

Warren County landfill authority makes deal to send its sulfur South

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WHITE TWP. | After they couldn't find a buyer for about 120 tons of sulfur, Warren County landfill officials are paying to get the material off their hands.

The county's Pollution Control Financing Authority agreed this week to send the material to a hazardous waste landfill in Alabama.

The authority began removing sulfur from gases emanating from the landfill a couple of years ago, but it is not permitted to dispose of it at the county landfill.

The first shipment is expected to be taken by a local trucking company within the next two weeks, said Joseph Houston, the authority's counsel. If that delivery goes smoothly, the remaining material could be delivered by the middle of next month, Houston said.

The authority, which approved the deal Wednesday, is expected to pay between \$32,000 and \$38,000 for the sulfur disposal, Houston said.

Landfill officials had been considering sending the material to California and paying \$25,000 in shipping costs, but the authority would have been liable for the material until it was removed from the rail car, Houston said.

Under the new proposal, the trucking company is held responsible during the time of delivery, he said.

"The authority, in my opinion, couldn't take that risk of sending it out (to California)," Houston said.

Despite attempts over several months to sell the material, the authority could not find any buyers, Houston said. As of October, the authority's engineer had reached out to more than 40 potential vendors, including trade groups and agricultural organizations, but no offers had come back.

As part of a sharp reduction in the amount of trash brought in annually, the landfill is accepting much less sulfur-generating material, Houston said. In the future, the authority might need to pay for only two truck loads to Alabama each year, he said.

"This should not be a long-term problem in disposing of this," Houston said.

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