

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**TO:** Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Public Works Department, Resource Recovery and Waste Management

The 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:** Not Applicable                    **Case No.:** Not Applicable

**Location:** N/A

**Project Title:** Update on Proposed Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project First, Second and Third Supervisorial Districts

**Project Description:** The proposed activity is to provide the Board of Supervisors with an update on the Status of the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project and to receive direction from the Board of Supervisors on the evaluation of alternative means to finance the proposed project. The activity also includes approval of a resolution authorizing the Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division of the Public Works Department to apply for a CalRecycle Cap & Trade Grant to offset some of the cost to construct the Anaerobic Digester component of the proposed Resource Recovery Project if it is approved.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:     County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Santa Barbara County Public Works Department, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division (RRWMD)

**Exempt Status:** (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency
- Not a Project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378)

**Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section:** CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) and (b)(5), specifies that a project does not include the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities that do not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment or organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Reasons to support exemption findings:**

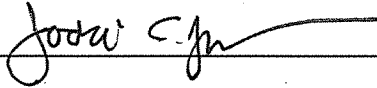
The Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project is currently under CEQA review. The Board of Supervisors will consider approval of the project once the CEQA review process is complete and a Final Subsequent EIR is available. The actions to update the Board on the project status, receive direction on

studying financing options for the project, and to pursue grant funding for a portion of the project (which could only be used if the project is approved) will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment, and are therefore not a "project" as defined for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) and (b)(5).

Lead Agency Contact Person: Mark Schleich, Deputy Director RRWMD

Phone #: (805) 882-3600

Department/Division Representative: Joddi Leipner, Senior Engineering Environmental Planner

  
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Date: June 12, 2015

Acceptance Date:

Date Filed at Planning and Development:

Date Filed by County Clerk: