

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Benoit

SUBMITTAL DATE:
March 27, 2013

SUBJECT: Waiver of Alternative Daily Cover Fees at Oasis Landfill

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board:

1. Authorize a Waiver of Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) fees for material delivered from California Bio-Mass;
2. Authorize the use of Waste Management Department equipment/personnel (as available) to assist with ADC testing and loading efforts; and
3. Approve the attached Agreement with California Bio-Mass and authorize the General Manager-Chief Engineer of the Waste Management Department to execute the Agreement.

BACKGROUND: In November of 2011 odor complaints related to California Bio-Mass (CBM), a regional compost operator in my district, began. Facilities such as CBM are an integral part of our waste system within the County, but are not without controversy. The increase in odors appears to be due to the permitted acceptance of a large volume of liquid waste containing food related grease mixed into green waste for composting at CBM. CBM stopped accepting the liquid waste containing grease on October 31, 2012, but the onsite storage of material continues to impact the quality of life for surrounding residents. (Cont'd)



John J. Benoit, 4th District Supervisor

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 250,000*	In Current Year Budget:	No
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	No
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ NA	For Fiscal Year:	FY20012/13

SOURCE OF FUNDS: *Estimated lost revenue for tipping fees is negligible given increase in landfill efficiencies; primarily estimated equipment and labor costs; Waste Management Enterprise Fund	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

County Executive Office Signature

Dept't Recomm.: Consent Policy
 Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: 4/4

Agenda Number:

3-24

Numerous efforts to eliminate the odors have failed and only one expedient solution remains that has the potential to avoid costly and time consuming litigation. Therefore, I am requesting Board authority to allow the Waste Management Department (Department) to assist with the cleanup efforts in the most effective way it can, through an ADC fee waiver for the most odiferous material (with the understanding that some material may need to be disposed), as well as the use of available Department equipment/personnel. The operator of CBM has been cooperative and committed resources to load material that can be used as ADC at the Oasis Landfill, which is memorialized in the attached agreement. Additionally, Burrtec, the waste hauler for area, has committed trucks and waste from the Coachella Transfer Station to assist with effective use of the ADC and maximize the existing landfill space. By working with the operator of CBM, these actions will provide a fair and empathetic response to members of the community who have been impacted by odors, as well as avoiding unnecessary legal expenses, all while increasing the operational efficiency of the Oasis Landfill.

It is estimated that this project would result in the waiver of approximately \$0.7 million in tipping fee revenue (assuming 20% waste fraction); however, if taken to the nearby Oasis Landfill, the use of CBM material as ADC would result in the use of significantly less dirt for daily cover and a corresponding increase of waste density, essentially creating additional disposal capacity for the anticipated waste at no net cost to the system. This is largely due to the fact that the Oasis Landfill typically handles only 3-17 tons per day and was estimated to have 75,000 tons remaining disposal capacity at the current low daily tonnage. Even a slight increase in waste density and the waste-to-dirt ratio (going to 2:1 from the current 1:1) means that an additional 25,000 to 65,000 tons of waste can be utilized within the same air space. In order to fully maximize the air space at the Oasis Landfill and to maximize the efficient use of CBM ADC, it is recommended that Burrtec be allowed to haul Coachella Valley waste in transfer trucks to the Oasis Landfill in conjunction with the use of CBM ADC. This would allow for \$300,000 to \$2 million in gate fee revenue at the Oasis Landfill, while at the same time providing a shorter haul distance for Burrtec as an acknowledgment to their assistance with the project. The diversion of Burrtec waste to the Oasis Landfill has the added benefit of extending the life of the Lamb Canyon Landfill, where the Coachella Transfer Station currently delivers waste.

Approximately \$250,000 of in-kind equipment/sampling/personnel County costs are estimated to help load ADC at the Cal Biomass facility to quickly remove material and the associated odors in the community.

Temporarily waiving ADC fees is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), per CEQA Guidelines 15061(b)(3), as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that waiving fees may have a significant effect on the environment. Furthermore, the proposed clean-up and use of the CBM material is exempt per CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Existing Facilities. CBM and the Oasis Landfill are existing facilities. The proposed actions involve negligible or no expansion of approved uses at department landfills. Furthermore, the proposed actions would not exceed established environmental thresholds or permitted tonnage/vehicle limits, as stated on the Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) issued for the Oasis Landfill.

Attachment