

**Permitting and Assistance Branch Staff Report**  
 New Minor Waste Tire Facility Permit for Waterman Supply Co., Inc.  
 TPID No. 1574354  
 October 12, 2011

**Background Information, Analysis, and Findings:**

This report was developed in response to a Minor Waste Tire Facility Permit (WTFP) application received on August 15, 2011 from the operator of Waterman Supply Co., Inc., located at 910 Mahar Avenue, in the City of Los Angeles (Wilmington). Waterman Supply Co., Inc. has been operating as a direct distributor of Marine and Industrial Equipment since 1960. The property site is 3.7 acres with approximately 25,000 square feet of existing structures, within a Restricted Light Industrial (MR2-1VL) zone.

The operator will be storing up to 4,999 waste aircraft tires outside, stacked on concrete and covered by rubberized canvas tarps. Waste tires can only be stored within the local fire authority approved tire storage area (approximately 140 feet by 25 feet) bound by perimeter fencing, which is located to the southwest of the site away from existing building structures. The tires will be stored on-site and used to fill orders as needed, at which time they will be installed on marine fenders and shipped to customers worldwide.

An application for a Minor WTFP was received by Permitting and Assistance Branch staff on August 15, 2011 and was accepted as complete on September 13, 2011. Pursuant to Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 18425, CalRecycle has 180 calendar days from the date the application is accepted as complete to either issue or deny the issuance of a minor WTFP. CalRecycle is required to act by March 11, 2012.

**Findings**

Staff recommends approval of the issuance of the proposed permit. All of the required submittals and findings required by 14 CCR Section 18431 have been met to support concurrence. The findings that are required to be made by CalRecycle when reaching a determination are summarized in the table below. The documents on which staff's findings are based are permanently retained in the facility files maintained by the Division.

The following table summarizes the staff's findings relative to the permit application:

	<b>Findings</b>	
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)	Staff of the Permitting and Assistance Branch found that the issuance of the Minor Waste Tire Storage Facility Permit is categorically exempt from the requirements of CEQA. See additional CEQA information below.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
Compliance with Tire Storage Standards, 14 CCR, Sections 17350-17356	Staff of the Waste Evaluation and Enforcement Branch (WEEB) conducted an inspection of the facility on September 21, 2011. See additional compliance information below.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable

Application Forms (500-504) - 14 CCR, Sections 18431(a) (b) (c) (d)	All application forms were accepted by Permitting and Assistance Branch staff as complete and correct on September 13, 2011.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
Local Requirements 14 CCR, Section 18431(h)	<p><i>Local Vector Control:</i> The Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District's acceptance of vector control practices was issued by Mr. Mark Daniel, Director of Operations, on October 29, 2010.</p> <p><i>Local Fire Authority:</i> On October 12, 2010, the City of Los Angeles Fire Department issued a fire permit for outdoor tire storage. On September 12, 2011, the City of Los Angeles Fire Inspector, Michael Dreiling, confirmed via e-mail to CalRecycle staff that the facility meets or exceeds the minimum water supply.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
Reviewed by: CalRecycle Legal Office  Waste Evaluation and Enforcement Branch	<p>Pending.</p> <p>Approved on October 7, 2011</p>	

**Compliance History:**

Department staff of WEEB and of the Permits and Assistance Branch conducted a pre-permit inspection on September 21, 2011, and found the facility to be consistent with the applicable Waste Tire Storage Standards.

**Environmental Analysis:**

Under CEQA, CalRecycle must consider, and avoid or substantially lessen where possible, any potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed Minor WTFP before CalRecycle issues that permit. In this case, CalRecycle is a lead agency under CEQA and must make a determination as to whether this proposed permit is categorically or statutorily exempt or if additional CEQA analysis is necessary in the form of a Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report.

The proposed WTFP is considered to be a project under CEQA (CEQA Guidelines 15378(a) (3)) and the facility is required to obtain a permit pursuant to 14 CCR Section 18420 for the outdoor storage of up to 4,999 waste tires.

Waterman Supply Co., Inc. is located within a Restricted Light Industrial (MR2-1VL) zone and operates within the applicable zoning designation of the Los Angeles Municipal Code for the use of land for open storage of waste tires. Staff prepared a Preliminary Review to determine whether a Categorical Exemption is adequate for CalRecycle's approval of this Minor WTFP. The Preliminary Review indicates that the proposed project:

- Involves the continued operation of an existing facility within the permitted land use;
- Involves no expansion of use beyond that existing;
- Does not allow relaxation of standards leading to environmental degradation;
- Would have no significant environmental impacts; and
- There are no additional cumulative environmental impacts.

CalRecycle staff made the finding/determination that a Categorical Exemption, 14 CCR Section 15301 - Existing Facilities is appropriate for CalRecycle's issuance of this proposed Minor WTFP.

Staff recommends that CalRecycle, acting as a lead agency under CEQA, prepare a Notice of Exemption, based on the Categorical Exemption for existing facilities, to be filed with the State Clearinghouse after CalRecycle's issuance of the Minor WTFP, in that the proposed permit is to be issued to an existing facility that will not expand or significantly change its operations from what currently exist. Further, there are no grounds under CEQA for CalRecycle to prepare any additional environmental documents.

Staff further recommends the Categorical Exemption is adequate for the Branch Chief's environmental evaluation of the proposed project for those project activities which are within CalRecycle's expertise and authority, or which are required to be carried out or approved by CalRecycle.

The administrative record for the decision to be made by CalRecycle includes the proposed Minor WTFP and all of its components and supporting documentation, this staff report, the Categorical Exemption and other documents and material utilized by CalRecycle in reaching its decision on issuing this permit. The custodian of CalRecycle's administrative record is Dona Sturgess, Legal Office, Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, P.O. Box 4025, Sacramento, CA 95812-4025.

### **Local Issues**

Staff has not identified any local issues related to this item. No environmental justice issues were identified by the surrounding community (Census Tract 2947.01). 2010 census information indicates that the surrounding population is approximately 41.8% White, 6.5% Black or African American, 1.1% American Indian or Native Alaskan, 1.1% Asian, 0.5% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, 43.6% some other race, and 5.4% two or more races. 87.1% of the total population describe themselves as Hispanic or Latino. 39.7% of the families are below the poverty level, according to 2000 data for Census Tract 2947 (2010 data was not available). Staff finds the project and permit process to be consistent with Government Code Section 65040.12, as there has been fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the proposed action being recommended above.

### **Public Comment**

No public comments have been received on this project by CalRecycle staff.

Attachment: Minor WTFP