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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2023030563

Project Title: Tajiguas Landfill Capacity Increase Project

Lead Agency: Santa Barbara County Public Works, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division

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Project Location: Unincorporated area 26 miles west of City of Santa Barbara Santa Barbara

City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Santa Barbara County PW RRWMD is proposing to increase the current capacity of the Tajiguas Landfill located in Santa Barbara County to reach a projected refuse disposal filling date of approximately December 2038. An approximate 14.25-acre lined area located in the inland area of the landfill property would be excavated for refuse placement and additional waste would be placed over the existing permitted lined waste disposal area. The capacity increase would provide approximately 6.1 million cubic yards (mcy) of additional airspace. The permitted maximum elevation of the landfill would increase from 620 feet above mean sea level (amsl) to 650 feet amsl, permitted volume from 23.3 mcy to 29.4 mcy, and disposal footprint from 118 acres to 132.25 acres. No changes to other Landfill operations or staffing would occur; however, the project includes a proposed change from the existing daily waste receipt limit of 1,500 tons per day to a working week limit of 9,000 tons. No changes to the ReSource Center facilities or operations are proposed. Relocation of some ReSource Center utilities/infrastructure would be required to eliminate conflicts with the proposed Phase IV waste fill area. Some change to the Landfill's storm water management system would be required.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The project would result in significant and unavoidable greenhouse gas emissions and adverse effects to Crotch's bumblebee, which may not be fully mitigated. Significant but mitigable impacts include loss of a sensitive plant community, adverse effects to nesting birds, loss of rare plants (Santa Barbara honeysuckle), removal of mature oak trees, adverse effects on migrating California red-legged frogs, potential exposure of hazardous materials, potential effects to unknown archaeological resources, adverse effects of blasting noise on local residents and conflicts with nearby residential and recreational land uses. The project would extend the life of the Tajiguas Landfill and thereby extend previously disclosed significant and unavoidable visual resources and biological impacts, and significant but mitigable biological resources, hazardous materials, nuisance and cultural resource impacts. Proposed mitigation measures include phasing vegetation removal and grubbing to avoid Crotch's bumblebee, replacement of habitat for Crotch's bumblebee, delineation of work areas, control highly invasive plants, conduct surveys and avoid active bird nests, replace rare plants/communities off-site, implement California red-legged frog avoidance measures, conduct hazardous materials assessment and remediation, provide cultural awareness training to construction staff, provide advance notice of blasting hours and limit blasting to 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Applicable mitigation measures from prior environmental documents would continue to be applicable to mitigate the extension of landfill life impacts.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

Controversy associated with the Tajiguas Landfill is typically associated with its continued operation in a coastal location in the Gaviota Coast Rural Region, an area recognized for its natural and cultural importance. Other areas of known controversy include impacts (odors, dust and litter) associated with operation of the ReSource Center, located on the Landfill property, waste diversion efforts, and extension of the landfill life and consistency of the project with a prior resolution to limit landfill expansion.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)