

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors/State Clearinghouse

FROM: Santa Barbara County Public Works Department, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division (RRWMD) ·

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, -033, -034, -042, -032; 133-151-074, -075, -076; 059-140-023; 059-260-007; 149-320-003; 149-230-059; 147-180-023, -024

Case No.: BC21246

Location: Tajiguas Landfill (14470 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA 93117), Foxen Canyon Landfill/Santa Ynez Valley Recycling and Transfer Station (4004 Foxen Canyon Road, Los Olivos CA 93441), South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station (4430 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA 93110), Foothill Closed Landfill (adjacent to South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station), Cathedral Oaks Closed Landfill (Santa Barbara, CA), New Cuyama Transfer Station (5073 HWY 166, New Cuyama, CA), Ventucopa Transfer Station (HWY 33, Ventucopa, CA), New Cuyama Closed Landfill (New Cuyama, CA), and Baron Ranch (adjacent to Tajiguas Landfill) (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisorial Districts)

Project Title: Second Contract Amendment to Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Laurel Labor Services, Inc. of Santa Maria to Provide On-Call Casual Labor, BC21246; First, Second and Third Supervisorial Districts

Project Description: The project involves the approval of a contract amendment with Laurel Labor Services, Inc. to provide on-call, supplemental labor crews to assist RRWMD staff in collection/retrieval of wind-blown litter, manual sorting of construction and demolition debris for recycling, sorting and cleaning curbside collected green waste and self-haul green waste, and spreading a portion of the mulch generated for landscaping and erosion control at RRWMD facilities.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Public Works Department, (RRWMD)

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities)

Reasons to support exemption findings:

CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 categorically exempts the operation, repair, and maintenance of existing public structure and facilities that involves negligible or no expansion of use. Consistent with this requirement, the proposed contract would provide on-call labor services to assist with maintenance of County waste management facilities through litter abatement, recyclable material sorting and application of mulch for landscaping and erosion control at the Tajiguas Landfill, the Foxen Canyon Landfill/Santa Ynez Valley Recycling and Transfer Station and the South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station. These facilities operate under permits issued by CalRecycle and the Regional Water Quality permitting and have been subject to separate CEQA review (01-EIR-05 subsequent EIRs and addendums, 08-EIR-00000- 00007, 97-SD-02 and addendums and 95-ND-05 and addendums). In addition, if needed, casual labor would be provided to other RRWMD facilities and closed landfills.

Litter control and sorting of recyclables are mandated activities under RRWMD waste management facilities permits and have been evaluated in the respective CEQA documents. Approval of the contract for the additional labor services would maintain but not expand the permitted services at these facilities. Therefore, the approval of a contract to provide labor services to assist with these permitted activities is categorically exempt from CEQA.

There is no substantial evidence that there are unusual circumstances (including future activities) resulting in (or which might reasonably result in) significant impacts which threaten the environment. The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are:

- (a) Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located -- a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where

designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

Section 15301 is a Class 1 exemption; therefore this exception does not apply.

- (b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

The contract would provide labor services to existing permitted facilities and would not expand operations. The contract would not contribute to cumulative impacts. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (c) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

The provision of labor to assist with the separation and recovery of recyclable materials and to collect wind-blown litter would not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. The activities are beneficial to the environment by diverting recyclable material from being landfilled and by preventing litter from impacting off-site areas. Therefore, this exception is not applicable.

- (d) Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.

The services would be provided at existing, permitted and developed waste management facilities. No impact to scenic resources would occur; therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (e) Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.


The services would be provided at existing, permitted municipal solid waste management facilities. The facilities are not listed as hazardous waste sites; therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (f) Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

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Lead Agency Contact Person: Ed Dimock, Operations Manager #: 805-696-1172

Department/Division Representative:  John Viggianelli, Engineering Environmental Planner

Date: May 5, 2026

Acceptance Date:

Date Filed by County Clerk \_\_\_\_\_