

# CONSTRUCTION QUALITY ASSURANCE (CQA) PLAN

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## PLANT WANSLEY COAL COMBUSTION RESIDUALS (CCR) LANDFILL HEARD COUNTY, GEORGIA

FOR



# Georgia Power

SEPTEMBER 2022



**GEORGIA**  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

**Approved**

**Solid Waste Management Program**

Approved By: Keith Stevens Digitally signed by Keith Stevens  
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**HHNT**

HODGES, HARBIN,  
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*Consulting Engineers*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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1.	GENERAL .....	1
2.	LOW-PERMEABILITY SOIL LAYER (INFILTRATION LAYER OF FINAL COVER SYSTEM).....	4
3.	FINAL COVER GEOMEMBRANE.....	8
4.	FINAL COVER GEOCOMPOSITE DRAINAGE MEDIA (GDM) .....	13
5.	PROTECTIVE SOIL FOR FINAL COVER SYSTEM .....	15
6.	CERTIFICATION .....	17

### APPENDIX

- A. Original CQA Plan for Cell Construction

## 1. GENERAL

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This Construction Quality Assurance Plan (CQA Plan) provides the quality assurance standards, procedures, and minimum acceptance criteria for construction of the final cover system at the Plant Wansley CCR Landfill. The landfill consists of three (3) lined disposal cells that were constructed utilizing the approved CQA Plan for the landfill at the time of construction. This CQA Plan only addresses the future closure of the existing landfill cells.

This CQA Plan has been prepared as part of the site's CCR permit application per Rule 391-3-4-.10(9)(c)1(v) and will be utilized for closure of the units under the CCR permit. This CQA Plan establishes the minimum level of activities that provides assurance that construction proceeds in accordance with the approved Closure Plan. The CQA Plan provides for a detailed process of inspections and project controls to ensure the final cover system is constructed in accordance with this CQA Plan and the approved Closure Plan.

This CQA Plan addresses those areas of construction pertaining to environmental protection, including the necessary earthwork required for construction of the landfill disposal area final cover system. As each cell of the disposal facility is closed, a Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) Report will be submitted to Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) Solid Waste Program along with a registered engineer's certification that the area under consideration was closed within the limitations of, and according to, this CQA Plan and approved Closure Plan. Grading, earthwork, and stockpiling of earthen materials subject to this CQA Plan will comply with the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission *Manual for Erosion Control in Georgia*, latest edition.

The original CQA Plan utilized for cell construction is included in Appendix A for reference. The original CQA plan will be followed during any bottom liner repairs or modifications.

Georgia Power will notify EPD of each major closure event prior to construction. Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) services will be provided by an independent third-party consulting engineering firm specializing in the inspection and testing of soils and geosynthetics representing Georgia Power. The services of the CQA firm required during construction and installation of all final cover system components are described in this document.

The CQA project team will consist of the following:

1. Construction Quality Assurance and Construction Quality Control: In the context of this document, construction quality assurance and construction quality control are defined as follows:
  - a. Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) - A planned and systematic pattern of actions taken by an organization that operates separately from the Contractor and the Owner (i.e., independent party) to verify that construction materials

and/or services achieve compliance with technical (i.e., design), contractual, and regulatory requirements. This generally involves observation, review of submitted test results by others, and conducting independent testing to verify conformity of the various components of the Project with the requirements of the Construction Documents.

- b. **Manufacturer Quality Control/Construction Quality Control (MQC/CQC)** – A planned system of actions taken by the Contractor, Manufacturers, and Installers to monitor, check, and control the quality of their own work (verify that they are supplying materials and providing the workmanship as required by the Construction Documents). In some cases, CQC services may be performed “in-house” by the Contractor, and other times CQC services are subcontracted to an outside consultant hired by the Contractor. MQC refers to QC functions performed by Manufacturers, and CQC refers to QC functions performed by construction contractors and installers.
2. **Design Engineer:** Responsible for providing interpretations and clarifications of the Technical Specifications, reviewing and approving shop drawings, authorizing minor variations in the work from the requirements of the Technical Specifications, and rejecting defective work. The DESIGN ENGINEER will be a registered professional engineer licensed in Georgia.
3. **CQA Engineer:** Responsible for implementing the construction quality assurance requirements as stated in the project plans, technical specifications, this CQA Plan and the project objectives; verifying basic data as reasonable and complete; outlining procedures to process data; developing statistical procedures for the analysis of test data; and preparing quality assurance memoranda and quality assurance reports. The CQA Engineer will report to Georgia Power. This CQA Engineer will be a registered professional engineer licensed in Georgia. Reference to the CQA Engineer, for the purpose of this document, will include the CQA Engineer and/or his/her designated representatives, including CQA Engineering Technicians.
4. **Engineering Technicians (or Technicians):** Technicians are responsible for field observations, testing and inspection. Technicians will be assigned to the project as deemed necessary by the CQA Engineer and will be under supervision of the CQA Engineer. The CQA Engineer, Technician or the CQA Engineer's representative will be on-site during all construction activities except clearing and grubbing and initial grading activities. Initial evaluation of various soil types by CQA personnel during construction will be largely visual; therefore, all CQA personnel must be experienced with Visual-Manual Procedure for soil description and identification (ASTM D2488).
5. **Contractor:** The term “Contractor” refers to the General Contractor (i.e., the Prime Contractor) who is retained by the Owner to perform the construction of the landfill cells. In general, the Contractor will be responsible for furnishing and installing materials in accordance with the Construction Documents (unless certain items may be procured and/or installed under separate contracts with or on behalf of the Owner). In this role, the Contractor will be responsible for earthwork activities, installation of the final cover

system, and constructing associated surface water management features and other related site work. The Contractor may subcontract with various parties to conduct certain portions of the Project (e.g., geosynthetic Installer(s)). The Owner will select a Contractor qualified for this Project through experience constructing projects involving similar work elements, and with personnel and equipment availability as needed to execute a project of this magnitude. During construction, the Contractor will work with the Owner/Construction Manager to develop an approved schedule, execute the work according to that schedule, and communicate the timing of key milestones/activities with appropriate project parties (e.g., CQA Engineer). Note that the preceding description of the Contractor's roles and responsibilities is only a general summary and does not represent the comprehensive scope of work required by the Construction Documents. In the event of any discrepancies, the Construction Documents will govern.

6. Geosynthetics Manufacturers and Installers: Geosynthetics are manufactured materials. The Manufacturers who will supply geosynthetic materials for this Project (either procured by the Contractor or procured by the Owner, as established for the scope of work set forth in the Construction Documents) are responsible for the manufacture/fabrication of such materials and for quality control during manufacture/fabrication. The Manufacturer(s) of the geomembrane components of the liner system and final cover system should have experience manufacturing at least ten million square feet of such geomembranes. Further details of the required minimum Manufacturer qualifications for the various other geosynthetic materials of the Project will be provided in the Construction Documents. The geosynthetic Manufacturers must implement an MQC program. MQC refers to actions taken at their manufacturing facility (i.e., prior to shipment to the jobsite) to control the quality of their products and to monitor/verify that the materials and workmanship of the geosynthetics meet the Project requirements as set forth herein and in the Construction Documents. The MQC program will be conducted by MQC personnel who are stationed at the manufacturing facility (i.e., employed or contracted by the Manufacturer), and overseen by an MQC manager. Manufactured geosynthetics products are placed and installed in the field by an Installer, who will be subcontracted by the Contractor. The Installer responsible for the installation of the liner system and final cover system geomembrane components should have experience installing at least five million square feet of such geomembranes. Further details of the required minimum geosynthetics Installer qualifications for the various other geosynthetic materials of the Project will be set forth in the Construction Documents.
7. As-Built Surveyor: As required by specific sections of this CQA Plan, a registered professional land surveyor licensed in Georgia will perform the required as-built certification surveys on the components of the final cover system.

## 2. LOW-PERMEABILITY SOIL LAYER (INFILTRATION LAYER OF FINAL COVER SYSTEM)

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### A. GENERAL

The CQA Engineer will confirm and certify that the materials used in the installation of the soil layer are in accordance with the approved closure plan, technical specifications, and this CQA Plan.

### B. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

The low-permeability soil layer material will consist of cohesive soils capable of being placed and compacted to meet the permeability criterion of  $k \leq 1 \times 10^{-5}$  cm/sec.

### C. PRE-CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL EVALUATION

1. All material to be used to construct the low-permeability soil layer will be sampled and tested by the CQA Engineer in advance of being placed. Such testing can be performed during excavation of the borrow area or from existing stockpiles.
2. The procedure for pre-construction testing of material to be used for low-permeability soil layer on the final cover system is outlined below:
  - a. The CQA Engineer will visually examine each load of soil either at the borrow source or the stockpile area. Soil that does not meet the technical specification for low-permeability soil layer material will be rejected or routed to separate stockpiles consistent with its end use.
  - b. The following tests will be performed at the frequencies listed in the CCR Landfill Soil Layer Construction Quality Assurance Requirements Table on Page 7 of this plan, prior to placement of any low-permeability soil layer material:
    - i. Method for Laboratory Determination of Water (Moisture) Content of Soil, Rock, and Soil-Aggregate Mixtures, ASTM D2216.
    - ii. Method for Particle - Size Analysis of Soils, ASTM D422 (Mechanical Sieve Method Only).
    - iii. Test Method for Liquid Limit, and Plasticity Index of Soils, ASTM D4318, and
    - iv. Moisture-Density Curve (ASTM D698).
    - v. One (1) sample for every 10,000 cubic yards of material stockpiled will be selected for remolded permeability testing (ASTM D5084 - *Measurement of Hydraulic Conductivity of Saturated Porous Materials using a Flexible Wall Permeameter*).

3. Reports for low-permeability soil layer will be prepared by the CQA Engineer and will include:
  - a. Summary of laboratory test data, and
  - b. A summary of construction, sampling and testing method, and recommendations.

**D. TEST PAD FOR LOW-PERMEABILITY SOIL LAYER**

1. The CQA Engineer will document the construction of a test pad prior to or coinciding with, the beginning of construction of the low-permeability soil layer component.
2. The CQA Engineer will sample and test soil samples obtained from the constructed test pad to confirm that the material used, and the Contractors' placement and compaction methods can consistently produce a low-permeability soil layer that meets the requirements of the technical specifications.
3. The CQA Engineer will confirm that the Contractor uses the same placement and compaction methods, equipment, and material to construct the low-permeability soil layer.

**E. CONSTRUCTION**

1. Only soil from a source previously sampled, tested and confirmed to meet the technical specifications by the CQA Engineer will be used in construction of the low-permeability soil layer. The CQA Engineer will notify the Contractor when material does not meet the requirements of the technical specification and will document that this material is not used for low-permeability soil layer construction.
2. The CQA Engineer will complete all required field density and moisture content tests before the overlying lift of low-permeability soil is placed.
3. The CQA Engineer will observe and document that the Contractor completes all prior lift surface preparation (e.g., wetting, drying, scarification, etc.) before placement of subsequent lifts.
4. The CQA Engineer will observe and document that loose lift thicknesses do not exceed 10 inches (unless otherwise required in the technical specifications) for a final 6 inches compacted lift thickness.
5. The CQA Engineer will check each lift visually for particle sizes or clods that exceed the technical specifications, rocks, debris, plant materials, and other foreign material. The CQA Engineer will inform the Contractor, if such materials are found, and will document their removal.
6. The CQA Engineer will observe and document that the exposed surface of the low-permeability soil layer is rolled with a smooth drum roller or equivalent at the end of

each work day or when required to protect the compacted soil from adverse weather conditions.

7. The CQA Engineer will observe and document that the exposed surface of the low-permeability soil layer is reasonably free of rock, rock fragments, or loose materials. The CQA Engineer will observe and document that rock or other materials protruding more than ¼-inch and other loose materials are removed, all cracks or voids filled, and the surface made uniform.
8. As-built certification surveys will be performed on the low-permeability soil layer prior to installing the overlying geosynthetics materials. Due to settlement and consolidation of underlying CCR, which may occur during construction of the final cover system, the as-built certification points may not accurately provide actual thickness of the low-permeability soil layer. In such cases, the CQA Engineer will perform hand augers to confirm that the required thickness of the low-permeability soil layer has been achieved. Results of the thickness confirmation borings will be documented by the CQA Engineer in the CQA Construction Certification Report. All holes will be patched with sodium bentonite pellets, mixed with low-permeability soils in the holes, hydrated and compacted.
9. The CQA Engineer will observe and document that the surface on which the geomembrane is to be placed is maintained in a firm, clean, dry, and smooth condition before and during the installation of the geomembrane. Additionally, the CQA Engineer will inform the Contractor when desiccation cracking is excessive and will document that all desiccation cracks are repaired as required by the technical specifications.
10. The CQA Engineer will inspect the low-permeability soil layer and certify that it is constructed in accordance with the approved permit, the technical specifications and approved plans.

#### **F. SAMPLING AND TESTING**

1. Construction Quality Assurance sampling and testing will meet the minimum requirements indicated in the Table below.
2. The CQA Engineer or his /her representative will randomly determine the location of each test. All holes will be patched with a mixture of low-permeability soil and sodium bentonite pellets hydrated and compacted in the holes.



CCR Landfill			
Soil Layer Construction Quality Assurance Testing Requirements			
Item	Testing	Frequency	Minimum Criteria
Soil Layer Borrow Source	Grain Size (sieves only) (ASTM D422)	1,000 yd <sup>3</sup>	$\leq 2''$ (99.8% of all tests) and $\leq 1/4''$ (top 6", 99% of all tests)  $k \leq 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$ cm/sec
	Moisture Content (ASTM D2216)	2,000 yd <sup>3</sup>	
	Atterberg Limits (ASTM D4318)	5,000 yd <sup>3</sup>	
	Moisture-Density Curve (ASTM D698)	5,000 yd <sup>3</sup> and all changes in material	
	Permeability (remold) (ASTM D5084)	10,000 yd <sup>3</sup>	
Soil Layer During Construction	Density/Moisture-Nuclear, Drive-Cylinders, or Sand Cone (ASTM D6938, D2937 or D1556)	1 test/10,000 sf/lift	$\geq 95\%$ Standard Proctor
Laboratory Testing on Undisturbed Samples of The Constructed Soil Layer	Undisturbed Permeability (ASTM D5084)	1 test/40,000 sf/lift	$k \leq 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$ cm/sec
	Dry Density (ASTM D6938)		
	Moisture Content (ASTM D2216)		
	Atterberg Limits (ASTM D4318)		

3. The CQA Engineer will follow this procedure in the event of a density or permeability test failure. If the density does not meet minimum requirements of the CQA Plan, recompaction of the failed area (minimum 100' x 100') will be performed and retested until the area meets or exceeds requirements outlined in the CQA Plan. If a permeability sample fails to meet the minimum hydraulic conductivity requirements outlined in the CQA Plan, the area of failing permeability (minimum 40,000 sf) will be reconstructed. Optionally, at least four (4) replicate samples will be obtained in the immediate vicinity of the failed test. Should the replicate samples confirm the failure of the low-permeability soil layer to meet CQA Plan, the area of failure will be localized according to the results of the replicate samples and reconstructed in accordance with the CQA Plan. All areas of reconstruction will be retested as outlined in the plan.

### 3. FINAL COVER GEOMEMBRANE

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#### A. GENERAL

The CQA Engineer will certify the materials and installation are in accordance with the approved permit, technical specifications, and this CQA Plan.

#### B. MATERIAL

1. The material will be a minimum 40-mil Textured Linear Low-Density Polyethylene (LLDPE) geomembrane supplied and installed by firms approved by Georgia Power.
2. Seams for providing watertight joints will be extrusion or double hot wedge fusion seams using techniques approved by the CQA Engineer.
3. The textured material will have an interface shear resistance with contiguous final cover system components of 24.8 degrees (friction angle at adhesion equal to 0 psf), or another combination of friction angle and adhesion approved by the Design Engineer. The interface shear strength will be determined by direct shear testing conducted at the confining pressure of 250 PSF or as directed by the Design Engineer.
4. Manufacturer Quality Control will confirm the material meets the minimum physical properties a 40-mil thick LLDPE geomembrane as listed in the latest version of GRI-GM17, *"Test methods, test properties and testing frequency for Linear Low-Density Polyethylene (LLDPE) smooth and textured geomembrane"*.

#### C. GEOMEMBRANE MANUFACTURER AND INSTALLER

1. The Geomembrane Installer will submit the following documents as obtained from the Geomembrane Manufacturer to the CQA Engineer:
  - a. Production Certification including project references
  - b. Testing Program of Compound Ingredients
  - c. Material Certification
  - d. Test Data for Material and ResinAll of the above submittals will be reviewed and retained by the CQA Engineer
2. The Geomembrane Installer will submit the following to the CQA Engineer fourteen (14) days prior to installation:
  - a. Qualifications of Geomembrane Installer Superintendent and Foreman
  - b. Resumes of Geomembrane Contractor field crew

- c. Six (6) sets of proposed geomembrane panel layout drawings

#### D. GEOMEMBRANE INSTALLATION

1. A pre-deployment CQA meeting will be held prior to installation. The Geomembrane Installer, the Contractor, the CQA Engineer, and a representative of Georgia Power will attend. The following issues will be discussed and agreed upon by all parties and will be included in a report in the CQA documentation.
  - a. Testing of welds
  - b. Characteristics of a "good" weld, and
  - c. Repair procedures
2. The CQA Engineer will obtain samples of the geomembrane rolls from the manufacturing plant prior to shipment to the disposal facility.
3. The samples must be representative of the material supplied and exclude the outer wrap of geomembrane, if signs of scuffing or other damage are observed. Samples should be full roll width and at least 2 feet long.
4. The laboratory testing of the samples selected will be coordinated by the CQA Engineer and will confirm conformance with the properties listed in the table below:

**Geomembrane Conformance Testing Requirements**

TEST NAME	TEST METHOD	MINIMUM TESTING FREQUENCY <sup>(1)</sup>
Density	ASTM D 1505 or ASTM D 792	See Note 1
Thickness	ASTM D 5994	
Tensile Strength at Yield	ASTM D 6693, Type IV	
Tensile Strength at Break		
Elongation at Yield		
Elongation at Break		
Carbon Black Content	ASTM D 1603 or ASTM D 4218	
Interface Shear Strength <sup>(2)</sup> (with geocomposite and low permeability soil layer)	ASTM D5321	1 per 10 acres (minimum 2 per project) per interface

**Notes:**

- <sup>(1)</sup> The minimum number of rolls to be sampled for each shipment will be determined by computing the cube root of the total number of rolls delivered in the shipment, and rounding this value upward to the nearest integer, with at least one sample per each manufacturer's lot. For instance, if 40 rolls of geomembrane are delivered in a shipment, at least four rolls will be sampled. Testing shall be

performed at a minimum frequency of one per lot or as described above, whichever is more frequent. A lot shall be as defined by ASTM D 4354.

(2) Testing parameters for interface shear strengths are provided in Section B.3

5. The CQA Engineer will review the geomembrane thickness of each roll made for the project prior to shipment. Material that does not fall within acceptable thickness criteria will be rejected.
6. The CQA Engineer will mark all areas where grinding is excessive. The location and repair method for the excessive grinding will be recorded in the daily field reports.
7. Overheating of the geomembrane during welding will be monitored by the CQA Engineer. At the discretion of the CQA Engineer, coupons will be cut from the end of the extrusion seams and the bottom side of the seam will be observed for visible warping or deformation. The location and repair method of overheated areas will be recorded in the daily field reports. The method of repair will be determined in the field by the CQA Engineer.
8. During seaming, the CQA Engineer will observe the seams for the following:
  - a. proper preparation,
  - b. grinding technique, where applicable, and
  - c. overheating
9. The CQA Engineer will observe the geomembrane during the coolest part of the day to check for slack. Any areas where excessive "trampolining" occurs will be marked by the CQA Engineer for repair by the Geomembrane Installer.
10. The CQA Engineer will mark all areas where the geomembrane indicates a protrusion from the low-permeability soil layer. The method of repair will be determined in the field by the CQA Engineer.

#### **E. TEST SEAMS**

1. The CQA Engineer will document and verify that the geomembrane installer performs a test seam for each welding machine in use every 4-5 hours, or at a minimum prior to start of construction work, and at midday. At least one test seam will be made for each machine in use for each seam. Should any post-production test seam fail, the immediate prior production seam will be sampled for destructive testing in accordance with Section 3.F below. The test seam should be approximately five (5) feet long. The CQA Engineer will sample the test seam from the center three (3) feet of the test sample.
  - a. The date, time, and equipment, as well as welding temperature, and seaming parameters will be recorded for each test seam.

- b. A minimum of five (5) specimens for peel and for shear from each sample will be tested for the properties listed in the latest version of GRI-GM19, "*Standard Technical Specification for Seam Strength and Related Properties of Thermally Bonded Polyolefin Geomembrane*" in accordance with test method ASTM D6392. Testing will be performed in the field by the Geomembrane Installer under full-time observation by the CQA Engineer.
  - c. Untested portions of the test seam will be retained by the CQA Engineer for the project record and future testing as required.
2. All test seams must pass the field-testing before production seaming is performed by the Geomembrane Installer.

#### F. FIELD DESTRUCTIVE TESTING

1. The Geomembrane Installer will obtain approximately 12" x 48" samples of field seams, suitable for testing, as indicated in the table below. The date, time and equipment, and seam number will be marked on each sample and recorded by the CQA Engineer.

**Field Seam Testing Requirements**

TEST NAME	TEST METHOD	AVERAGE TESTING FREQUENCY
Seam Peel Strength	ASTM D 6392 <sup>(1)</sup>	1 test per 500 feet of seam
Seam Shear Strength	ASTM D 6392 <sup>(2)</sup>	1 test per 500 feet of seam

Notes:

- (1) For double wedge fusion seams, both tracks shall be tested in peel.
  - (2) For shear tests, the sheet shall yield before failure of the seams.
2. Samples retained will be tested in the field by the geomembrane installer. A minimum of five (5) specimens from each sample for peel and for shear will be tested for the properties listed in latest version of GRI-GM19, "*Standard Technical Specification for Seam Strength and Related Properties of Thermally Bonded Polyolefin Geomembrane*" in accordance with test method ASTM D6392.
  3. The CQA Engineer or Georgia Power may require additional random samples to be taken for testing in areas that visually appear defective and not in accordance with project requirements.

#### G. NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING

1. The Geomembrane Installer is responsible for the completion of non-destructive testing of the entire length of all field seams, verifying that said seam is airtight. Said testing can be a vacuum test, pressure test, or approved equal and will be described by the Geomembrane Installer and verified by the CQA Engineer in advance.

2. The CQA Engineer will observe all non-destructive testing on a full-time basis.

#### H. DESTRUCTIVE LABORATORY TESTING

1. Destructive seam samples will be laboratory tested by the CQA Engineer. Testing frequency will be a minimum average frequency of one (1) sample per 500 linear feet of field seam.
  - a. Test samples will be at least 12 x 36 inches. A minimum of five (5) specimens will be tested for the properties listed in the latest version of GRI-GM19, "Standard Technical Specification for Seam Strength and Related Properties of Thermally Bonded Polyolefin Geomembrane" in accordance with test method ASTM D6392. These test samples will be taken at the same locations as the contractor's destructive testing samples.
  - b. All laboratory specimens of geomembrane will be conditioned for a minimum of one (1) hour prior to testing at the standard atmosphere for testing geosynthetics, that is, air maintained at a relative humidity of 65%  $\pm$  5 % and a temperature of 21°C  $\pm$  2°C (70°C  $\pm$  3.5°F).
  - c. Peel tests will be performed on both sides of a double-wedge fusion seam.
2. The load and elongation at failure will be measured for each specimen. The CQA Engineer will describe the type of failure for each specimen and record the presence of any disbonding, delamination, foreign material in the bond area, etc.
3. The average values of each set of five (5) specimens for peel and for shear must meet the technical specifications, and four of the five specimen tests must meet the technical specifications for the seam to be considered a passing seam. If the average of the five specimens is adequate, but one of the specimens is failing, values for the failing specimen must be at least 80 percent of the values required for the seam for the sample to pass. A maximum of one non-film tear bond failure out of five tests is acceptable provided the destructive sample meets strength requirements discussed above. If unresolved discrepancies exist between the CQA Engineer and Contractor's test results, the archived sample may be tested by the CQA Engineer. Samples that do not pass the shear and peel tests will be resampled from locations at least 10 feet on each side of the original location. These two re-test samples must pass both shear and peel testing. If these two samples do not pass, then additional samples will continue to be obtained until the questionable seam area is defined.
4. Seams represented by a failing destructive field or laboratory test sample will be cut out and replaced or covered with a geomembrane strip and the seam bounded by supplemental passing field and laboratory destructive test samples at both ends.
5. The CQA Engineer will verify and document that the strength and other properties of the textured 40-mil thick LLDPE geomembrane seams meet or exceed the requirements set forth in the latest version of GRI-GM19, "Standard Technical Specification for Seam Strength and Related Properties of Thermally Bonded Polyolefin Geomembrane".

## 4. FINAL COVER GEOCOMPOSITE DRAINAGE MEDIA (GDM)

### A. GENERAL

The CQA Engineer will certify the materials and installation are in accordance with the plans, technical specifications, and this CQA Plan.

### B. GDM MANUFACTURER AND INSTALLER

1. The CQA Engineer will review and verify the following submittals from the GDM Manufacturer:
  - a. Production Certification
  - b. Material Certification
  - c. Test Data for Material
2. The CQA Engineer will review and verify the following documents prior to installation:
  - a. Qualifications of the GDM installer superintendent, foreman, and field crew.
  - b. Six (6) sets of field installation drawings.

### C. CONFORMANCE TESTING

CQA Conformance Testing will be performed by the CQA Engineer according to the following table:

**GDM Conformance Testing Requirements**

TEST NAME	TEST METHOD	MINIMUM TESTING FREQUENCY <sup>(1)</sup>
Transmissivity <sup>(2)</sup>	ASTM D 4716 - Modified (100-hour transmissivity of geocomposites)	1 test per 10 acres
Adhesion	ASTM D 7005	1 test per 200,000 s.f.
Resin Density	ASTM D1505	1 test per 200,000 s.f.
Interface Shear Strength <sup>(3)</sup> (with protective layer)	ASTM D5321	1 test per 10 acres (minimum 2 per project)

Notes:

<sup>(1)</sup> Testing will be performed at a frequency of one per lot or at listed frequency, whichever is more frequent. A lot is defined by ASTM D 4354.

<sup>(2)</sup> Transmissivity testing will be performed as described below:

Conduct CQA testing for transmissivity at the confining pressure of 250 PSF at a hydraulic gradient equal to 0.33. The boundary conditions are "Protective Cover" soils on top and the specified geomembrane on the bottom of the GDM. The minimum required transmissivity tested under these conditions will be  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  m<sup>2</sup>/sec (test between two steel plates are not acceptable).

<sup>(3)</sup> The GDM will have an interface shear resistance (friction angle plus cohesion) with contiguous final cover system components of 24.8 deg. (per ASTM D5321). This is the minimum shear strength represented by a

friction angle with an adhesion = 0 psf. Equivalent strength combinations that provide satisfactory factors of safety may be approved by the Design Engineer. The interface shear strength will be determined by direct shear testing conducted at the confining pressure of 250 psf or as directed by the Design Engineer.

Conformance testing for the individual components of the GDM (geotextile and the geonet) will be in accordance with the technical specifications.

#### **D. INSTALLATION**

1. The CQA Engineer will verify that the installation of the GDM proceeds after he/she has provided certification of the geomembrane or a section thereof.
2. The CQA Engineer will monitor the installation of the GDM to verify there is no damage to the geomembrane cap. Should the final cover system geomembrane be damaged the CQA Engineer will inform the Contractor and document the repairs done.
3. The CQA Engineer will be present during all GDM placement operations and will verify that all work is in accordance with the plans and technical specifications.
4. At the conclusion of this activity, the CQA Engineer will provide a written certification that the work has been installed according to plans and technical specifications.
5. The CQA Engineer will verify that adjacent rolls of GDM:
  - a. Overlap a distance of at least three (3) inches; and
  - b. Are secured using polyethylene ties as follows:
    - i. every ten (10) feet for adjacent rolls, and
    - ii. every five (5) feet at end seams.
6. The CQA Engineer will verify that the overlaying filter geotextile, where applicable, extends at least six (6) inches past the geonet joint and is permanently bonded by heat bonding or sewing.
7. The CQA Engineer will verify that any GDM that is torn, crushed, or punctured is repaired or replaced by the GDM installer according to the technical specifications.



## **5. PROTECTIVE SOIL FOR FINAL COVER SYSTEM**

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### **A. GENERAL**

The CQA Engineer will verify that the protective soil cover is placed in accordance with the approved plans, technical specifications, and this CQA Plan.

### **B. MATERIAL**

1. Soil that meets all the following requirements will be classified as select soil fill for use in construction of the protective soil cover for the cap.
  - a. Soil will be classified according to the Unified Soil Classification System (USCS) as ML, MH, CH, CL or SC. (ASTM D2487). Liquid limit, plasticity index (PI), and percent passing the No. 200 sieve will be considered for proper classification.
  - b. Select soil fill materials will be reasonably free of ferrous, and/or calcareous concretions and nodules, refuse roots, or other deleterious substances.
  - c. The soil cover will be uniform, smooth, and substantially free of debris, rock, plant materials, and other foreign material larger than two (2) inches. The material will contain no sharp edges.
2. The top six (6) inches of protective soil for the final cover system must be capable of supporting the growth of grass. The soils noted in 5.B.1.a. can be expanded to include SM and SP soils in the top six (6) inches of cover.

### **C. STOCKPILING AND MATERIAL APPROVAL**

1. All material to be used as protective soil cover will be approved in advance by the CQA Engineer. The CQA Engineer must verify the soil meets all the material requirements.
2. Verification can be accomplished during excavation and stockpiling or prior to use at existing stockpiles.
3. The CQA Engineer will prepare reports of all testing, analysis, and verification.

### **D. CONSTRUCTION**

1. The CQA Engineer will provide verification of the following:
  - a. Approved stockpiled material was used to construct the protective soil cover.
  - b. The protective soil cover was constructed in accordance with the approved plans, technical specifications, and this CQA Plan.

- c. The geomembrane and GDM were not damaged during the construction of the protective soil cover.
  - d. The protective soil cover thickness has been achieved and verified.
2. The protective soil material will be spread and compacted using low ground pressure equipment such as a CAT D6 low ground pressure (LGP) bulldozer or similar equipment.
  3. Protective soil material will be spread by pushing “up slope”, and the CQA Engineer will verify that the protective soil cover was not pushed down any side slopes of the landfill cap.
  4. Protective soil thickness will be at least 12" thick at all times during spreading and compaction.

#### E. SAMPLING AND TESTING

Construction quality assurance testing will meet the minimum requirements listed in the table below.

Protective Soil for Final Cover System Quality Assurance Testing Requirements			
Item	Test Method	Minimum Frequency	Minimum Criteria
Borrow Source	Grain Size ASTM D422 with Hydrometer	5,000 cy	See Note <sup>(1)</sup> below
	Atterberg Limits ASTM D4318	5,000 cy	
	Moisture – Density ASTM D698	5,000 cy	
	Remolded Permeability <sup>(2)</sup> ASTM D5084	10,000 cy	7.5x10 <sup>-5</sup> cm/sec or less
Construction	Density and Moisture (ASTM D6938, 1556, or 2937)	1 test/20,000 ft <sup>2</sup> of planar final cover surface area	90% of Maximum Dry Density and 0% to 2% of the Optimum Moisture Content per ASTM 698 – Standard Proctor Test

Notes:

- <sup>(1)</sup> Acceptable soils include those classified according to the Unified Soil Classification System (USCS) as SC, ML or CL (ASTM 02487). Liquid limit, plasticity index (PI), and gradation will be considered for proper classification.
- <sup>(2)</sup> Remold sample to 90% of Maximum Dry Density and 0% to 2% of the Optimum Moisture Content per ASTM 698 – Standard Proctor Test.

## 6. CERTIFICATION

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The CQA Engineer will provide, within 30 days of completion of closure activities, written certification that the final cover system, access roads, ditches, sediment basins, and other associated ancillary facilities for the particular landfill area were constructed according to the approved permit, technical specifications, and this CQA Plan. Said certification will have the CQA Engineer's seal as a professional engineer registered in the State of Georgia.

## **APPENDIX A. ORIGINAL CQA PLAN FOR CELL CONSTRUCTION**

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