

Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District

300 Samuel Barnet Boulevard, New Bedford, MA 02745

www.gnbrmdistrict.org

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Regarding

Authorization to Construct (ATC)- Cell 7 Permit Application to MassDEP

Date Issued: October 10, 2025

The Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District solicited public comments regarding the proposed construction of Cell 7 the Crapo Hill Landfill. Written comments were able to be submitted in person at the public landfill tour & informational session hosted on September 13th, 2025; by mail to the District's administrative office; or online using a link posted on the District's website. A fact sheet regarding the proposed Cell 7 construction was widely distributed and included notification of the comment period. The full ATC permit application is and has been available for public view on the District's website as well. Comments were received throughout the month of September. One comment was submitted, and this document provides the District's response.

COMMENT:

I am very concerned about the traffic problem. I use exit 7 on route 140 several times a day. About 3:10, when the school lets out, the traffic coming from the south and getting off exit 7 to go towards the business park backs up the exit ramp to 140. There are workers entering and leaving the park at the same time. The addition of traffic because of the landfill will back traffic past the exit lane and onto one lane of 140. The proposed traffic light may make it worse. A simple drive up 140 to exit 7 about 3PM on a school day should alarm anyone, Try it.

Fred Sterner

DISTRICT RESPONSE:

Hi Fred,

Thank you for sharing your observations and concerns regarding traffic near Exit 7 and the business park. We understand that congestion in this area can be frustrating, and we appreciate you bringing your perspective forward.

The Crapo Hill Landfill has been in operation since 1995 and has been developed in phases, or “cells”. The construction of Cell 7 is part of a longstanding plan and represents capacity that was originally anticipated when the landfill was first designed. The purpose of Cell 7 is to extend the life of the facility, not to expand daily operations or increase the number of waste trucks accepted. As a result, we do not expect a noticeable increase in traffic entering or leaving the business park because of this project.

In addition, the landfill currently operates well below its maximum permitted capacity for waste acceptance (and therefore associated vehicle traffic). This will continue to be the case following the construction of Cell 7.

It may also be helpful to note that landfill operations close at 3:15 p.m. on weekdays. By around 3:10, when school traffic increases as you described, nearly all waste hauling vehicles have already arrived and departed the landfill. We have less than 10 staff passenger vehicles that exit the business park on weekdays, usually around 3:30pm. This number will not increase after Cell 7 is constructed.

Finally, the proposed traffic light that you mentioned is a separate matter and is not related to the Cell 7 project at Crapo Hill Landfill.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to us. We hope this information helps to address your concern. Please feel free to contact us with any additional questions.