

**ATTACHMENT C
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Santa Barbara County Department of Public Works, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division (RRWMD)

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN: 081-150-019, -026,-081,and -032, 081-100-005 and 081-090-009

Case No.: NA

Location: Tajiguas Landfill and Baron Ranch, 14470 and 14550 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA 93117

Project Title: Resolution to Cease Burial of Waste at the Tajiguas Landfill after 2038; Third Supervisorial District

Project Applicant: Santa Barbara County Department of Public Works RRWMD

Project Description: The proposed action is to authorize adoption of a resolution which would clarify that the use of the Tajiguas Landfill for disposal of municipal solid waste would cease upon retirement of debt service for the ReSource Center in 2038. This action replaces Resolution 18-150 that created a policy to cease use of Tajiguas Landfill at 23,300,000 cubic yards. At the time of the adoption of Resolution 18-150 it was anticipated that the prior permitted volume was sufficient to continue landfilling operations to approximate the time period required to retire the debt service that funded the Tajiguas ReSource Center. The resolution revises the policy to establish the landfill useful life as intended.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Santa Barbara County, Public Works Department, RRWMD

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency
- Not a Project (Section 15378 (b)(2) and (b)(5))

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: CEQA Guidelines Section 15378, (a) "Project" means the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. (b) Project does not include: (2) Continuing administrative or maintenance activities, such as purchases for supplies, personnel-related actions, general policy and procedure making; or (5) Organizational or administrative activities of governmental agencies that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Reasons to support exemption findings: The County is proposing to replace a resolution (Resolution 18-150) that was originally part of a settlement agreement approved in 2018. The reason for the recommended action to replace is because of changed circumstances regarding the anticipated service life of the Tajiguas Landfill. The current permitted volume of the Tajiguas Landfill that was the subject of the resolution was

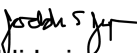
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recently determined to only provide landfilling service through March 2026 and not through approximately 2038, which was the date expected when the resolution was approved and the ReSource Center publicly financed. Consistent with the CEQA finding made for the adoption of the resolution in 2018, replacing a resolution regarding limitations on the future expansion of the Tajiguas Landfill and use of Baron Ranch is not a project. Per CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 (b)(2) and (b)(5) replacing the resolution is part of the County's general policy and procedure making authority and is an administrative action by the Board of Supervisors that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and therefore not a project under CEQA. Replacing the resolution does not allow for an expansion of the Landfill capacity and separate environmental review, decisionmaker approval and permits are required for any project to increase the capacity and will be considered at a later date.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Martin Wilder, Interim Deputy Director, Santa Barbara County Public Works RRWMD

Phone #: 805-882-3600

Department/Division Representative: 
Joddi Leipher, Senior Engineering Env. Planner
Date: December 22, 2023

Acceptance Date (projected): January 23, 2024

Date Filed by County Clerk: