

**Permitting and Assistance Branch Staff Report**  
 Renewal Major Waste Tire Facility Permit for Lakin Tire West, Inc.  
 TPID No. 1000659  
 October 28, 2011

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

This report was developed in response to a Major Waste Tire Facility Permit (WTFP) renewal application received from the operator of Lakin Tire West, Inc. located at 15305 Spring Avenue, in the City of Santa Fe Springs (Los Angeles County). The site occupies a 3.7 acre area within a Heavy Manufacturing zone.

WTFPs expire every five years after the date of issuance unless the permit is renewed prior to the expiration date. Lakin Tire West, Inc. has been operating as a permitted major waste tire facility since October 24, 2001. The maximum capacity will remain at 130,000 whole waste tires and/or waste tire equivalents on-site, and the operator proposes no changes to the current site design or operation.

An application for a Major WTFP was received by Permitting and Assistance Branch staff on October 7, 2011, which was accepted as complete and correct on October 18, 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 and correct to either issue or deny the issuance of a Major WTFP. CalRecycle is required to act by April 15, 2012. The existing WTFP expired on October 24, 2011.

**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 maintained by the Permitting and Assistance Branch.

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

	Findings	
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)	Staff of the Permitting and Assistance Branch found that the issuance of the Major Waste Tire 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 October 12, 2011. See additional compliance information below.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable

Application Forms (500-504) - 14 CCR, Sections 18431(a) through (g)	All application forms were accepted by Permitting and Assistance Branch staff as complete on October 18, 2011.  Permitting and Assistance Branch staff in the Financial Assurances Unit found the Financial Assurance Mechanisms and Operating Liability is consistent with State Minimum Standards as described in their memorandum dated November 7, 2011.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
Local Requirements 14 CCR, Section 18431(h)	<i>Local Fire Authority:</i> On September 14, 2011, the facility was found to be in compliance with all aspects of the California Fire Code by Mr. Alex C. Rodriguez, Fire Chief, with the City of Santa Fe Springs, Department of Fire-Rescue.  <i>Local Vector Authority:</i> The facility does not store waste tires outdoors. Therefore, the facility is not required to obtain local vector authority approval.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
Reviewed by: CalRecycle Legal Office  Waste Evaluation and Enforcement Branch	Approved November 7, 2011  Approved on October 12, 2011.	

**Compliance History:**

Staff of WEEB and of Permits and Assistance Branch conducted a pre-permit inspection on October 12, 2011, and found the facility to be consistent with applicable waste tire storage standards and permit conditions.

**Environmental Analysis:**

Under CEQA, CalRecycle must consider, and avoid or substantially lessen where possible, any potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed Major 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 additional CEQA analysis is necessary in the form of a Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report.

WTFPs expire five years after the date of issuance, renewal, or most recent revision, pursuant to Title 14, Section 18426 (a). Operators are required to renew their permits by submitting a completed WTFP application to CalRecycle at least 395 days prior to the expiration of the existing permit.

Staff prepared a Preliminary Review to determine whether a Categorical Exemption is adequate for CalRecycle's approval of this Major 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 Major 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 Major 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 Major 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. According to the year 2010 Census data, tract 5041.2 has a total population of 22 people. 45.5% of the people are white, 27.3% are African American, 4.5% are American Indian and Alaska Native, 18.2 % are Asian, and 4.5% some other race. 31.8% of the population is identified as Hispanic or Latino. Therefore, 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 in this item.

### **Public Comment**

Permitting and Assistance Branch staff discussed this proposed Major WTFP at CalRecycle's monthly public meeting conducted on November 15, 2011. No public comments were received on this project during this meeting and no other public comment has been received by CalRecycle staff.

Attachment: Major WTFP