

Project: Chemical Waste Management Bakersfield Facility Cover Evaluation
Location: Kern County, California
Client: Chemical Waste Management
Duration: 2007 – 2009
Regulatory Authority: California Department of Toxic Substances Control

Project Description: In June of 2006 the California Department of Toxic Substances Control issued a *Post-Closure Care Findings and Determination* and *Draft Hazardous Waste Facility Post Closure Permit* for a 150 acre hazardous waste facility in Kern County, California. Within the documents the DTSC stated “ *poor cover construction, cracking, animal burrowing, and continued leachate production, support the requirement for reconstructing the existing closure cover...*” It was also alleged that there had been inadequate maintenance of the cover and erosion resulting in inadequate cover thickness. The DTSC presented a prescriptive cover profile that would cost tens of millions of dollars to construct at the facility. Applied Soil Water Technologies, LLC teamed with Dwyer Engineering, LLC and initiated a scope of work to address the DTSC’s concerns. The work included an extensive review of the original design and cover construction documents, detailed evaluation of animal burrows (including determining the depth and extent of burrows and burrowing animal species identification), installation of cover performance monitoring equipment and interpretation of monitoring results, laboratory testing of cover soils, detailed modeling to predict future performance using UNSATH and preparation of a summary report. ASWT summarized this data in the Permit Appeal Brief prepared on behalf of Chemical Waste Management.

After review of our final report the conclusion issued by the DTSC was “*...it has been adequately demonstrated that the Facility’s existing closure cover meets applicable regulatory requirements*”, and requirements to reconstruct or repair the cover were withdrawn from the Facility Post-Closure Permit.

