

# Nuances and Complexities of Full Solid Waste Facilities Permit Process Training

## Five-Year Permit Review Video Transcript

### CalRecycle

**Purpose** – This video captures information on the 5-year Permit Review, Tiering Regulations, Permit Process and CEQA that will be utilized in the group activities that follow.

**Scene 1 location:** City of Pleasview Sanitary Landfill executive office. LEA is talking with the Operator about the 5 Year Review application

**Cast of characters:** LEA – Paul Thompkins, Operator – Sam Brannan, Secretary – Janet Jenkins

**Props** – Large picture of Landfill with boundary lines in solid black. Parcel of land across the street from landfill highlighted in yellow. Conference table with two chairs, fake plant, file folder, wall calendar posted within view, cell phone resting on table

---

**LEA:** *Glad you could take the time to talk before you left on your vacation. I just wanted to touch base on your 5 year review application submittal*

**OPERATOR:** *Sure, glad you were able to meet with me here at the landfill.*

**LEA:** *So – looking at your 5 year review application package there are only a few changes happening.*

**OPERATOR:** *Right, the landowner of the site is finalizing the purchase of a 2 acre parcel directly opposite the facility. This piece of land will be used as a fleet yard for hauler trucks. This happening just as Max our Operations Manager is retiring. I expect to fill his position in the next few weeks.*

**LEA:** *I saw the land purchase in the package but hadn't heard about Max and the change is site supervision, I know Max was you right hand man.*

**OPERATOR:** *Yeah, Max has been great. Also, I don't think this a big deal so I did not put in the package, but I thought I better mention it, is the plan to change the sign outside the main entrance. The idea is to make the name of the facility larger and redoing how we show the hours. We want to just have the total hours 6 am to 10 pm and take out the 9 to 5 hours we are open to the public.*

**LEA:** *Why would you want to remove the (sentence interrupted by an insistent knock).*

*(Janet knocks on door)*

*Janet: Excuse the interruption Paul, but the furniture mover is here to move those file cabinets. Just wanted to check with you before he did it.*

**OPERATOR:** *That's fine Janet. Thanks*

**LEA:** *What's with the move?*

**Operator:** *We had a roof leak where the operation records and files were housed so we're moving the cabinets to another location.*

**LEA:** *You know some of these changes may need to be part of the 5 year review application. I'm going to have to let you know if you have to do more with the application.*

**Operator –** *Sounds good. Before you go, I wanted to let you know that Corporate Head Quarters wants to change the name of the facility. ... our facility will now be known as the "City of Pleasview Resource Recovery Landfill".*

**LEA:** *You do know that your permit has the landfill as the "City of Pleasview Landfill"?*

**OPERATOR –** *Yeah, I know things change and sometimes it's unpredictable. Like this next one ... from November 15 through February 15, we're looking at reducing the hours the facility is open. In addition to that we're looking at using the compost overs as ADC after we get approved to add food waste into the existing green-waste composting.*

**LEA:** *What a minute, slow down – let's see, a name change, reduction in hours, new ADC. What's this about food waste? Right now you can only do green material with your notification tier at the compost site on the undeveloped area of the landfill. You're wanting to add food waste?*

**Operator:** *Yeah, co-collected green and food waste. We also want to move the curing, finished compost up to the old closed cell, you know the one we closed 3 years ago when it reached its maximum permitted elevation? We talked to the Regional Board and they are ok with it after we add another 2 feet of soil on top of the cap.*

**LEA:** *You know that your permit has a maximum elevation for that cell and it is also the highest point on the landfill. Remember all the folks that were upset about see the landfill and operations over the ridge line, now you want to add two feet more and piles of compost? Is there anything else?*

**OPERATOR:** *Hang on a second let me check with Janet. (calls out to Janet) "Did the Water Board take action on the amended WDRs.*

**JANET:** *(comes into the room) Did you yell?*

**OPERATOR:** *Did we hear from the Water Board on the amended WDRs?*

**JANET:** *Yes, they had the hearing and it will issue next week.*

**LEA:** *So you are getting updated WDRs*

**OPERATOR:** *Yup! So is it going to be ok to store the compost up top? With food waste coming in, we are going to have more material to handle.*

**LEA:** *Let's talk about the food waste composting. Under the current notification you can't take in food waste, you'll need to do that under a full permit. Have you thought about bringing the compost activity under your landfill permit?*

**OPERATOR:** *We can do that?*

**LEA:** *Yes, or you can get a separate permit.*

**OPERATOR:** *So we can either get a new permit or add it under the landfill permit.*

**LEA:** *Yes, it's up to me to decide, but I want to know your preference. CalRecycle has guidance on this one permit or two permit thing.*

**OPERATOR:** *Right, let me check in with the City as they are doing the Negative Declaration for the food waste collection and composting and they might want to know about the permit things.*

**LEA:** *What, the City is doing a Neg Dec. They didn't notice us.*

**OPERATOR:** *Yeah, it's for food waste stuff and the increase in tonnage. As I recall it said they're going to send us an average of 100 more tons per day.*

**LEA:** *An average? Your permit has a maximum tonnage and you're bumping up against that level already. Does the City know that the LEA and CalRecycle has to review this project?*

**OPERATOR:** *I think they plan on just noticing to the public and the City departments.*

**LEA:** *So when do you think they're gong to finish this?*

**OPERATOR:** *Actually, I think the review is almost over, the dates are on the calendar (looks up at wall calendar). Yes, public comment period started two weeks ago and ends this Monday and the City Council will act on it on Tuesday morning.*

**LEA:** *So does it include the overs as ADC?*

**OPERATOR:** *It's not in there, the City says that is exempt from CEQA and they will do a Notice of Exemption soon.*

**LEA:** *This is all news to me - the planning department has not contacted our department at all.*

**OPERATOR:** *Is that going to be a problem?*

**LEA:** *Well, the current Environmental Document which we based the permit, only included tarps as ADC.*

**OPERATOR:** *So the food waste green material compost overs might need to be looked at?*

**LEA:** *Might be. So let me see. As far as you know the ND is for food waste composting, an increase in average tonnage, but nothing on the ADC part.*

**OPERATOR:** *Yes*

**LEA:** *You already know some of this, but except for a few of the changes which we can call "minor", you will have to submit an application for. Now some of them, the RFI amendments," can be approved by me, alone, and have a month approval time. Others will require at least a modification or revision of your current permit. Now, for you, the requirements for these are pretty similar and if we need to revise your permit, well, I will have to hold an informational meeting. Of course, if the composting activity gets its own permit, that will require you to apply for a new permit, not that there is a lot of difference procedure wise between those*

**OPERATOR:** *"Yes, yes I remember all that, is there anything new?"*

**LEA:** *yeah - I wanted to remind you that under new regulations, a modified or revised permits needs to have corrective action water release estimate submitted and the appropriate corrective action financial assurance is in effect. You'll need to submit that estimate and financial assurance for this permit review. You get a "pass" on your non-water release estimate and plan because it isn't due until your first permit review or revision on or after July 1, 2011.*

**Operator:** *Right I remember that now, I listened in on the webinar from CalRecycle.*

**LEA:** *Well, you need to head out for your vacation, and it looks like I won't be taking one any time soon. I'll send you an e-mail with a list of the changes we talked about. Talk to you later.*

**OPERATOR:** *Ok, I'll send you a postcard.*

*(both stand and shake hands)*

**The End**