



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

450 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, RICHMOND, CA 94804 PHONE: (510) 620-6706 FAX: (510) 620-6858

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT TO ADOPT, AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF UPDATED INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Richmond has prepared an Updated Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the below mentioned project.

Date: March 9, 2023
To: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties
Subject: Availability of Updated Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)

Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and the "Guidelines and Procedures for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act" as amended to date, this letter is to advise you that the City of Richmond Planning Division has prepared an Updated Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the following project:

Project No: PLN21-282

Project Title: Raven SR Bioenergy Project

Project Location: The project site is located at 1 Parr Boulevard, in the City of Richmond, Contra Costa County, California. It is within the West Contra Costa Sanitary Landfill (WCCSL) facility located in the northwest area of the City of Richmond, in Contra Costa County, California. For purpose of the environmental document, the project would occur within approximately 2.5 acres of the existing Bulk Materials Processing Center (BMPC) of the WCCSL. The property is located approximately 0.25 miles west of Parr Boulevard (approximately 0.25 miles west from Richmond Parkway) via an unpaved access road. The northern boundary of the project site is the City of Richmond/Contra Costa County jurisdiction line; the project site is located wholly within the City of Richmond, except for use of an existing access/egress road located within the County.

Parcel No: 408-140-009 (174.93 acres)

Project Sponsor/Applicants: Raven SR Inc.; Matt W. Murdock CEO; P.O. Box 1360, Pinedale, WY, 82941; (307) 749-0615

Project Description: The Raven SR Bioenergy Project (project) proposes to construct and operate a bioenergy system composed of the Raven SR multi-patented Steam/CO₂ Reformation process at the project site. The non-combustion process would convert blended green waste and food waste, obtained from the existing BMPC operation adjacent to the project site, into renewable, transportation grade hydrogen that would be exported offsite for various renewable energy products. No long-term hydrogen storage would occur onsite. The project would reduce existing flaring of landfill gas (LFG) produced from the decomposition of organic solid wastes in the WCCSL facility, and would help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and produce renewable "green" hydrogen using a low-carbon process. The project would also involve the construction of a modular structure and industrial canopy.

Updated Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Prepared

An Updated Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) has been prepared. The updated document is meant to clarify, amplify, and refine the language of the draft IS/MND. Among others, the update provides additional description of proposed operational details, information from a health risk assessment (HRA), and more details regarding the project's impacts on air quality and greenhouse gases. The purpose of an IS/MND is to identify any potential environmental impacts that would result from implementation of the proposed project pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. The Updated Initial Study/Mitigated

Negative Declaration has concluded that the proposed project will not result in any adverse effects which fall within the "Mandatory Findings of Significance" contained in Section 15065 of the State CEQA Guidelines. With the mitigation imposed, there is no substantial evidence in the record that this project may have any direct, indirect or cumulative effects on the environment that are significant. Therefore, the City, as the lead agency proposes to adopt the updated mitigated negative declaration for this project, which is tentatively scheduled to be heard by the City Council on May 2, 2023. The Updated IS/MND is available for review online at <https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/4365/Raven-SR-Bioenergy-Project>. Copies are also available for review at the following location:

Lead Agency: City of Richmond **Planning Division**, City Hall, 450 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804. The Planning Division public counter is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15105(a), a minimum thirty-day (30) public review period is required and shall commence on the date of this notice (March 9, 2023). All written comments on this document must be submitted to the City of Richmond Planning Division within this 30-day review period, or by **Friday, April 7, 2023 by 5:00 p.m.**

Review and Comment Period: Please mail or email your written comments on the Updated IS/MND no later than **5:00 p.m. on April 7, 2023** to:

Lydia Elias, Planner I
City of Richmond Planning Division
450 Civic Center Plaza-2nd Floor
Richmond, CA 94804
Phone: (510) 620-5558
lydia_elias@ci.richmond.ca.us

Please include in your written comments the name and phone number of a contact person in your agency.