

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

TO: **County Clerk**
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Ave., L#1210
Ventura, CA 93009

FROM: **County of Ventura**
Resource Management Agency
(RMA), Planning Division
800 South Victoria Ave., L#1740
Ventura, CA 93009

Office of Planning and Research
1440 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Filing of a Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

PROJECT TITLE AND CASE NO.: Permit Adjustment (PAJ) to Conditional Use Permit (CUP) PL13-0178, Case No. PL23-0095, Ojai Valley Organics

APPLICANT: Arturo Gonzalez, Progressive Environmental Industries

APPLICANT ADDRESS: P.O. Box 4395 Santa Barbara, CA 93140

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO.: 2022080552

CONTACT PERSON: Thomas Chaffee

TELEPHONE NO.: (805) 654-2406

PROJECT LOCATION: 534 Old Baldwin Road, Ojai, CA 93023

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Project consists of a Modification to Conditional Use Permit (CUP) 4408-2 that allows a 10-year time extension for the continued operation of the Ojai Valley Organics Recycling Facility. The existing facility is located at 534 Old Baldwin Road on an 11.70-acre portion of a 112.23 acre parcel (APN 032-0-070-07).

The hours of operation would be 7 days per week, from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm, or 1/2 hour before dusk, or whichever is later Monday through Saturday, and from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm on Sundays. Use of the grinder shall be limited to no earlier than 9:00 am, Monday through Sunday. No more than two full time employees would be on site at any given time. The project does not include any grading or new construction and would utilize prefabricated portable structures that require no foundation or utility connections. The facility would be limited to processing a maximum of 150 cubic yards per day of greenwaste. Haul truck traffic would be limited to 40 truckloads per day. The proposed modified facility would include the following components:

- Additional equipment, such as bins for material hauling, would be utilized for the “low level” and windrow composting operation. The additional equipment would facilitate daily grinding operations and spreading of green waste material as part of an Invasive Species Management Plan. Equipment such as a horizontal grinder, screener, wheel loader, excavator, water truck, and skip loader would continue to be used at the facility.
- An 8-foot by 12-foot canopy shelter, 8 foot by 20-foot roll-off storage container, and small portable restroom structure would be installed to replace the temporary structures previously placed on the site.
- Small bin areas would be constructed to contain compost and finished mulch/bark materials provided for sale. The new material containment bin area would be delineated with moveable precast concrete rail sections.
- Additional new paving of approximately 600 sf is proposed for raised asphalt access ramp paving to replace removed paving on the entrance ends of the composting pad to provide access to the elevated concrete compost pad.
- Two portable above ground poly 12 ft diameter, 5,000 gal tanks are proposed with associated piping connections to capture stormwater gravity fed from the upper compost pad areas. A concrete splash pad will be provided at the base of the stormwater tanks for drainage overflow purposes, in case stormwater collection system begins to overflow.
- Large concrete blocks are proposed to be stacked to enclose and create material storage bins at a height of 4 feet for the sale of wood mulch, decorative wood bark and soils amendments.
- Removal of a portion of the existing asphalt paving at the upper level of site has and replacement with a concrete 10,484 sf compost pad for a new compost material containment bin area. Large concrete blocks walls placed to enclose and create storage bins on top of the new concrete compost pad, at a height of 4 feet.
- Installation of a 6” drainage pipe and catch basin placed underneath the concrete area in order to facilitate stormwater runoff capture, pursuant to the paving and drainage plan.
- Installation of additional perimeter 6 ft chain-link fencing in order to enclose and secure the entire compost and mulching operation for public safety purposes. The fence posts are anchored into the ground but do not penetrate into the underlying burn dump material.
- Installation of new Irrigation lines and hose bibs on the perimeter fence for landscaping and dust control purposes.

- Installation of new paving of approximately 600 square feet for raised asphalt access ramp paving to replace removed paving on the entrance ends of the composting pad to provide access to the elevated concrete compost pad.
- Installation of two portable above ground poly 12 ft diameter, 5,000 gal tanks with associated piping connections to capture stormwater gravity fed from the upper compost pad areas. A concrete splash pad will be provided at the base of the stormwater tanks for drainage overflow purposes, in case stormwater collection system begins to overflow.
- Large concrete blocks will be stacked to enclose and create material storage bins at a height of 4 feet for the sale of wood mulch, decorative wood bark and soils amendments.
- Minor repaving or soil fill repairs to existing site to fill in gaps or depressions in the central yard area to ensure proper drainage of the site. The deterioration of AC paving materials will be an ongoing maintenance repair issue that is a lessee maintenance responsibility as outlined in the lease agreement with Ventura County.

Electrical service to the facility would be provided by the connection of two exterior outlets to an existing power pole. This electrical service would be used to power computer equipment, minimal lighting and a video security system.

The grading, development, use, and maintenance of the property, the size, shape, arrangement, and location of structures, parking areas and landscape areas, and the protection and preservation of resources shall conform to the project description above and all approved County land use hearing exhibits in support of the Project and conditions of approval.

This is to advise that on February 9, 2024, the County of Ventura, as the Lead Agency, approved the above-described project and has made the following determination regarding the project:

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared and adopted for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation Measures were made conditions of the approval of the project.
4. A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan/Program was adopted.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration and record of project approval may be examined at the County of Ventura, RMA, Planning Division, 800 South Victoria Avenue, L#1740, Ventura, CA 93009.

DATE FILED: March 20, 2024

Prepared by: AJ Bernhardt

Approved by:

Susan Curtis

Susan Curtis, Assistant Director
Ventura County Planning Division