

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



**ITEM: 12.1  
(ID # 14384)**

**MEETING DATE:**  
Tuesday, February 09, 2021

**FROM:** DEPARTMENT OF WASTE RESOURCES:

**SUBJECT:** DEPARTMENT OF WASTE RESOURCES: Adopt Resolution No. 2020-248, Considering Addendum No. 1 to the Previously Certified Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH# 2006031122) for Modifications to the Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station/Material Recovery Facility Improvement Project, District 2 [\$0-Department of Waste Resources Enterprise Funds]

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2020-248, considering the addendum to the previously certified Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration (EA/MND) (SCH# 2006031122) for minor modifications to the Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station/Material Recovery Facility (RAN TS/MRF) Improvement Project (Project), based on the findings incorporated in Addendum No. 1 concluding that the modifications to the proposed Project does not cause new significant environmental impacts or increase the severity of previously identified impacts in the EA/MND; and
2. Direct the Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) to file the attached Notice of Determination (NOD) with the County Clerk for posting within five days of approval by the Board.

**ACTION:**


  
Frans Kemkamp, General Manager - Chief Engineer 1/20/2021

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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

**Ayes:** Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez, and Hewitt  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** None  
**Date:** February 9, 2021  
**xc:** Waste Resources

Kecia R. Harper  
Clerk of the Board  
By:   
Deputy

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

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	<b>Current Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Next Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>Ongoing Cost</b>
<b>COST</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>NET COUNTY COST</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b> Waste Resources Enterprise Fund			<b>Budget Adjustment:</b>	N/A
			<b>For Fiscal Year:</b>	N/A

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

The RAN TS/MRF is an existing solid waste transfer station and materials recovery facility, located within the Agua Mansa Industrial Park at 1830 Agua Mansa Road that has been in operation since December 1997. The RAN TS/MRF is operated by Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc. (Burrtec) through a lease agreement administered by the RCDWR. The RAN TS/MRF operates under Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) No. 33-AA-0258 and is permitted to process up to 4,000 tons per day (tpd) of municipal solid waste.

The RAN TS/MRF processes mixed municipal, commercial and industrial solid waste, separated recyclable materials, green and woody waste, and construction and demolition (C&D) debris, etc. Up to 700 tons per day of green and woody waste are processed within the Organics Processing Area to produce a variety of products, including wood mulch, biofuel, alternative landfill daily cover, compost, and soil amendments.

On June 4, 2019 (Agenda Item 12.1), the Board of Supervisors adopted EA/MND 2015-03 for the RAN TS/MRF Project. The Project introduced new technologies to process organic materials (greenwaste, food waste, woody waste) at the site, as well as improve environmental conditions by improving storm water controls.

Burrtec has proposed minor modifications to the composting operation at RAN TS/MRF, for which Addendum No. 1 to RAN TS/MRF EA 2015-03 (Addendum No. 1) was prepared to analyze the following proposed changes:

- Change in daily composting area capacity from 100 tpd to 200 tpd (no increase in daily permitted organic material); and,
- Change in composting system from the GORE® Cover Aerated Static Pile (ASP) Composting System to an Engineered Compost Systems® (ECS) Biofilter ASP.

**Prev. Agn. Ref.:** M.O. 12.1 of 6/4/19

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

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

The RCDWR prepared Addendum No.1 to the previously certified EA/MND 2015-03 for the RAN TS/MRF Project. County Counsel reviewed Addendum No. 1 and concurred with RCDWRs determination that the proposed project would not result in new significant environmental effects or in a substantial increase in the severity of significant effects previously identified in the adopted EA/MND 2015-03; therefore, an addendum is the appropriate CEQA document pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15164. Upon approval, a NOD will be filed with the County Clerk within five (5) days.

**Impact on Residents and Businesses**

The minor modifications to the Project will improve operational efficiencies by introducing new technologies to process green/food waste materials at the site, as well as improve environmental conditions by reducing air emissions.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

**Attachment A. Resolution No. 2020-248**

**Attachment B. Addendum No. 1 to EA 2015-03**

**Attachment C. Prior Board Approvals for EA/MND 2015-03**

**Attachment D. Notice of Determination**

  
Scott Bruckner

2/1/2021

  
Gregory B. Priantos, Director County Counsel

1/21/2021

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

**TO:**

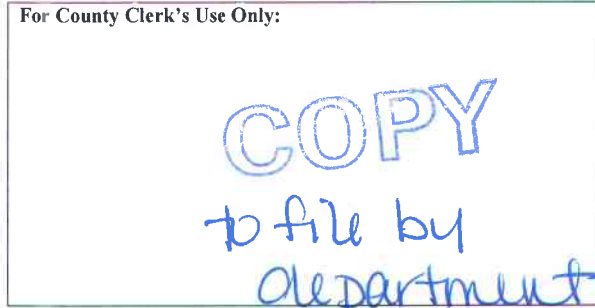
X Office of Planning and Research (OPR)  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

X 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:**



**Subject:** Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of Public Resources Code

**Project Title:** Minor Modifications to the Composting Operation at the Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station/Material Recovery Facility (RAN TS/MRF)

**State Clearinghouse (SCH) No.:** 2006031122 **Contact:** Jose Merlan **Phone:** 951-486-3200

**Project Applicant/Property Address:** Burrtec Waste Industries Inc.  
9890 Cherry Avenue, Fontana, CA 92335

**Property Owner & Address:** Riverside County Department of Waste Resources  
14310 Frederick St, Moreno Valley CA 92553

**Project Location:** The Project site is located at 1830 Agua Mansa Road in the City of Jurupa Valley. It is also described as a portion of Riverside County Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 175-180-018 and 175-190-029.

**Project Description:** The Project involves minor modifications to the composting operations and facility permits at RAN TS/MRF to include the following minor modifications: 1) a change in daily composting capacity from 100 tons per day (tpd) to 200 tpd (no increase in daily permitted organic material); and, 2) changing composting systems from the GORE® Cover composting system to an ECS Biofilter composting system.

**This is to advise that the Riverside County Board of Supervisors has approved the above-referenced project on February 9, 2021 and has made the following determinations regarding that project:**

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Mitigated Negative Declaration (adopted by the Board of Supervisors on 6/04/19) and an Addendum (Addendum No. 1, adopted by the Board of Supervisors on 02/09/21) were prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the 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 CEQA.

**This is to certify that the Mitigated Negative Declaration 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:** *José L. Merlan* **Title:** Urban/Regional Planner IV **Date:** 2/9/21

**TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR**  
Date Received for Filing and  
Posting at OPR:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-248**

**CONSIDERING ADDENDUM NO. 1 TO THE PREVIOUSLY CERTIFIED INITIAL  
STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND) (SCH#2006031122)  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA) NO. 2015-03**

**FOR THE ROBERT A. NELSON TRANSFER STATION/MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY  
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the County of Riverside ("County") is the owner of certain real property located in Jurupa Valley, California, with Assessor's Parcel Numbers 175-180-018 and 175-190-029, whereby a portion of which contains the Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station/Material Recovery Facility ("RAN TS/MRF"); and,

**WHEREAS**, the County and Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc. ("Burrtec") entered into the Ninth Amended and Restated Master Lease on June 4, 2019, whereby Burrtec leased approximately 22.03 acres of said County owned real property for the purposes of operating the RAN TS/MRF; and,

**WHEREAS**, on June 4, 2019, the County of Riverside ("County"), as the lead agency, adopted IS/MND (SCH No. 2006031122) EA No. 2015-03 for the RAN TS/MRF Facility Improvement Project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Res. Code, § 21000 et seq. ["CEQA"]), and the implementing State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs., § 15000 et seq.); and,

**WHEREAS**, IS/MND (SCH No. 2006031122) for the RAN TS/MRF Facility Improvement Project described and evaluated the previous project components including the elimination of the 175 tons per day (tpd) static pile composting operation; addition of a 100 tpd aerated static pile composting facility; installation of a food waste processing unit in the transfer station; construction of an underground storm water infiltration system for the composting area; and relocation of the transfer truck tarping station; and,

**WHEREAS**, Addendum 1 to the IS/MND EA No. 2015-03 proposes two minor changes to the previously evaluated project under EA No. 2015-03; the increase in composting capacity from 100 tpd to 200 tpd; and, a change in the aerated static pile composting process; and,

FURNISHED APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL  
BY:  1/21/21  
DATE

1           **WHEREAS**, Burrtec proposes to modify the Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) through the  
2 supporting Report of Composting Site Information (RCSI) for the RAN TS/MRF organics processing  
3 operation to allow for the following minor technical operational and design changes: 1) increase in  
4 composting daily capacity from 100 tpd to 200 tpd; and, 2) a change in the aerated static pile composting  
5 process; and,

6           **WHEREAS**, the RAN TS/MRF organics processing operation is described in the RCSI, and  
7 permitted under SWFP 33-AA-0258, issued by the local solid waste enforcement agency (LEA), with  
8 concurrence from the California Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (CalRecycle); and,

9           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14 (“State CEQA Guidelines”),  
10 Section 15164(a), a lead agency shall prepare an addendum to a previously certified MND if some changes  
11 or additions are necessary to a project, but none of the conditions described in State CEQA Guidelines  
12 section 15162 calling for the preparation of a subsequent EIR, or negative declaration have occurred; and,

13           **WHEREAS**, all the procedures of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the  
14 Riverside County CEQA implementing procedures have been satisfied and Addendum No. 1 is sufficiently  
15 detailed so that all the potentially significant effects of the Project have been evaluated in accordance with  
16 CEQA and the County’s implementing procedures; and,

17           **WHEREAS**, in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines section 15164(c), addenda are not  
18 circulated for public review; and,

19           **WHEREAS**, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors fully considered IS/MND “EA No. 2015-  
20 03” and Addendum No. 1 prior to making a decision on the Project; and ,

21           **BE IT RESOLVED, FOUND, DETERMINED, AND ORDERED** by the Board of Supervisors  
22 of the County of Riverside, in regular session assembled on February 9, 2021,  
23 that:

24           A.     The above recitations are true and constitute findings of the Board of Supervisors with  
25                 respect to the Project, Project changes, and Addendum No. 1.

26           B.     The proposed changes to the RCSI which supports the SWFP are within the scope and nature  
27                 of the previously approved Project and therefore do not trigger further environmental review;  
28                 and,

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors that:

- 2 A. A subsequent Negative Declaration is not required under CEQA because all potential new  
3 or more severe significant effects of the Project: (a) have been adequately analyzed in the  
4 previously certified IS/MND for the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project (SCH No.  
5 2006031122), as supplemented by the Addendum No. 1 prepared in connection with the  
6 proposed Project, pursuant to applicable legal standards; and (b) have been avoided or  
7 mitigated to the extent feasible pursuant to the mitigation measures referenced in the certified  
8 IS/MND for the RAN TS/MRF Facility Improvement Project (SCH No. 2006031122).
- 9 B. On June 4, 2019, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors certified the adequacy and  
10 completeness of IS/MND for the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project with its  
11 adoption of EA No. 2015-03 and its associated Mitigation Monitoring Program.
- 12 C. The proposed Project reflects minor technical design and operational changes to the Project  
13 previously analyzed in IS/MND for the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project (SCH  
14 No. 2006031122), and is not deemed to be a separate project under the California  
15 Environmental Quality Act.
- 16 D. The proposed Project does not constitute a substantial change to the operation of the RAN  
17 TS/MRF organics processing facility, which would require major revisions of IS/MND for  
18 the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project, due to the involvement of new significant  
19 environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified  
20 significant effects.
- 21 E. No substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the  
22 Project will be undertaken which will require major modifications or revisions of IS/MND  
23 for the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project, due to the involvement of new  
24 significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously  
25 identified significant effects.
- 26 F. No new information of substantial importance which was not known and could not have  
27 been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the IS/MND for the RAN  
28 TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project was certified as complete, has become available

1 which shows any of the following:

- 2 (1) The Project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in IS/MND for  
3 the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project;
- 4 (2) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown  
5 in IS/MND for the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project;
- 6 (3) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact  
7 be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the  
8 project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measures or  
9 alternatives; or
- 10 (4) Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those  
11 analyzed in the IS/MND for the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project would  
12 substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the  
13 project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measures or alternatives.

14 G. Based upon these findings, the Board of Supervisors hereby accepts the findings of  
15 Addendum No. 1 and determines that no subsequent or supplemental negative declaration is  
16 required or appropriate under Public Resources Code section 21166 and State CEQA  
17 Guidelines sections 15162, and therefore that Addendum No. 1 is appropriate under section  
18 15164 in order to update the IS/MND for the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project.

19 H. These factual findings are based upon the IS/MND for the RAN TS/MRF, Facility  
20 Improvement Project, Addendum No. 1, and the files and records maintained by the  
21 Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) with respect to this Project.

22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors that it has reviewed and considered  
23 Addendum No. 1 and the IS/MND for the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project (SCH No.  
24 2006031122) in evaluating the proposed Project, and that Addendum No. 1, and IS/MND for the RAN  
25 TS/MRF Facility Improvement Project (SCH No. 2006031122) are incorporated herein by reference in their  
26 entirety.

27 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors that it **APPROVES** the proposed  
28 modifications to the RAN TS/MRF, Facility Improvement Project and **ADOPTS** Addendum No. 1 to the



1 previously certified IS/MND for the RAN TS/MRF Facility Improvement Project, based on the findings  
2 incorporated in Addendum No. 1 concluding that the proposed modification to the SWFP, as identified in  
3 the RCSI, does not cause new significant environmental impacts or increase the severity of previously  
4 identified impacts in the IS/MND.

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

8  
9  
10 **ROLL CALL:**

11 Ayes: Spiegel, Jeffries, Washington, Perez and Hewitt  
12 Nays: None  
13 Absent: None  
14 Abstained:

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

17 Kecia R. Harper, Clerk of said Board

18 By 

19 Deputy  
20  
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**Attachment B.**  
**Addendum No. 1 to EA 2015-03**



**ADDENDUM No. 1**

**ROBERT A. NELSON TRANSFER STATION/MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY,  
FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

**FOR**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT No. 2015-03**

**SUBJECT:** Addendum No. 1 to Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station/Material Recovery Facility (RAN TS/MRF), Facility Improvement Project, Environmental Assessment (EA) No. 2015-03 (State Clearinghouse [SCH] No. 2006031122)

**PROJECT:** Modification of Report of Composting Site Information (RCSI)

**PROJECT SPONSOR:** Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR)

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Robert A. Nelson TS/MRF  
1830 Agua Mansa Road  
Riverside, CA 92509

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The proposed Project modifies SWFP 33-AA-0258, to include the following minor modifications to the compost facility; 1) a change in daily composting capacity from 100 tons per day (tpd) to 200 tpd (no increase in daily permitted organic material); and, 2) changing composting systems from the GORE® Cover composting system to an ECS Biofilter composting system.

**PURPOSE:** This Addendum to the MND for the RAN TS/MRF EA No. 2015-03 is being prepared pursuant to §15164 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, which allows for the lead agency to prepare "an addendum to an adopted negative declaration if only minor technical changes or additions are necessary or none of the conditions described in §15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR or negative declaration have occurred." RCDWR on behalf of Riverside County, as lead agency, has evaluated the proposed Project and the previously adopted MND for EA No. 2015-03 and determined that a subsequent EIR or negative declaration is not required, because the proposed Project, as described, involves minor technical changes and additions, not resulting in new significant environmental effects or in a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. There have also not been any substantial changes with respect to the circumstances under which this Project and the EA for the RAN TS/MRF Facility Improvement Project were undertaken, nor has there been any new information discovered of substantial importance that would affect the proposed Project. Therefore, an Addendum is the appropriate document pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines.

## **BACKGROUND:**

1. The RAN TS/MRF is located on approximately 22 acres within the Agua Mansa Industrial Park, in the City of Jurupa Valley in northwestern Riverside County. The facility has been in operation since December 1997 and is operated by Burrtec Waste Industries (Burrtec) through a lease agreement with the RCDWR.
2. The RAN TS/MRF provides for the diversion of recyclable material from the local waste stream and transfers municipal solid waste to landfills. The facility includes a MRF capable of processing commingled and source separated recyclables from residential and commercial recycling programs, as well as, the recovery of recyclable materials from select commercial waste loads. Likewise, organic materials (food, green, and woody waste) are ground and processed into useable organic products.
3. The RAN TS/MRF operates under SWFP No. 33-AA-0258, for which the Riverside County Board of Supervisors (BOS) adopted the following CEQA documents- Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), in support of the current operation:
  - EIR (SCH No. 92022041), adopted by the BOS on August 2, 1994;
  - MND for EA No. 40362 (SCH#2006031122), adopted by the BOS on June 27, 2006;
  - MND for EA No. RAN 2009-03 (SCH#2006031122), adopted by the BOS on February 9, 2010;
  - MND for EA No. 2015-03 (SCH# 2006031122), adopted by the BOS on June 4, 2019.
4. The maximum permitted tons per operating day at the facility is 4,000 tons per day (tpd) for all waste material types received onsite (municipal solid waste, foodwaste, green and woody waste, recyclables, construction/demolition (C&D) debris, etc.).
5. Daily maximum capacity for all greenwaste activities within the organic processing area is 700 tons. This includes the production of compost, soil amendments, and chip & grind material. Currently, under the existing aerated static pile (ASP) composting operation, the daily composting capacity is 100 tpd.
6. Addendum No. 1 to EA No. 2015-03 incorporates the following proposed operational and design changes at the RAN TS/MRF: 1) reallocation of daily organic material capacity to allow for up to 200 tpd for composting operations, with no increase in overall organic material (remains at 700 tpd); and 2) a change in the composting system from the GORE® Cover Compost ASP System to an ECS Biofilter ASP Compost System.
7. This Addendum captures the changes in the RCSI that will modify the facility's SWFP. The proposed changes are minor technical changes and additions, not resulting in new significant environmental effects or in a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects.

## **SUMMARY FINDINGS ON PROJECT:**

1. The daily maximum capacity for processing organic feedstock, which includes production of compost, soil amendments, and chip & grind material, is 700 tpd. Organic processing capacities at the RAN TS/MRF are currently allocated at 100 tpd for composting, and 600 tpd for soil amendments and ground green/woody material. Burrtec is proposing to reallocate

the daily capacity for processing of the existing organic material to allow for composting of up to 200 tpd, and 500 tpd for other organic processing. This change will not increase the daily organic material, and will not result in any new truck traffic or equipment usage.

2. EA No. 2015-03/MND evaluated the GORE® Cover Compost ASP System, which is comprised of three steps; first, green waste feed stock is screened using a trommel; second, the screened green waste feedstock passes through a sort line where contaminants are removed; and, third, the processed green waste feedstock is ground with food waste feed stock using a high-speed grinder and placed in active compost zones.

For the proposed ECS Biofilter ASP Compost System, the composting process involves four steps; first, a bucket loader will turn the incoming green waste to remove contaminants; second, the incoming food waste instead of being ground is now received onto a bed of mulch, and hand cleaned to remove large contaminants; third, the food waste feedstock is rolled over with a front-end bucket loader and screened using a trommel screen to remove contaminants; and the fourth and last step the processed food waste is then mixed with the processed green waste using a bucket loader.

The change in, and the improvement of, the composting process, has increased the density of the processed feedstock allowing for more feedstock to be placed in the active compost zones and has shortened the length of time active compost is in the composting system which will, as a result, allow for increased daily composting capacity.

Increasing the daily compost tonnage will not require any facility improvement modifications or new construction. Daily maximum capacity for all organic waste activities within the organic processing area will remain at 700 tpd. This includes the production of compost, soil amendments, and chip & grind material.

3. The proposed reallocation of daily organic material capacity or the change in the composting systems would not result in new environmental impacts. As previously analyzed in EA No. 2015-03, the RAN TS/MRF does not contain wetlands or jurisdictional streambeds, including riverine and riparian habitat. EA No. 2015-03 also determined the absence of rare, threatened or endangered species or their habitats within the project site. The change in composting systems would not involve a change in location. The composting process will continue to take place in the organic processing area, see Exhibit 1, Site Map. As such, the proposed increase in daily capacity and the change in composting systems would not result in physical environmental impacts relating to Biological Resources.
4. The improved composting daily capacity and the change in the composting system will utilize existing equipment already in use at the RAN TS/MRF, including, but not limited to, bucket loaders and trommel screens. No increase in NH<sub>3</sub> or VOC emissions are anticipated with the use of the ECS Biofilter ASP Compost System, as both systems are ASP systems, and the proposed project does not propose an increase in daily maximum organics capacity. Furthermore, the proposed Project is not expected to contribute to violations of any criteria pollutant thresholds, result in fugitive dust impacts, impact sensitive receptors or be in conflict with an adopted Air Quality Management Plan. EA No. 2015-03 previously analyzed equipment used for composting operations for which impacts were deemed less than significant. The proposed changes (reallocation of daily organic material processing and the change in composting system) would not result in any additional trips or equipment usage than what was evaluated in EA No. 2015-03. Therefore, the proposed increase in daily capacity and the change in composting system would not result in physical environmental

impacts relating to Biological Resources, Air Quality, Cultural/Paleontological Resources, Hydrology, or any other potential impact area previously assessed.

5. Mitigation measures identified in the previously adopted Mitigation Monitoring Program for EA No. 2015-03 shall remain in effect. No new mitigation is required for the proposed Project.
6. The proposed Project will not result in new significant environmental effects or in a substantial increase in the severity of significant effects previously identified in the MND for EA No. 2015-03 for the RAN TS/MRF Project; therefore, a subsequent EIR or negative declaration, as described in §15162 of the State CEQA Guidelines, is not required, and an Addendum to the EA can be prepared pursuant to §15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

## **ANALYSIS OF PROJECT CHANGES:**

### **Aesthetics**

#### **a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project was not within a State Designated or Eligible Highway, as indicated on the Scenic Highways section of the Riverside County General Plan; additionally, there were no scenic vistas that were affected by the Project. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed changes (reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system) would not result in new environmental impacts. Those two minor changes would not result in impacts to a scenic vista(s) for two reasons, 1) there are no scenic highways, with state designation in the surrounding area, and 2) in the event there were any scenic highways with state designation, or other categorical scenic vistas, the minor changes as proposed and evaluated in this amendment, would not be of the type that would impact scenic vistas (skyscrapers, warehouses, or other large structures that would shield the view of a scenic vista). A finding of no impact will remain.

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

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project's proposed site plan changes did not require removal of trees, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings within a state scenic highway because the changes would occur within the already existing and currently developed RAN TS/MRF. Therefore, the proposed improvements were not anticipated to impact scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcropping, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway; as such, a no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The Project's minor changes, which include the proposed reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system would not result in new environmental impacts. The proposed changes would not alter any ongoing uses or operations at the facility that would damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway. The minor changes are proposed within an existing transfer station/material recovery facility and no development is proposed outside the existing facility footprint. A no impact determination will remain.

**c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA identified that the Project was proposed on an existing site currently developed as a solid waste transfer station and materials recovery facility with administrative offices and a waste collection operations yard. The Project site was zoned for heavy manufacturing uses, consistent with all adjacent properties and existing development. The Project was determined to be compatible with the existing surroundings and was determined not to substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the area. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The minor changes would all take place within the existing RAN TS/MRF. The RAN TS/MRF is already located in a highly urbanized area with industrial land uses surrounding the project site, as such, the existing visual character would not be changed and public views, nonexistent before the project, will not be impacted. A no impact determination will remain.

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

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the implementation of the Project included the addition of minor perimeter lighting for the proposed compost facility. Lighting at the compost facility would be consistent with existing lighting at the RAN TS/MRF building perimeter and in the facility's parking lots and outside operation areas. The RAN TS/MRF is located approximately 55 miles northwest of the Palomar Observatory and is located outside Zone A (15 miles from the Palomar Observatory) and Zone B (45 miles from the Palomar Observatory) as defined in County of Riverside Ordinance No. 655. Ordinance No. 655 regulates light pollution which would affect astronomical observation and research at the Palomar Observatory. The Project is outside of the area regulated by Ordinance No. 655 and would not add light sources that adversely affect day or nighttime views. A less than significant impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would merely propose the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system would not result in new environmental impacts. No additional lighting will be introduced, or installed, not already evaluated under EA 2015-03. A less than significant impact determination will remain.

**Agriculture and Forestry Resources**

**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-agriculture use?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project was identified as "Urban and Built-Up Land" in the California Department of Conservation Important Farmland Finder. The Riverside County Land Information System identifies the eastern portion of the site as "urban-built up land" and the western portion as "other lands." No agricultural uses occur at the site. The Project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would consist of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system would not result in new environmental impacts. These changes will all occur within the composting facility within the already existing RAN TS/MRF, which was identified as Urban and Build-Up Land in the California Department of Conservation Important Farmland Finder. As such, the proposed Project would not convert prime, unique or farmland of Statewide Importance to non-farming uses. A no impact determination will remain.

**b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the RAN TS/MRF is zoned as Manufacturing-Heavy (M-H), a non-agricultural zone, and the site is surrounded by non-agricultural M-H zones to the north, east, south, and west, therefore no conflict within existing zoning was anticipated. Additionally, the Project is not located within an agricultural area and there is no agricultural land subject to Williamson Act Contract as shown in the California Department of Conservation latest map of the area (Riverside County Williamson Act FY 2008/2009 Sheet 1 of 3). As such, a no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed changes (reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system) would not result in new environmental impacts because all the changes would occur within the RAN TS/MRF's organics processing area. Furthermore, zoning designation and the surrounding land uses have not changed. As such, the Project, not zoned for agricultural use, or with a Williamson Act contract in place, would not conflict with zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract. A finding of no impact will remain.

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

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project site is zoned Manufacturing-Heavy (M-H) and is surrounded by existing manufacturing and industrial uses to the north, south, east, and west. The Project would not conflict with forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production because no such uses occur at the project site. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. Zoning within the project site, remains the same as analyzed in EA No. 2015-03, Manufacturing-Heavy (M-H), comprised of existing manufacturing and industrial uses in all directions adjacent to the RAN TS/MRF, as such, no forest land or timberland will be converted to non-forest/timberland as a result of project implementation. A no impact determination will remain.

**d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that forest land does not exist in or around the project site. The project site will be developed with the existing RAN TS/MRF; manufacturing uses occur to the east, south, and north. The Project will not result in the loss or conversion of forest land. A no impact determination was made.



**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project consists of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system, both of which would take place within an existing industrial facility. The proposed project's minor changes will not result in the loss or conversion of forest land. A no impact determination will remain.

**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 non-forest use.**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project site is within the existing RAN TS/MRF which is zoned Manufacturing-Heavy (M-H). The Project, as evaluated under EA No. 2015-03 was the development of a GORE® Cover Compost ASP System and sub-surface infiltration basin within the existing green waste compost/soil amendment production area of the facility, among other changes. Implementation of the Project was found not to result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use because these land uses do not exist on the site. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project which merely consists of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system would not result in new environmental impacts. The proposed Project does not propose to convert farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use, as the composting facility is located within the RAN TS/MRF as previously evaluated under EA 2015-03, and whose zoning has not changed. A no impact determination will remain.

### **Air Quality**

**a) Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project's generated emissions for criteria area pollutants were under the established SCAQMD thresholds. Furthermore, it was determined that the Project would not contribute to the frequency or severity of violations or cause or contribute to new violations, or delay timely attainment of air quality standards or the interim emission reductions specified in the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). Additionally it was determined that the operation of a transfer, recycling, and compost facility, which offers essential solid waste services to the unincorporated communities and cities in the northwestern portion of Riverside County, was consistent with the land use designation and the Riverside County General Plan. Therefore, the Project was found to be in compliance with the Riverside County General Plan. As such, the Project was not anticipated to exceed the AQMP regional growth assumptions for the project site, and was found to be consistent with the AQMP. A less than significant impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project does not include any construction activities that will generate construction emissions. The proposed Project represents changes that are considered less intense as food waste preparation for composting no longer requires the use a grinder and less organic material will be processed through the chip and grind processing, while more will undergo composting (less equipment/processing usage). As evaluated under EA No. 2015-03, the Project was not anticipated to contribute to violations of any criteria pollutant thresholds, or to result in fugitive dust impacts. The proposed Project does not propose an increase in the daily maximum capacity, but to reallocate the capacity within the organics processing area for composting operations from 100 tpd to 200 tpd, essentially shifting the capacities from one operation to another, but staying within the maximum of 700 tpd limit.

Composting operations generate Volatile Organics Compounds (VOCs) - a criteria pollutant and Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), not a criteria pollutant. As evaluated under EA No. 2015-03, composting would generate 30.3 lbs per day of VOCs and .24 lbs per day on NH<sub>3</sub> emissions at full capacity. VOCs were under the established criteria pollutant thresholds. The change of composting process to the ECS system will not result in a significant change in VOCs or NH<sub>3</sub> as the feedstock composition remains the same (composting the same material) and the overall capacity of the system is not changing.

VOCs and NH<sub>3</sub> are not part of the 2016 AQMP, since the purpose of the AQMP is to help achieve attainment of pollutants for which the air district is nonattainment for (Ozone, Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 and PM 10). Operations emissions from the proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan. Because the proposed Project is not a growth-inducing project, it will not generate growth that will exceed the baseline growth for the region. Furthermore, as discussed in earlier paragraphs of this section, the proposed Project is not expected to contribute to violations of any criteria pollutant thresholds, or to result in fugitive dust impacts. The proposed Project would be consistent with the growth assumptions of the 2016 AQMP, would comply with all applicable rules and regulations, and would not conflict or obstruct implementation of the AQMP. A less than significant impact determination will remain.

**b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project site emissions were not anticipated to exceed the criteria area pollutants for which the basin is nonattainment, nor would it exceed Localized Significance Thresholds (LSTs) of allowable emissions. The Project, as evaluated under EA No. 2015-03 was an approximate 22.03-acre RAN TS/MRF composting processing site. The LST analysis for EA No. 2015-03 was conducted utilizing a 5-acre site development and therefore, represented a worst-case scenario as the larger the site the greater the emission allowance. The Project's operational-source emissions would not result in or cause a significant localized air quality impact. Additionally, the Project would not increase the daily tonnage of incoming waste for processing (4,000 tpd for all waste types or 700 tpd for the composting facility), nor would it increase existing incoming traffic (1,582 vehicles per day). The Project's operational-source emissions would not conflict with the Basin AQMP. The Project would meet SCAQMD regional thresholds and will not result in a significant cumulative impact. A less than significant impact was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would merely consists of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change

in the composting system. These changes do not propose any construction related work that would necessitate the use of construction equipment, or add worker vehicle trips (i.e. vehicle emissions from these vehicle trips). The changes are operational changes that would utilize the equipment (bucket loader, trommel) already in use at the organics processing facility. As such, emissions from heavy construction equipment or additional vehicle trips would not result in new or additional emissions not already evaluated for criteria pollutants or LSTs. A less than significant impact determination will remain.

**c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined the Project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. The LST analysis, summarized above in Air Quality section (b), and evaluated in detail in EA No. 2015-03, represents the maximum emissions from a project that are not expected to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the most stringent applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard, and are developed based on the ambient concentrations of that pollutant for each source receptor area and distance to the nearest sensitive receptor.

The Project was deemed to be under the established LST thresholds and would not to cause any significant air emissions that will violate any established air quality standards. Additionally, the project is an established land use located within an existing industrial park and surrounded by heavy industrial developments. Avalon Park is the nearest sensitive receptor, located more than 800 meters from the site. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would merely consist of a change in the composting daily capacity and a change in composting system within an existing industrial facility. As discussed in earlier sections, composting activities will not generate emissions above established AQMD thresholds and is not in close proximity to a sensitive receptor, thereby not exposing sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. A no impact determination will remain.

**d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?)**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined the Project's composting odor emissions would not become a public nuisance, provided that odor Best Management Practices (BMPs) were implemented.

The Project evaluated under EA No. 2015-03 analyzed odor emissions from the GORE® Cover ASP Compost System. GORE® Cover Compost ASP System provided a fully enclosed active compost process. The GORETEX cover was designed to trap emissions that were then absorbed by condensate on the fabric and returned to the compost to serve as a biofilter. The compost piles would then be monitored by a computer system that regulated air flow into the piles to control temperature.

Furthermore, through the compliance with the site specific Odor Impact Minimization Plan (OIMP) as well as State and County BMPs, regulations and requirements, potential odors associated with the site activities would not occur, or would be controlled at the source, in order to comply with the Title 14 CCR requirements. A less than significant impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project merely consists of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and a change in the composting system. The change in composting system would not have a negative effect on odor emissions. Both systems are aerated static pile systems, but the GORE® Cover Compost ASP System utilized a GOROTEX fabric to trap emissions that were then absorbed by condensate on the fabric and returned to the compost that served as a biofilter, whereas, the ECS Biofilter ASP Compost System uses a six-inch layer of finished compost that is placed on top of each pile to serve as a biofilter. As air is pulled through the pile, exhaust air is blown into an elevated biofilter of moist wood chips that serves as an emissions and odor control system. The biofilter is located between the two active compost pads and accepts exhaust air from all eight compost zones. As such, ECS Biofilter ASP Compost System, is anticipated not to result in odor emissions that would affect a substantial number of people. A less than significant impact will remain.

### **Biological Resources**

**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 Service?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the RAN TS/MRF, as an existing industrial facility with no native wildlife habitat or sensitive plant species on-site, or surrounding area would not have an adverse effect through habitat modification to any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project, which would merely consist of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting process will be conducted within the existing RAN TS/MRF facility and would not adversely affect candidate, sensitive or special status species in local or regional plans. A no impact determination will remain.

**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 Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project site is entirely developed, within the existing RAN TS/MRF with no riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community would not have a substantial adverse effect on said, habitat, or sensitive natural communities. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would only consist of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. These changes would take place within the same location as evaluated in the prior EA, and would not have an adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by other natural resource agencies. A no impact determination will remain.

**c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project site is entirely developed and does not contain Waters of the U.S.; including, federally protected wetlands or applicable water sources, as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would take place within the existing RAN TS/MRF. No change in location from the previously evaluated EA No. 2015-03 would occur and no impacts to wetland habitats as a result of the Project would occur. A no impact determination will remain.

**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?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project site did not have water features that would support the travel of migratory fish, wildlife species, or established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors. The project site is entirely developed within the existing RAN TS/MRF and no native habitat was found to be present on, or within the surrounding area.

The project site is not described for conservation within the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (WRMSHCP), therefore, implementation of the project would 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, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The Project is entirely developed with the existing RAN TS/MRF and no native habitat for resident or migratory fish or wildlife species is present on the Project site. As such, the surrounding urbanized areas, with heavy industrial land uses is not conducive to wildlife species and would not impact their associated migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of the native wildlife nursery sites. A finding of no impact remain.

**e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project site did not support any native habitat including native trees; therefore it was determined that there would be no impact to biological resources protected under local policies or ordinances. The project site was located in Cell 55 of the MSHCP within the Jurupa Area Plan; however, the site was not described for conservation within the MSHCP Reserve Assembly and therefore implementation of the Project would not conflict with the MSHCP. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would only include the reallocation of the daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. The location of the composting operations will remain the same. The organics processing facility is located within the existing RAN TS/MRF with no biological resources present, including trees. A finding of no impact will remain.

**f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservative plan?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan. The project site is located within Criteria Cell No. 55 of the Jurupa Area Plan of the Western Riverside MSHCP and within Sub-Unit 3 of the Delhi Sands Area. The project site was located within the burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) and narrow endemic plant species overlays of the MSHCP. Habitat assessment for narrow endemic plant species included: San Diego ambrosia (*Ambrosia pumila*), Brand's Phacelia (*Phacelia stellaris*), and San Miguel savory (*Satureja chandleri*). However, because the site is entirely developed with the existing RAN TS/MRF, no habitat for these species was present on site. The project site was not located within the delhi sands overlay and would not impact delhi sand resources. The Project was deemed a covered activity and not in conflict with the MSHCP Criteria and other Plan requirements. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would only include the increase in daily capacity and the change in composting system. These changes would occur within the existing RAN TS/MRF and will not result in conflicts with the MSHCP Criteria and other Plan requirements. A finding of no impact will remain.

### **Cultural Resources**

**a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that there were no historic structures on-site. According to the Riverside County General plan, the project site is not located in an area of historical significance. Furthermore the Project as evaluated under EA No. 2015-03 determined that no disruption of land would occur, that was not already disturbed. Therefore, no impacts to historical resources were anticipated. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would still be located in an area of no historical significance, with project components (reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system) that would be of no consequence to historical resources. A finding of no impact will remain.

**b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that, as indicated on the Relative Archaeological Sensitivity of Diverse Landscapes section of the Riverside County General Plan the project site was not in an archaeological sensitive area. The Project was found not to disturb previously undisturbed land; therefore, no impact to archaeological resources were anticipated.

In compliance with AB 52 relating to tribal notification of projects under CEQA, tribes requesting notification - Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians and Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, were mailed letters (September 10, 2015) detailing the proposed Project. A letter from the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians was received on September 15, 2015, stating that the identified location was not within the Luiseño Aboriginal Territory. No other correspondence was received from the other two tribes (Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians or Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians). The RCDWR did not receive any requests for consultation. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project location has not changed, and the proposed changes (reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system) will take place within the RAN TS/MRF's organics processing area, as previously evaluated in EA No. 2015-03. As such, the proposed Project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5 as evidenced by the null response from the Tribes contacted for comment. A finding of no impact will remain.

**c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project site was developed with the existing RAN TS/MRF with no human remains known to be present at the site, as such impacts to human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries were not anticipated to be impacted. However, because earthwork activities related to the construction of the compost facility and underground infiltration basin would require excavation, Mitigation Measure CR-1 was required to ensure that if remains were to be encountered, the operator would take the appropriate action. A less than significant impact with mitigation determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project, being located on the same location (organics processing area) as previous evaluated in EA No. 2015-03 and with no ground disturbance proposed as part of the minor project changes (reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system) is not anticipated to disturb any human remains including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. Therefore, with the existing mitigation, impacts will continue to remain less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures**

CR-1 In the event of an accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, 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 during excavation 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 contracted 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 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 decedent 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 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.

## Energy

### a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

(1) **EA No. 2015-03:** The question regarding energy conservation, was not a CEQA checklist question when EA No. 2015-03 was prepared and adopted in 2019.

(2) **Addendum:** A less than significant impact is identified, and no mitigation will be needed based on the evidence provided below:

Energy efficiency, in general terms, is broadly addressed in the California Green Building Code (CalGreen) related to residential and nonresidential building construction with energy conservation measures related to planning and design; energy efficiency; water efficiency and conservation; and materials conservation and resource efficiency. More specifically, CalGreen defers mandatory energy efficiency standards to the California Energy Commission (CEC) for the adoption of mandatory standards. Furthermore, Appendix F, Energy Conservation of the CEQA Guidelines states that the means of achieving this goal include:

- Decreasing overall per capita energy consumption;
- Decreasing reliance on fossil fuels such as coal, natural gas and oil, and;
- Increasing reliance on renewable energy sources.

The proposed Project would merely consist of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. The change in the composting process would utilize one less piece of equipment as the proposed composting process does not require a grinder to process food waste. Instead, processing food waste feedstock is rolled over with a front-end bucket loader and screened using a trommel screen to remove contaminants, thereby reducing energy consumption. The compost piles are fully electrified, as were previously, and would only use a 75 hp fan to blow air into the piles for aeration. This would not represent an increase in electricity consumption. As such, the proposed project would maintain energy usage flat and would not increase net energy usage that would be deemed to be wasteful, inefficient or unnecessary.



## **CEC 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards**

CEC mandatory energy efficiency standards are designed around the construction of new additions and alterations to residential and nonresidential buildings. The standards are divided into three basic sets:

- 1) Basic set of mandatory requirements that apply to all buildings;
- 2) Performance standards whose purpose is to establish an “energy budget” in terms of the consumption per square foot or floor space. Standards include both a prescription option , allowing builders to comply by using methods known to be effective, and a performance option, allowing builders complete freedom in their designs provided the buildings achieve the same overall efficiency as an equivalent building using the prescription option, and;
- 3) Alternative to the performance standards, which is a set of prescriptive packages that provide a recipe or a checklist compliance approach.

Because the proposed Project is merely a change in the composting process, no energy efficiency measures such as lighting, electrical power, water heating systems, insulation and roofing materials etc. are part of the proposed Project. It can be concluded that the proposed Project would not result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project ‘building” operation. A less than significant impact is identified, and no mitigation will be needed.

### **b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The question regarding energy, was not a CEQA checklist question when EA No. 2015-03 was prepared and adopted in 2019.

**(2) Addendum:** As mentioned in question (a) above, energy efficiency is codified in the California Energy Commission through the 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards Code and through the California Green Building Code and the Riverside County General Plan.

#### **California Energy Commission**

Subchapter 2 – All Occupancies – Mandatory Requirements for the Manufacture, Construction and Installation of Systems, Equipment and Building Components.

#### **Riverside County General Plan**

Land Use Element –

LU 3.5 (e) – Pursue energy efficiency through street configuration, building orientation, landscaping to capitalize on shading and facilitate solar energy, as provided for in Title 24 Part 6 and/or Part 11, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR)

LU 17.2 – Permit and encourage, in an environmentally and fiscally responsible manner, the development of renewable energy resources and related infrastructure, including but not limited to, the development of solar power plants in the County of Riverside.

#### **California Green Building Code**

The Cal Green Building Code is divided in four main areas; planning and design; energy efficiency; water efficiency and conservation; and materials conservation and resource efficiency.

The planning and design provision of the CalGreen Building Code outlines planning, design, and development methods that include environmentally responsible site selection, building design, building siting, and development to protect, restore and enhance the environmental quality of the site and respect the integrity of adjacent properties.

## **Conclusion**

The proposed Project merely consists of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. The CA Energy Commission requires mandatory measures for nonresidential buildings, such as outdoor lighting, indoor lighting, water heating etc. The compost facility is already constructed and the proposed Project does not include new construction or installation components that can be selected for improved energy efficiency, or as renewable energy options (solar, wind). The two project changes are interrelated since the change in composting process effectively improves the quality of the compost produced, thereby causing the density of the finished compost to increase, making it heavier. These changes are immaterial to energy usage, or efficiency. These changes would not impede, for example the future construction of a solar parking structure, or the installation of energy efficient windows within the RAN TS/MRF office building. As such, the proposed Project does no conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. A less than significant impact is identified, and no mitigation will be needed.

## **Geology and Soils**

**a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:**

**i.-iii Rupture of known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologists for the area or based on the other substantial evidence of a known fault? Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? Landslides? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project was not located in a fault zone or within ½ mile of a known fault, according to the Riverside County Land Information System (RCLIS). Although the project site is not located in a fault zone or within proximity of a known fault, seismic activity cannot be ruled out. Construction of the aerated static pile composting facility, as proposed under EA 2015-03 is required to conform to the California Building Code (CBC) to prevent or minimize loss or damage caused by seismic activity. Compliance with the CBC is generally applicable to new construction.

The Project was planned to be located in an area identified as having a low potential for liquefaction, therefore, the impact was determined to be less than significant. Also, while liquefaction is not likely to occur, compliance with the CBC will aid in the event of seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction.

Landslides generally occur when soil becomes unstable where slopes are present; however, the Project was planned to be located on a site that was relatively flat with no significant slopes;

therefore, the potential for landslides at the site is less than significant. A less than significant determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project merely consists of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. Composting operations would take place within an existing industrial facility, within the organics processing area. The proposed Project components are not structural in nature and it is not reasonably foreseeable that these changes would have a negative effect and therefore cause loss of life or injury in the event of a geological natural disaster. A less than significant impact determination will remain.

**b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project would not result in soil erosion or loss of topsoil. The project site, as evaluated under EA 2013-05 is currently developed with the existing RAN TS/MRF. The Project proposed to pave with concrete approximately 4.8 acres of the 7.2-acre organics area. A portion of the facility's organics processing area was planned to be reconfigured for the development of the proposed aerated static pile compost facility and sub-surface infiltration basin. The compost facility was planned to consist of a reinforced concrete pad with eight compost bunkers.

For industrial land uses, unlike farming, or open space conservation land uses, native soil is engineered for suitability of industrial sites and to undergo soil and floor preparation including grading, compaction, paving etc., thus the removal of the top soil. Loss of topsoil is not a factor considered for industrial sites since removal of topsoil is essential for the site to be adequately prepared for industrial development and to inhibit plant growth in undesired areas. The Project was found, through compliance with the guidelines of previous site-specific reports and the grading requirements of the County of Riverside to minimize soil erosion, and to address the loss of topsoil where applicable, a less than significant impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would take place within the same project site as previously evaluated under EA 2015-03. Additionally, the proposed project's components (change in the daily capacity and the change in composting system) would be inconsequential to soil erosion or loss of top soil. The proposed Project is found to have a lesser impact than previously evaluated. No impact has been identified from the proposed project.

**c) Be located in 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?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project site is located in an area identified as being susceptible to subsidence and as having a low potential for liquefaction. The site is relatively flat which does not promote on or off-site landslides or lateral spreading. Compliance with the California Building Code (CBC) during construction will aid in the stability of the development with regards to liquefaction, subsidence, or collapse. A determination of less than significant impact was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed project would take place in the same project site as previously evaluated, and the Project's minor changes (change in daily capacity and composting system) would not result in impacts related to

off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse. A finding of less than significant impact will remain.

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

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project was not located in an area where risk to life or property would be at risk due to expansive soils. The original EIR for the RAN TS/MRF (EIR No. 216) included a soils report prepared by Geo-Ekta, Inc. The soils report concluded that onsite soils are not expansive. Compliance with the CBC is generally applicable to new construction and, although not anticipated, the unlikely possibility of expansive soils will be addressed through compliance with the CBC. A determination of less than significant impact was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project is planned in the same project site as evaluated in the previous EA No. 2015-03 and the project changes, the increase in daily capacity and the change in composting system would not risk life or property due to expansive soils. A less than significant impact will remain.

**e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems whether sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project, did not involve changes to the existing sewage service. The Project located within RAN TS/MRF would not require new septic or sewage service. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would be sited within the same project site and composting facility as previously evaluated and does not propose changes to the existing sewage service. A no impact determination will remain.

**f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project site is in an area of low Paleontological Sensitivity. The Project was found not to disturb previously undisturbed land. Therefore, no impact to paleontological resources or unique geologic features were anticipated. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project is within the same project site and organics processing facility as previously evaluated and does not propose changes that would indirectly destroy unique paleontological resources or site or unique geologic feature. A no impact determination will remain.

### **Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

**a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that direct GHG emissions during grading (155 total MTCO<sub>2e</sub>) and construction (137 total MTCO<sub>2e</sub>) and indirect, operational (1,430 MTCO<sub>2e</sub> tpy) emissions would not exceed the Riverside County CAP significance threshold of 3,000 MTCO<sub>2e</sub> as shown in the analysis above. Further, this GHG emissions calculation is also below the SCAQMDs proposed thresholds for a GHG impact. Therefore, as a small project (less than 3,000 MTCO<sub>2e</sub>), it was deemed to be less than significant as per the Riverside County CAP CEQA Thresholds for GHG. A less than significant determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed project does not consist of grading, or construction, as such no GHG emissions, not already evaluated under EA No. 2015-03 are anticipated. As for operational GHGs, the proposed project merely consists of a change in the daily capacity due to a change in composting process that increases the weight of the finished compost. Furthermore the proposed project would not increase the total maximum capacity (700 tpd), nor would it increase traffic from the established, permitted maximum of 1,582 vehicles per day. Notwithstanding, composting operations (not including the use of equipment) are considered biogenic emissions and not anthropogenic for purposes of GHG inventory tracking. As such, because the proposed project does not include grading or construction, and the GHG emissions from the equipment utilized during composting operations has already been determined to be under the Riverside County CAP, a less than significant impact determination will remain.

**b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. The Project, as evaluated under EA No. 2015-03 was a modification to the composting method and proposed to install a food waste processing unit within the transfer station building, among other changes. The purpose of the RAN MRF is to recycle/recover materials in the waste stream that would otherwise end up in landfills. One of the many goals of the CAP is to ultimately reduce the volume of solid waste transferred to landfills through education and outreach, provision of recycling bins and compliance with Statewide regulations on waste reduction, recycling and composting. As stated above, the GHG emissions generated by the Project would not exceed the GHG screening threshold of 3,000 metric tons per year of CO<sub>2e</sub>. As such, the implementation of the Project would not hinder the state's ability to achieve AB 32's goal of achieving 1990 levels of GHG emissions by 2020 or be in conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. A less than significant impact was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. Composting is considered biogenic and composting is not, for the purpose of GHG emissions inventory, not counted as contributing to GHG emissions. Notwithstanding, the project would still be under the GHG screening threshold of 3,000 metric tons per year of CO<sub>2e</sub> and would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. A less than significant determination will remain.

**Hazards and Hazardous Materials**

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

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the RAN TS/MRF used small quantities of hazardous materials, such as oils and solvents, which are stored consistent with the MRF hazardous materials procedures. Oil and solvents are used as part of the onsite equipment maintenance program.

The organics processing facility will compost green waste and food waste, both non-hazardous feedstocks. Minor quantities of solvents and lubricants will be used to maintain the compost ventilation system. These will be handled and stored in a manner consistent with the MRF hazardous materials procedures. In addition, minor quantities of household hazardous materials are removed from the incoming waste stream as part of the facility's hazardous waste exclusion and load-check program.

The implementation of the Project was found not to involve substantial changes in operations, nor would it involve the introduction of new hazardous materials. The solvents and lubricants that are utilized, would not be in quantities that would pose a significant hazard to the public health and safety or the environment. A less than significant impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed project merely consists of the change in the daily capacity and a change in composting system. The change in composting system nor the daily capacity involve the transport, use or disposal of hazardous material not already discussed and analyzed in the Project's EA No. 2015-03. A less than significant impact determination will remain.

**b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project did not involve substantial changes in operations, nor would it involve the introduction of new hazardous materials, other than the routine use of minor solvents and lubricants – as explained above – that would occur in sufficient quantities as to pose a significant hazard to the public health and safety or the environment. The Project operations at the organics processing facility involve the acceptance of green waste material (feedstock), which is then placed in concrete bunkers. The feedstock is cleaned for contaminated material (plastics, metal, or other non-greenwaste material), turned, moisture conditioned and left to cure until it is ready for sale. Once the material is ready for sale, it is loaded onto customer transport trucks for delivery to their destination. Accidental spills of compost material, are always possible, but not reasonably foreseeable by the use of proper loading techniques, maintaining load limits, safe driving etc.

Additionally, all personnel are required to complete hazardous waste material training as required by local, State, and Federal regulations. This training, along with implementation of the hazardous materials waste exclusion and load-check program procedures, will reduce the likelihood of accidents or dangerous conditions involving hazardous materials. A less than significant determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project, would only involve the change in the daily capacity and a change in composting system. Project operations at the organics processing facility would not change with the increase of daily capacity and the change of composting system and would remain as described above. Personnel continue to complete the required hazardous waste materials training as required by local, State and Federal regulations. A less than significant impact determination will remain.

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

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project was not located within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school; the nearest school is located approximately 1.5 miles southeast of the project site. The Project, was found not to emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed project would take place within the same project site, as previously evaluated, as such, the proximity to the nearest school (1.5 miles southeast of the project) would not change. A finding of no impact will remain.

**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 create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project site is not included on a list pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 that would create a significant hazard to the public or environment (Department of Toxic Substances Control, Envirostor). All hazardous materials collected and stored on site will be in accordance with local, State, and Federal Regulations. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65962.5 the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) compiles the Cortese List and updates it at least annually. The Cortese list includes hazardous waste facilities subject to corrective action, land designated as hazardous waste property or border zone property, sites included in the abandoned site assessment program, and qualifying sites pursuant to Section 25356 of the Health and Safety Code. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project will only involve the change in daily capacity and the change in composting system. Neither change, will result in a change from the previous determination that the project is not included on a list pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 that would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. A no impact determination will remain.

**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 or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project, was not located within two miles of a public airport or a public use airport. The Flabob Airport is located approximately 2.75 miles southwest of the project site; the San Bernardino international airport is located approximately nine miles northeast of the project site. The Project was found not to result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project changes will only involve the change is daily capacity and the change in composting system. Neither change, will result in a change from the previous determination that the project is not located within close proximity of a public airport or a public use airport plan. A no impact determination will remain.

**f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project is an established land use within an existing industrial park. The circulation system has been designed and constructed to accommodate heavy traffic associated with industrial development. Sight distance at all project entrances has been reviewed as part of the underlying parcel map (driveway openings are limited along Agua Mansa Road), during the initial design phase of the existing facility and through consultation with the Riverside County Transportation Department. Traffic signal and intersection improvements at the facility's main entrance have incorporated geometrics, design features, and sight distance that enhance traffic safety. Site access modifications were not included as part of the Project, nor did it require road closures or detours. Implementation of the Project was determined not to interfere with adopted emergency response plans or an emergency evacuation plan. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project will only involve the change in daily capacity and the change in composting system. Neither change will impair the implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan because the proposed project would be located on the same project site as previously evaluated. A no impact determination will remain.

**g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project area, in an existing industrial park, surrounded by industrial development, and having undergone Riverside County Fire Department approvals in conformance with applicable fire standards would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires. Additionally, according to the RCLIS, this property is not located in a High Fire Area. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The project site is within the existing RAN TS/MRF located within an existing industrial park surrounded by existing industrial development to the north, south, and east. As part of prior facility approvals, the Riverside County Fire Department determined that the facility was in conformance with applicable fire standards, pursuant to PRC 44151. The proposed Project, only consisting of a change in daily capacity and a change in composting system is not anticipated to expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires. A no impact determination will remain.

### **Hydrology and Water Quality**

**a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the facility currently implements a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) in compliance with the current 2015 State Industrial General Permit under WDID 8-331024748. The current SWPPP includes operational BMPs to minimize the release of contaminants into surface runoff. Current BMPs also include site improvements including five subsurface infiltration basins designed to treat an 85th percentile storm event with a three times safety factor that accepts runoff from all areas of the site except for the organics processing area. Any drainage that leaves the site to the south flows into a 48-inch public storm



drain pipe maintained by the Riverside County Flood Control District. Offsite flows to the north are collected into gutters along Agua Mansa Road that drain into the County-maintained storm drain system.

As evaluated previously in EA No. 2015-03 and as described in the preliminary Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) a 9,423.2 cubic feet infiltration system would provide adequate design capture volume for the organics processing area and no additional compliance measures would be required. Additional BMPs identified in the preliminary WQMP were incorporated into the Project in order to avoid and minimize potential impacts to water quality. A determination of less than significant impact was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would only consist of the change in daily capacity and a change in the composting system. Changes proposed would take place within the existing project site, and as previously evaluated, with the application and compliance of the SWPPP and the use of the 9,423.2 cubic feet infiltration system would provide adequate design capture volume for the organics processing area to minimize the release of contaminants into the storm drain. A determination of less than significant impact will remain.

**b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the RAN TS/MRF did not rely on a groundwater source. The site's water needs are met by the delivery and purchase of water from the West Valley Water District. Therefore, the implementation of the Project would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies that would lead to a lowering of the local water table level. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. As explained above, the proposed Project would not draw from a groundwater source for the composting operational water needs and will continue to purchase water from the West Valley Water District. Therefore, project implementation would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies that would lead to a lowering of the local water table level. A no impact determination will remain.

**c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would: result in substantial erosion or siltation on-or off-site; substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-or off-site sites; 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; or Impede or redirect flood flows?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that there were no water courses onsite. Therefore, the Project was found not to alter the course of a stream or river. Implementation of the Project included construction of sub-surface infiltration basins along the southern boundary of the RAN TS/MRF. The infiltration basin is designed to comply with the 2015 State Industrial General Permit and would not alter existing drainage in a manner that would result in substantial erosion on- or off-site, nor would it increase the rate or amount of surface run-off in a manner which would result in flooding on-or off-site. A less than significant impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project is not located in close proximity to a water course. The project changes, the change in daily capacity or the change in composting system would not alter existing drainage in a manner that would result in substantial erosion on- or off-site, nor would it increase the rate or amount of surface run-off in a manner which would result in flooding on-or off-site or impede or redirect floodflows. A less than significant impact determination was made.

**d) In flood hazard, tsunami, seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the RAN TS/MRF was located south of a water impoundment associated with a quarry located on the north side of Agua Mansa Road. The impoundment is classified as a "Zone A" flood hazard zone in the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Number 06065C0045G (August 28, 2008). Areas classified as Zone A do not have base flood elevations identified. The impoundment is not located in a fault zone or near a volcano, therefore, the occurrence of seiches, and tsunamis that could affect the area surrounding the impoundment are not likely and therefore the risk of release of pollutants due to project site inundation are less than significant.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed project, is located on the same project site as previously evaluated under EA No. 2015-03. Although the project is located south of a water impoundment classified as a "Zone A" flood hazard zone, in the FIRM No. 06065C0045G, development is still subject to compliance with Riverside County's Ordinance No. 458, Regulating Special Flood Hazard Areas and Implementing the National Flood Insurance Program. The proposed Project does not include structural changes to the existing facility, and would merely include the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. A less than significant determination will remain.

**e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** This question, was not a CEQA checklist question when EA No. 2015-03 was prepared and adopted in 2019.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. The proposed Project does not draw groundwater from the groundwater table and the sub-surface infiltration system designed to capture storm flows from the composting facility coupled with the use of BMPs would ensure water quality is maintained and in compliance with the preliminary WQMP. A less than significant impact was made.

## **Land Use and Planning**

**a) Physically divide an established community?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project consisted of operational and structural changes within an existing industrial facility. The RAN TS/MRF is located within an industrial park and is surrounded by similar heavy industrial uses to the east, south, and north. No established residential community is located in the immediate project area. A no impact determination was made.

(2) **Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The project components, a change in the daily organic material capacity and the change in composting system would not divide an established community. A finding of no impact will remain.

**b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?**

(1) **EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project was located in Criteria Cell No. 55 of the MSHCP. The RAN TS/MRF is an existing facility and is not located in an area identified for conservation in the MSHCP. Section 7.3.8 of the MSHCP identifies the RAN TS/MRF as a covered activity/allowable use under the MSHCP. Per the MSHCP, operations, maintenance, and public expansion activities at existing active waste management facilities within the Criteria Area and Public/Quasi-Public Lands will be Covered Activities if performed within the existing boundaries (ownership/lease area) of these facilities, and subject to all obligations identified in Section 13.6 of the MSHCP Implementing Agreement.

The Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority completed a Joint Project Review in December of 2009 (JPR 09-12-07-01); the JPR addressed MSHCP consistency relevant to development of the 3-acre organics processing area. The JPR concluded that development of the organics processing area is consistent with both the MSHCP Criteria and other Plan requirements.

The Project, evaluated under EA 2015-03, proposed to replace the pilot composting system within the area analyzed in JPR 09-12-07-01 with an aerated static pile composting facility (GORE® Cover Compost System). Additional project components (food processing unit, relocation of the transfer truck tarping station, and development of an infiltration basin) were all proposed to occur within the disturbed facility ownership/lease boundaries. Consistent with JPR 09-12-07-01 and Section 7.3.8 of the MSHCP, the Project, as evaluated under EA No. 2015-03 was deemed a covered activity and was found not to conflict with the MSHCP Criteria and other Plan requirements. A no impact determination was made.

(2) **Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed changes at the RAN TS/MRF, would continue to take place within an existing industrial site, and the changes will not alter the EA's prior determination that the project in question would cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. The supporting evidence for this determination is that the project site continues to be consistent with JPR 09-12-07-01 and Section 7.3.8 of the MSHCP, as evaluated previously under EA No. 2015-03 was deemed a covered activity and was found not to be conflict with the MSHCP Criteria and other Plan requirements. A no impact determination will remain.

### **Mineral Resources**

**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?**

(1) **EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that project site was classified as a mineral resource zone MRZ-3 in Figure 4.14.2 of the County of Riverside Environmental Impact Report No. 521 Public Review Draft. MRZ-3 zones are defined as areas where the significance of deposits is undetermined and require exploratory work to determine specific categorization and to ascertain the full potential of the area. Areas of known significant mineral resources and state designated

significant resource areas occur south of the project along the Santa Ana River. The Project will not conflict with or result in the loss of availability of known mineral resources. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed changes at the RAN TS/MRF organics processing area will not alter the EA's prior determination that it is within MRZ-3, an area undetermined for the significance of mineral deposits. Notwithstanding, the proposed Project, and the project changes would all take place within an existing industrial facility and no loss of availability of known mineral resources would occur. A finding of no impact will remain.

**b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resources recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that prior to the development of the RAN TS/MRF, the project site was dry-farmed and was not known to contain any mineral resources (EA RAN 2009-03). The RAN TS/MRF is an established land use, and the Project did not involve any significant grading or soil excavation that will result in the loss of availability of locally-important mineral resources because locally-important mineral resources have not been identified as occurring on the site (Environmental Impact Report No. 521).

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The project site will remain the same, within an existing developed industrial facility and whose project changes would not affect the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site. A finding of no impact will remain.

## Noise

**a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the proposed improvements did not represent a substantial change to operations of the RAN TS/MRF. Noise by vehicles and equipment during operation of the facility was not anticipated to result in increased noise generation above existing conditions. Although the project was not anticipated to result in new impacts, existing mitigation measures identified in "RAN 2009-03, related to noise will continue to be implemented. A less than significant impact with mitigation determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project will merely consist of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. These changes would not introduce new noise generation equipment, or processes that were not already analyzed in EA No. 2015-03 or that are greater in intensity, duration or time of occurrence. Therefore, with the existing mitigation, impacts will continue to remain less than significant.

## Mitigation Measures

N-1: All equipment used in the operation of the Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station/Materials Recovery Facility, fixed or mobile, shall be equipped with properly operating and maintained mufflers to the satisfaction of the Riverside County Health Services Agency,

Occupational Health and Safety Department, and California Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

N-2: Equipment operators and other facility personnel subject to excessive noise levels will be provided with hearing protection devices (i.e., ear plugs, etc.).

**b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration of groundborne noise levels?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that project site was located within a developed industrial corridor and is expected to be subject to vibration from heavy truck traffic, construction equipment, and the railroad spur located immediately south of the RAN TS/MRF property boundary. Industrial land uses are not deemed sensitive land uses, such as schools, hospitals, residential areas etc. The Project, as evaluated under EA No. 2015-03, was determined to be a less than significant impact to excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. Construction related noise was only temporary and the operational noise did not involve equipment that caused excessive groundborne vibrations above existing vibration generating sources. A less than significant impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would only involve the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. Groundborne vibration and groundborne noise would not be affected from the increase in composting daily capacity. The composting process would only involve the use of a front end loader to turn the feedstock piles and a trommel to sift through the compost to produce fine material. The loader and trommel would not generate groundborne vibration or noise levels not already analyzed previously. A less than significant impact determination will remain.

**c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or 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?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that project site was not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public or public use airport. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed project would take place in the same project site as previously analyzed and is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public or public use airport. A finding of no impact will remain.

**Population and Housing**

**a) Induce substantial unplanned 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)?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project was located in an established land use and would not require additional employees. Therefore, the Project was deemed not to induce population growth in the area. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project which consists of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system is not a population growth inducing project/activity. A no impact determination will remain.

**b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction or replacement housing elsewhere?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the project site was currently developed with the existing RAN TS/MRF in a heavy industrial district in northwestern Riverside County. No residential uses occurred in the vicinity of the project and implementation of the Project was deemed not displace any housing or necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project will take place within the project site as previously evaluated in EA No. 2015-03. The project site is an existing industrial land use, and no people or housing will be displaced. A finding of no impact will remain.

**Public Services**

**a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provisions of new or physically altered government facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:**

**Fire protection?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project, as proposed, would not necessitate the need for new, or physically altered government buildings, particularly fire stations to serve the Project. The Project under the previously evaluated EA, only proposed modifications to operations at the RAN TS/MRF and did not require the construction of new buildings and did not constitute a substantial change in operations, and was determined not to increase the risk of fire or the need for additional fire services. A finding of no impact was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would merely consist of a change in the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. These minor changes would not require the need for new or the need to physically alter already existing facilities for the purpose of combating a fire situation. A finding of no impact will remain.

**Police protection?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that due to its industrial nature (composting facility), the Project was not likely to be a target for criminal activity (theft, burglary, vandalism etc.) nor would cause or contribute to an increase in crime levels. Additionally it was determined not to be growth inducing and thus would not require additional police services and their associated police precincts, administration buildings, jails etc. The Project was

determined not to result in substantial physical impacts associated with the provision of police protection. A finding of no impact was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would merely consist of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. The changes proposed, would not necessitate the need for increased police protection or associated facilities. A no impact determination will remain.

#### **Schools?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that due to its industrial nature, the Project would not result in population growth or services requiring the alteration of existing school facilities or result in the need for construction of new facilities.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed project would merely consist of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. The changes proposed, would not necessitate the alterations of existing schools or the need for the construction of new facilities. A no impact determination will remain.

#### **Parks?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined that the Project, as evaluated, would not generate an increase in population or services requiring the alteration of existing park facilities or result in the need for construction of new facilities. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would merely consist of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. The changes proposed, would not necessitate alterations of existing parks or the need for the construction of new ones. A no impact determination will remain.

#### **Other public facilities?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA No. 2015-03 determined that no other public service facilities would be anticipated to be impacted by the proposed project. No impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project which would merely consist of the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system is not anticipated to necessitate the alteration of existing public facilities or the construction of new ones. A no impact determination was made.

#### **Recreation**

- 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?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA No. 2015-03 determined that the Project was deemed not to have growth inducing effects that would increase demand for neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities or cause their premature deterioration. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project which would merely consists of a change in the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system would not necessitate demand for neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities or cause their deterioration to be accelerated. A no impact determination will remain.

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

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA No. 2015-03 determined that the Project would only involve operational modifications at an existing facility within an existing industrial park. The Project would not increase any demand for recreational facilities and no impacts to existing recreational facilities are anticipated. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The Proposed project changes, by their very nature, would not increase demand for recreational facilities and no impacts to existing recreational facilities are anticipated. A finding of no impact will remain.

#### **Transportation**

**a) Would the project conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA No. 2015-03 determined that the RAN TS/MRF is an established land use within an existing industrial park. Access to the site is from Agua Mansa Road, a major roadway as identified in the Riverside County General Plan. The proposed revisions, as evaluated under EA No. 2015-03, did not include an increase in daily tonnage of waste received or the number of vehicles using the facility. The RAN TS/MRF is permitted to operate at 4,000 tpd for all waste material types received onsite. The permitted traffic volume for the RAN TS/MRF is 1,582 vehicles per day.

Because the Project was deemed not to result in changes to the existing permitted traffic volume or permitted tonnage it was anticipated not to result in additional impacts. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project changes would only involve the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system. The overall permitted tonnage of material accepted at the RAN TS/MRF would remain the same, at 4,000 tpd. The change in composting system would not, by its very nature result in a conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The increase of daily capacity is due to the improved composting process (which ultimately increases the feedstock density) proposed as part of this Project which will allow for more greenwaste and foodwaste to move through the system faster and reduce the time compost material is sitting on



the concrete bunkers. The proposed changes would all take place within an existing industrial facility and no impacts are anticipated. A no impact determination will remain.

**b) For a land use project, would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)(1)?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3 subdivision (b)(1), related to the Criteria for Analyzing Transportation Impacts for Land Use Projects was not a CEQA checklist requirement in the previous EA No. 2015.03. This was not a CEQA requirement until July 1, 2020.

**(2) Addendum:** Effective July 1, 2020, SB 743 required Lead Agencies to evaluate transportation impacts using the vehicle miles travelled (VMT) metric. VMT impacts may occur when a project will add to the amount and distance of automobile travel.

The RAN TS/MRF has been located in the same area since the facility opened in 1997 serving the surrounding area. As the proposed changes merely include the reallocation of daily organic material capacity and a change in the composting system, both of which are minor operational/administrative modifications, implementation of the proposed Project would not generate additional VMT to or from the facility. Furthermore, there is no increase in the permitted daily tonnage (4,000 tpd) or daily traffic (1,582 vpd) at the facility. Therefore, the Project is deemed not to have an impact on VMT and a less than significant impact is made.

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

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA No. 2015-03 determined that The RAN TS/MRF is an established land use within an existing industrial park and has been in operation since 1997. Sight distance at all project entrances has been reviewed as part of the underlying parcel map, during the initial design phase of the facility, and through consultation with the Riverside County Transportation Department. Improvements proposed in 2006, such as the traffic signal at the facility's main entrance were designed and installed to enhance traffic safety. The Project did not include changes to the facility's ingress/egress areas. Development of the aerated static pile composting facility includes construction of a 12-foot wide paved service road on the north side of the composting facility and a paved transfer truck parking area near the western edge of the composting pad. Under existing conditions, the organics processing area consists of compacted soils with unpaved access roads defined between material stockpiles. All proposed operations areas and drive paths will be paved. The evaluation of the Project determined that the proposed changes to internal circulation would not substantially increase hazards through a design feature or incompatible uses. A less than significant impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project will take place within the existing project site, and no changes to the road system, curbs, or intersections are planned. A less than significant impact will remain.

**d) Result in inadequate emergency access?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA No. 2015-03 determined that the RAN TS/MRF is an established land use and no changes are proposed to the existing access. There will be no impact to emergency access.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project does not proposed changes to the existing access. There will be no impact to emergency access. A no impact determination will remain.

### **Tribal Cultural Resources**

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 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 or Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or:**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA No. 2015-03 determined that according to the Riverside County General plan, the project site was not located in an area of historical significance, as there are no historic structures on-site. The Project was found not to disturb previously undisturbed land. Therefore, no impact to historical resources was anticipated. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The RAN TS/MRF is an established land use and the proposed Project would not disturb virgin soil or areas with any categorical cultural or tribal significance (see Tribal Notification information below). The proposed Project does not consist of any physical changes to the surrounding or existing site. A finding of no impact will remain.

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

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA No. 2015-03 determined that as indicated in the Relative Archaeological Sensitivity of Diverse Landscapes section of the Riverside County General Plan that the project site was not in an archaeological sensitive area. Therefore it was determined that the Project would not disturb previously undisturbed land; therefore, no impact to archaeological resources was anticipated.

In compliance with AB 52 relating to tribal notification of projects under CEQA, tribes requesting notification were notified of the Project. AB 52 notification resulted in either no response from the Tribes contacted or a statement identifying the location not to be within their respective territory. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The RAN TS/MRF is an established land use and the proposed project would not disturb virgin soil or areas with any categorical cultural or tribal significance. The proposed

Project does not consist of any physical changes to the surrounding or existing site. A finding of no impact will remain.

### **Utilities and Service Systems**

- a) **Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA No. 2015-03 determined that the Project location was equipped with the necessary utility services (natural gas, sanitary sewer service, electrical power and telecommunications infrastructure) to operate an existing permitted industrial facility. The Project proposed the construction of a sub-surface infiltration system along the southern property line designed to comply with the 2015 State Industrial General Permit issued by the State Water Quality Control Board. The Project was found to have a less than significant impact on utilities and other service systems. A less than significant impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project would not result in the construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electrical power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities. As evaluated previously all the utility services necessary for operation of the industrial facility already exist. As such, a finding of no impact will remain.

- b) **Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years.**

**(1) EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA No. 2015-03 determined that water service at the RAN TS/MRF is provided through an existing distribution system operated by the West Valley Water District. Under existing conditions, the RAN TS/MRF operation's water demand accounts for an average of 439,824 gallons of water per month, while green waste composting operations account for 9,000 gallons per day. The aerated static pile composting system, as evaluated under EA No. 2015-03 would require approximately 5,000 gallons of water for the initial preparation of 500 tons of compost feedstock. The proposed GORE® Cover Compost System uses a micropore cover system that retains moisture therefore reducing daily water demand associated with moisture management of the compost stockpiles. In addition, liquids (up to 5,000 gallons per week) collected in the bunker trenches, are used to supplement the water supply as compost process water. It was determined that the proposed change in composting technology, as evaluated under EA 2015-03 would reduce the total water demand associated with composting operations resulting in an overall reduction in water demand at the facility. Therefore, implementation of the Project was not anticipated to have an impact on exiting water entitlements or resources. A no impact determination was made.

**(2) Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The change in the compost system and reallocation of organic materials has no impact on the amount of water used on-site. The new ASP system has the same water demand as the GORE ASP system, and the increase from 100 tpd to 200 tpd for composting merely results in the compost piles being fully formed more efficiently/quickly, but not creating more compost material (i.e. the capacity of the facility ((bays, lanes)) is not increasing). A no impact determination will remain.

- c) **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?**

(1) **EA No. 2015-03:** See section (a) above related to wastewater treatment.

(2) **Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed project is already within an existing facility which is already served by a wastewater treatment provider. A finding of no impact will remain.

#### **Mandatory Findings of Significance**

- 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?**

(1) **EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined there was less than significant impact to the indicated resources.

(2) **Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The proposed Project's minor changes are negligible and would take place in already existing and previously disturbed industrial facility and no native habitat for resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or rare or endangered plant or animal community is present on the Project site. As such, implementation of the Project would not degrade the quality of the environment, reduce the habitat of fish or wildlife species or cause their 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 major periods of California history or prehistory. A finding of less than significant impact will remain.

- b) **Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?**

(1) **EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined a less than significant impact was anticipated.

(2) **Addendum:** The proposed Project will not alter the EA's prior determination. The changes would occur within an already existing industrial facility; not involve a change to the maximum allowable organics capacity; and not increase the number of vehicle trips or tonnage associated with the facility. Due to the negligible operational changes (reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system) it can be reasonably determined a less than significant impact would remain.

- c) **Does the project have an environmental effect, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?**

(1) **EA No. 2015-03:** The prior EA determined a less than significant impact with no mitigation was anticipated.

(2) **Addendum:** The Proposed project (reallocation of daily organic material capacity and the change in the composting system) will continue to facilitate the safe and proper collection of green

and food waste and will help reduce improper disposal methods that could result in adverse impacts to the environment. The organics processing facility promotes composting of green and food waste, which would otherwise end up in landfills. Additionally, the production of compost and mulch materials have a positive net effect on humans, as the compost and mulch produced at the facility help to conserve water in landscaping and food production applications; provide vital nutrients to the soil when used as a soil amendment and help in erosion control applications. The Project will comply with all hazardous materials collection regulations and no substantial adverse environmental effects on human beings, directly or indirectly, are anticipated to occur as a result of this Project. A finding of less than significant impact with no mitigation will remain.

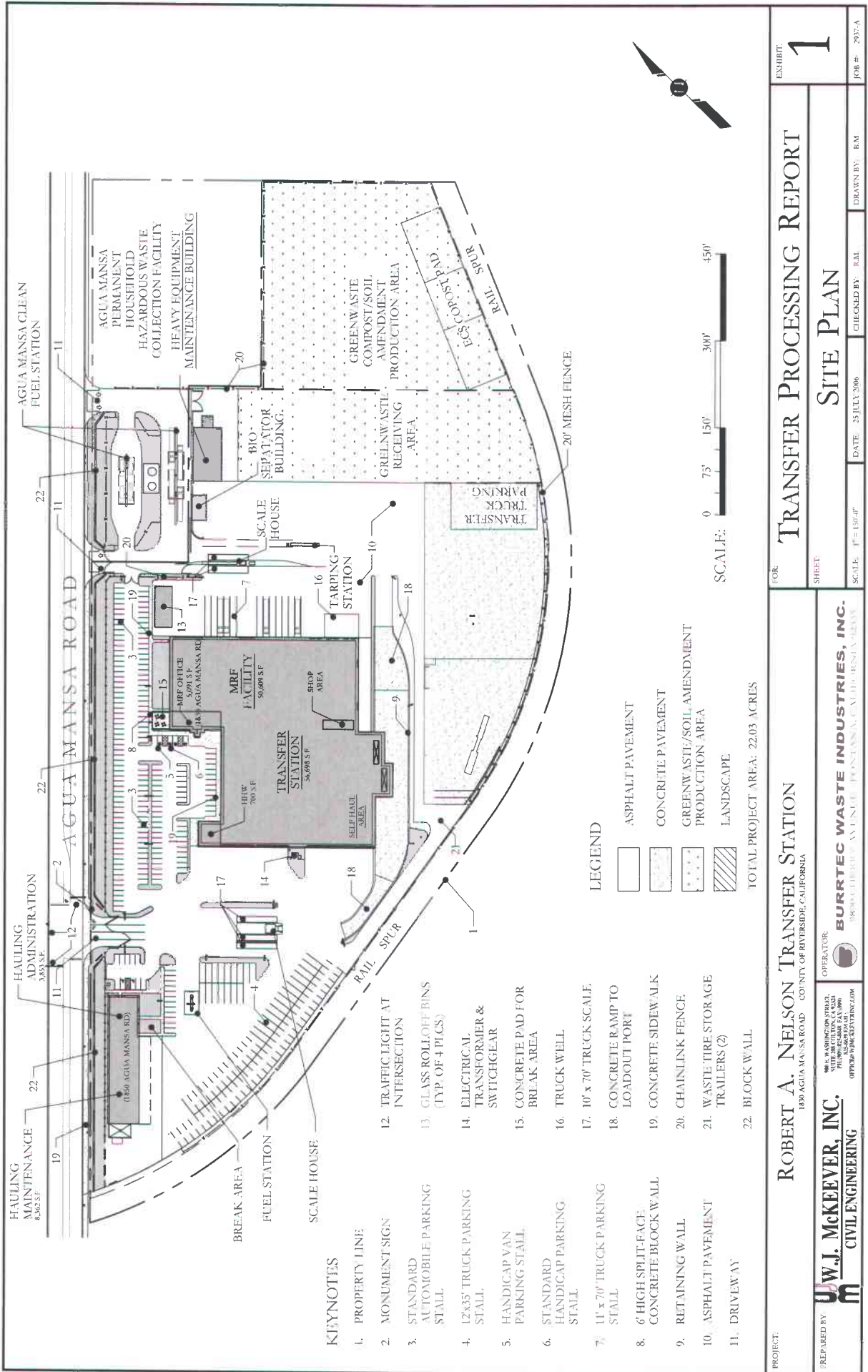
If there are any questions regarding the above matter, please contact Ryan Ross at the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources at (951) 486-3200.

**Hans Kernkamp, General Manager – Chief Engineer  
Riverside County Department of Waste Resources**

By:   
Ryan Ross

Title: Planning Division Manager

Date: January 15, 2021



**KEYNOTES**

1. PROPERTY LINE
2. MONUMENT SIGN
3. STANDARD AUTOMOBILE PARKING STALL
4. 12'x35' TRUCK PARKING STALL
5. HANDICAP VAN PARKING STALL
6. STANDARD HANDICAP PARKING STALL
7. 11' x 70' TRUCK PARKING STALL
8. 6' HIGH SPLIT-FACE CONCRETE BLOCK WALL
9. RETAINING WALL
10. ASPHALT PAVEMENT
11. DRIVEWAY
12. TRAFFIC LIGHT AT INTERSECTION
13. GLASS ROLLOFF BINS (TYP OF 4 PLCS)
14. ELECTRICAL TRANSFORMER & SWITCHGEAR
15. CONCRETE PAD FOR BREAK AREA
16. TRUCK WELL
17. 10' x 70' TRUCK SCALE, LOADOUT PORT
18. CONCRETE SIDEWALK
19. CHAINLINK FENCE
20. WASTE TIRE STORAGE TRAILERS (2)
22. BLOCK WALL

**LEGEND**

- ASPHALT PAVEMENT
- CONCRETE PAVEMENT
- GREEN WASTE/SOIL AMENDMENT PRODUCTION AREA
- LANDSCAPE

TOTAL PROJECT AREA: 22.03 ACRES

SCALE: 0 75' 150' 300' 450'



<p>FOR</p> <p><b>ROBERT A. NELSON TRANSFER STATION</b> 1830 AGUA MANSA ROAD, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA</p>	<p>EXHIBIT</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">1</p>	<p>DATE: 25 JULY 2006</p> <p>SCALE: 1"=150'-0"</p> <p>CHECKED BY: R.M.</p> <p>DRAWN BY: B.M.</p>	<p>JOB # - 2937-A</p>
<p><b>TRANSFER PROCESSING REPORT</b></p>			
<p><b>SITE PLAN</b></p>			
<p>SHEET</p>			
<p>OPERATOR:</p> <p><b>BURRTEC WASTE INDUSTRIES, INC.</b> 8800 CALIFORNIA AVENUE, FORTSON, CALIFORNIA 94505</p>			
<p>PREPARED BY:</p> <p><b>W.J. McKEEVER, INC.</b> CIVIL ENGINEERING</p>			

**Attachment C**  
**Prior Board Approvals**  
**EA/MND No. 2015-03**

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



ITEM  
12.1  
(ID # 6433)

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, June 4, 2019

FROM : DEPARTMENT OF WASTE RESOURCES:

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF WASTE RESOURCES: Approve the Ninth Amended and Restated Master Lease, Memorandum of the Master Lease, and First Amended and Restated Waste Delivery Agreement between the County of Riverside and Agua Mansa MRF, LLC. District 2. [\$0 - Department of Waste Resources Enterprise Funds] (CEQA- Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration)

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for EA No. 2015-03, based on the findings incorporated in EA No. 2015-03, concluding that with mitigation, the Project does not cause significant environmental impacts;
2. Adopt the Mitigation Monitoring Program (MMP) for EA No. 2015-03 with the requirement that the facility operator submit to the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) an annual report detailing compliance with the MMP, no later than 45 days after the beginning of the calendar year,
3. Approve the Ninth Amended and Restated Master Lease (Master Lease), and Memorandum of Master Lease, between the County of Riverside and Agua Mansa MRF, LLC., for the continued operation of the Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station/Material Recovery Facility;
4. Approve the First Amended and Restated Agreement for Disposal of Solid Waste (Waste Delivery Agreement) between the County of Riverside and Agua Mansa MRF, LLC., for the disposal of residual waste from the Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station/Material Recovery Facility;

Continued on page 2

**ACTION:Policy**

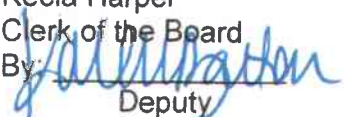
  
Hans Kerkamp, General Manager - Chief Engineer 5/9/2019

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Date: June 4, 2019  
xc: Waste, recorder

Kecia Harper  
Clerk of the Board  
By:   
Deputy



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

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

5. Authorize the Chairman to execute the Master Lease, Memorandum of Master Lease, and Waste Delivery Agreement on behalf of the County;
6. Authorize the RCDWR General Manager-Chief Engineer to execute other documents necessary to complete this transaction, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel;
7. Direct the RCDWR to file the Notice of Determination with the County Clerk within five working days of approval by this Board; and
8. Direct the Clerk of the Board to record the Memorandum of Master Lease with the County Recorder, and return the Memorandum of Master Lease to the RCDWR upon recordation.

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	<b>Current Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Next Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>Ongoing Cost</b>
<b>COST</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>NET COUNTY COST</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS: Waste Resources Enterprise Fund</b>			<b>Budget Adjustment:</b>	No
			<b>For Fiscal Year:</b>	18/19

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

The Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station/Material Recovery Facility (RAN TS/MRF) is an existing solid waste transfer station and materials recovery facility, located within the Agua Mansa Industrial Park at 1830 Agua Mansa Road that has been in operation since December 1997. The RAN TS/MRF is operated by Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc. (Burrtec) through a lease agreement with the RCDWR. The RAN TS/MRF operates under Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) No. 33-AA-0258 and is permitted to process up to 4,000 tons per day (tpd) of municipal solid waste.

The RAN TS/MRF processes mixed municipal, commercial and industrial solid waste, separated recyclable materials, green and woody waste, and construction and demolition (C&D) debris, etc. Up to 700 tons per day of green and woody waste are processed within the Organics Processing Area to produce a variety of products, including wood mulch, biofuel, alternative landfill daily cover, compost, and soil amendments.

Burrtec has proposed modifications to the composting/organics operation, as well as other minor site improvements. Environmental Assessment (EA) No. 2015-03 was prepared to analyze the proposed changes, which include the addition of an aerated static pile compost system, removal of the existing pilot composting system, installation of a food waste processing unit in the transfer station, and construction of an underground storm water infiltration system for the compost area (Project). The Project also includes amendments to the Master Lease and Waste Delivery Agreement, as well as recordation of the Memorandum for the Master Lease.

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

**Master Lease and Waste Delivery Agreement (Key Features)**

- Identifies the aerated static pile composting operation.
- Provides for a 20 year Term (consistent with Waste Delivery Agreement)
- Offers additional County control to address odors (if needed)
  - Compliance with County Organics BMPs.
- Requires a maintenance assurance, clean up/restoration bond.
- Establishes In-County waste priority; limits on acceptance of Out-Of-County material.
- Updates materials subject to out-of-county organics processing fees.
- Includes scheduled disposal fee increases (beginning in FY 20/21, the contract rate will increase by \$1 per ton (above CPI) for four years, ending in FY 23/24).
- Increases the minimum load (loads weighing up to 600 lbs) rate to \$14.27/ton.
- Establishes a self-haul rate surcharge of \$10.45/ton.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Findings**

EA 2015-03 was prepared 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 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 RCDWR prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (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 to Adopt the MND and EA were posted with the State Clearinghouse and the Riverside County Clerk. The EA/MND was transmitted to responsible and trustee agencies, interested parties, and neighboring properties, for a 30-day comment period that began on March 7, 2017 and ended on April 7, 2017. Public notice, advertising the comment period for the EA/MND, was published in the Press Enterprise. Copies of the EA were made available to the public at RCDWR Headquarters, the Riverside County Clerk, the Glen Avon Library, and the Louis B. Rubidoux Branch Library, as well as made available on the RCDWR's website.

During the public comment period, comment letters were received from the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District), the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, CalRecycle, and the South Coast Air Quality Management District. No new significant environmental impacts were identified as a result of the comment letters. However, in response, RCDWR made changes and corrections to the text of the EA for clarity. Furthermore, as no new significant effects were raised, the minor technical changes prepared by the RCDWR 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

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

while deletions are shown in ~~strikethrough~~. The comment letters along with RCDWR responses are included as an attachment.

**Impact on Residents and Businesses**

Completion of the Project will improve operational efficiencies by introducing new technologies to process green/food waste materials at the site, as well as improve environmental conditions by reducing air emissions and improving storm water controls. Rate increases proposed in the revised Waste Delivery Agreement are spread over 4 years and in doing so will minimize the financial impact on residents and businesses. The proposed \$1.00/ton rate increases (from 2020 to 2024) will increase the residential monthly rate by approximately \$0.10 to \$0.15, each year, above CPI. Depending on the size of a business, level of service and frequency requested, the commercial disposal rate can vary significantly. Generally speaking, the disposal component of a trash bill comprises only 20% to 30% of the overall charge. The proposed \$1.00/ton increases (from 2020 to 2024) represent approximately 3.5% of the current per ton rate. Thus, the increases could result in a 0.7% to 1.05% increase to the typical commercial customer for each of those four years, above CPI.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- ATTACHMENT A: 9<sup>th</sup> Amended and Restated Master Lease**
- ATTACHMENT B: First Amended and Restated Waste Delivery Agreement**
- ATTACHMENT C: EA/MND No. 2015-03**
- ATTACHMENT D: Public Agency Comments and RCDWR Responses**
- ATTACHMENT E: MND Form**
- ATTACHMENT F: Mitigation Monitoring Program**
- ATTACHMENT G: Notice of Determination**
- ATTACHMENT H: Memorandum of Master Lease**

  
Jason Farin, Senior Management Analyst

5/28/2019

  
Gregory Priamos, Director County Counsel

5/17/2019