



September 2, 2020

9/8/2020

Chris Theisen, General Manager
Ventura Regional Sanitation District
1001 Partridge Drive, Suite 150
Ventura, CA 93003

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Sep 02 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Subject: SCH No. 2018011026 – Toland Optimization Plan, Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report, Toland Road Landfill (Facility No. 56-AA-0005), Ventura County

Dear Mr. Theisen:

Thank you for allowing the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) staff to provide comments on the proposed project and for your agency's consideration of these comments as part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Ventura Regional Sanitation District (VRSD), acting as Lead Agency, has prepared and circulated a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (Draft SEIR) in order to comply with CEQA and to provide information to, and solicit consultation with, Responsible Agencies in the approval of the proposed project.

Toland Road Landfill (TRL) is located at 3500 Toland Road in unincorporated Ventura County, currently zoned Open Space. The project site is approximately 1.7 miles north of State Route 126, between the cities of Santa Paula and Fillmore. The Tax Assessor's parcel numbers for the property that comprises the 216.5-acre project site include 041-0-140-090, 041-0-140-100, and 041-0-140-235. Surrounding land uses within two miles of the landfill consist of open space, agricultural land (primarily avocado and citrus orchards) with related residences, a school (located on the opposite side of State Route 126), and a regional park.

The proposed project would request the following modifications to Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 3141:

- (1) Remove the existing maximum permitted disposal rate of 1,500 tons per day (tpd) and replace it with a condition that allows a maximum daily tonnage to be based on the capacity of 152 heavy truck trips per day as evaluated in the 1996 Final EIR (FEIR);
- (2) Allow TRL to be filled to its maximum elevation of 1,435 feet above mean sea level (amsl) as set forth in the current CUP;

- (3) Remove the 2027 closure date;
- (4) Remove the 15-million-ton lifetime cap; and
- (5) Modify the CUP Conditions of Approval related to the decommissioned biosolids facility.

COMMENTS

CalRecycle staff's comments on the proposed project are listed below. Where a specific location in the document is noted for the comment, please ensure the comment is addressed throughout all sections of the Draft SEIR, in addition to the specific location noted.

Page 41, Section 2.5, Project Characteristics – Will the proposed change of removing the existing maximum permitted disposal rate of 1,500 tpd and replacing it with a condition that allows a maximum daily tonnage to be based on the capacity of 152 heavy truck trips per day as evaluated in the 1996 FEIR for the current CUP be incorporated into the Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) and Joint Technical Document (JTD)? Per Table 9 on page 45, Section 2.5.1, Landfill Capacity, 152 heavy truck trips per day equates to 2,864 TPD. What is the conversion factor for the tons per truck? Will TRL seek to incorporate 2,864 TPD as the new permitted tonnage? If so, this will need to be further explained per Title 27, California Code of Regulations (27 CCR), Section 21600(b)(2)(A), which requires a description of wastes proposed for acceptance and estimated waste volumes including daily average and peak daily waste flows as well as a five year projected waste flow.

Page 41, Section 2.5, Project Characteristics – Will the proposed change of removing the 2027 closure date be incorporated into the SWFP and JTD? If so, this will need to be further explained as to what the new estimated site life will be per 27 CCR, Section 21600(b)(3)(C), which requires an estimate of the site life based on the capacity of the site and the waste flow projections and assumptions regarding the compaction density used in life expectancy calculations.

Page 41, Section 2.5, Project Characteristics - Will the proposed change of removing the 15-million-ton lifetime cap be incorporated into the SWFP and JTD? If so, this will need to be further clarified per 27 CCR, Section 21600 (b)(3)(B) which requires calculations for volumetric capacity of the site expressed in cubic yards, net permitted capacity available for waste disposal, which include the amount of capacity consumed by soils used for liner construction, daily and intermediate cover, and final cover if included in the total capacity given. Topographic maps, including the delineation of the site property boundary and the disposal area used for the volumetric calculations and the date of survey shall be provided. The volumetric capacity calculations shall be certified by a registered civil engineer or registered geologist.

Joint Technical Document and Solid Waste Facilities Permit

The background information supporting the proposed changes of a maximum daily tonnage to be based on the capacity of 152 heavy truck trips per day, removal of the 2027 closure date, removal of the 15-million-ton lifetime cap, and any other changes

being made as a result of the proposed project must be submitted as an amendment to the JTD pursuant to 27 CCR, Section 21590.

Furthermore, a change to the disposal facility design or operation such as an increase in the permitted tonnage and change in design capacity at Toland Road Landfill are considered significant changes, and will require a revision to the SWFP. Prior to implementation of such a change, the operator shall submit an application package for a SWFP revision pursuant to 27 CCR, Section 21570 which shall be processed by the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) pursuant to 27 CCR, Section 21650.

The following internet link accesses checklists developed by CalRecycle staff as a guide to Lead Agencies in the preparation of environmental documents, such as for landfills:

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/SWFacilities/Permitting/CEQA/Documents/Guidance/Disposal.htm>

Solid Waste Regulatory Oversight

The Ventura County Environmental Health Division is the LEA for Ventura County and responsible for providing regulatory oversight of solid waste handling activities, including inspections and permitting. Please contact the LEA, Sean Debley at 805.654.2813 or sean.debley@ventura.org to discuss the regulatory requirements for the proposed project.

CONCLUSION

CalRecycle staff thanks the Lead Agency for the opportunity to review and comment on the environmental document and hopes that this comment letter will be useful to the Lead Agency preparing the Final SEIR and in carrying out their responsibilities in the CEQA process.

CalRecycle staff requests copies of any subsequent environmental documents, copies of public notices and any Notices of Determination for this proposed project. If the environmental document is adopted during a public hearing, CalRecycle staff requests 10 days advance notice of this hearing. If the document is adopted without a public hearing, CalRecycle staff requests 10 days advance notification of the date of the adoption and proposed project approval by the decision-making body.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at 916.341.6084 or by e-mail at Theodore.Tasiopoulos@calrecycle.ca.gov.

Draft SEIR for Toland Road Landfill (56-AA-0005)

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Theodore Tasiopoulos', written in a cursive style.

Theodore Tasiopoulos, Environmental Scientist
Permitting & Assistance Branch – South Unit
Waste Permitting, Compliance & Mitigation Division
CalRecycle

cc: Benjamin Escotto, Supervisor
Permitting & Assistance Branch – South Unit

Sean Debley, Manager
Ventura County LEA