GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

Land Protection Branch
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Oct 29, 2026

Mathew Dolan
Solid Waste Manager, Newton County
205 Lower River Road
Covington, GA 30016
Email: mdolan@co.newton.ga.us

SUBJECT: **Newton County – Lower River Road MSWLF**
Permit Number: 107-015D(MSWL)
5-Yr Permit Review and Major Modification Approval
GEOS Submittal IDs: 722679 & 724349

Dear Mr. Dolan:

Newton County's application for Major Modification to Solid Waste Handling Permit 107-015D(MSWL), including the necessary supplemental data for the landfill's operation, has been reviewed and approved.

The Major Modification to Permit No. 107-015D(MSWL), is attached and includes conditions and limitations for the facility's operation. EPD notes that the submittal and approval of this Major Modification also fulfills the requirements of Rule 391-3-4-.02(1), for 5-Year Permit Review.

Personnel of the Environmental Protection Division will make periodic inspections of the facility's operations. These inspections will be discussed with you or your designated representative.

This permit is now in effect; however, under Georgia Law it is subject to appeal for a period of thirty (30) days following its issuance and is subject to modification or possible vacation if appealed. Should an appeal be received within the thirty (30) day appeals period, you will be immediately notified and further construction or operation under this permit may not be undertaken until such time as the appeals process is concluded.

Note that your next scheduled 5-Year Permit Review date is five years from the issuance date for the approval of the Major Modification, unless the permit is appealed. For permits to remain in effect, applications for permit review must be filed at least six (6) months, but not more than eighteen (18) months prior to the date of the scheduled permit review.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Keith Stevens at (470) 251-2515 or Keith.Stevens@dnr.ga.gov.

Sincerely,

William Cook

William Cook
Program Manager
Solid Waste Management Program

Enclosures: Permit

cc: Keith Stevens; Beverly Tipton, William Cook; EPD (via email)
Derrick Williams, Northeast District; EPD (via email)
Curtis Reynolds, PE (HE) (via email)

File: GEOS Submittal IDs: 722679 & 724349

PERMIT NO.: 107-015D(MSWL)
MAJOR MODIFICATION No. 2
ISSUANCE DATE: 10/29/2026

GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

LAND PROTECTION BRANCH

Solid Waste Handling Permit

Permittee Name: **Newton County Board of Commissioners**

Permittee Address: **1124 Clark Street**
Covington, Georgia 30014

In accordance with the provisions of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, and the Rules promulgated pursuant thereto, this permit is issued for the following:

> **The construction and operation of a Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Compost Facility (Facility) known as the Lower River Road MSW Landfill, located at 205 Lower River Road, Covington 30016 (Latitude 33°32'53", Longitude 83°53'30")**

This Permit is conditioned upon the Permittee complying with the attached conditions of operations, which are hereby made a part of this Permit.

All statements in the application and supporting evidence, information, and data submitted to the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources have been evaluated, considered and relied upon in the issuance of this Permit.

This Permit is now in effect; however, under Georgia law it is subject to appeal for 30 days following issuance, and is subject to modification or revocation on evidence of noncompliance: (i) with any provision of the Act or of the Rules promulgated pursuant thereto; or (ii) with any representation made in the above mentioned application or the statements and supporting data entered therein or attached thereto; or (iii) with any condition of this Permit.

STATE OF GEORGIA — CONSTITUTION — WISDOM — JUSTICE — MODERATION — 1776

Jeffrey W. Cown

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director
Environmental Protection Division

Conditions for the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Disposal Facility:

1. The previous Solid Waste Handling Permit and permit modifications are hereby superseded.

2. The Design and Operational (D&O) Plan submitted by the Permittee and approved by the Environmental Protection Division (Division) on August 21, 2026 for the MSW Disposal Facility (Facility) is hereby made a part of this Permit and the Facility shall be operated in accordance with the August 21, 2026 approved D&O Plan. Conditions of this Permit supersede any provisions of the D&O Plan which may conflict.

3. The Facility shall be operated under the direct supervision of an operator duly certified in accordance with Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4-.18 of the Georgia Rules for Solid Waste Management (Solid Waste Rules).

4. Regulated quantities of hazardous waste as defined in Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4-.01 shall not be disposed of at the Facility.

5. Operations shall be conducted at all times in such a manner as to prevent air, land, and water pollution and to prevent public health hazards.

6. All-weather access roads shall be provided at the Facility, and provisions shall be made for prompt equipment repair or replacement when needed.

7. Access to the Facility shall be limited to authorized entrances, which shall be closed when the Facility is not in operation.

8. Signs shall be posted at the entrance to the Facility stating the days and hours of operation and the type of material accepted for disposal.

9. The Facility shall be graded and drained to minimize runoff onto the landfill, to prevent erosion, and to drain water from the surface of the landfill. Best management practices (BMPs) from the most recent edition of the Manual for Erosion and Sedimentation Control in Georgia shall be utilized.

10. Site survey control shall be provided and maintained to ensure compliance with the approved D&O Plan.

11. Stormwater runoff from disturbed areas not covered under an applicable National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit shall be controlled by use of appropriate erosion and sedimentation control measures or devices. Runoff from the entire Facility shall be routed to on-site sediment basins designed in accordance with Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4-.07(1)(e). Best management practices (BMPs) from the most recent edition of the Manual for Erosion and Sedimentation Control in Georgia shall be utilized.

12. Scattering of waste by wind shall be controlled by fencing or other barriers, and the entire facility shall be policed daily.

13. A minimum 50-foot undisturbed buffer shall be maintained between the waste disposal area and all wetlands, as defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, unless evidence is provided to the Division by the Permittee that impacts to wetlands have been permitted under all applicable state and federal laws and rules. The Permittee must also place a demonstration of compliance in the operating record and notify the Division that it has been placed in the operating record.

14. Suitable means shall be provided to prevent and control fires. Stockpiled soil is considered the most satisfactory firefighting material.

15. The Permittee shall fully satisfy all applicable financial responsibility requirements for closure and post-closure care in accordance with Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4-.13.

16. Upon completion of any major construction project, including but not limited to cell construction, sediment ponds, installation of environmental monitoring wells, modifications adding a new solid waste handling process, and/or application of final cover, the Permittee shall provide the Division with written certification, by an appropriate professional geologist or professional engineer licensed to practice in Georgia, that the project has been constructed in accordance with this Permit. Unless notified by the Division within 15 days of receipt by the Division of the written certification of a constructed cell, the Permittee may commence disposal of solid waste.

17. The Facility shall be closed in accordance with Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4-.11 and the Closure Plan included in the approved D&O Plan.

18. Upon completion of closure activities, the Permittee shall submit to the Division a closure report prepared by a professional engineer, registered in Georgia, certifying that closure activities have been completed for this landfill in accordance with this Permit. If the Division concurs with the closure report, EPD will issue a closure permit, and the landfill may begin the post-closure care period.

19. Concurrent with the submission of the closure report to the Division, the Permittee shall submit confirmation to the Division that a notation on the property deed has been recorded. This recording must in perpetuity notify any potential purchaser of the property that the land has been used as a MSW landfill and that its use is restricted under the post closure care requirements of Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4-12.

20. The Permittee shall maintain and retain the operating record at or near the Facility in accordance with the record keeping requirements of Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4-.07.

21. In accordance with O.C.G.A. 12-8-39(a) and (b) the Permittee shall provide a mechanism to collect a cost reimbursement fee upon each ton, or the volume equivalent of a ton, of solid waste received at the landfill regardless of its source. The cost reimbursement fee shall be paid into a local restricted account and shall be used for solid waste management purposes only.

22. In accordance with O.C.G.A. 12-8-39(e), the Permittee shall assess and collect on behalf of the Division from each disposer of waste a surcharge per ton of solid waste disposed. Surcharges assessed

and collected shall be due to the Division on the first day of July of each year.

23. All soil borings, monitoring wells and piezometers at this site shall be plugged and abandoned in accordance with the Water Well Standards Act. Additionally, all soil borings, monitoring wells and piezometers located within the proposed waste footprint shall be abandoned by over drilling and filling with a non-shrinking cement/bentonite grout mixture via tremie pipe from the bottom to within 10 feet of the base of the landfill. The remaining borehole shall be filled with hydrated bentonite. The abandonment of all borings/piezometers/monitoring wells shall be supervised by a professional geologist (PG) or professional engineer (PE) registered to practice in the State of Georgia. A report documenting the abandonment shall be submitted to EPD prior to cell construction. This documentation shall be signed and stamped by the responsible professional geologist or engineer registered to practice in the State of Georgia.

24. The Permittee shall maintain compliance with the Solid Waste Rules by completing the following activities according to the specific dates listed below:

    a. The Permittee shall compile and submit quarterly reports of all solid waste disposed at the landfill no later than the 30th day after the beginning of each calendar quarter in accordance with Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4.17(1).

    b. The Permittee shall report on July 1 of each year the remaining capacity of the landfill, the rate of filling, and the estimated completion date of the landfill, in accordance with Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4.17(3).

25. MSW unloading shall be restricted to the working face of the operation in such a manner that waste may be easily incorporated into the landfill with available equipment.

26. MSW shall be spread in uniform layers and compacted to its smallest practical volume before covering with additional waste or soil.

27. A uniform compacted layer of clean soil cover at least six (6) inches in depth shall be placed over all exposed solid waste by the end of each day's operation, or more frequently as may be determined by the Division. In no case shall waste be left uncovered for more than 24 hours.

28. A uniform compacted layer of clean soil cover not less than one (1) foot in depth shall be placed over each portion of any intermediate lift following completion of that lift.

29. A uniform compacted layer of clean soil cover not less than two (2) feet in depth shall be placed over the final lift no later than one month following the establishment of final grades. The final cover shall be consistent with the final cover system delineated in the approved D&O Plan.

30. Prior to the receipt of waste in a newly constructed cell, a letter from each Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) or other EPD approved leachate treatment facility accepting leachate from this landfill for treatment, stating the acceptable limits of leachate quality and quantity transferred to the WWTF shall be included in the landfill's operating record. The letter shall be updated and replaced in

the operating record within 30 days of any change in WWTF or acceptable limits for leachate quality or quantity.

31. The existing unlined sanitary landfill area permitted under Permit Number 107-013D(SL) remains incorporated in and subject to the requirements of Permit Number 107-015D(MSWL). All environmental monitoring reports, waste excavation documentation, and other correspondence concerning the unlined sanitary landfill shall continue to be submitted under Permit Number 107-015D(MSWL).

32. The existing municipal solid waste landfill area permitted under Permit Number 107-013D(SL)(2) remains incorporated in and subject to the requirements of Permit Number 107-015D(MSWL). All environmental monitoring reports, waste excavation documentation, and other correspondence concerning the municipal solid waste landfill shall continue to be submitted under Permit Number 107-015D(MSWL).

33. The existing Construction/demolition (C&D) landfill area permitted under Permit Number 107-014D(C&D) remains incorporated in and subject to the requirements of Permit Number 107-015D(MSWL). All environmental monitoring reports, waste excavation documentation, and other correspondence concerning the C&D landfill shall continue to be submitted under Permit Number 107-015D(MSWL).

34. The Permittee shall comply with all other applicable state and local laws, rules and ordinances which are not incorporated as conditions of this Permit, but which are separately enforced by the relevant state or local agency with jurisdiction.

Conditions for Composting Processing Facility:

1. The D&O Plan approved by the Environmental Protection Division for this Facility on August 21, 2026 is hereby made a part of this permit and this Facility shall be operated in accordance with the approved plan. Conditions of this permit supersede any provisions of the plan, which may conflict.

2. Prior to receipt of waste, a professional engineer licensed to practice in Georgia shall provide the Division with written certification that the Composting Processing Facility has been constructed in accordance with the permit.

3. Operation and management of the Composting Processing Facility shall be under the supervision and control of a responsible individual properly trained in the operation of such processes at all times during operation.

4. All loading and unloading of waste shall be confined to areas as shown in the D&O Plan. Litter, liquid runoff, vectors, dust, and odors must be controlled.

5. The Composting Processing Facility may only accept and process waste as described in the approved D&O Plan.

6. Operations shall be conducted at all times in such a manner as to prevent air, water, and land pollution as well as public health hazards and nuisances.

7. Equipment for fire control shall be available in proper working condition near the designated composting areas at all times.

8. No waste may be buried at the Composting Processing Facility as part of the composting operation.

9. No regulated quantities of hazardous waste shall be stored, received, or processed at this Composting Processing Facility.

10. Rodents, insects, and other such pests shall be controlled.

11. Access shall be limited to authorized entrances that shall be closed when the Composting Processing Facility is not in operation.

12. Signs shall be posted at the entrance to the Composting Processing Facility stating the days and hours of operation and the type of material accepted for composting.

13. All erosion control measures and/or diversion ditches shall conform to the Erosion and Sediment Control Act and be protective of ground and surface water. Runoff from the entire Composting Processing Facility shall be routed to on-site sediment basins designed in accordance with Rule Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4-.07.

14. The Composting Processing Facility shall not be located within fifty (50) feet of wetlands, as defined by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, unless the applicant provides evidence to the Director, that use of the wetlands has been permitted or otherwise authorized under all applicable state and federal laws and rules. The owner or operator must place a demonstration of compliance in the operating record and notify the Director that it has been placed in the operating record.

15. The Composting Processing Facility shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the floodplain, or result in a washout of solid waste or material so as to pose a hazard to human health and the environment.

16. Records documenting compliance with the Rules for Solid Waste Management shall be kept for a minimum of three (3) years from the date of the record and be in a form suitable for submission or inspection by the Environmental Protection Division.

17. Waste accepted for composting shall be covered at all times before mixing with yard waste, wood chips, or other approved materials. Mixing should typically occur within 24 hours from receipt of waste at the Composting Processing Facility or as necessary to control odors.

18. The amount of material to be stored and processed as listed in the D&O Plan shall not be exceeded at any time.

19. Compost resulting from composting operations shall be nonpathogenic, free of offensive odors, biologically and chemically stable, free of injurious components or particles, and able to sustain plant growth. Rejects generated by the composting process shall be disposed of in accordance with the Rules for Solid Waste Management.

20. Person(s) responsible for operating the Composting Processing Facility shall notify the Division thirty (30) days prior to closure of the operations. Following closure, representatives of the Division shall conduct an inspection, and any corrective action found necessary shall be implemented as directed by the Division.