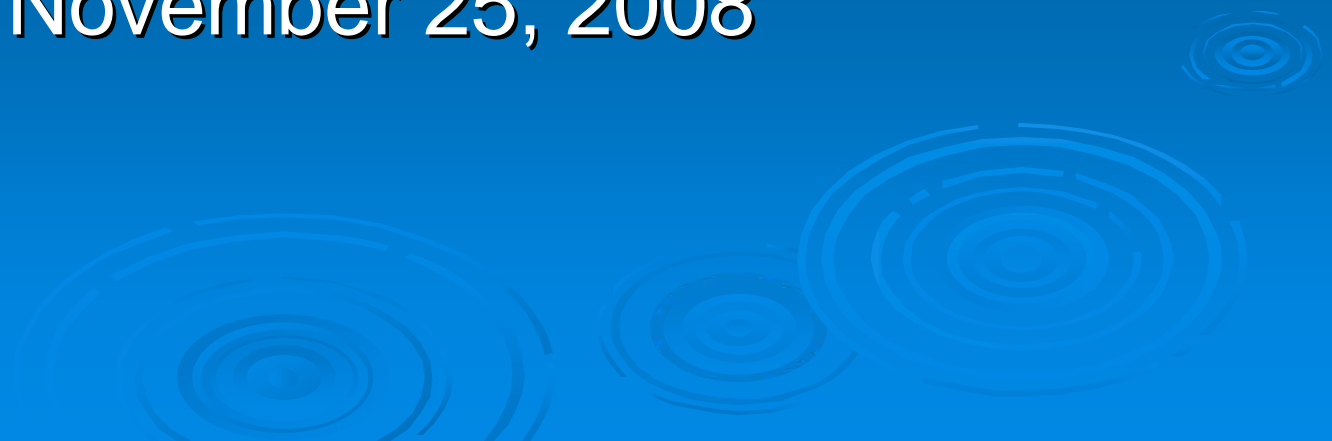


Voluntary Program for Fire Debris Abatement on Private Property

Public Works Department

November 25, 2008



Tea Fire 2008

- Began Nov. 13, 2008
- In unincorporated area:
 - 83 properties affected
- Potential environmental impacts of fire debris to air and water quality
- Efforts underway to return area to normalcy ASAP



Progress to Date

- Reporting only on solid waste related issues
- Significant outreach to make property owners aware of resources
- As of morning of 11/24/08:
 - 52 demo permits issued to 30 separate property owners
 - 30 out of 83 property owners have taken action

Progress to Date

- Permitted unscheduled haulers allowed to haul mixed debris in lined containers per APCD
- List of permitted haulers handed out when demo permit issued
- Permitted haulers should have sufficient resources to meet demand

Progress to Date

- Tajiguas Landfill accepting debris in separate area
- Approvals from:
 - APCD
 - RWQCB
 - CIWMB LEA
- Efforts to recycle metal, green waste, rubble



Debris Burial at Tajiguas



Proposed Voluntary Fire Debris Removal Program

- County would professionally manage cleanup of private property
- Customer focused program
- Potentially lead to quicker abatement of affected area
- Strictly voluntary – resident agrees to participate

Program Fiscal Considerations

- Cost per property ranges from \$50,000 - \$150,000
- If all property owners choose to participate costs could exceed \$4 million
- Need to identify funding source to carry initial costs



Steps to Implement

- Prepare agreement with property owners
- Retain third party to
 - identify qualified contractors, and
 - track activities and costs
- Solicit property owner participation
- Secure agreements with property owners
- Property owner responsible for reimbursing all cleanup costs
- Award contracts to contractors

Steps to Implement

- Contractor abatement of property
- Tally of costs and submittal of payment requests for reimbursement from property owner
- Payment due June 30, 2009
- If payment not made, lien placed on property

Public Nuisance Abatement Process

- BOS can declare a property a public nuisance and direct staff to abate the property
 - 10 day notice to property owner prior to hearing
 - Public comments during hearing
 - Direct staff to abate the property
 - Property abated
 - Costs are tallied and reported at BOS hearing
 - 10 day notice to property owner prior to hearing
 - Public comments during hearing
 - If not paid, County may assess tax lien on property
- Not recommended at this time

Recommendations

- Approve the development and implementation of the voluntary program (recommendations A, B, C, E)
- Identify source of funding to carry costs prior to reimbursement from the property owner
- Staff will return January 13, 2009 with summary of cleanup efforts and potential next steps