

## California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT 10 PLANNING  
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**Jul 19 2023**

### STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

July 19, 2023

Mr. Gabriel Elliott  
Planner Director  
Calaveras County Planning Department  
891 Mountain Ranch Road  
San Andreas, CA 95249

**CAL-26-13.811 Initial Study  
Cal-Waste Recovery  
System Transfer Station  
SCH 2023060645**

Dear Mr. Elliott,

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the California Waste Recovery Systems Transfer Station Project Initial Study. The proposed project is a zoning amendment from Business Park (M4) to General Industrial (M2) and conditional use permit to expand operations of the existing medium volume transfer station use to a large volume transfer station. This would increase the volume of permitted waste from under 100 tons per day (TPD) to a maximum of 250 TPD. The Project also proposes minor improvements to the existing transfer station site that involve the installation of new equipment to support the modified operations.

The project is located at 3524 Double Springs Road in the community of Valley Springs within Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 040-004-021.

#### **Caltrans has the following comments:**

Caltrans suggests Calaveras County continue to coordinate and consult with Caltrans to identify and address potential cumulative transportation impacts from this project and other developments near this location. This will assist Caltrans in ensuring that traffic safety and quality standards are maintained for the traveling public on existing and future state transportation facilities.

#### **Environmental**

There is a claim made in several sections of the Draft Initial Study, including 4.3, 4.6 and 4.8, that states that expansion of the waste processing at this facility will increase the number of vehicles traveling to the facility per day, but will ultimately reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) overall since more people will go to this transfer facility instead of driving to the landfill or recovery facility. Is there evidence/information to support this claim? There isn't any information provided to the reader in these sections that demonstrates why more people will likely go to this transfer facility instead of the

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landfill/recovery facility. Is this transfer facility closer to most known waste generators in the area? If so, how many miles closer than the closest landfill and recovery facility? If any construction related activities will encroach into Caltrans Right of Way (ROW), the project proponent must apply for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans District 10 Encroachment Permit Office. All California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation, with supporting technical studies, must be submitted with the Encroachment Permit Application. These studies will include an analysis of potential impacts to any cultural sites, historic properties, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, scenic highways, and/or other environmental resources within Caltrans ROW, at the project site(s). Evidence of consultation with local Native American tribes and interested parties will need to be presented within the technical documents for approval of encroachment in the Caltrans ROW.

### **Encroachment Permits**

If any project activities encroach into Caltrans ROW, the project proponent must submit an application for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans District 10 Encroachment Permit Office. Appropriate environmental studies must be submitted with this application. For more information, please visit the Caltrans Website at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shiferaw Jemberie (209) 986-9635 (email: [Shiferaw.jemberie@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Shiferaw.jemberie@dot.ca.gov)) or me at (209) 483-7234 (email: [Gregoria.Ponce@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Gregoria.Ponce@dot.ca.gov)).

Sincerely,

*Gregoria Ponce'*

Gregoria Ponce', Chief  
Office of Rural Planning

cc: State Clearinghouse