



Department of
Resources Recycling and Recovery

Jared Blumenfeld
Secretary for Environmental Protection
Rachel Machi Wagoner
CalRecycle Director

March 14, 2022

Mr. Vince Velasco, Associate Planner
City of Santa Fe Springs
Planning and Development Department
11710 Telegraph Road
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670



Subject: SCH No. 2022020268 – Negative Declaration, Greencycle Amendment of Conditional Use Permit (ACUP) No. 524 for Greencycle, Facility Number 19-AA-1141 – Los Angeles County

Dear Mr. Velasco:

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 Santa Fe Springs Planning and Development Department, acting as Lead Agency, has prepared and circulated a Notice of Completion (NOC) of a Draft Negative Declaration (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 Greencycle CUP Amendment (ACUP 524; proposed project) is located at 12815 Imperial Highway, located between Bloomfield Avenue and Shoemaker Avenue. Major roadways in the vicinity of the project site include Imperial Highway, located 575 feet south of the project site; Florence Avenue, located 1.1 miles north of the project site; Shoemaker Avenue, located 0.2 miles east of the project site; and Bloomfield Avenue, located 0.2 miles west of the project site. The project site is approximately 1.75 acres, and the site is currently zoned for M-2. The facility is located in the central portion of the City of Santa Fe Springs. Santa Fe Springs is located approximately 13 miles southeast of Downtown Los Angeles and 17 miles northwest of Downtown Santa Ana. The City is bounded on the north by Whittier and an unincorporated County area (West Whittier); on the east by Whittier, La Mirada, and an unincorporated County area; on the south by Cerritos and Norwalk; and on the west by Pico Rivera and Downey.

The proposed project would allow an increase in the current permitted processing capacity of inert construction and demolition (C&D) debris from 24.9 tons per day (TPD) to 49.9 TPD. No new construction or expansion will be required to accommodate the additional processing capacity. No additional staff will be required.

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 ND, in addition to the specific location noted.

Comments for the Draft ND are summarized below:

Page 5 – Section 1 – Introduction

The first paragraph states, "Greencycle, a green waste receiving and transferring facility located in the City of Santa Fe Springs, is seeking approval of an Amendment to the existing Conditional Use Permit (CUP Case No. 524) to allow an increase in the permitted processing capacity of inert construction and demolition debris from 24.9 tons per day (TPD) to 49.9 TPD."

This proposal/amendment is a change to the current solid waste Enforcement Agency (EA) Notification, as the amendment is to increase tonnage. Please refer to Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 17383.5 - Medium Volume Construction and Demolition/Inert Debris Processing Facilities and Title 14 CCR Section 18104 - Registration Permit, for permitting and regulatory requirements.

Greencycle also has an EA Notification (Facility No. 19-AA-1093) as a chipping and grinding operation for green material and wood waste. Since this proposed project doesn't involve an increase in the allowed processing capacity of the chipping and grinding operation for green material and wood waste, this part of Greencycle's operations will still only be allowed to receive less than 200 tons of this material per day.

Solid Waste Regulatory Oversight

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) and responsible for providing regulatory oversight of solid waste handling activities, including permitting and inspections. 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 Final Negative Declaration 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nai Teurn', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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