

### 2001 Negative Declaration

KCWMD prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (State Clearinghouse Number (SCH#) 1997091004) in February 1998 for the current landfill facility, including an increase in tonnage and a change to the project boundary resulting in a total acreage of 145 acres. Addendum No. 1 was submitted in 2000 for the addition of 11.8 acres of property west of the landfill for buffer, drainage, and installation of monitoring equipment. The Mitigated Negative Declaration did not mention landfill closure or a transfer station option.

In April 2001, Negative Declaration (SCH# 1997091004) was prepared to increase traffic numbers. The traffic increase was from 125 vehicles to 400 vehicles per day. Also, the Negative Declaration designated a General Plan Map Code of 3.4 for the 11.8 acre parcel.

### 1997 Negative Declaration

The KCWMD prepared a Negative Declaration for the Kern County Waste Facilities Habitat Conservation Plan in 1997 that covered activity within the 40.3-acre landfill (former APN 224-120-19).

A redundant deed (Document No. 0204067715) was recorded on March 29, 2004. The redundant deed merged seven parcels into one parcel (APN 224-120-19, 224-120-26, 224-103-27, 224-103-29, 224-103-32, 224-103-33, and 224-103-37).

Year 2003 EIR for the Mojave Sanitary Landfill analysis (page 81). The Tehachapi SLF will reach capacity in 2007. Waste from the Tehachapi area may be transferred to the MRSLF beginning in 2007. This will result in additional vehicle emissions. Air quality was listed as significant. Traffic was not listed as significant.

On October 19, 2004, the Kern County Board of Supervisors approved a road vacation to delete road reservation along the north property line named "Cannon Road". A 2,500 feet distance by 30 feet was vacated.

### Development of the Environmental Impact Report - 2006

#### Notice of Preparation

KCWMD circulated a Notice of Preparation (NOP) dated January 31, 2006 stating KCWMD's intention to prepare a new EIR for the permit revision of the Tehachapi SLF. The state clearinghouse issued SCH # 2006021089 for the project.

#### Draft EIR – February 2007

This draft environmental impact report includes information necessary for the environmental evaluation of the revision of the land use and solid waste facility permits for the Tehachapi SLF.

The most expensive initial cost would be for the geosynthetic/flexible membrane cover, then the prescriptive cover, and then the evapotranspiration cover. The most expensive over time, however, would be the prescriptive cover, followed by the geosynthetic/flexible membrane, leaving evapotranspiration cover still as an effective, approved (EPA, DOE), cost reducing alternative that is appropriate for areas with a long growing seasons and arid conditions.

KCWMD is proposing an alternative final cover for the Tehachapi SLF consisting of a minimum three-foot thick, ET cover (Map 14). This cover will be placed over the entire landfill area of approximately 31.7 acres. This layer will serve as a barrier to infiltration (through water storage and evaporation) and will act as an erosion control layer to prevent exposure of the underlying waste. The cover soils will also provide a medium for the growth of native plants. Since the existing intermediate cover soils are similar to the borrow soils, they will be considered as part of the ET cover section.

### **Project Purpose**

---

The KCWMD seeks to revise the Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) to allow vertical expansion of the permitted maximum height from the current 4,015' MSL up to 4,065' MSL. This additional height will provide up to approximately 806,100 cubic yards of additional waste disposal capacity. The 4,065' height includes intermediate and final fill cover. The Project includes the construction of a transfer station before the facility reaches capacity at 4,065' MSL, and to begin operation of the transfer station once capacity is reached. Details of the proposed recycling/transfer station are included below. Additional details are similar to the landfill description.

### **TRANSFER STATION OPERATION**

The Tehachapi Recycling/Transfer Station will be designed, constructed, and operated in compliance with applicable rules and regulations of the governing agencies, including but not limited to, United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), California Department of Health Services, Kern County Air Pollution Control District, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Verification of compliance will be demonstrated at the point of Solid Waste Facility Permit application submittal. Details of design, construction and operations have not been determined. See Map 2C for conceptual layout and traffic pattern.

Actual day-to-day operation of the site may be conducted by a private contractor under agreement with the County, or by County staff. The facility is located on land owned by the County of Kern. The Tehachapi Recycling/Transfer Station (TehR/TS) will be a large volume transfer station located adjacent to the closed Tehachapi Sanitary Landfill (Map 2C), and not over an area of fill. Transfer station activities may include utilizing closed landfill or buffer property for recycled materials staging and shall be operated in a manner not to interfere with postclosure maintenance of the landfill.

It will consist of an entrance/gatehouse area, a partially enclosed transfer building, a tipping pad with a recessed trailer area for loading, an overflow unloading area, recyclable storage areas and a household hazardous waste storage area.

Transfer containers are used to transport the collected refuse to either the Mojave-Rosamond Sanitary Landfill or other approved disposal facility. These containers may include roll off containers, compactor containers or walking floor transfer trailers.

Solid waste storage containers will be constructed of metal, are nonabsorbent and are leak resistant. Waste containers will be covered with tarps when stored overnight and during transport. The tipping areas will be constructed of concrete and/or asphalt paving.

The tipping pad will be cleaned on a daily basis to remove loose material and litter. Overnight storage of specific waste streams, such as inert demolition debris, on the tipping pad is allowed if allowed by the LEA. The material will be stockpiled in an area away from the main dumping area and will be loaded the next morning or as soon as possible, in order to maximize a full load for transport.

Containers will be cleaned on an “as needed” basis.

The entrance and exit will be cleaned, as needed, to prevent the tracking or off-site migration of waste material. Roads and structures on the site will be designed to have adequate drainage.

**Site Plan**

The transfer station information can be found on the following maps:

- 1) Vicinity Map..... Map 1
- 2) Pre-disposal topography..... Map 9
- 3) Facility boundary..... Map 2C
- 4) Total permitted acreage (11.8 acres )..... Map 2A
- 5) Drainage..... Map 30
- 6) Traffic Pattern ..... Map 2C

**Hours**

The facility will operate up to seven days per week, except for the following holidays: New Year’s Day, Easter, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. Hours of operation will be from no earlier than 7:00 a.m. to no later than 5:00 p.m.

The site accepts waste and performs most site maintenance during operating hours. Days and hours of operation are subject to change by KCWMD, with LEA approval. “Hours of operation” is defined as the period of time the facility is generally open to receipt of waste. Other activities such as waste or recyclables loading, processing and facility cleaning or maintenance are generally performed during hours of operation, but

may occur at any time. The acceptance of waste is conducted primarily during daylight hours. If operations occur outside the listed hours, adequate lighting and personnel shall be available to prevent nuisance or health and safety problems. These hours may be changed with LEA concurrence to accommodate seasonal changes or operational efficiency. When operated outside the listed hours, adequate personnel shall be staffed to prevent nuisance or health and safety problems.

### **Waste Types/Volumes**

KCWMD expects the TehR/TS to handle the small vehicle public waste stream accepted at the Tehachapi SLF. Large vehicles will be directed to other Kern County Sanitary Landfills, such as the Mojave-Rosamond Sanitary Landfill or the Bena Landfill. This redirection of waste was analyzed in the 2003 Mojave-Rosamond Sanitary Landfill EIR.

#### ***Liquid Wastes***

Liquid wastes will not be accepted for disposal.

#### ***Universal Wastes***

Universal wastes (as defined by Title 22 CCR, §66273.1 et. al) will not be accepted for disposal.

#### ***Special Wastes***

Special wastes (as defined by Title 22 CCR, §66261.120 and §66261.122) will not be accepted for disposal.

#### ***Hazardous Wastes***

Hazardous wastes will not be accepted for disposal. A Hazardous Waste Exclusion Program (HWEPP) will be implemented as part of the facilities' operation. See the landfills' HWEPP program for further information.

#### ***Other Wastes Requiring Special Handling***

Dead animals brought to the site will be placed into the transfer containers as soon as possible.

#### ***Facility Capacity***

In 2006, the TehSLF accepted an average of 177 tons of waste per day of which 45 tons per day were from small vehicles. It is projected that in the year 2016, the facility will receive approximately 70 tons per day from small vehicles.

KCWMD projects the maximum sustainable throughput capacity for the TehR/TS as the amount of waste the operator is capable of handling on a continuing basis. The TehR/TS is expected to operate with one – two (1-2) transfer trucks capable of hauling up to 20 tons per load. Each transfer truck can make two (4) round trips from the TehR/TS to the Mojave-Rosamond Sanitary Landfill each day. Therefore, the operator can regularly transfer approximately 160 tons of waste daily from the TehR/TS to the Mojave-Rosamond Sanitary Landfill. The maximum sustainable throughput capacity is equal to the incoming waste stream or the waste transferred and waste diverted.

KCWMD anticipates that the TehR/TS can potentially divert 25 percent of the incoming waste stream or 40 tpd, therefore, the maximum sustainable throughput capacity is 200 tpd.

KCWMD is committed to ensuring that solid waste facilities are designed to implement emergency preparedness procedures. Natural disaster, such as earthquake or fire, may create unusual peak loads entering the facility. Such events often generate large quantities of demolition debris particularly wood waste and inert materials. The operator should have sufficient area to stockpile these materials for processing and diversion. Therefore, the TehR/TS will have the ability to handle unusual peak loads up to 300 tpd.

### ***Siting Criteria***

Siting a recycling/transfer station is similar to siting an industrial use. The area adjacent to the Tehachapi Sanitary Landfill is designated agricultural on the Kern County General Plan. To the west of the facility is the Calaveras Cement plant, which has been operating since 1909, and is designated industrial on the General Plan. To the south of the facility are the BN&SF Railroad tracks, Highway 58 and Proctor Dry Lake basin. The Tehachapi area is a recreational and residential land use pattern with business districts in urban centers.

The following criterion is typically applied to screen for potential recycling/transfer station sites:

- Minimum ten acres
- Non-sensitive land use - buffer
- Proximity to existing and planned solid waste generators
- All-weather road entry and traffic level of service
- Site expansion qualities
- General Plan land use control on and near site
- Existing owners
- Existing land use
- Planned and commitment private sensitive land uses
- Existing and planned sensitive public facilities
- Existing industrial sites
- Historic sites
- Archeological and Paleolithic sensitive areas

### ***Fire Control***

Since the site is located in area designated as a high wild land fire hazard it will require a fire break between the storage areas and vegetation around the site. This fire break would provide access for fire trucks and also eliminate combustible vegetation near the storage area that might come in contact with hot tailpipes or be ignited by sparks from equipment. In addition, an on-site supply of water may be required. A water storage tank may be needed. This need and size will be determined when transfer station plans are reviewed by the Kern County Fire Department (KCFD).

### ***Waste Transfer Destination***

Waste will be transferred from the facility to an alternate Kern County sanitary landfill. The Mojave-Rosamond Sanitary Landfill (MSLF) (Section 3, T10N, R12W; SBB&M) is presently the closest Kern County sanitary landfill to Tehachapi, located 20 miles southeast from the Tehachapi Sanitary Landfill. However, in case of emergency, or as the MSLF reaches capacity, Tehachapi waste will be integrated into one of Kern County's regional disposal facilities.

### ***Haul Route***

The suggested transfer truck haul route from the TehR/TS to the Mojave-Rosamond Sanitary Landfill is as follows:

- TehR/TS to Landfill Road
- Landfill Road to Tehachapi Boulevard, left on Tehachapi Boulevard
- Tehachapi Boulevard east to Sand Canyon Road, right on Sand Canyon Rd.
- Sand Canyon Road, south to State Highway 58, left on State Highway 58 on ramp
- State Highway 58 east to State Route 14, right on State Route 14
- State Route 14 south to Purdy Road, left on Purdy Road
- Purdy Road east to United Street, right on United Street
- United Street south to Silver Queen Road, left on Silver Queen Road
- Silver Queen Road east to the Mojave Sanitary Landfill.

The return route repeats the above progression in reverse.