

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:  Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
[www.CEQASubmit.opr.ca.gov](http://www.CEQASubmit.opr.ca.gov)

FROM: County of San Diego  
Department of Environmental Health and Quality  
Solid Waste Local Enforcement Agency (LEA)  
5500 Overland Ave., Suite 170  
San Diego, CA 92123

Recorder/County Clerk's office  
County of San Diego  
M.S. A33

**SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21108(b) OR 21152(b)**

Project Name: Otay Organics Station, Medium Volume Transfer/Processing Facility  
SWIS # 37-AA-0997

Project Location: 1700 Maxwell Road, Chula Vista, CA 91911

Project Applicant: Otay Landfill Inc. 1700 Maxwell Road, Chula Vista, CA 91911 (619) 421-3773

Project Description: Otay Organics Station is an existing permitted Registration Tier Medium Volume Transfer/Processing Facility in Chula Vista, California that receives less than 100 tons per operating day of solid waste. On April 11, 2025, the Department of Environmental Health and Quality (DEHQ), Solid Waste Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) for the County of San Diego received a Registration Permit application package for the previously permitted Otay Organics Station SWIS# 37-AA-0997. The Application package submittal included the Registration Permit Application Form and an updated Medium Volume Transfer/Processing Facility Plan. The application package reflects changes in operations at the Medium Volume Transfer/Processing Facility to include commingled and source separated recyclable materials, outbound traffic vehicles, and methods of organic diversion sampling. On April 25, 2025, the LEA determined that the application package met the requirements of Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR) §18104.1 and subsequently issued a Registration Permit.

Agency Approving Project: County of San Diego, Department of Environmental Health and Quality  
Solid Waste Local Enforcement Agency

County Contact Person: Juliet Buch-Tran, Senior Environmental Health Specialist  
5500 Overland Ave., Suite 170, San Diego, CA 92123  
Telephone: (619) 318-0535

Date Form Completed: May 6, 2025

This is to advise that the County of San Diego, Department of Environmental Health and Quality Solid Waste Local Enforcement Agency has approved the above-described project on April 30, 2025, and found the project to be exempt from the CEQA under the following criteria:

Exempt status and applicable section of the CEQA ("C") and/or State CEQA Guidelines ("G"): (check only one)

Declared Emergency [C 21080(b)(3); G 15269(a)]

Emergency Project [C 21080(b)(4); G 15269(b)(c)]

Statutory Exemption. C Section: 15268

Categorical Exemption. G Section:


G 15061(b)(1) - Activity is exempt from the CEQA because it is not a project as defined in Section 15378.

G 15061(b)(3) - It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment and the activity is not subject to the CEQA.

Statement of reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed permit process is defined and authorized by Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Division 7, Chapter 5, Article 3.0 – Regulatory Tier Requirements. As specified in Section 18104.7(d), the LEA is compelled to follow the procedures set forth in Sections 18104.2 and 18104.3 to review and accept an application and issue a registration permit. Accordingly, because LEA is required to issue the permit contingent on the applicant's conformity to applicable statutes, ordinances, regulations, or other fixed standards, the project approval is a ministerial action and is statutorily exempt per Section 15268 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The following is to be filled in only upon formal project approval by the appropriate County of San Diego decision-making body.

Signature:  Telephone: (858) 288-5740  
Name: Jeff Kashak Title: Environmental Planning Manager

This Notice of Exemption has been signed and filed by the County of San Diego LEA.

This notice must be filed with the Recorder/County Clerk as soon as possible after project approval by the decision-making body. The Recorder/County Clerk must post this notice within 24 hours of receipt and for a period of not less than 30 days. At the termination of the posting period, the Recorder/County Clerk must return this notice to the Department address listed above along with evidence of the posting period. The originating Department must then retain the returned notice for a period of not less than nine months. Reference: CEQA Guidelines Section 15062.