

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



ITEM
12.2
(ID # 6221)

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

FROM : DEPARTMENT OF WASTE RESOURCES:

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF WASTE RESOURCES: Resolution No. 2018-041 for the Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Approval of the Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill, District 5 [\$0-Department of Waste Resources Enterprise Funds]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2018-041, approving the Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill (Project) and adopting the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and Mitigation Monitoring Program (MMP) for the Project, based on the findings incorporated in Environmental Assessment (EA) No. 2017-01, concluding that with mitigation, the Project does not cause significant environmental impacts, and
2. Direct the Department of Waste Resources to file the Notice of Determination (NOD) with the County Clerk upon approval.

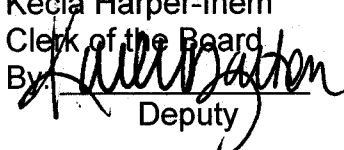
ACTION: Policy

Hans Kemkamp, General Manager - Chief Engineer 1/22/2018

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Tavaglione, seconded by Supervisor Jeffries and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington, Perez and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: February 6, 2018
xc: Waste

Kecia Harper-Ihem
Clerk of the Board
By 
Deputy

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

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A			Budget Adjustment:	No
			For Fiscal Year:	17/18

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The Lamb Canyon Landfill (LCL), located at 16411 Lamb Canyon Road, within the unincorporated area of Riverside County, has been in operation since 1970 and is operated by the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (Department).

The Department is seeking to obtain ownership of approximately 70 acres of land comprised of two parcels that are owned by The Preserve, LLC, (Preserve) which borders the LCL at the north end of the property (Project site). The Project site is a critical component for both the current and future development at the LCL. In 2007, the Department, the City of Beaumont (City), and the Preserve entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which outlined the terms and conditions for how the County would purchase/obtain ownership of the Project site. However, approvals for the Legacy Highlands Specific Plan (Legacy Highlands), as proposed by the Preserve were ultimately rescinded by the City as a result of a successful petition challenging the adequacy of the environmental documents for Legacy Highlands, thus effectively negating the MOU. While the MOU is no longer in effect, the need for the County to obtain ownership of the Acquisition Property is imminent and necessary for the development of the LCL, an essential public facility, and the County has made an offer to purchase the Project site based on the fair market price as determined by a recent appraisal. If said proposal is not accepted, the County shall continue eminent domain proceedings.

The purpose of the Project is to obtain ownership of the Acquisition Property for capturing and managing drainage flows that impact landfill activities south of the Project area, as well as to improve on-site access and facilitate the development of ancillary landfill activities.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Findings

EA No. 2017-01 (SCH# 2017121020) was prepared by the Department to evaluate the potential environmental impacts from the proposed Project and to identify appropriate mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate these impacts. The EA was prepared in conformance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15000 et. seq. While the EA identified that the proposed Project has the potential to impact environmental resources, each of the potential impacts can be fully mitigated to below a level of

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

significance with implementation of the mitigation measures identified in the EA. A MMP for the Project has been prepared incorporating these mitigation measures. As a result, the Department has prepared a MND and MMP for adoption by the Board of Supervisors (Board), pursuant to sections 15063 and 15097 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines, the Notice of Intent (NOI) to Adopt a MND and EA were posted with the State Clearinghouse and the Riverside County Clerk. The EA/MND was transmitted to responsible agencies, interested parties, and neighboring properties, for a 30-day comment period that began on December 11, 2017 and ended on January 11, 2018. Public notice, advertising the comment period for the NOI and EA/MND, was published in the Press Enterprise. Copies of the EA were made available to the public at the Department Headquarters, the Riverside County Clerk, the Banning Public Library, Beaumont Library District, and the San Jacinto Public Library, as well as made available on the Department's website at <http://www.rcwaste.org>.

During the public comment period, comment letters were received from the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). After the public review period, comments were received from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). No new significant environmental impacts were identified as a result of the comment letters; however, in response, the Department made minor modifications within the text of the EA for clarity. In addition, mitigation measure CR-11 was updated with a minor technical revision as permitted under State CEQA Guidelines section 15073.5 (c)(4). Furthermore, as no new significant effects were raised, the minor technical changes prepared by the Department would not trigger the need for recirculation of the EA/MND, as stated under State CEQA Guidelines section 15073.5. Additions within the EA/MND are shown in underline while deletions are shown in ~~strikethrough~~. The comment letters along with Department responses are attached.

A NOD for the Project will be filed with the County Clerk upon approval.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

The land acquisition and site improvements proposed by the Project will facilitate improved water quality through NPDES compliance including BMPs that serve to minimize or eliminate pollutants in storm water discharge, as well as improve operational efficiencies at the LCL. The Project will assist the Department in providing ongoing essential waste disposal and waste management services to Riverside County residents.


Additional Fiscal Information

Construction and improvements will not occur as part of this Board action, but may be requested in future action(s), as appropriate.

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
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ATTACHMENTS:

- ATTACHMENT A. Resolution 2018-041**
- ATTACHMENT B. NOI & Final EA 2017-01**
- ATTACHMENT C. Comment Letters and Department Responses**
- ATTACHMENT D. MMP**
- ATTACHMENT E. MND**
- ATTACHMENT F. NOD**



Gregory P. Priamos, Director County Counsel 1/23/2018

2
3 **RESOLUTION NO. 2018-041**

4 **ADOPTING A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND APPROVING THE**
5 **LAND ACQUISITION AND SITE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT THE LAMB**
6 **CANYON LANDFILL**

7 **WHEREAS**, the Lamb Canyon Landfill (hereinafter referred to as the "Landfill"),
8 located at 16411 Lamb Canyon Road, within the unincorporated area of Riverside County, has
9 been in operation since 1970 and is operated by the Riverside County Department of Waste
10 Resources (hereinafter referred to as the "Department"); and,

11 **WHEREAS**, Riverside County is seeking to obtain ownership of approximately 70 acres
12 of land (hereinafter referred to as the "Acquisition Property"), owned by The Preserve, LLC,
13 located directly north of the Landfill, and described as Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 424-
14 100-008 (portion) and 424-100-013; and,

15 **WHEREAS**, the need for Riverside County to obtain ownership of the Acquisition
16 Property is imminent and necessary for the development of the Landfill; and,

17 **WHEREAS**, Riverside County has made an offer to purchase the Acquisition Property
18 based on a determined fair market price, or through means including, but not limited to, eminent
19 domain proceedings; and,

20 **WHEREAS**, the Department proposes to utilize the Acquisition Property for capturing
21 and managing drainage flows that impact landfill activities south of the Project area, as well as to
22 improve on-site access, and facilitate the development of other ancillary landfill activities
23 (hereinafter referred to as the "Project"); and,

24 **WHEREAS**, Project ancillary activities include surface drainage improvements, site
25 security, site access, facility maintenance, environmental monitoring, and dirt management; and,

26 **WHEREAS**, the proposed Project is a critical component towards facilitating the
27 Department's compliance with the Industrial General Permit at the Lamb Canyon Landfill; and,

28 **WHEREAS**, all requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act have been

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
BY: AARON C. GETTIS 1-23-18 DATE

1 met and the Department's General Manager-Chief Engineer has found that with mitigation, the
2 Project will not have a significant adverse effect upon the environment and a Mitigated Negative
3 Declaration was prepared; and,

4 **WHEREAS**, the Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH No.
5 2017121020) thoroughly addresses the environmental effects of implementing the Project,
6 including the construction and maintenance of the various improvements identified therein.

7 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED** by the
8 Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, in regular session assembled on February 6,
9 2018 that:

- 10 A. **Review Period:** The County has provided the public review period for the
11 Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the duration
12 required under State CEQA Guidelines sections 15073 and 15105.
- 13 B. **Compliance with Law:** The Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative
14 Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program were prepared, processed, and
15 noticed in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public
16 Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (14
17 California Code of Regulations Section 15000 et seq.).
- 18 C. **Independent Judgement:** The Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative
19 Declaration reflects the independent judgement and analysis of the County.
- 20 D. **Mitigation Monitoring Program:** The Mitigation Monitoring Program is designed
21 to ensure compliance during Project implementation in that changes to the Project
22 and/or mitigation measures have been incorporated into the Project and are fully
23 enforceable through permit conditions, agreements or other measures as required
24 by Public Resources Code Section 21081.6.
- 25 E. **No Significant Effect:** That the adopted mitigation measures avoid or mitigate any
26 potential significant effects on the environment identified in the Environmental
27 Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration to a point below the threshold of
28 significance. Furthermore, after taking into consideration the adopted mitigation

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measures, Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside finds that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record, from which it could be fairly argued that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors concludes that the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

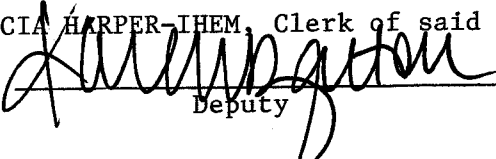
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that it **APPROVES** the Project and **ADOPTS** the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program for the Project, based on the findings incorporated in EA No. 2017-01, concluding that with mitigation, the Project does not cause significant environmental impacts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the custodians of the documents upon which this decision is based are the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and the Department and that such documents are located at 14310 Frederick Street, Moreno Valley, California.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington, Perez and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: None

The foregoing is certified to be a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by said Board of Supervisors on the date therein set forth.

KECIA HARPER-IHEM, Clerk of said Board
By 
Deputy



Hans W. Kernkamp, General Manager-Chief Engineer

**Notice of Intent to Adopt Mitigated Negative Declaration For
Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill
Environmental Assessment No. 2017-01**

DATE: December 7, 2017
TO: Agencies and All Interested Persons
PROJECT NAME: Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill
REVIEW PERIOD: December 11, 2017 to January 11, 2018

PROJECT LOCATION: The Project is located directly north of the Lamb Canyon Landfill and is accessible from the landfill which is located at 16411 Lamb Canyon Road between the cities of Beaumont and San Jacinto, in unincorporated Riverside County. The APNs for the Project are 424-100-008 (portion) and 424-100-013.

The Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR), on behalf of Riverside County as Lead Agency, has determined that the proposed Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill will not have a significant effect on the environment with the implementation of proposed mitigation measures and recommends the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for Environmental Assessment (EA) No. 2017-01.

The proposed Project involves the acquisition of two vacant parcels (approximately 70 acres) adjacent to the active Lamb Canyon Landfill through an eminent domain process or other means. Project activities proposed within the acquisition property include drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, site security and access.

MND/EA No. 2017-01 is available at the following locations: RCDWR website www.rcwaste.org or at 14310 Frederick Street in Moreno Valley and Riverside County Clerk at 2724 Gateway Drive in Riverside from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The documents have also been sent to the following libraries: Banning Public Library, 21 W. Nicolet Street in Banning (951.849.3192); Beaumont Library District, 125 E. 8th Street in Beaumont (951.845.1357); and San Jacinto Public Library, 595 S. San Jacinto Avenue in San Jacinto (951.654.8635).

Any comments on the proposed Project, the determination to adopt a MND, or requests for more information should be directed to: RCDWR, Attention: Kinika Hesterly, Urban/Regional Planner IV, 14310 Frederick Street, Moreno Valley, CA 92553. Telephone 951.486.3200/Fax 951.486.3205.

Written comments must be received at the above address by 5:00 p.m. on January 11, 2018. Any written comments received will be forwarded to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors and will be considered, along with the EA and any oral testimony, before any action is taken on the Project. The Board of Supervisors may consider this Project on or after February 6, 2018. Any decision made by this body will be mailed to anyone requesting such notification.

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF WASTE RESOURCES
Hans Kernkamp, General Manager – Chief Engineer**

Kinika Hesterly, Urban/Regional Planner IV

Environmental Assessment No. 2017-01
for the
**Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the
Lamb Canyon Landfill**



December 2017

Riverside County Department of Waste Resources

14310 Frederick Street

Moreno Valley, CA 92553

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AB 32	California's Global Warming Solutions Act
AB 939	California Integrated Waste Management Act
ACOE	Army Corps of Engineers
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
BMP	Best Management Practices
CH ₄	Methane
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
CAP	Climate Action Plan
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
County	County of Riverside
DBESP	Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IS	Initial Study
JPR	Joint Project Review
LCL	Lamb Canyon Landfill
LOS	Level of Service
MMP	Mitigation Monitoring Program
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
MSHCP	Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (Western Riverside County)
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
ND	Negative Declaration
NO _x	Nitrogen Oxides
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
O ₃	Ozone
PM _{2.5}	Fine Particulate Matter
PM ₁₀	Respirable Particulate Matter
PRC	Public Resources Code
RCA	Regional Conservation Authority
RCDWR	Riverside County Department of Waste Resources
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SWFP	Solid Waste Facility Permit
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
TPD	Tons Per Day
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds
WDR	Waste Discharge Requirements

Chapter 1

Introduction

Purpose and Use

The purpose of this Environmental Assessment (EA) No. 2017-01 is to describe the proposed project, its potential environmental impacts, and feasible mitigation measures to determine if potential adverse environmental effects caused by the proposed project can be reduced to below a level of significance. The "Project" addressed in this EA involves site acquisition and development for the Lamb Canyon Landfill (LCL). Details regarding the Project are located in Chapter 2, Project Description.

The County of Riverside (County), as Lead Agency, and other responsible and regulatory agencies with approval authority over the project, will use the EA to make informed decisions concerning the use and operation of the Project site, also referred to herein as the Acquisition Property.

Compliance with CEQA

The EA has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq and the implementing Guidelines (Section 15000 et seq.) and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the State CEQA Guidelines Section 15063, "Initial Study."

The Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR), on behalf of Riverside County as Lead Agency, has determined that with implementation of the mitigation measures described herein, the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment and recommends that a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) be adopted.

The EA is subject to a 30-day public review period by responsible and trustee agencies and interested public. All responses and comments received during this time period will be presented to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors (BOS) at the time that this body considers the project.

Additional environmental information regarding the LCL site and operation is contained in the following environmental documents available at the RCDWR HQ, at 14310 Frederick Street in Moreno Valley, CA and incorporated herein, by reference:

- EA35752 was prepared for a Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) Revision, for which a MND was adopted by the BOS on June 11, 1991 (SCH No. 1991032004).
- EA37160 was prepared for the increase in acreage to the landfill property, addressed a phased expansion of the site, and included installation of a composite liner, leachate collection system and landfill gas recovery and disposal system. A MND was adopted by the BOS on September 23, 1997 (SCH No. 1997081029).
- EA38691 was prepared for a revised SWFP to increase the daily disposal capacity from 1,900 tpd to 3,000 tpd, expand the landfill footprint, increase the permitted number of vehicles, relocate ancillary facilities, and modify the landfill footprint design. A MND was adopted by the BOS on July 29, 2003 (SCH No. 2003061074).

- An Addendum to EA38691 was prepared for the acceptance of refuse between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 pm, and allowed the use of artificial lighting. An addendum was approved by the BOS on June 14, 2005.
- EA39652 was prepared to revise the SWFP to increase the daily disposal capacity from 3,000 to 5,000 tpd, increase the maximum daily traffic from 756 to 913 vehicles, enlarge the permitted landfill area from 353.4 to 580.5 acres to allow for dirt management activities and other landfill related activities, change the landfill hours to allow 24-hour ancillary and non-disposal operations, 7 days per week and allow the receipt of waste for disposal from 4:00 am to 9:00 pm, 7 days per week. It also addressed the final closure of the portion of Phase 1 of the landfill disposal footprint, closure of the existing Central Accumulation Facility (CAF), increased diversion activities in the Waste Recycle Park (WRP), expansion of the equipment maintenance area, and other activities. A MND was adopted by the BOS on March 17, 2009 (SCH No. 2008121005).
- Addendum No. 1 to EA39652, approved by the BOS on January 26, 2016 included SWFP revisions such as an acceptance of different waste types for disposal, grading plan and other modifications.
- Addendum No. 2 to EA39652, approved by the BOS on September 19, 2017, includes modifications to the permitted disturbance area of the landfill which is increasing from 580.5 acres to 703.4 acres, drainage improvements to include water quality basins, relocation of the composting facility, and additional bird abatement measures.

Scope of Environmental Assessment

This EA evaluates the following potential environmental topics:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems

Impact Terminology

The following terminology is used in the EA to describe the levels of significance of impacts that could result from the proposed Project:

- The Project is considered to have no impact if the analysis concludes that the Project would not affect a particular resource topic.
- An impact is considered less than significant if the analysis concludes that either the Project would cause no substantial adverse change to the environment or that impacts would not require mitigation measures.

An impact is considered less than significant after mitigation if the analysis concludes that the proposed Project would cause substantial adverse change to the environment that would require the inclusion of appropriate and feasible mitigation measures to reduce the impact to a less than significant level.

If the application of mitigation measures may not reduce a significant impact to a less than significant level, the impact would be considered potentially unavoidable significant under CEQA.

Organization of the Environmental Assessment

The content and format of this document, as described below, are designed to meet the requirements of CEQA.

Chapter 1 — Introduction: identifies the purpose, scope, and terminology of the document.

Chapter 2 — Project Description: identifies the location, background, project objectives, characteristics, development, and identifies the permits and approvals required for the Project.

Chapter 3 — Environmental Checklist: presents the checklist responses for each resource. This section includes a brief setting description for each resource and identifies the Project's impacts on those resources.

Chapter 4 — References

Chapter 5 — Exhibits

Chapter 6 — Appendices

Chapter 2

Project Description

Project Location

The LCL is located at 16411 Lamb Canyon Road (State Route 79), south of Interstate 10 and north of Highway 74 between the City of Beaumont and the City of San Jacinto (see Vicinity Map – Exhibit A).

The Acquisition Property is approximately 70 acres and is located in portions of Sections 20, 21, Township 3 South, Range 1 West of the San Bernardino Base and Meridian and can also be described as Riverside County Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 424-100-008 and 424-100-013. The larger LCL property is 1,189 acres and is located adjacent to the Project site in Section 29, portions of Sections 20, 21, 28, and 30, Township 3 South, Range 1 West of the San Bernardino Base and Meridian and can also be described as Riverside County Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 421-170-034, 421-200-023, 421-200-024, 421-200-033, 421-220-014, 421-220-023 through -026, 421-230-008 and 421-230-009. Direct access to the landfill is provided by State Highway 79.

Zoning/Land Use

The Acquisition Property is zoned W-2 (Controlled Development) with a Rural Mountainous (RM) land use designation within The Pass Area Plan of the General Plan.

Areas directly to the north, east, west and south of the Acquisition Property are also located within the unincorporated area of Riverside County and are zoned Controlled Development (W-2):

Land uses surrounding the Project site include:

- North: Vacant
- East: Vacant, Highway 79
- West: Vacant
- South: Landfill Operations

Regional Setting

Riverside County is located in an area of Southern California referred to as the Inland Empire. The Inland Empire is an approximate 28,000 square mile metropolitan area primarily comprised of Riverside and San Bernardino counties, east of Los Angeles County.

The Project site is located within The Pass Area Plan of the County General Plan. Specifically, the Project site is located in the upper portion of the San Timoteo Badlands area, an extensive pattern of dramatic and rugged mountainous terrain forming the eastern edge of the area plan. The San Timoteo Badlands area is recognized as a regional wildlife corridor, and current land uses in the area are predominantly open space and habitat conservation.

The adjacent LCL provides services to the cities and/or communities of Beaumont, Banning, San Jacinto, and Hemet and the unincorporated communities of Pine Cove, Idyllwild, Cherry Valley, Cabazon, Homeland, and Romoland. Generally, waste originating from anywhere within Riverside County may be accepted for disposal at the LCL. As a regional facility, the landfill can provide services to surrounding counties, namely Los Angeles County, Orange County, San Diego County, and San Bernardino County.

The landfill also accepts residual waste from two private transfer stations in Riverside County, namely, Edom Hill Transfer Station/Materials Recovery Facility (EHTS/MRF) and the Coachella Valley Transfer Station (CVTS).

Background and Existing Landfill Operational Characteristics

The LCL has been in operation since 1970, is owned and operated by the RCDWR, and is defined as a Class III sanitary landfill facility, pursuant to the provisions of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). The landfill operates under a SWFP, issued by the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) of the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health (DEH), with the concurrence of the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), on December 30, 2003 and later re-issued on August 31, 2005, December 10, 2009, and May 12, 2016.

The LCL is an existing Class III, nonhazardous municipal solid waste (MSW) facility situated on 1,189 acres of County property, of which 580.5 acres are permitted for the current landfill operations, with a 144.6 acre disposal footprint.

The landfill is permitted to accept up to 5,000 tons per day (tpd) of MSW and 500 tpd of beneficial reuse material, including greenwaste. The current permitted landfill operation is expected to reach the design capacity in 2029.

Material recovery is conducted at the landfill to promote recycling, maximize landfill diversion, and conserve landfill capacity by targeting various recyclable items, such as metals, waste tires, construction and demolition (C&D) waste, and greenwaste. In addition, a metals recycling program, which is operated in conjunction with the Waste Inspection Program, is implemented to recycle metal appliances safely and economically by removing the hazardous components of the appliances. A Waste Recycling Park (WRP) is in operation at the landfill. The WRP integrates the various waste diversion activities, and hazardous waste management for a variety of hazard-containing waste items, specifically targeting electronic waste, universal waste, and household and commercial hazardous waste.

All landfill activities, including MSW delivery, are permitted to occur between the hours of 4:00 AM and 9:00 PM with the aid of artificial lighting for operation beyond daylight hours. The landfill is allowed to be open seven (7) days per week and closed on certain County holidays.

Landfill operations are guided by a Joint Technical Document (JTD) which supports regulatory permitting/approvals and addresses applicable regulatory requirements for a landfill. The JTD is prepared to satisfy the Report of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) found in California CCR, Title 27, Section 21585 and the Report of Disposal Site Information (RDSI) requirements found in CCR Title 27, Section 21600. It is also required for the issuance of a SWFP.

Table 1
Existing Landfill Operations

Category	Description
Permitted Hours of Operation	Monday through Sunday except certain County holidays. All landfill activities, including waste delivery, are permitted between the hours of 4:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. 24 hrs/7 days for ancillary or maintenance activities.
Permitted Tons per Day (tpd)	5,000 tpd of General Non-Hazardous Materials ¹ and 500 tpd of beneficial reuse material
Permitted Traffic Volume Per Day	913 vehicles
Permitted Disposal Area	144.6 acres
Permitted Landfill Area	580.5
Permitted Disposal Site Capacity	20.7 million cubic yards
Maximum Elevation	2,460 MSL
Maximum Depth	350 feet (Ft. BSG)
Estimated Closure Date	2029

¹ General Non-Hazardous Materials include municipal solid wastes, agricultural wastes, animal wastes, construction demolition wastes, inert materials, dead animals, tires, urban wood wastes, white goods and large metallic materials (per County policy implementing State Public Resources Code Section No. 42170), Class III and inert wastes, Petroleum Contaminated Soils (as approved by the County Hazardous Materials Management Division and RWQCB), and treated medical waste.

Summary of Project Description

The purpose of the Project is to obtain ownership of the Acquisition Property for capturing and managing drainage flows that impact landfill activities south of the Project area, as well as to improve on-site access and facilitate the development of ancillary landfill activities. Acquiring fee title to the Acquisition Property will also provide continuity of ownership with adjacent parcels northwest of the existing landfill site, as these were recently acquired by the County from Southern California Edison (SCE).

The current permitted disposal area at the LCL occupies only approximately 12% of the total land owned by the County at this site, and it provides an estimated disposal capacity to last until year 2029. The remaining acreage at the LCL property provides great potential for landfill expansion upon future permitting. Therefore, due to the essential function and disposal services provided to County residents at the LCL facility, the acquisition of the Project site by the RCDWR is critical toward facilitating several aspects of the ongoing landfill operations, as well as the future development of the LCL.

Property Acquisition

The County is seeking to obtain ownership of approximately 70 acres of land comprised of two parcels that are owned by The Preserve, LLC, (Preserve) which borders the LCL at the north end of the property (Acquisition Property, also referred to as Project site). The first parcel measures approximately 15 acres, Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 424-100-013; and the second parcel measures approximately 55 acres which is a portion of APN 424-100-008. Both parcels are bisected by another parcel (APN 424-100-012) which is already owned by the County (see attached Proposed Land Acquisition - Exhibit B).

For over 15 years, the Project site has been identified by the RCDWR as a critical component for both the current and future development at the LCL. As such, in 2007, RCDWR, the City of Beaumont (City), and the Preserve, LLC entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which outlined the terms and conditions for how the County would purchase/obtain ownership of the Project site. However, approvals for the Legacy Highlands Specific Plan (Legacy Highlands), as proposed by the Preserve LLC, were ultimately rescinded by the City as a result of a successful petition challenging the adequacy of the environmental documents for Legacy Highlands, thus effectively negating the MOU. While the MOU is no longer in effect, the need for the County to obtain ownership of the Acquisition Property is imminent and necessary for the development of the LCL, an essential public facility, and the County has made an offer to purchase the Project site based on the fair market price as determined by a recent appraisal. If said proposal is not accepted, the County shall continue eminent domain proceedings.

In addition to obtaining ownership of the Acquisition Property, Project activities include surface drainage improvements, site security, site access, facility maintenance, environmental monitoring, and dirt management (see attached Conceptual Improvements Plan). The following section addresses these specific Project activities.

Surface Drainage Improvements:

The naturally occurring topography within the Acquisition Property forms a canyon setting at the upstream end of the LCL property. Due to this setting, the surface water runoff flows naturally and freely into and through the LCL property. This condition restricts the ability of the RCDWR to utilize the downstream acreages at the site for conducting ancillary activities necessary for the ongoing landfill operation. Therefore, upon acquisition, the entire head-water canyon, approximately 17 acres, will be designated for "general drainage improvements" to control surface runoff via a network of channels, down drains, diversion berms, pipe culverts, percolation pits, and/or retention basins (see attached Drainage Map). Several types of construction material will be utilized for the improvements including, but not limited to, concrete, asphalt, corrugated drainage pipes, metal flumes, and rip rap stone. All applicable codes/regulations, general engineering standards and practices, as well as regulatory permits will be complied with during the design, permitting, and construction of these improvements.

Site Security and Access:

The rugged natural terrain within the Acquisition Property, in conjunction with barriers to be strategically located to ensure there will be negligible impacts to wildlife, will reduce unauthorized entry. In past years, in addition to instances of vandalism and theft, evidence of trespassing, such as motorcycle tracks, have been observed near the current northern boundary of the adjacent landfill site. Also, signs will be posted along the perimeter barriers and rugged terrain, warning that trespassing and unauthorized entry is prohibited.

The acquisition of these two parcels will allow RCDWR employees and its authorized vendors and contractors to facilitate access and travel within remote areas of the LCL property (see attached Proposed Land Acquisition - Exhibit B).

Environmental Monitoring and Facility Maintenance:

Several local, state, and federal codes and regulations are enforced by various regulatory agencies to control all aspects of operations at waste disposal facilities such as LCL. Some of these enforcement agencies include the California State Water Resources Control Board (CASWRCB), California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), Riverside County Department of Environmental Health - Local Enforcement Agency (LEA), and South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The primary objective of these laws and regulations is to protect human safety, health, and the environment. This is achieved by controlling and monitoring potential sources of pollution, such as landfill sites, to minimize or eliminate pollutants in surface water runoff, ground water, and the atmosphere. Obtaining ownership of the Acquisition Property affords more options to the RCDWR for implementing additional pollutant control measures, such as drainage improvements (as discussed above), and installation of additional environmental monitoring devices such as ground water monitoring wells and landfill gas monitoring probes.

The RCDWR is required by federal and state regulations to analyze the drainage system by collecting surface runoff samples and testing for various environmental parameters. During the recent rainy seasons, the RCDWR obtained samples from five different discharge locations at the site to test the performance of the existing drainage system and BMPs. RCDWR engineering staff believes additional drainage structures and Best Management Practices are needed to address potential regulatory exceedances. The installation of asphalt- and shotcrete-lined drainage structures, aggregate base roadways, and erosion control measures such as hydro-seeding and processed greenwaste application at the Project site will reduce the pollutants in the stormwater runoff. The proposed additional drainage and BMP measures will assist with continued compliance with federal and state requirements.

Dirt Management:

As part of a standard landfill disposal operation, excess dirt is typically generated and is required to be stored temporarily until it needs to be retrieved for the daily landfill cover application. The natural canyon formation and the location of the Acquisition Property will provide an optional location to the RCDWR for dirt management associated with the ongoing landfill operations.

Landfill Equipment and Labor Needs

No additional equipment or staff are required for this Project.

Project Objectives

The specific objectives of the Project are summarized as follows:

- Obtain ownership of the Acquisition Property for drainage management purposes.
- Facilitate improved water quality through NPDES compliance including BMPs that serve to minimize or eliminate pollutants in storm water discharge generated at the Project site.
- Provide continuity of ownership with adjacent County-owned parcels.

- Allow for ancillary landfill activities including, but not limited to: site surveys, testing, and monitoring, drainage improvements, dirt management, construction and maintenance of access roads, equipment and materials storage, and other ancillary activities typical for an active Class III landfill.

Subsequent Discretionary Actions

The proposed Project may be required to obtain and/or update the following permits and/or approvals from the agency identified:

- MND for EA No. 2017-01 (*County of Riverside*)
- Notice of Intention/Resolution of Necessity, and other required documentation, agreements, and/or contracts related to implementation of the proposed Project (*County of Riverside*)
- Updates to Solid Waste Facility Permit (*Concurrence by CalRecycle; Issuance by Riverside County Environmental Health Department, Local Enforcement Agency*)
- Waste Discharge Requirements (*Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board*)
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (*State Water Resources Control Board*)
- Hazardous Waste Spill Contingency Plan (*County of Riverside Environmental Health Department, Hazardous Materials Branch*)
- Permits to Construct and Operate (*South Coast Air Quality Management District*)
- Hazardous Materials Generator Permit/EPA Identification Number (*Department of Toxic Substances Control, California Environmental Protection Agency*)
- Permit by Rule or Operating Permit (*Department of Toxic Substances Control, California Environmental Protection Agency*)
- 404 Clean Water Act Permit (*Army Corps of Engineers*)
- 401 Water Quality Certification (*Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board*)
- 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement (*California Department of Fish and Game*)
- Consistency with Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (*Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority*)
- Compliance with applicable AQMD rules/permits (*South Coast Air Quality Management District*)

Chapter 3

Environmental Checklist

1	Project Title:	Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill
2	Lead Agency Name:	County of Riverside
3	Contact Person/Phone Number:	Kinika Hesterly, Urban/Regional Planner IV (951) 486-3200
4	Project Location:	APNs: 424-100-008, -013
5	Project Sponsor's Name/Address:	Department of Waste Resources 14310 Frederick Street Moreno Valley, CA 92553
6	General Plan Designation:	Rural Mountainous [RM]
7	Zoning:	Controlled Development [W-2]

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below (x) would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems |

Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed Project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the Project have been made by or agreed to by the Project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that the proposed Project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

I find that the proposed Project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to the earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed Project, NOTHING FURTHER IS REQUIRED.

Kinika Hesterly, Urban/Regional Planner IV
Riverside County Department of Waste Resources

Date

Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, and then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). References to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The explanation of each issue should identify the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

1. AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Riverside County General Plan: Land Use Element, Scenic Corridors, RCGIS, and Site Visit.

1a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

The Acquisition Property is located north of the existing LCL and consists of steep ridgelines and canyon formations. The Project proposes surface drainage improvements such as channels, diversion berms and basins; access roads and dirt management for the storage of excess dirt generated by the operation of the adjacent landfill; site security including barriers and signs to deter unauthorized entry; and environmental equipment to help monitor, reduce, and eliminate pollutants. These activities will blend in with the existing landscape and not generate substantially elevated surfaces or structures. Due to the steep topography and hilly terrain in the area, scenic vistas are not anticipated to be affected as existing hills block potential views of the Project site by drivers on the nearest public roadway, Highway 79, as well as potential views from the nearest residence located 1.4 miles to the north. There are no adjacent uses in proximity to the Project that would affect a scenic vista.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

1b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

According to the General Plan, the nearest highway to the site, Highway 79, is not designated a state scenic highway, but is designated a county eligible scenic highway (General Plan, Scenic Highways). The Project is not visible from Highway 79 due to the steep hills adjacent to the highway. This topography would serve as a buffer for any activities that may occur. Site visits to the area established that the Acquisition Property is vacant of structures and contains scrub vegetation which is characteristically low-lying. Rock outcroppings occur in the area; however, these resources do not occur within a state scenic highway and are not readily visible due to the topography. The Project activities will not substantially damage scenic resources in a state scenic highway.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

1c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

The existing visual character of the Acquisition Property is vacant land with steep canyon topography surrounded by steep ridgelines and slopes, sparsely located SCE towers and access roads, and an adjacent landfill operation to the south. The Project will remain consistent with the area as it will incorporate drainage and facility maintenance and other activities consistent with the adjacent landfill. Other activities proposed will not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

1d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

The Project is consistent with the surrounding landscape as proposed activities will be a continuation of the ancillary activities at the adjacent landfill such as drainage and facility maintenance, site security, environmental monitoring and dirt management. Nighttime lighting may occur for site security and if emergency maintenance is needed. This already occurs as needed at the adjacent landfill site for maintenance and operational activities and the impact is minimal due to topography at the site and shielding by steep slopes and ridgelines. According to the County GIS, the Project is located 37.56 miles from the Mt. Palomar Observatory, in Zone B. RCDWR is required to comply with Riverside County Ordinance No. 655, Regulating Light Pollution - to limit light spillage that may interfere with the operations of the Mt. Palomar Observatory. Compliance with an ordinance is not considered unique mitigation for the purposes of CEQA; however, to reduce the potential for creating substantial light, the Project shall require that all installed or portable lighting will be shielded and directed downward. With this, the Project will not create a substantial new source of light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant with mitigation.

Mitigation Measure

A-1 All installed or portable lighting shall be shielded and directed downward.

2. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code (PRC) §12220(g)), timberland (as defined by PRC §4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code §51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Riverside County General Plan: Multipurpose Open Space Element, Agricultural Resources; Riverside County Geographic Information System (RCGIS).

2a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

The Acquisition Property and surrounding area consists of rugged terrain and slopes that do not support soils for farmland. According to the General Plan, the Project site is not designated prime or unique farmland, nor farmland of statewide importance or local farmland. Further, the Project site is classified as "Other Lands" with no farmland significance.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

2b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

The Acquisition Property is not located within an agricultural zone or preserve according to the Riverside County GIS. Williamson Act contracts only apply to land within an agricultural preserve.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

2c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code (PRC) §12220(g)), timberland (as defined by PRC §4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code §51104(g))?

The Acquisition Property is not located within a zoning classification for forest land or timberland.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

2d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

The Acquisition Property is not located in forest land and will not convert forest land to a non-forest use.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

2e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

The existing environment consists of rugged terrain, steep slopes, and cliffs. The Acquisition Property is not located in forest land or farmland, and, therefore, will not involve the conversion of these lands to a non-agricultural or non-forest use.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

3. AIR QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Result in a cumulative considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Project Materials; EA No. 39652

3a.-3c. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation? Result in a cumulative considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

The Project proposes improvements within the headwaters canyon area of the Project site in order to better manage and facilitate drainage. In addition to drainage improvements such as channels, diversion berms and basins, dirt management will be utilized for the storage of excess dirt generated by the operation of the adjacent landfill. Also, site security including barriers and signs to deter unauthorized entry, and environmental monitoring to help reduce and eliminate pollutants, may also be incorporated.

Excavators, loaders, a back hoe, motor-graders, water trucks, and bulldozers will be utilized for these improvements. The equipment required for Project activities has been used for previous projects at the adjacent landfill.² Portions of the existing landfill fleet, as needed, would be redirected to work on Project activities as part of the normal, day-to-day, on-going landfill maintenance and site improvement activities. Project activities are not anticipated to result in the need for additional equipment beyond what has been used for projects at the adjacent landfill or cause an increase in the intensity of usage for the existing fleet;

² Air quality impacts from the existing landfill fleet were fully assessed and mitigated for in previously approved/adopted environmental documents, which have been incorporated by reference, as shown on pages 4-5.

however, an air quality analysis was prepared that evaluated the worst case scenario where in the rare event that the existing fleet is unavailable for Project use due to on-going commitments (already in-use for other landfill activities), additional equipment would be needed for Project construction.

Construction of the stockpile/dirt management area involves several work items that primarily include site preparation, earthwork, and drainage improvements. The work items are consecutive (would not occur simultaneously) and a full analysis of the work items can be accessed in Appendix B. Table 2 provides the emissions for the excavation, hauling, and stockpiling work item because it has the greatest potential to generate the highest levels of daily air emissions during construction.

**Table 2
Construction: Worst-Case Scenario Air Quality Emissions³**

Dirt Management: Excavation, Hauling, Stockpiling Activities								
Construction Equipment⁴ (Emissions in lbs/hr)	# of Units	Daily Use	ROG/ VOC	CO	NOx	SOx	PM₁₀	PM_{2.5}⁵
D-8 CAT Dozer	2	8 hrs	3.94	14.90	31.20	0.04	1.27	1.17
637 Scrapers	3	8 hrs	5.42	20.91	41.96	0.06	1.72	1.58
Motor Grader	1	8 hrs	0.89	4.67	6.4	0.01	0.32	0.29
Water Truck	1	8 hrs	0.54	2.85	4.03	0.01	0.16	0.15
Total Emissions⁶ lbs/day			10.79	43.33	83.59	0.12	3.47	3.19
SCAQMD Daily Construction Emissions Threshold (lbs/day)			75	550	100	150	150	55
Significant			NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

The Project is located in the South Coast Air Basin which is regulated for air pollution by the SCAQMD. The 2016 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) is the regional plan or blueprint for achieving air quality standards and healthful air. If SCAQMD established air quality thresholds are exceeded by the Project, then the Project will create a significant impact on air quality. As previously discussed, existing landfill equipment fleet is anticipated to be utilized for construction of all Project activities, including stockpile construction. While the stockpile is being constructed, the existing landfill fleet is anticipated to be removed from daily activities and redirected to construction of the stockpile. This means that no new air emissions would be generated above those already occurring at the adjacent landfill.

While use of the existing fleet is anticipated and is the most likely construction scenario, the worst-case scenario is that additional equipment will be hauled in and utilized to construct the stockpile while existing equipment is concurrently utilized at the adjacent landfill. This is the scenario that was analyzed in Table 2 above. As provided in Table 2, even if this worst-case construction scenario occurs, the air emissions generated by the stockpile construction will continue to remain below the air quality daily significance thresholds established by the SCAQMD. This means that Project construction source emissions would not cause or substantially contribute to violation of established air quality standards or

³ Emission factors for equipment were based on SCAQMD emission factor spreadsheets: www.aqmd.gov: EMFAC version 2.3 and SCAB Fleet Average Emission Factors (Diesel). Emissions were based on scenario year 2017 composite emission factors which have horsepower ratings and load factors build into the emission factors. Subsequent scenario years provide lower emissions.

⁴ Off-road equipment: SCAB Fleet Average Emission Factors (Diesel).

⁵ Updated CEIDARS Table with PM_{2.5} fractions published by the SCAQMD. PM_{2.5} is 92% of total PM for Diesel on-road and off-road equipment.

⁶ Emissions worksheets are located in Appendix B.

contribute to an air quality violation. The Project will also not result in a cumulative considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors).

Operation impacts from maintenance of the improvements that will occur after construction of the Project will utilize existing equipment currently in use at the Lamb Canyon Landfill (Landfill). This equipment will merely be redirected from the current landfill operations to the acquired area, as needed.

Existing equipment anticipated to be utilized during Project operations are: one (1) small D6 dozer, 1-motorgrader, and 1-water truck, each anticipated to be used for 4 hours in a day.

**Table 2A
Operation: Air Quality Emissions⁷**

Maintenance of Equipment and Drainage Improvements								
Equipment⁸ (Emissions in lbs/hr)	# of Units	Daily Use	ROG/ VOC	CO	NOx	SOx	PM₁₀	PM_{2.5}
D-6 CAT Dozer	1	4 hrs	0.99	3.72	7.8	0.01	0.32	0.29
Motor Grader	1	4 hrs	0.45	2.34	3.20	0.01	0.16	0.15
Water Truck	1	4 hrs	0.27	1.43	2.02	0.01	0.08	0.08
Total Emissions lbs/day			1.71	7.49	13.02	0.03	0.56	0.52
SCAQMD Daily Operation Emissions Threshold (lbs/day)			55	550	55	150	150	55
Significant			NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

As indicated above by Table 2A, operation equipment use will not generate air emissions that exceed established SCAQMD thresholds, nor will emissions contribute to an air quality violation, or result in a cumulative considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

3d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

The nearest sensitive receptor (residence) is located 1.4 miles northeast of the Project site. Due to the limited nature of the improvements involved, along with the intervening topography, the Project will not generate significant air pollutant emissions or expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

3e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

⁷ Emission factors for equipment were based on SCAQMD emission factor spreadsheets: www.aqmd.gov: EMFAC version 2.3 and SCAB Fleet Average Emission Factors (Diesel). Emissions were based on scenario year 2017 composite emission factors which have horsepower ratings and load factors build into the emission factors. Subsequent scenario years provide lower emissions.

⁸ Off-road equipment: SCAB Fleet Average Emission Factors (Diesel).

⁹ Updated CEIDARS Table with PM_{2.5} fractions published by the SCAQMD. PM_{2.5} is 92% of total PM for Diesel on-road and off-road equipment.

The Acquisition Property will be used for the purposes of site improvements which include surface drainage, environmental monitoring, site security and access, and dirt management. None of these uses will generate objectionable odors and substantial numbers of people are not located within the vicinity and will not be affected by the Project.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sources: MSHCP, Legacy Highlands, Draft EIR, dated May 2007. Impact Assessment by ECORP Consulting, Inc., dated June 2009; General Biological Assessment by LSA Associates, Inc., dated November 2004.

4a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services?

The Acquisition Property is vacant land bisected by SCE powerlines and adjacent to an active landfill. While the RCDWR does not have permission from the land-owner(s) to conduct its own on-site biological surveys, general biological assessments and focused surveys have been previously prepared for the Legacy Highlands Specific Plan development (no longer a project), which includes the Project site. These biological assessments indicate that habitats in the area are undeveloped badlands similar in topography, containing eroded slopes and vegetative cover such as Riversidian sage scrub (a subtype of coastal sage scrub that contains few evergreens and is dominated by mostly very drought-deciduous shrub species that are highly adapted to extended dry periods), chaparral (dense and evergreen shrub species), and non-native grassland (a non-native plant community that comprises Mediterranean grasses introduced as feed crops for range animals for the grain industry). Also, according to the MSHCP Conservation Report Generator Tool, burrowing owl habitat is located within the Acquisition Property.

Although the Project site has not been previously disturbed, the Project proposes activities consistent with ancillary activities currently taking place at the adjacent landfill. These activities and uses consist of surface drainage improvements such as channels, diversion berms and basins; access roads and dirt management for the storage of excess dirt generated by the operation of the adjacent landfill; site security including barriers and signs to deter unauthorized entry; and environmental equipment to help monitor, reduce, and eliminate pollutants. Based on the previous biological assessments completed, as well as the results of the MSHCP Conservation Report Generator Tool, Project activities could result in impacts to special status species (burrowing owl); as such, to mitigate such potential impacts, burrowing owl pre-construction surveys will be required prior to any ground disturbing activities at the Project site. Furthermore, nesting bird preconstruction surveys, in compliance with the MSHCP and Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (MBTA) shall also be performed if Project activities occur during the nesting season.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant with mitigation.

Mitigation Measures

- Bio-1 Within thirty (30) days prior to earthmoving activities, a burrowing owl preconstruction survey will be required.
- Bio-2 If occupied burrows are found during a preconstruction survey, no disturbance will occur within 50 meters (approximately 160 feet) of occupied burrows during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) or within 75 meters (approximately 250 feet) during the breeding season of February 1 through August 31.
- Bio-3 If occupied burrows are found during the preconstruction survey, and destruction of occupied burrows is unavoidable, occupied burrows will not be disturbed during the breeding season unless a qualified biologist approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) verifies through non-invasive methods that either: 1) the birds have not begun laying eggs and/or incubating them; and, 2) juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and are capable of independent survival. Within undisturbed areas of the Acquisition Property, either immediately adjacent to occupied burrows or within the Lamb Canyon Conservation Area, burrows will be provided at a ratio not less than 2:1 by either enhancing existing unsuitable burrows or by creating new burrows.

Bio-4 All construction within the Project site shall be scheduled to avoid nesting bird season from March 15 through September 15. If construction activities occur within nesting season, preconstruction biological surveys, avoidance and monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified biologist.

4b.-4c. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services? Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

General biological assessments in the area indicate that the Project site's vegetation includes chaparral and Riversidean sage scrub habitat. No sensitive natural community area and riparian habitat is anticipated to be significantly present within the Project area which consists of steep and rough terrain. Currently, however, access to the site has not been granted and recent biological assessments have not occurred as a result. Therefore, upon successful acquisition of the Project site by RCDWR and prior to any ground disturbance, a biological assessment and jurisdictional delineation will be prepared, and all applicable regulations/rules pertaining to biological resources will be complied with, as described below.

According to the MSHCP, the Acquisition Property is located within a Criteria Area. This will require that RCDWR submit an application for a Joint Project Review (JPR) to the Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) for review and approval prior to any disturbance. Also, areas meeting the definition of Riparian/Riverine may be located on the Project site and a Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation (DBESP) may also be required due to impacts to Riverine/Riparian features as defined by Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP. If a DBESP is required, it will describe in detail the resources present, potential impacts to the resources, and identify biologically equivalent or superior mitigation. Such mitigation may include habitat restoration, creation, relocation, and/or preservation.

Vernal pools and wetlands are not anticipated based on past general biological assessments in the area; however, this will be determined during the Project-specific biological assessment and jurisdictional delineation required prior to any impacts at the Project site.

Consultation with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) will also occur, prior to impacts to the Project site, in order to address impacts to jurisdictional waters and riparian habitat that may be present.

Incorporation of mitigation measures, such as on-site habitat preservation or enhancement, or purchase of off-site mitigation credits through an approved mitigation bank, or in-lieu fee program, will prevent the Project from having a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the CDFW and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services. Although no wetlands are anticipated to be found at the Project site, mitigation measures will prevent a substantial adverse effect on federally protected jurisdictional waters, as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant with mitigation.

Mitigation Measures

- Bio-5 Prior to any site disturbance, the Project will be required to complete the Joint Project Review (JPR) process with the Regional Conservation Authority (RCA). This analysis may also result in a DBESP.
- Bio-6 Prior to impacts, a jurisdictional delineation will occur to determine the presence of jurisdictional drainages/features located within the Project site.
- Bio-7 Prior to impacts within jurisdictional drainages/features, Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) shall consult with the appropriate resource agencies (Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and Regional Conservation Authority (RCA)) and obtain any necessary permits/approvals/certifications (ACOE/404 permit, CDFW/1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, RWQCB/401 Water Quality Certification; and RCA/JPR and/or DBESP).
- Bio-8 Mitigation and monitoring plans for impacts to jurisdictional drainages/features shall be implemented in accordance with all permits, approvals, and/or agreements as may be required by the ACOE, CDFW, RWQCB, and RCA.

4d.-4f. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites? Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

The MSHCP, adopted by Riverside County in 2003, facilitates the preservation of biological diversity in Riverside County. The RCA is responsible for administering the MSHCP and ensuring that development projects are consistent with its goals and policies. The MSHCP identifies habitats, the presence of various plant and wildlife species, biological issues, as well as conservation goals by Area Plans and cells. As defined by the MSHCP, a Cell is a unit that is generally 160 acres and within a Criteria Area. A Criteria Area is an area identified by the MSHCP as requiring further analysis by the RCA and Wildlife Agencies, in order to decide whether the area should be used for conservation and a Cell Group is an identified grouping of Cells within a Criteria Area.

The Acquisition Property is located within The Pass Area Plan. This Area Plan has three (3) Subunits with acreage amounts identified for conservation along with species, biological issues and considerations for each Subunit. Subunit 1 encompasses Cell Groups A, B, and C, and contains target acreage for conservation ranging from 5,570 to 9,275 acres. The Acquisition Property specifically falls within Cell Group B. Conservation within Cell Group B focuses on chaparral, coastal sage scrub, Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, water, riparian scrub, woodland and forest land. Conservation within this Cell Group ranges from 45-55% and focuses on the central portions of the Cell Group. The Acquisition Property is located within Criteria Cells 1505 and 1600. These criteria cells are located in the northwest portion of Cell Group B and, therefore, do not meet the objective for conservation which is focused on the central portions of Cell Group B.

Conservation within the central portions of Cell Group B focuses on reserve assembly for Proposed Core 3. A Core is defined by the MSHCP as a block of habitat of appropriate size, configuration, and vegetation characteristics to generally support the life history requirements of one or more MSHCP Covered Species. Proposed Core 3 is one of the largest MSHCP Core Areas, with approximately 24,920 acres. This Core contains habitat for species including, but not limited to, Bell's sage sparrow, loggerhead shrike, Stephen's kangaroo rat, bobcat and mountain lion. Although this Core functions as a Linkage connecting the San Bernardino National Forest to the southwest with San Bernardino County and other areas north of the Core, and is connected to several Proposed Linkages (i.e. wildlife corridors proposed to facilitate the movement of wildlife), these specific Linkages do not include the Project site, nor are they identified in Cell Group B. Additionally, the area of Cell Group B which encompasses the Project site is not located in the reserve assembly area (i.e. central portion) of the Cell Group for Proposed Core 3. Since Project activities include drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, site access and security, in order to alleviate edge effects associated with the Project on adjacent vacant land, the Project will incorporate Urban/Wildland Interface Guidelines (UWIG) to be in compliance with Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP. The areas of the UWIG are discussed below:

Drainage: The Project shall incorporate measures required by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, or other entities to manage runoff. Water discharged from the Project site will be subject to drainage systems before being directed into natural drainages. Drainage improvements, such as pipe culverts, channels, sedimentation basins and/or percolation basins, will aid in treating waters that flow from the site.

Toxics: The Project will not involve handling or stockpiling of hazardous or toxic wastes in the Project area. Accidental release of potentially hazardous/toxic materials into the environment during construction activities (Lube, Oil, Gas) will be adequately mitigated with implementation of the existing Contingency Spill Plan. In addition to the drainage systems that shall be put in place to ensure water quality, the Project may also include environmental monitoring to check for potential contamination. Therefore, the toxic edge effects from the project are determined to be insignificant.

Lighting: While night lighting is not anticipated to occur regularly, it is not prohibited due to security and/or maintenance activities that may need to occur beyond daylight hours. All lighting utilized during nighttime will be shielded and directed away from wildland areas.

Noise: No significant increases in noise-generating uses are proposed in the Project. The amount of noise generated by the proposed Project will be temporary only occurring during construction, and ambient noise in the area will be consistent with that currently experienced due to the landfill. Any equipment used during construction is required to be in good working conditions with proper noise-reducing equipment installed.

Invasive Plant Species: The proposed Project shall not require nor is proposing landscaping. On certain occasions, seeding of areas may be necessary for stabilization purposes. As is the current practice, only native seed mixes that are approved by a qualified biologist shall be allowed, when seeding is determined necessary.

Barriers: The rugged topography of the Project site and proposed use for soil storage would serve as an effective barrier to public access and domestic predation to the adjacent vacant land. Also, public access at the Project site will be restricted due to its remote location and distance from public roads as well as the buffer of the adjacent landfill restricting unauthorized entry due to the gate fee booth operation and night time security surveillance.

Grading/Land Development: Project activities are designed to be setback from property lines and this sufficient space ensures that activities will not encroach into adjacent vacant land that is not utilized for landfill purposes. Additionally, although a majority of the Project site is located within a Criteria Area, as identified in the MSHCP, the Project site is not located in an area called out for conservation. Additionally, proposed activities within the Project site are part of the standard landfill development that provides essential public services at the Lamb Canyon Landfill, a Covered Activity under Section 7.3.8 of the MSHCP. With MSHCP compliance, including reducing edge effects discussed in the previous paragraphs and previously outlined mitigation measures, the Project will not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors.

Prior to any site disturbance and upon successful acquisition of the Project site, additional biological assessments will be prepared and RCDWR shall consult with the RCA to complete the JPR process, as required when development is proposed within a Criteria Area. In addition to compliance with MSHCP policies regarding burrowing owls and nesting birds (as described in 4a), the response to 4b/4c provides more details regarding the Project' compliance with the MSHCP. With the stated mitigation measures in this section (Section 4. Biological Resources), the Project would not conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as the MSHCP.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant with mitigation.

Mitigation Measures

Refer to Mitigation Measures Bio-1 through Bio-8.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Phase I Cultural Resource Assessment, prepared by Michael Brandman Associates, dated December 6, 2010; EA39652, dated March 2009; Paleontological Assessment prepared by L & L Environmental, Inc., dated February 14, 2005; Paleontological Report, Michael Brandman Associates, dated June 2011.

5a.-5b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5? Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

The Acquisition Property consists of vacant land with steep and rugged terrain. Although not previously disturbed, a portion of the Acquisition Property, along with the adjacent landfill property, has been analyzed for cultural resources. The Cultural Resources Assessment identified that no cultural resources were found and due to the ruggedness of the terrain and lack of permanent surface water, the area is unlikely to contain significant cultural resources. The report did not recommend cultural resources monitoring based on these findings. The findings are likely the same for the remainder of the Acquisition Property due to the continuation of the rugged terrain and lack of permanent water.

The Project proposes ground disturbance activities for various improvements such as channels, diversion berms and basins; access roads and dirt management for the storage of excess dirt generated by the operation of the adjacent landfill; site security including barriers and signs to deter unauthorized entry; and environmental equipment to help monitor, reduce, and eliminate pollutants. Based on the findings in the cultural report, no cultural resources were identified, and it is unlikely that any significant resources exist within the Project site; however, if cultural resources are found during ground disturbing activities, a qualified archaeologist will be consulted for further direction. In addition, while no tribal cultural resources were identified during the AB 52 consultation process (see Section 17 for details), a tribal monitor will be present during initial ground disturbances within the Project site. This further decreases the likelihood of any Project impacts to cultural, historical, or tribal cultural resources.

FINDING: The impact is considered less than significant with mitigation.

Mitigation Measures

- CR-1 If subsurface cultural resources are encountered during any excavation, or if evidence of an archaeological site or other suspected historic resources are encountered, all ground-disturbing activity will cease within 100 feet of the resource and a qualified archaeologist will be retained by the operator to assess the find, and to determine whether the resource requires further study. Potentially significant cultural resources could consist of, but are not limited to, stone, bone, fossils, wood or shell artifacts or features, including structural remains, historic dumpsites, hearths and middens. Midden features are characterized by darkened soil, and could conceal material remains, including worked stone, fired clay vessels, faunal bone, hearths, storage pits, or burials and special attention should always be paid to uncharacteristic soil color changes. Any previously undiscovered resources found during construction should be recorded on appropriate Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms and evaluated by a qualified archaeologist retained by the County for significance under all applicable regulatory criteria.
- CR-2 No further grading will occur in the area of the discovery until the County approves the measures to protect the resources. Any archaeological artifacts recovered as a result of mitigation will be donated to a qualified scientific institution approved by the County where they would be afforded long-term preservation to allow future scientific study.

5c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

The Acquisition Property is located in an area of high paleontological sensitivity according to the General Plan. As defined in the General Plan, paleontological resources are the fossilized biotic remains of ancient environments. They are valued for the information they can provide about the history of the earth and its past ecological settings. The Riverside County General Plan requires further study whenever a Project site contains potentially significant paleontological resources. Although Project activities merely include drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site access and security, a plant paleontological resource was documented by L&L Environmental near the SCE easement within the adjacent landfill property. This resource is not within the Project area. However, another paleontological survey was conducted by Michael Brandman Associates in 2010 for the LCL, and a portion of the Project site, and these results indicated the presence of San Timoteo and possibly Mt. Eden paleontological formations. The contiguous Project site will likely contain similar conditions. Mitigation measures have been incorporated to address potential paleontological resources, site, or unique geologic features that could be found during ground disturbance. This will cause any potential impact to be less than significant.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant with mitigation.

Mitigation Measures

- CR-3 A qualified paleontologist shall develop a mitigation plan and a discovery/treatment plan for any fossil remains encountered within the Project area. The plan shall, at a minimum, outline procedures for the identification, treatment and associated specimen and site data associated with any paleontologic find. The mitigation plan shall also include a paleontological resources awareness training program for the Project's earthmoving staff, including equipment operators, to raise awareness of and alertness to potential fossil resources. At a minimum, the program shall require initial training of all new staff and refresher training of existing staff.

- CR-4 Paleontological monitoring shall be conducted during earthmoving activities in sediments of the San Timoteo and Mt. Eden Formations. The paleontologist shall develop a storage agreement with an appropriate repository to allow for the permanent storage and maintenance of any fossil remains recovered in the Project area as a result of Project activities. Earthmoving activities in areas where previously disturbed strata will be buried but not otherwise disturbed need not be monitored. The supervising paleontologist shall have the authority to reduce or cease monitoring once it is determined that the probability of encountering fossils is low.
- CR-5 If fossil remains are encountered when a paleontological monitor is not present, the equipment operator shall immediately divert the earthmoving activities to another area and then contact the supervising paleontologist to assess the find and determine the appropriate recovery. Earthmoving activities within the fossil recovery area shall not resume until all fossil recovery work is completed and a written clearance for continued Project operation is received from the supervising paleontological monitor.
- CR-6 If a paleontological monitor finds fossil remains, earthmoving activities shall be diverted around the fossil site until the remains have been recovered and authorization from the supervising paleontologist has been provided in writing to the site manager. The fossil site shall be delineated by yellow tape on lathe at a distance no greater than 50 feet of the find. If the fossil site expands through discovery, the taped delineation shall be increased to provide the 50 foot buffer.
- CR-7 If fossil remains are found, approximately 6,000 pounds of the surrounding rock matrix shall be recovered from the fossil site to allow for the recovery of smaller fossil remains. The samples shall be processed and all vertebrate and representative samples of mega-invertebrate and plant fossil shall be collected and curated.
- CR-8 The supervising paleontological monitor shall determine the paleontological importance of the rock units being monitored for consideration of periodic examination of the rock units for presence of microfossils. All microfossil remains identified and determined as important by the supervising paleontological monitor shall be collected, processed, and recovered.
- CR-9 Any recovered fossil remains shall be prepared to the point of identification and identified to the lowest taxonomic level possible by knowledgeable paleontologists. These items shall then be curated at an approved repository following standard museum accession standards.
- CR-10 At the conclusion of the earth excavation operation a final report outlining the results and findings of the mitigation monitoring program shall be prepared by the supervising paleontologist and submitted to the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) as well as the designated museum repository following accessing of the fossil collection. The report shall consist of, but not be limited to, the following components: a) a description of the geology and stratigraphy of each monitored paleosol, or fossil bearing rock unit; b) a summary of field and laboratory methods used; c) a faunal list of species recovered and an inventory of cataloged fossil specimens; d) an evaluation of the scientific importance of the recovered specimens; and e) a discussion of the relationship of any newly recorded fossil sites to relevant fossil sites previously recorded from the fossil bearing rock unit.

5d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Human remains are not considered likely at the site; however, standard procedures must be followed in the event that human remains are found during Project implementation. This is not considered unique mitigation pursuant to CEQA; however, this procedure is incorporated to reinforce appropriate actions should human remains be encountered.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant with mitigation.

Mitigation Measure

CR-11 In the event of an accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.98 must be followed. In this instance, once project-related earthmoving begins and if there is accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, the following steps shall be taken:

- There shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until the County Coroner is contacted to determine if the remains are Native American and if an investigation of the cause of death is required. If the coroner determines the remains to be Native American, then the coroner shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 24 hours, and the NAHC shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the "most likely descendant" of the deceased Native American. The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods as provided in PRC Section 5097.98, or
- Where the following conditions occur, the landowner or his authorized representative shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate dignity either in accordance with the recommendations of the most likely descendant or on the property in a location not subject to further subsurface disturbance:
 - The NAHC is unable to identify a most likely descendent or the most likely descendent failed to make a recommendation within 2448 hours after being notified by the commission;
 - The descendant identified fails to make a recommendation; or
 - The landowner or his authorized representative rejects the recommendation of the descendant, and the mediation by the NAHC fails to provide measures acceptable to the landowner.

6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
1. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on-or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Riverside County GIS and Riverside County General Plan: Safety Element, Subsidence and Expansive & Collapsible Soils, EA39652; California Department of Conservation.

6a1.-6a4. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Strong seismic ground shaking? Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? Landslides?

According to the General Plan, the Acquisition Property is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. The Project site is located within ½ mile of an unnamed fault according to the Riverside County GIS. Although the Acquisition Property is located within 1/2 mile of a fault and strong

seismic ground shaking is possible, the Project does not propose uses or structures that will house significant amounts of people or structures. Project activities include drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site access and security.

There is a moderate potential for liquefaction in accordance with the General Plan; however, the Project site will not contain substantial structures or facilities to create significant loss in the event of a liquefaction occurrence. Also, landslides are a potential due to the hilly terrain, however, any improvements are required to comply with the California Building Code (CBC). This is standard and not considered unique mitigation pursuant to CEQA.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

6b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Activities in the Project area could involve grading that would result in soil erosion; however, activities will meet minimum safety requirements, and will not create a hazard because BMPs will be implemented for erosion control and slope stability protection, where necessary. Activities could result in a change in natural topography, where the natural hills and slopes have been disturbed. This results in a reduction of the risk of landslides and mudflows caused by erosion of tall, steep natural slopes. All engineered slopes will be designed to be constructed to meet the minimum static and seismic factors of safety requirements.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

6c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on-or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

Small, shallow, rapidly-moving debris flows are very abundant in the San Timoteo Badlands. Overall the debris flow process is probably the main erosional force on the slopes of the Badlands.¹⁰ Compacted, engineered soil will be used during construction. This will ensure stability and reduce the risk of landslides. Although there is a moderate potential for it, liquefaction is not likely to occur onsite because of the depth of groundwater (liquefaction occurs as a result of a shallow ground water table in addition to ground shaking). Lateral spreading can occur when there is liquefaction but with the unlikelihood of liquefaction, lateral spreading is not anticipated. Subsidence occurs when land sinks to a lower level. Although land subsidence is possible in the area, it is not likely as the Project site is not used for the large-scale removal of subsurface water, the main cause of the earth's compaction and subsidence. Also, collapse is not likely to occur as engineering at the site will ensure construction occurs on stable soils.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

6d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

¹⁰ Special Report 186, Landslides in the Highway 60 Corridor, San Timoteo Badlands, Riverside County, California, 2002, Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey

The shrink-swell potential of soil refers to the change in volume of the soil, which results from a change in moisture content. It is determined on the basis of the amount and type of clay in the soil layers. Some clay soils expand when moisture is added and shrink when dry. High shrink-swell characteristics affect construction of roads, foundations of structures, and sites for reservoirs. According to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Soil Survey, 1980, the specific soils on the site consist primarily of Badlands Alluvium (BaG). In accordance with the USDA, the BaG soil has low shrink-swell potential, therefore, potential impacts involving expansive soil are considered insignificant.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

6e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

The proposed Project activities do not propose the use of septic or alternative waste disposal systems.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

7. GREENHOUSE GAS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Riverside County Climate Action Plan, dated December 8, 2015; EA39652

7a-7b. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are important because their emissions trap radiation emitted from the earth's surface which otherwise would have escaped to space. Prominent GHGs contributing to this process include carbon dioxide, methane, water vapor, nitrous oxide and chlorofluorocarbons. Anthropogenic emissions (caused or produced by humans) of these GHGs in excess of natural ambient concentrations are responsible for the trend of the earth's unnatural warming, known as global warming or climate change. The proposed Project is anticipated to generate minimal amounts of GHG emissions from construction and maintenance activities.

In 2015, the County of Riverside developed a Climate Action Plan (CAP). The CAP established goals and policies to improve GHG emissions locally. Following the state's target set by Assembly Bill (AB) 32, the goals of the CAP include, but are not limited to, reducing GHG emissions back to 1990 levels by 2020, increased waste reduction, increased energy efficiency and vehicle emissions reduction. The Project is within the South Coast Air Basin, which is under the jurisdiction of the SCAQMD. SCAQMD has recommended draft significance thresholds for greenhouse gases for local lead agency consideration. The threshold used for this Project is 3,000 Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (MTCO₂e) per year. If a project's emissions are under this threshold, then the project is considered less than significant for GHG emissions.

The Project proposes drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, site access and security. Project GHG emissions from carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄) will occur from diesel engine exhaust from on-site equipment and motor vehicle exhaust emissions from worker travel to the Project site as well as hauling equipment. Although existing equipment currently used at the landfill is anticipated to be utilized during construction; some equipment could be hauled in, therefore, GHG emissions were analyzed based on the worst case scenario that equipment will be hauled to the Project site. The highest level of GHG emissions for a single Project activity will be generated from construction of the stockpile/dirt management area. After determining the emissions for constructing the dirt management area (provided in Table 3 below), this number was multiplied by three (3) to account for GHG emissions from the remaining Project activities (drainage improvements, environmental monitoring

installation, site access and security). No GHG emissions will occur from waste disposal activities or additional waste related traffic associated with the adjacent landfill.

Table 3 – GHG Emissions

Greenhouse Gas Emissions¹¹				
Category	CO2 lbs/dy	CH4 lbs/dy	CO₂e¹² lbs/dy	MTCO₂e/yr
Emissions ¹³	29,551	2.41	29,601.60	5,032.27
GHG Emissions for Stockpile Construction (30 year construction amortization rate)				167.74 ¹⁴
Total Project GHGs¹⁵				503.22
SCAQMD Draft Screening Threshold				3,000
Significant				NO

As shown in the table above, Project activities will not significantly increase GHG emissions beyond the SCAQMD threshold, will not hinder the state's ability to achieve AB 32's goal of achieving 1990 levels of GHG emissions by 2020 nor conflict with the Riverside County CAP or any applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

¹¹ Emissions worksheets are located in Appendix B.

¹² CO₂e is CH₄ with a global warming potential (GWP) of 21 added to CO₂.

¹³ Emission factors for equipment were based on SCAQMD emission factor spreadsheets: www.aqmd.gov: EMFAC version 2.3 and SCAB Fleet Average Emission Factors (Diesel). Emissions were based on scenario year 2017 composite emission factors which have horsepower ratings and load factors build into the emission factors. Subsequent scenario years provide lower emissions.

¹⁴ GHG construction emissions divided by 30 years (amortization) per SCAQMD.

¹⁵ Stockpile construction GHG emissions multiplied by three (3) to obtain total GHG emissions for the Project. This includes other Project activities described in this document such as future drainage improvements (i.e. sedimentation basin construction, etc.), environmental monitoring installation, site access and site security measures).

8. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonable foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Project materials. California Department of Toxic Substances Control "Envirostor" Database, Riverside County GIS.

8a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

Construction and installation of the Project, which includes drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site access and security, will involve equipment that contains commonly used hazardous material such as oil, gasoline, and equipment lubricants. However, this is not unusual for any construction project, including construction projects at the adjacent landfill. While significant hazards are not anticipated to be likely at the Project site due to the limited scope and nature of the activities proposed, trained landfill personnel and emergency first responders will be available to address emergencies involving these materials. The Project will not create a significant hazard to the public or environment through the routine transport or disposal of hazardous material.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

8b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonable foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

The potential for impacts related to construction of Project activities does exist but these impacts, related to the presence of gasoline, oil, and equipment lubricants, exist for most construction projects. Through compliance with the landfill's spill contingency plans and injury/illness prevention plans, impacts at the Project site would be less than significant. Besides construction, the Project does not propose activities that would create an ongoing or significant hazard to the public or environment, involving the release of hazardous materials, as it merely involves the acquisition of two properties to allow for drainage management, dirt management, site access and security, environmental monitoring, and other ancillary uses currently provided at the landfill.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

8c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

The Project does not propose activities that will emit hazardous emissions or cause the handling of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials substances, or waste. Additionally, no school is located within one-quarter mile.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

8d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

According to the Department of Toxic Substances Control "Envirostor" database, the Acquisition Property is not a hazardous materials site pursuant to government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, will not create a significant hazard to the public or environment.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

8e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

According to the Riverside County Airport Land Use Plan, the Acquisition Property is not located within the plan, nor is it located within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. The Project does not propose airport uses, nor is it in proximity to an airport. Therefore, the Project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the area.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

8f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

Based on the review of aeriels near the Acquisition Property, it is not known to be located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The Project will not result in a safety hazard, due to lack of proximity to airstrips, for people residing or working in the area.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

8g. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

The Project is located in a remote area of Riverside County and will not involve hazardous features sufficient to pose a major threat to public health and safety or to create an environmental impact of catastrophic nature. Additionally, the Project will only involve limited earth-moving and construction activities. The ingress and egress designed at the site will facilitate emergency response and emergency evacuation, if necessary. Therefore, the Project is not expected to interfere with the County's emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

8h. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

Due to the limited use of the Project site for ancillary activities, exposure of people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands, is not likely to occur. However, fire service is available in addition to the use of water from the landfill water tanks and water truck, if needed.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

9. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Project materials; Riverside County GIS.

9a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

While the Project does not propose to discharge landfill waste, the property is being acquired for the LCL and will be subject to its Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) including storm water pollution controls and monitoring. Construction and grading activities at the Project site shall comply with a SWPPP and BMPs that satisfy the WQCB-SAR and comply with the requirements of the NPDES to protect receiving waters from degradation, in accordance with the WDRs for the LCL.

Due to the drainage improvements proposed, such as pipe culverts, down drains, channels, diversion berms, sedimentation and/or percolation basins, the Project will facilitate compliance with NPDES and Waste Discharge Requirements since these features will improve water quality at the Project site. Other Project activities, including dirt management, and site access and security are also proposed. Stormwater BMPs including, but not limited to, silt fencing, fiber rolls, check dams, and hydro-seeding on slopes will be implemented during construction and as needed, within the Project area.

Through design, compliance with the NPDES, SWPPP and the incorporation of BMPs, the Project will not violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

FINDING: The impact is less than significant.

9b. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

The Project site is not located in a groundwater recharge area and does not propose to use groundwater. Project activities only include drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site access and security. Therefore, it will not impact local groundwater.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

9c./9d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site? Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?

Project activities include drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site access and security. Construction of these activities may cause the impact of ephemeral watercourses in the area. However, substantial erosion or siltation is not anticipated because once construction occurs, BMPs will be utilized including, but not limited to, hydro-seeding, silt fencing, fiber rolls, check dams, and sedimentation basins. These BMPs will serve to reduce or prevent erosion and flooding during construction of the Project. With adherence to standard BMPs, the Project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on – or off-site, nor would it substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on-or off-site.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

9e./9f. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff? Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

The Project which includes drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site access and security, will incorporate BMPs during construction, such as a sedimentation basin and diversion berms, to address polluted runoff before it leaves the site. Additionally, the Project itself could be defined as a BMP for the landfill since the drainage improvements proposed will prevent substantial stormwater pollution and water quality degradation downstream through controlling the on-site drainage and discharge by incorporating sedimentation basins, percolation basins, channels, down drains and/or pipe culverts. In order to reduce or eliminate the creation of runoff water at the site, the Project will be required to be designed and constructed to comply with NPDES, WDR, and SWPPP requirements in accordance with the State Water Resources Control Board's requirement for construction activities.

The Project is not anticipated to exceed the capacity of stormwater drainage systems, provide substantial sources of polluted runoff, or substantially degrade water quality.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

9g. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

Housing is not included as part of the Project.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

9h. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

According to the Riverside County GIS, the Acquisition Property is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

9i. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

There are no levees or dams located within close proximity of the Project.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

9j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

A seiche is defined as a standing wave in an enclosed or partially enclosed body of water. Lakes in seismically active areas are at risk from seiches. A tsunami is defined as a wave that can be generated by an earthquake, landslide, volcanic eruption, or a large meteor. Mudflow can happen when a large amount of sediment becomes unstable and this can happen from the shaking from an earthquake, or saturation of sediment initiating sliding.

The Acquisition Property is located at a higher elevation than the nearest water body, Mystic Lake, which is several miles southwest. Mystic Lake does not contain significant enough amounts of water to generate a seiche or tsunami that could impact the elevated Acquisition Property. Additionally, mudflow is not likely to be significant due to the small amounts of rainfall in the area and the slope stabilizing BMPs for stormwater pollution prevention that will be utilized at the site.

FINDING: The impact is considered less than significant.

10. LAND USE AND PLANNING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Project materials; site investigation; Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan; General Plan, Ord. No. 348, EA No. 39652, and MSHCP.

10a. Physically divide an established community?

The Acquisition Property is primarily surrounded by vacant lands and open space with the nearest residence located over one mile to the north. The Acquisition Property is adjacent to the existing landfill property and otherwise surrounded by vacant land. Therefore, construction brought about by the Project will not physically divide an established community.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

10b. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP)

The Riverside Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP), dated September 1996, was approved by the CIWMB on September 23, 1998. The CIWMP, which is composed of a Summary Plan, Siting Element, Source Reduction and Recycling Element, Household Hazardous Waste Element, and Nondisposal Facility Element, was prepared in compliance with the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939, et.seq.) for the purpose of defining programs and policies to reduce waste disposal by 25 percent in 1995 and 50 percent (%) by 2000.

The Project will facilitate the continued operation of the adjacent landfill, and it's compliance with the CIWMP, through activities including drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site security and access.

Riverside County General Plan and Zoning

The County of Riverside's primary planning document, the General Plan, along with the Community and Environmental Transportation Acceptability Process (CETAP) and the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), are part of the Riverside County Integrated Project (RCIP). The Acquisition Property is within The Pass Area Plan of the General Plan, which is designated as Rural Mountainous (RM). General Plan Land Use Element Policy 7.2 states that public facilities shall be allowed in all land use designations except for the Open Space-Conservation and Open Space-Conservation Habitat designations.

The entire Project site is zoned W-2 (Controlled Development) and permitted uses are described in Riverside County Zoning Ordinance No. 348. Public projects, however, are not subject to the provisions of the zoning ordinance (Ordinance No. 348, Section 18.2.a. Scope of Regulations, B. Public Projects).

Based on the information provided in the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance, the Project is in compliance with applicable plans, policies, and ordinances of Riverside County.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

10c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

Approved on June 17, 2003, the MSHCP is intended to "enhance and maintain biological diversity and ecosystem processes while allowing future economic growth." If fully implemented, the MSHCP will result in preserving more than 500,000 acres of land for conservation of 146 species and their habitats in Western Riverside County. The Acquisition Property is proposed for inclusion in the LCL. The LCL is operated by the RCDWR who is an MSHCP Permittee. As a "Permittee" under the MSHCP, the RCDWR "may engage in, and receive Take Authorization [of a species or their habitat] for, Covered Activities as set forth in Section 7.0 of the MSHCP." In return for coverage of an identified activity, the RCDWR, as a signatory to the Implementing Agreement, is obligated to carry out the provisions of Section 13.6, County Waste Obligations, under the MSHCP and that agreement.

The conservation area of the MSHCP is divided into four categories: (1) Public/Quasi-Public (PQP) Conserved Lands; (2) Criteria Area; (3) Special Linkage Area; and, (4) Rural Mountainous Designation. The category of Public/Quasi-Public Conserved Lands will form the backbone of the conservation area of the MSHCP, which accounts for 347,000 potential acres of targeted conservation area. The rest of the targeted conservation area will be assembled from lands that fall under the category of Criteria Area. Conservation criteria are established for each planning cell (Cell) in the Criteria Area, in accordance with biological requirements, physical characteristics of the lands, conservation principals, etc. The Criteria Area is an analytical tool for determining which properties to evaluate for acquisition and conservation under the MSHCP and does not impose land use restrictions.

According to the MSHCP Plan Map, Figure 3-1, the Project site's 70 acres is not located in PQP Conservation Lands but is located within Criteria Areas within MSHCP Cell Group B. Cell Group B targets conservation within the central portions of the Cell Group, which is located outside of the Acquisition Property. The Acquisition Property is located within the northwestern portion of the Cell Group within Criteria Cells 1505 and 1600. Although this area is not targeted for conservation as identified by the goals outlined in the MSHCP for Cell Group B, biological assessments and a JPR analysis will be required prior to implementation of Project activities. This will ensure compliance with the MSHCP as discussed in the Biological Resources section of this EA. The Project will comply, and not conflict, with the requirements of the MSHCP.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

11. MINERAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Riverside County General Plan: Multipurpose Open Space Element, Mineral Resources Section.

11a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

According to the County's General Plan Figure OS-6, Mineral Resource Zones (MRZ), the Acquisition Property is located within an "Unstudied" area where a MRZ has not been issued or determined. Should Project activities, including drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site access and security, cease in the future, and if soil testing shows that the on-site material is a useful quality, the Project site could possibly be used for the recovery of aggregate materials. Implementing the proposed Project activities will not result in the loss of availability of any known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and residents of the state.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

11b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?

The Project does not propose mining and is not located in an identified locally important mineral resource recovery site.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

12. NOISE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project result in:				
a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Riverside County General Plan: Noise Element; Ordinance No. 847; Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, EA No. 39652.

12a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

The Acquisition Property is located in a very secluded canyon region, surrounded by badland hills, which act as a natural sound barrier. The Project will generate noise on a temporary basis due to construction and maintenance activities; however, this noise is expected to be consistent with the existing sounds and levels at the adjacent landfill which is reduced due to the topography and surrounding hills. Landfill operation equipment and vehicle traffic are the two major sources of noise near the Acquisition Property. Construction equipment contains modern noise attenuation devices and closed cabs, which significantly reduces equipment noise and protects the operators. Further, noise has never been a public nuisance problem or an environmental issue at the adjacent landfill primarily due to its isolation from existing population centers. Similarly, the Project site is 1.4 miles away from the nearest residence.

Additionally, the Project is required to comply with Section 6.1.4 (UWIG) of the MSHCP which discusses edge effects on adjacent wildlands (discussed in the Biological Resources section). One of the potential edge effects required to be addressed for compliance with the MSHCP is noise. After evaluating the isolation of the property and the distance from the nearest residence, it has been determined that noise from the Project would be primarily temporary and will not increase to a level of significance due to construction or maintenance activities. Therefore, the Project is not anticipated to create a significant exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

12b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?

Equipment use will be temporary, occurring during construction and minimal maintenance, in the Project area and will be consistent with levels at the adjacent landfill. Due to the isolation of the Acquisition Property, noise exposure will be limited and the Project will not cause exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels.

FINDING: There will be a less than significant impact.

12c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

See the answer to item 12a. above.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

12d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

The Project may increase ambient noise levels due to use of construction equipment. However, increases in ambient noise levels are not expected to be permanent or significant. The same equipment in use at the adjacent landfill will be utilized for construction at the Project site which means the ambient noise should be the same or similar to what has occurred at the adjacent landfill. Also, any perceived temporary increases in ambient noise levels during construction will not be substantial because of the isolation of the Project site and the sound barrier created by surrounding hills. The Project will not cause a substantial temporary or significant periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity above levels existing without the Project.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

12e.-12f. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

According to the Riverside County Airport Land Use Plan, the Acquisition Property is not included in the plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. Therefore, the Project would not, due to proximity to an airport, expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels.

Based on the review of aerials near the Project site, the Acquisition Property is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The Project will not result in excessive noise levels for people working or residing in the area, due to proximity of a private airstrip.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

13. POPULATION AND HOUSING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Displace substantial numbers of people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project materials.

13a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

The Project will not result in population growth or residential/commercial developments in the vicinity. It is not considered a growth-inducing land use as it merely proposes activities ancillary to the adjacent landfill such as drainage improvements, dirt management, site security and access, and environmental monitoring, which are needed to facilitate existing operations at the adjacent landfill.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

13b.-13c. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? Displace substantial numbers of people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

The Project proposes activities consisting of surface drainage improvements such as channels, diversion berms and basins; access roads and dirt management for the storage of excess dirt generated by the operation of the adjacent landfill; site security including signs to deter unauthorized entry; and environmental equipment to help monitor, reduce, and eliminate pollutants. The Project is proposed on vacant land and would not cause displacement of existing housing or substantial numbers of people. The nearest residence is located over one mile away and substantial numbers of people do not utilize the vacant Acquisition Property.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

14. PUBLIC SERVICES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable services ratios, response time or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
a. Fire Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Police Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Sources: EA No. 39652.

14a – 14e. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable services ratios, response time or other performance objectives for any of the public services?

Fire protection: The Project includes activities consisting of surface drainage improvements such as channels, diversion berms and basins; access roads and dirt management for the storage of excess dirt generated by the operation of the adjacent landfill; site security including signs to deter unauthorized entry; and environmental equipment to help monitor, reduce, and eliminate pollutants. A fire prevention plan and other emergency response plans, in addition to fire suppression equipment, are in place at the adjacent landfill. A water truck will be used during construction, which can also be used for fire protection where needed. Additionally, approximately 28,000 gallons of water are transported to the adjacent landfill site daily through use of a fire hydrant approximately 3 miles away. A minor fire that occurs can be controlled by spraying water with the two 4,000-gallon water trucks or by overwhelming the fire with dirt with the use of heavy equipment. Additionally, minor fires can be controlled by using Dry Chemical fire extinguishers stored in the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility (HHWCF) at the landfill. These standard fire suppression measures will also be used for the Project site.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

Police protection: The Riverside County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement services for the landfill and the Banning Sheriff's Station is located approximately 10 miles from the Project site. Also, onsite security is provided on the weekends when the landfill is closed. This will serve to address security at the Project site as well. However, due to the difficult terrain of the project site, unauthorized access is difficult. The proposed project will not significantly impact the County Sheriff's ability to provide its present law enforcement services to the County residents and facilities in the area.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

Schools: The Project is not growth-inducing with a potential to affect existing schools, nor will it generate the need for additional schools.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

Parks: The Project is not growth-inducing with a potential to affect parks, nor will it generate the need for additional parks.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

Other public services/facilities: There is no anticipated significant affect from the Project on other public facilities or services.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

15. RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project materials.

15a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

Project activities include drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site access and security. The Project does not include housing or other growth-inducing uses that would cause deterioration of recreation facilities to occur or be accelerated.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

15b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

The Project does not include recreational facilities or require construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

16. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including, but not limited to, intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to, level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Conflict with adopted policies plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycles, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Project Materials; General Plan; Riverside County GIS, EA No. 39652.

16a. Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including, but not limited to, intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?

The Project includes maintenance of drainage, dirt management, environmental monitoring and other ancillary uses and does not propose uses that will generate traffic. Non-motorized travel is not permitted at the site due to the safety hazards this would entail. The Project will not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

16b. Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to, level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

The County of Riverside's Congestion Management Plan (CMP) was established in the state to link land use, transportation, and air quality to prompt programs that effectively alleviate traffic congestion and related impacts and improve air quality (General Plan). The Project will not generate traffic beyond the existing permitted levels and will not conflict with the CMP.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

16c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

The Acquisition Property is not located within an Airport Influence Area or Airport Compatibility Zone, and does not propose activities that will result in a change in air traffic patterns, including an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

16d. Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

The Project activities are ancillary in nature and at a negligible scale compared to the adjacent landfill operations and equipment use or future landfill expansion activities. Outside of the adjacent landfill property, vacant land surrounding the Acquisition Property provides significant isolation and results in negligible safety risks or hazards to others. Safety features such as signs and flagmen can be utilized where determined necessary during construction, consistent with the current use of safety methods at the adjacent landfill. However, the Project will not generate increased hazards or incompatible uses.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

16e.-16f. Result in inadequate emergency access? Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycles, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

The Project will be designed to include adequate emergency access. Also, Highway 79 provides adequate emergency vehicle access to the site.

Due to safety hazards posed to human life, bicycle riders and pedestrians will not be allowed to traverse the Project site. The Project site is not considered a destination where adopted plans, policies, or programs encouraging alternate transportation would apply.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

17. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Would the project:

a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Sources: Project materials; Phase 1 Cultural Resources Assessment by Michael Brandman Associates (MBA), dated December 6, 2010.

17a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k):

The Acquisition Property consists of rugged terrain that is difficult to traverse. Based on the Cultural Resources Assessment provided by MBA for the LCL, which included a significant portion of the Project site (headwater canyon area), the difficult terrain and lack of perennial surface waters in the Project area made it an undesirable place for pre-historic and historic human

populations. This Acquisition Property's terrain is consistent with the terrain of the LCL and within the impact area that was researched for significant findings related to cultural resources eligible for listing on the historic registers. Also, the records searches with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and Eastern Information Center (EIC) yielded negative results for containing significant historic or cultural resources.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe:

The Acquisition Property consists of rugged terrain that is difficult to traverse. Based on the Cultural Resources Assessment provided by MBA, the difficult terrain and lack of perennial surface waters in the project area made it an undesirable place for pre-historic and historic human populations. Also, the records searches with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and Eastern Information Center (EIC) yielded negative results for containing significant historic or cultural resources. The Acquisition Property is not listed or eligible for listing in the California Register or Historical Resources or any local register of historical resources.

As determined by the Cultural Resource Assessment conducted by MBA, and as relayed above, significant historical resources, according to the criteria set forth in Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, were not documented at the site and are not anticipated to be present due to site characteristics being unfavorable for historic human settlement. Pursuant to Assembly Bill (AB) 52, Project notification letters were provided to requesting tribes. A request was received by the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians (Soboba) during consultation, for mitigation in the event cultural resources are uncovered during grading. Soboba is interested in the Project based on the location of historical tribal boundaries in relation to the Acquisition Property; however, Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs) have not been documented or located at the Project site.

While no impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs) are anticipated, the following measures will be implemented at the request of Soboba during the AB 52 consultation.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant with mitigation.

Mitigation Measures

TR-1 Prior to grading, the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) shall enter into an agreement with the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians for Native American monitoring. The Native American Monitor shall be on-site during all initial ground disturbing activities and excavation of each portion of the Project site including clearing, grubbing, tree removals, grading and trenching. The Native American Monitor shall have the authority to temporarily divert, redirect or halt the ground disturbance activities to allow identification, evaluation, and potential recovery of cultural resources.

TR-2 If during ground disturbance activities, unanticipated cultural resources are discovered, the following procedures shall be followed:

All ground disturbance activities within 100 feet of the discovered cultural resource shall be halted and RCDWR shall call the County Archaeologist, or qualified archaeologist (if County Archaeologist position is vacant), immediately upon discovery of the cultural resource. A meeting shall be convened between RCDWR, the County Archaeologist, and the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians to discuss the significance of the find. At the meeting with the aforementioned parties, a decision is to be made, with the concurrence of the County Archaeologist, as to the appropriate treatment (documentation, recovery, avoidance, etc.) for the cultural resource. Further ground disturbance shall not resume within the area of the discovery until the appropriate treatment has been accomplished.

TR-3 RCDWR shall relinquish ownership of all cultural resources, including sacred items, burial goods, and Human Remains after these items have been released by the County Coroner, and provide evidence to the satisfaction of the County Archaeologist that all cultural resource materials recovered have been handled through one of the following methods:

1. A fully executed reburial agreement with the appropriate culturally affiliated Native American tribe or band. This shall include measures and provisions to protect the future reburial area from any future impacts. Reburial shall not occur until all cataloging, analysis and special studies have been completed on the cultural resource(s).
2. Curation at a Riverside County Curation facility that meets federal standards per 36 CFR Part 79 and therefore will be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers and tribal members for further study. The collection and associated records shall be transferred, including title, and are to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.
3. If Soboba tribe and the County cannot come to an agreement as to the disposition of cultural resources, RCDWR shall then proceed with curation at the Western Science Center.
4. Should reburial of collected cultural items be preferred, it shall not occur until after a cultural resources monitoring report has been submitted to the RCDWR and consulting Native American tribe(s). Should curation be preferred, the RCDWR is responsible for all costs and the repository and curation method shall be described in the cultural resources monitoring report.

18. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Sources: Project materials; EA No. 39652

18a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

The Project will not utilize a sewer system or wastewater treatment system and therefore will not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

18b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

The Project will not result in a need for new water or wastewater treatment facilities or an expansion of the existing facilities.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

18c. Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

BMPs, such as sedimentation basins, percolation ponds, sand bags, and other storm water drainage facilities could be installed at the Project site (also discussed in the Hydrology and Water Quality section of this EA).. Storm water pollution prevention measures may be utilized to prevent or reduce storm water contamination. These improvements will help benefit the environment and will not create a detrimental significant environmental effect.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

18d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

Project activities include drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site access and security. Water needs for Project activities are insignificant and infrequent and water is anticipated to be utilized only during construction. Sufficient water supplies are available to serve the Project during construction, or as needs arise, from existing resources, such as the water tanks at the landfill and the fire hydrant approximately three (3) miles away. Adequate water supplies are available for the Project site.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

18e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

The Project site is not currently served by sewer or a wastewater treatment facility and as Project activities merely involve drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, and site access and security, there is no projected demand for sewer or a waste water treatment facility. Therefore, the Project will not result in a determination by these providers regarding the availability of adequate capacity for these services.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

18f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

The Project supports continuity of use of the existing landfill which contains adequate capacity to accommodate solid waste disposal needs in the region and exceeds the ability to accommodate the Project's disposal needs.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

18g. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

The Project will not negatively impact service of the existing landfill which benefits the region by continuing to provide solid waste services and other resource saving opportunities to the region. Federal, state, and local statutes and regulations, related to solid waste, will continue to be implemented at the landfill.

FINDING: There will be no impact.

19. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project materials.

19a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

As indicated in the analysis throughout this initial study, through project design, adherence to standard regulatory practices and compliance with proposed mitigation measures as listed throughout this document, no significant impacts are expected to occur. As such, implementation of the Project would not degrade the quality of the environment, reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

19b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)

There are no impacts that are cumulatively considerable as it relates to past, current, or probable future projects.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

19c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

The Project will facilitate drainage improvements and other maintenance activities, which otherwise, could result in adverse impacts to the adjacent landfill. The Project will comply with applicable environmental regulations and no substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly, are anticipated to occur as a result of this project.

FINDING: The impact will be less than significant.

SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES

The following environmental factors are determined to have *A Less than Significant Impact After Mitigation: Aesthetics, Biological Resources, Cultural/ Paleontological Resources, and Tribal Cultural Resources.*

Aesthetics

A-1 All installed or portable lighting shall be shielded and directed downward.

Biological Resources

- Bio-1 Within thirty (30) days prior to earthmoving activities, a burrowing owl pre-construction survey will be required.
- Bio-2 If occupied burrows are found during a preconstruction survey, no disturbance will occur within 50 meters (approximately 160 feet) of occupied burrows during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) or within 75 meters (approximately 250 feet) during the breeding season of February 1 through August 31.
- Bio-3 If occupied burrows are found during the preconstruction survey, and destruction of occupied burrows is unavoidable, occupied burrows will not be disturbed during the breeding season unless a qualified biologist approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) verifies through non-invasive methods that either: 1) the birds have not begun laying eggs and/or incubating them; and, 2) juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and are capable of independent survival. Within undisturbed areas of the Acquisition Property, either immediately adjacent to occupied burrows or within the Lamb Canyon Conservation Area, burrows will be provided at a ratio not less than 2:1 by either enhancing existing unsuitable burrows or by creating new burrows.
- Bio-4 All construction within the Project site shall be scheduled to avoid nesting bird season from March 15 through September 15. If construction activities occur within nesting season, preconstruction biological surveys, avoidance and monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified biologist.
- Bio-5 Prior to any site disturbance, the Project will be required to complete the Joint Project Review (JPR) process with the Regional Conservation Authority (RCA). This analysis may also result in a Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation (DBESP).
- Bio-6 Prior to impacts, a jurisdictional delineation will occur to determine the presence of jurisdictional drainages/features located within the Project site.
- Bio-7 Prior to impacts within jurisdictional drainages/features, Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) shall consult with the appropriate resource agencies (Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) and obtain any necessary permits/approvals/certifications (ACOE/404 permit, CDFW/1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, RWQCB/401 Water Quality Certification; and RCA/JPR and/or DBESP).

- Bio-8 Mitigation and monitoring plans for impacts to jurisdictional drainages/features shall be implemented in accordance with all permits, approvals, and/or agreements as may be required by the ACOE, CDFW, RWQCB, and RCA.

Cultural/Paleontological Resources

- CR-1 If subsurface cultural resources are encountered during any excavation, or if evidence of an archaeological site or other suspected historic resources are encountered, all ground-disturbing activity will cease within 100 feet of the resource and a qualified archaeologist will be retained by the operator to assess the find, and to determine whether the resource requires further study. Potentially significant cultural resources could consist of, but are not limited to, stone, bone, fossils, wood or shell artifacts or features, including structural remains, historic dumpsites, hearths and middens. Midden features are characterized by darkened soil, and could conceal material remains, including worked stone, fired clay vessels, faunal bone, hearths, storage pits, or burials and special attention should always be paid to uncharacteristic soil color changes. Any previously undiscovered resources found during construction should be recorded on appropriate Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms and evaluated by a qualified archaeologist retained by the County for significance under all applicable regulatory criteria.
- CR-2 No further grading will occur in the area of the discovery until the County approves the measures to protect the resources. Any archaeological artifacts recovered as a result of mitigation will be donated to a qualified scientific institution approved by the County where they would be afforded long-term preservation to allow future scientific study.
- CR-3 A qualified paleontologist shall develop a mitigation plan and a discovery/treatment plan for any fossil remains encountered within the Project area. The plan shall, at a minimum, outline procedures for the identification, treatment and associated specimen and site data associated with any paleontological find. The mitigation plan shall also include a paleontological resources awareness training program for the Project's earthmoving staff, including equipment operators, to raise awareness of and alertness to potential fossil resources. At a minimum, the program shall require initial training of all new staff and refresher training of existing staff.
- CR-4 Paleontological monitoring shall be conducted during earthmoving activities in sediments of the San Timoteo and Mt. Eden Formations. The paleontologist shall develop a storage agreement with an appropriate repository to allow for the permanent storage and maintenance of any fossil remains recovered in the Project area as a result of Project activities. Earthmoving activities in areas where previously disturbed strata will be buried but not otherwise disturbed need not be monitored. The supervising paleontologist shall have the authority to reduce or cease monitoring once it is determined that the probability of encountering fossils is low.
- CR-5 If fossil remains are encountered when a paleontological monitor is not present, the equipment operator shall immediately divert the earthmoving activities to another area and then contact the supervising paleontologist to assess the find and determine the appropriate recovery. Earthmoving activities within the fossil recovery area shall not resume until all fossil recovery work is completed and a written clearance for continued Project operation is received from the supervising paleontological monitor.

- CR-6 If a paleontological monitor finds fossil remains, earthmoving activities shall be diverted around the fossil site until the remains have been recovered and authorization from the supervising paleontologist has been provided in writing to the site manager. The fossil site shall be delineated by yellow tape on lathe at a distance no greater than 50 feet of the find. If the fossil site expands through discovery, the taped delineation shall be increased to provide the 50 foot buffer.
- CR-7 If fossil remains are found, approximately 6,000 pounds of the surrounding rock matrix shall be recovered from the fossil site to allow for the recovery of smaller fossil remains. The samples shall be processed and all vertebrate and representative samples of mega-invertebrate and plant fossil shall be collected and curated.
- CR-8 The supervising paleontological monitor shall determine the paleontological importance of the rock units being monitored for consideration of periodic examination of the rock units for presence of microfossils. All microfossil remains identified and determined as important by the supervising paleontological monitor shall be collected, processed, and recovered.
- CR-9 Any recovered fossil remains shall be prepared to the point of identification and identified to the lowest taxonomic level possible by knowledgeable paleontologists. These items shall then be curated at an approved repository following standard museum accession standards.
- CR-10 At the conclusion of the earth excavation operation a final report outlining the results and findings of the mitigation monitoring program shall be prepared by the supervising paleontologist and submitted to the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) as well as the designated museum repository following accessing of the fossil collection. The report shall consist of, but not be limited to, the following components: a) a description of the geology and stratigraphy of each monitored paleosol, or fossil bearing rock unit; b) a summary of field and laboratory methods used; c) a faunal list of species recovered and an inventory of cataloged fossil specimens; d) an evaluation of the scientific importance of the recovered specimens; and e) a discussion of the relationship of any newly recorded fossil sites to relevant fossil sites previously recorded from the fossil bearing rock unit.
- CR-11 In the event of an accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.98 must be followed. In this instance, once project-related earthmoving begins and if there is accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, the following steps shall be taken:
- There shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until the County Coroner is contacted to determine if the remains are Native American and if an investigation of the cause of death is required. If the coroner determines the remains to be Native American, then the coroner shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 24 hours, and the NAHC shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the "most likely descendant" of the deceased Native American. The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods as provided in PRC Section 5097.98, or

- Where the following conditions occur, the landowner or his authorized representative shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate dignity either in accordance with the recommendations of the most likely descendant or on the property in a location not subject to further subsurface disturbance:
 - The NAHC is unable to identify a most likely descendent or the most likely descendent failed to make a recommendation within 24 48 hours after being notified by the commission;
 - The descendant identified fails to make a recommendation; or
 - The landowner or his authorized representative rejects the recommendation of the descendant, and the mediation by the NAHC fails to provide measures acceptable to the landowner.

Tribal Cultural Resources

TR-1 Prior to grading, the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) shall enter into an agreement with the Soboba for Native American monitoring. The Native American Monitor shall be on-site during all initial ground disturbing activities and excavation of each portion of the Project site including clearing, grubbing, tree removals, grading and trenching. The Native American Monitor shall have the authority to temporarily divert, redirect or halt the ground disturbance activities to allow identification, evaluation, and potential recovery of cultural resources.

TR-2 If during ground disturbance activities, unanticipated cultural resources are discovered, the following procedures shall be followed:

All ground disturbance activities within 100 feet of the discovered cultural resource shall be halted and RCDWR shall call the County Archaeologist, or qualified archaeologist (if the County Archaeologist position is vacant), immediately upon discovery of the cultural resource. A meeting shall be convened between RCDWR, the County Archaeologist, and the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians to discuss the significance of the find. At the meeting with the aforementioned parties, a decision is to be made, with the concurrence of the County Archaeologist, as to the appropriate treatment (documentation, recovery, avoidance, etc.) for the cultural resource. Further ground disturbance shall not resume within the area of the discovery until the appropriate treatment has been accomplished.

TR-3 RCDWR shall relinquish ownership of all cultural resources, including sacred items, burial goods, and Human Remains after these items have been released by the County Coroner, and provide evidence to the satisfaction of the County Archaeologist that all archaeological materials recovered during the archaeological investigations (this includes collections made during an earlier project, such as testing of archaeological sites that took place years ago), have been handled through one of the following methods:

1. A fully executed reburial agreement with the appropriate culturally affiliated Native American tribe or band. This shall include measures and provisions to protect the future reburial area from any future impacts. Reburial shall not occur until all cataloging, analysis and special studies have been completed on the cultural resource(s).
2. Curation at a Riverside County Curation facility that meets federal standards per 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 79 and therefore will be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers and tribal members for further study. The

collection and associated records shall be transferred, including title, and are to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.

3. If Soboba and the County cannot come to an agreement as to the disposition of cultural resources, RCDWR shall then proceed with curation at the Western Science Center.
4. Should reburial of collected cultural items be preferred, it shall not occur until after a cultural resources monitoring report has been submitted to the RCDWR and consulting Native American tribe(s). Should curation be preferred, the RCDWR is responsible for all costs and the repository and curation method shall be described in the cultural resources monitoring report.

Chapter 4

References

California Department of Conservation. Special Report 186, Landslides in the Highway 60 Corridor, San Timoteo Badlands, Riverside County, California, 2002.

California Department of Toxic Substances Control “Envirostor” Database.

County of Riverside, Airport Land Use Plan.

County of Riverside, Climate Action Plan

County of Riverside, Environmental Health Department.

County of Riverside, Geographic Information System (RCGIS).

County of Riverside, Planning Department (2008). Riverside County General Plan.

County of Riverside, Waste Management Department (1996). Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan.

County of Riverside, Waste Management Department (2009). Environmental Assessment No. 39652 and subsequent addendums

County of Riverside (2003), Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP).

General Biological Assessment by LSA Associates, Inc., dated November 2004.

Impact Assessment by ECORP Consulting, Inc., dated June 2009; General Biological Assessment by LSA Associates, Inc., dated November 2004.

Legacy Highlands, Draft EIR, dated May 2007.

Paleontological Assessment, L & L Environmental, Inc., dated 2005.

Paleontological Report, Michael Brandman and Associates, dated June 2011.

Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Michael Brandman and Associates, dated December 6, 2010.

**SCAQMD Air Quality Analysis Supplemental Material: Emissions Factors from EMFAC version 2.3 and SCAB Fleet Average Emission Factors (Diesel).
<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook>.**

Chapter 5

Exhibits

Vicinity Map – Exhibit A

Proposed Land Acquisition – Exhibit B

Conceptual Improvements Plan

Drainage Map

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Left intentionally blank for Exhibit

Left intentionally blank for Exhibit

Chapter 6

Appendices

Appendix A – AB 52 Correspondence

Appendix B – GIS Maps, Air Quality and GHG Worksheets

Appendix C – Map of Nearest Residence



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE of PLANNING AND RESEARCH
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AND PLANNING UNIT



KEN ALEX
DIRECTOR

January 9, 2018

Kinika Hesterly
Riverside County
14310 Frederick St
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

Subject: Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill
SCH#: 2017121020

Dear Kinika Hesterly:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Mitigated Negative Declaration to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on January 8, 2018, and no state agencies submitted comments by that date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Director, State Clearinghouse

18 JAN 11 PM 3:41
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
WASTE MANAGEMENT

1-1

**Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

SCH# 2017121020
Project Title Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill
Lead Agency Riverside County

Type MND Mitigated Negative Declaration
Description The proposed project involves the acquisition of two vacant parcels adjacent to the active Lamb Canyon Landfill through an eminent domain process or other means. Project activities proposed within the acquisition property include drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, site security and access.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Kinika Hesterly
Agency Riverside County
Phone 951-486-3200 **Fax**
email
Address 14310 Frederick St
City Moreno Valley **State** CA **Zip** 92553

Project Location

County Riverside
City Beaumont
Region
Lat / Long 33° 53' 26.3" N / 117° 00' 08.4" W
Cross Streets Hwy 79 and Lamb Canyon RD
Parcel No. 424-100-008, -013
Township 3S **Range** 1W **Section** 20 **Base**

Proximity to:

Highways 79
Airports
Railways
Waterways
Schools Beaumont USD
Land Use LU: Vacant land; Z: Controlled development/GP: Rural mountainous

Project Issues Aesthetic/Visual; Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Cumulative Effects; Drainage/Absorption; Flood Plain/Flooding; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Landuse; Minerals; Noise; Population/Housing Balance; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Septic System; Sewer Capacity; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Solid Waste; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 6; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 8; Resources, Recycling and Recovery; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 8; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Native American Heritage Commission

Date Received 12/08/2017 **Start of Review** 12/08/2017 **End of Review** 01/08/2018



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE of PLANNING AND RESEARCH
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AND PLANNING UNIT



KEN ALEX
DIRECTOR

January 9, 2018

Kinika Hesterly
Riverside County
14310 Frederick St
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

Subject: Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill
SCH#: 2017121020

Dear Kinika Hesterly:

The enclosed comment (s) on your Mitigated Negative Declaration was (were) received by the State Clearinghouse after the end of the state review period, which closed on January 8, 2018. We are forwarding these comments to you because they provide information or raise issues that should be addressed in your final environmental document.

2-1

The California Environmental Quality Act does not require Lead Agencies to respond to late comments. However, we encourage you to incorporate these additional comments into your final environmental document and to consider them prior to taking final action on the proposed project.

Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions concerning the environmental review process. If you have a question regarding the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number (2017121020) when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures

cc: Resources Agency

18 JAN 12 PM 3:59
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
WASTE MANAGEMENT



DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES RECYCLING AND RECOVERY

1001 I STREET, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814 • WWW.CALRECYCLE.CA.GOV • (916) 322-4027
 P.O. BOX 4025, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812

January 9, 2018

*late
1/8/18
E*

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JAN 09 2018

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Ms. Kinika Hesterly
 Riverside County Department of Waste Resources
 14310 Frederick Street
 Moreno Valley, CA 92553

Subject: SCH No. 2017121020 –Notice of Completion of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for Environmental Assessment No. 2017-01 of the Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Sanitary Landfill (Facility No. 33-AA-0007) – Riverside County

Dear Ms. Kinika Hesterly:

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

The Riverside County Department of Waste Resources, acting as Lead Agency, has prepared and circulated a Notice of Completion (NOC) of a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) 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 proposed Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Sanitary Landfill (proposed project) is located west of highway 79 and north of Gilman Springs within unincorporated Riverside County. The project site is approximately 70 acres, and the site is currently zoned controlled development (W-2). The project is located directly north of the Lamb Canyon Sanitary Landfill and is accessible from the landfill, which is located at 16411 Lamb Canyon Road between the cities of Beaumont and San Jacinto. Vacant land surrounds the proposed project site to the north, east and west, with landfill operations to the south.

The proposed project involves the acquisition of two vacant parcels adjacent to the active Lamb Canyon Landfill through an eminent domain process or other means. Project activities proposed within the acquisition property include drainage improvements, dirt management, site security and access, and environmental monitoring such as ground water monitoring wells and landfill gas monitoring probes.

The following are a list of key design parameters specified in the 2016 issued solid waste facilities permit for Lamb Canyon Sanitary Landfill:

Permitted Hours of Operation	Receipt of Refuse/Waste: 4:00a.m. – 9:00p.m., Monday – Sunday Ancillary Operations/Maintenance Operating Hours: 24 hours, 7 days per week Facility closed on the following: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Sunday Prior to Labor Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day
Permitted Maximum Tonnage	Total – 5,000 tons per day Up to 500 tons per day of beneficial reuse
Permitted Traffic Volume	913 vehicles per day

Permitted Area (acres)	Total – 580.5 Disposal – 144.6
Design Capacity (cu. yds)	38,935,653
Permitted Max Elevation (Ft. MSL)	2460
Permitted Max Depth (Ft. BGS)	350
Estimated Closure Year	2029

COMMENTS

Solid Waste Facilities Permit – Change in Operation or Design

The County of Riverside, Department of Environmental Health, Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) and CalRecycle are responsible for providing regulatory oversight of solid waste handling activities, including permitting and inspections.

A change to the design or operation that leads to an increase to the permitted boundary of Lamb Canyon Sanitary Landfill is considered a significant change and require a revision to the solid waste facilities permit. Prior to implementation of such a change, the operator shall submit an application package for a solid waste facilities permit revision pursuant to Title 27 California Code of Regulations (27 CCR), section 21570 which shall be processed by the LEA pursuant to 27 CCR, section 21650.

3-1

Please contact Greg Reyes at 951.955.8980 or by e-mail at gireyes@rivco.org to discuss the permitting requirements for the proposed project.

CONCLUSION

CalRecycle staff thanks the Lead Agency for the opportunity to review and comment on the environmental document and hopes that this comment letter will be useful to the Lead Agency preparing the NOC/MND and 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.

3-2

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,

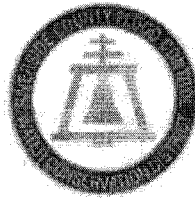


Megan Emslander, Environmental Scientist
Permitting & Assistance Branch – South Unit
Waste Permitting, Compliance & Mitigation Division
CalRecycle

cc: Martin Perez, Supervisor
Permitting & Assistance Branch – South Unit

Greg Reyes, LEA

JASON E. UHLEY
General Manager-Chief Engineer



1995 MARKET STREET
RIVERSIDE, CA 92501
951.955.1200
FAX 951.788.9965
www.rcflood.org

218407

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
WASTE MANAGEMENT
JAN 12 PM 12:36

RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

January 10, 2018

Riverside County Department of Waste Resources
14310 Frederick Street
Moreno Valley, CA 92552-0805

Attention: Kinika Hesterly

Re: Lamb Canyon Landfill
Intent to Adopt Mitigated Negative Declaration
EA 2017-01

The District does not normally recommend conditions for land divisions or other land use cases in incorporated Cities. The District also does not plan check City land use cases, or provide State Division of Real Estate letters or other flood hazard reports for such cases. District comments/recommendations for such cases are normally limited to items of specific interest to the District including District Master Drainage Plan facilities, other regional flood control and drainage facilities which could be considered a logical component or extension of a master plan system, and District Area Drainage Plan fees (development mitigation fees). In addition, information of a general nature is provided.

4-1

The District has not reviewed the proposed project in detail and the following comment does not in any way constitute or imply District approval or endorsement of the proposed project with respect to flood hazard, public health and safety or any other such issue:

4-2

- This project would not be impacted by District Master Drainage Plan facilities nor are other facilities of regional interest proposed.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This project may require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from the State Water Resources Control Board. Clearance for grading, recordation or other final approval should not be given until the City has determined that the project has been granted a permit or is shown to be exempt.

If this project involves a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mapped floodplain, then the City should require the applicant to provide all studies, calculations, plans and other information required to meet FEMA requirements, and should further require that the applicant obtain a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) prior to grading, recordation or other final approval of the project, and a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) prior to occupancy.

4-3

If a natural watercourse or mapped floodplain is impacted by this project, the City should require the applicant to obtain a Section 1602 Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and a Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, or written correspondence from these agencies indicating the project is exempt from these requirements. A Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification may be required from the local California Regional Water Quality Control Board prior to issuance of the Corps 404 permit.

Very truly yours,

Mike M. Wong
MIKE WONG
Engineering Project Manager

c: Riverside County Planning Department
Attn: Kristi Lovelady

AC:blm



South Coast Air Quality Management District



21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

SENT VIA E-MAIL AND USPS:

January 11, 2018

khesterl@rivco.org

Kinika Hesterly, Urban/Regional Planner IV
Riverside County, Department of Waste Resources
14310 Frederik Street
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Proposed Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) staff appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The following comment is meant as guidance for the Lead Agency and should be incorporated into the Final MND.

SCAQMD Staff's Summary of Project Description

The Lead Agency proposes to acquire ownership of approximately 70 acres of land comprised of two parcels that border the northern end of the existing Lamb Canyon Landfill to capture and manage drainage flows that impact landfill activities through surface drainage improvements; improve on-site access, site security, facility maintenance, environmental management, and dirt management; and facilitate the development of ancillary landfill activities (Proposed Project).

SCAQMD Staff's Summary of Air Quality Analysis

SCAQMD staff reviewed the air quality analysis in the MND and found that the Lead Agency quantified the Proposed Project's construction air quality impacts and compared those impacts to SCAQMD's regional air quality CEQA significance thresholds for construction. Based on the analysis, the Lead Agency found that the Proposed Project would result in less than significant air quality impacts during construction, and that no mitigation measures are required.¹

SCAQMD Staff Comments

SCAQMD staff is concerned that the Proposed Project's operational air quality impacts were not analyzed in the MND. One of the basic purposes of CEQA is to inform government decision makers and the public about the potential significant environmental effects of proposed activities (CEQA Guidelines Section 15002(a)(1)). A mitigated negative declaration is appropriate when the Lead Agency finds that a project will not have a significant effect on the environment after incorporating mitigation measures (CEQA Guidelines Sections 15070 to 15075). Reasons to support this finding shall be documented in the initial study. While the Lead Agency has disclosed that portions of the existing landfill fleet are anticipated to be redirected as part of the normal, day-to-day, and on-going landfill maintenance and site improvement activities for the Proposed Project, the Lead Agency has not quantified the Proposed Project's operational emissions which serves as substantial evidence to support a fair argument that the Proposed Project would not have any adverse effects on air quality during operation². Therefore, SCAQMD staff recommends that the Lead Agency disclose the Proposed Project's operational impacts by calculating the Proposed Project's operational emissions and comparing those emissions to SCAQMD's air quality CEQA operational significance thresholds³ in the Final MND.

5-1

¹ MND, Section 3 Air Quality, Page 23.

² *Ibid.* Section 3 Air Quality, Page 22.

³ South Coast Air Quality Management District, *SCAQMD Air Quality Significance Thresholds*. Available at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/handbook/scaqmd-air-quality-significance-thresholds.pdf>.

Permits

Since the Proposed Project requires permits from SCAQMD⁴, SCAQMD should be identified as a Responsible Agency for the Proposed Project in the Final MND. For more information on permits, please visit the SCAQMD webpage at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/permits>. Questions on permits can be directed to the SCAQMD's Engineering and Permitting staff at (909) 396-3385.

5-2

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15074, prior to approving the Proposed Project, the Lead Agency shall consider the MND for adoption together with any comments received during the public review process. SCAQMD staff is available to work with the Lead Agency to address any air quality questions that may arise from this comment letter. Please contact Ryan Bañuelos, Air Quality Specialist, CEQA Section, at (909) 396-3479, if you have any questions.

5-3

Sincerely,

Lijin Sun

Lijin Sun, J.D.

Program Supervisor, CEQA IGR

Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

LS:RB

RVC171212-05

Control Number

⁴ *Ibid.* Section 3 Air Quality. Page 14.

**Final Environmental Assessment (EA)/Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)
Updates and Responses to Comments on EA 2017-01:
Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill**

Final EA/MND Updates

Under the Cultural Resources section, Mitigation Measure CR-11 states that the Most Likely Descendent (MLD) must make recommendations within 24 hours of being notified by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) of the find. Public Resources Code 5097.98 (a) gives the MLD 48 hours from the time they have been given access to the site to make their recommendations. This has been updated in the Final EA/MND.

**Letter No. 1:
State Clearinghouse, dated January 9, 2018**

Response 1-1 This letter summarizes the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse (SCH) and Planning Unit's dissemination of the Mitigated Negative Declaration to state agencies and that the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (Department) has complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements. Furthermore, no state agencies submitted comments before the end of the review period for State agencies, which closed on January 8, 2018.

**Letter No. 2:
State Clearinghouse, dated January 9, 2018**

Response 2-1 This letter from the SCH relayed that comments were received from the California Department of Resources Recycling And Recovery (CalRecycle) after the end of the state review comment period on January 8, 2018, that CEQA does not require response to late comments, but incorporation of the comments in the Final EA and consideration prior to taking final action on the proposed project is encouraged.

**Letter No. 3:
CalRecycle, dated January 9, 2018**

Response 3-1 Comment noted. Page 13 of EA 2017-01 indicates subsequent actions that may be required, including updates to the Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP), with concurrence from CalRecycle and the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA). As is standard practice by the Department, prior to the implementation of design or operation changes at the landfill, updates to the SWFP will be transmitted to CalRecycle and the LEA for review.

Response 3-2 Comment noted. Requested copies of applicable Project documents will be provided.

Letter No. 4

Riverside County Flood Control And Water Conservation District (District), dated January 10, 2018

Response 4-1 Comments regarding incorporated cities do not apply to the Project. The proposed Project is located within unincorporated Riverside County. Please reference EA 2017-01 for more details.

Response 4-2 Comment noted.

Response 4-3 Comments noted.

Letter No. 5

South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), dated January 11, 2018

Response 5-1 Operation impacts from maintenance of the improvements that will occur after construction of the Project will utilize existing equipment currently in use at the Lamb Canyon Landfill (Landfill). This equipment will merely be redirected from the current landfill operations to the acquired area, as needed, and as indicated in EA 2017-01. Due to the fact that existing equipment will be used for operation activities and has already been contemplated for similar uses at the Landfill, a quantitative analysis was not provided. However, staff has noted SCAQMD's comment, specifically, for a quantitative analysis, and air quality emissions from Project operations are quantified in Table 2A below and are incorporated in the Final EA/MND.

Existing equipment anticipated to be utilized during Project operations are: one (1) small D6 dozer, 1-motorgrader, and 1-water truck, each anticipated to be used for 4 hours in a day.

**Table 2A
Operation: Air Quality Emissions¹**

Maintenance of Equipment and Drainage Improvements								
Equipment ² (Emissions in lbs/hr)	# of Units	Daily Use	ROG/ VOC	CO	NOx	SOx	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5} ³
D-6 CAT Dozer	1	4 hrs	0.99	3.72	7.8	0.01	0.32	0.29
Motor Grader	1	4 hrs	0.45	2.34	3.20	0.01	0.16	0.15
Water Truck	1	4 hrs	0.27	1.43	2.02	0.01	0.08	0.08
Total Emissions lbs/day			1.71	7.49	13.02	0.03	0.56	0.52
SCAQMD Daily Operation Emissions Threshold (lbs/day)			55	550	55	150	150	55
Significant			NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

Equipment utilized for the Project operation is anticipated to be used for maintenance when determined necessary. As indicated above by Table 2A, operation equipment will not generate air emissions that exceed established SCAQMD thresholds, nor will emissions contribute to an air quality violation, or result in a cumulative considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant. The impact will be less than significant.

Response 5-2 Comment noted. Page 13 of EA 2017-01 indicates that permits and approvals may be required by SCAQMD. Staff believes the information provided addresses the comment.

Response 5-3 Comment noted.

¹ Emission factors for equipment were based on SCAQMD emission factor spreadsheets: www.aqmd.gov: EMFAC version 2.3 and SCAB Fleet Average Emission Factors (Diesel). Emissions were based on scenario year 2017 composite emission factors which have horsepower ratings and load factors build into the emission factors. Subsequent scenario years provide lower emissions.

² Off-road equipment: SCAB Fleet Average Emission Factors (Diesel).

³ Updated CEIDARS Table with PM_{2.5} fractions published by the SCAQMD. PM_{2.5} is 92% of total PM for Diesel on-road and off-road equipment.

**Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the
Lamb Canyon Landfill**

Mitigation Monitoring Program

(Environmental Assessment No. 2017-01)



Riverside County Department of Waste Resources
14310 Frederick Street
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

January 2018

BACKGROUND

This Mitigation Monitoring Program (MMP) has been prepared to comply with Section 21081.6 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Section 21081.6 requires that public agencies adopt a monitoring program for measures that are required to mitigate or avoid significant effects to the environment from the project.

The MMP serves three functions:

1. Assures completion of mitigation measures during project implementation.
2. Provides feedback to designated agencies and decision makers regarding the effectiveness of the mitigation measures.
3. Identifies the need for enforcement action before irreversible environmental damage occurs.

In the event it is determined that a mitigation measure is not effective or feasible, the MMP can be amended on an as-needed basis to incorporate additional or revised measures that the decision makers or agencies adopt.

FORMAT OF PROGRAM

The MMP includes the following information:

Mitigation Measure: Identifies project-specific mitigation measures described in Environmental Assessment (EA) 2017-01.

Mitigation measures are grouped under the environmental impact areas, which are represented by the following "Impact Codes":

A	=	Aesthetics
Bio	=	Biological Resources
CR	=	Cultural Resources
TR	=	Tribal Cultural Resources

Monitoring Timeframe: Indicates the timeframe in which the mitigation measure should be performed or completed.

Enforcement Authorities: Designates the agency/agencies responsible for overseeing and/or monitoring the implementation of the mitigation measure(s) included in the MMP. In the case of this project, monitoring responsibilities are shared among various local, state, and federal agencies. As the owner and operator, the RCDWR is responsible for implementing all the identified mitigation measures in this MMP.

The following abbreviations and acronyms may be used in this MMP:

ACOE	Army Corps of Engineers
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
BMP	Best Management Practices
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
County	County of Riverside
DBESP	Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation
EA	Environmental Assessment
EDA	Economic Development Agency
EPD	Environmental Programs Division
FM	Facilities Management
IS	Initial Study
JPR	Joint Project Review
MMP	Mitigation Monitoring Program
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
MSHCP	Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (Western Riverside County)
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
ND	Negative Declaration
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
PRC	Public Resources Code
RCA	Regional Conservation Authority
RCDWR	Riverside County Department of Waste Resources
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SR	State Route
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
TPD	Tons Per Day
WDR	Waste Discharge Requirements

MITIGATION MONITORING PROGRAM MATRIX

Impact Code	No.	Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timeframe	Enforcement Authorities
A	1	<p align="center">Aesthetics</p> <p>All installed or portable lighting shall be shielded and directed downward.</p>	Building plan check and construction inspection	EDA/FM RCDWR
Bio	1	<p align="center">Biological Resources</p> <p>Within thirty (30) days prior to earthmoving activities, a burrowing owl pre-construction survey will be required.</p>	Prior to ground disturbance	RCDWR
Bio	2	<p>If occupied burrows are found during a preconstruction survey, no disturbance will occur within 50 meters (approximately 160 feet) of occupied burrows during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) or within 75 meters (approximately 250 feet) during the breeding season of February 1 through August 31.</p>	Prior to ground disturbance	RCDWR
Bio	3	<p>If occupied burrows are found during the preconstruction survey, and destruction of occupied burrows is unavoidable, occupied burrows will not be disturbed during the breeding season unless a qualified biologist approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) verifies through non-invasive methods that either: 1) the birds have not begun laying eggs and/or incubating them; and, 2) juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and are capable of independent survival. Within undisturbed areas of the Acquisition Property, either immediately adjacent to occupied burrows or within the Lamb Canyon Conservation Area, burrows will be provided at a ratio not less than 2:1 by either enhancing existing unsuitable burrows or by creating new burrows.</p>	Prior to ground disturbance	RCDWR
Bio	4	<p>All construction within the Project site shall be scheduled to avoid nesting bird season from March 15 through September 15. If construction activities occur within nesting season, preconstruction biological surveys, avoidance and monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified biologist.</p>	Prior to ground disturbance	RCDWR
Bio	5	<p>Prior to any site disturbance, the Project will be required to complete the Joint Project Review (JPR) process with the Regional Conservation Authority (RCA). This analysis may also result in a Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation (DBESP).</p>	Prior to ground disturbance	RCA/RCDWR
Bio	6	<p>Prior to impacts, a jurisdictional delineation will occur to determine the presence of jurisdictional drainages/features located within the Project site.</p>	Prior to impacts	RCDWR

Bio	7	Prior to impacts within jurisdictional drainages/features, Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) shall consult with the appropriate resource agencies (Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and Regional Conservation Authority (RCA)) and obtain any necessary permits/approvals/certifications (ACOE/404 permit, CDFW/1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, RWQCB/401 Water Quality Certification; and RCA/JPR and/or DBESP).	Prior to impacts	RCDWR/Resource Agencies
Bio	8	Mitigation and monitoring plans for impacts to jurisdictional drainages/features shall be implemented in accordance with all permits, approvals, and/or agreements as may be required by the ACOE, CDFW, RWQCB, and RCA.	Ongoing as determined by permits	RCDWR/Resource Agencies
CR	1	Cultural Resources If subsurface cultural resources are encountered during any excavation, or if evidence of an archaeological site or other suspected historic resources are encountered, all ground-disturbing activity will cease within 100 feet of the resource and a qualified archaeologist will be retained by the operator to assess the find, and to determine whether the resource requires further study. Potentially significant cultural resources could consist of, but are not limited to, stone, bone, fossils, wood or shell artifacts or features, including structural remains, historic dumpsites, hearths and middens. Midden features are characterized by darkened soil, and could conceal material remains, including worked stone, fired clay vessels, faunal bone, hearths, storage pits, or burials and special attention should always be paid to uncharacteristic soil color changes. Any previously undiscovered resources found during construction should be recorded on appropriate Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms and evaluated by a qualified archaeologist retained by the County for significance under all applicable regulatory criteria.	During Grading Operations	RCDWR
CR	2	No further grading will occur in the area of the discovery until the County approves the measures to protect the resources. Any archaeological artifacts recovered as a result of mitigation will be donated to a qualified scientific institution approved by the County where they would be afforded long-term preservation to allow future scientific study.	During Grading Operations	RCDWR
CR	3	A qualified paleontologist shall develop a mitigation plan and a discovery/treatment plan for any fossil remains encountered within the Project area. The plan shall, at a minimum, outline procedures for the identification, treatment and associated specimen and site data associated with any paleontological find. The mitigation plan shall also include a	During Grading Operations	RCDWR

		paleontological resources awareness training program for the Project's earthmoving staff, including equipment operators, to raise awareness of and alertness to potential fossil resources. At a minimum, the program shall require initial training of all new staff and refresher training of existing staff.		
CR	4	Paleontological monitoring shall be conducted during earthmoving activities in sediments of the San Timoteo and Mt. Eden Formations. The paleontologist shall develop a storage agreement with an appropriate repository to allow for the permanent storage and maintenance of any fossil remains recovered in the Project area as a result of Project activities. Earthmoving activities in areas where previously disturbed strata will be buried but not otherwise disturbed need not be monitored. The supervising paleontologist shall have the authority to reduce or cease monitoring once it is determined that the probability of encountering fossils is low.	During Grading Operations	RCDWR
CR	5	If fossil remains are encountered when a paleontological monitor is not present, the equipment operator shall immediately divert the earthmoving activities to another area and then contact the supervising paleontologist to assess the find and determine the appropriate recovery. Earthmoving activities within the fossil recovery area shall not resume until all fossil recovery work is completed and a written clearance for continued Project operation is received from the supervising paleontological monitor.	During Grading Operations	RCDWR
CR	6	If a paleontological monitor finds fossil remains, earthmoving activities shall be diverted around the fossil site until the remains have been recovered and authorization from the supervising paleontologist has been provided in writing to the site manager. The fossil site shall be delineated by yellow tape on lathe at a distance no greater than 50 feet of the find. If the fossil site expands through discovery, the taped delineation shall be increased to provide the 50 foot buffer.	During Grading Operations	RCDWR
CR	7	If fossil remains are found, approximately 6,000 pounds of the surrounding rock matrix shall be recovered from the fossil site to allow for the recovery of smaller fossil remains. The samples shall be processed and all vertebrate and representative samples of mega-invertebrate and plant fossil shall be collected and curated.	During Grading Operations	RCDWR
CR	8	The supervising paleontological monitor shall determine the paleontological importance of the rock units being monitored for consideration of periodic examination of the rock units for presence of microfossils. All microfossil remains identified and determined as important by the supervising paleontological monitor shall be collected, processed, and recovered.	During Grading Operations	RCDWR
CR	9	Any recovered fossil remains shall be prepared to the point of identification and identified to the lowest taxonomic level possible by knowledgeable	During Grading Operations	RCDWR

		paleontologists. These items shall then be curated at an approved repository following standard museum accession standards.		
CR	10	At the conclusion of the earth excavation operation a final report outlining the results and findings of the mitigation monitoring program shall be prepared by the supervising paleontologist and submitted to the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) as well as the designated museum repository following accessing of the fossil collection. The report shall consist of, but not be limited to, the following components: a) a description of the geology and stratigraphy of each monitored paleosol, or fossil bearing rock unit; b) a summary of field and laboratory methods used; c) a faunal list of species recovered and an inventory of cataloged fossil specimens; d) an evaluation of the scientific importance of the recovered fossils; and e) a discussion of the relationship of any newly recorded fossil sites to relevant fossil sites previously recorded from the fossil bearing rock unit.	After grading is complete	RCDWR
CR	11	<p>In the event of an accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.98 must be followed. In this instance, once project-related earthmoving begins and if there is accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, the following steps shall be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until the County Coroner is contacted to determine if the remains are Native American and if an investigation of the cause of death is required. If the coroner determines the remains to be Native American, then the coroner shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 24 hours, and the NAHC shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the "most likely descendant" of the deceased Native American. The most likely descendant may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods as provided in PRC Section 5097.98, or • Where the following conditions occur, the landowner or his authorized representative shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate 	During Grading Operations	RCDWR

		<p>dignity either in accordance with the recommendations of the most likely descendant or on the property in a location not subject to further subsurface disturbance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NAHC is unable to identify a most likely descendant or the most likely descendant failed to make a recommendation within 48 hours after being notified by the commission; • The descendant identified fails to make a recommendation; or • The landowner or his authorized representative rejects the recommendation of the descendant, and the mediation by the NAHC fails to provide measures acceptable to the landowner. 		
TR	1	<p>Tribal Cultural Resources</p> <p>Prior to grading, the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) shall enter into an agreement with the Soboba for Native American monitoring. The Native American Monitor shall be on-site during all initial ground disturbing activities and excavation of each portion of the project site including clearing, grubbing, tree removals, grading and trenching. The Native American Monitor shall have the authority to temporarily divert, redirect or halt the ground disturbance activities to allow identification, evaluation, and potential recovery of cultural resources.</p> <p>If during ground disturbance activities, unanticipated tribal cultural resources are discovered, the following procedures shall be followed:</p>	Ongoing	RCDWR
TR	2	<p>All ground disturbance activities within 100 feet of the discovered tribal cultural resource shall be halted and RCDWR shall call the County Archaeologist, or qualified archaeologist (if the County Archaeologist position is vacant), immediately upon discovery of the tribal cultural resource. A meeting shall be convened between RCDWR, the County Archaeologist, and the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians to discuss the significance of the find. At the meeting with the aforementioned parties, a decision is to be made, with the concurrence of the County Archaeologist, as to the appropriate treatment (documentation, recovery, avoidance, etc.) for the tribal cultural resource. Further ground disturbance shall not resume within the area of the discovery.</p>	Ongoing	RCDWR

TR	3	<p>until the appropriate treatment has been accomplished. RCDWR shall relinquish ownership of all tribal cultural resources, including sacred items, burial goods, and Human Remains after these items have been released by the County Coroner, and provide evidence to the satisfaction of the County Archaeologist that all archaeological materials recovered during the archaeological investigations (this includes collections made during an earlier project, such as testing of archaeological sites that took place years ago), have been handled through one of the following methods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A fully executed reburial agreement with the appropriate culturally affiliated Native American tribe or band. This shall include measures and provisions to protect the future reburial area from any future impacts. Reburial shall not occur until all cataloging, analysis and special studies have been completed on the tribal cultural resource(s). 2. Curation at a Riverside County Curation facility that meets federal standards per 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 79 and therefore will be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers and tribal members for further study. The collection and associated records shall be transferred, including title, and are to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid. 3. If Soboba and the County cannot come to an agreement as to the disposition of tribal cultural resources, RCDWR shall then proceed with curation at the Western Science Center. 4. Should reburial of collected tribal cultural items be preferred, it shall not occur until after a tribal cultural resources monitoring report has been submitted to the RCDWR and consulting Native American tribe(s). Should curation be preferred, the RCDWR is responsible for all costs and the repository and curation method shall be described in the tribal cultural resources monitoring report. 	Ongoing	RCDWR
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Hans W. Kernkamp, General Manager-Chief Engineer

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Title: Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill (Project)

Based on the findings in Environmental Assessment (EA) No. 2017-01, it has been determined that the proposed Project, subject to the proposed mitigation measures, will not have a significant effect upon the environment.

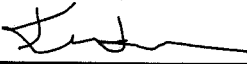
PROJECT DESCRIPTION, LOCATION, AND MITIGATION MEASURES REQUIRED TO AVOID POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS. (see EA No. 2017-01)

COMPLETED/REVIEWED BY:

By: Kinika Hesterly Title: Project Planner Date: February 6, 2018

Applicant/Project Sponsor: Riverside County Department of Waste Resources

ADOPTED BY: Riverside County Board of Supervisors

Person Verifying Adoption:  Date: 2.6.18
Kinika Hesterly, Project Planner

The Mitigated Negative Declaration and EA No. 2017-01, along with documents referenced in the Environmental Assessment, may be examined at:

Riverside County Department of Waste Resources 14310 Frederick St. Moreno Valley, CA 92553

For additional information, please contact Kinika Hesterly at (951) 486-3200.

FOR COUNTY CLERK'S USE ONLY

**COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
DEPARTMENT OF WASTE RESOURCES
NOTICE OF DETERMINATION**

TO:

- Office of Planning and Research (OPR)
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

- County Clerk
County of Riverside

FROM:

Riverside County
Department of Waste Resources
14310 Frederick Street
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

For County Clerk's Use Only:

Original Negative Declaration/Notice of Determination was routed to County Clerks for posting on _____

_____ Date

via Waste
_____ Initial

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with Section 21152 of the Public Resources Code

Project Title: Land Acquisition and Site Improvement Project at the Lamb Canyon Landfill

State Clearinghouse (SCH) No.: (2017121020) **Contact:** Kinika Hesterly **Phone:** 951-486-3200

Project Applicant/Property Owner & Address: Riverside County Department of Waste Resources
14310 Frederick Street, Moreno Valley, CA 92553

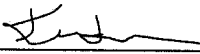
Project Location: The Project is located directly north of the Lamb Canyon Landfill and is accessible from the landfill which is located at 16411 Lamb Canyon Road between the cities of Beaumont and San Jacinto, in unincorporated Riverside County. The APNs for the Project are 424-100-008 (portion) and 424-100-013.

Project Description: The proposed Project involves the acquisition of two vacant parcels (approximately 70 acres) adjacent to the active Lamb Canyon Landfill through an eminent domain process or other means. Project activities proposed within the acquisition property include drainage improvements, dirt management, environmental monitoring, site security and access.

This is to advise that the Riverside County Board of Supervisors has approved the above-referenced project on February 6, 2018 and has made the following determinations regarding the Project:

1. The Project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this Project pursuant to the provisions of the CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of approval for this Project.
4. A mitigation monitoring program was adopted for this Project.
5. A statement of overriding considerations was not adopted for this Project.
6. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of the CEQA.

This is to certify that the adopted environmental documents and record of Project approval is available to the general public at: Riverside County Department of Waste Resources
14310 Frederick Street, Moreno Valley, CA 92553

Signature:  **Title:** Urban/Regional Planner IV **Date:** 2/06/18

<p>TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR:</p>
