4.8 LAND USE

This section of the Subsequent EIR describes the existing land use setting at the project site including applicable regulations and physical land use. In addition, a discussion is provided of the consistency of the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project with Santa Barbara County policies included in the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan, Coastal Plan and other applicable plans. This section also addresses policies of other project participants including the cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Solvang and Buellton. The focus of the policy consistency analysis for participating cities is limited to waste disposal, recycling and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction. It also addresses compatibility of the project with existing and future land uses.

4.8.1 Setting

4.8.1.1 Applicable Standards

Santa Barbara County Standards

County planning documents relevant to the proposed project include:

- Inland Zoning Ordinance (Article III of Chapter 35).
- Coastal Zoning Ordinance (Article II of Chapter 35).
- Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan.
- Santa Barbara County Coastal Plan.
- Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan.
- Countywide Siting Element.

The discussion of these documents as provided in 01-EIR-05 (Section 3.7.1, Applicable Standards) remains valid and is applicable to the proposed project and is incorporated by reference. However, with respect to the Santa Barbara Comprehensive Plan, it should be noted that several of the Elements have been updated since the preparation of 01-EIR-05. (A description of relevant policies and policy consistency is provided below in Section 4.8.2.4)

The County is also in the process of preparing the Gaviota Coast Plan which is presently in draft form (December 2013 Board of Supervisors Initiation Draft). The draft Gaviota Coast Plan would update the Comprehensive Plan and Coastal Land Use Plan, and provides policy direction for land use issues and trends specific to the Plan Area. The Gaviota Coast Plan addresses the following planning issues:

- Land Use.
- Agriculture.
- Parks, Recreation & Trails.
- Resources Stewardship.
- Visual Resources.

- Transportation, Energy and Infrastructure.

The proposed Resource Recovery Project is described in the draft Gaviota Coast Plan. The Plan states that the project is intended to be a 20-year solid waste management plan for the region that would increase current diversion rates from over 70 percent to over 80 percent, generate an additional megawatt of electricity, and significantly reduce the region's greenhouse gas emissions. Since the Gaviota Coast Plan has not yet been adopted, and is just in the initial phases of the CEQA review; therefore, a discussion of policies and project consistency with that document has not been included in this Subsequent EIR.

Statewide Waste Management and Waste Reduction Legislation

Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989. AB 939 and SB 1322 were signed into law as the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Act). The Act established a new approach to managing California's waste stream, the centerpiece of which mandated goals of 25 percent diversion of each city's and county's waste from disposal by 1995, and 50 percent diversion in 2000, along with a process to ensure environmentally safe disposal of waste that could not be diverted. The Act also directs counties and regional agencies to prepare a Countywide or Regional Agency Integrated Waste Summary Plan (CIWSP) to aggregate all of the elements of the countywide or regional solid waste management planning process. The County of Santa Barbara Final CIWSP (June 1998) identifies countywide goals and objectives for integrated waste management planning.

The primary goal of the CIWSP is to "implement an integrated waste management system that gives the highest priority to the prevention of waste, and secondary priority to the recycling, mulching, and composting of waste materials. Those materials which cannot be recycled, mulched, or composted shall be landfilled in an environmentally safe and effective manner." Additional policies included in the CIWSP include: maximizing diversion through source reduction, recycling and composting; ensuring that there is sufficient countywide capacity to meet disposal needs; hazardous waste management; and coordination between the County and cities regarding the implementation of waste management programs. The CIWSP further directs the cities and the County to collectively provide 15 years of countywide disposal capacity for those materials that cannot be recycled or composted. Future disposal capacity is addressed in Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 414700 through 41721.5, which require preparation of a Countywide Siting Element that identifies areas that may be used for developing new disposal facilities, including provision of an estimate of the total permitted disposal capacity needed for a 15-year period.

Statewide Anaerobic Digestion Initiative. The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) is responsible for overseeing the State's recycling and waste management programs and responsible for permitting landfills, recycling facilities and composting operations pursuant to Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations. Under its Strategic Directive 6.1, CalRecycle seeks to reduce by 50 percent the amount of organic waste disposed in the state's landfills by 2020. In addition to helping conserve limited landfill capacity, this CalRecycle policy recognizes that organic wastes are a resource, not just solid wastes that must be disposed.

Organic wastes have an energy value that can be captured and utilized and are also a necessary component of compost, soil amendments, and other useful products. Directive 6.1 also encompasses one of CalRecycle's actions to help California significantly reduce its generation of greenhouse gases. The development of Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facilities is one of CalRecycle's charges under the AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan. The AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan estimates that AD facilities in California could reduce methane emissions from landfills at a level of 2 million $MTCO_2e$ per year by the year 2020 (California Air Resources Board [CARB], 2008). AD also can contribute to meeting the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard and Low Carbon Fuel Standard.

Specifically the Initiative states:

> *"It is the policy of CalRecycle to encourage the development of AD facilities in California as an alternative to the landfill disposal of organic solid waste. Specifically, as an initial measure, CalRecycle will encourage the establishment of in-vessel digesters located at existing or new solid waste facilities and in areas zoned for industrial or solid waste handling activities."*

For a more detailed discussion of greenhouse gases and climate change including regulations pertaining to these issues, please see Section 4.2 of this Subsequent EIR.

Assembly Bill 341. In 2011, the Legislature and Governor Jerry Brown through the adoption of AB 341 increased the State waste diversion goal from 50 percent to 75 percent by 2020. Instead of focusing primarily on local diversion, the law calls for the State and the CalRecycle to take a statewide approach to decreasing California's reliance on landfills. CalRecycle has been tasked by the Legislature to examine how extensions of existing efforts, as well as new strategies, can be combined to reach that policy goal.

The Bill specifically targets the millions of tons of recyclables that the commercial sector and multi-family residential complexes send to landfills every year by setting mandatory recycling requirements for these land uses. However, CalRecycle is focusing on a wide array of other avenues for meeting the waste reduction standards including the development of increased recycling infrastructure and increased composting of green-waste among many others. In its 2012 strategy paper, *California's New Goal: 75 % Recycling*, CalRecycle stated that the 75 percent goal likely cannot be reached unless in-state manufacturing (from recycled materials) and energy generation facilities are developed.

Santa Barbara County Climate Action Strategy

Santa Barbara County is developing a Climate Action Strategy to address GHG emissions pursuant to the Board of Supervisors' March 2009 direction (BOS Resolution 09-059) "to take immediate, cost effective, and coordinated steps to reduce the County's collective GHG emissions." The Climate Action Strategy follows a two-phase structure intended to promote an informed public dialogue prior to County commitment to concrete actions to reduce emissions. Phase 1 is development of Climate Action Study and was completed in 2011.

Phase 2 is the development of an Energy and Climate Action Plan (ECAP), which was adopted by the County Board of Supervisors on June 2, 2015. The ECAP includes a base year (2007) GHG inventory for unincorporated areas of the County, which identifies total GHG emissions of 1,192,970 metric tons CO_2E and 28,560 metric tons CO_2E for construction and mining equipment (primary project-related GHG source). Note that the base year inventory does not include stationary sources and energy use (natural gas combustion and electricity generation). The focus of the ECAP is to establish a 15 percent GHG reduction target from baseline (by 2020), and develop source-based and land use-based strategies to meet this target. The Tajiguas RRP has been specifically identified in both the Waste Reduction and Renewable Energy sections of the ECAP as an action item that would contribute significantly to the County's reduction in overall GHG emissions. ~~The ECAP will identify ways the County can reduce GHG emissions and implement energy-saving measures in support of a thriving, well-balanced and sustainable community. The ECAP is being prepared to assist the County with reducing its GHG emissions consistent with State Assembly Bill 32.~~

Santa Barbara County Clean Air Plan

The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District's ~~2010~~ 2013 Clean Air Plan is discussed in Section 4.2.1, Air Quality.

Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin (Basin Plan)

The Basin Plan and Ocean Plan are described in Section 4.10.1.4 (Water Quality Setting) of this Subsequent EIR. The Basin Plan includes water quality objectives, which may be in numeric form, or more typically, narrative standards considered necessary to protect designated beneficial uses. Water quality objectives are achieved through enforcement of, and compliance with, the Regional Water Quality Control Board's permit actions (i.e., the landfill's General Industrial Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements) and through the implementation of the Basin Plan. Water quality objectives for ocean waters are defined in the Ocean Plan for bacterial, physical, chemical, and biological characteristics, as well as radioactivity.

Public Participant Standards

The cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Solvang and Buellton are Public Participants in the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project. As such, the planning documents providing policy guidance with respect to project-related issues including: waste disposal, recycling and GHG emissions reduction are relevant. These planning documents are identified below.

- City of Santa Barbara General Plan (updated 2011).
- City of Santa Barbara Climate Action Plan (2012).
- City of Goleta General Plan/Coastal Land Use Plan (2006).
- City of Solvang General Plan (2008).
- City of Buellton General Plan 2025 (May 2007, revised December 2008).

4.8.1.2 Existing Conditions

The general discussion of existing conditions (Section 3.7.1) and existing conditions (Section 3.7.2) provided in 01-EIR-05 remain valid and are applicable to the proposed project and are incorporated by reference. The Tajiguas Landfill has been used as a County MSW disposal facility since 1967 and has a Waste Disposal Overlay in the Land Use Element recognizing its use as a landfill. The inland areas of the Tajiguas Landfill are located within areas zoned for agriculture under County Ordinance 661. The southern portion of the landfill is located within the coastal zone within areas zoned AG-II-320, which permits agricultural uses within a 320-acre minimum lot size. The portion of the landfill within the Coastal Zone pre-dates the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, the Coastal Act of 1976, and the Coastal Zoning Ordinance and is considered a legal, non-conforming use.

Facilities associated with the Resource Recovery Project would be located within the inland area of the landfill property; however, temporary administrative facilities (office trailers) may be located northeast of the landfill top deck, which is outside of the Coastal Zone or on an existing landfill deck southeast of the green waste processing area within the Coastal Zone. In addition, the electrical distribution lines on the existing poles extending to the operations deck may need to be restrung. Pursuant to the Santa Barbara County Land Use and Development Code within the unincorporated inland areas of the County, the provisions of the Development Code do not apply to "development by the County or any district of which the Board is the governing body" (Section 35.10.040.G.1.b.). Therefore, no new land use permits are required for operation of the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project within the inland portion of the landfill property. Table 4.8-1 summarizes land use characteristics of the Tajiguas Landfill property. Figure 4.8-1 provides a map of the project area, showing the Coastal Zone boundary, zoning and land use designations.

Table 4.8-1. Land Use Summary

Parameter	Tajiguas Landfill & Current Project Area
Parcels	**Tajiguas Landfill** 081-150-019: 130.00 ac 081-150-026: 282.28 ac 081-150-042: 85.06 ac Landfill Total: 497.34 ac **Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project Area** Resource Recovery Facilities: 6 acres on 081-150-019 Composing Area: 5 acres on 081-150-019 and/or 081-150-026 Water Storage: <1 acre on 081-150-019 and 081-150-042
Comprehensive Plan Designation	A-II-100 (inland) Agriculture II 100 acre minimum parcel size Waste Disposal Facility Overlay A-II-320 (coastal) Agriculture II 320 acre minimum parcel size
Zoning	Unlimited Agriculture[a] (inland portion) AG-II-320 (coastal portion)
Existing Land Use	Landfill and support facilities
Access	U.S. Highway 101, via existing County-owned access road
Public Services	Water supply: on-site wells Sewage: on-site septic system Fire: Santa Barbara County Fire Electricity: Southern California Edison
Surrounding Uses/Zoning	West: former Hercules Gas Plant (now under PCB remediation) and Arroyo Hondo (recreation)/AG-II-100 North: Los Padres National Forest/AG-II-100 and U East: Baron Ranch (County-owned agriculture, native plant restoration)/100-AG-O and AG-II-320 South: U.S. Highway 101, Union Pacific Railroad Agriculture/Residential/AG-II-320

[a] County Ordinance 661 Zoning Districts

4.8.2 Impact Analysis and Mitigation Measures

4.8.2.1 Thresholds of Significance

State CEQA Guidelines

The State CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR Chapter 3, Appendix G) suggest that a project may have a significant impact with respect to land use if it would do any of the following:

- Physically divide an established community;
- Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect; and
- Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan.

Santa Barbara County CEQA Checklist

The following issues are included in the Santa Barbara County CEQA Initial Study Checklist under land use, and may be used as indicators of significance.

a. Structures and/or land use incompatible with existing land use.
b. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.
c. The induction of substantial growth or concentration of population.
d. The extension of sewer trunk lines or access roads with capacity to serve new development beyond this proposed project.
e. Loss of existing affordable dwellings through demolition, conversion or removal.
f. Displacement of substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.
g. Displacement of substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.
h. The loss of a substantial amount of open space.
i. An economic or social effect that would result in a physical change (i.e. Closure of a freeway ramp results in isolation of an area, businesses located in the vicinity close, neighborhood degenerates, and buildings deteriorate. Or, if construction of new freeway divides an existing community, the construction would be the physical change, but the economic/social effect on the community would be the basis for determining that the physical change would be significant.)

j. Conflicts with adopted airport safety zones.

Based on the characteristics of the proposed project, only issues a. b. and c. are applicable to the proposed Resource Recovery Project. Item c. is addressed in Section 6.0, Growth Inducement. Therefore only items a. and b. are addressed in this Land Use section. A complete discussion of land use compatibility of the approved landfill is included in 01-EIR-05 (Section 3.7.3.7) and is incorporated by reference.

Santa Barbara County Thresholds and Guidelines Manual – Agricultural Resource Guidelines

With respect to agricultural land use issues, a project is generally considered to have a significant adverse agricultural impact under the County's Agricultural Thresholds if a property is considered to be agriculturally viable and would become unviable as a consequence of implementing a proposed project.

4.8.2.2 Approved Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project

01-EIR-05 for the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project (see Section 3.7.3) identified the following land use impacts for the approved Front Canyon Expansion:

- The expansion was determined to be potentially consistent with the policies, recommendations and goals of the Comprehensive Plan; therefore, it would result in less than significant land use impacts associated with Comprehensive Plan policy consistency.
- The expansion was determined to be potentially consistent with the Coastal Zoning Ordinance and the County Local Coastal Plan; therefore, it would result in less than significant land use impacts associated with coastal policy consistency.
- The expansion was determined to be potentially consistent with the CIWMP; therefore, it would result in less than significant land use impacts associated with CIWMP consistency.
- The expansion was determined to result in potentially significant but mitigable (Class II) impacts to surrounding residences. Because the landfill is an existing use that predated the zoning and is consistent with land use policies, no further mitigation related to land use was required. However, additional mitigation for issues potentially related to land use were provided in Section 3.2 (Geology), 3.3 (Water Resources), 3.6 (Nuisances), 3.8 (Visual Resources), 3.9 (Noise), 3.11 (Air Quality), and 3.12 (Health and Safety) of the EIR.
- The expansion would result in less than significant impacts to the residences of Arroyo Quemada due to the distance from this community and intervening topography.

- Modification of the southeast corner of the landfill was determined to result in short-term land use conflicts that were considered significant, but mitigable (Class II). Mitigation measures required under Sections 3.6 (Nuisances, 3.9 (Noise) and 3.11 (Air Quality) of the EIR would reduce the impact to a less than significant level.[1]
- Adverse, but less than significant impacts related to recreation (coastal recreation and uses within the Los Padres National Forest) were identified (Class III).
- The expansion was determined to result in potentially adverse, but less than significant impacts to agriculture (Class III).

4.8.2.3 Approved Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project

The Subsequent EIR (08EIR-00000-00007) prepared for the reconfiguration project identified the following additional land use impacts associated with restoration activities at Baron Ranch:

- Implementation of the proposed Baron Ranch Restoration Plan would result in the conversion of ~16 acres of active orchards into native vegetation – Class III Impact.
- Implementation of the proposed Baron Ranch Restoration Plan was determined to be consistent with the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan and Coastal Plan.

4.8.2.4 Proposed Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project

Impact TRRP LU-1: The project could result in land use conflicts with adjacent and nearby residential, agricultural and recreational uses – Class II Impact.

Although the Tajiguas Landfill is designated and zoned for agricultural use, it has been used as a County municipal waste disposal facility since 1967 and has a Waste Disposal Overlay in the Land Use Element recognizing its use as a landfill. The proposed project would be located within the existing landfill property and includes uses which are compatible with and supportive of the existing activities at the landfill. The project would increase the amount of public facility-related development present at the Tajiguas Landfill. Additionally, the AD Facility and Energy Facility would operate 24 hours/day, 365 days per week but employees would only be on site up to 6 days/week, thus increasing the intensity of use at the site. The project would also extend the active life of the landfill (and associated operations) for approximately 10 additional years.

[1] Note: The southeast corner modification was subsequently removed from the Landfill Project under a CEQA Addendum (CEQA Guidelines 15164) dated November 8, 2006 accepted by the Board of Supervisors on December 5, 2006.

Because the project is completely located within the Tajiguas Landfill property, its footprint would not directly impact adjacent agricultural properties, the National Forest, Arroyo Hondo Reserve or former Hercules Gas Plant area. Properties to the south of the landfill property are agriculturally zoned, but permitted uses on these agriculturally zoned properties include a single family dwelling. The project would have some indirect effects on on-site and neighboring land uses which could result in land use conflicts as summarized below.

The project would be briefly visible from some adjacent public viewing corridors (e.g., U.S. Highway 101 and public trails) and would be visible from privately-owned property (e.g., APN 081-150-034, Hart property south of the site) as described in Section 4.1 (Visual Resources/Aesthetics). Mitigation measures ***MM TRRP VIS-1a*** and ***VIS-1b*** would reduce visual impacts to a less than significant level.

Odors, air pollutant emissions and noise generated by the project may create nuisances at adjacent land uses, but not to a significant degree as described in Section 4.2 (Air Quality/Greenhouse Gases) and Section 4.7 (Noise).

The project would impact vegetation, wildlife habitat and wildlife within the landfill property boundaries as described in Section 4.3 (Biological Resources) of this Subsequent EIR. However, the project would not result in the loss of a substantial amount of open space and with implementation of mitigation measures provided in Section 4.3, all potential biological impacts (excluding extension of landfill life) would be reduced to a level of less than significant (***MM TRRP BIO-1, MM TRRP BIO-2, MM TRRP BIO-3, MM TRRP BIO-4, MM TRRP BIO-5, MM TRRP BIO-6***).

Significant land use conflicts were not identified in the Final EIR for the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project. Based on the Gaviota Coast Plan, no change in zoning or land use surrounding the Landfill is anticipated, such that future significant land use conflicts would not occur. In addition, the proposed project would result in a reduction in solid waste disposal activity, and over time this activity would become concentrated in the back canyon area, further from populated areas. Overall, extending the landfill life would not result in significant land use conflicts.

As discussed in Section 4.4 (Hazards and Hazardous Materials), the project may result in releases of hazardous materials, but not to a degree that would be expected to significantly impact adjacent land uses. The project could be a potential source of fire starts which could affect adjacent land uses. However, the landfill has a perimeter fire break, the facilities would be equipped with fire protection systems (e.g., sprinkler system within the MRF) and this potential effect would be further mitigated by the implementation of ***MM TRRP HAZ-1***.

The project would not result in significant impacts to traffic operations (see Section 4.9, Transportation/Circulation).

The project is not expected to result in any significant health/nuisance effects (e.g. vectors or pathogens) and would reduce the potential for off-site transport of litter (see Section 4.11, Public Health/Nuisance).

Therefore, considering the historic and existing public facility use of the Tajiguas Landfill property, it's remote location, the nature of the surrounding land uses (agricultural, open space, former oil and gas), and with implementation of identified mitigation measures, potential land use conflicts associated with the proposed Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project would be potentially significant but mitigable.

4.8.2.5 Consistency with Land Use and Environmental Plans and Policies

Statewide Waste Management and Waste Reduction Legislation

The proposed Resource Recovery Project includes the construction of a MRF and AD Facility at the existing Tajiguas Landfill. The MRF would allow for the recovery of recycled materials for sale and reuse. Any organics recovered would be processed in the AD Facility with only the residue disposed via landfilling. The Resource Recovery Project is consistent with the overall intent of AB 939 (and associated CIWSP), AB 341 and the Statewide Anaerobic Digestion Initiative because it would reduce landfilling of MSW, reduce the production of greenhouse gases, and "encourage the development of additional solid waste processing and composting capacity that is needed to meet state and local objectives.

Climate Action Strategy

The AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan estimates that AD facilities in California could reduce methane emissions from landfills at a level of 2 million $MTCO_2e$ per year by the year 2020 (California Air Resources Board [CARB], 2008). Because the Resource Recovery Project would include an AD facility that would help reduce GHG emissions, it appears consistent with the intent of the Climate Action Strategy.

Section 4.2, Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions of this Subsequent EIR provides a thorough quantification and assessment of GHG emissions associated with the proposed project and alternatives. Based upon this assessment, the project would indeed result in a reduction of GHG emissions relative to the No Project Alternative.

Clean Air Plan

As discussed in Section 4.2 (Air Quality), the Resource Recovery Project facilities construction and operation appears consistent with the ~~2010~~ 2013 Clean Air Plan.

Basin Plan

Water quality objectives are achieved through enforcement of, and compliance with, the RWQCB's permits (i.e., the landfill's General Industrial Permit and waste discharge requirements [WDRs]). With implementation of water resouces mitigation identified in Section 4.10.2.4 and continued compliance with the General Industrial Permit and WDRs for the landfill, the project appears consistent with the water quality objectives set forth in the Basin Plan.

Santa Barbara County Land Use & Development Code

The inland areas of the Tajiguas Landfill are located within areas zoned for agriculture under County Ordinance 661. Pursuant to the Santa Barbara County Land Use and Development Code within the unincorporated Inland areas of the County, the provisions of the Development Code do not apply to "development by the County or any district of which the Board is the governing body" (Section 35.10.040.G.1.b.).

The project facilities (including MRF, AD Facility, composting area, energy facility, maintenance building) would be located in the inland area of the existing landfill (see Figure 3-4). As such, the project elements would not be subject to any local land use permit requirements. The project does however require approval by the County Board of Supervisors. However, during construction, landfill administration facilities may be temporarily relocated to the 370' deck within the coastal zone as discussed further below. An alternative location, within the disturbed portion of the landfill property, outside of the Coastal Zone is also being considered.

Santa Barbara County Coastal Zoning Ordinance

The Coastal Zone boundary runs through the southern portion of the landfill property (see Figure 3-3). During construction, landfill administration facilities may be temporarily relocated to the 370' deck located within the coastal zone. An additional location outside of the Coastal Zone is also being considered. The project may also require the upgrading of transmission lines (on existing poles) which pass through the Coastal Zone. The portion of the landfill within the Coastal Zone pre-dates the Coastal Act of 1972 and the Coastal Zoning Ordinance and is considered a legal, non-conforming use. Activities that support this historic legal non-conforming landfill use have not required Coastal Development Permits. Pursuant to the County's Coastal Zoning Ordinance section 35.69.2 on lands zoned AG-II, a Coastal Development Permit is required for development including grading[2].

[2] Grading activities at the County-owned landfill would not require either land use or grading permits as Section 14-6(a) of the County Grading Ordinance specifies that the ordinance applies to grading activities conducted on privately owned land.

Within the coastal zone, development includes among other things "the placement or erection of any solid material or structure". The development of the project would not include permanent construction of structures in the coastal zone; however, structures may be temporarily relocated within the coastal zone. Because the relocation of these facilities is required as a consequence of the construction of the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project and not directly supporting the legal non-conforming landfill use, the project would need to comply with the permitting requirements of the Coastal Zoning Ordinance[3].

Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan - Land Use Element

Land Use Development - Policy 4*: Prior to issuance of a use permit, the County shall make the finding, based on information provided by environmental documents, staff analysis, and the applicant, that adequate public or private services and resources (i.e., water, sewer, roads, etc.) are available to serve the proposed development.*

Potentially in Conformity. Services (on-site well water, on-site wastewater disposal, public roads, etc.) currently exist at the landfill site or will be developed as part of the project to serve permitted operations and would continue to serve the landfill as well as the proposed Resource Recovery Project. A hydrogeologic study, Hydrogeologic and Water Supply Impact Analysis Report, dated October 4, 2013, was prepared by GeoSyntec. This study determined that the groundwater resources present at the site are anticipated to be adequate to serve the project. Roads are presently developed on site and would continue to serve the landfill and the Resource Recovery Project facilities. The proposed project includes the installation and operation of two advanced self-contained commercial wastewater treatment units. Permits will be necessary for the operation of the wells and of the commercial wastewater treatment units from County Environmental Health Services. Electrical service is currently available to the site and in addition, the MRF will be equipped with solar panels and the project will generate approximately one megawatt of electricity.

~~*Potentially Consistent*. Services (on-site well water, on-site wastewater disposal, public roads, etc.) currently exist at the landfill site or will be developed as part of the project to serve permitted operations and would continue to serve the landfill as well as the proposed Resource Recovery Project.~~

[3] Note: Pursuant to Article II Appendix C - County Guidelines on Repair and Maintenance and Utility Connection to Permitted Development, Section B.2.b Transmission and Distribution and Communication Facilities: " A Coastal Development Permit is not required to maintain, replace, or modify existing overhead facilities, including the addition of equipment and wires to existing poles or other structures, right-of-way maintenance, and minor pole and equipment relocations".

Hillside and Watershed Protection - Policy 1*: Plans for development shall minimize cut and fill operations...*

Potentially in Conformity. The MRF/AD Facility site would be located at the existing landfill operations deck and the composting area would be located on the closed landfill waste footprint. However, construction of the MRF and AD Facility would require approximately 142,605 cubic yards of cut and 102,765 cubic yards of fill (adjusted for compaction) to increase the pad height of the operations deck by up to 20 feet for a maximum finished pad elevation of 394 feet above msl. All earthwork for the MRF/AD Facility site would located in areas previously disturbed by landfill operations, including the operations deck which is an engineered fill pad and the west borrow area which is an area that has been previously disturbed and graded to provided landfill cover material and closure soil.

This amount of grading is needed to create building pads large enough to accommodate the MRF/AD Facility that do not overlie the waste footprint and could not be developed with less earth movement. The tip floor/waste delivery area would be raised by 16 feet relative to the waste processing and storage floor to shorten the conveyor belts that feed the waste and recyclable sorting system. The tip floor elevation was selected to minimize retaining wall heights relative to the adjacent hillside as well as to minimize export of excess fill from the MRF/AD Facility site to the landfill for use as daily cover.

The project is located on an existing developed site, and is designed to best integrate with the existing operations. As such, land disturbance (cut and fill) has been minimized to the extent practicable in the context of landfill disposal activities which cumulatively involve over three million cubic yards of earthmoving.

~~*Potentially Consistent*. The MRF/AD Facility site would be located at the existing landfill operations deck and the composting area would be located on the closed landfill waste footprint. However, construction of the MRF/AD Facility would require approximately 107,200 cubic yards of cut and 81,200 cubic yards of fill to increase the pad height of the operations deck by up to 20 feet for a maximum finished pad elevation of 394 feet above msl. This amount of grading is needed to create building pads large enough to accommodate the MRF and AD Facility that do not overlie the waste footprint. The tip floor/waste delivery area would be raised by 16 feet relative to the waste processing and storage floor to shorten the conveyor belts that feed the waste and recyclable sorting system. The tip floor elevation was selected to minimize retaining wall heights relative to the adjacent hillside as well as to minimize export of excess fill from the AD Facility and MRF site to the landfill for use as daily cover. The project is located on an existing developed site, and is designed to best integrate with the existing operations, as such land disturbance (cut and fill) has been minimized to the extent practicable in the context of landfill disposal activities which cumulatively involves over three million cubic yards of earthmoving.~~

Hillside and Watershed Protection - Policy 2*: All developments shall be designed to fit the site topography, soils, geology, hydrology, and any other existing conditions and be oriented so that grading and other site preparation is kept to an absolute minimum. Natural features, landforms, and native vegetation, such as trees shall be preserved to the maximum extent feasible. Areas of the site which are not suited to development because of known soil, geologic, flood, erosion or other hazards shall remain in open space.*

Potentially in Conformity. Suitable locations for development of the Resource Recovery Project components at the Tajiguas Landfill site are limited due to the presence of the waste footprint, steep slopes, limited flat deck area, and space needs for landfill equipment storage and operations. The proposed locations for the MRF/AD Facility and composting area include existing developed/disturbed areas of the landfill property (operations deck, west borrow area and top deck) with suitable area and slope to support the facilities. Additional grading is needed to create building pads large enough to accommodate the MRF/AD Facility that do not overlie the waste footprint and to maximize MRF operational efficiency. However, additional grading would only occur on the previously disturbed and developed operations deck and existing disturbed portions of the permitted landfill west borrow area.

By constructing in these existing disturbed areas, grading and other site preparations are kept to an absolute minimum. Because the majority of the facilities would be located in the existing disturbed areas of the landfill, vegetation removal would be minimized. Construction outside of the existing disturbed areas would be required for the tanks, which need to be at an elevation to ensure gravity flow, and for the utility line to proposed well 6. While a small amount (1.09 total acres) of common native habitats (*Ceanothus megacarpus* chaparral and rock outcrop) would be removed by the project in these areas, no sensitive habitats would be directly impacted. Construction activities could potentially adversely affect sensitive vegetation located adjacent to the direct impact area due to introduction of invasive species, erosion, or if work inadvertently occurs outside of the designated work area. However, ***MM TRRP BIO-1*** would include a requirement for delineating the construction work area, controlling invasive plants, and implementation of erosion control measures in order to avoid impacts to adjacent vegetation and wildlife habitat. Therefore, natural features, landforms, and native vegetation, such as trees have been preserved to the maximum extent feasible. Geotechnical and hydrologic studies (Soils Engineering Report and Engineering Geology Investigation, GeoSolutions Inc., October 4, 2013 and Hydrology and Hydraulic Analysis Report, HDR, September 2013) have been prepared to evaluate the project facilities and based on these studies, the proposed locations are suitable for the proposed project elements.

~~*Potentially Consistent with Mitigation*. Suitable locations for development of the Resource Recovery Project components at the Tajiguas Landfill site are limited due to the presence of the waste footprint, steep slopes, limited flat deck area, and space needs for landfill equipment storage and operations. The proposed locations for the MRF/AD Facility and composting area include existing developed/disturbed areas of the landfill property (operations deck and top deck) with suitable area and slope to support the facilities. Some additional grading is needed to create building pads large enough to accommodate the MRF and AD Facility that do not overlie the waste footprint and to maximize MRF operational efficiency. However, additional grading would occur on the previously disturbed and developed operations deck and existing disturbed portions of the permitted landfill west borrow area.~~

~~Construction activities associated with the proposed project could potentially adversely affect sensitive vegetation located adjacent to the direct impact area due to introduction of invasive species, erosion, or if work inadvertently occurs outside of the designated work area. However, ***MM TRRP BIO-1*** would include a requirement for delineating the construction work area, controlling invasive plants and implementation of erosion control measures in order to avoid impacts to adjacent vegetation and wildlife habitat.~~

~~The proposed project would result in the removal of 0.02 acres of rock outcrop within the utility corridor to the proposed Well no. 6 site. However, the removal is limited to a low portion of a rock cliff face that is close to the active disturbance area of the landfill.~~

Hillside and Watershed Protection - Policy 3: *For necessary grading on hillsides, the smallest practical area of land shall be exposed at any one time during development, and the length of exposure shall be kept to the shortest practicable amount of time. The clearing of land should be avoided during the winter rainy season and all measures for removing sediments and stabilizing slopes should be in place before the beginning of the rainy season.*

Potentially in Conformity. Grading and site preparation, as a whole, would be limited to only four months. The only grading that is proposed on hillsides is grading in the west borrow area to support the installation of the MRF and AD Facility. The west borrow area is currently disturbed as it has been used as a borrow site for landfill operations. The grading on hillslopes would be limited to this pre-disturbed area and the grading period would be limited (four months). Therefore, the smallest practical area is being developed considering the scope of the project. The timing of grading for the project is not currently known. However, the project would exceed one acre of disturbance and would require coverage under the NPDES Construction General Storm Water Permit.

Compliance with the Construction General Storm Water Permit requires preparation of a SWPPP that would include measures to reduce off-site water quality impacts during construction. Additionally, implementation of ***MM TRRP WR-2*** which includes numerous measures that would prevent erosion and protect soil stability (e.g. Erosion and Sediment Control Plan), would result in protection of slopes and the watershed from construction activities, even if construction were to occur during the rainy season. Earthwork associated with project construction and landfill operations may result in unstable slopes that may generate landslides. However, proposed ***MM TRRP G-1*** which prohibits ponding on the slopes, diverts storm flows away from the slope faces, prevents concentrated over-slope drainage, and ensures on site observation of the slopes during construction by an engineer or an engineering geologist, would insure stability of cut slopes.

~~*Potentially Consistent with Mitigation*. Grading and site preparation would be limited to four months as described in Section 3.5.6 of this Subsequent EIR. Although the timing of land clearing operations has not yet been determined, implementation of ***MM TRRP WR-2*** which includes numerous measures that would prevent erosion and protect soil stability (e.g. Erosion and Sediment Control Plan) would result in protection of slopes and the watershed from project construction activities.~~

~~As described in Section 4.5 (Geologic Processes), earthwork associated with project construction and landfill operations may result in unstable slopes that may generate landslides. However, proposed ***MM TRRP G-1*** would facilitate stability of cut slopes, reducing this potential impact to less than significant.~~

Hillside and Watershed Protection - Policy 4*: Sediment basins (including debris basins, desilting basins, or silt traps) shall be installed on the project site in conjunction with the initial grading operations and maintained through the development process to remove sediment from runoff waters. All sediment shall be retained on-site unless removed to an appropriate dumping location.*

Potentially in Conformity. Two sedimentation basins (north and south basins) currently capture sediment from the landfill via a network of storm drains. These basins would continue to provide sediment control from the developed landfill area including areas that will be developed with Resource Recovery Project facilities. In addition, construction storm water protection is addressed by mitigation measure ***MM TRRP WR-2*** which includes numerous water quality protection measures including the use of straw wattles or equivalent measures to trap suspended sediment around work areas containing disturbed soils. Best management practices contained in the SWPPP and ECSP are required to be in place prior to and throughout construction.

~~*Potentially Consistent with Mitigation*. Two sedimentation basins (north and south basins) capture sediment from the landfill via a network of storm drains. These basins would continue to provide sediment control from the developed landfill area including areas that will be developed with Resource Recovery Project facilities. In addition, construction storm water protection is addressed by mitigation measure ***MM TRRP WR-2*** which includes numerous water quality protection measures including the use of straw wattles of equivalent measure to trap suspended sediment around work areas containing disturbed soils.~~

Hillside and Watershed Protection - Policy 5: *Temporary vegetation, seeding, mulching, or other suitable stabilization method shall be used to protect soils subject to erosion that have been disturbed during grading or development. All cut and fill slopes shall be stabilized as rapidly as possible with planting of native grasses and shrubs, appropriate non-native plants, or with accepted landscaping practices.*

Potentially in Conformity. The project would require coverage under the NPDES Construction General Storm Water Permit which requires that a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan be prepared and implemented. Additionally, mitigation measure ***MM TRRP WR-2*** includes a requirement for an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan that will be implemented until re-graded areas have been stabilized by structures, long-term erosion control measures or permanent vegetation established.

~~*Potentially Consistent with Mitigation*. The project would require coverage under the NPDES Construction General Storm Water Permit which requires that a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan be prepared and implemented. Additionally, mitigation measure ***MM TRRP WR-2*** includes a requirement for an Erosion Control Plan that will be implemented until re-graded areas have been stabilized by structures, long-term erosion control measures or permanent vegetation established.~~

Hillside and Watershed Protection - Policy 6*: Provisions shall be made to conduct surface water to storm drains or suitable watercourses to prevent erosion. Drainage devices shall be designed to accommodate increased runoff resulting from modified soil and surface conditions as a result of development. Water runoff shall be retained onsite whenever possible to facilitate groundwater recharge.*

Potentially in Conformity. ~~*Potentially Consistent*~~. Drainage from the Resource Recovery Project site would be conveyed to new or existing storm drain inlets which drain into the existing Cañada de la Pila 48-inch storm drain. These storm drains are located beneath the operations deck (west of the landfill waste footprint) and discharge into the natural channel of Pila Creek at the southern end of the landfill property. To meet storm water quality requirements, all surface water run-off from the site would be treated by filtration devices prior to discharge from the site to any off-site drainage conveyance.

The composting area would be graded at a minimum slope of three percent toward collection points around the perimeter of the area. A berm would also be constructed around the perimeter of the composting area to prevent run-off from leaving the area and to prevent storm water run-on.

In accordance with the State Water Resources Control Board Draft Compost Regulations, 25-year, 24-hour storm event flows would be captured in onsite storage facilities. Storm water runoff from the pad, would be collected via asphalt swales and directed through sediment removal device into portable tanks (Baker, or equivalent). The collected water would be reused on the compost piles to maintain proper moisture content. Rainfall events exceeding the 25 year storm would be diverted through an overflow system to the upper reach of Pila Creek. Because of the presence of the landfill, storm water is not permitted to be retained for recharge.

Hillside and Watershed Protection - **Policy 7:** *Degradation of the water quality of groundwater basins, nearby streams, or wetlands shall not result from development of the site. Pollutants, such as chemicals, fuels, lubricants, raw sewage, and other harmful waste, shall not be discharged into or alongside coastal streams or wetlands either during or after construction.*

Potentially in Conformity. The project would require coverage under the NPDES Construction General Stormwater Permit which requires that a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan be prepared and implemented. Additionally, construction stormwater protection is addressed by mitigation measure ***MM TRRP WR-2*** which includes numerous water quality protection measures. Operation of the Resource Recovery Project has the potential to adversely affect water quality through discharge of contaminated stormwater, inadvertent discharge of percolate, wastewater disposal, and leaks or spills from fueling activities Numerous measures are incorporated into the project to avoid or minimize contamination of storm and/or surface water. However, additional industrial storm water permit compliance and spill prevention is addressed by mitigation measure ***MM TRRP WR-3*** which includes measures to minimize surface water contamination associated with waste handling, processing and related activities. Additionally, discharge of run-off from the composting area may adversely impact surface water quality. However, mitigation measure ***MM TRRP WR-4*** requires water quality monitoring and a corrective action plan for run-off from the composting area.

~~*Potentially Consistent with Mitigation*. The project would require coverage under the NPDES Construction General Stormwater Permit which requires that a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan be prepared and implemented. Additionally, construction stormwater protection is addressed by mitigation measure ***MM TRRP WR-2*** which includes numerous water quality protection measures. As described in Section 4.10 (Water Resources), operation of the Resource Recovery Project has the potential to adversely affect water quality through discharge of contaminated stormwater, inadvertent discharge of percolate, wastewater disposal, and leaks or spills from fueling activities (Impact TRRP WR-8). Numerous measures are incorporated into the project to avoid or minimize contamination of storm and/or surface water as detailed in Section 4.10. However, ***MM TRRP WR-3*** is required to mitigate Impact TRRP WR-8 to a level of less than significant. Additionally, discharge of run-off from the composting area may adversely impact surface water quality (Impact TRRP WR-9) and requires implementation of mitigation measure ***MM TRRP WR-4*** to reduce this potential impact to a less than significant level.~~

Streams and Creeks- Policy 1*: All permitted construction and grading within stream corridors shall be carried out in such a manner as to minimize impacts from increased runoff, sedimentation, biochemical degradation, or thermal pollution.*

Potentially Consistent. No streambed corridor work is required.

Flood Hazard Area - Policy 1*: All development, including construction, excavation, and grading, except flood control projects and non-structural agricultural uses, shall be prohibited in the floodway unless off-setting improvements in accordance with HUD regulations are provided. If the proposed development falls within the floodway fringe, development may be permitted, provided creek setback requirements are met and finished floor elevations are two feet above the projected 100-year flood elevation, and the other requirements regarding materials and utilities as specified in the Flood Plain Management Ordinance are in compliance.*

Flood Hazard Area - Policy 2*: Permitted development shall not cause or contribute to flood hazards or lead to expenditure of public funds for flood control works, i.e., dams, stream channelizations, etc.*

Potentially in Conformity ~~*Potentially Consistent.*~~ Due to the lack of adjacent development, neither Cañada de la Pila or Arroyo Quemado are regulated floodplains and no floodways have been identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Drainage from the Resource Recovery Project site would be conveyed to new or existing storm drain inlets which drain into the existing Cañada de la Pila 48-inch storm drain south of the landfill. As discussed in Section 4.10 (Water Resources), peak flows from the project would not impact facilities downstream of the landfill. The existing storm drain system was evaluated and would adequately convey peak storm runoff from 100-year events under the existing plus project conditions. Therefore, no flood hazards would be created, and no new flood control works would be required.

Historical and Archeological Sites - Policy 1*: All available measures, including purchase, tax relief, purchase of development rights, etc., shall be explored to avoid development on significant historic, prehistoric, archeological, and other classes of cultural sites.*

Historical and Archeological Sites - Policy 2*: When developments are proposed for parcels where archeological sites or other cultural sites are located, project design shall be required which avoids impacts to such cultural sites if possible.*

Historical and Archeological Sites - Policy 3*: When sufficient planning flexibility does not permit avoiding construction on archeological or other types of cultural sites, adequate mitigation shall be required. Mitigation shall be designed in accord with guidelines of the State Office of Historic Preservation and the State of California Native American Heritage Commission.*

Historical and Archeological Sites - ***Policy 4:*** *Off-road vehicle use, unauthorized collection of artifacts, and other activities other than development which could destroy or damage archeological or cultural sites shall be prohibited.*

Potentially in Conformity. There are no known historic properties within 0.5 mile radius of the project site and there is no evidence of archaeological resources within the area of proposed ground disturbance. However, excavation at the tank sites has the potential to encounter unknown buried cultural resources. Therefore, mitigation measure ***MM TRRP CR-1***, which requires stop work and evaluation of materials in the unlikely event of the discovery of resources during construction, is required. With implementation of this measure, the project is in Conformity with policies relating to cultural resources.

~~*Potentially Consistent with Mitigation*. As discussed in Section 4.6 (Cultural Resources), there are no historic properties with 0.5 mile radius of the project site and there is no evidence of archaeological resources within the area of proposed ground disturbance. However, excavation at the tank sites (see Figure 3-14) has the potential to encounter unknown buried cultural resources. Therefore, mitigation measure ***MM TRRP CR-1*** has been provided in order to reduce potentially significant archaeological resource impacts to less than significant. With implementation of this measure, the project appears consistent with the above policies relating to cultural resources.~~

Historical and Archeological Sites - Policy 5*: Native Americans shall be consulted when development proposals are submitted which impact significant archeological or cultural sites*.

Potentially in Conformity. ~~*Potentially Consistent*~~. As indicated above, no archaeological sites are known to exist within the project area of potential disturbance. However, as part of the preparation of this Subsequent EIR, a Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) sacred lands files search was conducted and the NAHC-recommended list of Chumash contacts were consulted regarding their concerns regarding the project (see Section 4.6.1.7). Sacred lands were not identified in the project area.

Parks/Recreation - Policy 4*: Opportunities for hiking and equestrian trails should be preserved, improved, and expanded wherever compatible with surrounding uses.*

Potentially Consistent. As described in Section 4.13.6 (Recreation), project facilities would be located within existing disturbed areas and would not directly impact public recreational facilities including trails.

Visual Resource - Policy 2*: In areas designated as rural on the land use plan maps, the height, scale and design of structures shall be compatible with the character of the surrounding natural environment, except where technical requirements dictate otherwise. Structures shall be subordinate in appearance to natural landforms, shall be designed to follow the natural contours of the landscape, and shall be sited so as not to intrude into the skyline as seen from public viewing places.*

Potentially in Conformity. The project is located within the existing Tajiguas Landfill property. Permitted operation of the landfill, which has been in existence since 1967, has substantially modified the natural landforms and contours in the area of the proposed project. Additionally, technical requirements, such as the need for large equipment to operate within the buildings, determine the height, size and form of the project facilities. The project is mostly hidden from public view by intervening topography. The MRF and AD Facility would be only briefly visible from U.S. Highway 101 (a scenic highway) and the buildings would not intrude into the skyline (see Attachment B., Visual Simulations). With implementation of mitigation measure ***MM TRRP VIS-1a*** and ***1b*** the structures would be screened and painted to visually blend in with the surrounding landscape and would be subordinate in appearance to the existing landfill and the surrounding natural landforms as viewed from U.S. Highway 101. Project facilities would be almost unperceivable from the Baron Ranch trail.

The proposed composting area run-off collection tank, landfill maintenance building and composting area would be located within the disturbed landfill area. These facilities would be visible from the Upper Outlaw Trail at Arroyo Hondo Preserve; however, the facilities would not intrude into the skyline and existing views from this trail include the active landfill. As such, the height, scale and design of structures would be compatible with the character of the surrounding manmade and natural environments.

~~*Potentially Consistent with Mitigation*. As discussed in Section 4.1 (Visual Resources/Aesthetics), the project is located within the existing Tajiguas Landfill property and is mostly hidden from public view by intervening topography. The MRF and AD Facility would be briefly visible from U.S. Highway 101 (a scenic highway) which is considered a significant visual impact, but the buildings would not intrude into the skyline and with implementation of mitigation measure MM TRRP VIS-1a and 1b the structures would be screened and painted to visually blend in with the surrounding landscape and would be subordinate in appearance to the natural landforms as viewed from U.S. Highway 101. Project facilities would be almost unperceivable from the Baron Ranch trail. The proposed composting area run-off collection tank, landfill maintenance building and composting area would be located within the disturbed landfill area. These facilities would be visible from the Upper Outlaw Trail at Arroyo Hondo Preserve; however, the facilities would not intrude into the skyline and existing view from this trail includes the active landfill. As such, the visual character of this view would not be significantly changed.~~

Public Facilities – Policy 1a: *The development of public facilities necessary to provide public services is appropriate within the defined Rural and Inter-rural Areas.*

Public Facilities – Policy 1b: *When a public agency proposes that a facility be located in a Rural or Inner-Rural Area, especially when it may create any parcel(s) smaller than the minimum parcel size for the Area and the applicable land use designation(s), conformity with the Comprehensive Plan shall be determined in consideration of the following factors:*

i. *Whether the public interest and necessity require the project, balancing potential inconsistencies with other elements and policies of the Comprehensive Plan; and*

ii. *Whether the project is planned and located in the manner that will be most compatible with the greatest public good and the least private injury; and*

iii. *Whether the property sought to be acquired is necessary for the project.*

Potentially in Conformity. **1.a** The Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project is a logical adjunct to the Tajiguas Landfill and would provide for the extension of landfill life by approximately 10 years. The project provides a necessary public service. The project would be located at an existing solid waste management facility that has been in continuous operation since 1967 and the site has a solid waste facility overlay designation in the Comprehensive Plan.

1.b. The proposed project would be located on the existing landfill in a rural area and would not create any new parcels nor affect the parcel size of the underlying lots.

i. The project is necessary to meet state waste management legislation and requirements and to support greenhouse gas reduction legislation, and, as explained herein, is consistent with all applicable policies.

ii. The project is located at the existing Tajiguas landfill, an historic and existing public facility which has been in operation since 1967. The landfill has a waste management overlay in the Comprehensive Plan recognizing its historic and current waste management use. Properties surrounding the landfill are zoned and used primarily for agriculture or open space, or were formerly oil and gas producing facilities. The proposed facilities are located in the central portion of the landfill, largely remote from any public area. Residential development surrounding the landfill is limited to one proposed residence located south of the property and the Arroyo Quemada community located south of U.S. Highway 101 and the UPRR, south and east of the landfill. Environmental impacts have been minimized through project design, and through mitigation measures identified as part of the CEQA review. Therefore as proposed, the project is planned and located in a manner that will be most compatible with the greatest public good and the least private injury.

iii. Finally, the proposed property is already under County ownership and is used as a landfill. Therefore, no additional property needs to be acquired for the project. However, a site lease agreement would be issued for operation of the TRRP facilities.

~~*Potentially Consistent*. The Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project is a logical adjunct to the Tajiguas Landfill and would provide for the extension of landfill life by approximately 10 years. The project provides a necessary public service. The project would be located at an existing solid waste management facility that has been in continuous operation since 1967 and the site has a solid waste facility overlay designation in the Comprehensive Plan.~~

Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan - Seismic Safety & Safety Element

Geologic and Seismic Protection Policy 1*: The County shall minimize the potential effects of geologic, soil, and seismic hazards through the development review process.*

Potentially in Conformity. The project would result in the following geologic, soils and seismic impacts:

- Unstable slopes that may generate landslides;
- Potential impacts to the Materials Recovery Facility and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities from use of expansive soil; and
- Settlement associated with existing and planned municipal solid waste disposal affecting the proposed composting area operations.

Implementation of mitigation measures ***MM TRRP G-1; MM TRRP G-2; MM TRRP G-3*** and ***MM TRRP G-4*** would minimize the potential for geologic, soils and seismic impacts associated with the proposed project.

~~*Potentially Consistent with Mitigation*. As discussed in Section 4.5 (Geologic Processes), the project would result in the following geologic, soils and seismic impacts:~~

- ~~Unstable slopes that may generate landslides (Impact TRRP G-1);~~
- ~~Potential impacts to the MRF and AD Facilities from use of expansive soil (Impact TRRP G-6); and~~
- ~~Settlement associated with existing and planned MSW disposal affecting the proposed composting area operations (Impact TRRP G-8).~~

~~Implementation of mitigation measures ***MM TRRP G-1***; ***MM TRRP G-2***; ***MM TRRP G-3*** and ***MM TRRP G-4*** would minimize the potential for geologic, soils and seismic impacts associated with the proposed project.~~

Geologic and Seismic Protection Policy 5*: Pursuant to County Code Section 21-7(d)(4) and (5), the County shall require a preliminary soil report prepared by a qualified civil engineer be submitted at the time a tentative map is submitted. This requirement may be waived by the Planning Director if he/she determines that no preliminary analysis is necessary. A preliminary geological report prepared by a qualified engineering geologist may also be required by the Planning Director.*

Potentially Consistent. Although the project does not require a tentative map, the following project-specific geological studies have been prepared:

- Soils Engineering Report and Engineering Geology Investigation, Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project (GeoSolutions, Inc., October 2013); and
- Slope Stability Evaluation, Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project Compost Management Unit (Geo-Logic Associates, September 2013).

Geologic and Seismic Protection Policy 6*: The County should reference the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan when considering measures to reduce potential harm from seismic activity to property and lives.*

Potentially Consistent. As discussed in Section 4.5 (Geologic Processes), the project would have the potential to result in seismically-induced slope failures and mitigation measure ***MM TRRP G-1*** has been provided to reduce this impact to less than significant. Goal 1 of the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan is to promote disaster-resistant future development. Although the Soils Engineering Report and Engineering Geology Investigation (see Appendix G) did not explicitly reference the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan, the mitigation provided is intended to meet the primary goal of the plan.

Fire Policy 9*: The County shall minimize the potential effects of fire hazards through the development review process pursuant to State law.*

Potentially in Conformity. The project could result in the accidental release of bio-gas, which could increase the risk of fire or explosion. The project could also result in the risk of the collection of landfill gas in flammable concentrations within enclosed structures. Additionally the project would introduce additional site development, introducing new fuel sources, introducing new sources of ignition and introducing additional personnel into a high fire hazard area. Mitigation measure ***MM TRRP HAZ-2*** has been incorporated into the proposed project to address these hazards. The potential of the project to interfere with emergency response plans was also evaluated and determined not to be significant.

~~*Potentially Consistent with Mitigation*. Section 4.4 (Hazards and Hazardous Materials) addresses potential fire-related impacts of the project. Less than significant impacts associated with the accidental release of bio-gas which could increase the risk of fire or explosion (Impact TRRP HAZ-3); and the risk of the collection of landfill gas in flammable concentrations within enclosed structures (Impact TRRP HAZ-4) were identified. Additionally the project by introducing additional site development, introducing new fuel sources, introducing new sources of ignition and introducing additional personnel into a high fire hazard area would result in a potentially significant impact requiring mitigation (Impact TRRP HAZ-7). Mitigation measure ***MM TRRP HAZ-2*** has been provided to reduce this potentially significant impact to a less than significant level. The potential of the project to interfere with emergency response plans was also evaluated and determined not to be significant. The~~

~~Subsequent EIR analyses pertaining to fire hazards provide project consistency with the above policy.~~

Flood Policy 1*: The County shall avoid or minimize risks of flooding to development through the development review process pursuant to Government Code §65302(3)(g)(2)(i).*

Potentially in Conformity. The project would introduce new impervious surfaces and modify drainage patterns within the project area. However, existing storm drain infrastructure is adequate to accommodate project flows (as analyzed in Section 4.10, Water Resources).

~~*Potentially Consistent*. The potential for flooding impacts was addressed in Section 4.10 (Water Resources), based on a Hydrology and Hydraulic Analysis Report (see Appendix L). A less than significant flooding impact associated with the introduction of impervious surfaces and modification of drainage patterns was identified and it was determined that existing storm drain infrastructure is adequate to accommodate project flows. The Subsequent EIR analysis relating to flooding appears to demonstrate consistency with the above policy.~~

Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan - Conservation Element

Ecological Systems- Chaparral and Scrub Habitats*: To insure the preservation of all species associated with the variety of chaparral and scrub habitat in the County, it will be necessary to restrict use of several areas. In undisturbed areas, productive educational and research programs could be conducted. We recommend low-use chaparral preserves to perpetuate the present high diversity of habitats and communities to be found in the County.*

Potentially Consistent. As described in Section 4.3 (Biological Resources), the project would result in the direct loss of 1.07 acres of *Ceanothus megacarpus* chaparral; however due to the limited area of impact this loss is not considered significant. The impact area is not located in a chaparral preserve.

Ecological Systems - Forest Habitats: *In Coast Live Oak Forests, urbanization, expansion of agriculture, and moderate or heavy recreational use should not be allowed. A natural park would be desirable.*

Potentially Consistent with Mitigation. Construction activities associated with the proposed project would adversely affect sensitive vegetation including 0.39 acres of coast live woodland, 0.28 acres of southern coast live oak riparian forest, and 0.22 acres of California bay seep woodland located adjacent to the direct impact area. However, mitigation measure ***MM TRRP BIO-1*** includes a requirement for delineating the construction work area and other measures in order to avoid direct impacts (e.g., inadvertent damage) and minimize other impacts (e.g., dust) to adjacent vegetation.

Oak Tree Protection in the Inland Rural Areas - Policy 1*: Native oak trees, native oak woodlands and native oak savannas shall be protected to the maximum extent feasible in the County's rural and/or agricultural lands. Regeneration of oak trees shall be encouraged. Because of the limited range and increasing scarcity of valley oak trees, valley oak woodlands and valley oak savanna, special priority shall be given to their protection and regeneration.*

Potentially Consistent with Mitigation. See discussion above for Ecological Systems – Forest Habitats. Oak tree removal would be avoided.

Archeological Sites: *Salvage excavation is a last resort in the "preservation" of archeological information. Such short notice excavations destroy relevant information which might be more effectively excavated with future improved archeological methods and techniques. In salvage archeology, it frequently is impossible to generate an adequate research design before excavation is commenced. Considering these factors, the loss of valuable information is inevitable. In addition, salvage operations are expensive undertakings. Consequently, every effort should be made to preserve, rather than excavate, endangered archeological sites.*

Potentially Consistent with Mitigation. As discussed in Section 4.6 (Cultural Resources), there are no historic properties with 0.5 mile radius of the project site and there is no evidence of archaeological resources within the area of proposed ground disturbance. However, excavation at the tank sites has the potential to encounter unknown buried cultural resources. Therefore, mitigation measure ***MM TRRP CR-1*** has been provided in order to reduce potentially significant archaeological resource impacts to less than significant. With implementation of this measure, the project appears consistent with the above policies relating to cultural resources.

Conservation and Energy Recommendation 2*: Identify the potential for energy conservation measures and for the promotion of policies to convert to non-fossil fuel energy sources.*

Conservation and Energy Recommendation 4*: Implement an aggressive conservation and alternative energy program for County and public facilities.*

Conservation and Energy Recommendation 7*: Consider energy conservation and conversion to alternative energy sources as the central focus of an Energy Element for the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan.*

Potentially Consistent. The Resource Recovery Project would provide for organic waste to be converted into green energy and appears consistent with Conservation and Energy Recommendations 2, 4 and 7.

Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan - Noise Element

Recommended Policy 1*: In planning of land use, 65 dB Day-Night Average Sound Level should be regarded as the maximum exterior noise exposure compatible with noise-sensitive uses unless noise mitigation features are included in project designs.*

Potentially in Conformity. Pursuant to a Community Noise Technical Study (included as Appendix J) prepared for the Resource Recovery Project would not result in noise levels above the 65 dBA CNEL threshold at noise-sensitive land uses.

~~*Potentially Consistent*. As discussed in Section 4.7, Noise, the Resource Recovery Project would not result in noise levels above the 65 dBA CNEL threshold at noise-sensitive land uses.~~

Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan - Agricultural Element

Policy I.A: *The integrity of agricultural operations shall not be violated by recreational or other non-compatible uses.*

Policy II.D: *Conversion of highly productive agricultural lands, whether urban or rural, shall be discouraged. The County shall support programs which encourage the retention of highly productive agricultural lands.*

Potentially in Conformity. ~~*Potentially Consistent*.~~ The proposed project would not affect agricultural operations, as the Tajiguas Landfill site has been used for the disposal of municipal solid waste since 1967 and areas affected by the project are either already disturbed or in open space. The landfill site has an agricultural land use designation and is agriculturally zoned but acknowledgement of the site's use as a landfill is specified through the Waste Disposal Overlay designation. Continued implementation of the mitigation measures identified in the Tajiguas Landfill Environmental documents for the operation of the landfill with regard to land use, air quality and nuisances would continue to minimize conflicts with the ongoing agricultural operations in the area. Therefore, the project appears consistent with policies I.A and II.D.

Santa Barbara County Coastal Plan

As noted above, the facilities associated with the Resource Recovery Project would be located within the inland area of the landfill property. However, during construction, landfill administration facilities may be temporarily relocated to the 370' deck within the coastal zone and existing transmission lines serving the landfill site which pass through the Coastal Zone may be need be upgraded (restrung). The following discussion provides an analysis of the consistency of the proposed Resource Recovery Project (elements within the coastal zone) with applicable coastal plan policies.

Coastal Plan Policy 2-2: *The long term integrity of groundwater basins or sub-basins located wholly within the coastal zone shall be protected. To this end, the safe yield as determined by competent hydrologic evidence of such a groundwater basin or sub-basin shall not be exceeded as part of a conjunctive use or other program managed by the appropriate water district. If the safe yield of a groundwater basin or sub-basin is found to be exceeded for reasons other than a conjunctive use program, new development, including land division and other use dependent upon private wells, shall not be permitted if the net increase in water demand for the development causes basin safe yield to be exceeded, but in no case shall any existing lawful parcel be denied development of one single family residence. This policy shall not apply to appropriators or overlying property owners who wish to develop their property using water to which they are legally entitled pursuant to an adjudication of their water rights.*

Potentially in Conformity ~~*Potentially Consistent*~~. As described in Section 4.10 (Water Resources), the Resource Recovery Project would result in less than significant impacts on local groundwater supplies.

Coastal Plan Policy 3-13: *Plans for development shall minimize cut and fill operations. Plans requiring excessive cutting and filling may be denied if it is determined that the development could be carried out with less alteration of the natural terrain.*

Potentially in Conformity ~~*Potentially Consistent*~~. The temporary relocation of landfill administration trailers to the landfill deck and the upgrading of existing transmission lines would not require excessive cut and fill.

Coastal Plan Policy 3-14: *All development shall be designed to fit the site topography, soils, geology, hydrology, and any other existing conditions and be oriented so that grading and other site preparation is kept to an absolute minimum. Natural features, landforms, and native vegetation, such as trees, shall be preserved to the maximum extent feasible. Areas of the site which are not suited for development because of known soil, geologic, flood, erosion, or other hazards shall remain in open space.*

Potentially in Conformity ~~*Potentially Consistent*~~. There would only be a temporary relocation of landfill administration trailers to an existing impacted area of the landfill and upgrade of transmission lines on existing poles. No new grading would be required and these facilities would not result in any new impact to natural features.

Coastal Plan Policy 3-15: *For necessary grading operations on hillsides, the smallest practical area of land shall be exposed at any one time during development, and the length of exposure shall be kept to the shortest practical amount of time. The clearing of land should be avoided during the winter rainy season and all measures for removing sediments and stabilizing slopes should be in place before the beginning of the rainy season.*

Potentially in Conformity ~~*Potentially Consistent*~~. See the discussion for Hillside and Watershed Protection Policy 3. However, no grading is required within the Coastal Zone.

Coastal Plan Policy 3-16: *Sediment basins shall be installed on the project site in conjunction with the initial grading operations and maintained throughout the development process.*

Potentially in Conformity ~~*Potentially Consistent*~~ *with Mitigation*. See the discussion for Hillside and Watershed Protection Policy 4.

Coastal Plan Policy 3-17: *Temporary vegetation, seeding, mulching, or other suitable stabilization method shall be used to protect soils subject to erosion that have been disturbed during grading or development. All cut and fill slopes shall be stabilized immediately with planting of native grasses and shrubs, appropriate nonnative plants, or with accepted landscaping practices*

Potentially in Conformity ~~*Potentially Consistent*~~ *with Mitigation*. See the discussion for Hillside and Watershed Protection Policy 5.

Coastal Plan Policy 3-19: *Degradation of the water quality of groundwater basins, nearby streams, or wetlands shall not result from development of the site. Pollutants, such as chemicals, fuels, lubricants, raw sewage, and other harmful waste, shall not be discharged into or alongside coastal streams or wetlands either during or after construction.*

Potentially in Conformity ~~*Potentially Consistent*~~ *with Mitigation*. See the discussion for Hillside and Watershed Protection Policy 7.

Coastal Plan Policy 9-37: *The minimum buffer strip for major streams in rural areas, as defined by the land use plan, shall be presumptively 100 feet.*

Potentially in Conformity. No work would be required within 100 feet of a major stream.

Coastal Plan Policy 9-41: *All permitted construction and grading within stream corridors shall be carried out in a manner as to minimize impacts from increased runoff, sedimentation, biochemical degradation or thermal pollution.*

Potentially in Conformity ~~*Potentially Consistent*~~. See the discussion for Streams and Creeks Policy 1.

City of Santa Barbara General Plan - Environmental Resources Element

Goal: Reduce Greenhouse Gases. *Reduce where practicable greenhouse gas emission contributions to climate change, and to air pollution and related health risks.*

Goal: Reduce Fossil Fuel Use. *Reduce fossil fuel use through increased efficiency and conservation, and by developing renewable energy sources.*

Policy ER1. Climate Change: *As applicable, private development and public facilities and services may be required to incorporate measures to minimize contributions to climate change and to adapt to climate changes anticipated to occur within the life of the project.*

Policy ER5. Energy Efficiency and Conservation. *As part of the City's strategy for addressing climate change, minimizing pollution of air and water, depleting nonrenewable resources and insulating from volatility of fossil fuel prices, dependence on energy derived from fossil fuels shall be reduced through increased efficiency, conservation and conversion to renewable energy resources when practicable and financially warranted.*

ER6. Local and Regional Renewable Energy Resources. *Provide both within the city, and regionally through working with the County and other local jurisdictions or parties, opportunities to preserve, promote and participate in the development of local renewable energy resources such as solar, wind, geothermal, wave, hydro, methane and waste conversion.*

Potentially Consistent: The AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan estimates that AD facilities in California could reduce methane emissions from landfills at a level of 2 million $MTCO_2e$ per year by the year 2020 (California Air Resources Board [CARB], 2008). AD facilities also can contribute to meeting the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard and Low Carbon Fuel Standard. The proposed project would divert organic waste from landfilling and convert it into bio-gas that would be used to generate electricity. Additionally, the project includes the use of solar panels. As discussed in Section 4.2, with implementation of the project, waste management GHG emissions would be reduced by at least 993,000 metric tons over the period of 2015 through 2066. In addition, bio-gas from the AD Facility would be used to generate green energy. Thus, the project appears consistent with the City goals and policies identified above relating to climate change, renewable energy and energy conservation.

Goal: Air Quality. *Maintain air quality above Federal and State ambient air quality standards.*

Potentially Consistent. As discussed in Section 4.2 (Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions), pollutant concentrations from the project when combined with the appropriate ambient background concentrations, would be below the Federal and State air quality standards.

City of Santa Barbara General Plan - Safety and Public Services Element

Waste Management, Recycling and Disposal - Policy PS8 Solid Waste Management Programs: *Continue and Expand city recycling programs for resource reduction, reuse and recycling of solid waste.*

Potentially Consistent. The project would provide for additional recovery of recyclable material and organic waste from MSW generated within the City of Santa Barbara.

Waste Management, Recycling and Disposal - Policy PS8.4 Waste Management Options: *Continue to coordinate with and provide support to the County in its existing partnership with other South Coast agencies to facilitate construction of a waste-to-energy facility at the Tajiguas Landfill, and to explore and establish waste disposal capacity...*

Potentially Consistent. The City of Santa Barbara is as a Public Participant in the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project. The proposed project would divert recyclable material and organics from landfill disposal and result in the extension of Tajiguas Landfill life by approximately 10 years, providing a 20-year waste management strategy for the south coast region.

City of Goleta General Plan - Conservation Element

Policy CE 12: Protection of Air Quality: *Objective: To maintain and promote a safe and healthy environment by protecting air quality and minimizing pollutant emissions from new development and from transportation sources.*

Policy CE 13: Energy Conservation: *Objective: To promote energy efficiency in future land use and development within Goleta, encourage use of renewable energy sources, and reduce reliance upon fossil fuels.*

Potentially Consistent: The project would incorporate a renewable energy component and solar panels which would help meet the objectives of protecting air quality, reducing GHG emissions and reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

City of Goleta General Plan - Public Facilities Element

Policy PF 7: Coordinating Facilities and Services with Other Agencies: *Objective: To ensure the appropriate provision of public facilities and buildings by all public agencies and related nonprofit organizations.*

PF 7.2 Consultation with Other Service Providers: *In order to coordinate the short and long-term provision of public facilities to meet existing and future community needs, the City shall regularly meet and consult with other public and quasi-public service providers and share information on pending development applications, growth rates, and development patterns. The City shall discuss and exchange population forecasts, development plans, and technical data with the service providers to facilitate the coordination of natural gas, electrical power, sanitary sewer, solid waste collection, domestic water, school, and communication services.*

Potentially Consistent: The City of Goleta is a Public Participant in the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project. The proposed project would divert recyclable material and organics from landfill disposal and result in the extension of Tajiguas Landfill life by approximately 10 years, providing a 20-year waste management strategy for the south coast region. Thus the project appears consistent with the City of Goleta public facilities related policies and objective above.

City of Solvang General Plan - Circulation Element

Goal 5 *- Protect the residents of Solvang from the effects of environmental degradation by working to reduce climate change, air pollution, and the effects of the expansion of the roadway system.*

Potentially Consistent: The AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan estimates that AD facilities in California could reduce methane emissions from landfills at a level of 2 million $MTCO^2e$ per year by the year 2020 (California Air Resources Board [CARB], 2008). AD also can contribute to meeting the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard and Low Carbon Fuel Standard. The City of Solvang is a Public Participant in the Resource Recovery Project which would include an AD facility and provide a source of alternative energy.

The proposed project would divert organic waste from landfilling and convert it into bio-gas that would be used to generate electricity. Additionally, the project includes the use of solar panels. As discussed in Section 4.2, waste management GHG emissions would be reduced by at least 933,000 metric tons over the period of 2015 through 2066, which would help offset climate change. In addition, bio-gas produced by the AD Facility would be used generate green energy.

City of Solvang General Plan - Land Use Element

Goal 5: *Work towards decreasing the effects of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.*

Potentially Consistent. See Circulation Goal 5.

City of Buellton General Plan

Solid Waste Disposal, Public Facilities and Services - Goal 6: *Ensure the provision of adequate solid waste disposal services and facilities to meet the disposal demands of the City through build out and ensure protection of the public's health, safety and welfare.*

Solid Waste Disposal, Program 7: *Work with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments and the California Integrated Waste Management Board to expand solid waste disposal capacity and encourage recycling, source reduction, waste composting, and public information programs.*

Potentially Consistent. The City of Buellton is as a Public Participant in the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project. The proposed project would divert recyclable material and organics from landfill disposal and result in the extension of Tajiguas Landfill life by approximately 10 years, providing a 20-year waste management strategy for the south coast region.

4.8.2.6 Proposed Resource Recovery Project with Optional Commingled Source Separated Recyclables (CSSR) Component

The optional CSSR component would include an additional 10,000 square feet of processing facilities within the MRF building. This increase would occur within the footprint of the proposed MRF in areas constructed on engineered fill. Additionally, the number of employees on the site would increase by 20 during the day and there would be additional deliveries of recyclable materials and transport of sorted materials off-site after processing. These activities would not substantially increase land use impacts associated with the proposed project. Therefore, the discussion concerning land use compatibility and policy consistency presented in Sections 4.8.2.4 and 4.8.2.5 is applicable to the proposed project with the optional CSSR component.

4.8.2.7 Extension of Landfill Life Impacts

Impact TRRP LU-2: Project-related extension of the life of the Tajiguas Landfill would extend land use conflicts further in time – Class III Impact.

As discussed in Section 3.4, project-related diversion of recyclable materials and organic waste is anticipated to extend the life of the Tajiguas Landfill by about 10 years. Therefore, with implementation of the proposed project, less than significant land use conflicts associated with landfill operations (see Section 4.8.2.2) would continue further in time as compared to current closure plans.

4.8.2.8 Decommissioning Impacts

Dismantling and removal of project facilities at the end of the project life would not result in any additional land use conflicts, but would eliminate project-related conflicts discussed under **Impact TRRP LU-1** including Class II aesthetics, air quality, biological resources and hazardous materials impacts. In addition, decommissioning activities would not result in any additional policy inconsistencies. Overall, decommissioning would not result in any land use impacts.

4.8.2.9 Cumulative Impacts of the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project

The proposed project (as mitigated) would not result in any significant land use incompatibility or policy inconsistency impacts. Therefore, the incremental contribution of the proposed project to cumulative land use impacts would not be considerable. See the discussion of cumulative impacts for each of the environmental issue areas (aesthetics, air quality, biology, cultural resources, hazards, noise, etc.) for a determination of the significance of cumulative impacts.

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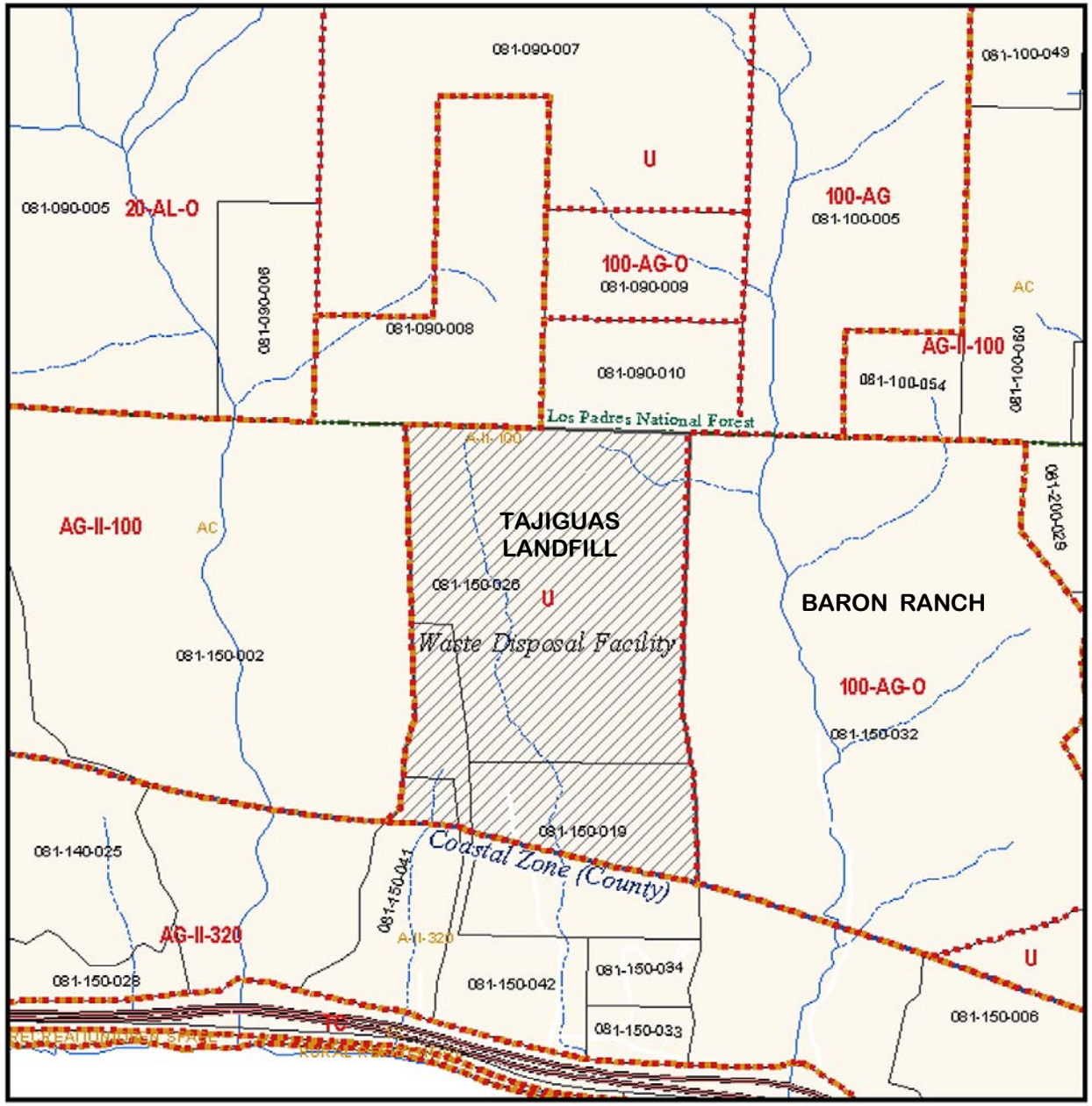

LEGEND

- ZONING BOUNDARIES
- LAND USE BOUNDARIES
- WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY OVERLAY
- LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST

NORTH
1" = ~2000'

padre associates, inc.
ENGINEERS, GEOLOGISTS & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS

Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project

ZONING AND LAND USE MAP
FIGURE 4.8-1

Back of Figure 4.8-1