

2023 CEQA Transmittal Memorandum

County of Santa Barbara - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

105 E. Anapamu St. Room 407 • Santa Barbara • CA • 93101

(805) 568-2240

Complete this form when filing a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Environmental Impact Report or Notice of Exemption.

You will need to submit one original for posting plus one copy for the Department of Fish & Wildlife. A scanned copy including the date/time of posting will be emailed to the Lead Agency and Project Applicant. If you would like a return copy, please submit an extra copy along with a pre-addressed, stamped envelope.

Contact Person		Phone	
Lead Agency		Lead Age	ency Email
Project Title			
Project Applicant	Email	Phone	
Project Applicant Address	City	State	Zip

DOCUMENT BEING FILED:

Environmental Impact Report (EIR) CEQA Addendum and Notice of Determination				
□2023 Filing Fee\$3,839.25				
□ Previously Paid (must attach receipt)\$0.00				
□ No Effect Determination (must be attached)\$0.00				
□ Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration				
□2023 Filing Fee\$2,764.00				
□ Previously Paid (must attach receipt)\$0.00				
□ No Effect Determination (must be attached)\$0.00				
□ Notice of Exemption				
County Administrative Handling Fee (required for all filings, effective 7/19/18) \$50.00				

TOTAL:_____
PAYMENT METHOD: ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING
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PROJECT TITLE					
Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project					
PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT E	MAIL			
County of Santa Barbara- Public Works- Jodi Leipn				(805) 882-	3014
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STAT	E	ZIP CODE	
105 E Anapamu St	Santa Barbara	CA		93101	
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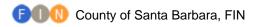
Journal Entry

Uzair Shakoor

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Fund/Department 054-Resource Recovery

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION (NOD)

To: □ Office of Planning and Research Street Address:1400 Tenth Street, Room 121 Sacramento, CA 95814 State.Clearinghouse@OPR.CA.GOV U.S. Mail: P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 From: County of Santa Barbara Public Works, Resource Recovery and Waste Management 130 E. Victoria Street, Suite 100 Santa Barbara, CA 93101

☑ County Clerk, County of Santa Barbara

Lead Agency/Contact Person: Santa Barbara County PW RRWMD/Joddi Leipner

Area Code/Telephone: 805-882-3614

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number: SCH No. 2012041068

<u>**Project Title:**</u> Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Addendum No. 2 for the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project (now referred to as the ReSource Center, which amends the first Addendum dated 10/26/17, Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (12EIR-00000-00002, SCH#2012041068 and EIR Revision Letter and Errata dated May 27, 2016).

EIR or ND Number: 12EIR-00000-00002 and Addendum dated 8/11/17 revised 10/26/17, and Addendum dated August 15, 2023.

<u>Project Applicant</u>: Santa Barbara County Public Works Department, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division

Project Location: The project is located at the Tajiguas Landfill approximately 26 miles west of the City of Santa Barbara. The Tajiguas Landfill is approximately 1,600 feet north of U.S. Highway 101. The street address for the Tajiguas Landfill is 14470 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, California 93117, with approximately 4.48 acres of the Landfill located on a portion of the western boundary of the neighboring County-owned property (Baron Ranch, 14550 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, California 93117).

Project Description: The Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project (TRRP) was previously approved on July 12, 2016, along with certification of a Subsequent EIR (SEIR) on July 12, 2016, and SEIR Revision Letter and Errata dated May 27, 2016. The TRRP modified waste management operations at the Tajiguas Landfill by the addition of a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and Dry Fermentation Anaerobic Digestion Facility (ADF) that sort MSW into three streams (recyclables, organics, and residue), and convert organics into biogas (primarily methane and CO2) and digestate (cured into compost/soil amendments). The MRF and ADF were initially approved to be located on the landfill operations deck on the west side of the landfill. An Addendum (10/26/17) to the Certified SEIR was been prepared to address the following primary changes to the prior approved project:

- Relocation of the approved but unconstructed ADF from the approved location on the operations deck to the east side of the Landfill (east of the Composting Area) to a previously disturbed and graded area within the Landfill's permitted operational area boundary;
- Decommissioning of the existing Tajiguas Landfill Energy Project (Landfill Gas [LFG] Control System) engine and adding a new LFG Control System engine and flare as part of the TRRP, which are proposed to be located adjacent to and used by the MRF;
- Comprehensive Plan Amendment resulting in a net reduction of 51.07 acres to the Waste Disposal Facility Overlay that includes 55.55 acres of dense native vegetation (including Environmentally Sensitive Habitat area) removed from the overlay and 4.48 acres of existing Landfill operational area containing previously graded areas, a perimeter road, and drainage facilities added to the Overlay (to encompass the AD Facility site).

The County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors considered the Revised Addendum with the Final SEIR and approved revisions to the above described project on November 14, 2017.

The ReSource Center began partial operations in 2021. As a part of the limited operations it became evident that some technical and operational changes are required to improve the performance of the facilities. Several changes have been determined to be minor changes and CEQA Guidelines 15162 determinations have been prepared. An Addendum has been prepared for the following changes:

Gore Membrane Cover System. The proposed changes also include installation of a Gore Membrane Cover System at the CMU at the Tajiguas Landfill as an odor control best management practice. The Gore Membrane Cover System was selected after completion of a pilot test program that showed that the system provided a 97.5% reduction in odor compared to a non-covered windrow. This system is a cover and aeration system for the windrows at the CMU that will help reduce compost odor and more effectively compost digestate from the ADF (see Exhibit 11). The Gore Membrane Cover System includes a semi-permeable cover over each compost windrow at the CMU, which allows some moisture and gases to escape while trapping most volatile compounds such as ammonia to reduce odor. There will be 20 of these covers, one for each windrow at the CMU and two additional covers without an aeration system for the screened compost pile and the finished compost pile. A blower-driven aeration system (20, 3-HP blowers) will be used to inject ambient air under the cover of each windrow, to maintain oxygen levels and desired temperature during the aerobic composting and curing process. This system will limit the potential for the compost windrows to become anaerobic which produces odors and will provide compost temperatures necessary to kill pathogens.

MRF Biofilter Replacement. The Alisal Fire of October 11 - 17, 2021 impacted the Tajiguas Landfill and the ReSource Center, igniting the MRF biofilter woodchip media, causing heavy damage to the biofilter structures, air ducting, baghouse filters, support systems, scrubbers, sulfuric acid tanks (2) and ancillary systems. These systems were installed as a part of the original project description to treat odors, particulate matter (PM) and Reactive Organic Compounds (ROC) generated within the MRF building by municipal solid waste sorting, handling and storage. Since the fire the MRF has been operating under variances issued by the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD). Based on air monitoring conducted during operation of the MRF under the variance it has been determined that the MRF biofilter is not needed for the control of odors. The air quality and air dispersion modeling shows that ambient air concentrations will remain within permit limits once the building air is again exhausted through the MRF baghouses. The remaining portions of the biofilters will be demolished. The baghouse filter support structures, which were damaged by the Alisal Fire, will be repaired and the two baghouses will exhaust the building air through two new separate vent stacks proposed to be constructed on the east side of the MRF in two locations adjacent to the former biofilter site, The proposed vent stacks will disperse the MRF building air collected and treated by the baghouse filters. Both stacks will be approximately 50-feet in height above existing grade. One new 54-inch diameter stack will be erected at the north end of the existing biofilter area.

<u>Other Project Description Elements.</u> Other modified project description elements include: addition of a new compost irrigations and dust control misting system; new diesel-powered CMU organics screen; CMU and ADF odor misting system; modified project water demand; and new back-up diesel-fueled electrical generator.

The County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors considered the Addendum dated August 15, 2023 with the prior Addendum dated 10/26/17 and Final SEIR and approved <u>the Gore Membrane Cover System</u> revision to the above described project on September 19, 2023.

1. The project $[\square]$ will \square will \square will not] have a significant effect on the environment, as prior approved and noted in the Certified SEIR on July 12, 2016, Addendum dated revised October 26, 2017 and the following findings are made for the revised project, as addressed in the Addendum dated August 15, 2023:

(1) No substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects;

(2) No substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or Negative Declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; and

ReSource Center (formerly Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project) Notice of Determination Page 3

(3) No new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete or the Negative Declaration was adopted, shows any of the following:

(A) The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR;

(B) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR;

(C) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative; or

(D) Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.

2. \square An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the Provisions of CEQA, and pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15164 two Addendums to the SEIR were prepared to address the project revisions. \square A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

3. Mitigation measures [\square were not] made a condition of the approval of the project, and no new mitigation measures or changes to previously adopted mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the revised project.

4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [\square was \square was not] adopted for this project, and no new mitigation measures or changes to previously adopted mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the revised project; therefore, no revisions to the mitigation reporting or monitoring plan are required.

5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [Zwas Dwas not] adopted for the project, and no additional statement of Overriding Considerations were required or adopted for the revised project.

6. Findings [were user not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. Revisions to those findings are not required.

This is to certify that the Addendums to the Final SEIR, the Final SEIR with comments and responses, and record of project approval is available to the general public at the address below, as well as electronically at the links provided below:

https://santabarbara.legistar.com/Legislation.aspx

and

https://www.countyofsb.org/1165/Environmental-Documents

Santa Barbara County Public Works Department, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division 130 East Victoria Street, Suite 100, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

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Signature (Public Ag	ency)	ר.	Date	Title

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