Mg}$ and 0.057 yr^{-1} are utilized for L_0 and k , respectively. These values are chosen to more closely align with the actual collection flowrates since the GCCS installation and the “estimated” collection efficiency as reported in EPA GHG reporting.
- The best-fit curve generated by these values was compared and selected based on root mean square error (RMSE) methodology.

Figure 3-1 presents the LFG generation model commissioned by the County for this RFP – shown at a nominal 50% methane content.

Figure 3-1: LFG Generation Model (50% Methane Content)

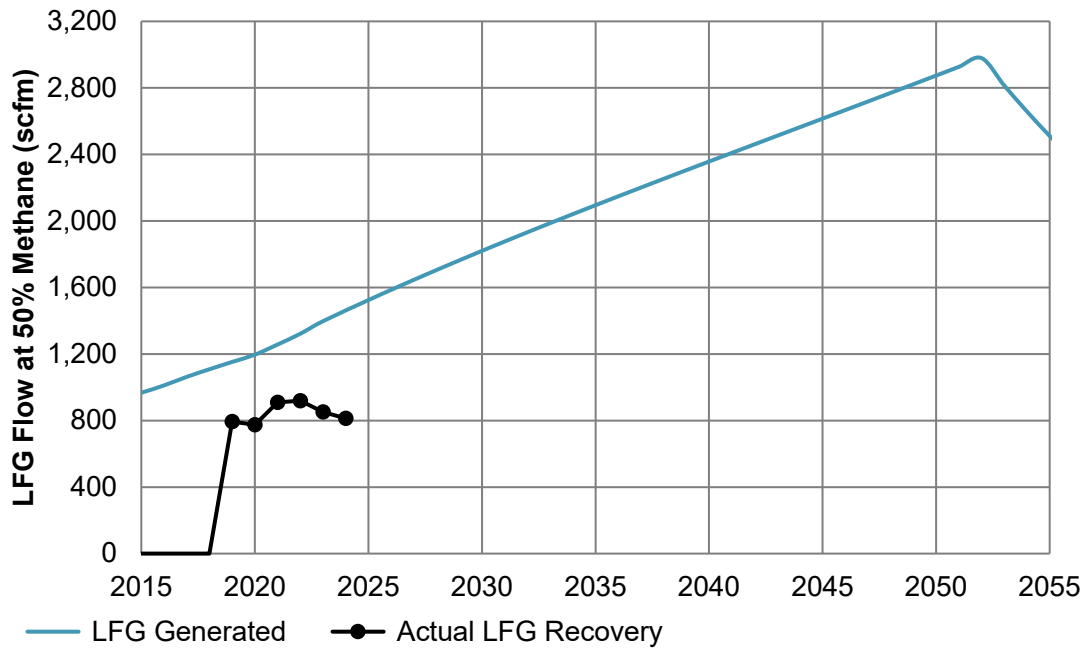


The full results from this model, including all inputs and assumptions are located in **Attachment D**.

3.3 Observed GCCS Coverage/Efficiency

The LandGEM model in **Attachment D** provides detailed estimates of expected generation of LFG based on the waste receipt and other variables. However, LFG recovery is always assumed as a percentage of the estimated LFG generation. The actual collection of LFG can be compared against the estimated LFG generation to understand the collection efficiency of the GCCS. **Figure 3-2** provides a graph of actual total LFG recovery based on the collection system coverage since 2019:

Figure 3-2: Actual Total LFG Recovery



As can be noted in the figure:

- Estimated historical collection system coverage reached a high of 72% in 2021, following GCCS expansion that took place in 2020, when actual LFG recovery exceeded 900 standard cubic feet per minute (scfm) – as adjusted to nominal 50% methane.
- Collection system efficiency was estimated to be 69% in 2022, with LFG recovery averaging 938 scfm at 49.0% methane (equivalent to 919 scfm at 50% methane)
- Collection system efficiency was estimated to be 61% in 2023, with LFG recovery averaging 888 scfm at 47.9% methane (equivalent to 850 scfm at 50% methane).
- Collection system efficiency was estimated to be 56% in 2024, with LFG recovery averaging 826 scfm at 49.2% methane (equivalent to 812 scfm at 50% methane).
- Per GHG reporting, the GCCS has not experienced any significant down time between 2019 and 2024, and a generally consistent methane concentration, averaging approximately 50%.

See Section 4 for estimates of future collection under anticipated collection scenarios.

3.3.1 GCCS Liquid Levels and Issues

As can be seen in **Figure 3-2**, the collection efficiency of the existing GCCS is not currently optimal. This is due in part to the liquid levels (perched liquids) in the extraction wells that are inhibiting collection efficiency. **Attachment E** provides a detailed technical memorandum addressing the issue, and a summary is provided as follows:

- The technical memo examines the existing GCCS at the Landfill and uses historical data gathered on LFG concentrations and water levels in the wells to diagnose issues of poor well performance.
- Based on observations conducted between July 2022 and August 2023, 71% of the LFG wells (27 out of a total 38 wells) exhibit over 50% of their perforated length inundated with perched liquid, leading to the hypothesis that the GCCS is underperforming (i.e. low collection efficiency) because the wellfield is not being adequately dewatered.
- Currently, down-well pumping infrastructure does not exist for the wellfield that could conveniently alleviate these issues.
- The technical memo ultimately recommends that the County monitor flow rates at every well during monthly monitoring and invest in a complete pumping infrastructure (air and forcemain piping to every well), with the understanding that the recommendation may not be feasible for County economics at the present time.
- Alternatively, the County is recommended to prioritize the most affected wells for dewatering and create a moveable pumping system/infrastructure around those. A temporary solution would be to purchase eight (8) vertical well pumps, connect them by hose to a tanker truck, and manage the liquids in this truck as leachate. The technical memo recommends that the following wells be prioritized for pumping:
 - EW-1
 - EW-2
 - EW-4
 - EW-6
 - EW-20
 - EW-26
 - EW-34
 - EW-36

This technical memo is provided to Proposers to outline potential reasons for the inhibited collection efficiency observed at the Site and to highlight the expected actions and expenditures that might be expected to achieve higher collection efficiency. See Section 4 for future collection efficiency assumptions under anticipated scenarios and Section 5 for additional discussion regarding expected actions and expenditures to achieve these results.

3.3.2 GCCS Coverage – Quality and Quantity

As can be seen in **Figure 2-2**, the 2024 expansion of the GCCS provides physical coverage of the GCCS to be relatively complete in Phases I – IV, where the majority of waste disposal has occurred. Note that waste placement has started in Phase V, but GCCS coverage is not yet required in this area (but will be expected within two years). **See Section 4 for future collection efficiency under anticipated scenarios and Section 5 for expected actions and expenditures to achieve these results.**

3.4 Observed LFG Methane Content

Attachment F provides a compilation of monthly LFG wellhead and blower/flare station data for Proposer review and information. Wellhead readings from January-June 2023 as published in the semi-annual reporting are provided in digest format. Earlier or more recent wellhead data can be provided upon request. **Table 3-2** provides a summary of the average methane content reported at the blower/flare station in recent years.

Table 3-2: Recent Annual Average Methane Concentrations²

Year	Annual Average Methane Concentration (%)
2019	51.5
2020	53.1
2021	51.6
2022	49.0
2023	47.9
2024	49.2

3.5 Laboratory Analysis

The County has not commissioned LFG analytical samples in recent years from the existing LFG collection system. Therefore, only fixed gases as measured by monthly wellhead monitoring (GEM-5000) is available (see **Attachment F**). Reasonable requests for independent testing, monitoring or sampling by Proposers will be allowed at County discretion.

²Annual methane concentration data from the EPA greenhouse gas reporting website:
<https://ghgdata.epa.gov/ghgp/service/facilityDetail/2022?id=1006996&ds=E&et=&popup=true>

4 Potential LFG Collection and GCCS Scenarios

Attachment A provides the GCCS Design Plan that outlines the conceptual GCCS expansion/improvement designs and layout options through Phase IV. Additionally, site drawings provided in **Attachment B** show the existing GCCS (as of 2025). **Figure 2-2** shows the Landfill footprint and permitted phases/cells with the current GCCS as of 2025.

Future GCCS expansions will be designed, permitted, and installed for future landfill lateral expansions (Phases V-IX) in accordance with scheduling requirements set forth in the applicable regulations or an approved alternative schedule. Conceptual designs for these future phases have not been developed by the County but are expected to follow similar design philosophy and expected well density, sizing, materials, typical details, etc. (See **Attachment A**).

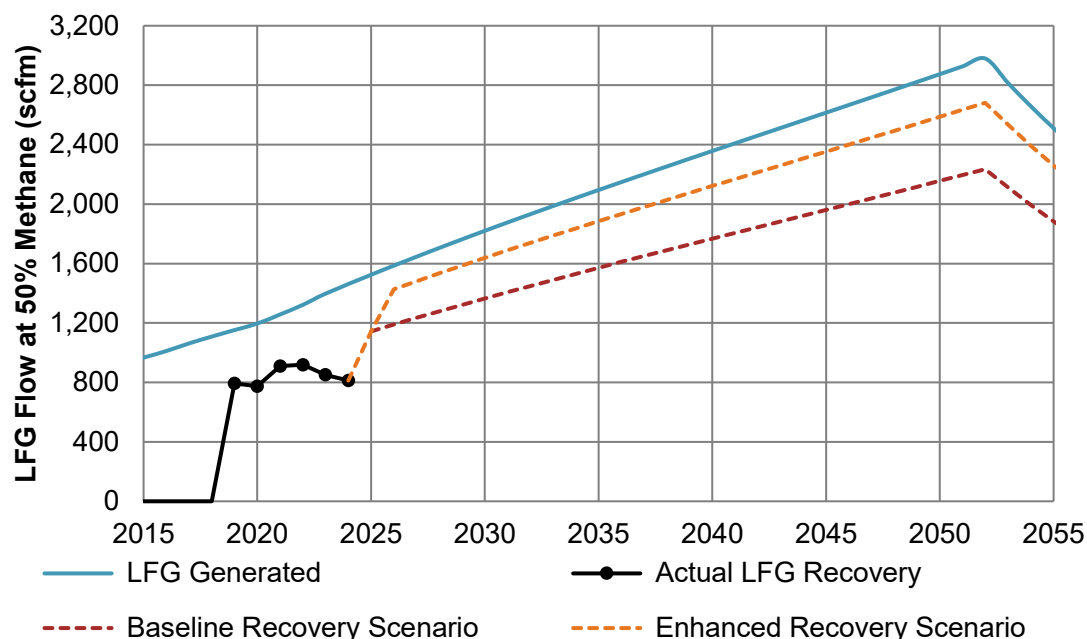
These design options are presented for Proposer reference and consideration for future expansion of the GCCS, as it is expected that the Developer will be responsible for expansion of the GCCS (see **Section 5**). As appropriate, the County will plan to coordinate with the Developer for update of the GCCS Design Plan prior to expansion of the GCCS into Phase V (as required by regulation).

As such the “potentially available LFG” and collection graphs provided in this Section have NOT been added to the GCCS Design Plan as of the date of this RFP, and are provided for Proposers information, planning, and to provide context to the potentially available LFG collection estimates.

4.1 LFG Modeling Summary and Potentially Available LFG

Figure 4-1 presents the combined LFG generation and potentially available (collected) LFG for each of two potential forward-looking GCCS scenarios.

Figure 4-1: LFG Generation, Recovery and Potential Collection



The **Baseline Recovery Scenario** assumes achieving an overall 75% collection efficiency (industry standard) by implementing the following (see conceptual/typical ROI and GCCS expansion design basis provided in **Attachment A**):

- The current GCCS provided in **Attachment B**. **Figure 2-2** shows the Landfill footprint and permitted phases/cells with the current GCCS as of 2025.
- **Additional expenditure** (to be estimated by Proposer as applicable) to implement the recommendations to address the GCCS liquid levels and issues outlined in **Section 3.3.1** and **Attachment E**.
- Note that the current rated capacity of the blower/flare station (1,500 scfm) will be exceeded in this scenario before 2035 and will require expenditure for upgrade or expansion. Furthermore, large-scale GCCS expansion is expected to occur by 2033 to complete the wellfield across the currently permitted and lined existing landfill footprint (Phases I – V). This expansion should be in general accordance with the GCCS Design plan provided in **Attachment A**. **To cover these costs, Proposers should assume an ADDITIONAL expenditure of approximately \$2,000,000 in 2033 (minimum, 2025 dollars) to achieve these GCCS improvements.**
- GCCS expansion is expected to occur between 2033 and 2051 to complete the wellfield across the FUTURE landfill footprint (Phases VI – IX). This expansion would be in general accordance with the GCCS Design plan provided in **Attachment A**. **This is estimated to be an ADDITIONAL expenditure of approximately \$4,000,000 (minimum, 2025 dollars) in future years to achieve these GCCS improvements.**

- Wellfield monitoring will occur on at least a **monthly** basis using dedicated field personnel.

The ***Enhanced Recovery Scenario*** assumes achieving an overall 90% collection efficiency by implementing the following:

- All the planned collection system improvements listed in the Baseline Recovery Scenario over the course of the project above (**estimated minimum \$6,000,000 expenditure, 2025 dollars**).
- **Additional expenditure over the course of the project** (to be estimated by Proposer as applicable/desired) to increase the density of wellfield coverage to reflect a tighter average ROI of approximately **100 to 125 feet**.
- Note that the current rated capacity of the blower/flare station (1,500 scfm) will be exceeded in this scenario before 2030 and will require expenditure for upgrade or expansion earlier than the Baseline scenario.
- Wellfield monitoring will occur **at least every other week** (twice per month) using dedicated field personnel.

In addition, both recovery scenarios assume that existing wells are repaired and replaced as needed.

5 Expected Project Characteristics

The County is requesting proposals from firms who are interested and qualified to collect, process, sell, and/or beneficially utilize LFG. This RFP is generally intended to result in:

- A Developer to assume full operational responsibility for LFG collection and control, and for controlling LFG emissions at the Landfill (currently handled by the County);
- A new LFGTE Project to beneficially utilize the collected LFG; and,
- Expansion of the GCCS by the Developer as necessary to control LFG emissions, comply with applicable regulations and/or provide additional LFG for the Project.

Proposers should respond to this RFP with proposals for LFGTE projects that correspond with the general attributes listed above, although this RFP is open for other or combination project types at the County's discretion.

5.1 LFGTE Project Types

In general, the following projects types are expected in response to this RFP: Direct use ("medium Btu"); Electricity generation; or Renewable natural gas ("RNG, high Btu") processes. Proposers are expected to respond to this RFP with proposals for LFGTE projects that correspond with the general project categories listed above, **although this RFP is open for other or combination project types at the County's discretion**. The County will make a final determination as to the structure of the Project at the commencement of any formal contract negotiation process. **Section 7** outlines the specific details required to be included in proposals as applicable for each technology type.

5.2 Other Project(s)

Proposers should note that RFP responses with projects that include additional technologies such as solar or wind generation components in addition to the LFG project will be accepted and evaluated. At its discretion, the County may choose to evaluate the merits of these other project types as part of or separate from this RFP process.

5.3 GCCS Operations and Future Expansion

*The County requires proposals to include operation, monitoring, and expansion (including design and permitting) of the GCCS at the Landfill. At a minimum, these proposed expansions will require capital expenditure over the course of the contract period, and should be installed to generally match the GCCS recovery scenarios described in **Section 4** and described in more detail in the proposal documents required in **Section 7**. Final designs, expansion and operation of the GCCS will be subject to the requirements of any final agreement or contract between the County and Preferred Proposer and will require County approval. "*

Under any approach to the LFGTE project, the Proposer will be expected to be responsible for GCCS operation for LFG emissions control including LFG-related odors, and LFG-related environmental compliance at the Landfill.

5.4 County Project Objectives

1. The County shall derive income from the sale of the collected LFG at the Landfill, this income may include any or all of the following:
 - Payment for the LFG fuel on a per Btu basis;
 - Percentage of Proposer gross revenue (i.e., electricity, product gas, environmental credits);
 - Ground lease payment for Proposer equipment on-site; and/or
 - Up front or continuing lump-sum payment.
2. The County will also receive on-site services associated with the collection and utilization of the LFG by the Proposer. These will include:
 - Conduct all sampling and testing as required for the Project.
 - Operate, monitor and maintain the GCCS at the Landfill, including the design, permitting, construction and integration of future GCCS expansions. Collaborate with the County and, as directed, other third-party on-site contractor(s) when planning GCCS expansion activities at the site.
 - Design, permit, construct, own and operate the LFGTE project and the GCCS in a manner that will minimize interruption with on-going Landfill operations and not cause regulatory violations of any kind or subsurface LFG migration or combustion.
 - Integration of Project equipment with the GCCS and the existing infrastructure at the site;
 - Optimization, regular monitoring, and sharing of data associated with the operation of the GCCS and the Project at the site (as applicable per the contract).
3. Continued compliance by the County and the Proposer with all current and future federal, state and local regulatory requirements and health and safety requirements.

6 Expected Contract Characteristics

By submitting a proposal, the Proposer agrees to be generally subject to the contract conditions outlined below (pending contract negotiation), except for those items clearly stated as exceptions in the proposal. Proposals that are conditional on one or more of the expected contractual provisions listed below may be accepted at the County's discretion.

The contract will be negotiated to the satisfaction of both parties once the Preferred Proposer is chosen through this RFP process – at which point the contracted "Proposer" will become the project "Developer" as termed in this section.

6.1 Landfill Gas Quality and Quantity

The County makes no guarantees as to the quality or quantity of the LFG at the Landfill. Furthermore, it will be the sole responsibility of the Developer to ensure that the quality and quantity of the medium-BTU gas, generated electrical power, or RNG (high-BTU product gas) will meet the requirements of the industrial user, electrical utility, or pipeline company that will be the ultimate buyer of the product. Should more LFG be extracted from the Landfill than what is accepted by the end user/purchaser, the Developer shall either flare the excess LFG or sell the excess to one or more additional purchasers. The Developer shall be responsible for the design, coordination and construction of any and all necessary piping to the LFG flare for diverting any excess or unusable LFG.

Pending final contractual payment terms, the Developer may be expected to pay the County for all LFG collected regardless if flared or used for beneficial use. In no event shall excess LFG or waste gas be vented without being flared. The Developer shall be responsible for providing flare capacity for the total amount of collected LFG at all times (full redundancy).

6.2 Landfill Gas Ownership

The County will own the LFG generated by the Landfill until the contracted point of sale between the County and the Developer. The Developer will own the LFG collected from the Landfill at and after the contracted point of sale. This point of sale will be identified in the contract.

6.3 Landfill Operations

The Developer shall be required to conduct all its operations so as not to interfere with the Landfill operations and not to interfere with the Landfill's ability to comply with its permits or with applicable laws or regulations.

6.4 Monetization of Environmental Attributes and Credits

The Developer may have the potential to receive various environmental attributes, incentives, and/or marketable credits for the sale or use of the LFG. These might be RECs for the generation of the electricity, RINs and/or LCFS credits for the generation of transportation fuel, or other marketable credits. These attributes will be identified in the

contract along with compensation, if any, to the County for the Developer’s monetization of the attributes and/or credits.

6.5 General Facilities Requirements

The Developer shall be solely responsible for the design, construction, and operation of all facilities necessary to complete the proposed Project. The facilities shall be operated in a safe, secure, effective, and efficient manner, and shall be in full compliance with all applicable laws, permits, rules and regulations. These include, but are not limited to, all federal and state health laws, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations, and EPA and NCDEQ Regulations. The facilities will be designed and operated to be secure from hazards such as explosions, leaks and all other dangers to human health and the environment

6.6 GCCS Operation and Expansion

The collection of LFG at the Landfill will require operation, maintenance and expansion of the GCCS within the contract term. The Developer shall be responsible for the planning, design, permitting, and construction of the GCCS expansion activities in accordance with the permit and applicable regulations as needed during the contract Term. The County shall have final approval authority on all aspects of the planning, design, permitting, and construction of the GCCS expansions.

6.7 Physical Assets

At the conclusion of the contract, it is the County’s intent to own the installed GCCS components. The contract with the Developer should allow for physical assets of the GCCS system (including any additional backup blower/flare equipment) to be owned by the County at the end of the contract term. Pending detailed contractual negotiations, ownership of the Developer’s LFGTE plant and processing equipment shall likely be retained by the Developer at the end of the contract term and removed from the Landfill within a specified period of time.

6.8 Permitting and Regulatory - LFGTE

The Developer shall be solely responsible for acquiring all required permits and complying with all local, regional, state, and federal requirements for all design, construction and operation activities related to the Project. If a modification to the existing Landfill permit is required, all regulatory coordination for permit updates shall be the responsibility of the County and any proposed change by the Developer shall be approved by the County.

6.9 Permitting and Regulatory - GCCS

The Landfill is currently subject to New Source Performance Standard (NSPS – Subpart OOO) and National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) requirements for the installation, operation, expansion, monitoring, recordkeeping and reporting of an active GCCS. **As such, the County will have specific requirements**

for GCCS expansion, monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping that would extend throughout the contract term. Therefore, the proposal evaluation process will include an evaluation of any proposed contract provisions to be included regarding the Developer's expertise in this area and their obligation to expand, operate and maintain the GCCS in full compliance with NSPS/NESHAP requirements.

6.10 Footprint and Rights of Way

The County will provide reasonable accommodation for Developer on-site equipment, storage, maintenance, and administrative functions to the extent available. The County shall provide access to County-owned land and County-owned rights-of-way necessary for the Developer to run electric service line and or service pipelines from Developer's LFGTE project to offsite users or purchasers. Any routing through private property and rights-of-way will be the Developer's responsibility.

6.11 Utilities

The Developer shall be responsible for the installation of all additional utilities needed for Project operations. This may include electrical service, natural gas service, potable or non-potable water, sanitary sewer, telecommunications, or other utilities. The Developer shall work with the local service providers in securing these services. The County will assist as reasonable to provide access or other on-site connections, however, the Developer shall bear all costs associated with securing these services as well as the costs for facility operations. Should the Project include onsite electrical generation or processing of LFG to RNG, it will be up to the Developer to determine if power or RNG (or raw LFG) generated by the LFGTE facility will be used for parasitic needs, or if offsite power will be purchased for facility operations, or a combination of both.

6.12 Contract Milestones

The contract with the Developer will include milestone dates, including terms and conditions that can be approved by all parties.

6.13 Condensate and LFG Well Dewatering Liquids

Condensate is generated in the GCCS and is currently managed by disposal with Landfill leachate. It will be the responsibility of the Developer to manage, collect, transport and install and maintain any condensate and/or LFG well dewatering liquids disposal related to Project infrastructure that will be necessary. It is anticipated that condensate and LFG well dewatering liquids generated within the GCCS and the waste mass may continue to be disposed of with Landfill leachate, however this will be addressed directly within the contract. The contract will separately address the condensate generated by the LFGTE Project and disposition of this waste stream will be negotiated. In all cases, the Developer shall obtain and comply with any permits required by law for such activity. The Developer shall be responsible for all disposal fees, monitoring, and pretreatment costs, as applicable per the contract.

7 Specific Proposal Requirements

The following describes the specific Proposal requirements. Proposers should organize the submitted documents in the order listed in this section.

7.1 Introductory Materials

7.1.1 Letter of Transmittal

Briefly state the firm's understanding of the Project and provide name(s) of person(s) authorized to make representations for the Proposer.

7.1.2 Title Page

Reference the RFP name and number, present the name of the Proposer's firm, address, telephone number(s) and name of contact person and date.

7.1.3 Table of Contents

Identify contents of the proposal by page number.

7.2 Proposer Information

7.2.1 Company Background

Describe the company background, years in existence, and general experience in the LFG, LFGTE and LFG beneficial use industry. Specific experience shall be further addressed in the Qualifications and Experience section of the proposal.

7.2.2 Project Team

Describe the Project team for all aspects of the Project, including any partnership, joint venture, or subcontractor relationships contemplated. Specify the role of each firm involved on the team and the responsibilities that each firm will have on the Project. Identify any previous working relationships involving team firms and provide client reference names, addresses, and current phone numbers for the previous working relationships involving team firms.

Provide an organization chart of the Project team, including both management and field staff that will be assigned to the Project. Provide job descriptions for each position on the organization chart and attach a resume for key members of the Project team.

7.2.3 Qualifications and Experience

Describe why the Project team is qualified to perform the Project proposed. Provide a minimum of three (3) examples of similar projects that demonstrate experience and competence with this type of work, completed within the last ten (10) years. Include project name, client name and the name and phone number of the contact person who has direct knowledge of the work performed. Include a description of the role that

Project team members served for each reference project. Specifically address the following:

- Experience related to design, permitting (solid waste, air and local building permits), construction and/or operation of an LFGTE project and GCCS - particularly under current regulatory requirements.
- Indicate whether these facilities are owned and/or operated by your company or by others. Where possible, indicate experience working with North Carolina or regional regulatory agencies, utilities and/or end users.
- Experience in marketing and negotiating energy and environmental attribute sales agreements;
- Experience operating, maintaining, tuning, recordkeeping and reporting for GCCS – specifically GCCS that are regulated under current NSPS/NESHAP control requirements.
- Identify any unique aspects of your team or proposal that will help in assuring successful development of this Project.

7.2.4 Financial Resources

Each Proposer shall submit the following information for the County to evaluate the financial strength and stability of the Proposer and gauge the ability to perform and to meet the long-term obligations set forth in the proposal;

- Provide a statement describing how the Proposer intends to finance the Project, demonstrating that Proposer can secure or provide the necessary financial resources, including resources necessary to construct any proposed facilities.
- Submit other financial data that would assist the County in evaluating the Proposer's financial capabilities to undertake this Project.
- In the event the Proposer intends to rely upon a third party to perform as financial guarantor, provide the information above with respect to the proposed Guarantor.
- If the Proposer intends that the contracting party will be different from the Proposer identified (for example, if the Proposer intends to create a subsidiary legal entity), provide a description of the legal relationship proposed between the contracting party and the Proposer, and a method of ensuring that the Proposer is ultimately responsible for the Project. Such a method may include a third-party guarantee or bond.

7.2.5 Litigation History

Each Proposer shall identify each case within the last five (5) years where: (a) a civil, criminal, administrative, bankruptcy or other similar proceeding was filed or is pending, if such proceeding arises from or is related to a dispute concerning the Proposer's rights, remedies or duties under a contract for LFG, LFGTE, or solid waste services; (b) a city, county, municipality or other entity terminated a written contract with the Proposer concerning LFG, LFGTE, or solid waste services; and/or (c) administrative fines, liquidated damages or other penalties were assessed or were deducted from the

Proposer’s payments under a contract for LFG, LFGTE, or solid waste services. For each case identified, the Proposer shall describe the basic facts concerning the case and the current status.

7.3 Project Approach

Provide detailed information regarding the permitting, design, construction, operation and maintenance for the proposed Project. The description should convey an understanding of the Project, including the proposed technology, why this technology or market was chosen, and how the Project will be feasible and profitable for both County and Proposer with the assumed LFG generation/collection scenario(s). Specifically include the viability and history of the proposed technology, and examples of this technology utilized in the United States and North Carolina (if possible). Details should include the following:

7.3.1 LFGTE Project

- A sample process flow diagram or other materials to illustrate the proposed Project – showing how the LFG will be collected, transported, treated and converted to the marketable product, how this will be tied into the existing and future GCCS, and the ultimate distribution system.
- Discussion of LFG rights transfer between Proposer and County, as well as LFG and/or product sales and marketing. Specifically, show the proposed location of the flow and LFG or product gas quality meters for payment (both between County and Proposer and between Proposer and end-product purchaser).
- Technology-specific details as applicable:
 - Direct medium-Btu LFG end-use purchaser, anticipated flowrates, up-time, pretreatment requirements, pressure requirements and piping layout (if applicable);
 - Electricity generation equipment, interconnect locations, interconnection equipment and agreements, routing layout, up-time, pretreatment requirements, pressure requirements and metering locations (if applicable);
 - High-Btu (RNG) processing design, permitting, construction, pre-treatment requirements (specific to the accepting pipeline utility), waste-gas and off-specification gas disposition plans, pipeline routing and connection location, and third party sales or other markets (RINs, LCFS, as applicable);
 - Other processing or utilization options, including technical details;
- Estimated area required for the Project and proposed location, as well as specifics regarding facility access, rights of way and utility needs for the Project (e.g., water, wastewater, electrical, etc.). Further, identify all waste products from the proposed process and how they will be managed.
- Discussion of potential environmental impacts; including, but not limited to, stormwater, air quality, ambient noise and odor levels, traffic conditions, and surrounding areas and visual screening.

- Permits that must be obtained (including all permits required from NCDEQ and/or EPA).

7.3.2 GCCS Operation, Maintenance and Expansion

- Proposed GCCS upgrades, replacements, expansion or repairs needed prior to Project startup and proposed subsequent expansions (both for potential future regulatory requirements and the proposed Project). See **Section 4** for minimum requirements.
- Discussion regarding how the Project will be sized and scaled in the future for expected increasing LFG flow rates.
- Discussion of proposed staff on site, responsibility for GCCS operation/tuning, and how Proposer's staff will maintain a working relationship and communicate with the County operators.
- Discussion of how Proposer intends to manage potential NSPS/NESHAP regulatory compliance, which may include specific wellhead tuning instructions and/or situations such as perimeter subsurface LFG migration, where LFG wells with low methane production or high oxygen content must remain under vacuum and connected to the GCCS.

7.3.3 General

- A proposed Project schedule identifying major milestones and estimated start dates. Clearly note the duration of the anticipated period of design/development and construction with a designated notice to proceed date and commercial operation date (COD).
- Include proposed rights, ownership, and responsibility divisions between the Project team and the County; including handling of revenues, expenses and energy credits.
- Observed difficulties or challenges that may be foreseen based on review of the information provided.
- Note clearly if the proposal takes exception to any of the terms included in the RFP and supporting documents.

7.4 Financial Proposal Forms

The Proposer shall describe in detail the proposed payments, revenue sharing and other benefits to the County using the required Financial Proposal Forms located in **Attachment G**. The applicable sections of these forms must be completed as applicable to the Proposer's estimates of LFG collection, consumption, processing, equipment up-time, production, sales and revenue sharing.

The Forms are designed to gather information regarding the Proposer's LFG modeling results, yearly \$/MMBtu proposed payments for the raw LFG (if applicable), and estimates for other Project attributes that will affect annual costs/revenues.

Attachment G provides detailed instructions for the completion of the forms, as well as an *example* for each contemplated technology option. The Forms assume a 20-year

Project period for consistency among responses; however, an adjusted contract time can be proposed, along with any anticipated options for contract renewal.

The Forms are generally divided into four sections, with response items delineated and color-coded as “**Response Required**” or “**Response as Applicable**.” **NOTE that not all Proposers will complete all forms.** The forms are generally as follows:

LFG Collection/Recovery (Required for all Proposers)

- This Form provides the range of annual estimated LFG recovery as outlined by the two scenarios detailed in this RFP document.
- Proposers should input expected LFG recovery for each year of the contract term.

GCCS Expansion Capital Expenditure and Raw LFG Purchase (Required for all Proposers)

- Proposers should input expected GCCS expenditures (CAPITAL only) in 2025 dollars for each year of the contract term. GCCS operation to NSPS/NESHAP standards (at minimum) is equally assumed from all Proposers.
- IF the proposal is offering payment to the County based on purchase of the raw, collected LFG, fixed (can be escalated annually) or indexed pricing can be shown here. Note that these values can be zero. If “percent of index” is chosen, then the index must be identified. As stated, values should be in 2025 dollars, with statement regarding annual inflation rate (or not).

LFGTE Project

- This set of Forms is segregated into four pages, one each for Direct Use (Medium-Btu), Electricity Generation, High-Btu (RNG), and Other Technologies. **Proposers should fill out ONLY the Form or Forms applicable to their proposed LFGTE technology.**
- The initial columns generally indicate the amount of sales product (i.e. electricity or RNG) anticipated to be produced.
- Columns are provided for fixed \$/unit payments based on product generated and sold as a commodity, as well as for “percent of net revenue” sharing for that commodity as well as other potential revenue sources/markets. Proposers are free to choose any, all or none of these options for payment to the County.

Compensation Summary

- This Form is designed to show the total ESTIMATED annual compensation as a summation of the previous sheets. If indexing is used, then it is understood that an estimate should be provided for that index to create this estimate. This should be shared on the form or in the proposal.

7.5 Example Contract

As an attachment to the proposal, please provide a redacted copy, example, or sample contract generally covering the proposed aspects of the Project. This document is to be presented as an example or sample contract for the purpose of this RFP. The County

may or may not choose to use applicable language in the example contract. **Please note that final contract language and format will be subject to future Contract negotiations between the County and the Proposer.**

8 Evaluation Process and Criteria

By submitting a proposal, all Proposers acknowledge and agree that: (a) no enforceable contract arises until the County signs the contract; (b) no action shall require the County to sign the contract at any time; (c) there is no obligation on the part of the County to award the contract to any Proposer; (d) the County shall be the sole judge of which proposal is in the best interest of the County; and (e) each Proposer waives all claims to damages, lost profits, costs, expenses, attorneys fees, etc., if the County decides that it will not approve the contract.

The County may reject proposals for any reason that the County deems sufficient. Among other things, the County may reject proposals: (a) if the Proposer mis-states or conceals any material fact in the proposal; (b) if the proposal does not strictly conform to the law or the requirements of the RFP; (c) if the proposal is subject to any conditions or qualifications; and/or (d) for budgetary reasons.

8.1 Evaluation Criteria

The County will conduct a comprehensive evaluation of all proposals received in response to this RFP. Each proposal will first be analyzed to determine overall responsiveness and completeness regarding the requirements defined in **Section 7** of this RFP and/or other proposal requirements outlined within the greater RFP documents provided by the County. Submission of a proposal that does not satisfy these instructions or have the required forms and information may result in the proposal being deemed non-responsive and may result in the proposal being eliminated from further consideration.

8.1.1 Tier 1 – Minimum Qualifications

Of the responsive proposals, the County will conduct a Tier 1 preliminary evaluation. The preliminary evaluation will determine the technical responsiveness of the proposals and the general qualifications of the responding firm. Firms that do not meet the minimum qualifications outlined below will not continue in the process. To be considered, each Proposer must have the required experience, financial resources, lack of litigation and provide adequate references. Responses that do not meet the initial criteria will not be evaluated further on more detailed technical, financial and contractual merits.

The following are considered the desired minimum qualifications that are important to the County decision-making process:

- The Proposer must have a minimum of three (3) LFGTE projects that the proposed Project team has developed and constructed within the last ten (10) years. Additional weight will be provided for projects that the Proposer currently owns and operates. Proposer must provide references from these projects.
- Proposer and/or team member (e.g., subcontractor) must have LFGTE design, permitting, construction, operations and compliance experience in the last 5 years.

- Proposer and/or team member (e.g., subcontractor) must include LFG collection system (GCCS) operation and maintenance in the proposal and have experience operating under NSPS/NESHAP and Title V requirements.
- Proposer must demonstrate that it has successfully financed at least three (3) LFGTE projects that used similar technology. Proposer must demonstrate that it currently has the ability to finance (or receive financing for) the project it is proposing.
- Proposer must have a clear or reasonably explained litigation history over the previous five (5) years.

8.1.2 Tier 2 – Short-List Evaluation

After the Tier 1 preliminary review of the proposals, the County anticipates detailed evaluation of the technical, financial and contractual merits of a set of “short-list” proposals for further discussion. The evaluation of the proposals will be performed by a team consisting of County staff, County engineering consultant, and/or County legal counsel. The Tier 2 evaluation could possibly include in-person (or virtual) interviews of each shortlisted Proposer, to be scheduled by the County. Specifically, the Tier 2 evaluation will consist of the following scored criteria – weighted as shown for a total available evaluation score of 100 points:

Project Technology Feasibility (20 available points)

Understanding and/or verifying that the design, construction and operation of the proposed LFGTE solution will be feasible, marketable and meet the County’s needs.

Proposer Experience and Qualifications (20 available points)

Analysis and ranking of Proposer’s experience and qualifications specifically related to the proposed Project technology and market.

GCCS Operation and Expansion (20 available points)

Understanding and/or verifying that the design, expansion, operation and maintenance of the existing and proposed GCCS be feasible, conform with regulatory requirements and meet the County’s needs.

Cost Proposal (15 available points)

Comparative financial evaluations of the short-listed proposals to develop a multi-year understanding (and ranking) of the financial terms of each proposal.

Corporate Financial Position and Reputation (15 available points)

Analysis and ranking of the short-listed Proposers’ financial position and corporate reputation in the LFGTE/Biogas market and industry.

Draft Contract Screening (10 available points)

Preliminary review of the draft contract(s) provided by the short-listed proposers, and development of any technical questions or concerns for clarification or discussion with the Proposer.

8.1.3 Selection and Contract Negotiation

The Proposer deemed most advantageous to the County will be recommended for award. Proposers will be notified at this point of their standing, and the County will move into contract negotiations with the Preferred Proposer (or Preferred Proposers).