

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

**FROM:** Joddi Leipner, Senior Engineering Environmental Planner, Public Works, 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:** Multiple

**Case No.:** N/A

**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) (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisorial Districts)

**Project Title:** Agreement to Provide On-call Casual Labor for Litter Abatement and Recyclable Material Sorting and Recovery.

**Project Description:** The project involves the approval of a contract with Laurel Labor Services, Inc. to provide on-call supplemental labor crews to assist RRWMD staff in sorting and recovering recyclable materials from construction and demolition waste and green waste and to assist with litter control during adverse (windy) weather conditions.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara, Public Works, RRWMD

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

**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 recyclable material sorting and litter abatement 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, 08-EIR-00000-00007, 97-SD-02 and addendums and 95-ND-05 and addendums). Recyclable

material recovery and litter control activities are mandated activities under these permits and have been evaluated in the respective CEQA documents. Approval of the contract for the additional labor services would 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 an existing permitted facility 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.

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

Lead Agency Contact Person: Mark Schleich, Deputy Director  
Phone #: 805-882-3600

Department/Division Representative: Joddie Leipner, Sr. Eng. Env. Planner  
Date: July 1, 2011

Acceptance Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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