

Permitting & Assistance Branch Staff Report
 New Solid Waste Facilities Permit for the
 Recology Vallejo
 SWIS No. 48-AA-0089
 November 13, 2014

Background Information, Analysis, and Findings:

This report was developed in response to the Solano County Local Enforcement Agency's (LEA) request for the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (Department) concurrence on the issuance of a proposed new Solid Waste Facilities Permit (SWFP) for the Recology Vallejo, SWIS No. 48-AA-0089, located in Solano County and owned and operated by Recology Vallejo. A copy of the proposed permit is attached. This report contains Permitting & Assistance Branch staff's analysis, findings, and recommendations.

The proposed permit was initially received on November 4, 2014. Action must be taken on this permit no later than January 3, 2015. If no action is taken by January 3, 2015, the Department will be deemed to have concurred with the issuance of the proposed new SWFP.

Proposed Changes

The following are the key design parameters of the proposed project:

	Proposed Permit
Operator/Owner	Recology Vallejo
Facility Type	Large Volume Transfer/Processing Facility
Proposed Hours/Days of Operation	Receipt of Waste: 5:00 am- 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday Ancillary Operations: 24 hours per day, 7 days per week
Proposed Maximum Tonnage	300 tons per day
Proposed Traffic Volume	199 Vehicles per day (averaged over 7 days)
Proposed Area	9.36 Acres
Design Capacity	514 tons
Proposed Waste Types	Green waste, food waste and recyclables

Background:

The proposed SWFP will allow for the operation of a new Large Volume Transfer/Processing Facility located in the City of Vallejo. The location currently includes a green waste chipping and grinding operating under an Enforcement Agency Notification (EA Notification) and a recycling center. The SWFP would allow the facility to exceed a 10 percent residual and allow for the addition of food waste into the existing green waste operation. No municipal solid waste or construction and demolition waste will be accepted.

Findings:

Staff recommends concurrence in the issuance of the proposed new SWFP. All of the required submittals and findings required by Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (27 CCR), Section 21685, have been provided and made. Staff has determined that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements have been met to support concurrence. The findings that are required to be made by the Department when reaching a determination are summarized in the following table. The documents on which staff's findings are based have been provided to the Branch Chief with this Staff Report and are permanently maintained by the Waste Permitting, Compliance, and Mitigation Division.

27 CCR Sections	Findings	
21685(b)(1) LEA Certified Complete and Correct Report of Facility Information	The LEA provided the required certification in their permit submittal letter dated October 28, 2014.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21685(b)(2) LEA Five Year Permit Review	A Permit Review Report is not required for a new SWFP.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21685(b)(3) Solid Waste Facility Permit	Staff received a proposed Solid Waste Facilities Permit on November 4, 2014.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21685 (b)(4)(A) Consistency with Public Resources Code 50001	The LEA in their permit submittal package received on November 4, 2014, provided a finding that the facility is consistent with PRC 50001. Waste Evaluation & Enforcement Branch (WEEB) staff in the Jurisdiction Compliance Unit found the facility is identified in the Nondisposal Facility Element, as described in the memorandum dated November 5, 2014.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21685(b)(8) Operations Consistent with State Minimum Standards	WEEB staff in the Inspections and Enforcement Agency Compliance Unit found that the existing operation was in compliance with all operating and design requirements during an inspection conducted on October 9, 2014. See Compliance History below for details.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21685(b)(9) LEA CEQA Finding	The LEA provided a finding in their permit submittal package received on November 4, 2014, that the proposed permit is consistent with and supported by the existing CEQA documentation. See the Environmental Analysis below for details.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable

27 CCR Sections	Findings	
21650(g)(5) Public Notice and/or Meeting, Comments	A Public Informational Meeting was held by the LEA on October 1, 2014. No written comments were received by LEA or Department staff. Oral comments were addressed by LEA staff. See Public Comments section below for details.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
CEQA Determination to Support Responsible Agency's Findings	The Department is a responsible agency under CEQA with respect to this project. Permitting and Assistance Branch staff has determined that the CEQA record can be used to support the Branch Chief's action on the proposed new SWFP.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable

Compliance History:

Currently, the operator is operating a green waste chipping and grinding operation under an EA Notification and a recycling center. WEEB staff in the Inspections and Enforcement Agency Compliance Unit conducted a pre-permit inspection on October 9, 2014, and found that the operation is in compliance with applicable state minimum standards and notification requirements.

Below are the details of the operation's compliance history based on the LEA's quarterly inspection reports in the last five years:

No violations were noted from 2009-2014.

Environmental Analysis:

Under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Department must consider, and avoid or substantially lessen where possible, any potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed SWFP before the Department concurs in it. In this case, the Department is a Responsible Agency under CEQA and must utilize the environmental document prepared by the Solano County, Environmental Health Services Division, Department of Resource Management, acting as Lead Agency, absent changes in the project or the circumstances under which it will be carried out that justify the preparation of additional environmental documents and absent significant new information about the project, its impacts and the mitigation measures imposed on it.

The operation that will be authorized by the issuance of the proposed permit include: the operation of a large volume transfer/processing facility, located on 9.36 acres and receiving a maximum of 300 tons per day of mixed recyclables and green/food waste. No municipal solid waste or construction and demolition waste will be accepted. These changes are supported by the following environmental document.

A Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), State Clearinghouse No. 2014052014 was circulated for a 30 day comment period from May 6, 2014, to June 4, 2014. The project analysis concluded that any physical environmental impacts caused by the project could be mitigated to less than significant levels with the implementation of the mitigation

measures included in the Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program. The MND, together with the Mitigation Monitoring Program, was adopted by the Lead Agency on October 28, 2014.

The Solano County Local Enforcement Agency (LEA), has provided a finding that the proposed new SWFP is consistent with and supported by the cited environmental document.

Staff recommends that the Department, acting as a Responsible Agency under CEQA, utilize the MND as prepared by the Lead Agency in that there are no grounds under CEQA for the Department to prepare a subsequent or supplemental environmental document or assume the role of Lead Agency for its consideration of the proposed new SWFP. Department staff has reviewed and considered the CEQA record and recommends the MND is adequate for the Branch Chief's approval of the proposed project for those project activities which are within the Department's expertise and/or powers, or which are required to be carried out or approved by the Department.

The administrative record for the decision to be made by the Department includes the administrative record before the LEA, the proposed new SWFP and all of its components and supporting documentation, this staff report, the MND adopted by the Lead Agency, and other documents and materials utilized by the Department in reaching its decision on concurrence in, or objection to, the proposed new SWFP. The custodian of the Department's administrative record is Dona Sturgess, Legal Office, Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, P.O. Box 4025, Sacramento, CA 95812-4025.

Public Comments:

The project document availability, hearings, and associated meetings were noticed consistent with the SWFP requirements. The LEA held a public informational meeting on October 1, 2014, at Recology Vallejo, 2021 Broadway Street, in the City of Vallejo. One member of the public was in attendance, as was the owner/operator of the facility. Issues raised during the meeting included:

- Impacts on the Hay Road Landfill;
- Impacts of odor and vectors from the operation; and
- Clarification on the traffic increase

The LEA stated that information meeting was for the Vallejo Recology site only. The Hay Road Landfill was not part of the permit action, but that it is operating in compliance with its permit conditions. Odor and vector will be controlled by best management practices, and the traffic increase was addressed and analyzed by an independent consultant, and it was determined that the added traffic was not considered significant.

No written comments were received by the LEA or Department staff. Department staff provided an opportunity for public comment during the CalRecycle Monthly Public Meeting on November 18, 2014.