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## MEDIArelease

Release: **NOTICEBOARD AND MEDIA**

Prepared for: Timaru District Council

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On: September 30, 2010

Words: 345

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# Pool site's excavated clay to find re-use at Redruth landfill

Waste not, want not. It's a philosophy being put to good use by the Timaru District Council as it implements recycling initiatives during the construction of the Caroline Bay Aquatic Centre on Maori Park.

First, contractors have been using special concrete-crushing plant to produce aggregate that will be reused in the new centre and any salvageable construction material such as reinforcing steel and metal is finding a new life after being sent away for re-smelting.

But even the hole that will ultimately be home to the new lap pool has been giving up valuable resources as it deepens and widens by the day – its clay is being trucked off to the Redruth landfill where it will be used as a lining blanket for future landfill cells as well as a one-metre thick capping layer for cells that have reached their capacity.

Council district services manager Ashley Harper, who is looking for every recycling opportunity as the pool work progresses, said landfills required clay as part of their operations as a community waste facility.

He said that while up to eight to 10 times the amount of clay being given up by the pool site will ultimately be needed at Redruth, "there were great savings to be had in simply shifting the material from one site to the other".

"It's already on a truck. It needs to go somewhere so a stockpile at Redruth makes good sense," Mr Harper said.

A new landfill cell for the district will be required in three to four years' time, he said.

"The Maori Park clay will be used to form a new base. Clay is the required material for such uses because of its impermeability which prevents leaching.

“Landfills require a complicated lining system involving drainage blankets, geo-textiles and clay, so it’s all important,” he said.

Previously, the council obtained clay from nearby farmland sites.

“But of course you have to excavate it and transport it,” Mr Harper said.

ENDS



***Clay for landfill. jpg:***

*Stephen LeLievre, facilities team leader for Transpacific Ltd, the council’s 3-2-1-ZERO waste management contractors, stands atop a growing mountain of clay at the Redruth landfill. The clay is from the excavation of the Caroline Bay Aquatic centre main lap pool site. It is being stockpiled for later use as bedding and capping of refuse cells at the landfill.*