



August 20, 2021

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

August 20 2021

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Subject: Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Harbors WMU; by Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC. SCH# 2020069034, Kern County

Dear Ms. Mayes:

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

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department, acting as Lead Agency, has prepared and circulated a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in order to comply with CEQA and to provide information to, and solicit consultation with, Responsible Agencies in the approval of the proposed project.

The Clean Harbors Buttonwillow facility is an existing Class I hazardous and Class II non-hazardous commercial waste management facility that accepts solid, semi solid and liquid hazardous waste for treatment, storage or disposal.

The facility is located at 2500 West Lokern Road, 8 miles west of Buttonwillow in the unincorporated area of central Kern County. The project property encompasses two adjacent parcels owned by Clean Harbors LLC. totaling 640 acres. The nearest residential area is 3 miles northeast of the project site.

The proposed project includes Kern County's modification of existing land use authorization to include an expanded permitted disposal area to facilitate the construction and operation of additional non-hazardous waste landfill facility and an expanded permitted facility area to accommodate soil stockpiles; an increase to

permitted disposal capacity for additional non-hazardous waste; the construction and operation of four new hazardous waste tank treatment buildings; and construction and operation of a latex paint recycling building. In addition, the project proponent has submitted a renewal application to the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) for the existing hazardous waste permit.

Modification to the existing CUP No. 4, Map No. 97 to include:

- An increase in the permitted facility boundary from 320 acres to 640 acres includes an expansion parcel for a soil stockpile area.
- An increase in permitted disposal area from 160 acres to 193.3 acres for the addition of non-hazardous waste landfill units within the facility boundary.
- An increase in permitted disposal capacity from 13,250,000 cubic yards to 16,674,000 for the addition of non-hazardous waste landfill units within the existing facility.
- Construction of four new hazardous waste treatment buildings (tank treatment buildings) to support proposed modification to a Hazardous Waste Facility Permit renewal application as required by DTSC.
- Increase vehicles from 300 to 600 vpd. + Ave. 25 personal trips.
- Establish a maximum daily tonnage of 4,050 tons per day.
- Waste accepted will include non-putrescible solid waste, solid waste, semi-solid waste including ashes, industrial waste, demolition waste, construction waste, waste from fire and natural disaster.

COMMENTS

Will the waste types described above be co-disposed with Class I hazardous waste or disposed discretely in Class II-III disposal units?

The facility currently has a Registration tier permit issued by the Kern County Department of Health Services. This project may require a Full Solid Waste Facilities Permit.

Solid Waste Regulatory Oversight

The Kern County Department of Health Services, Division of Environmental Health is the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) for Kern County and responsible for providing regulatory oversight of solid waste handling activities, including inspections and permitting. Please contact the LEA, Jeffrey Marshall at (661) 862-8775 to discuss the regulatory requirements for the proposed project.

CONCLUSION

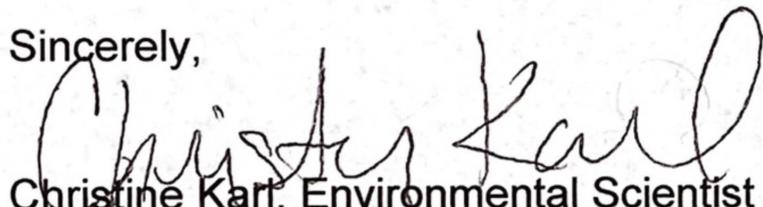
CalRecycle staff thanks the Lead Agency for the opportunity to review and comment on the environmental document and hopes that this comment letter will be useful to the Lead Agency preparing the EIR and in carrying out their responsibilities in the CEQA process.

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

If the environmental document is certified during a public hearing, CalRecycle staff requests 10 days advance notice of this hearing by the decision making body.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at (916) 341-6405 or by e-mail at Christine.Karl@calrecycle.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Christine Karl, Environmental Scientist
Permitting & Assistance Branch – North Unit
Waste Permitting, Compliance & Mitigation Division
CalRecycle

cc: Jeffrey Marshall, Kern County LEA