



# GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



AHENSIAN PRUTEKSION LINA'LA GUAHAN

P.O. BOX 22439 GMF • BARRIGADA, GUAM 96921 • TEL.: (671) 475-1658 • FAX: (671) 477-9402

## Fact Sheet: Landfill Site Selection

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[www.guamepa.govguam.net](http://www.guamepa.govguam.net)

### The Ordot Consent Decree

The Ordot Consent Decree (U.S. District Court, Territory of Guam, Civil Case No. 02-00022) is a settlement agreement that was entered into on February 11, 2004, between the United States of America [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) with the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ)] and the Government of Guam to resolve issues related to the unauthorized discharge of pollutants from the Ordot Dump to the Lonfit River. The historical and continuing discharge of pollutants to the Lonfit River is a violation of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA).

In order to resolve the violation, the parties have agreed to specific terms under the Consent Decree for the Government of Guam to initiate and complete the construction of a fully compliant Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle D Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Facility (MSWLF). Concurrent with the siting, design, and construction of the landfill, the Guam Department of Public Works (DPW) must initiate significant and progressive improvements to the operation of the Ordot Dump and develop regulatory closure plans that coincide with the opening of the of the new landfill facility.

### The Landfill Site Selection Process

Section IV.9. of the Consent Decree outlines a process of identifying, assessing, and finally selecting a suitable landfill site. The first step in the process involves the identification of three (3) potential sites by DPW. The second step of the process involves subjecting the three sites to a site selection Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) study to identify and assess all of the requirements of operating a landfill, the associated environmental impacts, and the mitigation of any significant adverse impacts at each candidate site. The EIS will focus on the feasibility of development at each site through the consistent application of scientific and engineering design criteria. A comprehensive evaluation system will be developed to arrive at a relative ranking of the three sites.

The EIS process also ensures transparency and opportunities for public participation in the assessment process through public review of interim or draft documents, status reports, public meetings, and other information at certain critical steps. The final step in the process is for the Government of Guam to select a site and obtain concurrence from USEPA.

For more information, please visit [www.guamepa.govguam.net](http://www.guamepa.govguam.net) or call Guam EPA at 475-1658/9.

## Preliminary Screening for Three Potential Landfill Sites

The Guam Environmental Protection Agency (GEPA) and DPW conducted a preliminary site suitability study to identify and screen for the top three (3) potential landfill sites. This suitability study involved two distinct steps. First, the agencies conducted an exclusionary mapping exercise, which was initially based on a select set of exclusionary criteria. Overlays applied through a Geographic Information System (GIS) produced twelve (12) initial potential sites, which are referred to as the Preliminary Area List (PAL). These 12 PAL sites were then validated using other site-specific considerations that eventually precluded further consideration of half of the sites. The second step involved scoring the remaining six (6) sites against nine (9) preliminary siting criteria.

The top three sites scored in rank order are:

1. **Dandan** Lot B-3-REM, Municipality of Inarajan (approx. 3,000+ acres)



2. **Sabanan Batea** Lot 177-4-R2, Municipality of Yona (approx. 200 acres)



3. **Lonfit** Lot 450-4, Municipality of Asan (approx. 100 acres)



Additional information is available in the Preliminary Landfill Site Suitability Report, which details the screening process.