

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Santa Barbara County Department of Public Works, Resource Recovery and Waste Management

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN: 081-150-019,-026 and-042 **Case No.:** NA

Location: Tajiguas Landfill, 14470 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA 93117

Project Title: Adoption of Urgency Ordinance for Interim Authorization of New Tip Fee for Disaster Debris at Tajiguas Landfill, Third Supervisorial District

Project Applicant: Santa Barbara County Department of Public Works, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division (RRWMD)

Project Description: Pursuant to Government Code sections 66017, 25123 and 25131, adopt an Urgency Ordinance as an interim authorization for a \$55/ton tip fee at Tajiguas Landfill for receipt, sorting and temporary storage of mixed dirt, rock and trees to expedite removal of private residential property debris in order to protect against the current and immediate threat to the public health, welfare and safety issues resulting from the Thomas Fire and subsequent debris flows. The processed dirt and rock will be added to an onsite stockpile and not in the landfill. Wood will be chipped and incorporated into the existing mulch distribution program.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Mark Schleich, Deputy Director, Public Works Department

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption (Emergency Project)
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency
- Not a Project (Section 15378(b)(5))

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(c) specifies that the following emergency projects are exempt from the requirements of CEQA, "Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. This does not include long-term projects undertaken for the purpose of preventing or mitigating a situation that has a low probability of occurrence in the short-term".

Reasons to support exemption findings: The Thomas Fire burned the major watersheds in the Montecito and Carpinteria areas from the Santa Barbara/Ventura County line and caused massive burn scars. The January 9, 2018 storm caused dangerous flash flooding, erosion, and substantial mud and

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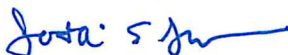
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debris flows throughout the burn scar areas. The mud and debris forced the evacuation of residents, resulted in fatalities, damaged critical infrastructure, destroyed homes, and forced the closure of major highways and local roads. Further details about these emergencies are included in the January 8, 2018 Local Declaration of Emergency, December 5, 2017 State of Emergency Declaration by Governor Brown (amended to add Santa Barbara County on December 7, 2017), January 12, 2018 Executive Order B-46-18 by Governor Brown, and the December 8, 2017 Presidential Declaration of Emergency by President Trump.

A significant amount of debris remains on private property in the Montecito community and there is an immediate need to expedite removal of this private residential debris to avoid remobilization during another rain event and consequent impacts to stream channels, debris basins, public infrastructure and private property. Due to a shortage of other available debris disposal sites and due to the distance of these other sites, and to discourage illegal grading, dumping or other potential code violations of this material it has been determined that it is necessary to begin taking private residential mixed loads of dirt, rock and trees at the Tajiguas Landfill for processing. Therefore, consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(c), the adoption of the Urgency Ordinance to authorize a new tip fee of \$55 at the Tajiguas Landfill to allow for the acceptance of debris from the Montecito community is exempt as an action necessary to prevent an emergency from additional storms and mitigate for the existing state and federally declared emergency.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Mark Schleich, Deputy Director Santa Barbara County Public Works RRWMD

Phone #: 805-882-3600



Department/Division Representative: Joddi Leipner, Senior Engineering Env. Planner

Date: March 12, 2018

Acceptance Date: _____

Date Filed with Planning and Development¹

Date Filed by County Clerk

RECEIVED

MAR 13 2018

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

¹ The Notice of Exemption 6-day posting requirement has been waived for good cause pursuant to County CEQA Guidelines section V.D.2.