

New cell at Koonwarra Landfill

Works to construct the new cell at the Koonwarra Landfill are well underway, which when finished, will provide waste capacity for another five years.

Cell 4 is the second last cell for Stage 1 of the landfill development with total works costing \$1.5 million.

Contractor, Goldsmith Civil & Environmental Pty Ltd, initially excavated 47,000 cubic metres of material for the cell and has since installed cut-off drains for groundwater management and placed a one metre thick layer of high quality clay at the base of the cell. The base lining is designed to prevent the escape of contaminants from waste into underlying soils.

Manager Engineering and Assets, John Moylan, said a properly constructed liner system should also allow for the controlled collection and removal of landfill leachate for subsequent treatment.

“Today’s landfill sites are far more sophisticated than people might expect and are highly engineered and controlled operations,” Mr Moylan explained. “Koonwarra Landfill comprises a series of fully lined cells that are systematically filled then capped. Cells are completely isolated from surrounding land before tipping starts and active controls prevent litter, dust, pests and noise. Full cells are capped to ensure that the waste in each cell is safely contained while it breaks down naturally.”

The next stage will see the construction of impervious liner in early April, with works expected to be complete in July.

Photo caption: The new cell at Koonwarra Landfill will provide waste capacity for another five years.

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