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**PLANNING AND NATURAL
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Planning
Community Development
Administrative Operations

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND HEARING ON
THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
FOR THE PROPOSED CLEAN HARBORS WMU PROJECT**

This is to advise that the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project identified below. As mandated by State law, the minimum public review period for this document is 45 days.

PROJECT TITLE: Clean Harbors WMU Solid Waste Disposal Facility, by Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, GPA No. 7, Map 97; Zone Change No. 2, Map 97; Modification to CUP No. 4, Map 97; Exclusion from Agricultural Preserve No. 2 (PP171117)

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located in central Kern County at 2500 West Lokern Road, approximately 8 miles west of unincorporated community of Buttonwillow. The project site is located in Sections 15 and Section 16 of Township 29 South, Range 22 East, of the Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDB&M).

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The Draft EIR and documents referenced in it are available for review at the Planning and Natural Resources Department, 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301 or on the Departmental website at:

<https://kernplanning.com/planning/environmental-doc/clean-harbors-wmu>

PUBLIC WORKSHOP: The Kern County Planning and Natural Resources staff and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) staff will jointly present a public workshop to present the Draft EIR and DTSC permitting process to provide an opportunity for comments. Spanish translation will be provided for the workshop.

Buttonwillow Workshop – April 30th, 2024 at 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Buttonwillow Recreation and Park District Community Center
556 Milo Ave
Buttonwillow, CA 93206

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
(Government Code Section 54953.2)**

Disabled individuals who need special assistance to attend or participate in a Kern County Planning and Natural Resources virtual workshop may request assistance at the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department, 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, California 93301, or by calling Janice Mayes at (661) 862-8793. Every effort will be made to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting materials available in alternative formats. Requests for assistance should be made five (5) working days in advance whenever possible.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The required Draft EIR public review period is 45 days.

March 28, 2024 – May 13, 2024

WRITTEN COMMENTS may be submitted to the project planner identified below prior to the close of the DEIR public review period on May 13, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. to:

Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department
ATTN: Janice Mayes, Planner III
2700 “M” Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Phone: (661) 862-5015
E-mail: mavesj@kerncounty.com

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing has been scheduled with the Kern County Planning Commission to consider a recommendation on the project and solicit comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis and proposed mitigation measures described in the Draft EIR. You may comment by providing testimony at the public hearing on:

DATE: July 11, 2024
TIME: 7:00 P.M. or soon thereafter
LOCATION: Chambers of the Board of Supervisors
Kern County Administrative Center, First Floor
1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301

After consideration by the Planning Commission, a public hearing will be scheduled for the Kern County Board of Supervisors for final consideration and action. Comments may be provided at that hearing or prior to any action by the Board of Supervisors on any matter. The Board of Supervisors decision is final.

ASSISTANCE: If you have any **questions** about the proposed project or issues accessing the document, please contact the project planner directly:

Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department
ATTN: Janice Mayes, Planner III
2700 “M” Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Phone: (661) 862-5015
E-mail: mavesj@kerncounty.com

If you challenge the action taken on this request in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at this public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning and Natural Resources Department at, or prior to, the public hearing.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Clean Harbors Buttonwillow Facility is an existing commercial waste management facility that accepts solid, semi-solid, and liquid, hazardous and non-hazardous wastes for treatment, storage, or disposal.

The proposed project includes Kern County’s modification of existing land use authorizations to include an expanded permitted disposal area to facilitate the construction and operation of additional non-hazardous waste landfill units and an expanded permitted facility area to accommodate a soil stockpiles area; increases to non-hazardous waste truck traffic; increases to non-hazardous waste permitted disposal capacity; and construction and operation of a latex paint recycling building. In addition, the project proponent has submitted a renewal application to DTSC for renewal of the existing Hazardous Waste Facility Permit with modifications. The proposed modifications to the existing hazard waste facility permit include administrative and operational changes to existing hazardous waste units, new hazardous waste treatment buildings, a new container storage pad area, and addition of environmental monitoring programs.

Land use authorizations for the facility were originally approved by the Kern County Board of Supervisors in 1982. Modifications to Conditional Use Permit (CUP) 4 were approved on December 12, 1994, November 30, 2004, July 13, 2010, and December 16, 2014 by both the Kern County Planning Commission and Kern County Board of Supervisors.

Kern County’s proposed authorization specifically includes:

1. Amendment to the Land Use, Open Space, and Conservation Element of the Kern County General Plan from Map Code 8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, 20 min acres) to Map Code 3.4 (Solid Waste Disposal Facility) for approximately 320-acres (on parcel 099-251-32) and Amendment to the Kern County General Plan Appendix “E” Map “Petroleum Waste Management” to show the current “Clean Harbors” name and revised permitted facility boundary, with designated buffer property area (GPA No. 7, Map 97);
2. Change in Zone Classification e from A (Exclusive Agriculture) to M-3 (Heavy Industrial), or a more restrictive

- district, on 640 acres (parcels 099-290-17 and 099-251-32) (ZCC No. 2, Map 97);
3. Petition for exclusion from Agricultural Preserve No. 2 for approximately 640 acres; and
 4. Modification to Conditional Use Permit No.4, Map 97 to include:
 - a. an increase in the permitted facility boundary from 320 acres to 640 acres to include the expansion parcel for a soil stockpile area;
 - b. an increase in permitted disposal area from 160 acres to 193.3 acres for the addition of non-hazardous waste landfill units (WMU 36, 37, 38) within existing facility boundary;
 - c. 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 (WMUs 36, 37, 38) within existing facility boundary;
 - d. construction of four new hazardous waste treatment buildings (tank treatment buildings) to support modifications proposed in a Hazardous Waste Facility Permit renewal application; and
 - e. construction of one latex paint recycling building.

The facility was granted a Hazardous Waste Facility Permit by DTSC and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in May 1983 and October 1984, respectively. The Hazardous Waste Facility Permit was renewed in 1996. On April 6, 2006, the DTSC Hazardous Waste Facility Permit expired but is continued in accordance with regulatory requirements. Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC has submitted a Hazardous Waste Facility Permit renewal application to DTSC. DTSC is currently performing a technical review of the permit renewal application. The facility continues to operate in accordance with the existing Hazardous Waste Facility Permit.

While the Hazardous Waste Facility permit renewal application does not include an increase in the hazardous waste capacity, the scope of the proposed permit includes renewed authorization for existing facilities and operations, with the following modifications:

1. Reclassification of four existing tank units to miscellaneous units;
2. Construction and operation of four new buildings where treatment is conducted (tank treatment buildings) within the existing facility and reorganizing operations to use the new tank treatment buildings, including the construction of a new bulk container storage pad area for waste that is pending verifications; and
3. Addition of environmental monitoring programs consistent with current regulatory standards.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS: Anticipated significant and unavoidable impacts on Air Quality (Project and Cumulative)

SPANISH TRANSLATION of this Notice of Availability is provided as a courtesy on the DTSC website:

TRADUCCIÓN EN ESPAÑOL

https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/hwmp_profile_report.asp?global_id=CAD980675276

LORELEI H. OVIATT, AICP, Director
Planning and Natural Resources Department

To be published once only on next available date and as soon as possible

THE BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIAN

JKM (3/28/24)

cc: County Clerk (2) (with fee)
Environmental Status Board
LiUNA
Supervisory District No. 4