



**RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT AGENCY
COUNTY OF TULARE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ALLEN ISHIDA
District One
PETE VANDER POEL
District Two
PHILLIP A. COX
District Three
J. STEVEN WORTHLEY
District Four
MIKE ENNIS
District Five

AGENDA DATE: September 24, 2013

Public Hearing Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CONTACT PERSON: Denise Akins PHONE: 636-5005		

SUBJECT: Visalia Landfill Waste Management Unit 1 Closure Construction Project

- REQUEST(S):**
That the Board of Supervisors:
1. Find that the Visalia Landfill Waste Management Unit 1 Closure Project could not have a significant effect on the environment; and
 2. Adopt a Negative Declaration for the Visalia Landfill Waste Management Unit 1 Closure Project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and
 3. Direct Resource Management Agency staff to prepare, execute and file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk in accordance with State of California CEQA Guidelines.

SUMMARY:
The Visalia Landfill Waste Management Unit 1 (WMU-1) accepted waste from 1952 until 2007 when capacity was reached (Attachment 1). Permanent closure of WMU-1 is required by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and CalRecycle. The County is proposing to construct the final closure of WMU-1 at the Visalia Landfill by grading the existing surface of the 127 acre inactive site and placing a six and one-half foot thick vegetative soil layer that will be seeded and fertilized.

The plans, specifications and estimate (PS&E) for the project are currently in the final stages of design. Once complete, the PS&E will be reviewed and approved by State regulatory agencies as stipulated in the Waste Discharge Requirements

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adopted by the RWQCB. It is anticipated that construction of the closure will begin in the spring of 2014, depending upon the response time of regulatory agency reviews.

The County is the lead agency for the project. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that the lead agency certify and adopt a Negative Declaration and Notice of Determination prior to proceeding with the project.

The Resource Management Agency (RMA), Planning Branch completed an Initial Study and Negative Declaration (Attachment 2) for this project. All project impacts are less than significant. The project description and initial study checklist are included with the proposed Negative Declaration. This environmental document was circulated to interested parties and agencies for their comments for a 30-day public review period starting on August 9, 2013 and ending on September 9, 2013.

During the public review period, two formal comments were received. One comment was from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District recommending that Regulation VIII measures are implemented during construction and that equipment used during construction is powered by engines meeting Tier II standards. These recommendations have been incorporated into the project contract documents. The second comment was from the Native American Heritage Commission with regard to the potential to encounter Native American artifacts, remains or other culturally significant historical Native American resources during construction of the project. Measures for mitigating the discovery of Native American artifacts, remains or other culturally significant historical Native American resources as well as other discoveries of paleontological or archeological significance have also been incorporated into the project contract documents.

Within five working days after approval of this project by the Board, the Notice of Determination will be filed with the County Clerk by Resource Management Agency staff

The Solid Waste Department will return to the Board of Supervisors for approval of the final PS&E and for authorization to advertise and construct the Project.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is no net County cost to the General Fund. There are no filing fees associated with the adoption of this Negative Declaration. A CEQA Filing Fee No Effect Determination Form has been completed by the California Department of Fish and Game. Minor costs associated with the adoption of this document will be borne by the Solid Waste Fund budget for the design and environmental phase of the Visalia Landfill WMU-1 Closure Project.

Construction of the closure will be funded by the Solid Waste Financial Assurance

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for Closure account. No construction costs will be borne by the County General Fund. The current estimated cost for construction of the closure project is approximately \$8 million.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The requested action assists the County in its efforts to manage its natural resources in addition to providing for the health and safety of the general public through environmental protection.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

Denise Akins, Interim Solid Waste Director
Solid Waste Department, County Administration Office

Cc: Auditor-Controller
County Counsel
County Administrative Office (2)

Attachment(s)
ATTACHMENT 1 – Vicinity Map
ATTACHMENT 2 – Negative Declaration

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF
VISALIA LANDFILL WASTE
MANAGEMENT UNIT 1
CLOSURE PROJECT

)
) Resolution No. _____
)
) Agreement No. _____

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UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____
_____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JEAN M. ROUSSEAU
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

1. Found that the Visalia Landfill Waste Management Unit 1 Closure Project could not have a significant effect on the environment; and
2. Adopted a Negative Declaration for the Visalia Landfill Waste Management Unit 1 Closure Project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and
3. Directed Resource Management Agency staff to prepare, execute and file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk in accordance with State of California CEQA Guidelines.