

VICTOR VALLEY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION AUTHORITY MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Lead Agency: Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority (VWVRA)
Victorville, CA 92394

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Project Title: American Organics Victor Valley Regional Composting Facility Expansion Project

State Clearinghouse Number: Not yet assigned

Project Location: The Victor Valley Regional Composting Facility (VVRFCF or Facility) is located at the northern terminus of Shay Road in the City of Victorville at 20055 Shay Road, Victorville, CA 92394. The proposed area for expansion is located just north of the 28.8-acre area in which the Facility currently operates. The project will also include grading the area just north and west of the Facility across the street on Shay Road. The cadastral location is Section 13, Township 6 North, Range 5 West, San Bernardino Meridian. The site can be viewed on the USGS – Victorville Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series topographic map.

Project Description: The VWVRA is responsible for the regional collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater in Victor Valley. VWVRA leases land adjacent to their wastewater treatment facility along Shay Road to American Organics for operation of their VVRFCF. American Organics is proposing to expand their existing VVRFCF to enable further storage and processing of composted materials.

The proposed project will expand the VVRFCF operated by American Organics on VWVRA owned land from 28.8 acres to encompass an area of 49.9 acres that will include two new operations areas that are contiguous or adjacent to the existing VVRFCF operations. The Project proposes to expand the existing area in which the VVRFCF operates to the north and west by utilizing the adjacent parcel to create a larger contiguous lot within which to operate. The proposed Expansion Project would not require any additional infrastructure in support of the expanded area of operation. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide additional area within which to accommodate operation of the VVRFCF as new features that were completed as part of the VVRFCF Modification Project have reduced the amount of available area in which to process/blend composted materials and store finished products.

Finding: The VWVRA's decision to implement this proposed project is a discretionary decision or "project" that requires evaluation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Based on the information in the project Initial Study, the VWVRA has made a *preliminary* determination that a Mitigated Negative Declaration will be the appropriate environmental determination for this project to comply with CEQA.

Initial Study: A copy of the Initial Study and all other material which constitutes the record of proceedings upon which the VWVRA based its decision to adopt this Mitigated Negative Declaration may be obtained at VWVRA office at 20111 Shay Road, Victorville, CA 92394 and/or may also be obtained by contacting Tom Dodson & Associates at (909) 882-3612. The CEQA-required public review period of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration begins June 30, 2021 and ends on July 29, 2021 (30-days). Written comments on the Initial Study should be submitted to Mr. Darron Poulsen at the address listed above no later than July 29, 2021 by 5:00 PM. For additional information, Mr. Poulsen may be contacted at dpoulsen@vwwra.com or (760) 246-8638.

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Mitigation Measures: All mitigation measures identified in the Initial Study are summarized on pages 70-77 and are proposed for adoption as conditions of the project. These measures will be implemented through a mitigation monitoring and reporting program if the Mitigated Negative Declaration is adopted.

 DRAFT
Signature

Title

Date

DRAFT