



December 15, 2020

Ms. Kate Downey
City of Montebello
Planning and Community Development Department
1600 W. Beverly Boulevard
Montebello, CA 90640

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Dec 15 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Subject: SCH No. 2020110309 – Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration of Environmental Impacts for NASA Services Transfer Station – Los Angeles County

Dear Ms. Downey:

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 City of Montebello Planning and Community Development Department, acting as Lead Agency, has prepared and circulated a Notice of Completion (NOC) of a Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration (Draft IS/ND) in order to comply with CEQA and to provide information to, and solicit consultation with, Responsible Agencies in the approval of the proposed project.

The proposed NASA Services Transfer Station is located at 1701 Gage Road, Montebello, CA 90640 within the existing Industrial General Plan designation. The site formerly was occupied by a glass recycling facility, which had an existing Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 2-94, approved in 1994. Site access is provided by a driveway along Union Street and a driveway along Gage Road in the City of Montebello. The project site is approximately 1.07 acres and is currently zoned for Heavy Manufacturing (M-2). The site is surrounded by M-2 zoning to the northeast, southeast, southwest, and west. The site is surrounded by a warehouse/manufacturing – Coca-Cola Bottling Company, to the northeast, warehouse/manufacturing to the southeast, warehouse – Sam's F&B, to the southwest and warehouse – Barrett Distribution Center, to the west.

The proposed project would require modification of the existing CUP to reflect the proposed operation of a solid waste transfer station. The existing structures will be demolished, and a 26,940 square feet building, consisting of a transfer station, offices and scale house, will be erected in its place.

Proposed project operations consist of: operational hours of 3 AM – 8 PM, Monday through Sunday, maximum daily vehicle trips of 530 trips per day and maximum daily tonnage of 1,500 tons per day (TPD).

COMMENTS

CalRecycle staff's comments on the proposed project are listed below. Where a specific location in the document is noted for the comment, please ensure the comment is addressed throughout all sections of the Draft IS/ND, in addition to the specific location noted.

Page 1, Heading – The link to the city website is separated into two rows. Suggest to amend so it is on one row to link to the city's webpage (get the message that can't reach this page).

Page 1, Overview – It states that up to 1,500 tons per day of municipal solid waste (MSW) will be processed and transferred. Will there be any other types of materials received besides MSW?

Page 3, Proposed Operations – It states that the facility will operate from 3 AM – 8 PM Monday through Sunday. Do these hours include all operational aspects (e.g., hours open to public, processing hours, ancillary hours, etc.)?

Page 4, Figure 2. Site Plan – The figure references a catch basin, however there was no description of catch basin observed throughout the document. Suggest to provide a description of the catch basin.

Page 17, Checklist Letter "f" – The check mark is missing in the checklist for an impact determination.

Page 17-19, Checklist Discussion – There are format and alignment discrepancies observed, such as extra spacing and/or indentation.

Page 26, Checklist Letter "a" – The check mark is missing in the checklist for an impact determination.

Page 27, Checklist Discussion – The checklist discussion items are referred to as letters "b" and "c", however in the checklist table it is referred to as Roman numeral "i" and "ii". Please update for consistency.

New Solid Waste Facility Permit

The proposed project description includes a solid waste transfer station, which may be regulated as a Large Volume Transfer/Processing Facility pursuant to Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 17402(a)(8). The activity may require the operator to apply for a new Full Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP). As a part of the new SWFP process, the proposed transfer/processing facility would need to provide

a Transfer/Processing Report, pursuant to Title 14 CCR, Section 17403.9, that meets the requirements of Title 14 CCR, Section 18221.6.

Solid Waste Regulatory Oversight

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health is the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) for Los Angeles County and responsible for providing regulatory oversight of solid waste handling activities, including inspections and permitting. Please contact Dorcas Hanson-Lugo of the LEA at 626.430.5540 or dlugo@ph.lacounty.gov 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 ND and in carrying out their responsibilities in the CEQA process.

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

If the environmental document is adopted during a public hearing, CalRecycle staff requests 10 days advance notice of this hearing. If the document is adopted without a public hearing, CalRecycle staff requests 10 days advance notification of the date of the adoption and proposed project approval by the decision-making body.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at 916.323.1799 or by e-mail at nai.teurn@CalRecycle.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Nai Teurn, Environmental Scientist
Permitting & Assistance Branch – South Unit
Waste Permitting, Compliance & Mitigation Division
CalRecycle

cc: Benjamin Escotto, Supervisor
Permitting & Assistance Branch – South Unit

Dorcas Hanson-Lugo, Chief
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, LEA