

Memorandum

To: Ted Rauh, Program Director
Waste Compliance and Mitigation Program
Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

Date: January 25, 2010

From:



Lorraine Van Kekerix, Division Chief
Compliance Evaluation and Enforcement Division
Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

Subject: RECOMMENDATION THAT SHAFTER-WASCO RECYCLING & SANITARY LANDFILL, KERN COUNTY; FACILITY NUMBER 15-AA-0057 BE REFERRED TO THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, WASTE COMPLIANCE AND MITIGATION PROGRAM, FOR CONFORMANCE DETERMINATION

Public Resources Code Section 50001 requires the location of any new or expanded solid waste disposal facility to be identified in the applicable county's Countywide Siting Element (CSE) for the proposed permit for that facility to be found to be in conformance with the CSE.

The location of the Shafter-Wasco Recycling & Sanitary Landfill is identified in the County's CSE. However, the proposed permit would expand the boundaries of the facility identified in the CSE. The policy adopted by the California Integrated Waste Management Board for facility expansions beyond the currently permitted boundaries is to make conformance findings on a case-by-case basis. In doing so, the Board considered relevant factors, including, but not limited to, proximity of the proposed expansion to residents, public notice, and public opposition. (See October 7, 2003, Sustainability and Market Development Committee, Item No. 19.) This policy is still in effect and supports this request of determination.

In this instance, the proximity of the facility to residents is not affected because the proposed horizontal expansion is contiguous to the current landfill boundary. The purpose of the expansion is to add buffer area, not to expand the landfill footprint. This expansion will also put the already-approved landfill gas monitoring probes as installed and/or planned within the permitted boundary.

The proposed permit includes several changes not identified in the CSE, the most significant of which are as follows:

- A boundary expansion by 123.58%, from 160.61 acres to 357.48 acres,
- An increase in landfill capacity by 81.0%, from 11.6 million cubic yards to approximately 21.0 million cubic yards,
- A change in name from Shafter-Wasco Sanitary Landfill to Shafter-Wasco Recycling & Sanitary Landfill, and
- An extension in estimated closure year from 2027 to 2053.

In addition, the LEA held a public hearing on the proposed permit revision on December 22, 2009, as required by Government Code Section 65091. There was appropriate public notice of the permit application, and there was no significant public opposition to the permit. No members of the public attended this meeting, and the LEA did not receive any comments or questions via email, phone, fax, or at the Waste Compliance and Mitigation Program (WCMP) Workshop conducted on January 11, 2010.

Based on the above analysis of the relevant factors, Jurisdiction Compliance and Audit Section staff recommends that a determination of conformance be made.

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Director
Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

RECOMMENDATION THAT SHAFTER-WASCO RECYCLING & SANITARY LANDFILL, KERN COUNTY, FACILITY NUMBER 13-AA-0057 BE REFERRED TO THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, WASTE COMPLIANCE AND MITIGATION PROGRAM FOR CONFORMANCE DETERMINATION

Public Resources Code Section 25100 requires the location of any new or expanded solid waste disposal facility to be identified in the applicant's Countywide Solid Waste Element (CSWE) for the proposed permit for this facility to be found to be in conformance with the CSWE.

The location of the Shafter-Wasco Recycling & Sanitary Landfill is identified in the County's CSWE. However, the proposed permit would expand the boundaries of the facility identified in the CSWE. The policy adopted by the California Integrated Waste Management Board for facility expansions beyond the currently permitted boundaries is to make conformance findings on a case-by-case basis. In doing so, the Board considered relevant factors, including, but not limited to, proximity of the proposed expansion to residents, public notice, and public opposition. (See October 7, 2003, Sustainability and Market Development Committee Item No. 19.) This policy is still in effect and supports this request of determination.

In this instance, the proximity of the facility to residents is not altered because the proposed horizontal expansion is contiguous to the current landfill boundary. The purpose of the expansion is to add buffer steel, not to expand the landfill footprint. This expansion will also put the already-approved landfill gas monitoring pipes as installed and/or planned within the permitted boundary.

The proposed permit includes several changes not identified in the CSWE, the most significant of which are as follows:

- A boundary expansion by 123.2874 from 160.61 acres to 283.90 acres.
- An increase in landfill capacity by 81,000, from 11.6 million cubic yards to 12.4 million cubic yards.
- A change in name from Shafter-Wasco Sanitary Landfill to Shafter-Wasco Recycling & Sanitary Landfill, and
- An extension in estimated closure year from 2017 to 2051.