



---

## **Inspection Report**

**To:** Mark Jacklin (Keystone Generating Station)  
**From:** Richard Southorn, P.E., P.G.  
**Re:** Keystone Ash Disposal Site – Annual CCR Unit Inspection Report  
**Inspection Date:** October 22, 2018  
**Report Date:** January 16, 2019

---

### **INTRODUCTION**

Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 257 addresses, in part, the management of Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR Rule, or Rule) in regulated units, including landfills. Specific to §257.84(b) of the Rule, existing and new CCR landfills must be inspected on an annual basis by a qualified professional engineer. For the Keystone Generating Station (operated by GenOn Northeast Management Company), this inspection requirement applies to the existing Ash Disposal Site. In support of this obligation, Mr. Richard Southorn (a qualified professional engineer with Aptim Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc. [APTIM]) conducted an on-site inspection of the Ash Disposal Site on October 22, 2018. The findings from this annual inspection are summarized in the remaining sections of this correspondence.

As required, this report will be placed in the Keystone facility's operating record per §257.105(g)(9), noticed to the State Director per §257.106(g)(7), and posted to the publicly accessible internet site per §257.107(g)(7). Placement of the prior annual inspection report into the facility's operating record was accomplished on January 18, 2018. Per §257.84(b)(4), the current report will be entered into the facility's operating record no later than January 18, 2019.

### **BACKGROUND**

The collective Ash Disposal Site consists of the contiguous East Valley and West Valley components and is operated/maintained in accordance with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) Solid Waste Permit No. 300837. Stage I of East Valley was constructed first and became operational in 1985. Stage I was initially constructed in the northern part of East Valley, with Stage II being later constructed in the southern half of East Valley and piggy-backed over the Stage I area. West Valley comprises Stage III of the disposal site, and it along with Stage II of East Valley, are the currently active portions. Disposal of CCR materials in West Valley began in 2002. When completed, West Valley will piggy-back over the western part of the East Valley Disposal Site. Stage IV of the disposal site (West Valley Expansion) is permitted and currently under construction. It is situated in the southern part of West Valley and represents a horizontal and vertical expansion of the Stage III area. When ultimate development conditions are reached, Stage IV will piggy-back over Stage III as well as the western limits of East Valley (Stage I and Stage II). At such time when the permitted disposal capacity has been

fully expended and final grades attained, any uncapped areas of the disposal site will be capped and closed in accordance with the approved Closure Plan.

As of the October 22, 2018 inspection, CCR materials were being placed in the active face of Stage III (West Valley). Additionally, composite liner installation was being completed in the West Valley Stage IV Expansion Area.

With respect to the Ash Disposal Site, APTIM's evaluation has focused on the following items as outlined in §257.84(b)(1)(i-ii):

- *A review of available information regarding the status and condition of the CCR unit, including, but not limited to, files available in the operating record; and*
- *A visual inspection of the CCR unit to identify signs of distress or malfunction.*

Specific to APTIM's preparation of the annual inspection report, and per §257.84(b)(2) (i-iv), the following aspects have been addressed:

- *Any changes in geometry of the structure since the previous annual inspection;*
- *The approximate volume of CCR contained in the unit at the time of the inspection;*
- *Any appearances of an actual or potential structural weakness of the CCR unit, in addition to any existing conditions that are disrupting or have the potential to disrupt the operation and safety of the CCR unit; and*
- *Any other change(s) which may have affected the stability or operation of the CCR unit since the previous annual inspection.*

## **OPERATING RECORDS REVIEW**

Principal items reviewed as part of this year's inspection included, but were not limited to: Design Drawings, 2017/2018 Weekly and Periodic Landfill Inspection Reports that have been completed since the 2017 Inspection, 2017 Annual Landfill Operations Report, and Solid Waste Permit No. 300837. During the site inspection, Mr. Southorn interviewed facility personnel (Mr. Mark Jacklin) to verify the information contained within the operating record.

### **Environmental Control System Overview**

- i. Bottom Liner System
  - a. East Valley is underlain by a single synthetic liner system.
  - b. West Valley has a double-liner system with one component being a geosynthetic clay liner.

ii. Leachate Collection System

- a. The East Valley and West Valley leachate collection systems are represented by piping networks located above the liner system. East Valley leachate is routed to the existing Pump Station and then pumped to the station's Industrial Wastewater Treatment (IWT) plant. West Valley leachate flows by gravity directly to the IWT. Following processing at the IWT and eventually at the Final Wastewater Treatment (FWT) plant, the treated effluent is discharged in accordance with the station's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit.

iii. Stormwater Management

- a. "Contact" stormwater at both East Valley and West Valley is collected in the West Valley Equalization Pond to allow for solids settling and is then routed to the IWT for treatment.
- b. Non-contact stormwater at both East Valley and West Valley is routed to dedicated NPDES-permitted outfalls for direct discharge to surface water.

Summary of Landfill Construction

Composite liner installation was being completed in the West Valley Stage IV Expansion Area at the time of inspection. CCR disposal was occurring in the remaining active areas of West Valley Stage III. CCR disposal will move to the West Valley Stage IV Expansion Area once construction is complete and the area is certified for use.

Review of Prior Inspections

Weekly inspections: A review of weekly inspections has concluded that no significant deficiencies occurred at the facility that required remedial actions.

Annual inspections: A review of the previous annual inspection report has determined that there were no deficiencies or releases, actual or potential structural weaknesses, or concern to the stability of the land form. All environmental control systems were in good operating condition and functioning as intended.

CCR Disposal

Based on information provided by Station personnel, the total in-place disposal quantity of CCR materials as of December 2017 was estimated at approximately 28,601,150 cubic yards (cy). At the end of December 2018, approximately 739,186 cy of additional materials have been disposed. Therefore, the approximate total CCR disposal quantity at the end of 2018 is 29,340,336 cy.

**SITE INSPECTION**

The site inspection was performed on October 22, 2018 by Mr. Southorn. The inspection focused on identification of standard geotechnical signs of distress or malfunction. Specific aspects such as slumping at the toe of slope, tensile cracking, abnormal or excessive erosion on the side slopes, slope bulging, and groundwater/surface water seepage or ponding were assessed. If

present, these readily visible signs are potential indicators of structural weakness of the CCR Landfill unit.

#### Visual Signs of Distress or Malfunction

No visual signs of distress or malfunction were observed during the inspection. Stormwater drainage features, slope appearance and stability, leachate conveyance mechanisms, and overall site conditions were assessed. Closed and intermediate cover areas of the East Valley exhibited well established vegetation.

#### Review of Environmental Control Systems

With no evidence to the contrary, the bottom liner systems at East Valley and West Valley are believed to be in good operating condition and functioning as intended. At the time of the inspection, conveyance systems to the IWT were operating as designed.

#### Review of Previously Recommended Actions

No corrective actions were required based on the findings of the 2017 Annual Inspection. Recommendations were limited to the continued operation and maintenance of the facility and maintaining access to closed portions of the landfill for inspection purposes. These recommendations were found to have been followed, based on site conditions and the review of weekly inspection logs.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

#### Changes in Geometry

CCR material placement has progressed in the active disposal area of the West Valley throughout this year. As of the date of this inspection, peak fill elevations in the active disposal area were at approximately 1,400 feet mean sea level.

#### In-Place CCR Disposal Quantities

The total permitted disposal capacity for the combined East Valley and West Valley areas is 49,926,600 cy. The approximate total CCR disposal quantity at the end of 2018 is 29,340,336 cy.

#### Appearance of an Actual or Potential Structural Weakness of the CCR Unit

At the time of inspection, there were no signs of distress or malfunction that would indicate actual or potential structural weakness at East Valley or West Valley.

#### Changes that may Affect the Stability or Operation of the CCR Unit

There have been no changes to the East Valley or West Valley areas that pose a threat or concern to the stability of the land form.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue operation and maintenance in the active areas as currently performed.
2. Ensure adequate access to the closed portions of the landfill to maintain the ability to perform weekly visual site structural inspections.

There were no deficiencies or releases identified during the 2018 annual inspection that required the owner or operator to perform corrective actions as required under §257.84(b)(5).

## PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER'S CERTIFICATION

In accordance with §257.84(b) of the Rule, I hereby certify based on a review of available information within the facility's operating records and observations from my personal on-site inspection (including the photographs contained in Attachment 2), that the Keystone Ash Disposal Site does not exhibit any appearances of actual/potential structural weakness that would be disruptive to the normal operations of the East Valley and West Valley CCR Units. Both units are being operated and maintained consistent with recognized and generally accepted good engineering standards and practices.

Certified by:

RICHARD SOUTHORN

Date:

JAN 16, 2019

Richard Southorn, P.E., P.G.

Professional Engineer Registration No. PE085411

Aptim Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc.



1/16/19

LICENSE EXPIRES  
9/30/19

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Site Map
2. Inspection Photo Log

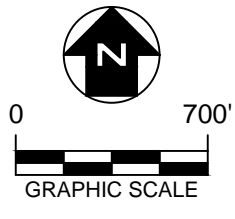
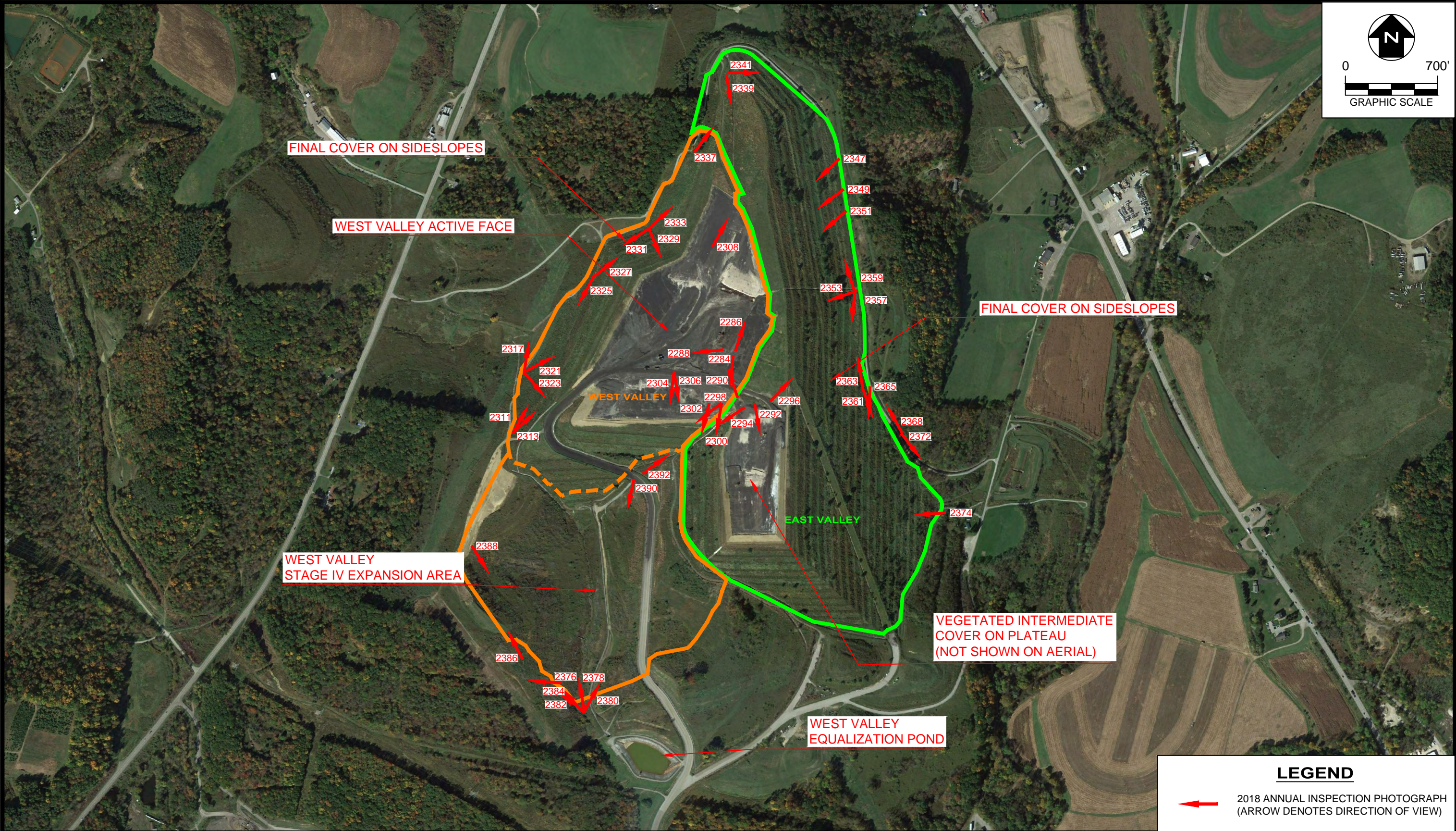
## REFERENCES

1. Residual Waste Major Permit Modification, Keystone Station Disposal Site, July 1996.
2. 2017 Keystone Generating Station Annual Landfill Operations Report.
3. Weekly and Periodic Landfill Inspection Reports Nov 2017 – Oct 2018.
4. 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 257.


**Attachment 1**  
**Site Map**



T:\AutoCAD\Projects\NRG\CCR-Annual Inspections\2018\Keystone-PA.dwg, 11x17, 12/11/2018 2:50:51 PM



**LEGEND**

 2018 ANNUAL INSPECTION PHOTOGRAPH  
(ARROW DENOTES DIRECTION OF VIEW)

				<div><div>APTIM Environmental &amp; Infrastructure, Inc.</div><div>APTIM Environmental &amp; Infrastructure, Inc. has prepared this document for a specific project or purpose. All information contained within this document is copyrighted and remains intellectual property of APTIM Environmental &amp; Infrastructure, Inc. This document may not be used or copied, in part or in whole, for any reason without expressed written consent by APTIM Environmental &amp; Infrastructure, Inc.</div></div>	KEYSTONE GENERATING STATION SHELOCTA, PENNSYLVANIA							
					PHOTOGRAPH LOCATION MAP							
REV. NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION			DRAWN BY:	BWM	APPROVED BY:	RDS	PROJ. NO.:	1009174011	DATE:	DECEMBER 2018



**Attachment 2**  
**Photo Log**



**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2284  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 7:45 AM  
Direction: South

Description:

Gypsum in West Valley active area that has been recently spread prior to compaction.



Image: 2286  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 7:45 AM  
Direction: North

Description:

Gypsum in West Valley active area.



**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2288  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 7:46 AM  
Direction: West

Description:

West Valley active area.  
Compacted and graded to  
prevent ponding water.



Image: 2290  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 7:48 AM  
Direction: North

Description:

West Valley active area  
after being sprayed by  
water truck to prevent  
fugitive dust.





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2292  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 7:49 AM  
Direction: South

**Description:**

Final cover placed on East Valley. Vegetation is well established with uniform coverage. No observed erosion, animal burrows, or visual indications of instability.



Image: 2294  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 7:49 AM  
Direction: Southwest

**Description:**

A non-contact stormwater channel that is lined with revetment mat. The channel is free of obstructions and appears in good condition.





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2296  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 7:51 AM  
Direction: Northeast

**Description:**

Final cover on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).



Image: 2298  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 7:53 AM  
Direction: Southwest

**Description:**

Recently installed geomembrane in West Valley Expansion Area.



**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2300  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 7:53 AM  
Direction: South

Description:

Final cover on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense and healthy. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).



Image: 2302  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 7:53 AM  
Direction: South

Description:

Southern view between East and West Valley Expansion Area from active area.





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2311  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:02 AM  
Direction: Northeast

**Description:**

Perimeter road on western side of West Valley.  
Revetment lined run-off ditch on interior side of road (right, in photograph).



Image: 2313  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:02 AM  
Direction: Northeast

**Description:**

A non-contact stormwater channel that is lined with revetment mat. The channel is free of obstructions and appears in good condition.





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2317  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:03 AM  
Direction: North

Description:

Cleanout access point for new pump station.



Image: 2321  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:04 AM  
Direction: Northeast

Description:

Final cover on sideslopes of West Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2323  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:04 AM  
Direction: Southeast

Description:

A leachate cleanout present within the West Valley final cover.



Image: 2325  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:07 AM  
Direction: Southwest

Description:

Final cover on sideslopes of West Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2327  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:08 AM  
Direction: Northeast

**Description:**

Final cover on sideslopes of West Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).



Image: 2329  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:09 AM  
Direction: Southeast

**Description:**

West Valley edge-of-Liner marker in foreground and leachate cleanout riser in background.





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2331  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:09 AM  
Direction: Southwest

**Description:**

Final cover on sideslopes of West Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).



Image: 2333  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:09 AM  
Direction: Northeast

**Description:**

Final cover on sideslopes of West Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2337  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:11 AM  
Direction: Northeast

**Description:**

Final cover on sideslopes of West Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).



Image: 2339  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:14 AM  
Direction: South

**Description:**

Final cover on topslopes of West Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2341  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:14 AM  
Direction: East

**Description:**

Final cover on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).



Image: 2347  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:17 AM  
Direction: Southwest

**Description:**

Final cover on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2349  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:17 AM  
Direction: Southwest

**Description:**

Final cover on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).



Image: 2351  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:17 AM  
Direction: Southwest

**Description:**

Final cover on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2353  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:19 AM  
Direction: West

**Description:**

Downchute on final cover at East Valley. The downchute is armored and free of obstruction. Functioning as intended.



Image: 2357  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:19 AM  
Direction: South

**Description:**

Final cover on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2359  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:19 AM  
Direction: North

Description:

Final cover on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).



Image: 2361  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:22 AM  
Direction: South

Description:

Final cover terrace on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2363  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:22 AM  
Direction: North

**Description:**

Final cover terrace on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).



Image: 2365  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:23 AM  
Direction: South

**Description:**

Final cover terrace on sideslopes of East Valley. The vegetation is dense, healthy, and uniformly distributed. The final cover slopes show no evidence of erosion, animal burrows, or failure (e.g. sloughing or sliding).





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2368  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:25 AM  
Direction: Northwest

Description:

Non-contact stormwater channel looking upslope at East Valley. Armored and functioning as intended.



Image: 2372  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:25 AM  
Direction: Southeast

Description:

Non-contact stormwater channel looking downslope at East Valley. Armored and functioning as intended.





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2374  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:29 AM  
Direction: West

Description:

East Valley leachate collection structure (routes to Pump Station and then to IWT facility).



Image: 2376  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:35 AM  
Direction: Northwest

Description:

Liner construction to support filling between valleys. Geomembrane is being installed over compacted clay liner. Panel seaming actively being completed.





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2378  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:36 AM  
Direction: North

Description:

Liner construction to support filling between valleys. Geomembrane is being installed over compacted clay liner. Panel seaming actively being completed.



Image: 2382  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:36 AM  
Direction: Northwest

Description:

Geomembrane is being installed over compacted clay liner in West Valley Expansion Area.





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2384  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:37 AM  
Direction: West

Description:

Stormwater run-on control ditch near limits of construction in West Valley Expansion Area.



Image: 2386  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:37 AM  
Direction: Northwest

Description:

Geomembrane installation in West Valley Expansion Area.



**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2388  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:39 AM  
Direction: Southeast

Description:

Geomembrane installation  
in West Valley Expansion  
Area.



Image: 2390  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:42 AM  
Direction: South

Description:

Geomembrane installation  
in West Valley Expansion  
Area.





**Project: Keystone Annual Inspection**

**Photographer: Richard Southorn**

Image: 2392  
Date: 10/22/2018  
Time: 8:42 AM  
Direction: Northeast

Description:

Contact stormwater  
ditches that flow to the  
West Valley Equalization  
Pond.

