

Jared Blumenfeld
Secretary for Environmental Protection
Rachel Wagoner
CalRecycle Director

December 8, 2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**DEC 08 2020** 

Aimee Halligan
Orange County Waste & Recycling
601 North Ross Street, Floor 5
Santa Ana, CA 92701

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE** 

**Subject: SCH No. 2004011055** – Addendum to Environmental Impact Report 588 for

Revision to Solid Waste Facility Permit to Update Landfill Closure Date - Orange

County (Facility No. 30-AB-0035)

Dear Ms. Halligan:

Thank you for allowing the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) staff to provide comments on the proposed project and for your agency's consideration of these comments as part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process.

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Orange County Waste & Recycling (OCWR), acting as Lead Agency, has prepared and circulated an Addendum to Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) 588 in order to comply with CEQA and to provide information to, and solicit consultation with, Responsible Agencies in the approval of the proposed project. The Addendum will be the basis for a revision to the solid waste facility permit (SWFP) to update the landfill closure date.

The proposed project is located at the Olinda Alpha Landfill (landfill) at 1942 N. Valencia Avenue in unincorporated Orange County, north of the City of Brea. The landfill is a Class III municipal solid waste landfill owned by the County of Orange and operated by OCWR. The current SWFP for the landfill allows the landfill operation to accept up to 8,000 tons per day (TPD) of solid waste for 271 operating days per year and up to 10,000 TPD for up to 36 operating days per year. FEIR No. 588 anticipated that the landfill would operate until reaching the maximum landfill elevation of 1,415 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). At that time, it was anticipated that the landfill would reach this final elevation by December 31, 2021.

The proposed project will result in the revision to the landfill SWFP to allow for an update of the landfill closure date from December 31, 2021 to December 31, 2036. This update of the landfill closure date will not result in any increases to the following: (1) volume of accepted solid waste; (2) development footprint; (3) design capacity; (4) the slopes of the ultimate fill grading plans; (5) permitted depth of waste; (6) the landfill final elevations as analyzed in FEIR No. 588; or (7) maximum permitted daily tonnage. The proposed project will not result in any major changes to the existing landfill operation, rather the landfill is taking longer to fill up than originally anticipated due to increased recycling and waste diversion. The proposed project

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will not result in the creation of any new significant environmental impacts that were not previously analyzed in FEIR No. 588 or a substantial worsening of significant environmental impacts that were previously analyzed in FEIR No. 588. The proposed project is therefore in compliance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 and 15164 and therefore a Subsequent EIR is not required.

## **COMMENTS**

# Modification or Revision to the Current Solid Waste Facility Permit

The proposed project will require a modification or revision to the SWFP. Prior to updating the landfill closure date, the operator shall submit an application package for a SWFP modification or revision pursuant to 27 CCR, Section 21570 which shall be processed by the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) pursuant to 27 CCR, Section 21650.

## **Solid Waste Regulatory Oversight**

The Orange County Environmental Health Division LEA is responsible for providing regulatory oversight of solid waste handling and disposal activities, including permitting and inspections. Please contact the LEA, Kathy Cross, at 714.433.6270 or by e-mail at KCross@ochca.com to discuss solid waste requirements for the proposed project.

# **CONCLUSION**

CalRecycle staff thanks the Lead Agency for the opportunity to review and comment on the Addendum and hopes that this comment letter will be useful to the Lead Agency in carrying out their responsibilities in the CEQA process.

CalRecycle staff requests copies of any subsequent environmental documents, copies of public notices and any Notices of Determination for this proposed project.

If the environmental document is adopted during a public hearing, CalRecycle staff requests 10 days advance notice of this hearing. If the document is adopted without a public hearing, CalRecycle staff requests 10 days advance notification of the date of the adoption and proposed project approval by the decision-making body.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at 916.341.6363 or by e-mail at Megan.Emslander@calrecycle.ca.gov.

Sincerely,
Megan Emplanders

Megan Emslander, Environmental Scientist Permitting & Assistance Branch – South Unit

Waste Permitting, Compliance & Mitigation Division

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cc: Ben Escotto, Supervisor Permitting & Assistance Branch – South Unit

Kathy Cross, Supervisor Orange County LEA

Kevin Gaxiola, Strategic Communications OC Waste & Recycling