



# RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** July 10, 2023  
**TO:** Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse  
**FROM:** Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner  
**SUBJECT:** Clarification of Project Description for the Visalia Disposal (Landfill) Site Compost and Biomass Conversion Facility - Landfilling Operations, SCH No. 2021020054

Attention Interested Parties,

It has been brought to our attention that the Project Description provided in the Notice of Preparation (NOP) submitted to the State Clearing for the Visalia Disposal (Landfill) Site Compost and Biomass Conversion Facility - Landfilling Operations Project is not consistent with the public notice published in the Sun-Gazette on Wednesday, June 14, 2023. This inconsistency has caused some confusion to various interested parties.

The NOP includes a link to where the NOP, the newspaper notice published on June 14, 2023, and previous Project-related documents can be found on the County's website: <https://tularecounty.ca.gov/rma/planning-building/environmental-planning/environmental-impact-reports/visalia-landfill-compost-and-biomass-conversion-facility/>.

For clarification, as stated in the newspaper notice (which was also made available on the County website on June 13, 2023) the purpose of the Project is to increase the maximum total daily tonnage at the Project site (i.e., all area within the Landfill boundaries) from 2,000 to 3,000 tons per day and to increase maximum haul trucks received from 900 to 1,200 trucks per day. Although the NOP submitted to the State Clearinghouse did not explicitly identify the daily 1,000-ton increase, the newspaper notice, clearly included the increase as follows:

*The Visalia Disposal (Landfill) Site is currently permitted for receiving up to 2,000 tons of municipal waste per day and are just below that threshold. If the proposed compost facility generates additional new tonnage, the County risks being in violation of that permit. **Therefore, the proposed project would increase permitted tonnage to 3,000 tons per day (tpd) to be split between the compost facility and the landfilling operations. The original permitted 2,000 tons will be used for solid waste disposal, and the maximum additional 1,000 tons would be used for the composting operation [emphasis added].** It is anticipated that, over time, a*

*maximum of 1,200 haul truck trips will be used to deliver landfill and compost material; 900 haul truck trips would deliver landfill material to the existing landfill and 300 haul truck trips would deliver compost material to the composting operation located within the Landfill's existing footprint.*

Also, the Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal Form submitted to the State Clearinghouse also clearly identifies the purpose of the project.

*This Draft Focused Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (Subsequent EIR, SEIR, or EIR) is tiering off of the adopted/certified EIR (SCH No. 2021020054) for the Visalia Disposal (Landfill) Site – Compost and Biomass Conversion Facility (“Original EIR”) project. The SEIR will address **two proposed updates** [emphasis added] to the County’s current landfill permit. Currently, the Visalia Landfill is permitted for receiving up to 2,000 tons of municipal waste per day and are just below that threshold. If the proposed compost facility generates additional new tonnage, the County risks being in violation of that permit. Therefore, **the proposed project would increase permitted tonnage to 3,000 tons per day (tpd) to be split between the compost facility and the landfilling operations. The original permitted 2,000 tons will be used for solid waste disposal, and the maximum additional 1,000 tons would be used for the composting operation** [emphasis added]. It is anticipated that, over time, a maximum of 1,200 haul truck trips will be used to deliver landfill and compost material; **900 haul truck trips would deliver landfill material to the existing landfill and 300 haul truck trips would deliver compost material to the composting operation** [emphasis added] located within the Landfill’s existing footprint.*

To summarize, the Project consists of two updates to the existing Landfill operational permits.

- Increase the Landfill’s total permitted tonnage to 3,000 tpd, by directing 2,000 tpd to the landfilling operation and the remaining 1,000 tpd to the composting operation.
- Increase the Landfill’s total permitted haul trucks from 900 to 1,200 trucks per day to accommodate the additional 1,000 tpd.

For questions, comments, or additional assistance please contact:

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