



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: ICC Student Presentation on Landfill Cover Investigation Project

PREPARED BY: Julie Kennedy, General Manager

BACKGROUND:

In an effort to support our local community, GRPU often partners with Itasca Community College by providing opportunities for students to work on actual projects for the utility. This spring, four second-year engineering students selected one of our projects as part of their Engineering Design IV course, a class that helps students gain insight into the personal, interpersonal, ethical and professional topics required for success in their education and their profession.

Paige Johnson, Nicholas Miller, Ian Walker, and Marie Ngo Poua worked with me this past semester on investigating the possibility that high leachate production on GRPU's Phase 1-4 landfill is caused by poor performance of the current landfill cover. The students researched four different landfill designs to help determine if cover is the problem, and if so, what type of cover would be recommended. Additionally, during their research, the students uncovered another possibility for the high leachate production that is currently being investigated by GRPU and the MPCA.

The students will present their research findings at the Commission meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and discussion only.