## ROLLING HILLS CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS DISPOSAL FACILITY



## South Palafox Properties, LLC. Rolling Hills Construction and Demolition Debris Disposal Facility

The Department of Environmental Protection focuses on compliance as the most effective and quickest route to environmental protection. As such, the department attempted to work with South Palafox Properties, LLC since 2011 to bring the Rolling Hills facility into compliance and correct the ongoing compliance issues at the property. The company failed to comply; therefore, the department determined that revocation of the permit was necessary to prevent additional violations and environmental harm from occurring.

On July 31, 2014 the department revoked the permit for the Rolling Hills Construction and Demolition Debris Disposal Facility. A copy of the revocation can be found here: <a href="http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/news/2014/07/NOR.pdf">www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/news/2014/07/NOR.pdf</a>

On Aug. 4, 2014 South Palafox Properties filed a Petition for Hearing. The administrative hearing was held the week of December 9, 2014. On March 2, 2015, the Administrative Law Judge issued a Recommended Order to uphold the department's revocation. After a thorough review of the Recommended Order and the filings by all parties, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection issued a Final Order upholding the revocation of the permit for the operations of the Rolling Hills Construction and Demolition Recycling Center in Escambia County. A copy of the Final Order can be found here: <a href="https://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/comm/articles/2015/South%20Palafox%">www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/comm/articles/2015/South%20Palafox%</a> 20FO-Final.pdf

The final order required South Palafox Properties to apply for a closure permit within 30 days and complete closure within 180 days of obtaining that permit. Due to South Palafox Properties failure to do so, the department took the necessary steps to secure the funds from the facility's financial assurance surety which will be used to properly close the facility, and the department assumed responsibility for properly closing the C&D disposal area.

Department engineers worked with state contractors, surveyors and landfill closure experts to develop a comprehensive closure design based on current site conditions. A properly designed and implemented closure plan is crucial to the long-term stability and effectiveness of the site closure. The soil cap must be designed and constructed in a way to abate hydrogen sulfide gases, prevent erosion and convey stormwater runoff to the permitted stormwater system for the facility.

In addition to the administrative action associated with the permit revocation, the department also filed a lawsuit in circuit court seeking injunctive relief and penalties to address various aspects of compliance and long-term care at the site, including odors and South Palafox Properties' failure to implement the required Remedial Action Plan to address ground water impacts at the site. Escambia County is a co-plaintiff/plaintiff-intervenor in this case. A trial was held on May 24 and 25. The Final Judgment Granting Injunctive Relief and Assessment of Civil Penalties is available here: <a href="https://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/comm/files/2014-CA-00161%201.pdf">www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/comm/files/2014-CA-00161%201.pdf</a>

The department remains committed to upholding Florida's stringent environmental standards and protecting the health and safety of Florida's residents and the environment.