

California Code of Regulations

Title 14. Natural Resources  
Division 7. California Integrated Waste Management Board

*DRAFT LANGUAGE FOR DISCUSSION – Clarify the regulatory status of handling compostable material at a vermicomposting operation or facility*

Current regulations specify that the handling of compostable material prior to vermicomposting and after its use as a growth medium is subject to the compostable material handling regulations. Staff proposes to clarify that this activity is subject to either the Compostable Material Handling regulations or the Transfer/Processing Operations and Facilities regulations.

Furthermore, the definition of "vermicomposting" in 14 CCR 17852(a)(39) states that the enforcement agency may determine whether an activity is or is not vermicomposting. At a later date staff proposes to develop non-regulatory guidance to assist enforcement agencies with making this determination.

**CHAPTER 3.1. COMPOSTABLE MATERIALS HANDLING OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS**

**ARTICLE 1. GENERAL**

**§ 17855. Excluded Activities.**

(a) The activities listed in this section do not constitute compostable material handling operations or facilities for the purposes of this Chapter and are not required to meet the requirements set forth herein. Nothing in this section precludes the EA or the board from inspecting an excluded activity to verify that the activity is being conducted in a manner that qualifies as an excluded activity or from taking any appropriate enforcement action.

...

(2) Vermicomposting is an excluded activity. The handling of compostable material prior to and after its use as a growth medium during the vermicomposting process is not an excluded activity and is subject to the requirements of this chapter. ~~Handling of agricultural material on the site of a vermicomposting activity, for use as a growth medium on that same site, is an excluded activity if it complies with section 17855(a)(1), or the Transfer/Processing Operations and Facilities Regulatory Requirements (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Division 7, Chapter 3, Article 6.0-6.35), whichever is applicable, as follows:~~

(A) when the compostable material is active compost or is likely to become active compost, as determined by the EA, the requirements of this chapter apply;

(B) at all other times when it is not being used as a growth medium during vermicomposting, the compostable material is subject to the Transfer/Processing Operations and Facilities Regulatory Requirements.

...