

Davis Energy Recovery Facility to Close

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Layton – The Administrative Control Board of Wasatch Integrated Waste Management District (Wasatch) voted to cease operation of the Davis Energy Recovery Facility, also known as the “Burn Plant”, by May 31, 2017. The municipal solid waste incinerator began commercial operations in 1987. For the past 30 years the facility has provided renewable energy, in the form of steam, to Hill Air Force Base while disposing of 125,000 tons per year of solid waste. Over the past 30 years the Davis Energy Recovery Facility has processed over 3.4 million tons of solid waste while shipping 12.8 billion pounds of renewable steam to Hill Air Force Base and recycling over 30,000 tons of steel. Operation of the facility also substantially increased the life of the Davis Landfill.

The facility is being closed in response to several converging factors which will increase the cost to operate the facility. Those factors include the increasing cost of maintaining an aging facility, the rising cost of materials, the cost of additional pollution control equipment which is required as a result of the Wasatch Front being designated as a non-attainment area for particulate matter, as well as a reduced interest from HAFB for the continued purchase of steam produced by the facility.

Closure of the facility will result in the loss of employment for approximately 35 highly trained people. Nathan Rich, Executive Director of Wasatch, said “This facility has provided 30 years of great service to the environment and the community, I am sorry to see it close. The hardest part of this decision is the impact it will have on our employees.”

Plans to replace the disposal capacity of the Davis Energy Recovery Facility include construction of a transfer station coupled with a mixed waste processing facility which will remove valuable resources from the waste before it is transferred to a regional landfill.

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