Organics Loan Scoring Criteria
Fiscal Year 2014/15 (August 2014)

Applicants must score a minimum of 40 points of a possible 70 points to be considered for funding.

GENERAL CRITERIA

Points	Description

25	**GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSION REDUCTIONS**
	Describe the proposed project and explain how it will result in reduction of metric tons of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions annually compared to existing practices for the green and/or food materials at a landfill(s).
	• Explain the methods of all GHG calculations, citations for calculation methods, the claimed metric tons of CO2 equivalents (MTCO2e) reduced, and how you will verify CO2e reductions once the project is operating. Specify the life of the project and how GHG emission reductions will continue to occur over the life of the project and beyond. Describe how you will verify the annual CO2e emission reductions once the project is operating. Calculate annual GHGs reductions in MTCO2e and in loan dollars per total MTCO2e.
	• The default emission reduction factors to be used in GHG calculations, if applicable to the proposed project, are:
	  ○ California Air Resources Board's Method for Estimating Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions from Compost from Commercial Organic Waste (CERF) (http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/protocols/localgov/pubs/compost_method.pdf).
	  ○ Low Carbon Fuel Standard Pathways adopted by California Air Resources Board (carbon intensity factors assumed for the proposed project should be ones that best characterize the specific feedstock/product and facility circumstances for the proposed project), http://www.arb.ca.gov/fuels/lcfs/workgroups/workgroups.htm and
	  ○ Compliance Offset Protocols adopted by California Air Resources Board. (http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/offsets/offsets.htm).
	• If the default factors do not take into account parameters specific to the proposed project to accurately reflect the GHG emission reductions, then provide an alternative approach for GHG emission reduction calculations using the best available data sources and methodologies. Include explanations and citations for all calculations to support the MTCO2e that will be reduced as a result of the loan.
	• GHG calculations should include destination and GHG impacts of all products and byproducts from the project; estimates for both upstream and downstream emissions should be included as well, e.g., transportation of feedstocks and products, production of low-carbon fuels, renewable electricity, heat or power used on site, digestate, liquid products/effluents, fertilizer.
	• For a food waste prevention component of a project, describe the proposed food waste prevention component, explain the amount of food rescued and delivered to people and the associated GHG emission reductions. The food waste prevention component needs to be a project that rescues edible food from becoming waste normally destined for landfills and results in increased food distribution to people in the community, with any food waste residuals from the project being sent to composting or anaerobic digestion or other digestion or fermentation process when it is available within their service areas.
	
	Also see "Economic/Environmental Benefits and Impacts To Disadvantaged Communities" section below.

Points	Description
15	**TONS OF ORGANIC MATERIAL COMPOSTED, DIGESTED, OR PREVENTED** Explain how the proposed project will result in tons of green or food materials being composted or digested annually which are currently being generated in California and landfilled or used for alternative daily cover (ADC). • What types of materials will be handled? For example, pre-consumer food, post-consumer food, source separated green materials, or organic residuals from a material recovery facility (MRF) or transfer station. • How many tons of additional material annually will be composted, digested, or prevented from becoming waste and what is the projected timeline for the project to be operating at full capacity? Indicate where these materials are currently being landfilled or used for ADC. Also calculate in terms of tons per loan dollar spent. • Provide as much information as possible regarding the origin of the feedstock materials for this project including where are the jurisdictions of origin for the materials, a list of the jurisdiction(s) name, hauler(s) and type of collection program, and whether a contract for collection or delivery of these materials is in place. • Explain in detail how you will verify that the extra tons of greenwaste or food waste were in fact composted or digested once the project is operating. Explain how you will verify the material had been landfilled. Explain how you will verify that product from the project is not being landfilled or used for ADC. • If materials are to be digested, explain how much solid and liquid digestate remains and what will happen to the digestate (e.g., if it is to be landfilled, land applied or composted, and where will that occur). • Explain how you will manage residual contaminants that are either removed in the preprocessing step or left over after processing is completed. • Provide documentation that guarantees an adequate amount of feedstock will be provided to make the project feasible. This may include a signed contract, letter of intent, or other documentation which shows the feedstock will be available by the time the project is operational. • Describe the amount of food that will be rescued as a result of the project and the associated amount of waste avoided.
10	**ECONOMIC/ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS AND IMPACTS TO DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES** Explain how your project will benefit and/or impact disadvantaged communities, as defined in California Health & Safety Code 39711. • Which disadvantaged community (ies) will benefit? Use OEHHA's CalEnviroScreen 2.0. • Explain economic and social benefits that will be provided to these communities. If your project will create construction and/or permanent jobs in disadvantaged communities, indicate how many jobs, what types, approximate salaries and benefits, and how long these jobs will last. • Explain how expected air and water quality benefits, as defined in California Health & Safety Code 39711, will improve air and water quality in the disadvantaged community. • If you are incorporating a food waste prevention component with your project and the food waste prevention component is located in a disadvantaged community, you should have described it in the GHG section above. Include any additional explanation here regarding potential economic/environmental benefits to the disadvantaged community that are specific to the food waste prevention component. Explain other environmental benefits of the project that will accrue to the community.

Points	Description
	• Provide letters of support that your project is supported by citizens, elected officials, government bodies or non-profit entities in the disadvantaged community (ies). *Also see "Air & Water Quality Benefits" section below.*

10	**PROJECT READINESS AND PERMITS**
	California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
	Describe the level of anticipated CEQA review required for the project (e.g., notice of exemption, negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report) as determined by the lead agency, the current status of their CEQA review, and the projected timeline for completing CEQA. Provide copies of or a link to your CEQA documentation that is currently available. If no CEQA review will be required, provide documentation from the lead agency confirming that CEQA review is not required.
	
	General Checklist of Business Permits, Licenses and Filings (CalRecycle 669)
	CalRecycle 669 is a required application document. CalRecycle staff will use this information to determine your permitting, construction, and start-up status. In addition, please indicate:
	• **Conditional Use Permit (CUP)**: If your project requires a conditional use permit, indicate the status of that permit and any barriers to obtaining the permit. If your project has permit by right, or is covered under an existing CUP, explain.
	• **Air Quality Permit:**
	  ○ If your project requires the use of Best Available Control Technologies or the purchase of Emission Reduction Credits (offsets) in order to meet local air quality permit requirements, indicate the steps you will take to obtain an Authority to Construct and a Permit to Operate from the appropriate air quality agency. This includes increases in GHG and criteria pollutant emissions.
	  ○ If you are running an internal combustion engine or turbine to use bio-gas produced from this project, provide a copy of your air quality permit for that engine or explain how you will obtain that permit by the time the project is operational.
	• If power is sold to the grid, provide documentation that verifies the sale can happen (e.g. grid connection status and/or signed agreements.)
	• Provide status regarding all other media regulatory permit requirements, including but not limited to Solid Waste Facilities Permit, water permits, fire permits.

10	**AIR & WATER QUALITY BENEFITS** If your project results in air and water quality benefits, please quantify: • If the benefits are reduced emissions of air quality pollutants, their precursors or odors, provide an explanation of how the reductions will occur and a calculation of the total amounts of emissions reductions for each criteria pollutant or precursor. • If the benefits are long-term protection of ground water or surface water quality, please explain how the waters will be protected and any constituents of concern will be reduced. *Also see "Economic/Environmental Benefits and Impacts To Disadvantaged Communities" above.*
70	**TOTAL POSSIBLE GENERAL CRITERIA POINTS**