

**Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal**

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613

For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH #

Project Title: Visalia Landfill – Compost and Biomass Conversion Facility

Lead Agency: Tulare County

Contact: Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner

Mailing Address: 5961 S. Mooney Blvd.

Phone: 559-624-7121

City: Visalia Zip: 93277-9394

County: Tulare County

Project Location: County: Tulare

City/Nearest Community: Visalia

Cross Streets: 8614 Avenue 328 (at the northeast corner of Avenue 328 and Road 80)

Zip Code: 93291 Assessor's Parcel No: 119-010-039 Total Acres: 36 acres of 634-acre site

Latitude/Longitude: 36° 23' 10.64" N / 119° 22' 13" W Section: 4 Township: 19 S Range: 24 E Base: MDBM

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy: \_\_\_\_\_ Waterways: St. John's River

Airports: \_\_\_\_\_ Railways: \_\_\_\_\_ Schools: \_\_\_\_\_

**Document Type:**

- CEQA:  NOP  Draft EIR NEPA:  NOI Other:  Joint Document
 Early Cons  Supplement/Subsequent EIR  EA  Final Document
 Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.)  Draft EIS  Other
 Mit Neg Dec  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  FONSI \_\_\_\_\_

**Local Action Type:**

- General Plan Update  Specific Plan  Rezone  Annexation
 General Plan Amendment  Master Plan  Pre-zone  Redevelopment
 General Plan Element  Planned Unit Dev.  Use Permit  Coastal Permit
 Community Plan  Site Plan  Land Division (Sub.)  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Development Type:**

- Residential: Units \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_
 Office: Sq. ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_
 Commercial: Sq. ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_
 Industrial: Sq. ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_
 Educational: \_\_\_\_\_
 Recreational: \_\_\_\_\_
 Water Facilities: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MGD \_\_\_\_\_
 Transportation: Type \_\_\_\_\_
 Mining: Mineral \_\_\_\_\_
 Power: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MW
 Waste Treatment: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MGD
 Hazardous Waste: Type \_\_\_\_\_
 Other: Landfill Use – Composting & Biomass Facilities

**Project Issues Discussed in Document:**

- Aesthetic/Visual  Fiscal  Recreation/Parks  Vegetation
 Agricultural Land  Flood Plain/Flooding  Schools/Universities  Water Quality
 Air Quality  Forest Land/Fire Hazard  Septic Systems  Water Supply/Groundwater
 Archaeological/Historical  Geologic/Seismic  Sewer Capacity  Wetland/Riparian
 Biological Resources  Minerals  Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading  Growth Inducing
 Coastal Zone  Noise  Solid/Waste  Land Use
 Drainage/Absorption  Population/Housing Balance  Toxic/Hazardous  Cumulative Effects
 Economic/Jobs  Public Services/Facilities  Transportation/Traffic/Circulation  Other: Energy
 Other: Tribal Cultural Res.  Other: Greenhouse Gases  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation: existing landfill / Exclusive Agriculture (AE-40) / Agriculture

Project Description: See Attached

## **Project Description:**

The County of Tulare Resource Management Agency (RMA) will be preparing a Focused Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to evaluate the environmental effects associated with the development of an Compost and Biomass Conversion Facility (Project) on the existing Visalia Landfill site an approximately 36.0 acre site located at the northeast corner of Avenue 328 and Road 80 approximately six miles northwest of the City of Visalia. The site is currently zoned as AE-40. See Figures 1, 2a, and 2b for site plans illustrating the facility's location and features.

### Compost Facility

The County intends to develop and operate a covered aerated static pile (CASP) compost facility to comply with the upcoming SB 1383 regulations. The compost facility will be located on the County's Visalia Landfill property that encompasses approximately 634 acres, of which the compost facility will occupy 36 acres, located in a soil borrow recessed approximately 20 feet below grade. The compost facility will be designed to accept up to 200,000 tons per year (TPY) in increments of 50,000 TPY technology modules and can store up to 200,000 cubic yards on-site of organic material that would have otherwise been landfilled. The compost facility would include installing processing and composting equipment, a 50,000 square foot processing building, compacted compost pads, and a lined pond. When operational, the proposed Project is proposing to operate Monday-Friday between 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Saturdays. Depending upon demand, summer hours may begin earlier than 6:00 a.m. A majority of the trips will occur between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., and between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. The Project would utilize approximately 15-20 employees and include an approximate 1,000 square foot office.

### Biomass Facility

Tulare County Public Works is proposing to amend their CUP application to add a 2.0 mega-watt (MW) biomass conversion facility at their landfill. The facility will produce electricity, heat and biochar using wood fuel that will be provided by local activities to reduce landfill disposal to meet the mandates of SB 1383 to reduce 75% of all organic, which includes wood waste, from landfill disposal by 2025. The facility will utilize approximately 18,000 bone dry tons (BDT) of wood chips per year or 25,000 tons of per year of wet recovered wood waste and produce approximately a net amount (after parasitic load) 2.0 MW of electrical energy per hour. In addition to this the facility will also produce approximately 20-30 MM BTU of waste heat and approximately 300-600 pounds of biochar per hour. The facility is planned to operate 24/7, however given there will be maintenance requirements for the equipment it is anticipated that the gas production equipment and the GE Jenbacher internal combustion engine generator sets ("gensets") will likely only operate between 7,000 and 8,000 hours per year, or approximately 80-90% capacity.

**Reviewing Agencies Checklist**

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X." If the document has already been sent to the agency, denote that with an "s."

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Emergency Services                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction                              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # 6                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning   | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health, Department of                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cochella Valley Mtns. Conservancy                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # 5F                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board  | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of                          | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers and Mtns Conservancy              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of  | <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Wildlife Region # 4                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of                               | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry & Fire Protection, Department of                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Services, Department of                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County HHSA – Environmental Health</u>           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated Waste Management Board                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Resource Management (Fire, Flood, PW)</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner</u>             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>U.S. Naval Facilities Engineering Command</u>         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Association of Governments</u>            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Farm Bureau</u>                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>City of Visalia</u>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Fire Warden</u>                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Local Agency Formation Commission</u>   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Office of Emergency Services</u>          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Resources Conservation District</u>     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Sheriff's Office</u>                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County U.C. Cooperative Extension</u>          |  |

-----  
**Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)**

Starting Date: February 3, 2021 Ending Date: March 5, 2021

**Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Consulting Firm: _____ | Applicant: <u>Tulare County Public Works</u> |
| Address: _____         | Address: <u>5961 S. Mooney Blvd.</u>         |
| City/State/Zip: _____  | City/State/Zip: <u>Visalia, CA 93277</u>     |
| Contact: _____         | Phone: <u>(559) 624-7000</u>                 |
| Phone: _____           |  |

-----

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:  Date: 2/2/21  
 Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:  Date: 2/2/21  
 Reed Schenke, Director/Environmental Assessment Officer