What EGLE monitors at Arbor Hills Landfill, and what it shows

From EGLE records and reports filed with EGLE · as of November 15, 2026
GFL has owned the landfill since October 30, 2020

Methane underground across the street	🔴	Over the lower explosive limit **24 of 24** quarters under GFL. **No** Rule 433(4) notice from GFL on file, 2020-24. GFL probe reports (FOIA E700131); Consent Judgment quarterly reports; SCS Q3 2026 update; EGLE FOIA E700318: GFL's Rule 433(4) notices for 2020-2024 "do not exist"; for 2025-2026, SCS status updates reach EGLE weeks to months after the readings
Methane in the air at the fence line	🔴	At or above the 40 ppm action level on **30 to 40% of days**. EGLE Air Quality Division records review, 11/9/2026, based on GFL's day counts
Landfill gas collection	🔴	Gas reaching the RNG plant **down about 15%**; flaring **up about 59%** (2024 to 2026 so far). EGLE Air Quality Division, 9/24/2026 and records review 11/9/2026
PFAS in groundwater	🔴	PFOS nearly **4 times** the drinking-water criterion (April 2023). GFL proposed testing **twice a year**, to start after EGLE approval; **no GFL groundwater results on file since**. CEC for GFL, PFAS plan, 7/13/2023 (MPB-393, 4/12/2023: PFOS 60.7 vs 16 ng/L); EGLE FOIA E613160 release, certified complete 10/7/2026
PFAS in leachate (YCUA permit)	🔴	Landfill leachate, partly untreated, hit the sewer at PFOS **18,000 ng/L** (March 2026), **over 100×** the limit. GFL told commissioners Arbor Hills does not produce PFOS. YCUA Order to Show Cause disposition, 5/20/2026 (3/25/2026 sample; permit AD 6-27 limit PFOS 170 ng/L); GFL manager, Washtenaw BOC public comment, 2/4/2026, paraphrased (said while attributing PFOS to 2016 firefighting foam)
Hot gas wells	🟡	A well hit **177 °F** in 2025; waiver to 180 °F through 2028. VOCs and other non-methane organics **double every 18 °F**. GFL well-temperature report to EGLE (1H 2025); EGLE waiver, 4/7/2026; GFL-era peak 182.5 °F (AHWW16R6, July 2022); ATSDR Landfill Gas Primer (2001), ch. 2
Methane escaping through cover	🟡	**75 surface methane hits** in EGLE's June 2026 inspection; GFL's contractor reports all passed rechecks. EGLE AQD inspection report, 6/16/2026; Tetra Tech close-out (nSITE 1362294972326208294); 40 CFR 63.1960(c)(4)
Solid-waste evaluations	🟢	**10 of 10** EGLE solid-waste evaluations "In Compliance" since August 2024. EGLE Waste Data System (Part 115 only), checked 11/8/2026

🔴 problem shown in the record 🟡 gap or caveat 🟢 no problem recorded

Exceedances did not stop. Violation notices are not the right metric.

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026*
Probe readings over the explosive limit	**89**	**75**	**62**	**87**	**45**	**53**
Surface methane hits (EGLE inspections)	**—** (0)	**—** (0)	**31** (1)	**—** (0)	**24** (1)	**75** (1)
Solid-waste enforcement actions	**0**	**2**	**9**	**5**	**0**	**0**

*2026: readings through Sept. 29, actions through Nov. 8. The 2022 count includes the Consent Judgment's entry. Surface hits: spots at least 500 ppm methane above background on EGLE air-quality walks of 9/21/2023 and 9/25/2025 (both partial surveys) and 6/16/2026; EGLE says these walks were triggered by perimeter-monitor exceedances. EGLE's air-quality division also cited fence-line methane twice in 2022 (10/13, 12/8); those are recorded separately.

Probe readings: as-found methane above 5.0% (the lower explosive limit) at the gas probes monitored under Consent Judgment 2020-0593-CE ¶5.12, from GFL's 2019-2023 probe report (FOIA E700131), the Consent Judgment quarterly reports and SCS's 2026 status updates (FOIA E700318); 424 readings since Oct. 30, 2020; peak 92.9% methane (1,858% of the limit), probe AHTGP18D, 3/19/2024. Surface hits: EGLE AQD inspection reports (9/21/2023; 9/25/2025; 6/16/2026). Enforcement actions and evaluations: EGLE Waste Data System, Part 115 solid-waste program only, fetched 11/8/2026. Fence-line action level: 40 ppm methane, 15-minute rolling average.
Prepared by Arbor Hills Monitor · arborhillsmonitor.org