Dougherty Sprague Environmental Inc. (DSEI) completed the second of six planned testing events near the City of Garland’s Hinton Landfill in the early morning of Friday, January 28, 2011 for an eight-hour period. The winds were generally out of the west, northwest during the sampling event. A downwind sample was taken near the entrance of Community Park and an upwind sample was collected in a Church parking lot located north of the landfill in Garland.

Methane gas was detected at a maximum of 600 parts per million (ppm) in Community Park near the middle of park near the pond. The Test observer noted likely odor contribution from a City of Rowlett Sewer Lift near permanent restrooms after sunset and general dissipation throughout the night. No Hydrogen Sulfide was detected with a minimum level of detection being one part per million (ppm).

The air sample within Community Park detected some chemicals in the parts per billion (ppbv) by volume range including benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, trimethylbenzene and types of xylene, which are all components of gasoline. Also detected in the parts per billion ranges were dichlorodifluoromethane, trichlorofluoromethane which are types of Freon refrigerants. All of these compounds were at about one part per billion (ppb) or less. Also found were chloromethane and dichloromethane which are solvents at just over one and one-fourth parts per billion, respectively. Of these detected chemicals, benzene was the only item that was slightly above the long-term exposure limits.

The air sample taken north of the landfill had slightly higher readings on almost all gasoline components and Freon refrigerants. The solvents of chloromethane and dichloromethane were detected at similar levels.

The third air sampling event will likely occur the week of March 6-12, 2011 once favorable weather conditions occur.