

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

Hollister-Gilroy Area
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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File No.: 725.14548.21586

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Santa Clara County Department of Planning and Development
County Government Center, East Wing, 7th Floor
70 West Hedding Street
San Jose, CA 95103
Attention: Valerie Negrete

SCH: 2018102041

I was recently requested to review the Notice of Environmental Impact document from the State Clearinghouse (SCH) related to the proposed Z-Best Composting Facility Modifications located at 980 State Route 25, Gilroy, CA 95020. The California Highway Patrol's (CHP) interest in commenting surrounds our concerns for the increase in heavy truck traffic entering and exiting the facility from the newly proposed uncontrolled driveway onto a State Highway. In addition, the CHP's interest surrounds the increased response times, enforcement, services calls resulting from the increase in heavy truck traffic and the subsequent impact to vehicular traffic. The plan needs to ensure all roadways being utilized or altered, can support the weight of the increased number of loaded trucks and will not degrade. The plan needs to ensure any changes to the roadway configuration consider the 100 extra trucks per day that will be entering and exiting the facility and the impact this will have on vehicular traffic on State Route 25. The plan needs to seriously address material spillage from loaded trucks, that is already present at the current driveway site, it's impact on the safety of the roadway conditions, and how this will be mitigated. Currently, the material spillage contributes to roadway markings becoming obstructed and a safety issue in roadway conditions.

After reviewing the Traffic Engineers report on the plan, I do agree there are several items which need to be implemented to ensure the safety of the motoring public and flow of traffic on SR-25 and Bolsa Road. As described in the attachment, traffic on SR-25 and Bolsa Road is already heavy and Bolsa Road does have a restriction for left turns onto SR-25, Monday-Friday from 3pm-7pm. The roadway improvements to SR-25 and Bolsa Road are necessary and needed, to include the left turn lane improvements and acceleration lanes. With the requested realignment change to the Bolsa Road intersection, a severe safety concern exists with slow moving heavily loaded trucks entering/exiting onto SR-25, specially with the existing issues of material spillage.



Some type of traffic control device needs to be investigated to ensure an increase in crashes does not occur. Additionally, many of the reports referenced in the Engineering report reference data obtained from 2015, which is significantly out of date.

Facility operators need to ensure they establish, monitor, and enforce facility rules related to vehicle safety as CHP personnel work to ensure compliance with California Vehicle Code provisions.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (408) 427-0700.

Sincerely,

P. Cooper
P. COOPER, Captain
Commander