

**Colusa County
Initial Study
Evaluation of Environmental Impacts**

1. Project Title: **Morning Star Composting Facility
Use Permit
PD-21-7**
2. Lead agency name and address: **Colusa County
Department of Planning and Building
220 12th Street
Colusa, CA 95932**
3. Contact person and phone number: **Kent Johanns, Associate Planner
(530) 458-0480**
4. Project location: **The project site is located approximately one mile east of Interstate 5 and 0.5 miles north of Ware Road. The site is located east and adjacent to the Williams City Limits in which the Morning Star processing plant is located; identified as APNs 017-050-089.**
5. Project sponsor's name and address: **Morning Star Packing Company
2211 Old Highway 99 West
Williams, CA 95987**
6. General Plan designation: **Agricultural General (AG)**
7. Zoning Classification: **Exclusive Agriculture (E-A)**
8. Surrounding land uses and setting: **The project site is located in the Sacramento Valley region of Colusa County. The project site is located in an area which is utilized for agricultural and industrial uses. The project site and surrounding properties have been used for crop production in the past but the project site is currently vacant. Fields to the north and west are used for land application of industrial process water from the processing plant, which irrigates Sudan grass and sorghum that can be used for livestock feed. The project site is not utilized for land application of industrial process water. Properties adjoining the morning property to the west, south and north are used for intensive agricultural, mainly rice production. Interstate 5 is located to the west. The project site not located in FEMA flood zone and drainage flows to the northeast.**
9. **North - Current land usage is agricultural. The zoning is Exclusive Agriculture (E-A). The General Plan land use designation is Agriculture General (A-G).**

South - Current land usage is agricultural. The zoning is Exclusive Agriculture (E-A). The General Plan land use designation is Agriculture General (A-G).

East - Current land usage is agricultural. The zoning is Exclusive Agriculture (E-A). The General Plan land use designation is Agriculture General (A-G).

West - Current land usage is vacant. The zoning (City of Williams) is Agriculture (AR). The General Plan (City of Williams) land use designation Agriculture (A).

10. Description of project (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

The Morning Star Packing Company – Williams, CA (Morning Star) is a tomato processing facility that produces bulk tomato paste. The facility operates seasonally, from June through November. The facility is regulated by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) under Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2019-0013 (2019 WDRs). The existing treatment ponds and the land application of process water fall under WDRs. Monitoring at the facility is regulated under the associated Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R5-2019-0013 (2019 MRP). Morning Star intends to operate the proposed composting facility as a Tier 1 operation, as defined by the Composting General Order (CGO). The proposed composting facility will be located on Morning Star’s field MS36, a vacant agricultural field. Field MS36 is located in unincorporated Colusa County. This field is within the boundary of Morning Star’s tomato processing facility, as represented in the 2019 WDRs; however, this field is not designated for wastewater disposal and is not included in the water balance from the 2019 WDRs. As a result, the composting facility was proposed to be regulated under General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations (Order WQ 2020-0012-DWQ; CGO), but will now be issued a temporary permit to operate in 2021 and have the composting facility incorporated into the existing WDRs referenced above.

The facility produces significant amounts of tomato processing wet waste 20,000 cubic yards. Historically Moring Star has utilized other options to eliminate the plant waste. These options are no longer available or feasible for plant to utilize. As a result, Morning Star has applied for a Use Permit to conduct a composting facility as required by the project sites Exclusive Agricultural (E-A) zoning.

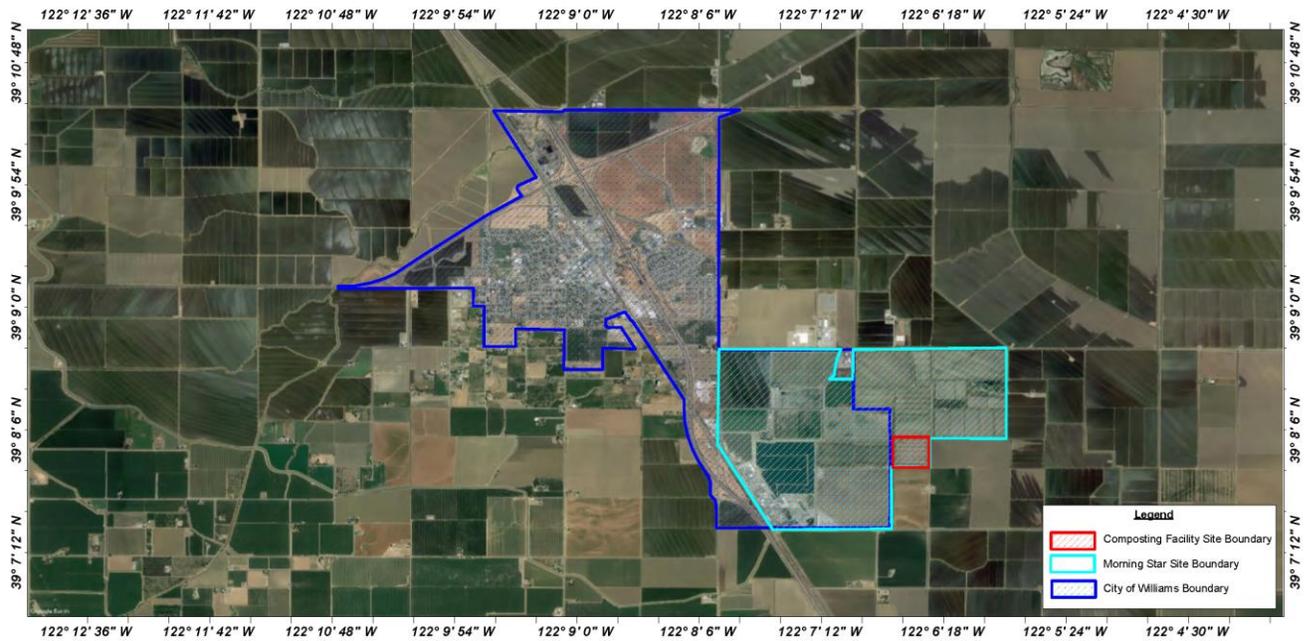
The composting facility will be capable of handling the full extent of the plant’s tomato waste (approximately 20,000 cubic yards per season). In addition to the plant’s tomato wet waste (ratio 5 to 12), the composting facility will utilize mushrooms (ratio 3 to 12), rice hulls (ratio 2 to 12), and almond shells (ratio 2-12) in the compost mixture. No additives or amendments will be added to the compost mixture. The composting facility will be capable of handling 25,000 cubic yards of compost at any one time. The 25,000 cubic yards will include, raw feed stocks, active and inactive compost.

The proposed composting facility will consist of the following components:

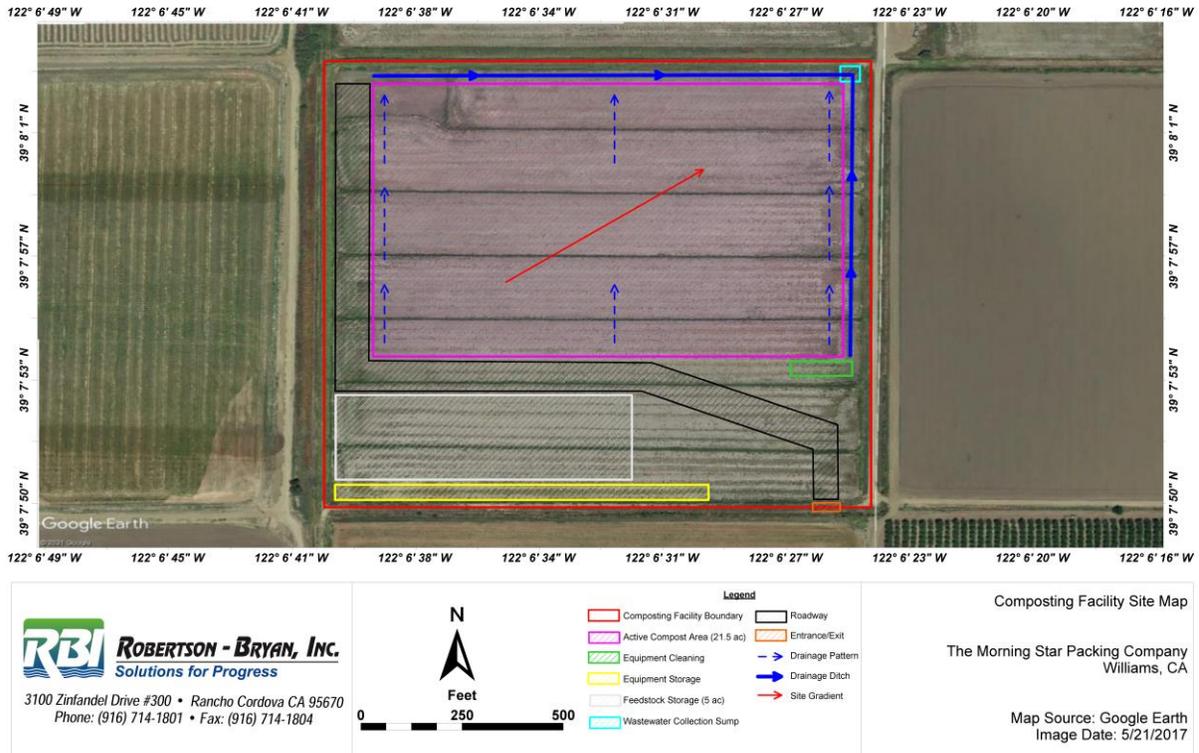
- An approximately 21.5-ac active and finished compost area
- An approximately 5-ac feedstock storage area

- An equipment cleaning area
- An equipment storage area
- A wastewater collection and discharge system

The proposed composting facility’s wastewater collection system is the only proposed construction at the present time. The wastewater collection system will consist of ditches bordering the active compost area to the north and east and a wastewater collection sump located in the northeast corner of the site, as shown in the site map provided below. The site gradient is to the northeast; therefore, all wastewater from the composting process will drain into these ditches and ultimately to the wastewater collection sump, where it will be pumped out for reuse or disposal (see vicinity map and site plan below).



 <p>3100 Zinfandel Drive #300 • Rancho Cordova CA 95670 Phone: (916) 714-1801 • Fax: (916) 714-1804</p>	<p>Miles</p>  	<p>Composting Facility - Vicinity Map</p> <p>The Morning Star Packing Company Williams, CA</p> <p>Map Source: Google Earth Image Date: 5/21/2017</p>
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11. Other public agencies whose approval may be required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

Colusa County Environmental Health Division

Cal Recycle

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

DETERMINATION (To be completed by the Lead Agency):

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I Find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or **NEAGATIVE DECLARATION**, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Project Planner

Date

Reviewed By

Date

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, and EIR is required.
- 4) “Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from “Earlier Analyses,” as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analysis may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project’s environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS – Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	[]	[]	[]	[x]

Impact Discussion: The project site is an application for as Use Permit for located in an area of agricultural and industrial uses. The project area is zoned Exclusive Agriculture (E-A), which allows for limited development opportunities. The project will not have substantial adverse effects on a scenic vista or damage scenic resources in that there are none in the immediate area and due to the location and nature of the project there is no possibility that impacts will occur. The project will not impact the visual character of the area in that the project site is located in an area of agricultural and industrial uses and there are no public roads in the immediate vicinity. No building development is proposed under the Use Permit application (PD-21-7). The project may create additional light and glare through outdoor lighting if it is required for the operation, however, due to the lighting requirements in the zoning code this is considered a less than a significant impact. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Conservation Element)

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES – In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection				

regarding the state’s inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant tot the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Impact Discussion The project is not anticipated to involve any changes in the environment that could result in the conversion of Prime Farmland to nonagricultural use. The project site is has previously used for agricultural crop production. The project site has not been utilized to grow crops in the recent past and has been left fallow. The project site is identified as Prime Farmland by the California Farm Land Mapping and Monitoring Program and is under Williamson Act contract. The use of property for composting is considered a compatible use under the Williamson Act contract because it is being conducted on fallow land and the project would not preclude the use of the site for crop production in the future. As a result, the project’s impacts related to conversion of Prime Farmland or conflict with the Williamson Act contract are considered to be than significant. The project is not anticipated to impact forestry resources in an adverse manner since none are located in the vicinity of the project site. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Conservation Element)

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation required.

	Less Than Significant		
Potentially Significant Impact	with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

III. AIR QUALITY – Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentration? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Impact Discussion: The project site is located in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin as determined by the California Air Resources Board and under the Colusa County Air Pollution Control District’s jurisdiction. Since Colusa County is an attainment area for small Particulate Matter (PM2.5), but not Large Particulate Matter (PM10) microns which are the most common pollutants resulting from projects that require large amounts of earth moving. Increases in these pollutants may result in issues in implementing the applicable air quality plan, violate air quality standards, or cumulatively increase in PM10 which the County is nonattainment area for this criteria pollutant. Mitigation measures regarding dust control are being recommended and are listed below to reduce impacts related to particulate matter to a less than significant level.

Another area of concern related to air quality is odor. Composting operations, due to the fact that the organic matter is breaking down over time, have objectionable odors associated with them. The nearest residence is located nearly one mile (4,300 feet) to the west. While this property is nearly a mile away it could be impacted by odors emanating from the facility. There are no other sensitive receptors within on mile of the project site. In additions to the one sensitive receptors located in the immediate vicinity of the project site members of the public travelling on County Roads may be impacted as well. There have been several composting facilities that have been located in the County in the recent past where numerous and frequent odor complaint were received. Due to the flat topography and low lying vegetation of the surrounding properties odors may be able to travel a significant distance from the project site. As a result, staff is requiring that an odor management plan be developed as a mitigation measure prior to commencement of operations. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Conservation Element)

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measures are recommended reduce impacts related to air quality to a less than significant level:

- 1. III(a, b, and c) The applicant shall require the primary construction contractor to implement the following practices during all construction activities:**
- All disturbed areas, including soil piles, areas that have been graded, and unpaved roads shall be watered twice daily during dry conditions and, when feasible covered and enclosed.
 - When materials are transported offsite, loads shall be wetted and covered securely and at least two feet of freeboard shall be maintained.
 - Limit traffic speeds on unpaved roads to 15 mph.
 - Turn off equipment not in use for more than ten minutes
 - Curtail construction activities when the County’s Air Quality Index exceeds 150.
- 2. III (e) The applicant shall prepare an Odor Management Plan (OMP) and submit the plan to the Community Development Department (CDD) for review and approval prior to commencement of operations. If the odor minimization efforts prove to be ineffective the applicant will be required to submit an amended to CDD for review and approval.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	[]	[]	[x]	[]
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, ect.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	[]	[]	[]	[x]

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Impact Discussion: The project consists of a Use Permit to establish a composting facility on approximately 40 acres of land. Considering the nature of the project and the site and the fact that the site has in the past been used for agricultural uses, the potential to affect biological resources is considered low, with one exception. The exception being that the project site is considered to be Giant Garter Snake (GGS) habitat due to its location in a rice cultivation area with numerous irrigation and drainage ditches. Grading, berm construction and excavating for the proposed drainage ditches for the project has the potential to impact GGS, a federal threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) With implementation of avoidance and minimization measures established in the 2005 Programmatic Biological Opinion issued by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service impacts to GGS will be reduced to a less than significant. These mitigation measures are listed below. As a result, the project’s potential impacts to biological resources are considered less than significant. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Conservation Element)

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measures are recommended to reduce impacts to biological resources to a less than significant level:

3. **IV (a and b) A worker Environmental Awareness Training Program for construction personnel shall be conducted by a USFWS approved biologist for all construction workers, including contractor, prior to the commencement of construction activities.**
4. **IV (a and b) To the maximum extent possible, movement of heavy equipment will be confined to existing roadways to minimize habitat disturbance**
5. **IV (a and b) Construction activity within GGS habitat shall be conducted between May 1 and October 1, during the GGS active period.**
6. **IV (a and b) Clearing will be confined to the minimal area necessary to facilitate construction activities. Avoided GGS habitat within or adjacent to the project work area will be flagged as Environmentally Sensitive Areas. These areas will be avoided by all construction personnel.**
7. **IV (a and b) Any dewatered habitat will remain dry for at least 15 consecutive days after April 15 and prior to excavating or filling of the dewatered habitat.**
8. **IV (a and b) After completion of construction activities, any temporary fill and construction debris will be removed and, wherever feasible, disturbed areas will be restored to pre-project conditions. Restoration work may include such activities as replanting species removed from banks or replanting emergent vegetation in the active channel.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?	[]	[x]	[]	[]
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	[]	[x]	[]	[]
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	[]	[]	[]	[x]

Impact Discussion: The subject property is located in an area of developed agriculture and uses. The project does not include any development plans at the present time. However, construction activities such as grading and excavating to accommodate the compost facilities have the potential to disturb archaeological and/or historical resources. A standard mitigation measure is being recommended in the event that cultural resources are disturbed during future development and is presented below. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Conservation Element)

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measure is recommended to reduce impacts related to cultural resources:

2. V (a and b) If cultural or historic resources are encountered on the project site, the applicant shall halt work immediately and notify the Colusa County Community Development Department and a professionally licensed archaeologist. The archaeologist shall assess the resources and develop appropriate management recommendations for archaeological resource treatment.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VI. GEOLOGY RESOURCES – Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	[]	[]	[]	[x]

i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact Discussion According to the National Resource Conservation Service 2001 Soil Survey of Colusa, California produced by the United States Department of Agriculture. Soils on the project site consist of Westfan Loam and Mallard Clay Loam. Although no building is contemplated for this project in the immediate future these soil types may have severe limitations for the construction of commercial/industrial buildings. Standard engineering techniques can be used in foundation design to reduce impacts associated with any limitations to a less than significant level. The soils on the project site may have severe limitations for the use of septic systems for wastewater disposal. Any limitations of the soil related to the use of septic systems would be addressed by the Division of Environmental Health and appropriately engineered septic systems. Considering the large parcel sizes and the requirement for appropriately engineered septic systems impacts related to the use of septic systems to a less than significant level. While the soil types have limitations for development there no significant issues related to their use for berms and drainage ditches. The low permeability of the soils make it a suitable location for the facility. No other impacts related to soils an geology are anticipated. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Safety Element)

Mitigation Measure: No mitigation is required.

	Less Than Significant			
Potentially Significant Impact	with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the

project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Impact Discussion: The project is not expected to impact the State and Colusa County in terms of meeting the executive orders of AB 32 requirements of a 45% reduction in Green House Gas (GHG) emissions by 2030. Construction industry vehicles are typically regulated by the state to reduce emissions to an acceptable level. While composting produces greenhouse gasses such as methane, carbon monoxide, and nitrous oxide, methane the gas of most concern (26 times more potent than carbon dioxide). However, composting produces vastly lower emissions of methane than other disposal methods such as landfills. Having a central location where the agriculture waste products commonly found in the immediate area can be utilized in a positive manner while reducing vehicle miles travelled in the County and the regions is considered a positive impact in relation to greenhouse gases (see traffic and transportation systems for additional discussion. As a result, the project will not have negative impacts related to greenhouse gas emission. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Conservation Element)

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIAL				
– Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Impact Discussion: If hazardous materials are site or hazardous are to be located on site in the amount equal to or greater than 55-gallons of liquid, 200-feet of gas at standard temperature and pressure (gases are often purchased and shipped in pounds), or 500-pounds of acutely hazards materials and or hazardous waste require the submittal of a Hazardous Materials Business Activities Plan (HMBP). Any chemicals utilized to clean equipment should be listed in HMPB and stored and used in compliance with all state and federal laws. The use of heavy equipment can result in the accidental release of hazardous materials or the release of hazardous materials by routine use. Mitigation measures have been developed to address these potential impacts and are listed below. No other impacts associated with hazards and hazardous materials are anticipated. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Conservation Element)

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measures are recommended to reduce impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials to a less than significant level:

3. VIII (a and b) A HMBP shall be submitted to the Environmental Health Department for review and approval for any hazardous materials.

4. VIII (a and b) All vehicles and equipment shall be stored and maintained at the designated staging area(s) according to standard vehicle equipment maintenance best practices. No vehicles or equipment should be left within or adjacent to water bodies and drainages when not in use.

5. VIII (a and b) Any leaked or spilled hazardous materials or contaminated materials shall be immediately removed from the channel and transported to the staging area(s) for treatment, removal, or disposal.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY –

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the projection rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Impact Discussion The proposed composting facility’s wastewater collection system is the only proposed construction at the present time. The wastewater collection system will consist of ditches bordering the active compost area to the north and east and a wastewater collection sump located in the northeast corner of the site, as shown in the site map provided below. The site gradient is to the northeast; therefore, all wastewater from the composting process will drain into these ditches and ultimately to the wastewater collection sump, where it will be pumped out for reuse or disposal. The land grading and excavating will be over one acre in size as a result the project will require a Storm Water Prevention Plan (SWPP) form the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB). The composting facility will be regulated under a temporary approval to compost for 2021 instead of the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations (Order WQ 2020-0012-DWQ; CGO) by the CVRWQCB. The CVRWQCB will be amending the existing Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2019-0013 (2019 WDRs) to accommodate the composting operation. As stated previously the low permeability of the onsite soils make the site a suitable location for use in that leachate will not readily penetrate to the ground water (4.5 to 6 feet). There are 16 groundwater monitoring wells associated with the existing facilities which are subject to quarterly reporting. If any groundwater or surface water quality issues are identified the CVRWQCB and the applicant can take appropriate action to correct the issues. With the approval of these permitting processes potential impacts related water quality standards, storm water runoff, and degradation of water quality (surface and ground) will be mitigated to a less than significant level by the required design standards and conditions of approval. The applicant may subject to additional permits from CVRWQCB and is required to obtain them prior to operation.

The Glenn Colusa Irrigation District has provided comments on a previous project at the same location and has

concerns regarding water quality. As such, GCID is prohibiting any conveyance of wastewater into any GCID drain or lateral. In addition, no drainage of any kind is allowed into the GCID system without an encroachment permit, including the East Side Canal which lies just to the north of the project site. In order to reduce potential impacts related to water quality standards or the degradation of water quality related to GCID facilities, mitigation measures addressing these concerns have been developed and are listed below.

The project site is located in Zone X as shown on Panel 0550 of the Colusa County FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map effective May 15, 2003. Areas designated as Zone X are considered to be outside the 100-year flood plain.

The project site is located in dam failure inundation areas, but the risk is highly unlikely and considered less than significant. The project site is not located in an area which might be inundated by seiche, tsunami or mudflow. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Conservation Element & Amended – Proposed Composting Facility Technical Report – May 2021 - Robertson and Bryan, Inc.).

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measure are recommended to reduce impact related to hydrology and water quality to a less than significant level:

6. IX (a, e and f) The applicant shall obtain an approved Storm Water Prevention Plan (SWPP) issued by the CVRWQCB and comply with all requirement of the SWPP.

7. IX (a, e and f) The applicant shall obtain approval from the CVWQCB to operate the composting facility under a temporary permit to compost in 2021 and the amending the existing Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2019-0013 (2019 WDRs) when approved.

13. IX (a and f) The applicant shall not use any GCID facilities, lateral or drains, for the conveyance of wastewater to and within the project site.

14. IX (a and f) The applicant shall not discharge any on site drainage from any source without first obtaining an encroachment permit from GCID.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigation an environmental effect?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	[]	[]	[]	[x]

Impact Discussion: The project consists of the application for a Use Permit for a Composting Facility capable of processing 25,000 cubic yards of material at any one time. The General Plan land use designation for the project site is Agricultural General (AG). The project site is zoned Exclusive Agriculture (E-A). Surrounding properties located to the north, south, east and west (City of Williams) of the project site carry the same land use designation and zoning. With approval of the Use Permit (PD-21-7) the project will be in compliance with the E-A zoning regulations. As a result, no potential impacts regarding land use and planning are anticipated. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Land Use Element and Colusa County Zoning Ordinance)

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI. MINERAL RESOURCES – Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	[]	[]	[]	[x]

Impact Discussion: The project consists of a Use Permit to conduct composting operations. There are no known mineral resources that would be impacted by use of the property for composting. The project will not conflict with adopted energy plans, use non-renewable resources in a wasteful manner or result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Conservation Element)

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII. NOISE – Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standard of other agencies?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
c) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	[]	[]	[x]	[]

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|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Impact Discussion: Construction activities and facility operations will generate noise levels periodically; however, noises generated at the site will not be dissimilar than noises created by farming activities in the area and the tomato plant operations. The one existing residence in the area is nearly a mile away and will not be significantly impacted by the project in relation to noise. As a result, impacts associated with noise are anticipated to be less than significant. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Noise Element)

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Impact Discussion: The project consist of a Use Permit to conduct composting operations in an area which is zoned Exclusive Agriculture (E-A) and is utilized for agricultural and industrial purposes. There are no communities, substantial numbers of people, or houses in the vicinity due to the zoning limitations. The approval of the composting facilities is not expected to induce substantial population growth in that Morning Star is one of the largest employers in the County and the operation of the composting is not expected to require more than five additional employees. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Land Element)

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:	[]	[]	[]	[x]
Fire protection?	[]	[]	[x]	[]
Police protection?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
Schools?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
Parks?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
Other public facilities?	[]	[]	[]	[x]

Impact Discussion: Composting facilities have the potential to spontaneously combust when specific biological, moisture, and weather conditions are present. The Williams Fire Protection Authority has commented on the project after a site visit and determined that adequate water supply is available to the site and appropriate connection equipment to fire apparatus is all that is required to fight fires that may occur on site. This requirement will be made condition of approval and will reduce any impacts related to fire protections service to a less a less than significant level. No other impacts associated with public services are anticipated due to the type of development allowed by the current zoning. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Safety Element)

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV. RECREATION				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	[]	[]	[]	[x]

b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

Impact Discussion: The project site is not located in the vicinity of any public recreation areas. Recreation in the area is limited to private recreation activities such as hunting. Therefore, the project as proposed is not anticipated to have an adverse impact on recreation in the area. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Open Space)

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all mode of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Impact Discussion: The proposal will require that that tomato waste and other compost constituents be brought to the site by semi-truck or other agricultural equipment. Approximately 42% of the feed stock will come from the Morning Star plant which will result in an approximately one mile trip on the existing farm roads. This will not impact County roads and will result in the overall reduction of vehicle miles travelled in the County and the region due to the tomato waste not having trucked off site to other disposal areas. The remaining 58% of the feed stock (mushrooms, rice hulls, and almond shell) are readily available within the immediate area (eight mile radius would include the mushroom plant in Colusa) and throughout the County. These agriculture waste products have to be dealt with by trucking them off site using County Roads from their processing facilities in some cases this is a greater distance than eight miles. Having a central location where the agriculture waste products commonly found the immediate area can be utilized in a positive manner while reducing vehicle miles travelled in the County and the regions is considered a positive impact, therefore there are no impacts related to traffic and transportation systems. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Circulation Element)

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS –				
Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulation related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Impact Discussion: As stated previously discussed in the hydrology and water quality section the project may result in impacts to water quality standards, storm water runoff and storm water drainage systems, and water quality violations resulting from the leachate from the composting facility. However, with compliance with the mitigation measures developed and presented in the Hydrology and Water Quality Section these impacts are considered less than significant. Some minor improvement may be necessary to provide adequate water supply to the composting facility; however, water supply infrastructure is in place adjacent to or in close proximity to the project site so potential impacts are considered less than significant. Based upon information provided by the applicant Morning Star has adequate water supply to serve the project utilizing the three existing water supply wells or GCID surface water allotment or a combination of the two, resulting in no impact. Approval of the project is expected to result in a reduced need for the Morning Star plant to utilize local landfills facilities in relation to solid waste by reducing the amount of solid waste entering the local solid waste stream. No negative impacts related to solid waste are anticipated. (2030 Colusa County General Plan Community Services Element)

Mitigation Measures: Subject to mitigation measures in the Hydrology and Water Quality Section. No additional mitigation is required.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	[]	[]	[]	[x]
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects?)	[]	[]	[]	[x]
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	[]	[]	[]	[x]

Impact Discussion: The project is not considered to have any potentially significant impact on the environment with the incorporation of the mitigation measures, appropriate design features and compliance with County agency

requirements. Therefore, the project is not considered to degrade the existing environment or impact an endangered animal or plant species. Nor is the project expected to eliminate examples of California History or Pre-History. The project's impacts are considered to be limited due to design features incorporated into the project and compliance with conditions required by the County. The project will not result in impacts that are cumulatively significant. Given the nature of the project, it is not expected to have any adverse environmental impacts affecting human beings directly or indirectly. As a result, the project is not considered to have any significant cumulative impacts.

CHECKLIST SOURCES

1. Colusa County General Plan.
2. Colusa County Zoning Ordinance.
3. Housing Element (Colusa County General Plan).
4. United States Geological Survey Topographic Maps.
5. Seismic Safety Element (Colusa County General Plan).
6. Soils Survey of Colusa County – USDA 2001.
7. Safety Element (Colusa County General Plan).
8. Noise Element (Colusa County General Plan).
9. Scenic Highways Element (Colusa County General Plan).
10. Annual Report on the Status of California State Listed Threatened and Endangered Animals and Plants.
11. Vascular Plants of Bear Valley, Walker Ridge and Surrounding Areas of Colusa and Lake Counties 1994.
12. California's Forests and Rangelands, State of California 1988.
13. A Planner's Guide for Oak Woodlands.
14. California Native Plant Society's Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California 1994.
15. Restoring Central Valley Streams: A Plan for Action; Dept. of Fish & Game 1993.
16. Conservation Element (Colusa County General Plan).
17. Open Space Element (Colusa County General Plan).
18. Community Services Element (Colusa County General Plan).
19. Farmers and Neighbors: Land Use, Pesticides and Other Issues; UC Agricultural Issues Center 1995.
20. Index – Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps; California Department of Forestry.
21. Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List; State of California 1994.
22. California's Far North: County and Regional Profiles; University of California 1996.
23. Specific Project Review and Site Investigation by Staff.
24. Circulation Element (Colusa County General Plan).
25. Sacramento River Flood Control system Evaluation – Phase III – Mid Valley Area; State of California, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers & The Reclamation Board, March 1996.
26. Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Maps, May 15, 2003.
27. California Natural Diversity Database Website, 2011
28. Amended – Proposed Composting Facility Technical Report – May 2021 (Robertson and Bryan, Inc.)
29. Additional Source Documentation as noted in the Initial Study
30. 2020 NVES Technical Date

NOTE: All of the above listed Checklist sources are on file at the Colusa County Department of Planning & Building and Department of Public Works. Staff is available to assist you in checking any references.