

RIVER RANCH ORGANICS



AN ENFORCEMENT
ODYSSEY





Parvaneh Byrth

Riverside County LEA

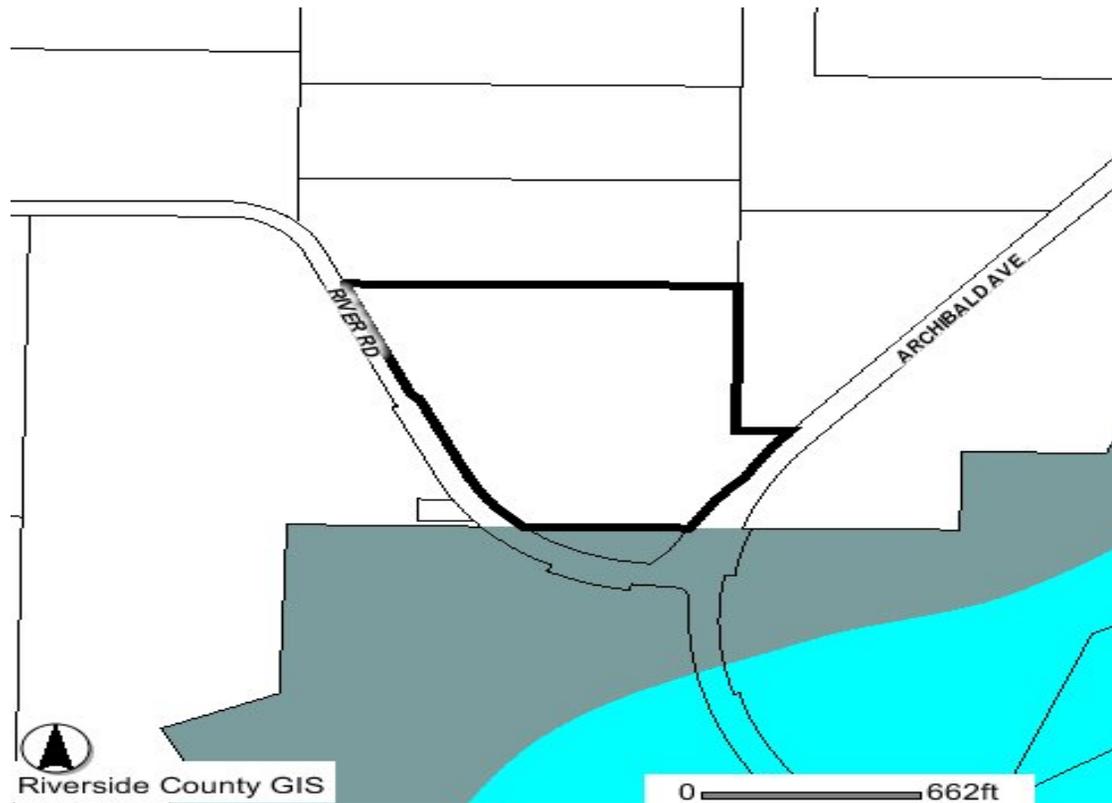
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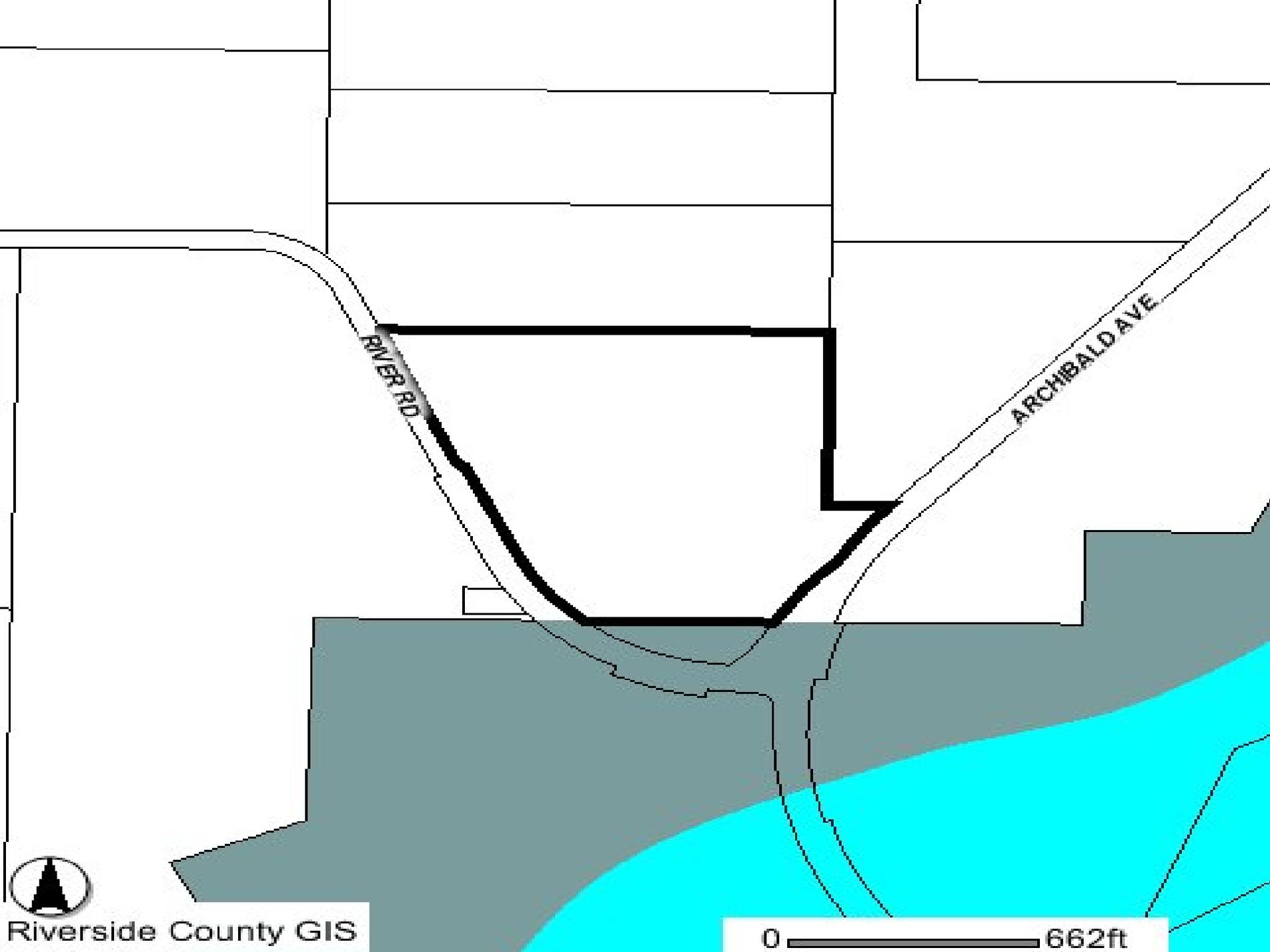
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SITE DESCRIPTION

- A chipping and grinding facility located in the unincorporated area of Riverside County.
- The 22 acre site operated under Title 14 as an excluded activity.

River Ranch





RIVER RD

ARCHIBALD AVE



LOCAL APPROVAL

- 1994 – Riverside County Planning Department issued a Plot Plan # 13727 and granted approval to operate as a Chipping and Grinding facility.

Regulatory Status Prior to 2003

- Chipping and grinding is excluded if 1000 y³ of material is on-site at any one time or
- Any amount of feedstock and chipped and ground material stored for 7 days or less.

Site Cleanup Agreement in Place

- October 2000- The owner/ operator signed a “Site Clean-up and Restoration Agreement” with County of Riverside.
- The owner pledged a Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$100,000 to support his obligation.
- The agreement was insurance that the property would be cleaned up when the operator ceased operations.

River Ranch – 2002





Notice & Order Issued to Cease and Desist

- May 2002, LEA filed a N & O with operator.
 - The facility had an estimated 50,000 y³ of material on-site
 - The material was on-site for more than 7 days.
 - Temperature readings above 122° F
 - Operator failed to apply for a Standardized Permit

Photographic Evidence





04 09 2002 11:55



03 28 2002 14:20



03 28 2002 14:14



03 28 2002 14:24

CORRECTIVE ACTION

A). Cease and Desist the import of all green waste material until LEA determines that he is in compliance with CCR, Title 14 section 17855 (a) (3).

And also

CORRECTIVE ACTION

- The operator shall submit to LEA :
A plan of management of existing feedstock,
within 20 days from the receipt of N & O.

Or

CORRECTIVE ACTION

B). The operator shall Cease and Desist the import of all green material until SWFP has been obtained.

And also

CORRECTIVE ACTION

- The operator shall submit to LEA :
A plan of management of existing feedstock,
within 20 days from the receipt of N & O.

HEARING PANEL

- July 2002- Operator requested a hearing to appeal the Notice & Order.
- A Settlement Agreement was reached by the parties (LEA and Operator) adopted as the Order of the LEA hearing panel.



Hearing Panel Stipulated Settlement Agreement – July 2002

- Agreement required the owner/operator to apply for a Standardized Permit by August 31, 2002.
- The facility was allowed to continue operations with restrictions on incoming and outgoing volumes.
- A breach in agreement would reinstate the cease and desist order.

November 2002

- Operator refuses LEA entry to inspect
- Operator fails to reduce stockpiles according to agreement
- A fire breaks out at the facility on November 27th and burns/smolders for a week
- Property still in escrow pending approval of a plot plan

BREACH OF ORDER

- January 2003 -The Cease and Desist Order became effective due to breach of the Independent Hearing Panel's Stipulated Order.

March 2003 Settlement Agreement

- Riverside County and operator entered a settlement agreement for Site Clean-Up through the Superior Court.
- All greenwaste must be removed by November 10, 2003.
- Failure to comply will result in Riverside County cleaning the site.
- The property owner will pay for costs of clean up.

November 2003 Court Judgment

- A motion to Enter Judgment was filed with Riverside County Superior Court.
- The Court found the owners violated the provisions of Settlement Agreement by failing to remove the waste stockpiles from the property in a timely manner, as required by the agreement.

Board Managed Cleanup Request

February 2004

- The Riverside County Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution authorizing the LEA to:
 - apply for assistance from CIWMB to manage the cleanup of the site.
 - authorize the LEA to request AB 2136 funds to assist in the cleanup of River Ranch Organics.

Board Managed Cleanup

- The Board approved the cleanup on Feb. 18, 2004
- The CIWMB would expend funds directly for the cleanup using a Board-managed contractor.
- Riverside County will reimburse the Solid Waste Cleanup Trust Fund up to \$100,000 from the Certificate of Deposit originally posted by the Operator.

Cleanup Project

- Cleanup activities began on June 1, 2004 and was completed on July 26, 2004
- All stockpiled wood material was processed with screening plants and trommels.





Cleanup Project

- As a waste diversion end use, wood material was loaded and hauled to the Milliken Landfill in San Bernardino County to help develop grades for final cover construction.
- Stockpiled gypsum wallboard was also processed to remove contaminating debris.

Cleanup Project











Project Cost

\$701,382.05

River Ranch – 2004 After the Cleanup







