



Resource Management Agency

COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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District One

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District Two

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District Three

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District Four

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District Five

AGENDA DATE: June 29, 2021

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	N/A

CONTACT PERSON: Celeste Perez PHONE: (559) 624-7000

SUBJECT: Certify and Adopt Environmental Impact Report for the Woodville Disposal Site Proposed Project

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Certify the Environmental Impact Report (State Clearinghouse No. 2018121007), Findings of Fact, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program as the correct level of environmental review for the Woodville Disposal Site Proposed Project, located at 19800 Road 152, Tulare, CA 93274; and
2. Adopt the Environmental Impact Report, Findings of Fact, and Mitigation Monitoring, and Reporting Program prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines per Section 15164(b), for the Woodville Disposal Site Proposed Project; and
3. Authorize the Environmental Assessment Officer, or designee, to sign and file the Notice of Determination with the County Clerk.

SUMMARY:

The Solid Waste Division is proposing to expand their existing 160-acre Woodville Disposal Site footprint by 240-acres, for a total footprint of 400-acres (the Project) in western Tulare County, located at 19800 Road 152, Tulare, CA 93274 at the intersection of Avenue 200 and Road 152.

The site, and the surrounding land, is zoned as AE-40 (Exclusive Agriculture-40 Acre minimum) and has a Tulare County General Plan designation of Agriculture. The site is not located within any Urban Development Boundary or Urban Area Boundary. The

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landfill is an allowable use within the AE-40 zone.

The proposed Project includes incorporating the currently unused portion of the existing landfill to meet the demands/ needs of increases in projected solid waste disposal of the County for the next 55 years. It is anticipated that daily tonnage received, number of vehicles entering/exiting, landfill operations equipment, water usage, ancillary uses, etc., will not increase or decrease. More precisely the project will:

Expand the Woodville Disposal Site (aka, Woodville landfill) northeast of the existing Waste Management Unit-1 (WMU-1) landfill site to two contiguous parcels of approximately 80-acres each located east of the existing landfill.

- Expand the Woodville landfill to a contiguous approximately 70-acre parcel north of the existing landfill.
- Relocate the landfill entrance scale and scale house, landfill gas flare, and operations facilities to the northernmost 70-acre parcel designated for operations.
- Include the northwest 10-acre parcel (APN 196003-010, formerly known as the Thompson Property) for the Borrow/Operations area, and possibly include a staff office (approximately 5,000 square feet) and composting facility (ranging from 50,000 to 100,000 cubic tons annually).
- Utilize approximately 80 unused acres of the currently permitted landfill disposal area in the southern portion of the landfill as WMU-2. WMU-2 slopes will be graded at 3H:1V with a maximum slope height of 28 feet.
- Change operation floor from 282 feet above mean sea level (MSL) to approximately 270 feet above MSL in the WMU-2 and WMU-3.
- Increase the permitted landfill capacity by approximately 14.0 million cubic yards for an overall capacity of the Woodville landfill to approximately 27.5 million cubic yards. The additional WMUs will be designated Class III landfill units and would extend the anticipated landfill closure date by 55 years (to approximately Year 2074).

The Project's benefits are:

- (1) Expansion of the existing 160-acre Woodville Disposal Site (or Woodville Landfill or landfill) by 240 acres.
- (2) Meeting the demands/needs of increases in projected solid waste disposal of the County for the next 55 years.
- (3) Relocating the landfill entrance scale and scale house, landfill gas flare, and operations facilities to the northernmost 70-acre parcel designated for operations.

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- (4) Including the northwest 10-acre parcel for the Borrow/Operations area, and possibly include a staff office (approximately 5,000 square feet) and composting facility (ranging from 50,000 to 100,000 cubic tons annually);
- (5) Changing operation floor from 282 feet above mean sea level (MSL) to approximately 270 feet above MSL in the WMU-2 and WMU-3.
- (6) Increasing the permitted landfill capacity by approximately 14.0 million cubic yards for an overall capacity of the Woodville landfill to approximately 27.5 million cubic yards. The additional WMUs will be designated Class III landfill units and would extend the anticipated landfill closure date by 55 years (to approximately Year 2074).

This EIR (State of California Clearinghouse # 2018121007) has been prepared by Tulare County in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Sections 15120 through 15131 and Section 15161 regulating EIRs to i) evaluate the environmental consequences of the Project, ii) to discuss alternatives to the proposed Project, and iii) to propose mitigation measures that will offset, minimize, or avoid identified significant environmental impacts.

This document focuses on issues determined to be potentially significant as discussed in the Initial Study and the public scoping process completed for this Project, as well as comments received on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) circulated by Tulare County in December 2019. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15082, the NOP for the proposed Project was circulated for review and comment on December 4, 2018 and circulated for a 30-day comment period ending January 3, 2019. A Scoping Meeting was duly noticed and held on December 13, 2019, during the NOP comment period, at Tulare County RMA Main Conference Room at 5961 South Mooney Boulevard, Visalia, CA to solicit input on the scope of the EIR. No Comments were received at the Scoping Meeting. The Notice of Availability of the Draft EIR was published in a newspaper of general circulation indicating that a 45-day review period would begin on April 9, 2021 and ending on May 24, 2021. Comments were received from the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution, Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency, CalRecycle, and Caltrans.

Standard biological, cultural, and tribal survey requirements and / or discovery mitigation measures are included in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. This project will require traffic improvement mitigations in the year 2040, plus project, analysis. (See FEIR, MMRP).

Under Public Resource Code Section 15087, there are no public hearing requirements for an EIR approval under CEQA. However, staff did respond to comments from the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency, CalRecycle, and Caltrans within the requisite time.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

County environmental review and processing costs are covered by the Solid Waste Division.

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LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

This project will promote economic development opportunities, effective growth management and a quality standard of living in Tulare County

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

/s/ Aaron R. Bock

Aaron R. Bock, MCRP, JD, LEED AP
Assistant Director

/s/ Michael Washam

Michel Washam, ACE
Associate Director

/s/ Reed Schenke

Reed Schenke, P.E.
Director

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment A – Notice of Preparation (Initial Study, Maps, and Site Plan)

Attachment B – Final EIR (Response to Comments, MMRP, Errata, Finding of Facts)

Attachment C – Notice of Determination