



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM

### APPEAL OF FINAL NEGATIVE DECLARATION

#### AGREEMENT FOR DISPOSAL OF SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AT RECOLOGY HAY ROAD LANDFILL IN SOLANO COUNTY

**DATE:** September 21, 2015

**TO:** Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Sarah B. Jones, Environmental Review Officer - (415) 575-9034  
Paul Maltzer, Case Planner - (415) 575-9038

**RE:** Board of Supervisors File No. 150712; Planning Case No. 2014.0653E  
Appeal of Final Negative Declaration for Agreement For  
Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste At Recology Hay  
Road Landfill in Solano County

**HEARING DATE:** September 29, 2015

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The Planning Department hereby transmits to the Board of Supervisors the materials which respond to the August 19, 2015 appeal letter filed by Appellant with respect to the above-referenced case. Included are the Planning Department Response Memorandum, dated September 21, 2015, together with the Response Memorandum Attachments, Exhibits A – D.

On Friday, September 18, 2015, the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Department received supplemental materials from the Appellant regarding this case. The majority of the supplemental material submitted by Appellant on September 18, 2015 is duplicative of material that was previously submitted by Appellant and is therefore addressed in the Planning Department response materials which are being transmitted to the Board of Supervisors today. However, the supplemental material submitted by Appellant on September 18, 2015 also included some new material, including new air quality technical information and assertions regarding Recology operations. The Planning Department response to this new and recently submitted information requires additional time to investigate. However, the Planning Department response to the new information submitted by Appellant on September 18, 2015 will be provided to the Board by the time of the public hearing on this case, September 29, 2015.



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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**ATTACHMENTS:** Exhibit A – Appeal Materials Submitted by Appellant  
Exhibit B – Planning Department Response to Appeal of Preliminary  
Negative Declaration  
Exhibit C – Department of Environment Memorandum  
Exhibit D – Planning Commission Motion Affirming Decision to Issue  
Negative Declaration

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**PROJECT SPONSOR:** San Francisco Department of Environment

**PROJECT CONTACT:** Jack Macy - (415) 355-3751

**APPELLANT:** Solano County Orderly Growth Committee

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#### INTRODUCTION:

This memorandum is a response ("Appeal Response") to the letter of appeal ("Appeal Letter") to the Board of Supervisors (the "Board") regarding the Planning Department's (the "Department") issuance of a Final Negative Declaration ("FND") under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA Determination") for a proposed Agreement For Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) At Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County (the "project").

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The Preliminary Negative Declaration ("PND") for the project was published on March 4, 2015. An appeal of the PND was filed by the Solano County Orderly Growth Committee on April 2, 2015. At the appeal hearing, held on May 21, 2015, the Planning Commission (the "Commission") affirmed the Department's decision to issue a Negative Declaration for the project (Exhibit D.)

On July 15, 2015, the Department of the Environment revised the terms of the proposed Agreement (see Project Description, below.) On July 21, 2015, the Planning Department issued a Final Negative Declaration ("FND"), revised to reflect and address the revised Agreement. The FND has now been appealed to the Board of Supervisors by the same Appellant that appealed the PND to the Planning Commission.

The decision before the Board is whether to uphold the Department's decision to issue a FND and deny the appeal, or to overturn the Department's decision to issue an FND and return the project to the Department staff for further environmental review.

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The proposed project consists of an Agreement between the City of San Francisco and Recology to change the disposal site for San Francisco's municipal solid waste (MSW). Currently, Recology, the company that collects San Francisco's waste, transports San Francisco's MSW to the Altamont Landfill, located in eastern Alameda County, for disposal. San Francisco's existing agreement with Waste Management, Inc., operator of the Altamont Landfill, will expire around 2016. The proposed project consists of an Agreement to authorize the transportation of MSW from San Francisco to the existing Recology Hay Road Landfill located in unincorporated Solano County, at 6426 Hay Road, near State Route 113, southeast of Vacaville, where it would be disposed. San Francisco and Recology have entered into an Agreement for the transportation and disposal of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. MSW would be transported by long haul semi-trucks, primarily from the Recology San Francisco transfer station located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, with several additional trucks hauling residual wastes for disposal from Recology's Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 in San Francisco, as is presently the case.

As originally analyzed in the PND published on March 4, 2015 and upheld by the Planning Commission on May 21, 2015, the draft Agreement provided for the disposal of 5 million tons of MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The Preliminary Negative Declaration estimated that the original draft Agreement would have a term of 13 – 15 years. On July 15, 2015 the draft Agreement was revised. The term of the revised Agreement is 9 years, or until 3.4 million tons of MSW have been deposited in the Recology Hay Road Landfill, whichever comes first. The City has an option to renew the Agreement for a period of 6 years, or until an additional 1.6 million tons of MSW have been deposited in the landfill, whichever comes first. The revised Agreement also limits the annual average number of round-trip truck trips transporting MSW to the landfill to 50 round-trip truck trips per day, based on a six-day work week. No new construction or changes in current Recology operations within San Francisco are proposed. No new construction or change in existing permits would be required at the Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano

County. The proposed project would correspond with the cessation of transport of San Francisco's MSW to Altamont Landfill.

The Department of the Environment has determined that (1) the revisions to the Agreement are consistent with the environmental impact analysis in the PND, (2) on the basis of the record before it, there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project will have a significant effect on the environment, and (3) the Negative Declaration reflects San Francisco's independent judgment and analysis. The Department of the Environment adopted the FND and entered into the Agreement between San Francisco and Recology to authorize the proposed disposal site

### **APPELLANT ISSUES AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT RESPONSES**

As part of this appeal, Appellants submitted an Appeal Letter dated August 19, 2015, and several attachments, including the April 2, 2015 Appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration to the Planning Commission; a May 19, 2015 Letter to the Planning Commission (with Attachments); the May 21, 2015 FND, the June 1, 2015 Recommendation from the Department of Environment; and an Appeal Letter dated June 30, 2015 (Exhibit A.)

The Planning Department's Responses to these appeal materials consists of specific responses to the August 19, 2015 Appeal Letter and the May 19, 2015 Letter to the Planning Commission. The Planning Department previously prepared a written response to the April 2, 2015 Appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration, which is included herein as an attachment (Exhibit B.) The Planning Department's responses to these appeal materials effectively respond to the additional Appeal Letter dated June 30, 2015, filed with the Board of Supervisors. When this response refers to the "Appeal Letter," the reference includes both Appeal Letters dated June 30, 2015 and August 19, 2015.

### **Summary of Issues Appellant Raises in the Appeal Letter**

#### Appellant's Claim

1. **Contending that 624,000 additional trash truck miles per year for 15 years through Bay Area traffic could not, even arguably, have a significant effect on the environment defies logic and lacks credulity.** Courts have required CEQA review of projects that had considerably less impact than the massive project under consideration. The project will arguably have a significant effect.

#### Planning Department Response

**This particular assertion by Appellant is a broad conclusory argument, without supporting analysis or evidence. The City has completed a thorough CEQA review of the proposed project. The FND and supporting technical studies represent over 100 pages of environmental**



impact analysis and evidence which demonstrate that the project could not have a significant environmental effect.

In support of its contention, Appellant cites a Keep Our Mountains Quiet v. County of Santa Clara court case, which is described by Appellant as a case involving the use of rural property in the Santa Cruz mountains to host wedding receptions and other similar special events. In that case, the court of appeal ruled that substantial evidence supported a fair argument that the project at issue could have a significant effect on the environment. However, each project undergoing CEQA review is analyzed based upon its own facts and circumstances. The record in *Keep our Mountains Quiet* was very different than the record here.

Here, a thorough Initial Study was completed for the proposed project, which included project specific traffic and air quality analyses. The proposed project was evaluated pursuant to the entire Initial Study Checklist for potential environmental impacts, as detailed in the attached Initial Study and Negative Declaration. That analysis concluded, issue by issue, that the proposed project could not have a significant impact on the environment. Hence, a Negative Declaration was published and subsequently upheld on appeal by the Planning Commission.

“Less than significant” does not mean that a project has no impact; rather, it means that the anticipated environmental impacts fall below the thresholds of significance, as described in the Negative Declaration.

An Environmental Impact Report, rather than a Negative Declaration, must be prepared when there is substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the on the environment. As indicated by Appellant, as per CEQA Guidelines Section 15384, substantial evidence includes “facts, reasonable assumptions predicated upon facts, and expert opinion supported by facts.”

CEQA Guidelines Section 15384 states substantial evidence does not include “argument, speculation, unsubstantiated opinion or narrative, evidence which is clearly erroneous or inaccurate . . . .” As explained further below, the information Appellant has submitted does not meet CEQA’s definition of substantial evidence. Many of the points raised by Appellant are legal arguments, rather than facts and assumptions based on facts. Appellants’ legal arguments are not consistent with CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines, and judicial decisions interpreting CEQA. In other instances, Appellant has provided data and analysis based on that data. However, the data provided by Appellant are erroneous, and not applicable to the proposed project in any event. Appellant has not shown based on substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. The Initial Study/Negative Declaration has presented specific facts and analysis which support the conclusions of less than significant effect.

In addition, Appellant’s characterization of the project as “massive” is inaccurate. The FND analyzes a project that includes the same number of trucks carrying the same amount of MSW along the same route across the Bay Bridge as presently occurs. The changes to the physical environment occur after the trucks cross the Bay Bridge and travel to Solano County Hay Road rather than the Altamont landfill site.

Appellant's Claim

2. The scope of the environmental analysis was improperly constrained. The environmental review must consider the entirety of the proposed action, and not just the net additional miles travelled because (i) this is a new Project and not an amendment to an existing project or agreement, and (ii) because there was no prior environmental review of the transport of municipal solid waste ("MSW") from San Francisco to the Hay Road Landfill. The baseline used in the Negative Declaration improperly limits the analysis.

Planning Department Response

The Initial Study/Negative Declaration describes and analyzes the entire project, including the full length of the truck trips from San Francisco to the Hay Road Landfill, and disposal at the Hay Road Landfill. However, in order to properly present the potential environmental impacts of a proposed project, the analysis necessarily requires a comparison between the potential future conditions with the proposed project and the existing environmental setting. Accordingly, the Initial Study/ Negative Declaration compares conditions under the project to the existing conditions under which San Francisco waste is transported to the Altamont Landfill.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15358(b), which defines environmental "effects", states that "effects analyzed under CEQA must be related to a physical change." In situations where the existing environmental setting is unchanged by a proposed project, there are no environmental effects under CEQA. Environmental effects of a proposed project are generated by changes in the existing setting. This is a basic tenet of CEQA impact analysis.

With respect to the proposed project, the existing setting in part consists of the haul trucks carrying San Francisco's MSW from San Francisco across the Bay Bridge and then proceeding southeast to the Altamont Landfill where the MSW is disposed. Under the proposed project, approximately the same number of haul trucks would carry approximately the same amount of San Francisco's MSW from San Francisco across the Bay Bridge and then proceed northeast on Highway 80 to the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Since the proposed project does not change the route or the amount of haul trucks carrying San Francisco's MSW across the Bay Bridge, there would be no change whatsoever from the existing setting. Therefore, without any change in that aspect of the environmental setting, there would be no new environmental impacts associated with that particular aspect of the project under CEQA. Hence, while the Initial Study/Negative Declaration describes and analyzes the entire "new" proposed truck trip from San Francisco to Recology Hay Road Landfill, under CEQA, the potential environmental effects resulting from the proposed change in truck trips only occur when there would be a change in the physical existing setting, i.e., after the trucks have crossed the Bay Bridge.

Similarly with respect to air quality impacts, the Negative Declaration properly establishes the baseline as the current physical environment, which includes the hauling of San Francisco's MSW

to the Altamont Landfill in Alameda County for disposal. The Negative Declaration compares modeled air pollutant emissions of haul trucks on the proposed route to modeled emissions of the baseline condition. The difference between the two constitutes the potential impacts of the proposed project and is the basis for determining whether a significant impact would occur.

This is the standard, accepted methodology for performing environmental impact analysis under CEQA, consistent with guidance documents from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District. This is the approach used in San Francisco in its CEQA analysis for all projects.

### Appellant's Claim

3. **Approval of the Negative Declaration is predicated upon the false assumption that San Francisco's population and trash generation will not change during the expected 15 year life of the proposed Project. The Project description artificially constrains and manipulates the analysis by assuming that there will be no increase in the existing pattern of 50 large truck trips per day over the 13-15 year life of the Project.** The Negative Declaration provides no evidence in the record regarding how MSW from this growth will be handled, or to justify the assumption that it will not generate additional truck trips. In fact, as was brought up at the Planning Commission hearing on May 21st, San Francisco's MSW currently being disposed of at the Altamont Landfill is actually increasing.

### Planning Department Response

**The FND incorporates a conservative forecast of 50 daily truck trips on average over a six day week, hauling the City's MSW to the Hay Road Landfill for the entire potential duration of the Agreement. This is consistent with the explicit terms of the revised Agreement which cap the number of average daily truck trips at 50. The data, assumptions and calculations provided by Appellant to contest the forecast of 50 daily truck trips are not supported by facts in the record. See also Planning Department Response to Appellant Claim #4, which elaborates further on this issue.**

Appellant cites population growth forecasts, and in particular a SWAPE report submitted to the Planning Commission as part of the appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration, to challenge the validity of the 50 daily truck trip forecast.

Historically, the amount of San Francisco waste hauled to the Altamont Landfill has declined steadily, even as San Francisco's population has increased. In a May 19, 2015 report, a consultant hired by Appellant, SWAPE, presented the total annual disposal tonnage of San Francisco-generated waste in each year from 2008 through 2013, and the portion of that total tonnage that was hauled to the Altamont Landfill in each of those same years. The total tonnage includes both the type of municipal solid waste that is the subject of the proposed project's Agreement, and other types of waste such as construction and demolition debris and self-generated waste hauled to other landfills that is not the subject of the proposed project Agreement.

The SWAPE report shows that the tonnage of the type of waste at issue here-- the waste hauled from San Francisco to the Altamont Landfill -- has decreased from 498,382 tons in 2008 to 372,205 tons in 2013-- a 25 percent decrease in six years. (See Column 2 of table on page 5 of the SWAPE report.) Another chart at the top of page 6 of the SWAPE report shows an even greater decrease in total waste generation from 2001 to 2011, and shows that San Francisco population grew over this same time period.

After presenting these data, SWAPE reaches two erroneous conclusions. First, SWAPE assumes a constant 80 percent of total San Francisco waste would be hauled to the Altamont Landfill or its replacement under the proposed project. However, the data SWAPE presents at the top of page 5 of its report show that the percentage of total San Francisco waste that has been hauled to the Altamont Landfill has not been constant over time, and instead has been declining. No data are offered to support a conclusion that the percentage of total waste hauled under the Agreement would remain constant.

Second, on pages 6 and 8 of its report, SWAPE presents data showing an increase in *total* San Francisco waste from 2012 to 2013, and based on that increase SWAPE calculates that per capita waste generation increased from 2012 to 2013. But SWAPE's own data reveal that the tonnage of the type of waste that is relevant to the Agreement -- the type of waste that currently is hauled to the Altamont Landfill -- *decreased* from 2012 to 2013 and the per capita generation of that type of waste has *decreased* over time. No data are offered to show an increase in per capita generation of the type of waste addressed by the proposed project Agreement.

SWAPE concludes that the upward trend in total waste disposal from 2012 to 2013 "indicates that even with the implementation of recycling and composting, the waste volume has increased in recent years and will most likely increase in future years as the population increases." The data in SWAPE's report do not, however, support the conclusion that the volume of the type of waste that is hauled to the Altamont Landfill will likely increase in future years. To the contrary, the data show that even when there was a slight uptick in such waste disposal from 2011 to 2012, that uptick was followed by a decrease from 2012 to 2013.<sup>1</sup>

SWAPE also states that recycling commodities pricing has decreased over the years. However, the possibility that recycling may become less profitable does not lead to the conclusion that waste hauling for landfill disposal will increase. As previously explained, the Agreement between San Francisco and Recology does not allow that outcome. Further, San Francisco creates pricing incentives for diversion of waste as part of its rate structure.

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<sup>1</sup> It bears noting that the tonnage hauled to the Altamont Landfill in the second column of the table on page 5 of the SWAPE report includes a small quantity of San Francisco waste hauled to Altamont by entities other than Recology. As shown in the table attached to the memorandum provided by Jack Macy of the San Francisco Department of the Environment, the waste hauled by Recology actually has decreased every year. Regardless of which data set is analyzed, both the data presented by SWAPE and the table provided by Mr. Macy demonstrate that San Francisco waste hauled to the Altamont Landfill has decreased substantially over time, even as population has grown.

To project future waste tonnage, SWAPE simply assumes that total waste generation on a per capita basis will remain constant as the San Francisco population grows, and that a constant 80 percent of that waste would be hauled to the proposed landfill. The underlying data do not support either of SWAPE's assumptions. No data are offered by SWAPE to show that either the percentage of total waste hauled to the subject landfill would remain constant or that per capita waste would remain constant. SWAPE's calculations of future waste generation, and associated truck trips are based on speculation, and are unsupported by facts in the record, or reasonable assumptions based on facts in the record.

In any event, as explained above, the revised Agreement limits Recology to an annual average of 50 trucks per day over a six day work week. Accordingly, the total number of truck trips allowed under the Agreement cannot exceed the number assumed in the FND.

By limiting trucks to 50 per day over a six day work week on an annual average basis, the Agreement does not allow the amount of San Francisco waste that Recology hauls to a landfill to grow. San Francisco and Recology can, and must under the Agreement, take steps to ensure that diversion of recyclable and composting materials away from landfills outpaces population growth.

Jack Macy, the San Francisco Department of the Environment Senior Zero Waste Coordinator, has submitted a Memorandum describing the programs that San Francisco and Recology are pursuing to continue to reduce the type of waste that Recology hauls to a landfill (Exhibit C.) Recology already has received CalRecycle funding to install proven technology to press organics from trash; technology that has been demonstrated to recover at least 30 percent of the material it presses. That amount equates to elimination of 2 to 3 round trip truck trips that otherwise would travel to a landfill. New optical sorting equipment is now available to recover an additional 20 to 30 tons per day of currently unrecoverable recyclables. This technology can eliminate 1-2 round trip truck trips that otherwise would travel to a landfill. In addition, Recology has purchased new lighter weight transfer trailers that will enable Recology to transport one ton more waste per truck compared to existing conditions. These new trailers can eliminate 1-2 round trip truck trips per day, without changing overall truck weight

Recology and San Francisco continue to explore new methods to increase recycling, and divert waste from landfill disposal. Mr. Macy's Memorandum describes new field studies documenting the effectiveness of reducing the residential trash can sizes, and a new outreach program designed to recover more textiles from the waste stream. As required to meet the truck cap specified in the Agreement, Recology and San Francisco will pursue aggressive programs to reduce waste.

#### Appellant's Claim

4. **The Agreement concedes that there will need to be more than 50 round trips per day, subject only to an annual average of 50 per day. The FND does not consider the transportation, noise and air quality effects of additional truck trips per day. There is no evidence in the**

record that growth-produced MSW will be mitigated by future diversion programs. This is of particular concern because even a minor increase in truck trips would result in CO<sub>2</sub>E emissions well beyond the significance threshold.

Planning Department Response

As indicated above in the Project Description, the revised Agreement caps the annual average number of truck trips at 50 per day over a six day week, which is what the FND analyzed. While daily fluctuations in truck trips occur today and most likely would also occur in the future, as explained below, the FND fully discloses the potential for significant impacts from the proposed project. Appellant has not introduced substantial evidence showing that daily fluctuations in truck trips could result in a significant effect on the environment.

Both under existing conditions and under the Agreement, more than 50 trucks may transport San Francisco waste to a landfill on a given day (though still averaging no more than 50 trips per day over a six day week.) Under existing conditions, there is not a steady average daily stream of MSW collected in the City and hauled to the Altamont Landfill over the course of a week. The amount of MSW hauled to the Altamont Landfill is highest on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and lower on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays. MSW generally is not hauled on Sundays. As such, it is not unusual for Recology to utilize more than 50 (and up to approximately 70) trucks on a Tuesday, with substantially less than 50 daily truck trips on a Saturday, such that the annual average is 50 daily truck trips per day over a six day week. The daily fluctuation in truck trips would not change under the Proposed Project, and does not alter the conclusions in the FND.

*Air Quality*

Regarding air quality impacts, the methodologies utilized in the FND examined potential air quality impacts from average daily operations (for criteria air pollutants) as well as maximum annual operational emissions (for criteria pollutants, chronic health risks and GHG) consistent with well-established air district guidelines. Regarding average daily operations for criteria air pollutants, the methodologies utilized in the air quality analysis take into account the fact that there are typically daily fluctuations in traffic volumes. Hence, by examining an operational daily average of 50 truck trips, the FND accurately discloses the potential impacts of the project. Similarly with respect to maximum annual emissions (for criteria pollutants, health risk [with the exception of acute hazard index] and GHG) by assuming a daily average of 50 truck trips over the course of a year, maximum annual emissions are accurately presented, even allowing for a daily fluctuation, provided that the daily average of 50 truck trips is not exceeded over the course of the year. Regarding carbon monoxide and acute hazard index, as explained below, project impacts would be less than significant even when the possible variation between days is considered.

*Mass Emissions of Criteria Air Pollutants*

The significance thresholds used by the Planning Department to assess operations-related mass emissions of criteria air pollutants ("CAP") and their precursors are total average daily and annual emissions.<sup>2</sup> Fluctuations between days are not relevant to either the calculation of average daily or annual emissions. Here, the FND presented CAP and precursor emissions with a layer of conservatism, in that the daily emissions were only averaged over the working days (6 days/week) in a year.

The Yuba Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD) assesses significance based on annual operational emission thresholds for ROG and NOx. Because the thresholds are based on annual as opposed to daily totals, the variability between days does not affect the significance determination.

#### *Carbon Monoxide*

The YSAQMD Handbook for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts establishes a screening method for assessing localized concentrations of carbon monoxide<sup>3</sup>. According to YSAQMD, if the traffic study shows that the peak-hour level of service (LOS) will be reduced to an unacceptable level, LOS E or F, then the project may have the potential to violate the carbon monoxide standard. As described in the FND, the analyzed Solano county intersections that the Project-related trucks will travel through are all LOS A or B, and the proposed Project plus all other trucks traveling to and from the Hay Road Landfill as authorized by the Solano County conditional use permit would not cause those intersections to reach LOS E or F. As explained below under traffic impacts, daily fluctuations in truck trips would not change this conclusion. Accordingly, the Project impacts on localized carbon monoxide concentrations are considered Less Than Significant.

#### *Health Risks*

The FND analyzed project-specific health risk based upon maximum exposure for nearby receptors from full project operation, in the long-term. Hence, the FND analyzed potential health risk impacts from 50 trips per day, six days per week, over the lifetime of the project, which is the maximum number of trips allowable under the Agreement, even if the number of truck trips on a given day were to exceed 50.

Daily fluctuations in emissions from truck trips over the course of a week or a year do not affect excess cancer risk estimates, chronic hazard index (HI), or PM2.5 annual concentrations because cancer risk is not based on daily emissions, but rather on annual concentrations. As explained in the BAAQMD Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards, "cancer risks and chronic noncancer hazard are assessed for long term exposures over 70 years."<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, available at [http://www.baaqmd.gov/~media/files/planning-and-research/ceqa/baaqmd-ceqa-guidelines\\_final\\_may-2012.pdf?la=en](http://www.baaqmd.gov/~media/files/planning-and-research/ceqa/baaqmd-ceqa-guidelines_final_may-2012.pdf?la=en), accessed September 3, 2015.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.ysaqmd.org/documents/CEQAHandbook2007.pdf>, accessed September 3, 2015.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.baaqmd.gov/~media/files/planning-and-research/ceqa/risk-modeling-approach-may-2012.pdf?la=en>.

Day to day variation does not affect these health endpoints, but rather the exposure over a lifetime. Following this guidance, the calculations used to estimate excess cancer risk, chronic HI, and annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations are based on the annually averaged daily concentrations, which are determined by the annually averaged daily trip rate.

While the acute hazard index (HI) analysis, on the other hand, does depend on emissions timing, specifically peak emissions per hour, it is not typically performed for mobile source emissions since the toxics air contaminants released from mobile sources do not contribute considerably to acute HI. The BAAQMD released a tool that shows cumulative highway traffic acute HI in the Bay Area.<sup>5</sup> That tool reveals that the peak acute HI from all traffic along the heavily trafficked Bay Bridge is shown to be only 0.141; compared to a significance standard of 1.0. From these data, it is clear that the truck deliveries to and from the Hay Road landfill will not generate trips approaching the magnitude of total trips along the Bay Bridge, so the effect would be Less Than Significant for acute HI as well, even considering potential variability.

The YSAQMD Handbook for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts states that “[t]he District has no permitting or other regulatory authority over mobile sources,” and as such, only presents a threshold for stationary sources [i.e., non-traffic sources] for cancer risk, chronic HI, and acute HI.<sup>6</sup>

#### *Greenhouse Gases*

Finally, the FND explains that neither the BAAQMD nor the YSAQMD has adopted a significance threshold for greenhouse gas emissions from project operations. However, San Francisco bases its significance threshold on the BAAQMD’s 2009 Justification Report. The significance threshold measures greenhouse gas emissions on an annual basis, so variability of emissions between days is irrelevant to that threshold.

#### *Traffic and Noise Impacts*

Regarding potential traffic impacts, the FND analyzed the increase in average daily trips on I-80, the level of service/ congestion at local roadway intersections between I-80 and the Hay Road Landfill, roadway design hazards, emergency access, and conflicts with policies or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities. The results of the FND analysis are summarized in the following paragraphs.

#### *Freeway Impacts*

A daily fluctuation in truck trips would not affect the number of average daily trips on the freeway, which was the metric used to evaluate freeway impacts. As described in the FND, Highway I-80 has an average daily volume of about 115,000 vehicles near the Midway exchange.

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<sup>5</sup> BAAQMD Highway Screening Analysis Tool, available at: <http://www.baaqmd.gov/plans-and-climate/california-environmental-quality-act-ceqa/ceqa-tools>, accessed September 3, 2015.

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.ysaqmd.org/documents/CEQAHandbook2007.pdf>, accessed September 3, 2015.



The FND determined that an increase in 50 average round trips would not be noticeable; the same holds true for a peak daily number of trucks that is twice that amount. This volume would be unnoticeable, well within the daily fluctuations of the 115,000 vehicles which travel on Highway I-80 on a typical day and would have no effect on freeway LOS.<sup>7</sup>

#### *Intersection Impacts*

The FND shows that the local Solano County routes that trucks would use between Highway 80 and the Hay Road Landfill all presently operate at Levels of Service A or B (excellent to very good.) The excellent to very good Levels of Service on the local roads between Highway 80 and Hay Road Landfill would be unaffected by a peak daily volume of truck trips that is double the average daily number of trips.<sup>8</sup> The Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) that Solano County prepared for the Hay Road landfill evaluated the traffic impacts of 620 average vehicle trips per day on local roadways-- an amount far greater than the existing trips from Hay Road Landfill operations plus the peak number of trips that would be generated by this project on a daily basis. That Solano County IS/MND concluded that the level of service at only one intersection-- Midway and State Route 113-- would fall beneath the County's standards under cumulative conditions-- but that trucks associated with the landfill would not make a considerable contribution to this impact.<sup>9</sup> (See the FND at page 43.) Accordingly, daily fluctuations in project-related truck trips would not result in a significant impact at local intersections.

#### *Hazards Due to Design Features*

The FND explains that the project would not alter the design of any roadways, and project-generated trips would be made by the types of trucks that currently travel on I-80 and local roadways near the Hay Road Landfill. These conclusions are not affected by daily fluctuations in truck trips.

#### *Emergency Access*

The FND explains that emergency access would remain unchanged under project conditions. This conclusion is not affected by daily fluctuations in truck trips because freeway impacts and intersection impacts would remain less than significant.

#### *Public Transit, Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities*

The FND explains that the project does not include elements that would conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation. Daily fluctuations in truck traffic would not affect this conclusion.

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<sup>7</sup> Memorandum from Jack Hutchison and Karl Heisler to Paul Maltzer, September 11, 2015.

<sup>8</sup> Memorandum from Jack Hutchison and Karl Heisler to Paul Maltzer, September 11, 2015.

<sup>9</sup> Traffic generated by the proposed project would not be additive to that analyzed in the Solano County IS/MND, given that the proposed project would consume a portion of the landfill's permitted capacity and it is that approved capacity on which the Solano County IS/MND based its transportation analysis.

## Noise

In its evaluation of Noise Impacts, the FND determined that the addition of approximately 100 truck trips per day (50 trucks making round trips) would constitute a proportionally small increment of traffic along the relevant routes, which would not substantially increase existing traffic noise or vibration, or substantially increase exposure to noise for people in the vicinity. This conclusion would hold true if applied to twice that many truck trips on a peak day, because these trips would be distributed intermittently throughout the day over an eight hour operating period. Assuming 12 peak-hour trips in each direction (if there were to be 100 daily truck trips), project traffic would represent a sufficiently small increase over existing traffic volumes as to result in a less-than-significant increase in traffic noise. For example, at the intersection of State Route 113 and Hay Road, the project-generated increase in a.m. peak-hour traffic as analyzed in the FND would be 3.5 percent, compared to existing conditions. Assuming an overly conservative peak-haul day on which 100 trucks would generate 200 daily trips, the a.m. peak-hour increase in traffic, compared to existing conditions, would be 7.0 percent. To ensure that the potential peaking of truck traffic would result in no significant impact, noise levels were modeled for this increased truck trip scenario using the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Traffic Noise Prediction Model. Existing peak hour traffic on Highway 113 is approximately 330 trips with a truck percentage of 6.1 percent (or about 20 trucks per hour). Addition of another 24 trucks to the peak hour roadway volume would increase the truck percentage to 12.5 percent of traffic and would result in a roadside noise increase of 2.4 decibels\_(dBA). This would be a less than perceptible increase in ambient noise, which is generally recognized as a 3 dBA increase. Moreover, the haul routes proposed between the Interstate 80 (I-80) freeway and the Recology Hay Road Landfill have very few sensitive receptors (residences), further diminishing the potential for adverse noise effects. As for the freeway itself, 200 daily truck trips would not result in a perceptible increase in noise along I-80.<sup>10</sup>

## Appellant's Claim

5. **The Project description and cumulative analysis fails to take into consideration the additional vehicle trips and the cumulative impacts associated with doubling the organics disposal and treatment program at the Hay Road landfill, and the substantial increased export of compost material from Hay Road to other locations, including San Francisco. Consideration given to the proposed Anaerobic Digestion facility in the cumulative impact analysis is inadequate in that it relied on the Solano County 2012 IS/MND and did not consider cumulative air quality impacts.** Recology reportedly also intends to double the capacity of the Hay Road facility to handle compostable materials.

## Planning Department Response

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<sup>10</sup> Memorandum from Karl Heisler to Paul Maltzer, September 11, 2015.

**The Anaerobic Digester is considered in the Negative Declaration as a future cumulative project. Furthermore, Recology has stated that it does not have plans to increase the permitted capacity of the Hay Road facility.**

Appellant states that Recology intends to double the capacity of the Hay Road facility to handle compostable materials. Appellant provides no basis for this assertion. While Recology does anticipate that the quantity of organic material received at Jepson Prairie Organics (within the Hay Road Landfill site) may increase over time, Recology is not negotiating any new contracts for an increase in such activity at this time. In any event handling additional compostable materials at Jepson Prairie Organics would not affect the FND's cumulative impacts analysis. As explained on page 43 of the FND, the conditional use permit issued by Solano County for the combined operations of the Recology Hay Road Landfill and Jepson Prairie Organics compost facility establishes a limit on vehicle trips such that combined trips to both facilities cannot exceed 620 average vehicle trips per day. On page 5, the FND explains that the Hay Road Landfill facility presently receives an average of 325 vehicles (including trucks) per day. The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by Solano County analyzed the effects of 620 average vehicle trips per day, and found no significant impacts after mitigation. Project trips would represent only a subset of the 620 average daily trips analyzed in the IS/MND. Increased composting at Jepson Prairie Organics can be accommodated within the permitted capacity of the Landfill Facility and existing 620 average daily truck limit. Thus, cumulative trips from the project and the other sources of vehicles traveling to the Hay Road Landfill and Jepson Prairie Organics facility would be less than significant.

The proposed Anaerobic Digester is not a part of the proposed project and would not be entitled by approval of the proposed project. The proposed Anaerobic Digester is a separate project that is undergoing separate environmental review, with Solano County as the Lead Agency preparing the CEQA document. Since Solano County's environmental review of the Anaerobic Digester project is still in progress, the FND relies on the impact analysis contained in a 2012 Programmatic EIR, prepared by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, which examines potential impacts of anaerobic digester facilities located at solid waste facilities. That document provides the best available information regarding potential environmental impacts of anaerobic digester facilities of this kind.

Because the Anaerobic Digester is a reasonably foreseeable future project, it is included in the cumulative impact analysis of the Negative Declaration. The FND on pages 21 – 22 describes the Anaerobic Digestion project as a cumulative project. Pages 43 – 44 of the FND analyze potential cumulative transportation impacts of the proposed project in combination with the Anaerobic Digester project.

As described in the Negative Declaration, the Anaerobic Digester project would not increase the number of vehicle trips (including trucks) which are presently permitted at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The Anaerobic Digester project would use as its feedstock the same volume and type of organic material that currently is processed at Jepson Prairie Organics on the Recology Hay Road Landfill site, and would not increase the number of trucks traveling to Hay Road Landfill and Jepson Prairie Organics compared to the number previously evaluated in Solano

County's IS/MND or permitted by the proposed Agreement and assumed in the FND. The permitted daily limit of 620 vehicle trips at the landfill and compost facility would remain in place. The same trucks that already deliver organics to Jepson Prairie Organics would continue to do so. Approximately 25 new vehicles per day would be expected at the proposed Anaerobic Digester facility, which would transport vendors, employees and CNG containers. Those new vehicle trips would be included within the 620 vehicle limit.

That level of activity was included and described in the cumulative traffic analysis discussion on pages 43 – 44 of the Negative Declaration. That maximum level of traffic activity was also analyzed by Solano County in a 2012 Initial Study/Negative Declaration which concluded that there would be no significant cumulative traffic impacts..

Regarding cumulative air quality impacts, as described in the FND, regional air pollution is by its very nature largely a cumulative impact. Emissions from past, present and future projects (including the Anaerobic Digestion project) contribute to the region's adverse air quality on a cumulative basis. No single project by itself would be sufficient in size to result in regional nonattainment of ambient air quality standards. Instead, a project's individual emissions contribute to existing cumulative adverse air quality impacts, and thresholds have been established by the respective air districts to determine whether individual projects would contribute considerably to an air quality violation or result in a considerable increase in air pollutants. The proposed project was analyzed and determined to fall below all relevant thresholds for potential significant cumulative impact, taking into account cumulative regional growth, which would include projects such as the Anaerobic Digester.

#### Appellant's Claim

6. **The environmental review ignores the policy guidance of SB 375, AB-32, the draft CEQA Guidelines, and the Governor's recent Executive Order, all requiring the Project's compliance with climate action and greenhouse gas reduction policies.** The Project should be considered to have potentially significant environmental impacts because the vehicle miles to be travelled to the Hay Road Landfill will greatly exceed regional norms for transport of MSW.

#### Planning Department Response

**The Planning Department has established a quantitative threshold of 1,100 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year in order to determine whether a project has a significant impact pertaining to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for purposes of CEQA review. This is based upon a Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Justification Report, which determined on the basis of technical air quality studies that projects with emissions below this threshold would satisfy their fair share of mandated GHG reductions. As described and analyzed in the FND at pages 64 – 73, the proposed project's maximum annual operational GHG emissions over baseline would be below the significance threshold.**

The FND recognizes that the Proposed Project would increase GHG emissions compared to baseline conditions, and quantifies that increase. The FND compares the increase to the threshold

that San Francisco has determined is applicable to the project, and the FND demonstrates that Project-related GHG emissions would be less than significant. The Department of the Environment also reviewed the individual policies in the City's Climate Action Plan for inconsistency with the Proposed Project; however no such inconsistencies were found. The Proposed Project does not necessitate any new construction and does not change any operations within San Francisco. Nevertheless, because the Project would add new truck trips in Solano County and would increase trip length within the BAAQMD's jurisdiction, the FND includes an evaluation of consistency with the BAAQMD 2010 Clean Air Plan and the Solano County Climate Action Plan. The FND also evaluates the Proposed Project's consistency with the State of California's AB 32 Scoping Plan and Update. Hence, the Negative Declaration has not ignored policy guidance regarding GHG reduction, but has applied San Francisco's established numeric significance threshold, based on guidance from the BAAQMD and technical air quality studies in the BAAQMD's Justification Report, and has considered all relevant plans and policies pertaining to greenhouse gas emissions.

The Appellant states that the proposed Agreement and Negative Declaration are contrary to San Francisco's commitment to the reduction of greenhouse gases and San Francisco's Climate Action Plan. San Francisco's Climate Action Plan requires that all City departments "consider the effect of all decisions and activities within their jurisdiction on greenhouse gas emissions and undertake their responsibilities to the end that the City achieves the greenhouse gas emissions limits set forth in their Ordinance." (S.F. Env. Code § 902(b).) The Climate Action Plan does not mandate a particular determination for any individual project. The Department of the Environment considered the effect of its decision on greenhouse gas emissions. The FND shows that Recology's existing truck fleet already uses biodiesel fuel and liquefied natural gas, which is consistent with statewide efforts to reduce the use of conventional diesel fuel. The August 25, 2015 Memorandum from Jack Macy to Paul Maltzer also shows that San Francisco and Recology are diverting substantial quantities of material away from landfill disposal by implementing robust composting and recycling programs. The California Air Resources Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have both recognized that composting reduces greenhouse gas emissions by diverting organic material away from disposal in a landfill, which generates substantial emissions of methane, a greenhouse gas that is 21 times more potent than carbon dioxide.<sup>11</sup> The Department

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<sup>11</sup> See CARB's webpage on composting (<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/compost/compost.htm>) ("Over 25 percent or approximately 10 million tons of organics are sent to landfills each year in California. The anaerobic decomposition of these wastes result in the emission of methane (a greenhouse gas). Composting of organic waste material has become an important method of managing California's solid waste stream. Composting diverts biomass residue from landfills. This reduces the need for landfill capacity and the production of GHG emissions.")

CARB's First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan (May 2014) ([http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/2013\\_update/first\\_update\\_climate\\_change\\_scoping\\_plan.pdf](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/2013_update/first_update_climate_change_scoping_plan.pdf)), at page ES-8 ("Compostable organics represent over a third of California's disposed waste, and are the primary source of fugitive methane emissions at landfills.... California's goal of reaching 75 percent recycling and composting by 2020 provides an opportunity to achieve substantial GHG emission reductions across the waste sector, while providing other significant economic and environmental co-benefits."); and page 66 ("California still disposes about 30 million tons of solid waste in landfills each year. To address this

of the Environment has determined that the Proposed Project is not inconsistent with the city's Climate Action Plan.

The Appellant also states that the decision to approve a project that increases vehicle miles traveled (VMT) is inconsistent with SB 375, and a preliminary draft of CEQA Guidelines designed to implement SB 375. It appears that Appellant is referring to draft CEQA Guidelines recently circulated to address SB 743, not SB 375.

The website established by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research explains<sup>12</sup>:

*Governor Brown signed Senate Bill (SB) 743 (Steinberg, 2013), which creates a process to change the way that transportation impacts are analyzed under CEQA. Specifically, SB 743 requires the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to amend the CEQA Guidelines to provide an alternative to LOS for evaluating transportation impacts. Particularly within areas served by transit, those alternative criteria must "promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the development of multimodal transportation networks, and a diversity of land uses." (New Public Resources Code Section 21099(b)(1).) Measurements of transportation impacts may include "vehicle miles traveled, vehicle miles traveled per capita, automobile trip generation rates, or automobile trips generated." (Ibid.) OPR also has discretion to develop alternative criteria for areas that are not served by transit, if appropriate. (Id. at subd. (c).)*

*Once the CEQA Guidelines are amended to include those alternative criteria, auto delay will no longer be considered a significant impact under CEQA. (Id. at subd. (b)(2).) Transportation impacts related to air quality, noise and safety must still be analyzed under CEQA where appropriate. (Id. at subd. (b)(3).)*

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and recognize the role waste management can play in GHG emission reductions, the legislature adopted AB 341 (Chesbro, Chapter 476, Statutes of 2011) in 2011. This legislation set a clear mandate to achieve more significant waste reductions by 2020, setting a goal that 75 percent of the solid waste generated be reduced, recycled, or composted by 2020. It is estimated that achieving the AB 341 waste reduction goal will result in a yearly GHG reduction of about 20 to 30 MMTCO<sub>2e</sub>.)

EPA's webpage on composting (<http://www.epa.gov/composting/basic.htm>) (describes numerous environmental benefits of composting, including reducing methane emissions from landfills).

EPA publication, Backyard Composting: It's Only Natural (Oct. 2009) (<http://www.epa.gov/wastes/conservation/tools/greenscapes/pubs/compost-guide.pdf>) ("It's earth-friendly: Food scraps and yard waste make up 20-30% of the waste stream. Making compost keeps these materials out of landfills, where they take up precious space and release methane, a greenhouse gas 21 times more potent than carbon dioxide emissions in the atmosphere.")

EPA publication, Success Story: Turning Garbage Into Gold (July 2002) (<http://www.epa.gov/wastes/nonhaz/municipal/pubs/ghg/f02021.pdf>) (case study in Massachusetts)

<sup>12</sup> [http://www.opr.ca.gov/s\\_sb743.php](http://www.opr.ca.gov/s_sb743.php), accessed Sept. 5, 2015.

*SB 743 also amended congestion management law to allow cities and counties to opt out of LOS standards within certain infill areas. (See Amended Government Code Sections 65088.1 and 65088.4.)*

*Aside from changes to transportation analysis, SB 743 also included several important changes to CEQA that apply to transit oriented developments, including aesthetics and parking.*

SB 743 does not require that a CEQA lead agency find that an increase in vehicle miles traveled results in a significant climate change impact. Here, the increase in VMT has been quantified in the FND, and has been shown *not* to result in significant GHG emissions. Further, SB 743 does not change the method that agencies are to use for their analysis of transportation impacts unless and until new CEQA Guidelines are adopted. As Appellant recognizes, the Guidelines circulated by OPR remain in draft form and are subject to substantial change based on the comments that OPR has received. The final form of the Guidelines is unknown.

The Governor's recent Executive Order B-30-15 (2015) to reduce GHG emissions by 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 discusses very ambitious new goals that could require major changes in many industries throughout the State. The Governor's Executive Order is trying to create incentives and push industry in the direction of more ambitious GHG reduction. However, the Executive Order does not state or imply that a CEQA lead agency must find any project that increases GHG emissions, even if by a relatively small amount, to have a significant effect on climate change.

In Executive Order B-30-15, the governor identified the following methods to achieve the reductions specified by his new goals:

- Incorporate climate change impacts into the state's Five-Year Infrastructure Plan;
- Update the Safeguarding California Plan - the state climate adaption strategy - to identify how climate change will affect California infrastructure and industry and what actions the state can take to reduce the risks posed by climate change;
- Factor climate change into state agencies' planning and investment decisions; and
- Implement measures under existing agency and departmental authority to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>13</sup>

All state agencies are to consider climate change and the goals of EO B-30-15 in their planning and investment decisions.

To support setting the target in Governor Brown's Executive Order, a study to evaluate the feasibility and cost of a range of greenhouse gas reduction scenarios in California was commissioned by the CARB, the California Energy Commission (CEC), the California Public Utilities Commission, and the California Independent System Operator. That study was recently summarized in a public presentation sponsored by the CARB.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> <http://gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=18938>. Accessed: September 4, 2015.

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/lectures/speakers/williams/williams.htm>.

The study indicated that deep reductions in carbon, consistent with the Governor's targets could be achieved by a combination of activities, including increased energy efficiency, decarbonization of the electricity supply, and vehicle fuel switching to electric sources. Other "novel solutions" presented include replacing liquid fossil fuels used for industrial and heavy duty transport with partly decarbonized pipeline gas and using biomass for biogas and biodiesel, rather than for ethanol (since alternatives exist for light duty vehicle fuel). The study was carried out under the following design principles: conservative assumptions about economy and lifestyles; only evaluating technology that is commercial or near-commercial; taking into account environmental sustainability (i.e., limits on biomass, hydropower consistent with what can exist); considering the timeframe in which infrastructure can be replaced; and ensuring electricity system reliability. Four cases were studied in the evaluation: a mixed fuels scenario, a high renewables scenario, a high nuclear scenario, and a carbon capture and sequestration scenario.

On page 11 of its appeal letter, Appellant points out that increased use of zero emission vehicles and renewable liquid fuels are key components of the scenarios for achieving GHG 2030 target emission reductions. Appellant states that Waste Management of Altamont has developed and installed a state-of-the-art Landfill Gas ("LFG") to Liquified Natural Gas ("LNG") facility in order to provide ultra low-carbon bio-fuel to nearly all of Waste Management's trucks.

On page 12 of its report, Appellant's consultant SWAPE states that more information about Recology's future plans to convert its bio-diesel trucks to LNG is needed in order to assess consistency with statewide programs to reduce GHG emissions. However, Recology's current truck fleet is consistent with statewide policies and programs addressing GHG emissions. Planned improvements to that truck fleet are mentioned to recognize that even more reductions could occur in the future, though such future reductions were not assumed in the FND air quality impact analysis. SWAPE questions whether Recology intends to increase the size of its fleet. However, the number of trucks in Recology's fleet is not determinative of the number of haul trips to and from the landfill. Whether a given truck makes two trips in a day or two trucks each make one trip in a day, the emissions are the same. In any event, Recology does not intend to increase the size of its fleet. Recology has a long history of working with San Francisco to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and all evidence indicates that it will continue to do so.

#### Appellant's Claim

7. **The project conflicts with CEQA Guidelines Section 15065(a)(2) and (3) which require a finding of potential significant impact where probable future projects, in conjunction with the proposed project, will degrade the environment or where a project has the potential to achieve short-term goals, to the disadvantage of long-term goals.**

#### Planning Department Response

The proposed project would not result in cumulatively considerable effects, as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15065(a)(3). For each environmental topic, the FND uses a two-step approach for determining whether the project would result in significant cumulative impacts, taking into account past, present and reasonably foreseeable future projects. In each case, **the FND concludes**



that the project would not have significant cumulative impacts, either because there would be no significant cumulative impact, or because the proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to a cumulative impact. Regarding short-term versus long-term implications of the project as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15065(a)(2), the FND examines the potential long-term environmental impacts of the entirety of the project over the maximum potential life of the Agreement. **The FND concludes that the project would have no significant long-term or short-term significant environmental impacts.**

Appellant's Claim

8. The project description erroneously describes existing truck routes.

Planning Department Response

Appellant does not elaborate on this assertion in its letter. **The FND describes existing truck routes in Figure 2, page 3 of the FND, and also on pages 6 – 8 of the FND. This is an accurate description of the existing truck routes from the San Francisco Transfer Station to the Altamont Landfill.** As described in the FND, under the proposed Agreement there would be no change in the existing truck route between San Francisco and the east end of the Bay Bridge.

Appellant's Claim

9. **The FND fails to address the effects of operational discretion under the revised Agreement that allows daily trips to exceed 50 round trips per day, subject only to the annual average. This "piece-mealing" of significant environmental impacts of a project is impermissible under CEQA.**

Planning Department Response

The term "piece-mealing", as used by Appellant, is generally described for CEQA purposes as the segmenting of a project into smaller parts, to avoid disclosure of the environmental impacts. CEQA requires environmental analysis of the entirety of a project. **The FND does in fact examine, analyze and disclose impacts of full operation of the proposed project over the entire term of the proposed Agreement. With respect to Appellant's specific claim that the FND has "piecemealed" – or underestimated the number of daily truck trips and incorrectly analyzed -- air quality impacts, see Planning Department Response to Appellant's Claim #4, above.**

Appellant's Claim

10. Errors in assumed emission factors understate the truck emissions.

Planning Department Response

Appellant does not identify an error in the emission factors used to calculate truck emissions. The EMFAC model was used to calculate diesel truck emissions by the air quality consultants who prepared a technical background report for the Negative Declaration, under the direction of Planning Department staff. Both the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the California Air Resources Board recommend use of EMFAC for conducting air quality studies in CEQA analyses. An adjustment factor provided by the USEPA specifically for B20 fuel was used to calculate ROG, NO<sub>x</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> running exhaust emission factors. Because EMFAC does not provide emission factors for LNG, California Air Resources Board published values were used to calculate emissions from LNG trucks.

The FND correctly characterizes truck emission factors by correctly characterizing the current and expected fleet to be used and the current and expected emissions from the fleet. *See* FND pages 46 - 73.

#### Appellant's Claim

11. **The faulty determination that the Project could not have a significant impact on the environment is predicated upon bald denials and demonstrably false assumptions. Only by ignoring or simply denying the expert reports, scientific projections, associated evidence on the greenhouse gas impacts, the BAAQMD air quality threshold limits, the different route with additional truck traffic miles, could the Planning Commission conclude that hauling five million tons of trash more than nine million miles over fifteen years, "could not have a significant effect on the environment."**

#### Planning Department Response

The Negative Declaration relies in part upon the technical background analysis of two independent air quality experts, in combination with the direction and oversight of the Planning Department's internal air quality expertise. Independent expert traffic analysis was also prepared as part of the Initial Study for the project. For all levels of analysis, the Planning Department used well-established methodologies and assumptions, following the guidance documents from the BAAQMD and Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District, as applicable. The Initial Study utilized thresholds for significant impact identical to thresholds used for all other CEQA documents prepared by San Francisco.

#### Appellant's Claim

12. **A superior close in alternative exists. Appellant cites a variety of arguments (geographic and operational) as to why the Altamont Landfill would be a superior alternative to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, for disposal of San Francisco MSW.**

#### Planning Department Response

Whether a superior alternative exists is not relevant to the Board's decision regarding the adequacy, accuracy and completeness of the Negative Declaration for the proposed project. While EIRs are required to include analysis of a reasonable range of alternatives that could avoid or reduce potential significant impacts from a proposed project, Negative Declarations only analyze potential impacts from the project that is proposed.

The Planning Department has completed a thorough Initial Study evaluating the potential environmental effects of the proposed project, determined that all potential impacts would be less than significant and therefore published a Negative Declaration. Analysis of an alternative project is not required.

#### Appellant's Claim

13. There is substantial evidence to support a fair argument that this new Project may have a significant effect on the environment.

#### Planning Department Response

As explained above, the information Appellant has submitted does not meet CEQA's definition of substantial evidence. Many of the points raised by Appellant are legal arguments, rather than facts and assumptions based on facts. Appellants' baseline arguments are not consistent with CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines, and judicial decisions interpreting CEQA. In other instances, Appellant has provided data and analysis based on that data. However, the data provided by Appellant are erroneous, and not applicable to the proposed project in any event. In other instances, Appellant's conclusions from their own data are incorrect and unsupported by the data itself. Finally, Appellant has used improper analytical methodologies or incorrect thresholds of significance. Appellant has not shown based on substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the environment.

#### **Issues Appellant Raises in Attachments to August 19, 2015 Appeal Letter**

##### May 19, 2015 Letter from Joshua N. Levine to Planning Commission, including SWAPE Comments

The principal issues raised in this Letter are as follows: The Project Baseline and Description Are Flawed; Baseline Improperly Limits Analysis; PND Ignores Growth and Improperly Assumes No Changes in Trips and Associated Impacts; Sources of Additional Vehicle Trips Ignored; PND Fails to Address the Project's Inconsistency with Climate Action Policies; A Superior Close In Alternative Exists; and No Shortcut for Hay Road Disposal Agreement.

The substantive issues raised by Appellant in the May 19, 2015 Attachment are essentially the same as those raised in the August 19, 2015 Appeal Letter to the Board of Supervisors, and the April 2, 2015, Attachment, the Appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration. Hence, the claims

made by Appellant in the May 19, 2015 Letter are responded to in the Planning Department Responses to the August 19, 2015 Appeal Letter (see Responses, above) and in the Planning Department Responses to the April 2, 2015 Appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration (see Planning Department Response Memorandum, dated May 14, 2015, in Exhibit B, below.)

However, the May 19, 2015 Letter also included SWAPE comments, dated May 19, 2015. The issues raised in the SWAPE comments, and the Planning Department responses to those comments, are presented herein.

SWAPE Comment

1. The Negative Declaration fails to assess air quality and greenhouse gas impacts of the project in its entirety because the analysis takes into account the existing truck trips to Altamont.

Planning Department Response

See Planning Department Response to Appellant's Claim #2 above.

SWAPE Comment

2. **An evaluation of historic trends in the City's population and corresponding volumes of MSW disposed indicate that volumes of MSW in San Francisco will increase in the future as the City's population grows. Hauling these increased volumes of MSW to Hay Road Landfill will require greater than 50 truck trips per day and the air quality impacts from that amount of truck activity would constitute a significant air quality impact.**

Planning Department Response

**SWAPE's underlying analysis of historic trends is factually inaccurate.** See Planning Department Response to Appellant's Claim #3 above..

**A Memorandum from Jack Macy, Senior Zero Waste Coordinator at the Department of Environment**, dated August 25, 2015, is included in this Response packet as Exhibit C. A summary of the pertinent information and conclusions from the Memorandum is as follows:

- The annual disposal amounts hauled by Recology trucks to Altamont has decreased every year from 2008 – 2013.
- The SWAPE material is incorrect in reporting an increase in per capita MSW disposal since 2011.
- There has been no per capita increase in MSW disposal since year 2000.
- Trends since year 2000 (the beginning of the three stream collection system) do not demonstrate a correlation between population growth and MSW growth.

- The City's implementation of policies, programs, outreach, incentives and processing technologies are much more influential on MSW volumes than population growth.
- More than half of the current MSW stream belongs in composting or recycling bins and recent programs show great promise in further reducing MSW volumes in the future.
- Recology is beginning a program to divert more textiles from the waste stream.
- Recology has recently received a CalRecycle grant to implement new technology to separate more organics from the waste stream, which is expected to recover an additional 60 – 80 tons of organics. This would translate to a reduction of 2 – 3 daily truck trips hauling MSW to Hay Road Landfill.
- Recology has plans to install new technology at the Pier 96 recycling facility which is expected to recover an additional 20 – 30 tons of recyclable material from the waste stream. This would translate to a reduction of 1 – 2 daily truck trips hauling MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill.
- Recology has procured new transfer truck trailers that will increase trailer capacity from 24.5 tons at present, to 25.5 tons in the future. This will result in a reduction of 2 daily truck trips within the next year, without changing the overall truck weight.
- The combination of all of the above is such that the City expects a reduction from the current 50 daily truck trips by about 4 – 7 daily truck trips, within a year.

SWAPE Comment

3. The project conflicts with GHG reduction targets.

Planning Department Response

See Planning Department Response to Appellant's Claim #6 above.

SWAPE Comment

4. **The health risk from diesel particulate matter is improperly evaluated.** Use of the CALINE 4 model for such analysis is inappropriate, and an incremental increase in daily truck trips should have been assumed. **Analysis of health risk using the AERSCREEN model yields much higher results, demonstrating a significant health risk impact.**

Planning Department Response

The air quality technical analysis utilized in the environmental review for this project was conducted by technical air quality experts at two environmental consulting firms (ESA and Environ) under the supervision of the Planning Department's in-house air quality experts. **All of the air quality analysis utilized in the FND was conducted in accordance with relevant air district guidance documents and procedures.** As demonstrated in the technical discussion below, **the SWAPE material has erroneously calculated potential health risk impacts from the**

**project.** Furthermore, regarding SWAPE's claim that an incremental increase in daily truck trips should have been assumed, see the Planning Department's Responses to Appellant's Claim ## 3 and 4, above, and Planning Department's Response to SWAPE Comment #2, above.

CALINE is an appropriate dispersion model for modeling emissions of pollutants, including particulate matter from automobiles. That is clearly stated in the CALINE model description, "[i]t is used in California at this time only for CO analysis, but can also handle dispersion modeling of particulate matter (PM) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)."<sup>15</sup> Additionally, the BAAQMD uses CALINE for their CEQA Tools and Methodologies: Roadway Screening Analysis Calculator, updated as recently as 04/2015.<sup>16</sup> Accordingly, as the expert agency, BAAQMD, uses CALINE for CEQA purposes, and as there is substantial evidence in the record that CALINE can be used to model PM and NO<sub>2</sub> emissions from roadways, and CALINE is a proper model for predicting DPM concentrations.

SWAPE presents calculations, using a different model, AERSCREEN, that purport to show a maximum one-hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration of 2.1 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, and an annualized PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration of 0.21 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, resulting in a lifetime cancer risk in excess of 10 in one million. This is erroneous.

The AERSCREEN User's Guide states, "The AERSCREEN program also includes averaging time factors for worst-case 3-hr, 8-hr, 24-hr and annual averages."<sup>17</sup> This means that AERSCREEN, as a screening model, is used to generate worst-case estimates of concentrations, not realistic estimates of concentrations. Furthermore, AERSCREEN cannot effectively represent a roadway due to source parameter limitations. Modeling guidance in the Code of Federal Regulations confirms that roadways should be modeled as a line source (as in CALINE4), or a series of area sources (as can be performed using AERMOD).<sup>18</sup> AERSCREEN allows modeling of *only* one source with size restrictions.

SWAPE did not provide sufficient information to allow the modeling that it provided to be reviewed by someone skilled in the art, as neither model input nor output was provided. However, even with the limited information provided, it appears that they both calculated emissions and applied their screening model incorrectly. First, the SWAPE-reported emission rate of 1.23 tons/year for exhaust diesel PM (DPM) emissions in 2016 is for total PM (including road dust and LNG related PM), and is over five times higher than the EMFAC-estimated emissions which are 0.2 tons/year. Furthermore, in converting SWAPE's reported emission rate of 0.041 g/s back to tons/year, the result is 1.43 tons/year, 16% higher than the emissions reported in the SWAPE report for 2016. This is due to SWAPE assuming emissions seven days a week, instead of the Project's emissions of six days a week. Because the risk assessment for diesel particulate matter presumes an annual average, it is incorrect to model emissions that are occurring only six days per week as if they were occurring seven days per week.

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<sup>15</sup> <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/air/software/caline4/calinesw.htm>, accessed September 3, 2015.

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.baaqmd.gov/plans-and-climate/california-environmental-quality-act-ceqa/ceqa-tools>, accessed September 3, 2015.

<sup>17</sup> [http://www.epa.gov/scram001/models/screen/aerscreen\\_userguide.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/scram001/models/screen/aerscreen_userguide.pdf), accessed September 3, 2015.

<sup>18</sup> 40 CFR Part 51, Appendix W. [http://www.epa.gov/scram001/guidance/guide/appw\\_05.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/scram001/guidance/guide/appw_05.pdf), accessed September 3, 2015.

Additionally, it appears that SWAPE assumed that all the emissions from the entire length of every Project-related truck were being emitted in a single volume source that is 100 meters in length, rather than being emitted along the entire 77.5 mile route. In other words, SWAPE took emissions that were being emitted along the entire 77.5 mile route and compressed them into a distance of 100 meters, which is clearly incorrect, as the emissions along a portion of the road that is 100 meters should only be 0.08% of the total emissions from a 77.5 mile trip. Thus, this, combined with the mistake of assuming emissions 7 days per week and including all particulate matter (as opposed to only diesel exhaust), would result in impacts that are over 5,000 times too high. In addition, by using a screening model, the risks are again inflated artificially. SWAPE used an incorrect approach coupled with incorrect emissions and flawed logic.

Instead, SWAPE could have used an evaluation technique readily available to CEQA practitioners: screening tables for Solano County published by the BAAQMD. Using the BAAQMD roadway screening tables for Solano County<sup>19</sup>, which rely on local meteorology and CALINE modeling, a conservative estimate of excess cancer risk from 70-year exposure to the total annual number of truck trips allowed by the Agreement is a maximum of 2.15 in one million at a distance of 10 feet from the roadway. This estimate assumes all of the truck are diesel-fueled and doesn't account for the lower emissions that actually would occur due to the use of biodiesel and LNG in Recology's truck fleet. Both the FND reported cancer risk estimate and the BAAQMD screening table risk value presented here account for a 70-year exposure duration that accounts for an increased Age Sensitivity Factor through age 16.

April 2, 2015 Letter from Joshua N. Levine to Sarah Jones, Appealing Preliminary Negative Declaration.

This April 2, 2015 letter appealing the Preliminary Negative Declaration was previously responded to in a May 14, 2015 Memorandum to the Planning Commission from Paul Maltzer. A copy of that May 14, 2015 Memorandum is included below as Exhibit B.

June 30, 2015 Letter from Joshua N. Levine to Angela Calvillo, Appealing Preliminary Negative Declaration.

The substantive issues raised by Appellant in the June 30, 2015 Attachment are essentially the same as those raised in the August 19, 2015 Appeal Letter to the Board of Supervisors, or the April 2, 2015, Attachment, the Appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration. Hence, the claims made by Appellant in the June 30, 2015 Letter are responded to in the Planning Department Responses to the August 19, 2015 Appeal Letter (see Responses, above) and in the Planning Department Responses to the April 2, 2015 Appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration (see Planning Department Response Memorandum, dated May 14, 2015, in Exhibit B, below.)

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<sup>19</sup> <http://www.baaqmd.gov/plans-and-climate/california-environmental-quality-act-ceqa/updated-ceqa-guidelines>, accessed July 12, 2015.

## **EXHIBIT A**

### **Appeal Materials Submitted by Appellant**

- August 19, 2015 Final Negative Declaration Appeal Letter from Courtney Ross-Tait to Ms. Angela Calvillo
- April 2, 2015 Preliminary Negative Declaration Appeal Letter from Joshua N. Levine to San Francisco Planning Department
- May 19 2015 Preliminary Negative Declaration Appeal Supplemental Letter from Joshua N. Levine to San Francisco Planning Commission
- Final Negative Declaration for Case No. 2014.0653E, Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County, Dated May 21, 2015
- June 1, 2015 Memorandum from Deborah O. Raphael to San Francisco Board of Supervisors – Recommendation Approving Landfill Disposal Agreement and Adopting the Negative Declaration
- June 30, 2015 Final Negative Declaration Appeal Letter from Joshua N. Levine to Ms. Angela Calvillo



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August 19, 2015

## VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board  
Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
City Hall, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Re: Appeal of Adoption of Negative Declaration  
Case No. 2014.0653E  
Project Title: Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at  
Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County

Dear Ms. Calvillo:

This letter is respectfully submitted to the Board of Supervisors (the "Board") on behalf of Solano County Orderly Growth Committee ("SCOGC") pursuant to Administrative Code Section 31.16 to appeal the adoption of a Negative Declaration for the Recology Hay Road Landfill Project (the "Project").

The City and County of San Francisco's Planning Department (the "Planning Department") issued a preliminary negative declaration relating to the Project on March 4, 2015. SCOGC timely filed an appeal on April 2, 2015 and filed a supplemental brief in support of its appeal on May 19, 2015.<sup>1</sup> SCOGC also voiced its objection to the negative declaration at the Planning Commission hearing on May 21, 2015. On that day, the Planning Commission issued a Final Negative Declaration (the "FND") for the Project. On June 1, 2015, the San Francisco Department of the Environment ("DOE") issued a recommendation ("the DOE Recommendation") that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopt the FND. The DOE Recommendation stated that the recommendation should be considered the first "approval action" of the FND, thus triggering the 30 day period for appealing the FND. See id.

<sup>1</sup> To the extent not otherwise set forth in this letter, all arguments contained in these attached briefs regarding the deficiencies of the underlying negative declaration are incorporated herein by reference.

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Subsequently, the DOE revised the proposed landfill disposal agreement with Recology, in a manner to avoid public and Board of Supervisors review and approval. DOE approved the revised agreement on July 22, 2015.

The revised Landfill disposal agreement ("Disposal Agreement") provides for disposal of 3.4 million tons of municipal solid waste over a period of 9 years, whichever occurs first, at Recology's own Hay Road landfill. The Disposal Agreement gives the Board of Supervisors the option to extend the Disposal Agreement until the earlier of 6 additional years (15 years total) or up to 1.4 million additional tons, provided that in no event would the total solid waste disposal exceed 5 million tons.

The Disposal Agreement does not limit the number of daily round trips by Recology's trucks. Rather, the number of round trips is subject to an annual average of 50 round trips per day, based on a 6-day work week, or 15,600 round trips per year. The July 22 approval action of the revised Disposal Agreement triggered the new 30-day appeal period.

Through this letter, SCOGC appeals the adoption of the FND and the revised Disposal Agreement approved by DOE. This appeal is brought because the existing record establishes that the approval does not conform with CEQA requirements with respect to a negative declaration. The Board should reverse the Planning Commission's approval because the whole record before the Board contains substantial evidence to support a fair argument that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment, thus mandating that an environmental impact report ("EIR") be conducted. Specifically, the FND is flawed for reasons including the following:

- Contending that 624,000 additional trash truck miles per year for 15 years through Bay Area traffic could not, even arguably, have a significant effect on the environment defies logic and lacks credulity. Courts have required CEQA review of projects that had considerably less impact than the massive project under consideration.
- The scope of the environmental analysis was improperly constrained. The environmental review must consider the entirety of the proposed action, and not just the net additional miles travelled because (i) this is a new Project and not an amendment to an existing project or agreement, and (ii) because there was no prior environmental review of the transport of municipal solid waste ("MSW") from San Francisco to the Hay Road Landfill.

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- The approval of the Negative Declaration is predicated upon the false assumption that San Francisco's population and trash generation will not change during the expected 15 year life of the proposed Project. The FND project description artificially constrains and manipulates the analysis by assuming that there will be no increase in the existing pattern of 50 large truck round-trips per day over the initial 9 year, and, with the anticipated exercise of the option, 15 year life of the Project. The Agreement concedes that there will need to be more than 50 round trips a day. The revised Disposal Agreement, allows round trip truck trips to exceed 50-day, subject only to an annual average of 50-day. The FND does not even consider the transportation, noise, and air quality effects of additional truck trips per day on local streets or freeways and the surrounding communities.
- The FND ignores evidence of substantial growth and development in San Francisco which invariably will increase the amount of trash and the number of trips. In fact, as was brought up at the Planning Commission hearing on May 21st, San Francisco's MSW currently being disposed of at the Altamont Landfill is actually increasing. There is no evidence in the record that would allow the City to assume the effect of such additional growth-produced MSW will be mitigated by future diversion programs.
- The Project description and cumulative analysis fails to take into consideration the additional vehicle trips and the cumulative impacts associated with doubling the organics disposal and treatment program at the Hay Road landfill, and the substantial increased export of compost material from Hay Road to other locations, including San Francisco.
- The environmental review ignores the policy guidance of SB 375, the draft CEQA Guidelines, and the Governor's recent Executive Order, all requiring the Project's compliance with climate action and greenhouse gas reduction policies. The Project should be considered to have potentially significant environmental impacts because the vehicle miles to be travelled to the Hay Road Landfill will greatly exceed regional norms for transport of MSW.
- The project description erroneously describes existing truck routes.
- The FND improperly piece-meals the environmental analysis.

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- Errors in assumed emission factors understate the truck emissions.

The faulty determination that the Project could not have a significant impact on the environment is predicated upon bald denials and demonstrably false assumptions. Only by ignoring or simply denying the expert reports, scientific projections, associated evidence on the greenhouse gas impacts, the BAAQMD air quality threshold limits, the different route with additional truck traffic miles, could the Planning Commission conclude that hauling five million tons of trash more than nine million miles over fifteen years, "could not have a significant effect on the environment."

SCOGC respectfully submits that there is substantial evidence to support a fair argument that this new Project may have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, the Board should reverse the decision of the Planning Commission and remand the Negative Declaration to the Planning Department with directions to prepare an EIR for the Project.

1. The Project Will Arguably Have A Significant Environmental Impact

The recent decision in *Keep Our Mountains Quiet v. County of Santa Clara*, 236 Cal. App. 4th 714, 187 Cal. Rptr. 3d 96 (2015) is instructive. In that case, the plaintiff successfully petitioned for a writ of mandate on the ground that the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors violated CEQA by adopting a mitigated negative declaration instead of requiring an Environmental Impact Report ("EIR"). The defendants appealed, and the Court of Appeal affirmed. The Court held that substantial evidence supported fair arguments that the project could have significant unmitigated noise and traffic impacts.

The project at issue in that case was the use of a rural property in the Santa Cruz mountains to host wedding receptions and other similar special events. Notably, the scope of that project pales in comparison to the magnitude of this Project with its massive trash truck hauling convoys about to be unleashed on the already congested Bay Area freeways.

In *Keep Our Mountains Quiet*, the Court reconfirmed that under the CEQA guidelines, particularly 14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15384, "**substantial evidence**" includes "**reasonable assumptions predicated upon facts**, . . . and reasonable inferences from the facts." In that case, the testimony of the neighbors and traffic and noise studies, although contradictory and disputed, were determined to provide the required substantial evidence that the project could have significant impacts on traffic and noise. In contrast, with this Project, despite the undeniable facts of millions of tons of trash will be hauled millions of miles for fifteen years, the Planning Commission adopted the Negative Declaration. As the scale of the project is

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exponentially greater than the limited projects for which courts have required CEQA review, full CEQA review must be undertaken before this massive multi-year project is commenced.

2. Baseline Improperly Limits Analysis.

The Project baseline and description are flawed in several respects. First, the Negative Declaration improperly splits the Project into two component parts, *i.e.*, between the San Francisco transfer station and the east end of the Bay Bridge and from there to the landfill in Solano County, and only analyzes the 2,000 net additional vehicle miles per week required to transport MSW to the more remote Hay Road Landfill.

There are two fundamental reasons why this approach was improper. First, and foremost, the Project proposal for disposal at Hay Road clearly is not the same project as the previous Altamont transportation and disposal scheme. This new Project provides for disposal to a different landfill, located in a different County in an entirely different part of the Bay Area, under different ownership, on different terms and under different circumstances, and requires MSW disposal trucks to travel a different and much lengthier route over two bridges instead of one and through already heavily impacted areas. In short, on its face, the new agreement and new landfill confirm that this is far more than a simple modification to an existing project. New agreements, different permits, and alternate transportation plans all are required. Accordingly, this is a new project altogether.<sup>2</sup>

In addition, the changing environmental context for evaluating a project's impact with respect to greenhouse gas emissions and consistency with climate action policies present a critical and unprecedented imperative to review the entirety of the proposed action. The Negative Declaration approach conveniently ignores half of the vehicle miles travelled ("VMT") without any environmental record for doing so, *i.e.*, there was no prior environmental analysis of the transportation and disposal of MSW to Altamont. CEQA requires the Negative Declaration to analyze the entirety of the action to transport and dispose of all of San Francisco's MSW at the Hay Road Landfill in Solano County, and not just focus on the net additional distances/trips. As noted in the analytical report prepared by SWAPE dated May 19, 2015 (the "SWAPE Report"), which was attached to the May 19, 2015 supplemental brief, and as also noted in the Negative

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<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., *Save Our Neighborhood v. Lishman*, 140 Cal.App.4th 1288 (2006) (application for a 102 room hotel (with convention facilities, gas station and convenience store) could not rely on an addendum to an initial study and mitigated negative declaration previously prepared for a prior project, a 106 room motel (with restaurant, lounge, gas station, convenience store and car wash) that was never constructed, because it was a new project and not a modification to a prior project, with different plans and proponents).

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Declaration, if the entire distance of the proposed truck trips is considered, it cannot reasonably be disputed that the Project will certainly have significant environmental impacts and requires an EIR.<sup>3</sup>

3. The Negative Declaration Ignores Growth and Improperly Assumes No Changes in Trips and Associated Impacts.

A second fundamental flaw with the Project description is that assumes that the truck trips will remain consistent with past practices and be limited to only 50 round trips per day. This assumption is inconsistent with the revised Agreement. In fact, the only limitation in the revised Disposal Agreement is that truck trips not exceed an annual average of 50 round trips/day. Subject to this annual average the revised Disposal Agreement does not impose any limit whatsoever on the number of daily trips. Accordingly, Recology could at any time increase the number of trips per day, and, in fact, there are significant reasons to expect that this most likely will occur. More people, more trash, more truck trips. None of this is analyzed in the FND.

The Negative Declaration also improperly ignores the fact that San Francisco is one of the five fastest growing counties in the State, including both substantial commercial and residential growth. A recent report from the State Department of Finance indicates that San Francisco had a net housing gain of 3,500 units in 2014, which was a 50% jump over the 2,400 units gained in 2013. These 5,900 units over the past two years came as San Francisco added 21,000 people during that same two year period. (State Department of Finance data, cited in San Francisco Chronicle, Saturday, May 2, 2015.). This growth is in addition to the clearly visible and substantial commercial development activity in San Francisco. The Negative Declaration provides no evidence in the record regarding how MSW from this growth will be handled, or to justify the assumption that it will not generate additional large semi-truck MSW disposal trips.

Noteworthy is the reported increase in waste that San Franciscans are generating. The SF Department of Environment zero waste manager, Robert Haley, stated in an interview that "last year the city sent more tons of trash to landfills than it did in 2012: 456,764 tons, or about three pounds per day per resident." (SOURCE: "San Francisco Stalls in Its Attempt to Go Trash-Free," Carl Bialik, [www.fivethirtyeight.com](http://www.fivethirtyeight.com) 9/4/14). Combine the increased waste generation with the population growth and the estimated number of truck trips is easily understated. This specific problem of increasing per capita waste and increasing population,

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<sup>3</sup> *Keep Our Mountains Quiet*, 236 Cal. App. 4th 714, 729 ("the overriding purpose of CEQA is to ensure that the agencies regulating activities that may affect the quality of the environment give primary consideration to preventing environmental damage.")

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despite the existence of an active waste reduction program, is wholly unaddressed. This oversight conflicts in particular with *inter alia* CEQA Guidelines § 15065, subd. (a)(3), which requires a finding of potential significant impact where probable future projects, in conjunction with the proposed project, will degrade the environment. The County's continued growth and the related growth in waste raises a potential significant impact.

The SWAPE Report provides substantial evidence that, contrary to the erroneous and unsubstantiated assumptions in the Negative Declaration, the number of large semi-truck trips during the term of the Project will, in fact, be expected to significantly increase, due to population growth and corresponding increases in MSW volume in San Francisco. The SWAPE Report confirms that those anticipated additional trips will result in significant carbon emission impacts that exceed the BAAQMD's significance thresholds starting in year 2019 (SWAPE Report at pages 3-11)<sup>4</sup>, and will pose significant health risks to sensitive receptors located near the proposed truck route due to increased diesel particulates (DPM). As such, a proper CEQA evaluation should be required and adequate mitigation measures and alternatives evaluated for the Project.<sup>5</sup> These findings alone support fair arguments that the Project could have significant impacts on the environment.

The Negative Declaration's erroneous assumption that the number of round trips per day will not exceed 50 is of particular concern since even a minor increase in truck trips would result in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions well beyond the significance threshold, as discussed in the SWAPE Report, and because any additional truck trips would cause the Project to exceed the existing baseline of trips (even assuming this is an appropriate measure, as discussed above), and therefore should be analyzed over the full length of those trips from San Francisco to Hay Road.

At the May 21 hearing, SCOGC pointed out that the only projections in the record that considered the waste that would be generated by the anticipated increased population were the consultant projections in the SWAPE report, which concluded that thresholds would be exceeded if growth was taken into account. In response, the Planning Department merely offered a verbal representation that it expected that future waste would be limited as it hoped that

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<sup>4</sup> The SWAPE Report also provides substantial evidence demonstrating that historical data and market conditions indicate that waste reduction and diversion programs have flattened-out in recent years and therefore cannot be relied upon to counter growth-induced increases in waste streams. See also, article, "San Francisco Stalls in its Attempt to go Trash Free", by Carl Bialik, in Five Thirty-Eight, September 4, 2014.

<sup>5</sup> The inadequacies of the Negative Declaration health risk assessment are described in the SWAPE Report at pages 15-18.

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waste would be reduced in the future. In effect, in response to a consultant report detailing a problem, the City offered nothing but an unsupported verbal assertion denying that the problem exists. CEQA review is required if a fair argument exists that shows that there may be an environmental impact if the project goes forward. The City cannot deny that such a fair argument exists merely by making unsupported statements that it disagrees with expert evidence showing significant impacts.

4. Sources of Additional Vehicle Trips Ignored.

There are other significant sources of vehicle emission ignored by the Negative Declaration. For example, the Project description and cumulative impacts analysis ignores the fact that in addition to the identified 2,000 miles of additional large "possum belly" tip-truck vehicle trips required for disposal of MSW, Recology reportedly also intends to double the capacity of the Hay Road facility to handle compostable materials. This will result in additional truck trips importing green waste to Hay Road, as well as additional trucks exporting compost material to end-users, including to San Francisco. The cumulative impact of the additional vehicle trips associated with this green waste-hauling, which would be separate from and in addition to the MSW truck trips, has not been addressed, and the entire round-trip length of these trips also should be assessed. See, Negative Declaration, pp. 8-9. This sort of "green washing" of the environmental impact of this project represents a potential conflict between short- and long-term environmental degradation, which is addressed in CEQA Guidelines § 15065 subd. (a)(2).<sup>6</sup> It also implicates the "future projects" analysis found in Guidelines § 15065 subd. (a)(3).

Finally, the consideration given to the proposed anaerobic digestion ("AD") facility in the cumulative impacts analysis is inadequate. The cumulative impact analysis generally relies on the 2012 initial study/mitigated negative declaration for the Hay Road Landfill expansion, but that analysis did not discuss the AD project (and there is no evidence that the 2012 Hay Road environmental document relied on the State's 2012 Program EIR). The cumulative air quality analysis did not consider the impacts associated with the AD facility, except with respect to odor, and the State's program EIR did not address any site specific impacts associated with a new AD facility at Hay Road, including associated additional vehicle trips. See, Negative Declaration, pp. 21-22.

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<sup>6</sup> "A lead agency *shall find* that a project may have a significant effect on the environment and thereby requires an EIR to be prepared for the project where there is substantial evidence, in light of the whole record, that...[t]he project has the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals." (emphasis added).



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5. The Negative Declaration fails to address the Projects' inconsistency with Climate Action Policies.

The proposed agreement and Negative Declaration are contrary to the State's and San Francisco's commitment to the reduction of greenhouse gases and to policies that advance local, regional and state-wide climate action goals.

To try and justify the Negative Declaration, the Department has taken an impermissibly narrow view of the proposed Project to change San Francisco's existing disposal site at the Altamont Landfill, in eastern Alameda County, and to transport and dispose of solid waste to a more remote Hay Road Landfill in Solano County. The Project would include an increase of over 2,000 large-truck vehicle miles, six days per week, for the up to 15-year life of the Disposal Agreement. The FND also fails to address the effects of operational discretion granted to Recology under the revised Disposal Agreement that allows daily trips, without limitation, to exceed 50 round trips per day, subject only to the annual average. This "piece-mealing" of significant environmental impacts of a project is impermissible under CEQA. *See Berkeley Keep Jets Over the Bay Com. v. Board of Port. Cmrs.* (2001) 91 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1344. A lead agency must analyze "all activities involved in [the] project." *Id* at 1358.

In following this approach, the Department is fast-tracking its review of the Hay Road agreement and encouraging San Francisco to take action contrary to its climate action goals, and without any environmental review of readily available project alternatives or mitigation measures. This action sets a dangerous precedent and has potentially far-reaching negative impacts for the entire Bay Area.

The Department's approach, particularly for a heavily transportation based proposal like this, should be focused on how the project responds to local, regional, and statewide climate action goals consistent with SB 375. Instead, because clearly it does not, the Department has entirely ignored this threshold question.

The preliminary draft of changes to the CEQA Guidelines designed to implement SB 375,<sup>7</sup> reflect the state's intention and goal to evaluate projects to determine if they advance climate action goals. For land use development projects, for example, VMT is viewed as the

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<sup>7</sup> The comment period of the initial discussion draft was closed on November 21, 2014, and OPR is currently in the process of developing revised draft Guidelines. In the meantime, while other measures of transportation impacts such as intersection and freeway levels of service should not be ignored, there is no basis for ignoring the guidance provided in the draft and considering VMT in evaluating the impacts of this Project.

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best measure to evaluate the transportation impacts of projects, and regional average VMT is identified as a potential threshold of significance. Thus, to the extent a project would cause or induce vehicle miles travelled to exceed "regional averages" for that type of use, the project would be considered to have a significant impact.<sup>8</sup>

The proposed Hay Road agreement will substantially increase VMT at a time when the state-wide goal is to reduce VMT, and will cause San Francisco's trash disposal scheme to exceed regional averages for disposal of MSW even more significantly than it currently does. Public records show that the overwhelming majority of cities and counties in the Bay Area dispose of their MSW at significantly more geographically close-in landfills, typically in the same county. San Francisco's proposed long-haul plan very substantially departs from and exceeds these typical practices, and is thereby, by itself, evidence of significant carbon emissions and transportation impact.

The Department's narrow approach avoids discussion of the full impact of the VMT associated with the proposed agreement, avoids discussion of consistency with and furtherance of state, regional, and local climate action and greenhouse gas goals and policies, including, for example, failure to implement applicable AB-32 greenhouse gas reduction targets<sup>9</sup>, and erroneously suggests that the Project is consistent with the AB-32 Scoping Plan,<sup>10</sup> and avoids any discussion of applicable mitigation measures and feasible and plainly available alternatives that would, at a minimum, maintain the status quo and avoid worsening the regional climate change conditions.

Governor Brown's recent Executive Order, No. 03-30-15 (the "Order") establishes an aggressive state-wide greenhouse gas reduction target of 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. The Order underscores the need for focused action to reduce carbon emissions over the next decade and a half, *i.e.*, precisely during the term of the proposed Project, and the need for climate change and emissions reductions to guide regulatory decisions during this critical period. The

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<sup>8</sup> The draft guidelines focus on land use projects that would increase VMT over regional standards, and transportation projects, such as infrastructure improvements, that could induce increases in VMT. While the proposed project does not fall neatly into either of these categories, the purpose and intent to further climate action goals by considering VMT based significance thresholds in relation to the proposed use should continue to apply.

<sup>9</sup> See SWAPE report at page 14.

<sup>10</sup> Because of uncertainty in Recology's commitment to update its truck fleet to cleaner vehicles, the Project cannot provide the necessary information needed to actually conclude compliance with AB-32 Scoping Plan: SWAPE Report at pages 12-13.

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Hay Road transportation and disposal Project would, as further supported by the evidence in the SWAPE Report, aggressively move San Francisco in the wrong direction, and the Negative Declaration gives scant consideration to the effect of such contrary action while ignoring the science of climate change. The fact that state-wide or regional implementing actions or legislation have not yet been adopted does not excuse the Department from taking climate change into account, from properly evaluating the effect of the proposed decision or from evaluating feasible alternatives.

6. A Superior Close-In Alternative Exists.

The existing and geographically closer option of continuing MSW disposal at Altamont, which remains readily available, should be considered to reduce the environmental impacts of San Francisco's MSW transport and disposal program. Altamont is not only substantially closer to San Francisco than Hay Road, but it is also significantly closer to the access freeway (5.4 miles from I-580, as compared to 12.4 miles to Hay Road from I-80). The greater distance provides the potential for greater impacts to local county roads, as well as increased potential for safety, noise, odor, and air quality impacts for nearby residents along the route. These are the very same factors that required an EIR in the *Keep Our Mountains Quiet* case.

In addition, increased use of zero emission vehicles and renewable liquid fuels are key components of the scenarios for achieving GHG 2030 target emission reductions. Yet, there is no commitment by Recology under the Project to use cleaner vehicles. San Francisco has the opportunity, however, at Altamont to immediately support a cleaner MSW transportation program.

Waste Management of Alameda (WMAC) developed and installed the "World's largest state-of-the-art Landfill Gas (LFG) to Liquefied Natural Gas" (LNG) operation at the Altamont Landfill. This ultra low-carbon bio-fuel powers nearly 300 Waste Management trucks a day, most of which operate in Alameda County, helping to improve the region's air quality.

By the time San Francisco's current disposal contract expires, San Francisco will have sent more than 15 million tons of solid waste to the Altamont Landfill — including about 6 million tons of organic materials. These organic wastes, along with the organic wastes accepted from other Bay Area communities over the past three decades, represent an extraordinarily valuable resource.

Today, the Altamont landfill is the only facility in the region with facilities to convert this waste-derived resource into renewable electricity as well as large quantities of ultra

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low-carbon transportation fuel. Using only the wastes already in place, the Altamont Landfill is capable of producing an average of about 8 megawatts of electricity and an estimated 13,000 gallons per day of bio-fuel in the form of LNG and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for each of the next 25 years. The California Air Resources Board determined that this natural gas produced from biomethane (in this case captured landfill gas) has the lowest carbon intensity of any fuel available today — about 85% lower than either gasoline or diesel.

The landfill gas to biomethane system provides the most environmentally positive means of managing any organics contained in the City's waste, in fact, rather than simply disposing of the City's garbage, WMAC takes that garbage and converts it into an environmentally beneficial, completely non-fossil fuel to transport solid waste. In effect, WMAC will be 'closing the loop' in the collection and disposal process by recovering and reusing a valuable byproduct of the landfill operation." The bio-fuel production also is consistent with San Francisco's Zero Waste goal as fuel production can be met through existing waste deposits in the Altamont Landfill and is not dependent on new organic waste streams.<sup>11</sup> New organics processing and recovery technologies planned for the Altamont facility will allow for even greater low-carbon energy production.

This bio-fuel is the lowest carbon intensity fuel available in California eliminating reliance on petroleum fuel and reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Transporting San Francisco's MSW a considerably shorter distance to a landfill that converts garbage to an almost zero carbon intensity fuel is clearly consistent with San Francisco's goal of "minimizing and mitigating environmental impacts" and San Francisco has the opportunity to be a part of this worldwide recognized cutting-edge process. In fact, the Altamont's LNG facility was recognized by the US EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) as the 2009 Project of the Year and by the US Department of Energy Clean Cities Coalition — East Bay Chapter, which awarded the project its "East Bay Clean Cities 2009 Clean Air Champion" award.

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<sup>11</sup> Moreover, the capture rates for landfill gas at the Altamont exceed 93% -- among the highest in the industry. This high rate of recovery ensures that existing gas is converted to the highest value of reuse — both bio-methane fuel and energy, and thus further reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Working with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the California Air Resources Board, California Energy Commission and California Integrated Waste Management Board, WMAC has adopted the most sophisticated greenhouse gas emissions testing program in the industry, utilizing tunable diode laser technology, hundreds of field measurements are taken in the course of a few days to establish methane emissions. This is the most comprehensive test available.

Ms. Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board  
Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
August 19, 2015  
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In contrast, most of Recology's existing fleet is B-20 bio-diesel (diesel fuel derived from 20% vegetable or animal fats and 80% from petroleum). Only eleven trucks (or 20% of its fleet) run on lower emission LNG. While Recology has indicated that it plans to further up-grade its fleet, these plans remain uncertain and cannot be assumed for purposes of environmental review (and, in fact, were not assumed by the City in the FND). However, an alternative exists that would allow San Francisco to take advantage of the present opportunity to lessen the impact of its long-haul disposal and positively contribute to regional air quality. An environmental impact report is required to evaluate and consider that and any other feasible alternatives.

7. No Environmental Review Shortcut for Hay Road Disposal Agreement.

The Board of Supervisors should overturn the approval of the Negative Declaration and direct the Planning Department to correct the deficiencies in the Project Description, provide the additional required analyses, and insure that the Project complies with plainly applicable climate action goals and policies. These corrections and reviews will require preparation of a focused EIR to, at a minimum, address the transportation and associated air quality and greenhouse gas impacts of the Project, and to analyze appropriate mitigation measures including the reasonable range of feasible alternatives to lessen or avoid these impacts.

Respectfully,



Courtney Ross-Tait, of  
DONGELL LAWRENCE FINNEY LLP

Attachments

cc: Sarah Jones, Environmental Review Officer (via email only)  
Paul Maltzer, Senior Environmental Planner (via email only)

Ms. Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board  
Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
August 19, 2015  
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Attachments:

Appeal Letter dated April 2, 2015;

Appeal Letter dated May 19, 2015 including attachments:

SWAPE Report, dated May 19, 2015, Comments on the Proposed Negative Declaration of the Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County;

Article, San Francisco Chronicle, "3 Bay Area Counties Among Fastest Growing in State" (May 1, 2015);

Article, San Francisco Chronicle, "San Francisco Stalls In Its Attempt to Go Trash Free" (September 4, 2014);

May 21, 2015 Final Negative Declaration;

June 1, 2015 DOE Recommendation; and

Appeal Letter dated June 30, 2015

Filing fee (\$547.00) - San Francisco Planning Department

1813-011/106948

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

April 2, 2015

## VIA PERSONAL DELIVERY

San Francisco Planning Department  
Attention: Sarah B. Jones  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Appeal of March 4, 2015 Preliminary Negative Declaration  
for Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid  
Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County

Dear San Francisco Planning Department:

This firm represents Solano County Orderly Growth Committee (“SCOGC”) in connection with the above-referenced matter. SCOGC is an organization of concerned citizens dedicated to working towards a better future for Solano County. Through this letter, SCOGC appeals the Preliminary Negative Declaration (“PND”) issued by the City and County of San Francisco’s (“CCSF”) Planning Department (“Planning Department”) on March 4, 2015, regarding the “Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County” (the “Project”).<sup>1</sup>

In the PND, the Planning Department stated that “[t]his project could not have a significant effect on the environment.” We disagree and request that an Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) be prepared. The California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) requires the Planning Department to produce an EIR for the Project because there is substantial evidence that the Project will have significant environmental impacts. The proposed project will clearly have such impact as it involves hauling five million tons of waste, in hundreds of trucks driving thousands of miles, from San Francisco to Solano County. Moreover, CCSF has failed to properly consider reasonable alternatives to the Hay Road Landfill agreement – including transporting the City’s Municipal Solid Waste (“MSW”) to the Altamont Landfill by LNG-fueled trucks, which could not only result in a zero carbon footprint but which is available immediately (and at substantially lower transportation and administrative costs) – a textbook example of “the environmentally and economically advantageous alternative project” under CEQA.

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<sup>1</sup> By this appeal, SCOGC seeks to protect its own interests and those of the general public and to enforce a public duty owed to it by the City and County of San Francisco. SCOGC brings this appeal on behalf of the public interest, to vindicate the public’s interest in the informed decision-making process that CEQA promotes.

### **Factual and Procedural Background**

On July 26, 2011, CCSF awarded the Landfill Disposal Agreement to Recology San Francisco and its related companies (“Recology”) and approved the amendment to the existing Facilitation Agreement which would provide that Recology would transport San Francisco’s MSW by rail to Recology’s Ostrom Road Landfill in Yuba County. Recology’s Hay Road Landfill in Solano County was designated as a “back-up” facility to provide service only during those periods when Ostrom Road was not operational.

Waste Management of Alameda County, Inc. (“WMAC”) challenged the contract awards.<sup>2</sup> In addition to the WMAC lawsuit, Yuba Group Against Garbage (“YUGAG”) filed an action under CEQA challenging the City’s failure to conduct environmental review of the rail haul and disposal project.

The City’s Department of the Environment (“DOE”), without formal Board of Supervisor’s approval, terminated the Disposal Agreement and amended Facilitation Agreement on November 26, 2012, solely to allow the City, working in conjunction with Yuba County, to conduct an environmental review of the proposed transportation and disposal project under CEQA, including a commitment to the preparation of an EIR.<sup>3</sup> To date, no such EIR has been prepared and no explanation has been given as to why this commitment was abandoned. However, the City relied on its commitment to perform an EIR as grounds for rescinding the initial award and for successfully arguing that the WMAC and YUGAG suits be dismissed on the grounds they were not yet ripe for adjudication.<sup>4</sup>

In the meantime, CCSF has abandoned the rail-haul project to Ostrom Road and scrapped its commitment to perform a full-blown EIR on the new landfill agreement. Instead, CCSF is attempting to enter a back-door agreement to send the City’s waste to the Hay Road facility in unincorporated Solano County without properly subjecting such proposal to the City’s bidding and procurement rules and requirements and without proper environmental review. Under the proposal, CCSF and Recology would enter into an Agreement for the transportation and disposal of five million tons of CCSF’s MSW at the Recology Landfill at 6426 Hay Road, just outside Vacaville. The MSW would be transported by long haul semi-trucks, primarily from the

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<sup>2</sup> It is our understanding that WMAC challenged the contract awards on grounds that the award violated the City’s procurement procedures outlined in the Request for Proposals because it solicited and allowed Recology to propose on transportation, which WMAC argued was outside the scope of the RFP, and to provide integrated pricing for both disposal and transportation services. WMAC also argued that the award of the transportation services to Recology was in violation of the City’s administrative code, which requires that such contracts be competitively bid. WMAC also argued that the award of the contracts violated the City’s Climate Action Plan because the Department of the Environment (“DOE”) failed to do a comparative analysis of transportation alternatives with respect to air emissions, and merely considered rail haul and truck transfer by Recology without allowing any other competitor to bid on transportation. Finally, WMAC argued the City wrongly and without factual support assumed that Recology would be fully permitted to rail haul waste to Ostrom Road by the start of the new contract, which will likely be in the first quarter of 2016.

<sup>3</sup> See City and County of San Francisco “Termination Agreement Regarding 2011 Landfill Disposal and Facilitation Agreements” (Nov. 26, 2012).

<sup>4</sup> The determination in the YUGAG suit is currently being appealed.



Recology San Francisco transfer station located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, with several additional trucks hauling residual wastes for disposal from Recology's Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 on San Francisco.

On March 4, 2015, the Planning Department issued the PND for the Project.<sup>5</sup> The Planning Department found that "[t]his project could not have a significant effect on the environment." It also found that "[m]itigation measures are not required in this project to avoid potentially significant effects." Thus, CCSF is advocating that Recology be allowed to haul all of CCSF's MSW – all the trash in San Francisco – more than 70 miles to Solano County by truck on Interstate 80, a project that is not currently active, without doing any substantive environmental review or doing any analysis of reasonable alternatives.

Projects with far a less significant environmental impact have been found to merit an EIR. For example, the 2009 San Francisco Bicycle Plan warranted an EIR. The Bicycle Plan sought to install new bicycle lanes on some city streets, increase the amount of available bicycle parking, improve bicycle signage in the city, promote safe overall bicycling, and promote citywide bicycle friendly practices. The 2013 San Jose Single-Use Carryout Bag Ordinance also required an EIR. This ordinance prohibited most stores in San Jose from simply giving customers plastic bags to carry their purchases, but allowed stores to charge ten cents per bag for paper bags. When a high school in San Diego proposed some upgrades to its football stadium – new bleachers, new lights, a new public address system, etc. – the school district intended to adopt a mitigated negative declaration, and the board of education found no substantial evidence that the project would have a significant effect on the environment. The Court of Appeal disagreed, finding that an EIR was required. *Taxpayers for Accountable Sch. Bond Spending v. San Diego Unified Sch. Dist.*, 215 Cal. App. 4th 1013 (2013).

If projects such as these merit an EIR, surely the proposal to haul all of CCSF's MSW to Solano County by truck also requires one. Recology is proposing to haul five million tons of waste, in hundreds of trucks driving thousands of miles, along a completely new route from San Francisco to Solano County. It is undeniable that a fleet of heavy-duty trucks continuously making the 155 mile round trip from CCSF to the Hay Road Landfill will affect some of the region's most congested traffic arteries, will affect infrastructure in the form of roads not currently burdened with the weight and wear of all of those trucks, will affect the air quality of communities through which a constant parade of diesel trucks does not currently drive. If the plan to add bike lanes requires an EIR, so must the plan to address waste disposal for all of San Francisco.

The Planning Department has provided for a 30-day appeal period. We hereby submit this administrative challenge to the PND pursuant to the applicable San Francisco Administrative Code sections and rules and regulations under CEQA.

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<sup>5</sup> The Planning Department based its findings on an Initial Study prepared by the Planning Department and the private environmental consultants Environmental Science Associates.

### **Grounds for Administrative Challenge to PND**

CEQA establishes a low legal threshold for preparation of an EIR. An EIR must be prepared whenever it can be “fairly argued” based on substantial evidence that the project may have a significant environmental impact, even though the agency is also presented with other substantial evidence that the project will not have a significant environmental effect. *No Oil, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles*, 13 Cal.3d 68, 75 (1974); *Friends of "B" Street v. City of Hayward*, 106 Cal.App.3d 988, 1002 (1980); 14 Cal. Code Reg. § 15064(f)(1). If there is substantial evidence in light of the whole record before the Lead Agency that a project may have a significant environmental effect – adverse or beneficial – then an EIR, rather than a Negative Declaration, must be prepared. Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21082.2(d). An EIR is required whenever substantial evidence in the record supports even just a “fair argument” that significant environmental impacts may occur. 106 Cal.App.3d at 1002.

In determining the significance of potential environmental impacts, CEQA defines the relevant geographical environment as the area where physical impacts will be caused by the proposed project. Consequently, an agency may not limit its analysis to an artificially defined project area, when the project’s impact may occur outside this area. Nor can an agency limit its analysis to its legal jurisdiction when extraterritorial effects are foreseeable. Rather, the Lead Agency must consider cause and effect regardless of location, so long as such effects are reasonably “foreseeable.” *County Sanitation Dist. No. 2 of Los Angeles County v. County of Kern*, 127 Cal.App.4th 1544, 1582 (2005) (impacts of county ordinance banning land application of sewage sludge may occur elsewhere in county as well as outside of county); *see American Canyon Community United for Responsible Growth v. City of American Canyon*, 45 Cal.App.4th 1062, 1081–1083 (2006) (city must consider urban decay outside of jurisdiction of Lead Agency that could occur from large retail project).

A Negative Declaration may be prepared only if either of the following applies: (1) There is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record before the Lead Agency that the project will have a significant environmental effect [Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21080(c)(1); 14 Cal. Code Reg. § 15070]; or (2) The Initial Study identifies potentially significant effects, but (a) an applicant, before public release of a proposed Negative Declaration, has made or agreed to project revisions that clearly mitigate the effects, and (b) there is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record before the Lead Agency that the project, as revised, may have a significant environmental effect [Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21080(c)(2); 14 Cal. Code Reg. §§ 15064(f)(2)].

“If there [is] substantial evidence that the proposed project might have a significant environmental impact, evidence to the contrary is not sufficient to support a decision to dispense with preparation of an EIR and adopt a negative declaration, because it could be ‘fairly argued’ that the project might have a significant environmental impact.” *Friends of "B" St. v. City of Hayward*, 106 Cal. App. 3d 988, 1002 (1980). Also, “the use of negative declarations is confined to situations in which limited public input appears sufficient.” *Perley v. Bd. of Supervisors*, 137 Cal. App. 3d 424, 432 (1982). Limited public input is clearly not sufficient in this case, where the easily-discernible potential environmental impacts will affect multiple Bay Area counties in some of the region’s most densely-traveled corridors.

**1. There Is Substantial Evidence That Recology's Proposed Plan To Haul MSW Along I-80 From San Francisco To The Exit In Solano County For The Hay Road Landfill Would Have A Significant Environmental Impact.**

The Initial Study stated that 50 trucks per day will make the trip from San Francisco to the Hay Road Landfill in Solano County, the same number as currently makes the trip to the Altamont Landfill. The Initial Study concedes that the haul to Hay Road Landfill is approximately 40 total miles *longer* than the haul to Altamont. Thus, the Project will entail **an additional 2,000 miles per day** driven by trucks hauling San Francisco's MSW.

In attempting to argue that such an increase in mileage will have a less than significant impact, the Initial Study relies solely on air emission statistics and standards by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District ("BAAQMD") and the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District ("YSAQMD") statistics and standards. The Initial Study presents a purely theoretical exercise in determining whether or not these 2,000 extra miles will have a significant environmental impact, and, in fact, obfuscates the statistics to make it appear that the hauling of San Francisco MSW through communities and along roadways previously untouched by such transportation would have a less than significant environmental impact. The data CCSF relies on does not support such a surprising conclusion.

In addition, the Initial Study's finding that the proposed project would have a less than significant impact on air quality is baseless. The Initial Study's air quality findings rely wholly on air quality thresholds that BAAQMD has explicitly announced are no longer viable measures of a project's significant air quality impacts. The Preliminary Negative Declaration states that "Table AQ-1, on page 49, identifies the air quality significance thresholds used in this Initial Study air quality analysis." (*Id.* at 48.) The referenced table refers to BAAQMD standards. (*Id.* at 49). However, the District has explicitly stated that "... the Air District has been ordered to set aside the Thresholds and is no longer recommending that these Thresholds be used as a general measure of project's significant air quality impacts." *See* <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES.aspx>. Accordingly, it was improper for the Initial Study to rely on these standards.

Further, Table AQ-1, which is misleadingly titled "Operational Thresholds for use within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB)," also improperly relies on a 2007 Handbook by the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District ("YSAQMD"). However, the SFBAAB is governed solely by the BAAQMD, not the YSAQMD. In addition, the majority of air space for the Project (i.e. from San Francisco to the Western edge of Vacaville) at issue is governed by the BAAQMD, not the YSAQMD. Thus, reliance on thresholds from the YSAQMD is improper as applied to the majority of the air space at issue, and such use of the YSAQMD thresholds is misleading. Moreover, the numbers applied in the Initial Study and listed in table AQ-1 are taken directly from BAAQMD's inapplicable quantitative thresholds: the table lists average daily emissions for ROG as 54 and 10, respectively, NOx as 54 and 10 respectively, PM10 as 82 and 15, and PM2.5 as 54 and 10—all BAAQMD's nonviable thresholds. This data may not be relied upon and thus the Initial Study's conclusion that the proposed Project will have a less than significant environmental impact is wholly unsubstantiated.

Moreover, while the Initial Study claims that the Project will result in emissions levels within certain threshold and permit levels, it ignores the proper methodology for determining environmental impact. To satisfy CEQA, total post-project emissions should be evaluated against baseline emissions. While Hay Road Landfill may be permitted for certain higher emission levels, current conditions should provide the baseline for CEQA analysis. The difference between current conditions—**none** of CCSF's MSW is hauled to Solano County—and post-Project conditions—**all** of CCSF's MSW would be hauled to Solano County—provides the total impact of the Project. The Initial Study tries to split hairs by analyzing the increase in emissions because the trip from CCSF to Hay Road Landfill is longer than the trip to Altamont Landfill, but ignores the fact that the *entire* trip from CCSF to Hay Road Landfill needs to be evaluated for its impact.

In addition to the Initial Study's baseless conclusion that the proposed project's air pollutants will not result in a significant environmental impact, the Initial Study's findings pertaining to the generation of greenhouse gas emissions is also flat out wrong for at least five reasons:

First, the Initial Study relies on quantifiable data from BAAQMD to determine that the proposed project's greenhouse gas emissions will not have a significant environmental impact. However, the BAAQMD, as discussed above, is no longer a viable source of metrics by which to measure the emissions of any proposed projects. *See* <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES.aspx>.

Second, even if this number could be relied upon, BAAQMD's threshold of 1,110 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per day applies to the threshold for a land project **in its entirety**, but the Initial Study compares this number to the emissions generated **only by the increase in mileage** of this project as compared to the previous route to Altamont. *See* BAAQMD Guidelines-May 2011 Section 2.1 and 2.2, PND p. 69 Table 66-1. This is a disingenuous comparison because the Initial Study is evaluating the CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions for only 40 miles of the proposed truck route, when in fact the project spans a total of 155 miles.

Third, even if 40 roundtrip miles were the correct measurement, the Initial Study grossly understates the metric tons of GHG emissions that would result from those truck trips. Without providing hard data and factual support for its assumptions, the Initial Study claims that the 40 extra round trip miles would result in only 800 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. CCSF is way off the mark. Based on an earlier analysis presented during the RFP challenge stage in a report by Gladstein Neandross & Associates report ("Gladstein Report"), the actual metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year would be approximately 2,000 MT for the extra 40 miles round trip, far in excess of the supposed threshold of 1,100.

Fourth, proper calculation of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions based on the Gladstein Report illustrates that the proposed project will have a significant impact on the generation of greenhouse gasses because the annual CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions for the entire proposed project, spanning 155 miles roundtrip, would be 7,649 metric tons. CEQA compliant thresholds suggest a maximum of

1,110 metric tons.<sup>6</sup> The initial report should have analyzed this figure, 7,649 metric tons, against area thresholds and CEQA approved projects. Because carbon emissions from the proposed project are nearly seven times those outlined in area thresholds, it is obvious that the proposed project will have a significant impact on the generation of greenhouse gas emissions.

Fifth, had CCSF considered environmentally and economically advantageous alternatives, which it admittedly did not, it would have to concede that the alternative plan to haul the City's MSW to the Altamont Landfill via zero to low emission vehicles would result in significantly lower annual CO<sub>2</sub>e levels. Based on the Gladstein Report, annual CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions for the WMAC project are 1,015 metric tons, whereas, as discussed above, annual emissions for the proposed project are 7,649 metric tons—seven times more than WMAC's plan.

Further, the Planning Commission failed to compare the total air emissions generated from the Altamont project and the proposed Hay Road project. Without this complete and accurate comparison, the Initial Study has provided no basis on which to find less than significant environmental impact. Thus, the proposed plan will result in a significant impact on the generation of greenhouse gas emissions in light of other feasible alternatives,<sup>7</sup> and the Planning Commission's glaring omission of a comparison of the total air emissions generated from the Altamont project and the proposed project.

In addition, CCSF has already conceded that an alternative project for out-of-city waste disposal, the "Green Rail" project, requires an EIR. Because CCSF has already represented that it would conduct a full environmental review of the "Green Rail" project, the City's finding that the Hay Road Landfill Agreement does not require an EIR is faulty. Like the "Green Rail" project, the Hay Road Landfill project involves hauling the City's MSW out of the City, along a new route, to a new landfill significantly farther from San Francisco than the City's present landfill at Altamont. Under CEQA, the Lead Agency must consider a reasonable range of alternatives to the project, or to the location of the project, which (1) offer substantial environmental advantages over the project proposal and (2) may be feasibly accomplished in a successful manner considering the economic, environmental, social and technological factors involved. *Citizens of Goleta Valley v. Board of Supervisors*, 52 Cal.3d 553, 566 (1990).

The "Green Rail" project is obviously a project that would have to be evaluated in an EIR for Hay Road Disposal Agreement because it is within the range of reasonable alternatives. But by issuing a Negative Declaration for Hay Road Disposal Agreement, the City has terminated any consideration of any environmentally and economically advantageous project, whether it be by rail haul to a much longer destination, or the alternative project of hauling and disposing

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<sup>6</sup> BAAQMD provides guidance as to what is an acceptable threshold under CEQA, proposing the threshold of significance at 1,100 MT of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. Despite the fact that BAAQMD's quantitative thresholds are not currently a viable metric, as detailed above, BAAQMD's guidelines are generally indicative of CEQA Guidelines.

<sup>7</sup> CCSF incorrectly maintains that under its ordinances governing solid waste collection only Recology is permitted to transport waste from San Francisco to an out-of-town landfill. CCSF's interpretation of the relevant ordinances is incorrect because transportation from San Francisco to a selected landfill is not a designated route under CCSF's existing permit system, and, as such, Recology does not hold such a license or "route" permit, and the material being transported does not qualify as "licensed" material or activity under the City's permit system. Consequently, under the City's administrative code, transportation of MSW must be competitively bid, which it was not.

waste at the much closer Altamont Landfill, which would also be environmentally and economically advantageous to the Hay Road Disposal Agreement.

Such failure to adequately consider the proposed Project's impacts on GHG emissions also puts CCSF in violation of its own Climate Action Plan. The City's Climate Action Plan, codified in Chapter 9 of the San Francisco Environment Code ("Environment Code"), specifies reduction goals for the City's greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions and mandates that all City departments "consider the effect of all decisions and activities within their jurisdiction on [GHG] emissions and undertake their responsibilities to the end that the City achieves the [GHG] emissions limits set forth in this Ordinance." Environment Code §§ 902(a) & (b). To administer these regulations, the DOE must "coordinate all departmental action plans, reports of actions taken, and their effectiveness in achieving the [GHG] emissions limits provided herein." Environment Code § 903(a).

Here, DOE has failed to act in accordance with the Climate Action Plan by issuing the PND without properly evaluating the metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e that would result from truck hauling the City's MSW to the Hay Road Landfill. The DOE also failed to evaluate the effect on GHG emissions of increased traffic congestion along I-80 and attendant traffic delays. In addition, CCSF's issuance of a PND terminates consideration of an alternative project with lower GHG emissions.

**2. There Is Substantial Evidence That Recology's Proposed Plan To Haul MSW On Local Streets In Solano County To The Hay Road Landfill Would Have A Significant Environmental Impact.**

The proposed project to haul MSW from San Francisco includes transporting the MSW by truck from Interstate 80 to the Hay Road Landfill through local streets in Solano County. With regard to this leg of the MSW transportation the Initial Study concluded there would not be a significant environmental impact because "[t]he landfill is permitted by Solano County to receive up to 620 vehicles per day. The approximately 50 trucks per day hauling San Francisco MSW would be within the 620 total vehicles that are permitted to access the landfill, and would not result in any increase in truck traffic beyond the amount Solano County already has approved." (IS at 18.) To reach this conclusion, CCSF relied solely on a 2012 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration ("2012 IS/MND") conducted by Solano County evaluating and increase in truck traffic and disposal tonnage at the Hay Road Landfill.

As an initial matter, even if Hay Road Landfill is currently permitted to receive up to 620 trucks per day, the Initial Study concedes that it receives only "approximately 325 vehicles per day." (IS at 18.) This number, which represents current conditions, provides the baseline for CEQA analysis. Simply pointing to the fact that Hay Road Landfill is permitted to receive up to 620 trucks per day cannot stand in for analysis of the certain environmental impact created by 50 trucks per day being added to baseline conditions.

In addition, CCSF's reliance on the 2012 IS/MND to reach its conclusions here is unwarranted because the conclusions from that study are both factually incorrect and wholly inapplicable to this Project. First, the 2012 IS/MND did not rely on exact waste origins. Without

correct waste origins, the mileage traveled cannot be calculated, nor can traffic patterns be assessed. Without the underlying facts of total mileage and traffic patterns, calculating the accurate level of nitrogen oxides (“NOx”) emitted is impossible. Reliance on the 2012 IS/MND is wholly inadequate because it itself is based on incorrect numbers, and these numbers do not consider mileage and traffic patterns specific to this Project in light of its waste origins in CCSF.

Further, the 2012 IS/MND fails to explain how it calculated the impact of mobile source activity, and according to YSAQMD in its comment to the 2012 IS/MND, a proper analysis reveals mobile source annual emissions of 11.79 total tons of NOx, above the CEQA threshold. YSAQMD’s comment considered emissions from various mobile source categories, including onsite haul vehicle emissions, offsite moving emissions, and onsite construction equipment emissions. Despite YSAQMD’s clear analysis and calculation, the 2012 IS/MND failed to reassess its calculations, nor did it include mitigation measures. Thus, the Initial Study cannot rely on the 2012 IS/MND to assess NOx emissions levels.

Also, conditions in the area surrounding the Hay Road Landfill including traffic congestion, inventory of the amount of trucks on the property and road conditions, cannot be presumed to be the same as was determined in the 2012 IS/MND. Without a present day analysis of these conditions, the Initial Study’s conclusion that NOx mobile source emissions are below CEQA’s threshold relies on faulty, unverifiable and inapplicable data.

**3. There Is Substantial Evidence That Recology’s Plan To Dump MSW At The Hay Road Landfill Would Have A Significant Environmental Impact.**

As with the CCSF’s consideration of potential environmental impacts the project may have on local roads and communities in Solano County, the CCSF also relies on the 2012 IS/MND to find that the Project would have no significant impacts at the Hay Road Landfill itself. “The 2012 IS/MND concluded that with mitigation, increasing disposal to 2,400 tons per day would not result in a significant adverse environmental impact. As part of its approval process, Solano County incorporated these mitigation measures as conditions of approval in the amended CUP.” (IS at 19.) Such reliance is unwarranted.

The Initial Study erroneously and improperly concludes that a proposed Anaerobic Digester (“AD”) facility at the Hay Road Landfill would not have any significant environmental impacts. “The proposed Anaerobic Digestion (AD) project includes the construction and operation of an anaerobic digester at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The anaerobic digester would be used for processing organics-rich wastes and production of compressed natural gas (CNG) ... A byproduct of the digestion process is biogas, consisting mostly of methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O). Biogas would be captured and converted into a fuel source, specifically, the CH<sub>4</sub> would be concentrated and compressed to produce CNG. In sum, the AD project would divert organic material (organics) from landfill disposal, and use the material to produce fuel and soil amendments.”

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The proposal would include construction and operation of the AD facility, including facilities to upgrade and compress the biogas produced to produce CNG. The proposal would involve construction and operation of a piping system to transport digestate to the existing composting facility for use as a compost feedstock. After the organics are “digested” and gas is extracted, the residual organic material, or “digestate”, remains. This digestate is nutrient rich and makes for a good compost feedstock. The facility would be designed to convey the digestate to the Jepson Prairie Organics composting operations, via a pipeline. The proposal would include the construction of an underground piping system to transport CNG fuel from the AD facility to new CNG fueling stations. One fueling station would be located at the existing Recology Vacaville Solano maintenance shop, which is located within the landfill property, and the other would be located within the disposal area boundary of the landfill. Another piping system would also be constructed to carry landfill gas to the AD facility, also to be used to produce CNG. (*Id.* at 22.)

CCSF admits that environmental review for the proposed AD facility has not been completed. (*See id.* at 22.) Instead, CCSF erroneously and improperly relies on a Program Environmental Impact Report (“PEIR”) on AD facilities to incorrectly support its conclusion that the AD would not have a significant environmental impact. In 2012, CalRecycle certified a PEIR that examined potential impacts of AD facilities co-located with solid waste disposal facilities. CCSF states in its Initial Study that “[t]he cumulative analysis presented in the current document draws on the conclusions of the PEIR regarding potential impacts and mitigation measures of the proposed Recology AD facility.” (*Id.* at 22.) The Initial Study, in fact, does not provide any support that it incorporated any findings from the PEIR.

CCSF cannot rely on the PEIR for a finding of less than or no significant impacts by the proposed AD facility. In fact, the PEIR found that AD facilities *have numerous significant environmental impacts*. Those impacts include without limitation: emissions of toxic air contaminants that could exceed applicable air quality standards; creation of objectionable odors that could affect a substantial number of people; increase in GHG emissions; contribution of regional criteria pollutants; adverse impact on surface and groundwater quality; adverse impact on water quality, generally; and potentially exceedance of wastewater treatment requirements. (*See* PEIR at 1-7 to 1-16 (Table 1-1 Revised).)

Moreover, CCSF’s reliance on the PEIR is improper as the PEIR does not permit avoidance of a site-specific EIR of the proposed AD facility at Hay Road Landfill. The PEIR expressly provides that “To comply with CEQA, lead agencies considering individual AD facility projects in the future will prepare a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration *or site-specific EIR* to address local impacts, but may utilize the information and analysis in this Program EIR.” (*Id.* at 2-3(emphasis added).) Citing CEQA guidelines, the PEIR clearly states that “Where an EIR has been prepared and certified for a program, plan, policy, or ordinance consistent with the requirements of this section [of the CEQA guidelines], any lead agency for a later project pursuant to or consistent with the program, plan, policy, or ordinance should limit the EIR or negative declaration on the later project to effects which (1) Were not examined as significant effects on the environment in the prior EIR; or (2) Are susceptible to substantial reduction or avoidance by the choice of specific revisions in the project, by the imposition of conditions, or other means.” (*Id.* at 2-3.)



With regard to Recology's proposed AD facility at the Hay Road Landfill, CCSF must prepare an EIR because the PEIR did not consider impacts on air quality standards, objectionable odors, increase in GHG emissions, greater numbers of pollutants, and degradation of water quality that the proposed facility could have on the environment. Indeed, the PEIR made explicitly clear that it had not actually evaluated *any* AD facilities: "Currently there are no commercial-scale stand-alone AD facilities or AD digesters co-located at solid waste facilities that process municipal organic solid waste in California." (*Id.* at 2-1.) Therefore, CCSF cannot rely on the PEIR for its no significant impact determination. To do so would be nothing less than dangerous and irresponsible. In any event, the Initial Study put forward *no* mitigation measures that would address the significant impacts of the AD facility identified by the PEIR. As such, CCSF's reliance on the PEIR is ineffective and cannot support the PND.

**4. There Is Substantial Evidence That Recology's Plan To Haul MSW From Its San Francisco Facilities Along Local Streets And Over The Bay Bridge Would Have A Significant Environmental Impact.**

Under the proposed agreement with CCSF, Recology trucks would transport the City's MSW to the Hay Road Landfill from Recology's two waste collection centers in San Francisco, hauling it across the Bay Bridge, before turning up Interstate 80 to Solano County. Under current conditions, Recology hauls approximately 294 truckloads of MSW per week, 52 weeks per year, to the Altamont Landfill. Based on a 6-day week, this results in "approximately 50 trucks (or round trips) per day[.]" (Initial Study at 6.) The Initial Study assumes that approximately the same number of trucks will haul approximately the same tonnage of MSW under the proposed agreement. However, the Initial Study very bluntly admits that it makes no attempt to gauge any potential environmental impact to the City and County of San Francisco.

To be clear, the Initial Study **fails to analyze any potential impact** of the proposed agreement regarding the transportation of waste in CCSF, U.S. 101, or the Bay Bridge. Rather, because Recology's waste collection centers and truck routes to the eastern end of the Bay Bridge supposedly will remain the same as they do under current operating conditions, the Initial Study simply ignores any impact on San Francisco entirely:

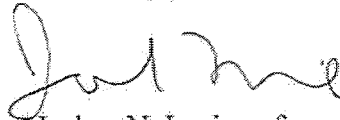
Truck trips from the Recology San Francisco transfer station and the Recycle Central facility to the eastern end of the Bay Bridge would be unaffected by the project; the same number of trucks would travel on local San Francisco roadways, U.S. 101, and the Bay Bridge on essentially the same schedule, whether or not the project is approved. Because the project would not result in any physical or operational changes on local San Francisco streets, U.S. 101, or the Bay Bridge compared to current conditions, it would not result in any physical changes in the environment in this area, and therefore **the impact analysis in this Initial Study does not present any further analysis of transport of waste between the Points of Origin and the eastern end of the Bay Bridge.**

(*Id.* at 17) (emphasis added) The Initial Study cites no previous study or EIR as authority to make this determination. "The Initial Study cites no previous study or EIR as authority to make this determination. **In fact, no EIR or any other form of environmental review appears to have been conducted regarding the transportation of MSW through San Francisco and on roadways to an out-of-city disposal site.** Given that the Initial Study neither cites a previous study authorizing current operating conditions, nor presents any new analysis of the potential impact of hauling MSW within San Francisco or on the Bay Bridge, there is no conceivable way that the Initial Study could reach the conclusion that the Project will have no significant effect on the environment.

### Conclusion

The Planning Department was wrong to issue a Preliminary Negative Declaration regarding the "Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County," and it should not compound this mistake by adopting the PND as a Final Negative Declaration. There is certainly substantial evidence that the Project, which involves the hauling of 5 million tons of trash, will have a significant environmental impact on affected areas. For these reasons and those outlined above, we appeal the San Francisco Planning Department's Preliminary Negative Declaration for this Project and request that an EIR be prepared.

Very truly yours,



Joshua N. Levine of  
DONGELL LAWRENCE FINNEY LLP  
Attorneys for Solano County Orderly Growth  
Committee

JNL:sd

Enclosure(s): check in the amount of \$547.00 payable to the San Francisco Planning Department.

# Dongell Lawrence Finney LLP

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May 19, 2015

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Re: Appeal of Preliminary Negative Declaration, Case No. 2014.0653E  
Project Title: Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste  
at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County

This letter is submitted on behalf of Solano County Orderly Growth Committee ("SCOGC") in reply to the May 14, 2015 Planning Department Report and in further support of the SCOGC Appeal that was filed on April 3, 2015, with respect to the above referenced Preliminary Negative Declaration ("PND") issued on March 4, 2015.

## Summary

The Planning Department's handling of the environmental review for the City and County of San Francisco ("CCSF") proposal to enter into an agreement with Recology for disposal of municipal solid waste ("MSW") at Recology's Hay Road Landfill, in Solano County

(the "Project"), is seriously flawed, and an Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") is required to address the Project's potentially significant impacts. Contending that 624,000 additional trash truck miles per year for 15 years through Bay Area traffic "*could not have a significant effect on the environment*" defies logic and lacks credulity.

Further, the PND is predicated upon the false assumption that San Francisco's population and trash generation will not change during the expected 15 year life of the proposed Project. The Project description artificially constrains the analysis, by assuming that there will be no increase in the existing pattern of 50 large-truck trips per day over the 13-15 year life of the Agreement. The PND ignores the absence of any contractual limitations on the number of trips and ignores evidence of substantial growth and development in San Francisco which most likely will increase the number of trips. The Project description and cumulative analysis also fail to take into consideration the additional vehicle trips and the cumulative impacts associated with doubling the organics disposal and treatment program at the Hay Road landfill, and the substantial increased export of compost material from Hay Road to other locations, including San Francisco.

The scope of the environmental analysis also is improperly constrained. The environmental review must consider the entirety of the proposed action, and not just the net additional miles travelled because (i) this is a new project and not an amendment to an existing project or agreement, and (ii) because there was no prior environmental review of the transport of MSW from San Francisco to the Hay Road Landfill. In addition, the environmental review cannot ignore the policy guidance of SB 375, the draft CEQA Guidelines, and the Governor's recent Executive Order, all requiring the Project's compliance with climate action and greenhouse gas reduction policies. The Project should be considered to have potentially significant environmental impacts because the vehicle miles to be travelled to the Hay Road Landfill will far exceed regional norms for transport of MSW.

1. The Project Baseline and Description Are Flawed.

a. Baseline Improperly Limits Analysis. The Project baseline and description are flawed in several respects. First, the PND improperly splits the Project into two component parts, i.e., between the San Francisco transfer station and the east end of the Bay Bridge and from there to the landfill, and only analyzes the 2,000 net additional vehicle miles required to transport MSW to the more remote Hay Road Landfill.

At first blush this might appear to be reasonable because, ordinarily, on-going project activities at the time CEQA review begins are treated as a component of the existing conditions baseline. This concept has been applied to the renewal of a permit or other amendment to the approval for an existing facility even though the facility operations had not previously been reviewed under CEQA. This reasoning also has been applied, for example, in the case of a lease renewal for an existing facility, and is consistent with the general rule that the baseline should be the "real conditions on the ground" or "what actually is happening" at the time the EIR analysis is prepared.

The courts, however, have recognized that there must be flexibility in determining the appropriate baseline and in some cases it is appropriate and necessary to consider other baselines. There are two fundamental reasons why the typical approach cannot properly be applied to the Hay Road Project. First, and foremost, the Hay Road Project proposal clearly is not the same project as the previous Altamont transportation and disposal scheme. It provides for disposal to a different landfill, located in a different County in an entirely different part of the Bay Area, under different ownership, on different terms and under different circumstances, and requires MSW disposal trucks to travel a different and much lengthier route. In short, on its face, the new agreement and new landfill confirm that this is far more than a simple modification to an existing project. New agreements, different permits, and alternate transportation plans all are required. Accordingly, we are dealing with a new project altogether.<sup>1</sup>

In addition, the changing environmental context for evaluating a project's impact with respect to greenhouse gas emissions and consistency with climate action policies present a critical and unprecedented imperative to review the entirety of the proposed action. The MND approach conveniently ignores half of the vehicle miles travelled ("VMT") without any environmental record for doing so, *i.e.*, there was no prior environmental analysis of the transportation and disposal of MSW to Altamont. The PND must analyze the entirety of the action to transport and dispose of all of San Francisco's MSW at the Hay Road Landfill in Solano County, and not just focus on the net additional distances/trips. As noted in the attached analytical report prepared by SWAPE, dated May 19, 2015 (the "SWAPE Report"), (and as also noted in the PND, albeit for informational purposes only), if the entire distance of the proposed truck trips is considered, it cannot reasonably be disputed that the Project has significant environmental impacts and requires an EIR.

b. The PND Ignores Growth and Improperly Assumes No Changes in Trips and Associated Impacts. A second fundamental flaw with the Project description is that there is no substantial evidence in the record to support the assumption that truck trips will remain consistent with past practices and be limited to only 50 trips per day. In fact, the only limitation in the proposed Project agreement is the total long-term cap of approximately 5 million tons of MSW disposal at Hay Road. Significantly, the proposed agreement does not impose any limit whatsoever on the number of daily trips. Accordingly, Recology could at any time increase the number of trips per day, and, in fact, there are significant reasons to expect that this most likely will occur. More people, more trash, more truck trips.

The PND ignores the fact that San Francisco is one of the five fastest growing counties in the State, including both substantial commercial and residential growth. A recent report from the State Department of Finance indicates that San Francisco had a net housing gain

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<sup>1</sup> See, *e.g.*, *Save Our Neighborhood v. Lishman*, 140 Cal.App.4th 1288 (2006) (application for a 102 room hotel (with convention facilities, gas station and convenience store) could not rely on an addendum to an initial study and mitigated negative declaration previously prepared for a prior project, a 106 room motel (with restaurant, lounge, gas station, convenience store and car wash) that was never constructed, because it was a new project and not a modification to a prior project, with different plans and proponents).

of 3,500 units in 2014, which was a 50% jump over the 2,400 units gained in 2013. These 5,900 units over the past two years came as San Francisco added 21,000 people during that same two year period. (State Department of Finance data, cited in San Francisco Chronicle, Saturday, May 2, 2015.). This growth is in addition to the clearly visible and substantial commercial development activity in San Francisco. The PND provides no evidence in the record regarding how MSW from this growth will be handled, or to justify the assumption that it will not generate additional large semi-truck MSW disposal trips.

Noteworthy is the reported increase in waste San Franciscans are generating. The SF Department of Environment zero waste manager, Robert Haley, stated in an interview that “last year the city sent more tons of trash to landfills than it did in 2012: 456,764 tons, or about three pounds per day per resident.” (SOURCE: “San Francisco Stalls in Its Attempt to Go Trash-Free,” Carl Bialik, [www.fivethirtyeight.com](http://www.fivethirtyeight.com) 9/4/14). Combine increased waste generation with population growth and the estimated number of truck trips is easily understated.

The SWAPE Report provides substantial evidence that, contrary to the erroneous and unsubstantiated assumptions in the PND, the number of large semi-truck trips during the term of the proposed agreement will, in fact, be expected to significantly increase, due to population growth and corresponding increases in MSW volume in San Francisco. The SWAPE Report confirms that those anticipated additional trips will result in significant carbon emission impacts that exceed the BAAQMD's significance thresholds starting in year 2019 (SWAPE Report at pages 3-11)<sup>2</sup>, and will pose significant health risks to sensitive receptors located near the proposed truck route due to increased diesel particulates (DPM). As such, a proper CEQA evaluation should be required and adequate mitigation measures and alternatives evaluated for the Project.<sup>3</sup>

In addition, the PND at page one conservatively assumes disposal may occur over a 15 year period, rather than over 13 years at current disposal rates. This so-called conservative assumption actually has the opposite effect of artificially reducing the impacts of the additional vehicle trips per day. The artificially assumed limitation on the number of trips per day is of particular concern since it would not require a significant increase of truck trips to exceed the existing CO<sub>2</sub> significance threshold, as discussed in the SWAPE Report, and because any additional truck trips would cause the Project to exceed the existing baseline of trips (even assuming this is an appropriate measure, as discussed above), and therefore should be analyzed over the full length of those trips from San Francisco to Hay Road.

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<sup>2</sup> The SWAPE Report also provides substantial evidence demonstrating that historical data and market conditions indicate that waste reduction and diversion programs have flattened-out in recent years and therefore cannot be relied upon to counter growth-induced increases in waste streams. See also, article, "San Francisco Stalls in its Attempt to go Trash Free", by Carl Bialik, in Five Thirty-Eight, September 4, 2014.

<sup>3</sup> The inadequacies of the PND health risk assessment are described in the SWAPE Report at pages 15-18.

c. Sources of Additional Vehicle Trips Ignored. There are other significant sources of vehicle emission ignored by the PND. For example, the Project description and cumulative impacts analysis ignores the fact that in addition to the identified 2,000 miles of additional large "possum belly" tip-truck vehicle trips required for disposal of MSW, Recology reportedly also intends to double the capacity of the Hay Road facility to handle compostable materials. This will result not only in additional truck trips importing green waste to Hay Road, but also additional trucks exporting compost material to end-users, including to San Francisco. The cumulative impact of the additional vehicle trips associated with this green waste-hauling, which would be separate from and in addition to the MSW truck trips, have not been addressed, and the entire round-trip length of these trips also should be assessed. See, PND pp. 8-9.

Finally, the consideration given to the proposed anaerobic digestion ("AD") facility in the cumulative impacts analysis is inadequate. The cumulative impact analysis generally relies on the 2012 initial study/mitigated negative declaration for the Hay Road Landfill expansion, but that analysis did not discuss the AD project (and there is no evidence that the 2012 Hay Road environmental document relied on the State's 2012 Program EIR). The cumulative air quality analysis did not consider the impacts associated with the AD facility, except with respect to odor, and the State's program EIR did not address any site specific impacts associated with a new AD facility at Hay Road, including associated additional vehicle trips. See, PND pp. 21-22.

2. The PND fails to address the Projects' inconsistency with Climate Action Policies.

The proposed agreement and PND are contrary to the State's and CCSF's commitment to the reduction of greenhouse gases and to policies that advance local, regional and state-wide climate action goals.

To try and justify the PND, the Department has taken a particularly narrow view of the proposed Project to change CCSF's existing disposal site at the Altamont Landfill, in eastern Alameda County, and to transport and dispose of approximately 5 million tons of MSW over the next 13 to 15 years at the even more remote Hay Road Landfill in Solano County. The Project would include an increase of over 2,000 large- truck vehicle miles, six days per week, for the life of the agreement.

In so doing, the Department is fast-tracking its review of the Hay Road agreement and is thereby encouraging the City to take action contrary to its climate action goals, and without any environmental review of readily available project alternatives or mitigation measures. This action sets a dangerous precedent and has potentially far-reaching negative impacts for the region.

The Department's approach, particularly for a heavily transportation based proposal like this, should primarily be to determine whether the proposal advances local, regional, and statewide climate action goals consistent with SB 375. Instead, because clearly it does not, the Department has entirely ignored this threshold question.

The preliminary draft of changes to the CEQA Guidelines designed to implement SB 753,<sup>4</sup> reflect the state's intention and goal to evaluate projects to determine if they advance climate action goals. For land use development projects, for example, VMT is viewed as the best measure to evaluate the transportation impacts of projects, and regional average VMT is identified as a potential threshold of significance. Thus, to the extent a project would cause or induce vehicle miles travelled to exceed "regional averages" for that type of use, the project would be considered to have a significant impact.<sup>5</sup>

The proposed Hay Road agreement will substantially increase VMT at a time when the state-wide goal is to reduce VMT, and clearly also will cause CCSF's trash disposal scheme to exceed regional averages for disposal of MSW even more significantly than it currently does. Public records show that the overwhelming majority of Cities and Counties in the Bay Area dispose of their MSW at significantly more geographically close-in landfills, typically in the same county. San Francisco's proposed long-haul plan very substantially departs from and exceeds these typical practices, and is thereby, by itself, evidence of a significant carbon emissions and transportation impact.

The Department's narrow approach avoids discussion of the full impact of the VMT associated with the proposed agreement, avoids discussion of consistency with and furtherance of state, regional, and local climate action and greenhouse gas goals and policies, including, for example, failure to implement applicable AB-32 greenhouse gas reduction targets<sup>6</sup>, and erroneously suggests that the Project is consistent with the AB-32 Scoping Plan,<sup>7</sup> and avoids any discussion of applicable mitigation measures and feasible and plainly available alternatives that would, at a minimum, maintain the status quo and avoid worsening the regional climate change conditions.

Governor Brown's recent Executive Order, No. 03-30-15, establishes an aggressive state-wide greenhouse gas reduction target of 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. The Order underscores the need for focused action to reduce carbon emissions over the next decade

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<sup>4</sup> The comment period of the initial discussion draft was closed on November 21, 2014, and OPR is currently in the process of developing revised draft Guidelines. In the meantime, while other measures of transportation impacts such as intersection and freeway levels of service should not be ignored, there is no basis for ignoring the guidance provided in the draft and considering VMT in evaluating the impacts of this Project.

<sup>5</sup> The draft guidelines focus on land use projects that would increase VMT over regional standards, and transportation projects, such as infrastructure improvements, that could induce increases in VMT. While the proposed project does not fall neatly into either of these categories, the purpose and intent to further climate action goals by considering VMT based significance thresholds in relation to the proposed use should continue to apply.

<sup>6</sup> See SWAPE report at page 14.

<sup>7</sup> Because of uncertainty in Recology's commitment to update its truck fleet to cleaner vehicles, the Project cannot provide the necessary information needed to actually conclude compliance with AB-32 Scoping Plan. SWAPE Report at pages 12-13.



and a half, *i.e.*, precisely during the term of the proposed agreement, and the need for climate change and emissions reductions to guide regulatory decisions during this critical period. The proposed Hay Road transportation and disposal project would, as further supported by the evidence in the SWAPE Report, aggressively move CCSF in the wrong direction, and the PND gives scant consideration to the effect of such contrary action while ignoring the science of climate change. The fact that state-wide or regional implementing actions or legislation have not yet been adopted does not excuse the Department from taking climate change into account, from properly evaluating the effect of the proposed decision or from evaluating feasible alternatives.

3. A Superior Close-In Alternative Exists.

The existing and geographically closer option of continuing MSW disposal at Altamont, which remains readily available, should be considered to reduce the environmental impacts of the City's MSW transport and disposal program. Altamont is not only substantially closer to San Francisco than Hay Road, but it is also significantly closer to the access freeway (5.4 miles from I-580, as compared to 12.4 miles to Hay Road from I-80). The greater distance provides the potential for greater impacts to local county roads, as well as increased potential for safety, noise, odor, and air quality impacts for nearby residents along the route.

In addition, increased use of zero emission vehicles and renewable liquid fuels are key components of the scenarios for achieving GHG 2030 target emission reductions. Yet, there is no commitment by Recology in the proposed Agreement to use cleaner vehicles. CCSF has the opportunity, however, at Altamont to immediately support a cleaner MSW transportation program.

Waste Management of Alameda (WMAC) developed and installed the "World's largest state-of-the-art Landfill Gas (LFG) to Liquefied Natural Gas" (LNG) operation at the Altamont Landfill. This ultra low-carbon bio-fuel powers nearly 300 Waste Management trucks a day, most of which operate in Alameda County, helping to improve the region's air quality.

By the time the City's current disposal contract expires, San Francisco will have sent more than 15 million tons of solid waste to the Altamont Landfill — including about 6 million tons of organic materials. These organic wastes, along with the organic wastes accepted from other Bay Area communities over the past three decades, represent an extraordinarily valuable resource.

Today, the Altamont landfill is the only facility in the region with facilities to convert this waste-derived resource into renewable electricity as well as large quantities of ultra low-carbon transportation fuel. Using only the wastes already in place, the Altamont Landfill is capable of producing an average of about 8 megawatts of electricity and an estimated 13,000 gallons per day of bio-fuel in the form of LNG and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for each of the next 25 years. The California Air Resources Board determined that this natural gas produced from biomethane (in this case captured landfill gas) has the lowest carbon intensity of any fuel available today — about 85% lower than either gasoline or diesel.

The landfill gas to biomethane system provides the most environmentally positive means of managing any organics contained in the City's waste, in fact, rather than simply disposing of the City's garbage, WMAC takes that garbage and converts it into an environmentally beneficial, completely non-fossil fuel to transport solid waste. In effect, WMAC will be 'closing the loop' in the collection and disposal process by recovering and re-using a valuable byproduct of the landfill operation." The bio-fuel production also is consistent with San Francisco's Zero Waste goal as fuel production can be met through existing waste deposits in the Altamont Landfill and is not dependent on new organic waste streams.<sup>8</sup> New organics processing and recovery technologies planned for the Altamont facility will allow for even greater low-carbon energy production.

This bio-fuel is the lowest carbon intensity fuel available in California eliminating reliance on petroleum fuel and reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Transporting San Francisco's MSW a considerably shorter distance to a landfill that converts garbage to an almost zero carbon intensity fuel is clearly consistent with the City's goal of "minimizing and mitigating environmental impacts" and San Francisco has the opportunity to be a part of this worldwide recognized cutting-edge process. In fact, the Altamont's LNG facility was recognized by the US EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) as the 2009 Project of the Year and by the US Department of Energy Clean Cities Coalition — East Bay Chapter, which awarded the project its "East Bay Clean Cities 2009 Clean Air Champion" award.

In contrast, most of Recology's existing fleet is B-20 bio-diesel (diesel fuel derived from 20% vegetable or animal fats and 80% from petroleum. Only eleven trucks (or 20% of its fleet) run on lower emission LGN. While Recology plans to further up-grade its fleet, the PND properly analyzed the project's impact based on current fleet levels as these plans remain uncertain. However, the facts exist that CCSF has the present opportunity to lessen the impact of its long-haul disposal and positively contribute to regional air quality, but instead improperly is choosing not to evaluate that alternative.

4. No Environmental Review Shortcut for Hay Road Disposal Agreement.

The Department should correct the deficiencies in the Project Description, provide the additional required analyses, and analyze the project for consistency with plainly applicable climate action goals and policies. These corrections and reviews will require preparation of a focused EIR to, at a minimum, address the transportation and associated air

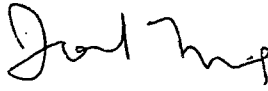
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<sup>8</sup> Moreover, the capture rates for landfill gas at the Altamont exceed 93% -- among the highest in the industry. This high rate of recovery ensures that existing gas is converted to the highest value of reuse — both bio-methane fuel and energy, and thus further reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Working with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the California Air Resources Board, California Energy Commission and California Integrated Waste Management Board, WMAC has adopted the most sophisticated greenhouse gas emissions testing program in the industry, utilizing tunable diode laser technology, hundreds of field measurements are taken in the course of a few days to establish methane emissions. This is the most comprehensive test available.

May 19, 2015  
Page 9

quality and greenhouse gas impacts of the Project, and to analyze appropriate mitigation measures and reasonable range of feasible alternatives to lessen or avoid these impacts.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joshua N. Levine".

Joshua N. Levine, of  
DONGELL LAWRENCE FINNEY LLP

cc: Sara Jones, Environmental Review Officer  
Paul Maltzer, Senior Environmental Planner

Attachments: SWAPE Report, dated May 19, 2015, Comments on the Proposed Negative Declaration of the Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County;

Article, San Francisco Chronicle, "3 Bay Area Counties Among Fastest Growing in State" (May 1, 2015); and

Article, San Francisco Chronicle, "San Francisco Stalls In Its Attempt to Go Trash Free" (September 4, 2014)

JNL:  
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May 19, 2015

**Subject: Comments on the Proposed Negative Declaration for the Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County; Case No. 2014.0653E**

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We have reviewed the Preliminary Negative Declaration (PND) dated March 4, 2015 on the agreement for disposal of San Francisco municipal solid waste (MSW) at the Recology Hay Road landfill in Solano County ("Project"), and the Appeal filed on April 3, 2015 by Solano County Orderly Growth Committee. The proposed Project consists of an agreement to authorize the transportation and disposal of five million tons of MSW from San Francisco to the existing Recology Hay Road Landfill located in unincorporated Solano County, at 6426 Hay Road, near State Route 113, southeast of Vacaville. The MSW would be transported by long haul semi-trucks, primarily from the Recology San Francisco transfer station located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, with several additional trucks hauling residual wastes for disposal from Recology's Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 in San Francisco.

Our review of the PND concludes that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) should be prepared because the PND:

- Fails to adequately assess the air quality and greenhouse gas impacts from the Project in its entirety;
- Does not comply with AB 32 reduction targets ;
- Does not consider San Francisco's population growth in future years; and
- Inadequately assesses the potential health risk from the Project as a whole.

#### **Inadequate Project-Level Assessment of Greenhouse Gas and Air Quality Impacts**

The PND evaluates the greenhouse gas (GHG) and criteria air pollutant (CAP) impacts from the proposed Project by calculating the net difference in emissions between an existing agreement with Recology for disposal of MSW at Waste Manager's Altamont Landfill and the new agreement and Project, a proposal for transport and disposal at Recology's Hay Road Landfill. The PND treats the Project as a change in the existing agreement; however, this assumption is incorrect, because the Project would require an entirely separate contract with a different landfill. A DEIR should be prepared to evaluate Project emissions in their totality.

The Project would be implemented by an agreement between the City and County of San Francisco and Recology to change the disposal site for San Francisco's MSW from the current Altamont Landfill in Livermore, California to the Recology Hay Road Landfill near Vacaville (p. 1). As a result, the contract for Altamont would end, and an entirely new contract for Hay Road would be executed. The existing agreement and the proposed agreement are for two entirely different landfills, in different counties, operating under different permits and different ownership. It is neither an extension nor a modification to an existing operation or program. As a result, the new agreement should not be treated as a change within the existing agreement; rather, the new agreement and associated impacts should be treated as an entirely new Project.

The PND's "Air Quality and GHG Technical Report" (Technical Report) summarizes the proposed Project's total operational emissions (see excerpt below from p. 15). The values highlighted in blue are the Project's emissions emitted within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin, the values highlighted in yellow are the emissions emitted within the Sacramento Valley Air Basin, and the values highlighted in purple are the total emissions from the Project from both air basins.

Proposed San Francisco Bay Area Basin  
Proposed Sacramento Valley Air Basin  
Total Proposed Total Emissions

**Proposed**

<i>pounds/day:</i>						
ROG	CO	NOX	CO2e	PM10	PM2.5	
6.81	23.89	92.59	22,725.08	6.22	2.41	
<i>tons/year (except for CO2e, which is in MT/year):</i>						
ROG	CO	NOX	CO2e (MT)	PM10	PM2.5	
1.07	3.74	14.48	3,222.89	0.97	0.38	

**Proposed**

<i>pounds/day:</i>						
ROG	CO	NOX	CO2e	PM10	PM2.5	
1.09	3.85	14.92	3,659.84	1.00	0.39	
<i>tons/year:</i>						
ROG	CO	NOX	CO2e (MT)	PM10	PM2.5	
0.17	0.60	2.33	519.04	0.16	0.06	

**Total Proposed**

<i>pounds/day:</i>						
ROG	CO	NOX	CO2e	PM10	PM2.5	
7.9	27.7	107.5	26,384.9	7.2	2.8	
<i>tons/year:</i>						
ROG	CO	NOX	CO2e	PM10	PM2.5	
1.2	4.3	16.8	3,741.9	1.1	0.4	

If the Project's emissions within the San Francisco Air Basin are compared to the significance thresholds specified in the PND (see excerpt below), the Project's NO<sub>x</sub> emissions would result in a significant impact (p. 49).

**TABLE AQ-1  
AIR QUALITY THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Pollutant	Operational Thresholds for use within the SFBAAB	
	Average Daily Emissions (lbs./day)	Maximum Annual Emissions (tons/year)
ROG	54	10 <sup>a</sup>
NO <sub>x</sub>	54	10 <sup>a</sup>
PM <sub>10</sub>	82 <sup>b</sup>	15
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	54	10
Fugitive Dust	Not Applicable	
CO	CO concentrations of 9.0 ppm (8-hour average) and 20.0 ppm (1-hour average) as estimated by roadway vehicle volumes exceeding 44,000 vehicles per hour at any intersection.	

<sup>a</sup> Also applicable within the SVAB.

<sup>b</sup> YSAQMD significance threshold for PM<sub>10</sub> is 80 lbs./day.

SOURCE: BAAQMD, 2009; YSAQMD, 2007.

Furthermore, if the Project's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of 3,222.89 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year within the San Francisco Air Basin are compared to BAAQMD's GHG threshold of 1,100 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year, the emissions would result in a significant impact. An updated CEQA evaluation should be conducted to evaluate these impacts and to implement mitigation measures to address NO<sub>x</sub> and GHG emissions. Mitigation measures should be considered as discussed at the end of the following section.

### Incremental Emissions Not Adequately Considered

The Project's criteria air pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions are underestimated even further, due to incorrect assumptions made in the PND and associated "Air Quality and GHG Technical Report" (Technical Report). Specifically, the air quality analysis does not factor in additional haul truck trips that would reasonably be expected to occur in future years as San Francisco's population and subsequent waste volume continue to grow.

We conducted a preliminary analysis of the incremental increase in Project emissions due to this population growth, and compared it to existing emissions (as is conducted in the PND). Even though this methodology greatly underestimates the Project's total operational emissions, the results of our analysis still demonstrated that the GHG emissions, when population growth is accounted for, will exceed BAAQMD's significance threshold of 1,100 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year from 2019 – 2030.

The PND and the associated Technical Report disclose the various assumptions made to calculate Project greenhouse gas (GHG) and criteria air pollutant emissions. According to the PND, the number of daily truck trips and the total waste volume would stay the same under the Project, which is estimated to occur over a 15 year contract period (p. 4, 9). This statement is not justified, nor is it substantiated by any supporting documentation. Furthermore, the idea that the total waste volume, and consequent

daily truck trips, will remain unchanged for 15 years is unrealistic. The City of San Francisco has experienced a steady population increase every year for the past decade, and based on this trend, is most likely going to continue growing in future years. As a result, the waste volume produced by San Francisco is also going to increase, even with increased diversion efforts. Our review concludes that if the increase in population is included in the air quality calculations, the Project's GHG emissions in future years will exceed BAAQMD's threshold of 1,100 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year.<sup>1</sup> An updated CEQA evaluation should be prepared to account for the population growth that San Francisco will experience in future years, and should adjust the proposed Project's estimated daily truck trips and resultant emissions accordingly.

We used historical population data, population projections, waste volumes for San Francisco and the Altamont Landfill, and a number of other parameters specified in the PND and associated Technical Report to determine San Francisco's waste volume in future years. According to the PND and associated Technical Report, the proposed project would start in 2016 and operate for up to 15 years (Technical Report p. 2, PND p. 4); as a result, we calculated the waste volume, and subsequent emissions, for 2016 – 2030.

The PND discusses how they determined the number of daily truck trips Recology makes within a given year to the Altamont Landfill. The PND states:

"Recology owns and operates its own transfer truck fleet...these trucks have a maximum payload of about 24.5 tons. In 2012, Recology hauled 374,844 tons of San Francisco MSW to the Altamont Landfill. Based on the total tonnage hauled to Altamont Landfill and the capacity of each transfer truck, it took approximately 15,300 loads to reach this tonnage-- or 294 loads per week for 52 weeks. Based on a 6 day week (Recology typically hauls MSW loads from Sunday evening through Friday) this resulted in approximately 50 trucks (or round trips) per day hauling San Francisco MSW to the Altamont Landfill" (p. 6).

This 2012 waste volume of 374,844 tons was taken from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery's (CalRecycle) Disposal Reporting System (DRS),<sup>2</sup> which provides annual estimates of the disposal amounts for jurisdictions in California. The report shows the total amount disposed by the jurisdiction (San Francisco) at each disposal facility (Altamont Landfill) for a requested year.<sup>3</sup> According to the 2012 DRS report, San Francisco produced an estimated 454,570 tons of waste, of which 374,844 tons, or 82%, was disposed of at the Altamont Landfill.<sup>4</sup> Similarly, in 2013 San Francisco produced an estimated 476,424 tons of waste, of which 372,205 tons, or 78%, was disposed of

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1[http://www.baaqmd.gov/~media/Files/Planning%20and%20Research/CEQA/BAAQMD%20CEQA%20Guidelines\\_May%202011\\_5\\_3\\_11.ashx](http://www.baaqmd.gov/~media/Files/Planning%20and%20Research/CEQA/BAAQMD%20CEQA%20Guidelines_May%202011_5_3_11.ashx) p. 2-2

2<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/Viewer.aspx?P=OriginJurisdictionIDs%3d438%26ReportYear%3d2012%26ReportName%3dReportEDRSJurisDisposalByFacility>

3 <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/DRS/Destination/JurDspFa.aspx>

4<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/Viewer.aspx?P=OriginJurisdictionIDs%3d438%26ReportYear%3d2012%26ReportName%3dReportEDRSJurisDisposalByFacility>

at the Altamont Landfill.<sup>5</sup> Years prior to 2012 also exhibit the same trend in the amount of San Francisco's waste disposed of at the Altamont Landfill (see table below).

Reporting Year	Annual Disposal Amount (tons) San Francisco	Annual Disposal Amount (tons) Altamont Landfill	Percentage of Waste Allocated to Altamont Landfill
2008	594,660	498,382	84%
2009	484,812	406,417	84%
2010	455,332	383,104	84%
2011	446,634	374,202	84%
2012	454,570	374,844	82%
2013	476,424	372,205	78%
AVERAGE (2012 – 2013)			80%

Utilizing the results from these reports, it can be assumed that roughly 82 – 84% of San Francisco's waste was disposed of by Recology to the Altamont Landfill in past years. Taking the percentages from 2012 to 2013, we calculated an average value of 80%, which we then used to determine the approximate waste volume that would be disposed of at the proposed Recology Hay Road Landfill in future years. It should be noted that we limited this average value to the most recent years (2012 – 2013) to account for the increased recycling and composting activities that have occurred over the past decade.

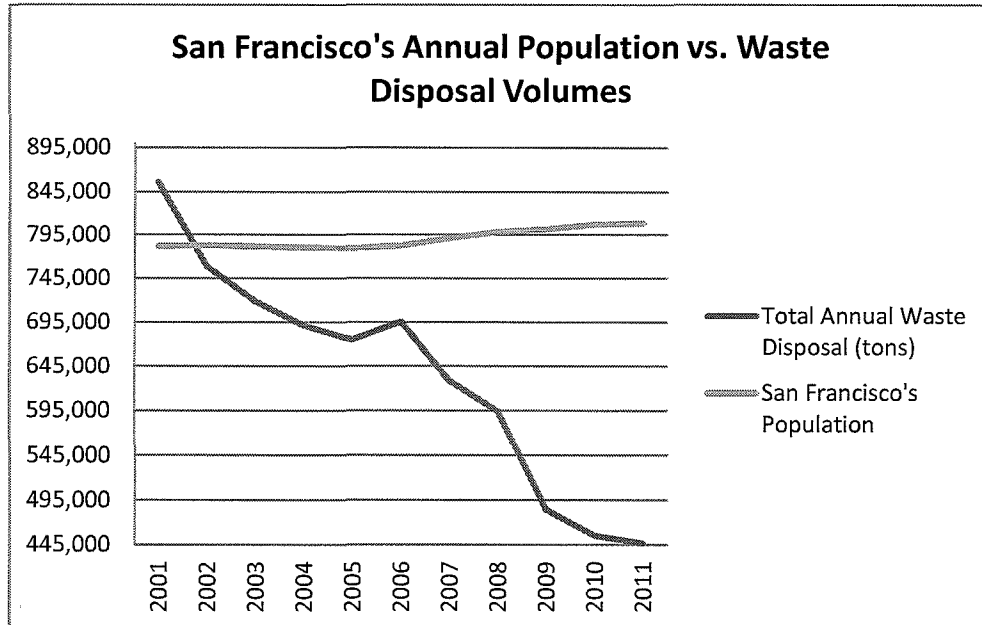
We then compared San Francisco's historical population<sup>6</sup> to the annual waste volume disposed by San Francisco.<sup>7</sup> As exhibited in the chart below, from 2001 to 2011, San Francisco's population steadily increased, but the waste disposed by San Francisco decreased. In 2001, the per capita disposal rate was approximately 6 pounds per person per day (lbs/person/day), and this value steadily decreased over the course of ten years, with the average per capita rate being approximately 4.6 lbs/person/day.

<sup>5</sup><http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/Viewer.aspx?P=OriginJurisdictionIDs%3d438%26ReportYear%3d2013%26ReportName%3dReportEDRSJurisDisposalByFacility>

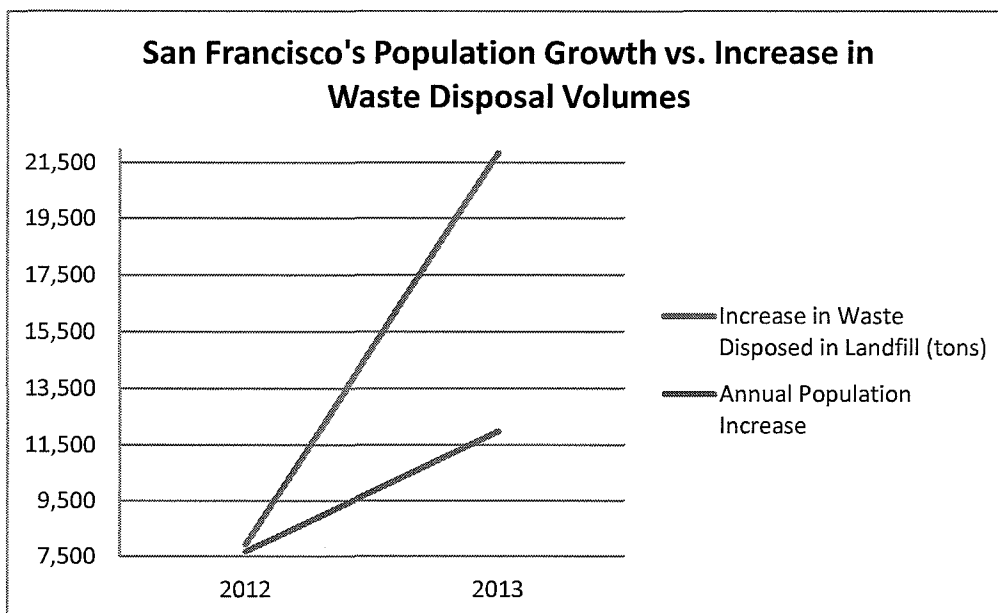
<sup>6</sup> <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/estimates/e-7/view.php>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/DRS/Destination/JurDspFa.aspx>





Conversely, in 2012 and 2013, San Francisco's population and waste volume increased (see chart below).



This trend indicates that even with the implementation of recycling and composting, the waste volume has increased in recent years and will most likely increase in future years as the population increases. The lowest per capita disposal rate occurred in 2011, with a rate of approximately 3 lbs/person/day. Since then, this rate has slowly, but steadily increased each year. Furthermore, in recent years, average recycling commodity prices have decreased drastically.<sup>89</sup> From 2013 to 2014, recycling prices dropped

<sup>89</sup> <http://www.recyclingtoday.com/rt0515-ferrous-scrap-processors-challenges.aspx>

by 23.7%, and in early 2015, prices decreased by 14%.<sup>10</sup> As a result, recycling programs for private waste management companies are less profitable. If recycling commodity prices continue to decline, recycling plants will continue to shut down, and rates of waste diversion will begin to decrease. For these reasons, we used the average of these two most recent years, exclusively.

CalRecycle's DRS only has disposal reports for 2013 or earlier; as a result, we had to use additional resources to estimate the waste volume for future years. The Demographic Research Unit of the California Department of Finance is designated as the single official source of demographic data for state planning. This department provides publicly available reports on population estimates from cities, counties, and the state according to year. It also provides population projections for future years. We utilized data from the following reports to determine the City of San Francisco's past, present, and future population: (1) "E-1 Cities, Counties, and the State Population Estimates with Annual Percent Change – January 1, 2014 and 2015;"<sup>11</sup> (2) "E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, 2011-2015, with 2010 Census Benchmark;"<sup>12</sup> and (3) "P-3 Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity, Detailed Age, and Gender, 2010 – 2060."<sup>13</sup> The values from these reports are summarized in the table below.

Reporting Year	Population
2014	834,903
2015	845,602
2016	857,106
2017	865,639
2018	874,210
2019	882,831
2020	891,493
2021	899,992
2022	908,342
2023	916,398
2024	924,332
2025	932,109
2026	939,662
2027	947,118
2028	954,231
2029	960,992
2030	967,405

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9 <http://www.houstonchronicle.com/business/article/Waste-Management-continues-to-struggle-with-6085567.php>

10 <http://www.wastedive.com/news/waste-management-q1-results-sink-under-divestitures-recycling-prices/392679/>

11 <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/estimates/e-1/view.php>

12 <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/estimates/e-4/2011-20/view.php>

13 <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/projections/P-3/>

For the years where both the waste volume and population data were available, we determined a per person disposal rate, and then used this disposal rate to determine San Francisco's annual disposal amount for years where waste data was lacking. It should be noted that the methodology used to calculate a per person disposal rate is consistent with methods used by CalRecycle.<sup>14</sup> For example, in 2010, CalRecycle determined a disposal rate of 3 lbs/person/day by taking the total waste volume disposed by San Francisco, and dividing it by the population.<sup>15</sup>

The results of our calculations for 2014 - 2015 are summarized in the table below. The values in italics indicate data taken from a source (CalRecycle and the California Department of Finance); the underlined values were derived from this data. As you can see, the disposal rates are similar to the 2010 value.

Reporting Year	Population	Annual Disposal Amount (tons) San Francisco	Annual Disposal Amount (tons) Altamont Landfill	Percentage of Waste Allocated to Altamont Landfill	Disposal Rate (lbs/person/day)
2012	816,446	454,570	374,844	82%	<u>3.1</u>
2013	828,440	476,424	372,205	78%	<u>3.2</u>
2014	834,903	<u>468,685</u>	<u>374,948</u>	-	-
2015	845,602	<u>474,691</u>	<u>379,753</u>	-	-
-	-	-	AVERAGE VALUE	80%	<u>3.1</u>

According to the PND, a typical Recology transfer truck has a maximum payload (maximum tonnage that can be loaded into a trailer) of 24.5 tons (p. 6). We used this value, along with the values listed above, to determine the number of additional daily haul trips that would occur from 2016 - 2030, as a result of San Francisco's increasing population. The results of our calculations are summarized in the table below.

Reporting Year	Population	Estimated Annual Disposal Amount (tons)	Estimated Annual Disposal Amount (tons) Proposed Landfill	Hauling Trips Per Day (Round Trip)	Tons of Waste Per Haul
2014	834,903	468,685	376,321	50	24.5
2015	845,602	474,691	381,143	50	24.5
2016	857,106	481,149	386,329	50	24.5
2017	865,639	485,939	390,175	51	24.5
2018	874,210	490,750	394,038	51	24.5
2019	882,831	495,590	397,924	52	24.5
2020	891,493	500,452	401,828	52	24.5
2021	899,992	505,223	405,659	53	24.5
2022	908,342	509,911	409,422	53	24.5

14 <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/Jurisdiction/DiversionDisposal.aspx>

15 <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/DiversionProgram/JurisdictionDiversionDetail.aspx?JurisdictionID=438&Year=2010>

<b>2023</b>	916,398	514,433	413,054	54	24.5
<b>2024</b>	924,332	518,887	416,630	54	24.5
<b>2025</b>	932,109	523,253	420,135	55	24.5
<b>2026</b>	939,662	527,493	423,539	55	24.5
<b>2027</b>	947,118	531,678	426,900	56	24.5
<b>2028</b>	954,231	535,671	430,106	56	24.5
<b>2029</b>	960,992	539,466	433,154	57	24.5
<b>2030</b>	967,405	543,066	436,044	57	24.5

At the current rates of disposal, the PND estimates that the agreement would have a term of up 15 years to allow for the disposal of 5 million tons of MSW (p. 4). However, they do not take into account San Francisco's population growth, nor do they consider the decrease (or rather lack of change) in recycling rates in recent years. As a result, the proposed agreement may not last the full 15 years, as originally anticipated. Based on the projected annual waste volumes listed above for the proposed landfill, from 2016 – 2030 (15 years) the estimated total waste volume would be approximately 6.1 million tons. From 2016 – 2027, the estimated total waste volume would be roughly 4.9 million tons, and from 2016 – 2028, the total waste volume would be roughly 5.3 million. As a result, the total duration of the proposed Project may be cut short by three to four years; however, for the purpose of this analysis, we assumed a period of 15 years.

Each additional truck trip per day results in roughly 313 additional truck trips annually, assuming a six day work week (see table below).<sup>16</sup> As a result, the emissions from these additional truck trips have the ability to make a significant impact on the regional air quality within Sacramento Valley and the Bay Area.

<b>Reporting Year</b>	<b>Hauling Trips Per Day (Round Trip)</b>	<b>Additional Haul Trips Per Day</b>	<b>Additional Annual Haul Trips</b>
<b>2014</b>	50	0	0
<b>2015</b>	50	0	0
<b>2016</b>	50	0	0
<b>2017</b>	51	1	313
<b>2018</b>	51	1	313
<b>2019</b>	52	2	626
<b>2020</b>	52	2	626
<b>2021</b>	53	3	939
<b>2022</b>	53	3	939
<b>2023</b>	54	4	1,252
<b>2024</b>	54	4	1,252
<b>2025</b>	55	5	1,565

<sup>16</sup> The full length of these additional truck trips need to be considered in the environmental analysis, including the additional local transportation impacts of these additional trips.

<b>2026</b>	55	5	1,565
<b>2027</b>	56	6	1,877
<b>2028</b>	56	6	1,877
<b>2029</b>	57	7	2,190
<b>2030</b>	57	7	2,190

The Technical Report provides the emission rates, adjustment factors, formulas, and other parameters used to calculate the proposed and existing Project's emissions (p. 15 - 25). We used these values and applied them to the estimated daily haul trips for each year the proposed Project will be in operation. We then calculated the net difference between the existing Project emissions and the proposed Project emissions. The results of our calculations are summarized in the table below, and the calculation details can be found in **Attachment A**.

Operational Year	Daily Hauling Trips	Project Scenario Emissions per Air Basin	Incremental Increase in Proposed Project Annual Emissions (San Francisco and Sacramento Air Basins Combined)					
			<i>tons/year (except for CO<sub>2</sub>e, which is in MT/year)</i>					
-	Round Trip per Day	-	ROG	CO	NOx	CO <sub>2</sub> e	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
2016 (Current Conditions)	50	Proposed - SF	1.11	3.89	15.09	3,357	1.06	0.41
		Proposed - Sacramento	0.18	0.63	2.43	539	0.17	0.07
		Existing - SF (2014)	0.89	2.98	12.39	2,942	0.90	0.34
		<b>Total Net Difference</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>5.13</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0.14</b>
2017 - 2018	51	Proposed - SF	1.13	3.97	15.39	3,424	1.08	0.42
		Proposed - Sacramento	0.18	0.64	2.48	550	0.17	0.07
		Existing - SF (2014)	0.89	2.98	12.39	2,942	0.90	0.34
		<b>Total Net Difference</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>1.63</b>	<b>5.48</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.15</b>
2019 - 2020	52	Proposed - SF	1.15	4.05	15.69	3,491	1.11	0.43
		Proposed - Sacramento	0.18	0.65	2.53	561	0.18	0.07
		Existing - SF (2014)	0.89	2.98	12.39	2,942	0.90	0.34
		<b>Total Net Difference</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>1.72</b>	<b>5.83</b>	<b>1,110</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>0.16</b>
2021 - 2022	53	Proposed - SF	1.18	4.13	15.99	3,559	1.13	0.43
		Proposed - Sacramento	0.19	0.66	2.58	572	0.18	0.07
		Existing - SF (2014)	0.89	2.98	12.39	2,942	0.90	0.34
		<b>Total Net Difference</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>1.81</b>	<b>6.18</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>0.17</b>
2023 - 2024	54	Proposed - SF	1.20	4.20	16.29	3,626	1.15	0.44
		Proposed - Sacramento	0.19	0.68	2.63	583	0.19	0.07
		Existing - SF (2014)	0.89	2.98	12.39	2,942	0.90	0.34
		<b>Total Net Difference</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>1.90</b>	<b>6.53</b>	<b>1,266</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.18</b>
2025 - 2026	55	Proposed - SF	1.22	4.28	16.60	3,693	1.17	0.45
		Proposed - Sacramento	0.20	0.69	2.67	593	0.19	0.07
		Existing - SF (2014)	0.89	2.98	12.39	2,942	0.90	0.34

		<b>Total Net Difference</b>	<b>0.52</b>	<b>1.99</b>	<b>6.88</b>	<b>1,344</b>	<b>0.46</b>	<b>0.19</b>
2027 - 2028	56	Proposed - SF	1.24	4.36	16.90	3,760	1.19	0.46
		Proposed - Sacramento	0.20	0.70	2.72	604	0.19	0.07
		Existing - SF (2014)	0.89	2.98	12.39	2,942	0.90	0.34
		<b>Total Net Difference</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>2.08</b>	<b>7.23</b>	<b>1,422</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.19</b>
2029 - 2030	57	Proposed - SF	1.27	4.44	17.20	3,827	1.21	0.47
		Proposed - Sacramento	0.20	0.71	2.77	615	0.20	0.08
		Existing - SF (2014)	0.89	2.98	12.39	2,942	0.90	0.34
		<b>Total Net Difference</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>2.17</b>	<b>7.58</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>0.20</b>

The results of our analysis indicate that from 2019 until 2030, the GHG emissions from the proposed Project, compared to the existing Project's emissions, will exceed BAAQMD's 1,100 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year threshold<sup>17</sup>, and as a result, will have a significant impact.

Additional mitigation measures, specific to the reduction of mobile source GHG emissions, are proposed in CAPCOA's *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures*,<sup>18</sup> and should be considered in a subsequent analysis. Measures specified in CAPCOA's guidance document are more stringent and prescriptive than those measures identified in the PND, and provide many simple design features, that when combined together, optimize GHG emissions reductions. An updated CEQA evaluation should be prepared to include additional mitigation measures, as well as include an updated air quality assessment to ensure that the necessary mitigation measures are implemented to reduce GHG mobile source emissions to below BAAQMD thresholds.

### Project Conflicts with GHG Reduction Targets

The PND compares the proposed Project's GHG emissions to the targets set forth by AB 32 Scoping Plan, BAAQMD's 2010 Climate Action Plan (CAP), and the Solano County CAP (p. 65). The PND determines Project compliance with transportation measures specified in the AB 32 Scoping Plan by assuring that Recology is in the process of phasing in cleaner vehicles into their fleet in future years. This proposed fleet update is not supported by documentation or any details, such as phase in year, number of trucks added, number of trucks removed, total fleet size in future years etc., and it also contradicts Project details described in the both the PND and the associated Technical Report. The proposed Project does not disclose the necessary information needed to actually conclude compliance with targets discussed in the AB 32 Scoping Plan. An updated CEQA evaluation should be conducted to address this issue, and mitigate, where necessary.

<sup>17</sup>[http://www.baaqmd.gov/~media/Files/Planning%20and%20Research/CEQA/BAAQMD%20CEQA%20Guidelines\\_May%202011\\_5\\_3\\_11.ashx](http://www.baaqmd.gov/~media/Files/Planning%20and%20Research/CEQA/BAAQMD%20CEQA%20Guidelines_May%202011_5_3_11.ashx) p. 2-2

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/CAPCOA-Quantification-Report-9-14-Final.pdf>

The PND compares the proposed Project's GHG emissions to the targets set forth by AB 32 Scoping Plan Update for transportation-related GHG emissions.<sup>19</sup> The PND states:

"The AB 32 Scoping Plan and Scoping Plan Update include four transportation-related strategies for reduction of GHGs and criteria pollutants: (1) improve vehicle efficiency and develop zero emission technologies, (2) reduce the carbon content of fuels and provide market support to get these lower-carbon fuels into the marketplace, (3) plan and build communities to reduce vehicular GHG emissions and provide more transportation options, and (4) improve the efficiency and throughput of existing transportation systems" (p. 69).

The PND concludes that the Project would comply with the above measures because "currently, eleven trucks in Recology's fleet run on liquefied natural gas (LNG), and Recology is in the process of phasing in additional transfer vehicles that run on LNG or compressed natural gas (CNG)...the proposed project is therefore consistent with the Scoping Plan Update's emphasis on reducing GHG emissions from heavy-duty trucks" (p. 70).

Specifics on these proposed fleet additions are not disclosed, and supporting documentation to back up these claims is not provided. As a result, we are not able to verify the actuality of this claim, nor are we able to determine the extent of which these proposed additions will occur. Important details are omitted from the PND, such as the number of trucks added to Recology's fleet, the proposed year these new trucks will be implemented, the financial feasibility of these additional trucks, the size of Recology's fleet after the addition of these trucks, the resultant increase in daily truck trips if the fleet is enlarged etc. Without these details, it cannot be determined whether or not the proposed Project conflicts with AB 32's Scoping Plan Update.

These details are also crucial in determining the Project's air quality and GHG impacts. For example, if these additional trucks result in a larger truck fleet, the daily hauling trips will most likely increase, and subsequently, the Project's emissions. Furthermore, without knowing the year these trucks will be added, there is no way to determine the Project's compliance with the Scoping Plan. Because the Project is being compared to the current agreement, reductions in GHG emissions would have to occur during the Project's first year of operation. As a result, these additional trucks would need to be phased into Recology's fleet and in operation by 2016.

These proposed fleet additions present conflicting ideas within the PND and associated Technical Report. The Technical Report specifies that the "existing truck fleet and number of daily trips" would stay the same under the proposed Project, and uses this fact as a basis for calculating the Project's potential emissions and for determining the Project's air quality and GHG impacts (p. 2). Furthermore, the PND states that "the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the San Francisco Transfer Station, Recology's Recycle Central Facility, and the truck hauling fleet currently used to transport San Francisco waste would enter into one or more agreements for the transportation and disposal of 5 million tons of San

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19 [http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/2013\\_update/first\\_update\\_climate\\_change\\_scoping\\_plan.pdf](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/2013_update/first_update_climate_change_scoping_plan.pdf)

Francisco MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill” (p. 1). If these facilities and the current fleet are entering into the proposed agreement, exclusively, the addition of cleaner transfer trucks cannot be used as a way to show compliance with the AB 32 Scoping Plan Update.

The PND attempts to further justify the Project’s compliance with AB 32’s Scoping Plan Update. The PND states that “because the proposed project’s GHG emissions would be below the quantitative significance threshold of 1,100 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year...the proposed project would contribute to meeting the SFBAAB’s fair share of emission reductions for the year 2020.” This statement, as presented by the analysis conducted in the previous section, may not hold true. According to our analysis, GHG emissions from 2019 – 2030 would result in a significant impact. Furthermore, it is not clear if these truck additions would result in a larger fleet. If so, the daily hauling trips would increase, and as a result, both the emissions calculated in the Technical Report and the emissions calculated in the previous section, underestimate the proposed Project’s potential emissions.

The PND also does not quantify or implement reduction targets for the proposed Project, which are specified in AB 32. AB 32 requires California to reduce its GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, a reduction of approximately 15 percent below emissions expected under the “business as usual” scenario.<sup>20</sup> Since the PND treats the proposed new contract as a change in existing conditions, and not as two entirely different entities, the PND should demonstrate that this proposed Project “update” would result in a minimum 15 percent reduction in GHG emissions.

Furthermore, Governor Brown recently issued an executive order to establish an even more ambitious GHG reduction target. Executive Order B-30-15<sup>21</sup> requires emissions reductions above those mandated by AB 32 to reduce GHG emissions 40 percent below their 1990 levels by 2030. The newly-stated GHG reductions target should also be considered as a threshold of significance against which to measure Project impacts. The analysis would need to translate the new statewide targets into a project specific threshold against which Project GHG emissions are compared. An environmental impact report should be prepared to quantify any reductions expected to be achieved by mitigation measures, shown by substantial evidence that such measures will be effective and should demonstrate how the reductions will reduce the emissions below the significance threshold adopted.

### Health Risk from Diesel Particulate Matter Inadequately Evaluated

The PND conducted a health risk assessment, and determined that the cancer risk from the proposed Project would be less than significant. Several incorrect assumptions were made in calculating the potential health risk. First, the PND and associated Technical Report use the model CALINE4 to predict a maximum 1-hour diesel particulate matter concentration from the Project’s daily truck trips. CALINE4, however, should only be used for carbon monoxide (CO) analyses in California. Second, as previously mentioned, the incremental increase in daily truck trips that would occur as a result of San Francisco’s

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<sup>20</sup> <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/ab32/ab32.htm>

<sup>21</sup> <http://gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=18938>



growing population was not taken into account; as a result, the health risk calculated in the PND is underestimated. Our review of the estimated Project emissions of diesel particulate matter (DPM) determined that significant air quality impacts may be generated through the use of diesel-fueled hauling trucks to and from the site.

The PND's Technical Report conducts a health risk assessment using the CALINE4 model. However, according to the California Department of Transportation "CALINE4 is only accepted by U.S. EPA for CO analysis in California; for other pollutants... use CAL3QHCR or AERMOD."<sup>22</sup> For particulate matter hot spot analyses, the EPA has specified the models and procedures to be used for conformity purposes, and recommends the use of the CAL3QHCR line-source model for simple highway and intersection projects, and the AERMOD dispersion model for complex highway projects.<sup>23</sup> Therefore, in an effort to accurately estimate the potential health risk posed to sensitive receptors from the proposed Project, we used AERSCREEN, the screening version of the AERMOD model, to conduct our analysis.

Furthermore, the screening-level health risk assessment conducted in the PND and associated Technical Report does not account for the incremental increase in daily truck trips, and subsequent DPM emissions, that would occur as a result of San Francisco's growing population in future years. As a result, the cancer risk is underestimated. In our analysis, we corrected for this underestimation and calculated the cancer risk for the duration of the Project using emission rates that account for this steady increase in emissions every year.

As of 2011, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) recommends AERSCREEN as the leading air dispersion model, due to improvements in simulating local meteorological conditions based on simple input parameters.<sup>24</sup> The model replaced SCREEN3, which is included in OEHHA<sup>25</sup> and CAPCOA<sup>26</sup> guidance as the appropriate air dispersion model for Level 2 health risk screening assessments (HRSAs). A Level 2 HRA utilizes a limited amount of site-specific information to generate maximum reasonable downwind concentrations of air contaminants to which nearby sensitive receptors may be exposed. If an unacceptable air quality hazard is determined to be possible using AERSCREEN, a more refined modeling approach is required prior to approval of the Project.

The AERSCREEN model relies on a continuous average emission rate to simulate maximum downwind concentrations from point, area, and volume emission sources. To account for the variability in hauling truck usage over the course of an operational year, we calculated an average DPM emission rate by the following equation.

$$Emission\ Rate\ \left(\frac{grams}{second}\right) = \frac{tons}{year} \times \frac{2000\ lbs}{ton} \times \frac{453.6\ grams}{lb} \times \frac{312.9\ days}{year} \times \frac{1\ day}{24\ hours} \times \frac{1\ hour}{3,600\ seconds}$$

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22 <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/air/software/caline4/calinesw.htm>

23 <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/air/pages/qualpm.htm>

24 [http://www.epa.gov/ttn/scram/guidance/clarification/20110411\\_AERSCREEN\\_Release\\_Memo.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/scram/guidance/clarification/20110411_AERSCREEN_Release_Memo.pdf)

25 [http://oehha.ca.gov/air/hot\\_spots/pdf/HRAguidefinal.pdf](http://oehha.ca.gov/air/hot_spots/pdf/HRAguidefinal.pdf)

26 [http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/CAPCOA\\_HRA\\_LU\\_Guidelines\\_8-6-09.pdf](http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/CAPCOA_HRA_LU_Guidelines_8-6-09.pdf)

We then used the average emission rate and applied it to the total anticipated Project duration. The results of our calculation are summarized in the table below.

Year	Exhaust PM10 Emissions (tons/year)	Exhaust PM10 Emissions (g/sec)
2016	1.23	0.041
2017	1.26	0.042
2018	1.26	0.042
2019	1.28	0.043
2020	1.28	0.043
2021	1.31	0.044
2022	1.31	0.044
2023	1.33	0.045
2024	1.33	0.045
2025	1.36	0.046
2026	1.36	0.046
2027	1.38	0.046
2028	1.38	0.046
2029	1.41	0.047
2030	1.41	0.047
<b>AVERAGE</b>		<b>0.044</b>

We modeled the route taken by these trucks as a volume source, and used an initial lateral dimension of 100 meters to represent one link of the freeway at any given time during the 155 mile trip length. A volume height of three meters was selected to represent the height of exhaust stacks on heavy duty trucks, and an initial vertical dimension of 1.5 meters was used to simulate instantaneous plume dispersion upon release. An urban meteorological setting was selected with model-default inputs for wind speed and direction distribution.

The AERSCREEN model generated maximum reasonable estimates of single-hour downwind DPM concentrations from the Project. USEPA guidance suggests that in screening procedures, the annualized average concentration of an air pollutant may be estimated by multiplying the single-hour concentration by 10%.<sup>27</sup> The maximum single-hour downwind concentration in the AERSCREEN output was approximately 2.10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> DPM 216 meters downwind. The annualized average concentration for the sensitive receptors was estimated to be 0.21 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

We calculated excess cancer risks for adults, children, and infant receptors using applicable HRA methodologies prescribed by OEHHA. OEHHA recommends the use of Age Sensitivity Factors (ASFs) to account for the heightened susceptibility of young children to the carcinogenic toxicity of air pollution.<sup>28</sup> According to the revised guidance, quantified cancer risk should be multiplied by a factor of ten during

27 [http://www.epa.gov/ttn/scram/guidance/guide/EPA-454R-92-019\\_OCR.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/scram/guidance/guide/EPA-454R-92-019_OCR.pdf)

28 [http://oehha.ca.gov/air/hot\\_spots/pdf/2012tsd/Chapter11\\_2012.pdf](http://oehha.ca.gov/air/hot_spots/pdf/2012tsd/Chapter11_2012.pdf)

the first two years of life (infant), and by a factor of three for the subsequent fourteen years of life (child greater than two until sixteen). The results of our calculations are shown below.

Parameter	Description	Units	Adult Exposure	Child	Infant
Cair	Concentration	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.21	0.21	0.21
DBR	Daily breathing rate	L/kg-day	302	581	581
EF	Exposure Frequency	days/year	350	350	350
ED	Exposure Duration	years	15	14	2
AT	Averaging Time	days	25550	25550	25550
	Inhaled Dose	(mg/kg-day)	1.3E-05	2.2E-05	3.3E-06
CPF	Cancer Potency Factor	1/(mg/kg-day)	1.1	1.1	1.1
ASF	Age Sensitivity Factor	-	1	3	10
<b>Cancer Risk</b>			<b>1.43E-05</b>	<b>7.72E-05</b>	<b>3.68E-05</b>

The excess cancer risk to adults, children, and infants are 14.3, 77.2, and 36.8 in one million, respectively. Consistent with OEHHA guidance, exposure was assumed to begin in the infantile stage of life to provide the most conservative estimate of air quality hazards. It should be noted that the infant exposure duration was limited to two years, as the ASF of 10 can only be applied to the first two years of life. Similarly, I limited the exposure duration for a child to 14 years, as the ASF of 3 can only be applied to a child greater than two years old up to 16 years.

Even with these shortened exposure durations for children and infants, the cancer risk posed to sensitive receptors located approximately 200 meters from the proposed truck route, for all three age categories, exceeds BAAQMD's significance threshold of 10 in one million. A refined health risk assessment should therefore be prepared to examine air quality impacts generated by the Project using site-specific meteorology and specific truck usage schedules. Our calculations demonstrate that the Project poses a significant health risk due to DPM emissions. Therefore, an updated CEQA evaluation should be completed and adequate mitigation measures and alternatives should be evaluated for the Project.

## Conclusion

The PND does not adequately assess the proposed Project's air quality and greenhouse gas impacts, nor does it effectively demonstrate compliance will applicable greenhouse gas reduction targets. The PND incorrectly compares the emissions from the existing contract with Altamont Landfill to the proposed new contract with Recology Hay Road Landfill; as a result, the proposed Project's emissions are underestimated. Moreover, the PND does not account for the incremental increase in daily haul trips and subsequent emissions that will most likely occur in future years, as San Francisco's population and waste volume grow. The PND inadequately evaluates the potential health risk posed to sensitive receptors located near the proposed truck route. Due to each and all of these shortcomings, an EIR

should be prepared to address and correct for these issues, and should implement mitigation measures, where necessary.

Prepared by:

Matt Hagemann, P.G., C.Hg.

Jessie Jaeger

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M Hagemann".A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "JJ".

**SFGATE** <http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/Three-Bay-Area-counties-among-the-fastest-growing-6236798.php>

## 3 Bay Area counties among fastest growing in state

By Melody Gutierrez Updated 4:52 pm, Friday, May 1, 2015



IMAGE 1 OF 6

A crowd crosses Harrison Street at Second Street in San Francisco.

SACRAMENTO — The Bay Area's nine counties added 85,000 residents last year as California saw modest 1 percent growth statewide, according to new estimates released Friday.

State Department of Finance data show California gained 358,000 residents in 2014 to bring the state's total population to 38.7 million. Three of the five fastest-growing counties in the state were in the Bay Area — San Francisco, Alameda and Contra Costa, while Dublin was one of the fastest-growing cities in California.

“This has been a period when the Bay Area economy has been expanding and pulling people in to work in those jobs and participate in that,” said Cynthia Kroll, chief economist at the Association of Bay Area Governments. “There has been huge pressure on the housing market, particularly in San Francisco, but also in the East Bay.”

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Los Angeles and San Diego led the state in net housing growth, adding a combined 13,500 units last year, while San Jose (4,400 units) and San Francisco (3,500 units) followed. In San Francisco, where the housing crunch has led to soaring rental prices, the city's net housing last year jumped 50 percent compared with the 2,400 units gained in 2013.

The 5,900 units over the past two years come as San Francisco added 21,000 people during that time.

Statewide, net housing additions increased 17 percent in 2014, with 69,000 units added, compared with 59,000 in 2013.

Weed (Siskiyou County) saw the largest population decline among cities last year with 8.8 percent, a direct result of housing lost in the Boles Fire. More than 150 homes were lost in the September fire, accounting for a third of the small lumber town's residences.

"Many of the displaced families left the city of Weed, but not the county," said John Malson, chief of demographic research for the Department of Finance. "Weed suffered a large population decline from that. If they rebuild, we expect that to pick up."

In all, 421 cities added residents, while 61 cities saw declines or stayed the same.

The largest cities in the state are Los Angeles, which has 3.9 million people after growing by 43,000 last year, and San Diego, which has a population of 1.4 million people after adding 20,000 people. San Jose, the state's third-largest city, added 14,000 people last year to bring its total to more than a million people.

San Francisco is the state's fourth-largest city, with 845,602 people after increasing by 10,700.

San Joaquin County saw the largest percentage increase of the 58 counties after growing 1.5 percent, followed by Imperial County near the California-Mexico border, San Francisco, Alameda and Contra Costa, which each grew 1.3 percent.

Taft (Kern County) was the fastest-growing city in the state, after a community corrections facility was reopened and spurred a 6.3 percent population increase. New housing spurred population increases in Sand City in Monterey County (5.8 percent), Dublin in Alameda County

(4.5 percent) and Imperial in Imperial County (4.1 percent).

“The state has had steady growth for several years, although it’s showing a little more robust growth since the recession,” Malson said.

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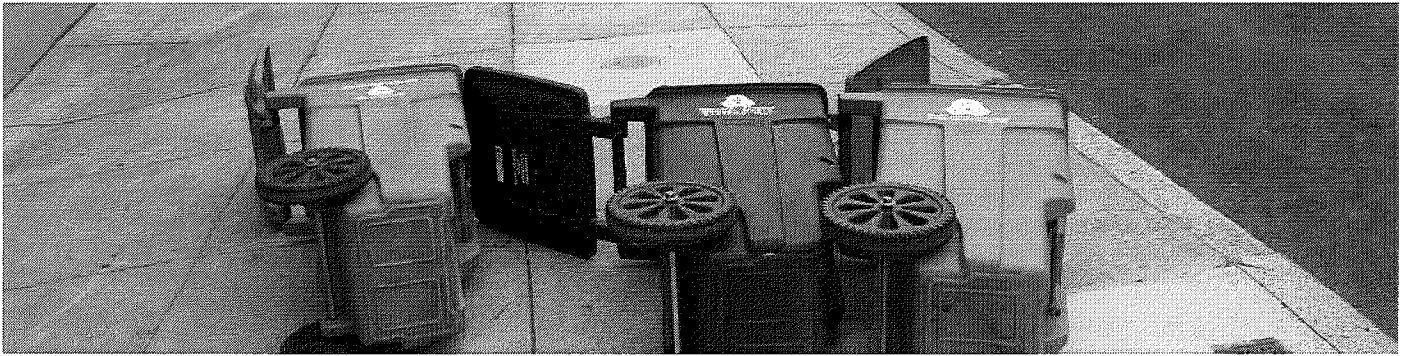
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## San Francisco Stalls In Its Attempt To Go Trash-Free

By CARL BIALIK

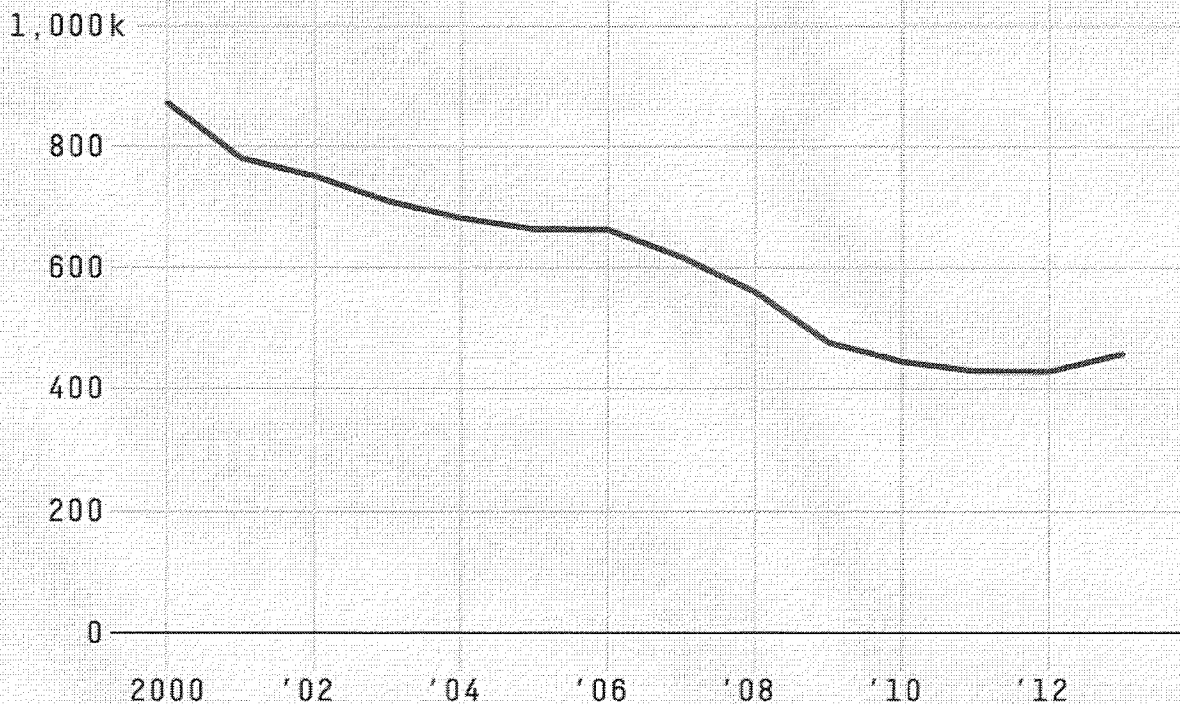
San Francisco has gotten kudos from the global press for its efforts to eliminate waste. Mayor Ed Lee has boasted that his city diverts a greater percentage of its waste from the landfill than any other in the country. San Francisco's environment department, down the street from Twitter and sharing a building with Uber, features art made from reclaimed refuse and a five-bin system for its employees to minimize trash.

But sitting at his desk on a recent weekday, the city's zero waste manager, Robert Haley, pulled out a piece of paper that contained some troubling stats. After 12 years of consecutive declines, last year the city sent more tons of trash to landfills than it did in 2012: 456,764 tons, or about three pounds per day per resident.



## San Francisco's Garbage

Annual tons of waste that didn't get recycled or composted



FIVETHIRTYEIGHT

SOURCE: SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

That leaves San Francisco further from what was always an aspirational and probably unattainable goal of zero waste going to landfills or incinerators by 2020.

"I think it's extremely ambitious," Haley said of the goal. "It would be hard for me with a straight face to say, 'In six years, nothing is going to go to the landfill.' But we want to get as close as we can to that."

San Francisco's stall shows that a city's biggest obstacle to achieving big goals may be the people it serves. No matter how progressive the people are, how long they've had to assimilate the mission, how convenient it is to use the freely provided recycling and composting bins, how strong the law is that mandates composting, some city residents just keep tossing items into the trash that they shouldn't.

Even at the environment department's office, employees don't always get the sorting right. As Haley walked around the floor giving me a tour, he stopped to move an item that had been placed in the wrong bin.

"It's complicated," Haley said. "We used to say, back in the old days, recycling is simple. Now we're telling people they have to compost food scraps." Thousands of items are recyclable — too many to show them all in pictures on or near bins. "Recycling is more complicated. Composting is more complicated. It's a very complex world."

Haley thinks the city can cut its landfill totals in half through education and incentives. The owners of single-family homes pay more than 12 times as much each month for a 32-gallon trash bin as they do for recycling and composting bins. And they can save more than \$9 per month by switching from a 32-gallon trash bin to a 20-gallon bin. "We don't need a lot of programs and policies here," he said. "We need a lot better participation."

To see the situation for myself, I walked about seven miles on an east-west route covering Potrero Hill, the Mission, the Castro, Cole Valley and Twin Peaks. Most of the oversize bins were for recycling, not trash. I counted over 230 bins of all sizes, the majority of them for composting and recycling. But 77 were trash bins. San Francisco must get that number to zero in six years to achieve its self-assigned mission.

### **The distraction of diversion rates**

Many upbeat articles on the zero-waste project — and Lee himself — don't stress the tonnage numbers. Instead, they talk about the percentage of waste that is diverted from landfills. In San Francisco, it reached 80 percent in 2010, a figure that continues to be cited to this day.

The only trouble is, San Francisco was using an unconventional method of tallying its diversion rate, one that counted heavy construction waste such as rock and crushed concrete.

Many other cities don't count this category of construction waste in their diversion rates. Using that method, Samantha MacBride, assistant professor at the Baruch College School of Public Affairs in New York, calculated in an article that San Francisco's diversion rate is closer to 60 percent than 80 percent.

Recycling managers from other North American cities "have written to me to thank me for writing the piece because they get compared to San Francisco in an unreasonable way," MacBride said in a telephone interview. Others sent less friendly messages, questioning whether she opposed recycling. She said she has nothing against San Francisco. "One comes across as being an enemy of recycling, a naysayer" for questioning the figures, she said. "San Francisco has this kind of holy status."

Haley acknowledged that San Francisco included heavy construction debris in its diversion rate. He hasn't redone the calculation in four years, preferring to focus on reducing tonnage, which is, after all, the subject of the zero-waste target.

The 80 percent figure, Haley said, is "the kind of number that PR people and politicians like to say. I said, 'I would downplay that,' because eventually people will start coming at you" — as they have in recent articles in Bloomberg View and the San Francisco Bay Guardian questioning the stat.

It's probably inevitable that some cities would put a positive spin on their diversion numbers, given the expectations of the public and state oversight agencies. Mike Ewall, founder and director of Energy Justice Network, a Philadelphia-based environmental group, says some cities take credit for preventing waste they say would have happened without their interventions. Or they take credit for the interventions themselves. Maryland, for example, gives cities a boost of up to 5 percentage points for its educational programs; Oregon gives up to 6 percentage points for educational programs, promotion of home composting and other activities.<sup>1</sup>

"Comparing within California is tricky," Haley said. "Comparing with other states is really, really hard."

### **A whistleblower questions the stats**

But some say San Francisco has gone beyond mere spin. Brian McVeigh, a former employee of Recology, the city's waste management contractor, accused the company in a whistleblower lawsuit of fudging some numbers in order to receive incentive bonuses. He said he once saw Recology employees jackhammer concrete at a company waste facility, then truck the concrete in to be recycled. "That was pretty brazen, right in everybody's face," he said in a telephone interview. He also claims to have seen people walk in with 10 cans and leave with a receipt for \$500 in recycled goods, a fraud which he said "absolutely" affected the diversion numbers.

Such practices show that the zero-waste campaign "is a make-me-feel-good thing," McVeigh said. "We all want to feel good. ... There's good work being done. There's potential to do better."

In June, the jury in McVeigh's suit compelled Recology to repay the city \$1.37 million that it undeservedly received as a bonus for meeting a diversion goal.

In a statement, Recology noted the jury cleared the company on four of five counts of false claims to the city, and of all 154 counts of false claims to the state. "We will be appealing the one verdict, as the facts simply do not support it," company spokesman Sam Singer said.

"Anytime someone accuses Recology or us of something, we take it really seriously," Haley said. He heard from jurors that many felt Recology wasn't sharing everything it could with the city. "I'm using that as way to get to Recology to be more forthcoming."

He's also assigning staff to go through court documents looking for anything worth following up. "We haven't found anything substantive so far," a spokeswoman said. Haley doubts the company would risk its monopoly over the city's permits, worth roughly \$300 million in annual Recology revenue.<sup>2</sup>

Even if the 80 percent figure is accurate, San Francisco would still have 20 percent of the way to go — a figure that amounts to a large and growing pile. "On a recovery percentage basis, we do pretty well," Haley said. "On a pure generation and consumption basis, we don't." Of 34 European countries tracked by Eurostat, the European Commission's statistical arm, only Cyprus and Malta produced more landfilled or incinerated waste weight per resident than San Francisco did last year.<sup>3</sup>

Haley offered one reason why the city sent more tonnage to the landfill last year than it did the year before. He pointed out that the booming tech economy has made it tough to keep the numbers down. He says the pile at the landfill would have been even higher if not for the progress the city has made.

Still, he's disappointed. "It's the first time in many, many years that the number went the wrong way," he said.

### **Seattle's story**

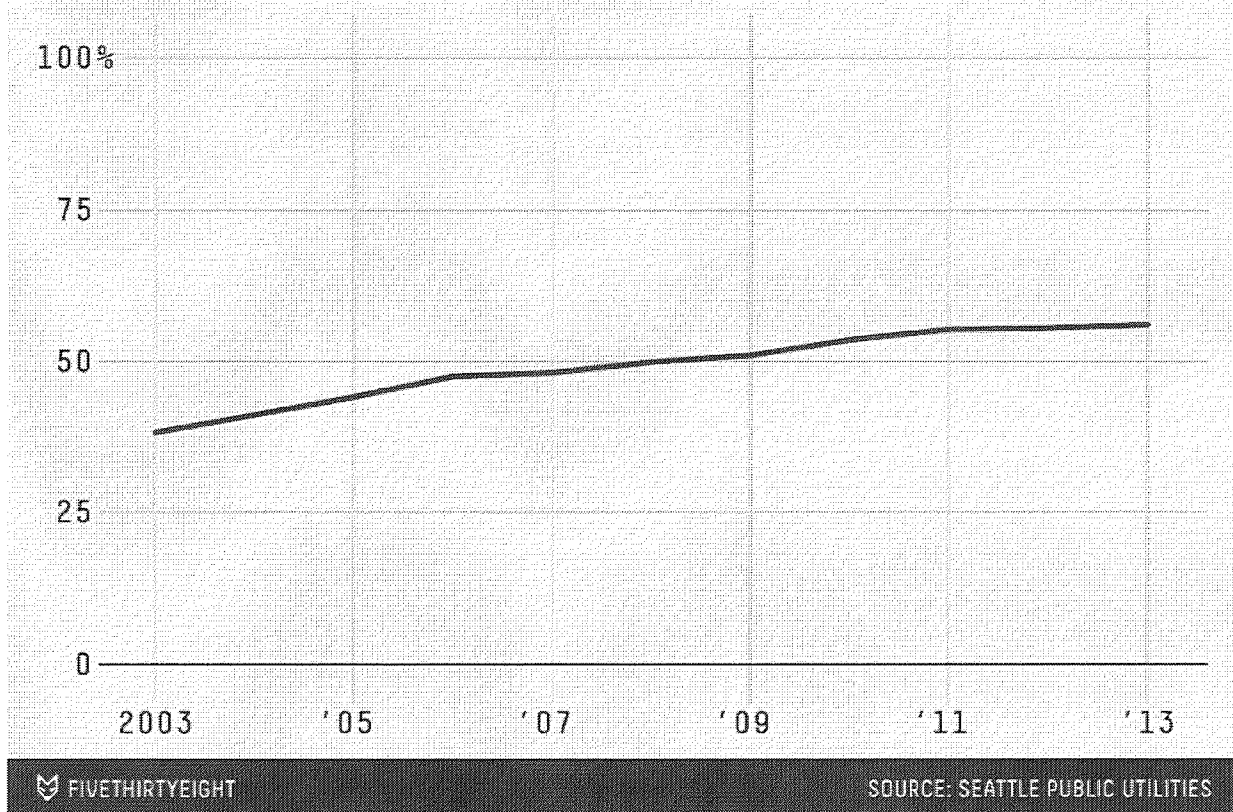
Other cities have used the "zero-waste" phrase to describe more attainable numerical targets. Seattle, for instance, is aiming for 60 percent of its waste to be diverted from landfills by next year, and 70 percent in eight years. Those percentages don't include heavy construction material, so if Seattle meets its goal it will be in line with San Francisco's success.

"We don't become students of other people's numbers," Timothy Croll, solid waste director for Seattle Public Utilities, said in a telephone interview, "but from what I read in [MacBride's] article, it doesn't seem to be apples-to-apples with how we do our numbers."<sup>4</sup>

Like San Francisco, Seattle is struggling to hold onto earlier gains. The city's diversion rate barely budged between 2011 and last year, rising just 0.8 percentage points to 56.2 percent.

## Green Disposal In Seattle

Percentage of waste that was recycled or composted



Croll said Seattle needs bold rule changes to increase recycling and reach the target. “What changes the shape of these graphs is when you do something,” he said. “We don’t expect to magically change the path of the curve unless we do something, but we think we have some tricks up our sleeves.”

In the middle of last decade, Seattle changed the curve by banning disposal of recyclables. Trashing compostables will be a fineable offense in January, if the city council approves it. “We have great hopes for our composting requirement,” Croll said.<sup>5</sup>

Any further gains are unlikely to bring Seattle to absolute zero. “It’s fair to say we view zero waste as an aspiration, just as a doctor might view zero illness as a goal,” Croll said. “We may be stuck with a certain amount of waste, but it’s not a good thing.”

Portland, Ore., has its own zero-waste goal, but like Seattle it is aiming for a more attainable intermediate target. The city wants to get its diversion rate up to 75 percent by the end of next year — counting a 6 percentage point credit it gets from the state for education programs and for home composting. The city has been stuck at a recovery rate — its term for diversion rate — of between 67 percent and 71 percent since 2008. To reach the target, Portland must increase rates for recycling and composting by businesses, which have lagged residential rates, said Bruce Walker, manager of the city’s solid waste and recycling program.

For many places, “zero waste” is a rallying cry and a branding exercise but not a real goal, Ewall said. Anything else would be naïve. “The idea of zero waste is not to get to absolute zero,” he said. “It’s to drive home the point: If you’re not for zero waste, how much waste are you for? Don’t just sit back and get satisfied once you hit a certain goal post.”

### The compost imperative

Recology’s compost facility in Vacaville, California, halfway between San Francisco and Sacramento, shows composting’s potential to drive waste down toward zero, and what it would take to achieve that potential. The Jepson Prairie Organics

composting facility is down the road from Travis Air Force Base, and adjacent to a Recology landfill. Waste trucks hauling solids bound for either destination crowd the farm-lined road, fittingly called Hay Road.



Jepson turns food scraps and yard trimmings into a fine powder of fertile, soil-boosting compost through a multistage, two-month process. The food arrives between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m., to avoid daytime heat and to suppress odor. I visited Jepson in the morning, so I saw how yard trimmings get processed. First they're fed into a grinder to reduce them to a manageable size. The pieces pass through a trommel — a screened, spinning cylinder that sorts them by size. The bigger pieces enter a conveyor belt, which feeds them past workers who pick out any trash that got mixed in. What they let pass gets ground once more, and then piled and exposed to the sun and to atmospheric microorganisms. Methane and other gases they emit get sucked out and can be used as fuel. The piles get turned and watered, to give the microorganisms sustenance as they break the nutrients into smaller pieces that can more effectively enrich soil.

This process normally plays out over several months. Like a cooking show where foods in different stages of a recipe have been pre-prepared, a tour of the Vacaville facility shows compost in each stage of development, in reverse order. As I entered the facility, the first thing I saw were piles of finished compost, alongside soil amendments — additives such as redwood sawdust — that Recology buys to mix in for custom blends designed to match the nutritional needs of customers' soil. Recology sells the finished products to local farmers for about \$12 per cubic yard, and often the supply can't keep up with the demand, Recology spokesman Robert Reed said.

Part of Recology's supply problem is that roughly half of San Francisco's trash could be composted.<sup>6</sup> Put another way, most of what can be composted isn't going into green bins and getting to facilities like Jepson, reducing San Francisco's share of the potential environmental benefits from composting. Daily composting tonnage from San Francisco has increased by 62 percent since 2008, the year before composting became mandatory, but it has much further to go.

Another composting challenge stems from what goes in the green bins, but shouldn't. Two years ago, San Francisco banned from stores all plastic bags that can be used just once. But the city isn't stopping people with bags at the borders, and workers and visitors leave plenty behind, some of them in green bins. The statewide ban passed by California


lawmakers in August wouldn't take full effect until 2016, if Gov. Jerry Brown signs it. Jepson's trommel was lined with shredded plastic bags, and the piles of compost in their early stages contained bits of them. Eventually, most get filtered out, Reed said. Still, removal adds to the cost, and if any plastic gets left behind, it could contaminate the compost.

"Nothing is perfect on this planet," Reed said during the tour. "It's an imperfect business."

**CORRECTION (Sept. 4, 2:27 p.m.):** An earlier version of this post indicated that a statewide ban on plastic bags in California would take effect in 2016, but the legislation still awaits the governor's signature.

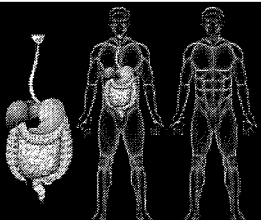
**CORRECTION (Sept. 4, 6:32 p.m.):** Most of what can be composted in San Francisco isn't going into green bins and getting to facilities like Jepson. This post originally said most of what can be composted is going into green bins.

**CORRECTION (Sept. 4, 11:54 p.m.):** An earlier version of this article misspelled the last name of Samantha MacBride, assistant professor at the Baruch College School of Public Affairs in New York.



CARL BIALIK | [@carlbialik](#) | [✉](#)  
Carl Bialik is FiveThirtyEight's lead writer for news.

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# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

## Final Negative Declaration

*Date:* March 4, 2015, amended on May 21, 2015 (amendments to the PND are shown as follows: deletions in ~~strike through~~; additions in double underline)

*Case No.:* 2014.0653E

*Project Title:* **Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County**

*BPA Nos.:* Not Applicable

*Zoning:* Not Applicable – Agreement citywide in scope

*Block/Lot:* Not Applicable – Agreement citywide in scope

*Lot Size:* Not Applicable – Agreement citywide in scope

*Project Sponsor:* Jack Macy, Department of the Environment  
415-355-3751

*Lead Agency:* San Francisco Planning Department

*Staff Contact:* Paul Maltzer – (415) 575-9038  
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### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed project consists of an Agreement between the City of San Francisco and Recology to change the disposal site for San Francisco's municipal solid waste (MSW). Currently, Recology, the company that collects San Francisco's waste, transports San Francisco's MSW to the Altamont Landfill, located in eastern Alameda County, for disposal. San Francisco's existing agreement with Waste Management, Inc., operator of the Altamont Landfill, will expire around 2016. The proposed project consists of an Agreement to authorize the transportation of MSW from San Francisco to the existing Recology Hay Road Landfill located in unincorporated Solano County, at 6426 Hay Road, near State Route 113, southeast of Vacaville, where it would be disposed. San Francisco and Recology would enter into an Agreement for the transportation and disposal of five million tons of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. MSW would be transported by long haul semi-trucks, primarily from the Recology San Francisco transfer station located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, with several additional trucks hauling residual wastes for disposal from Recology's Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 in San Francisco, as is presently the case. At current rates of disposal, it is estimated that the Agreement would have a term of approximately 13 – 15 years. No new construction or changes in current Recology operations within San Francisco are proposed. No new construction or change in existing permits would be required at the Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County. The proposed project would correspond with the cessation of transport of San Francisco's MSW to Altamont Landfill. The Agreement between San Francisco and Recology to authorize the proposed change in disposal sites would need to be approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

### FINDING:

This project could not have a significant effect on the environment. This finding is based upon the criteria of the Guidelines of the State Secretary for Resources, Sections 15064 (Determining Significant Effect), 15065 (Mandatory Findings of Significance), and 15070 (Decision to prepare a Negative Declaration), and the following reasons as documented in the Initial Evaluation (Initial Study) for the project, which is attached.

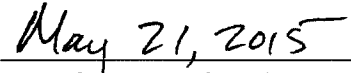
Mitigation measures are not required in this project to avoid potentially significant effects.

**Final Negative Declaration**  
**May 21, 2015**

**CASE NO. 2014.0653E**  
**Agreement for Disposal of MSW at Recology Hay Road Landfill**

In the independent judgment of the Planning Department, there is no substantial evidence that the project could have a significant effect on the environment.

  
SARAH B. JONES  
Environmental Review Officer

  
Date of Issuance of Final Mitigated  
Negative Declaration

cc: Jack Macy, Department of the Environment  
Master Decision File



# INITIAL STUDY

## Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County (Case No. 2014.0653E)

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# INITIAL STUDY

## Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County (Case No. 2014.0653E)

### A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

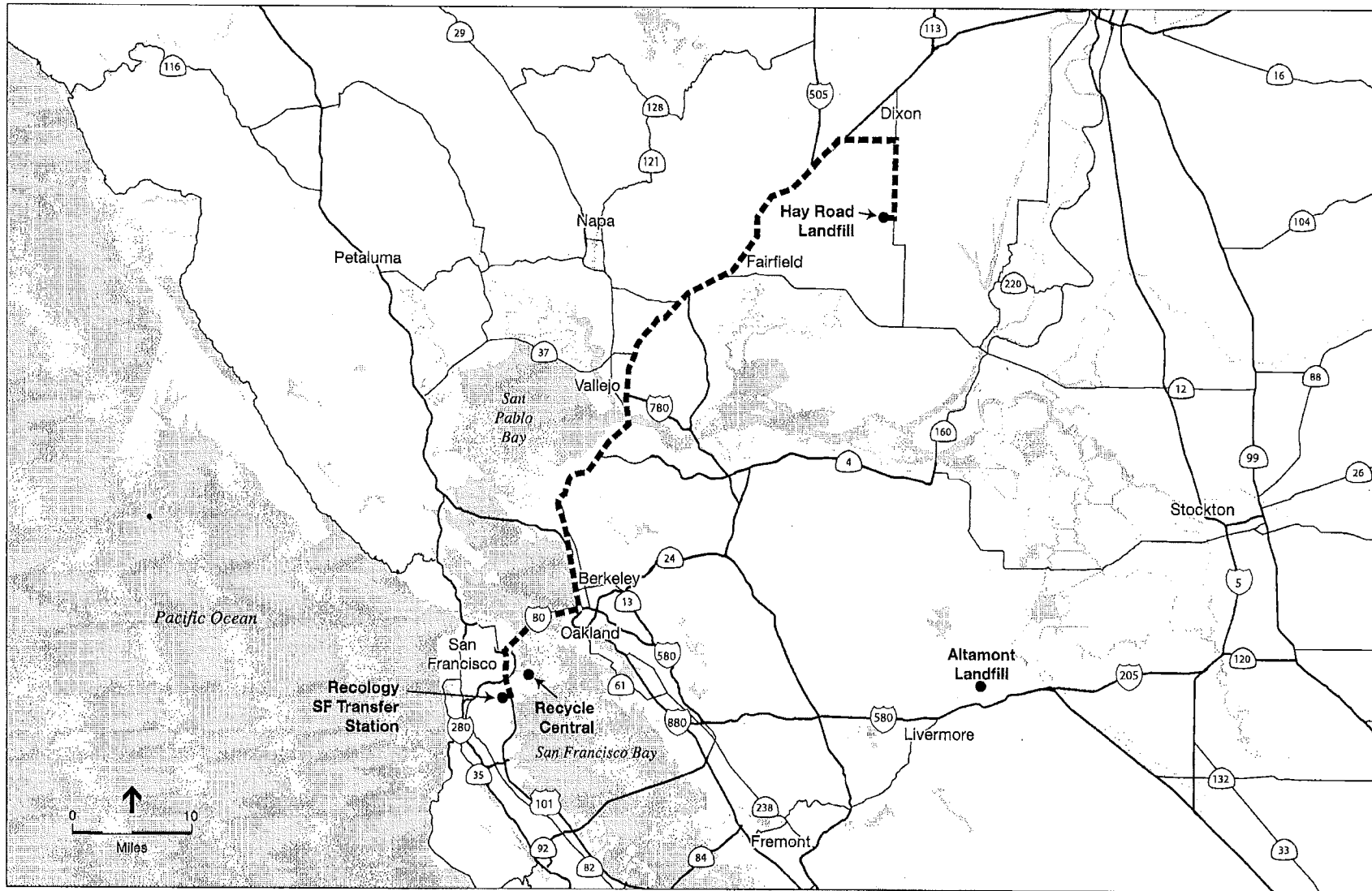
The following describes the proposed Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County project, which is referred to below as the "project." The project sponsor is the City and County of San Francisco, Department of the Environment.

#### A.1 Project Location

The project involves the transportation by truck of municipal solid waste (MSW) from San Francisco and the disposal of MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, located in Solano County near Vacaville. The project location extends from two Points of Origin -- the Recology San Francisco transfer station, located at 501 Tunnel Avenue on the San Francisco-Brisbane border; and Recology's Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 in San Francisco. The project terminates at one location, the Recology Hay Road Landfill, just east of Vacaville. **Figures 1 and 2** on pages 2 and 3 and show the locations of these facilities and the planned transportation routes. With implementation of the project, San Francisco MSW would no longer be disposed at the Altamont Landfill in Alameda County.

#### A.2 Project Characteristics

San Francisco and Recology (the private company that operates the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the San Francisco Transfer Station, Recology's Recycle Central Facility, and the truck hauling fleet currently used to transport San Francisco waste) would enter into one or more agreements for the transportation and disposal of 5 million tons of San Francisco MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. At current rates of disposal, it is estimated that such an agreement (or agreements) would have a term of approximately 13 years. However, given the City's continuing efforts to reduce MSW to landfill, for the purposes of this Initial Study, it is conservatively assumed that the proposed project could continue for a period of up to 15 years. As occurs today, MSW would be transported by long haul semi-trucks primarily from the Recology San Francisco transfer station located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, with a smaller number of trucks hauling residual wastes for disposal from Recology's Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 in San Francisco. The tonnage of waste and the numbers of daily and annual truck trips would not increase as a result of the proposed project.

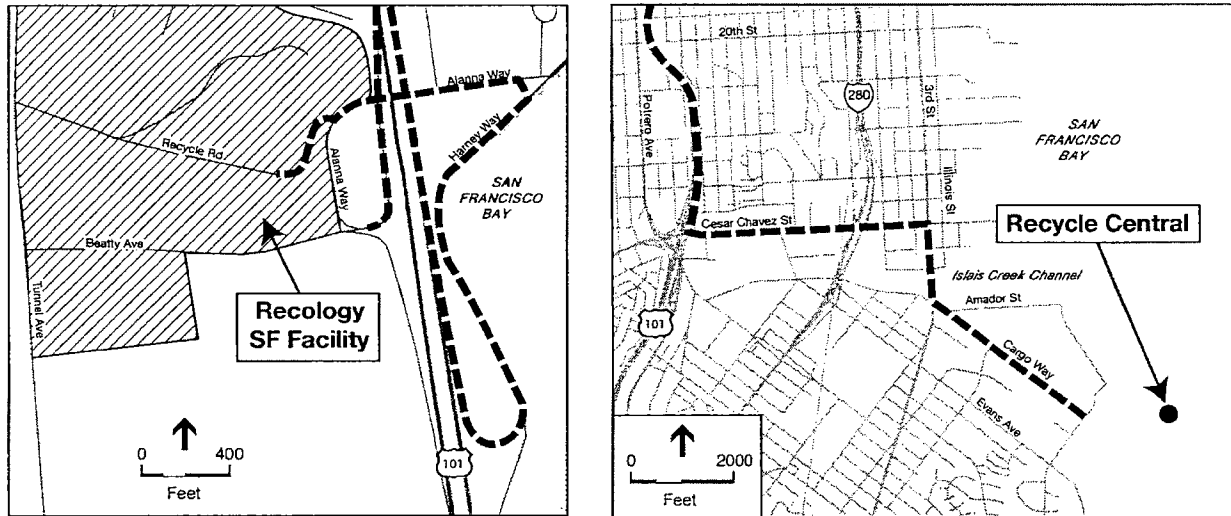


SOURCE: Recology

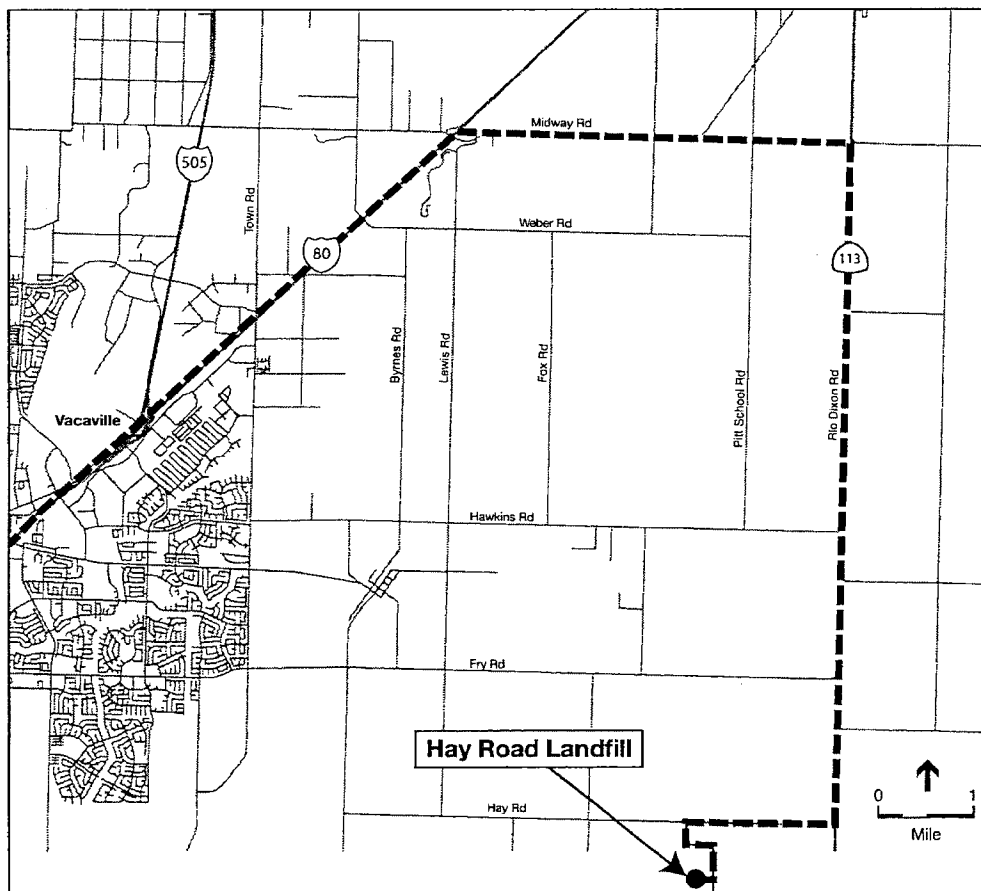
– San Francisco Waste Transport for Disposal at Recology Hay Road Landfill . 210655

**Figure 1**  
Project Location – Proposed Route for Transport  
of MSW to Recology Hay Road Landfill

### San Francisco Facilities Haul Routes



### Solano County Facility Haul Route



SOURCE: Recology San Francisco Waste Transport for Disposal at Recology Hay Road Landfill . 210655

**Figure 2**  
Local Streets and Roads Used to Transport MSW

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Currently, Recology transports San Francisco's MSW to the Altamont Landfill, located in eastern Alameda County, for disposal. San Francisco's disposal agreement with Waste Management, Inc., operator of the Altamont Landfill, will expire around 2016.<sup>1</sup> The initiation of the proposed project would correspond with the cessation of transport of San Francisco's MSW to Altamont Landfill.<sup>2</sup> As noted above, the use of the Recology Hay Road Landfill for disposal of up to 5 million tons of San Francisco's MSW is assumed to continue for an estimated period of 15 years.

**Points of Origin.** Under the proposed project, no changes would be made to physical structures or operations at the two Points of Origin for the waste hauling operations. Those Points of Origin are the Recology San Francisco transfer station and Recology's Recycle Central facility.

The Recology San Francisco transfer station, located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, straddles the border between San Francisco and the City of Brisbane (San Mateo County). The transfer station receives and ships MSW, recyclable materials (including commercial and residential organic waste), and construction and demolition (C&D) debris collected within San Francisco. The transfer station is permitted to receive up to 5,000 tons per day, and can operate up to 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Recology's Recycle Central facility is located at Pier 96 in San Francisco. Recycle Central receives, processes, and ships recyclable materials collected within San Francisco. The facility is permitted to accept up to 2,100 tons per day, ~~80 to 85%~~ 82 to 88% of which is recycled. It can operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Approximately 12-18% of the materials received and processed at Recycle Central cannot be recycled, and these materials must be disposed in a landfill.

**Transportation.** Currently, Recology transports San Francisco's MSW from the two Points of Origin to the Altamont Landfill. The Altamont Landfill is located at 10840 Altamont Pass Road in unincorporated Alameda County near Livermore, and is owned and operated by Waste Management, Inc. This landfill

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<sup>1</sup> Inasmuch as the contract is based on overall disposal tonnage and not a specific time frame, there is no fixed date for the expiration of the City's disposal contract for Altamont Landfill. As of June, 2014, the Department of the Environment projected that the City will reach its permitted limit in early 2016.

<sup>2</sup> It is noted that San Francisco is participating as a potential responsible agency in the CEQA environmental review process that Yuba County is undertaking for a separate project, the Recology Ostrom Road Green Rail and Permit Amendment Project (Ostrom Road Project). As proposed, the Ostrom Road Project includes improvements to rail facilities to enable the hauling of San Francisco MSW to the Ostrom Road Landfill by rail. In March 2013, Yuba County and San Francisco entered into a Cooperative Agreement to designate Yuba County as the lead agency for the Ostrom Road Project and to outline their cooperative efforts concerning environmental review; a Notice of Preparation was also issued that month. However, due to delays in the Ostrom Road Project, the San Francisco Department of the Environment has concluded that the Ostrom Road Project cannot be approved and constructed in a timely manner, prior to the expiration of the City's contract with Altamont Landfill. Accordingly, the Department is now pursuing this project, an agreement for the transportation and disposal of 5 million tons of San Francisco MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. If this project is approved and implemented, the City's participation in the Ostrom Road Landfill project would cease.

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currently accepts San Francisco's MSW for disposal pursuant to an agreement between Waste Management, Inc. and San Francisco, which was executed in 1984.

Under the proposed project, Recology would transport San Francisco MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill instead of the Altamont Landfill. Recology Hay Road Landfill is located at 6426 Hay Road, east of Vacaville and south of Dixon, and is owned and operated by Recology.

**Disposal.** The proposed project would not change the physical facilities at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, nor would the project necessitate any changes to the existing permits for the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The Recology Hay Road Landfill currently receives an average of approximately 651 tons per day of MSW,<sup>3</sup> and approximately 325 vehicles (including trucks)<sup>4</sup> per day. The facility is open to the public seven days per week from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and to commercial haulers seven days per week, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with select commercial and contract accounts having access to the site on a 24-hour basis. The facility operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 361 days of the year. The facility is closed on four holidays every year (New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas). The landfill is permitted by Solano County and the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to accept up to 2,400 tons per day of MSW for disposal, to receive up to 620 vehicles per day (averaged over a seven-day period), and to operate up to 24 hours per day, seven days per week.<sup>5</sup> The permit for the Recology Hay Road Landfill underwent environmental review in Solano County and the potential increase in MSW that would be disposed of at the landfill pursuant to the proposed project would be within the amounts analyzed in the Solano County environmental review document (see Approach to Analysis, below, for description of Solano County environmental review documents related to Hay Road Landfill.) Under the proposed project, the average tons of MSW received at the landfill would increase from 651 tons per day to 1,851 tons per day, and the average number of vehicles (including trucks) would increase from 325 to 375 per day.

Located within the footprint of the landfill is the Jepson Prairie Organics composting facility, also owned and operated by Recology, which accepts organic materials for composting. Currently, Recology delivers approximately 20% of the organic materials that it collects in San Francisco to the Jepson Prairie Organics facility. The vehicle limit for the Recology Hay Road Landfill noted above, 620 vehicles per day, is shared by the landfill and the composting facility.

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<sup>3</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2015. Landfill Life Estimates for Hay Road Landfill (Excel spreadsheet), file dated February 24, 2015. Available for review at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.

<sup>4</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2014. Hay Road Landfill Daily Vehicle County, January 2013-June 2014 (Excel spreadsheet), file dated July 29, 2014. Available for review at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.

<sup>5</sup> Solano County Local Enforcement Agency and CalRecycle, 2013. Solid Waste Facility Permit for Recology Hay Road Landfill, Facility no.48-AA-002. Issued July 9, 2013. Available online: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/SWFacilities/Directory/48-AA-0002/Detail/>

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### ***Current Conditions***

**Points of Origin.** Current Conditions at the Points of Origin are as follows:

Currently, Recology's collection truck fleet collects MSW and compostable organic material within San Francisco and delivers it to the Recology San Francisco transfer station for receipt, consolidation, and load-out into larger transfer trucks. The collection trucks unload the MSW into a pit in the enclosed transfer station building. The waste is consolidated with waste received from other collection trucks, compacted, and pushed toward an opening in the floor. Waste is pushed into a waiting transfer truck located underneath this opening in a loading tunnel. As the truck is loaded, a stationary grapple (a clamshell-like claw) moves the waste around in the trailer to provide for more compaction and to achieve loads that are near the highway weight limit of 80,000 pounds gross vehicle weight. Once the truck is full, it exits the loading tunnel and the trailer is covered.

Recology collects recyclable materials from its customers separately from MSW and organic materials. Collection vehicles deliver recyclable materials to the Recycle Central facility at Pier 96, where they are unloaded, sorted into different commodity types, baled or otherwise compacted, then shipped to market. Approximately 12-18% of the materials collected and delivered to the facility cannot, however, be recovered and sold. This includes, for example, non-recyclable plastics, grit, and other fine material. The materials that cannot be recovered and sold are sent to a landfill via transfer truck.

**Transportation.** Current conditions for transporting waste from the Points of Origin to the Altamont Landfill are as follows:

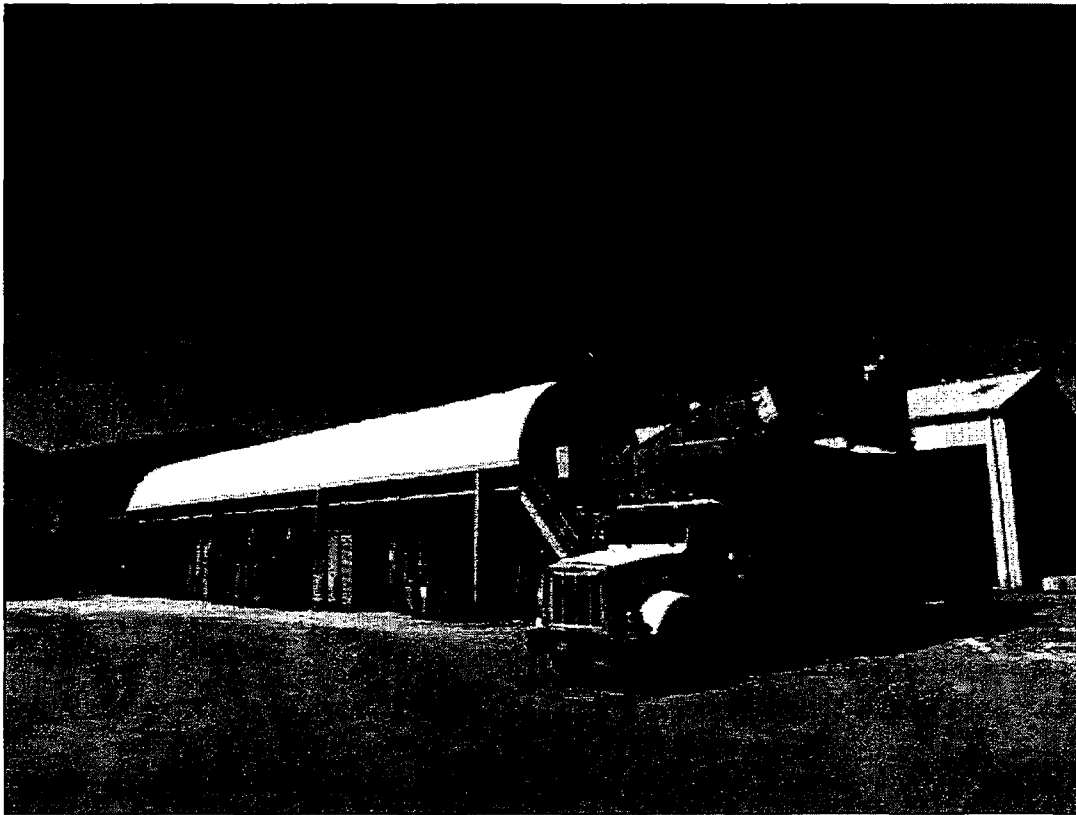
Recology owns and operates its own transfer truck fleet. Transfer trucks are classified as heavy-heavy duty tractor-trailer type trucks (Class 8 trucks). The trailers used are the large-capacity "possum belly" type, with a capacity of 137 cubic yards (Figure 3 on page 7). These trucks have a maximum payload<sup>6</sup> of about 24.5 tons. In 2012, Recology hauled 374,844 tons of San Francisco MSW to the Altamont Landfill.<sup>7</sup> Based on the total tonnage hauled to Altamont Landfill and the capacity of each transfer truck, it took approximately 15,300 loads to reach this tonnage-- or 294 loads per week for 52 weeks. Based on a 6 day-week (Recology typically hauls MSW loads from Sunday evening through Friday) this resulted in approximately 50 trucks (or round trips) per day hauling San Francisco MSW to the Altamont Landfill.

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<sup>6</sup> Payload is the maximum tonnage that can be loaded into the trailer.

<sup>7</sup> CalRecycle Disposal Reporting System, accessed June 3, 2014 <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/Viewer.aspx?P=OriginJurisdictionIDs%3d438%26ReportYear%3d2012%26ReportName%3dReportEDRSJurisDisposalByFacility>





SOURCE: Recology

San Francisco Waste Transport for Disposal at Recology Hay Road Landfill . 210655

**Figure 3**  
Photo of Recology Transfer Truck

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Of the 50 trucks per day that haul San Francisco MSW to the Altamont Landfill, approximately 44 depart from the Recology San Francisco transfer station. Trucks depart the Recology San Francisco transfer station onto Alanna Way, cross under U.S. 101 and turn right onto Harney Way, which leads to the U.S. 101 northbound on-ramp (Figure 2 on page 3). Trucks proceed north on U. S. Highway 101 to the junction with eastbound I-80, then cross over the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, then south on I-880 to eastbound State Highway 238, then on eastbound I-580 to the Altamont Landfill near Livermore.

In addition to the approximately 44 trucks per day that haul San Francisco MSW from the Recology San Francisco transfer station, approximately six trucks per day haul residual wastes from Recology's Recycle Central facility to the Altamont Landfill. Transfer trucks leaving the Recycle Central facility bound for the Altamont Landfill travel on Cargo Way, Third Street, and Cesar Chavez Street to U.S. 101 (Figure 2 on page 3), then follow the same route as the trucks from Recology San Francisco to the Altamont Landfill.

Empty transfer trucks return to each of these Points of Origin via the same routes that they take when they depart. The round trip distance from the San Francisco transfer station and the Recycle Central facility to the Altamont Landfill and back is approximately 115 miles.

**Disposal.** Current conditions for disposing of MSW at the Altamont Landfill are as follows:

At the landfill, the truck's trailer is unloaded using a tipper at the open landfill face. The waste is further compacted and covered daily with soil or other approved alternative cover material, per regulatory requirements.

Current conditions for disposal of MSW at Recology Hay Road Landfill are as described above under Project Characteristics, Disposal.

**Composting Operations.** In addition to transporting San Francisco MSW to the Altamont Landfill, Recology also collects San Francisco's organic materials and transports those materials to its composting facilities. Collection and transportation of San Francisco organic materials will not be affected by the proposed project. Current conditions for collecting, transporting, and disposing of organic materials are as follows:

Recology separately collects organic materials, consisting of yard waste, food waste, and other compostable materials, and delivers these materials to the Recology San Francisco facility, which includes the transfer station. There, the materials are consolidated and loaded into transfer trucks. Recology has three facilities that receive organic materials from San Francisco for composting: Jepson Prairie Organics, which receives approximately five to six loads per day of organics from Recology San Francisco; Recology Grover Environmental Products facility in Vernalis, CA, which receives 19-20 loads per day from Recology

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San Francisco; and Recology South Valley Organics facility in Gilroy, CA, which receives one to two loads per day from Recology San Francisco. In total, approximately 140-150 loads of organics from Recology San Francisco are delivered to these three facilities each week. Each load consists of 24.5 tons of waste.

Transfer trucks bound for Jepson Prairie Organics at the Recology Hay Road facility take the same route as trucks bound for Altamont Landfill from the Recology San Francisco facility to the Bay Bridge. After crossing the bridge, these trucks travel on I-80 east to the Midway Road exit northeast of Vacaville, then travel east on Midway Road to State Route 113, and then south to Hay Road.

### ***Proposed Project Conditions***

**Points of Origin.** Under the proposed project, there would be no change to current conditions at the Recology San Francisco transfer station or the Recycle Central facility.

**Transportation.** The proposed project would change part of the route that is used to transport waste. San Francisco's MSW would be transported by truck to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, instead of the Altamont Landfill. Neither the number of truckloads (currently 50 trucks per day) nor the volume of San Francisco MSW being hauled (currently 1,200 tons per day) would change as a result of the project.

Trucks transporting MSW would use the same routes as they currently do between the Points of Origin to the east end of the Bay Bridge. There would be no change in the number or location of truck trips from the Points of Origin to the eastern end of the Bay Bridge.

After crossing the bridge, trucks would turn to the north toward the Recology Hay Road Landfill rather than turning to the south to the Altamont Landfill as they do under current conditions (see Current Conditions, above, for description of route to Altamont.) Trucks would continue east on I-80 to Solano County (Figure 1 on page 2). Trucks would travel the same route from I-80 to the Recology Hay Road Landfill as Recology's organic materials transfer trucks do at present: Midway Road exit from I-80, east on Midway Road to State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road), then south to Hay Road (Figure 2 on page 3). The landfill entrance is a short distance west of State Route 113 on the south side of Hay Road. Empty transfer trucks would return to San Francisco via the same route. The round trip is approximately 155 miles, or about 40 miles longer than the round trip to and from the Altamont Landfill. Because the disposal of 2,400 tons of MSW at Hay Road Landfill was analyzed for its existing permit, this change in route is the only physical change associated with the proposed project.

The transfer truck fleet would continue to be owned, controlled and dispatched by Recology. Recology has considerable flexibility in its shipping schedule. Recology makes efforts to minimize the number of

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trucks on the road during peak traffic times. The majority of trips occur in the early morning hours prior to peak morning traffic (peak morning traffic is 7:00 – 9:00 a.m.), mid-morning following the morning peak traffic, and in the evening and nighttime hours following the afternoon peak (peak afternoon traffic is 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.). Under the project, Recology would continue to manage departures to avoid heavy traffic periods, and in particular to avoid the Fairfield-Vacaville section of I-80 during the morning peak, in accordance with Recology Hay Road Landfill's Conditional Use Permit from Solano County.

Most of Recology's transfer fleet currently runs on B-20 biodiesel (that is, diesel fuel that is derived from 20 percent vegetable or animal fats and 80 percent petroleum). Eleven trucks in the fleet run on liquefied natural gas (LNG). Recology is in the process of phasing in additional transfer vehicles that run on LNG or compressed natural gas (CNG). These trucks have lower emissions than B-20 Diesel. Because Recology's plans for conversion of the transfer fleet to a different fuel type are still at an early stage, the analysis in this Initial Study assumes that the fleet will continue to be fueled with B-20 biodiesel and LNG at the current levels.

**Disposal.** Once at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, trucks would be directed to the active disposal area where they would unload with a tipper at the open face. The waste would be further compacted and covered daily with soil or other approved alternative cover material, per regulatory requirements. As indicated above, on average, the project would result in the addition of approximately 1,200 tons per day of MSW and 50 trucks per day, relative to current operations at the landfill, which would be within the limits of existing permits, which were previously subject to environmental review by Solano County.

### ***Project Schedule***

As noted, the City's contract to haul MSW to Altamont Landfill is projected to terminate in early 2016 because San Francisco is expected to reach the limit for disposal of MSW set forth in that contract by that date. The City intends to approve a new contract for MSW hauling before the end of 2015.

The proposed project would not involve any construction activity, as the San Francisco Transfer Station, Recycle Central facility, and the Recology Hay Road Landfill are all existing facilities in operation at present.

## **A.3 Required Approvals**

The project would require the following approvals from City bodies:

- Approval of one or more Agreements with Recology for transportation and disposal of 5 million tons of San Francisco MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. (*Department of Environment referral of Agreement(s) to Board of Supervisors; Board of Supervisors approval of Agreement(s).*)

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**Approval Action:** Referral of the Agreement(s) by the Department of Environment to the Board of Supervisors would be considered the Approval Action for this project for the purposes of a CEQA appeal. The Approval Action date would establish the start of the 30-day appeal period for appeal of the Final Negative Declaration to the Board of Supervisors pursuant to Section 31.04(h) of the San Francisco Administrative Code.

As previously stated, the Recology Hay Road Landfill is permitted to receive up to 2,400 tons per day of MSW and compost, and up to 620 vehicles per day. Based on recent volume of waste received and vehicles arriving at the facility, the Recology Hay Road Landfill has sufficient capacity under its existing permits to accommodate the addition of San Francisco's MSW. Therefore, the proposed project does not require any new or additional approval by Solano County or other entities with regard to the Recology Hay Road Landfill.

## **B. PROJECT SETTING**

**Points of Origin.** The Recology San Francisco transfer station, located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, straddles the border between San Francisco and the City of Brisbane (San Mateo County). The transfer station receives and ships MSW, recyclable materials (including commercial and residential organic waste), and construction and demolition (C&D) debris collected within San Francisco. The transfer station is permitted to receive up to 5,000 tons per day, and can operate up to 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Recology's Recycle Central facility is located at Pier 96 in San Francisco. Recycle Central receives, processes, and ships recyclable materials collected within San Francisco. The facility is permitted to accept up to 2,100 tons per day. It can operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Approximately 12-18% of the materials received and processed at Recycle Central cannot be recycled, and these materials must be disposed in a landfill.

**Transportation.** The proposed project's MSW hauling operations would take place on existing city streets, freeways, County roads, and State highways between the Points of Origin and the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Specifically, trucks transporting waste from the Recology San Francisco transfer station would travel on San Francisco city streets, U.S. 101, Interstate 80, Midway Road, State Route 113, and Hay Road to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, and would return following the same route (Figures 1 and 2 on pages 2 and 3). Trucks transporting waste from the Recycle Central facility would travel on San Francisco city streets to U.S. 101, then follow the same route to the Recology Hay Road Landfill.

The San Francisco city streets that would be used between the Recology San Francisco transfer station and U.S. 101 include Alanna Way and Harney Way. Alanna Way is a two-lane, undivided road. From the intersection with Recycle Road (which is entirely within the Recology property), Alanna Way passes

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beneath U.S. 101 toward Candlestick Point. Harney Way is a three-lane, undivided road that skirts the shore of San Francisco Bay, and carries traffic to and from U.S. 101.

The city streets that would be used between the Recycle Central facility and U.S. 101 include Cargo Way, Third Street, and Cesar Chavez Street. Cargo Way is a four-lane, divided road with a landscaped median strip. Third Street, a major north-south thoroughfare, is a four-lane roadway, with light rail tracks (for the Muni T line) in-between the north bound lanes and the south bound lanes. Third Street passes over the Islais Creek Channel drawbridge before reaching Cesar Chavez Street. Cesar Chavez Street, a major east-west thoroughfare, is a four-lane road that in some places is divided. Cesar Chavez Street passes underneath the elevated I-280 freeway before reaching the U.S. 101 on-ramp.

U.S. 101 is a multi-lane freeway between the Harney Way on-ramp and the junction with I-80, that is elevated in some reaches.

I-80 is a multi-lane, elevated freeway within San Francisco. I-80 then passes over the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, through the interchange with I-580 and I-880, then continues along the eastern Bay shore through Emeryville, Berkeley, Richmond, several Contra Costa County communities, over the Carquinez Strait Bridge into Solano County, then through the communities of Vallejo, Fairfield, and Vacaville. Freeway access to and from the Recology Hay Road Landfill primarily occurs at the I-80 / Midway Road – O'Day Road interchange located approximately 12 miles north and west of the facility via Hay Road, State Route 113 and Midway Road. The average daily traffic volume on I-80 in the area of the Midway Road interchange is about 115,000 vehicles.<sup>8</sup>

Midway Road, also known as the Lincoln Highway, is a two-lane, undivided road that runs past the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery and through a rural area to the junction with State Route 113.

State Route 113 is also known as Rio-Dixon Road. It is a rural, two-lane, undivided road. The Recology Hay Road Landfill is located at the intersection of State Route 113 and Hay Road. The three-legged ("T") intersection of State Route 113 and Hay Road is unsignalized (the eastbound Hay Road approach is Stop sign controlled). A future planned and funded improvement at this intersection would entail the installation of a left turn lane on the northbound State Route 113 approach.<sup>9</sup> The average daily traffic volume on State Route 113 in the project area is about 3,550 vehicles.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), 2013 Traffic Volumes on California State Highways, 2014.

<sup>9</sup> Recology is funding the installation of the northbound left-turn lane, as it did for the westbound left-turn lane on Hay Road at the landfill entrance (completed in 2010), as part of prior mitigation requirements.

<sup>10</sup> Caltrans, 2013.

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Trucks enter and exit the facility via Hay Road. Hay Road is a rural, two-lane, undivided road that provides access for the Recology Hay Road Landfill from its intersection with State Route 113.

**Disposal.** The Recology Hay Road Landfill is located in unincorporated Solano County, approximately eight miles southeast of the City of Vacaville, approximately nine miles south of the City of Dixon, and approximately four miles northeast of Travis Air Force Base. The facility is located immediately west of State Route 113 at its intersection with Hay Road, at 6426 Hay Road (Figures 1 and 2 on pages 2 and 3).

The landfill has been in operation since 1964. It was formerly known as the B&J Dropbox Landfill or the B&J Landfill. The landfill property is 640 acres, with 256 acres permitted for disposal operations, and another 54 acres permitted for a composting operation. The topography of the area is essentially flat with a ground surface elevation of approximately 25 feet above mean sea level. The current height of the existing landfill is approximately 120 feet above the surrounding grade.

The facility is surrounded by a six-foot chain link fence with a taller litter control fence located along the perimeter of the landfill adjacent to Hay Road and State Route 113. Agricultural land uses surround the project site. Four rural residences are located within a two-mile radius of the site. Two of the residences are located approximately 1.5 miles to the west, one residence is located approximately 1.3 miles to the south, and one residence is located approximately 1.1 miles to the north.

The Recology Hay Road Landfill currently operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week. It currently receives on average approximately 651 tons of MSW per day, and approximately 325 vehicles (including trucks)<sup>11</sup> per day.

The landfill operates under the terms of several permits, including a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) from Solano County<sup>12</sup> and a Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP), jointly issued in 2013 by the Solano County Resources Management Department and CalRecycle.<sup>13</sup> These permits limit the facility to receiving a maximum of 2,400 tons of MSW per day, 7 days per week; a maximum of 2,500 tons of asbestos per month; and a maximum of 620 vehicles per day, averaged over a seven-day period. The total capacity of the landfill is 37 million cubic yards. The remaining capacity of the landfill is projected to be 27,177,046 cubic yards as of January, 2016, and the earliest estimated closure year for the landfill,

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<sup>11</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2015.

<sup>12</sup> Solano County Resource Management Department. Land Use Permit No. U-11-09, Recology and Jepson Prairie Organics, for a Landfill and Composting Facility. November 29, 2012. Available for review from Solano County Resource Management Department, and also as part of Case File No. 2014.0653E at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.

<sup>13</sup> Solano County Local Enforcement Agency and CalRecycle, 2013.

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assuming the maximum permitted rate of waste disposal, is 2034.<sup>14</sup> The maximum permitted height of the fill area is 215 feet above mean sea level (about 190 feet above the surrounding grade) and the maximum permitted depth is 20 feet above mean sea level (about five feet below the surrounding grade).

### C. COMPATIBILITY WITH ZONING, PLANS, AND POLICIES

	<u>Applicable</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>
Discuss any variances, special authorizations, or changes proposed to the Planning Code or Zoning Map, if applicable.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Discuss any conflicts with any adopted plans and goals of the City or Region, if applicable.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Discuss any approvals and/or permits from City departments other than the Planning Department or the Department of Building Inspection, or from Regional, State, or Federal Agencies.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### C.1 San Francisco Planning Code

The proposed project would involve no alteration to existing land uses, structures or utilities, and would involve no new construction, nor would there be any physical changes within San Francisco or under the jurisdiction of the City & County of San Francisco. Therefore, no variances or special authorizations are required, and no changes are proposed to the San Francisco Planning Code or Zoning Map.

#### C.2 Plans and Policies

##### *San Francisco Plans and Policies*

###### San Francisco General Plan

The *San Francisco General Plan* (General Plan) provides general policies and objectives to guide land use decisions. The General Plan contains 10 elements (Commerce and Industry, Recreation and Open Space, Housing, Community Facilities, Urban Design, Environmental Protection, Transportation, Air Quality, Community Safety, and Arts) that set forth goals, policies, and objectives for the physical development of the City. The General Plan also contains a number of area plans, which set forth objectives and policies with more specificity to various neighborhoods.

Local plans and policies that are relevant to the proposed project are discussed below.

- The *San Francisco Zero Waste Policy* (Board of Supervisors Resolution 679-02 and Commission on the Environment Resolution 002-03-COE) establishes a goal of achieving zero waste to landfill by

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<sup>14</sup> Golder Associates, 2013. Joint Technical Document for Recology Hay Road Landfill. Prepared for Recology, Inc., February 2013. Available for review at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.



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2020 and directs the Department of the Environment to develop policies and programs to achieve zero waste, including increasing producer and consumer responsibility, in order that all discarded materials be diverted from landfill through recycling, composting or other means.

- The *San Francisco Sustainability Plan* is a blueprint for achieving long-term environmental sustainability by addressing specific environmental issues including, but not limited to, air quality, climate change, energy, ozone depletion, and transportation. The goal of the *San Francisco Sustainability Plan* is to enable the people of San Francisco to meet their present needs without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- The *Climate Action Plan for San Francisco: Local Actions to Reduce Greenhouse Emissions* is a local action plan that examines the causes of global climate change and human activities that contribute to global warming, provides projections of climate change impacts on California and San Francisco based on recent scientific reports, presents estimates of San Francisco's baseline greenhouse gas emissions inventory and reduction targets, and describes recommended actions for reducing the City and County's greenhouse gas emissions.

Potential inconsistency with policies applicable to the proposed project that relate to physical environmental effects is discussed in Section E.

#### Solano County Plans and Policies

Compatibility of the proposed project with Solano County zoning, plans, and policies is discussed below under Section E.1, Land Use and Land Use Planning.

#### Regional Plans and Policies

In addition to local plans and policies, there are several regional planning agencies whose environmental, land use, and transportation plans and policies consider the growth and development of the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. Some of these plans and policies are advisory, and some include specific goals and provisions that must be adhered to when evaluating a project under CEQA. The regional plans and policies that are relevant to the proposed project are discussed below.

- The Bay Area Air Quality Management District's *Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan* updates the Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy, in accordance with the requirements of the California Clean Air Act, to implement feasible measures to reduce ozone and provide a control strategy to reduce ozone, particulate matter, air toxics, and greenhouse gases throughout the region.
- The Regional Water Quality Control Board's *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin* is a master water quality control planning document. It designates beneficial uses and water quality objectives for waters of the state, including surface waters and groundwater, and includes implementation programs to achieve water quality objectives.
- *Plan Bay Area*, the Bay Area's first combined Sustainable Communities Strategy (land use plan) and regional transportation plan, was developed jointly by the Association of Bay Area Governments

(ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).<sup>15</sup> *Plan Bay Area* encourages housing and job growth proximate to transit, particularly within areas identified by local jurisdictions as Priority Development Areas (PDAs), and “is intended to enhance mobility and economic growth by linking housing/jobs with transit, thus offering a more efficient land use pattern around transit and a greater return on existing and planned transit investments.”<sup>16</sup> The plan also includes strategies and investments to maintain, manage, and improve the region’s multi-modal transportation network, from bicycle and pedestrian facilities to local streets to highways to public transit. *Plan Bay Area* also sets forth transportation projects and programs to be implemented with reasonably anticipated revenue.

- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission’s (BCDC’s) *San Francisco Bay Plan*. BCDC has regulatory responsibility over development in San Francisco Bay and along the Bay’s nine-county shoreline. The proposed project would involve no changes within 100 feet of the bay shoreline, and is therefore not within the jurisdiction of the BCDC and is not subject to the policies in the *San Francisco Bay Plan* or other BCDC policies.

The proposed project would not conflict with the provisions of any adopted habitat conservation plan.

See discussion below for physical environmental impact analysis of the proposed project, as related to specific topics addressed in these plans and policies.

#### D. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The project could potentially affect the environmental topics checked below. The following pages present a more detailed checklist and discussion of each environmental topic.

<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils
<input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Wind and Shadow	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology and Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Paleo. Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards/Hazardous Materials
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and Circulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/> Mineral/Energy Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural and Forest Resources
		<input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance

##### D.1 Effects Found to be Potentially Significant

The project has been evaluated to determine whether it would result in significant environmental impacts on any of the environmental topics listed above. As discussed in detail in the following pages, no potentially significant impacts have been identified.

<sup>15</sup> Plan Bay Area was necessitated by the adoption of Senate Bill 375, which required regions to prepare a Sustainable Communities Strategy (or Alternative Planning Strategy) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by linking growth to transit.

<sup>16</sup> MTC and ABAG, 2013. Plan Bay Area Draft Environmental Impact Report. page ES-2. Available online at: [http://onebayarea.org/pdf/Draft\\_EIR\\_Chapters/0.0\\_Cover\\_Intro\\_and\\_Executive\\_Summary.pdf](http://onebayarea.org/pdf/Draft_EIR_Chapters/0.0_Cover_Intro_and_Executive_Summary.pdf). Reviewed December 30, 2013.

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## D.2 Effects Found Not to be Significant

Within each environmental topic area examined, the project was found to have either no impact or a less-than-significant impact.

## E. EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

This Initial Study examines the potential effects on the environment that would result from approval of the proposed project. For all items checked “Less-than-Significant Impact,” “No Impact,” or “Not Applicable,” the Planning Department has determined that the project would not have a significant adverse environmental effect relating to that issue. No impacts were found to be potentially significant, and so no mitigation measures are identified. All of these issues are discussed below and conclusions regarding effects are based upon field observations, staff experience and expertise on similar projects, and/or standard reference material available from the Planning Department, such as the Department’s *Transportation Impact Analysis Guidelines for Environmental Review*.

For each checklist threshold, the analysis provides an overview of the project’s general impacts, and considers the impacts of the project both individually and cumulatively.

### Approach to the Analysis

**Points of Origin.** Operations at the Recology facilities in San Francisco – the Recycle Central facility and the San Francisco transfer station – would be unaffected by the project: the same amount of waste would be processed, and the same number and same size of trucks would arrive and depart on essentially the same schedule, whether or not the project is approved. Because the project would not result in any physical or operational changes at these facilities compared to current conditions, the impact analysis in this Initial Study does not present any analysis of operations or conditions at these facilities. There would be no physical change to facilities or operations, and therefore the proposed project does not have the potential to cause adverse environmental impacts at the Points of Origin.

**Transportation.** Truck trips from the Recology San Francisco transfer station and the Recycle Central facility to the eastern end of the Bay Bridge would be unaffected by the project; the same number of trucks would travel on local San Francisco roadways, U.S. 101, and the Bay Bridge on essentially the same schedule, whether or not the project is approved. Because the project would not result in any physical or operational changes on local San Francisco streets, U.S. 101, or the Bay Bridge compared to current conditions, it would not result in any physical changes in the environment in this area, and therefore the impact analysis in this Initial Study does not present any further analysis of transport of waste between the Points of Origin and the eastern end of the Bay Bridge.

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Truck trips from the eastern end of the Bay Bridge traveling east on I-80 to the Midway Road exit from I-80 in Solano County, and continuing on local streets to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would increase as a result of the proposed project compared to current conditions. Therefore, this Initial Study evaluates the environmental effects of project-related truck trips traveling between the eastern end of the Bay Bridge and the Midway Road exit.

This Initial Study also evaluates the environmental effects of project-related truck trips traveling between the Midway Road exit and the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The Recology Hay Road Landfill is currently in operation, and currently receives approximately 325 vehicles per day. The landfill is permitted by Solano County to receive up to 620 vehicles per day. The approximately 50 trucks per day hauling San Francisco MSW would be within the 620 total vehicles that are permitted to access the landfill, and would not result in any increase in truck traffic beyond the amount Solano County already has approved. Nevertheless, these 50 truck trips proposed to haul San Francisco MSW to the Recology Hay Road site are evaluated in this Initial Study as new trips to the landfill, relative to existing conditions.

**Disposal.** Under the proposed project, San Francisco's MSW would be hauled to the Recology Hay Road Landfill and disposed there. The Recology Hay Road Landfill currently operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week, and receives on average approximately 651 tons of MSW per day and 325 vehicles (including trucks) per day. These existing conditions constitute the baseline for environmental analysis in this document.

The City & County of San Francisco does not have authority to control land use or operations at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Solano County has land use permitting authority over the landfill, and has exercised that authority through issuance of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the landfill, which was last amended in October 2012.<sup>17</sup> The landfill also operates under a Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) issued jointly by Solano County and CalRecycle, Waste Discharge Requirements issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and permits issued by the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District. The landfill's permits allow acceptance of up to 2,400 tons of MSW per day and 620 vehicles per day. The amount of San Francisco MSW received, and the number of trucks arriving at the facility as a result of the proposed project, would both be within the limits set by the facility's existing permits.

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<sup>17</sup> Solano County Resource Management Department. Land Use Permit No. U-11-09.

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At least five CEQA documents have been completed for the Recology Hay Road facility.<sup>18</sup> Solano County was the lead agency for each of these documents. The documents<sup>19</sup> are:

- Final Environmental Impact Report, B&J Landfill Master Development Plan, April 1993 (SCH #92063112);
- B&J Drop Box Landfill U-91-28 Mitigated Negative Declaration, 1995 (SCH #1995093048);
- Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for B&J Drop Box Sanitary Landfill SWFP Revision, March 2001 (SCH #2001032035);
- Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report for the Norcal Waste Systems, Inc. Hay Road Landfill Project, March 2005 (SCH #2004032138).
- Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09, August, 2012 (SCH #2004032138)

Mitigation measures identified in these documents have been incorporated as conditions of the facility's permits by Solano County. All mitigation measures currently in effect at the landfill are listed in Appendix B.

The most recent document, the 2012 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (hereafter the "2012 IS/MND"), reviewed and incorporated the analysis and conclusions from the previous documents, and specifically examined the effects of increasing the amount of MSW disposed of in the landfill, from the then-permitted level of 1,200 tons per day average and 2,400 tons per day peak, to a simple limit of 2,400 tons per day, eliminating the 1,200 tons per day average. The 2012 IS/MND used the standard Solano County CEQA checklist to examine the full range of potential environmental impacts that Solano County determined were relevant to the proposal to increase the rate of waste acceptance. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that increasing the rate of waste acceptance to 2,400 tons per day could result in several significant environmental impacts, particularly with regard to aesthetics, air quality, and traffic, and included mitigation measures to reduce these impacts. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that with mitigation, increasing disposal to 2,400 tons per day would not result in a significant adverse environmental impact. As part of its approval process, Solano County incorporated these mitigation measures as conditions of approval in the amended CUP. The CUP and the 2012 IS/MND are available for review at the San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103, as well as the Solano County Resource Management Department.

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<sup>18</sup> As previously noted, names previously used for the facility include the B&J Drop Box Landfill and the B&J Landfill. In addition, Recology was formerly named Norcal Waste Systems.

<sup>19</sup> All of the documents listed are available for review at the Solano County Resource Management Department, and as part of Case File No. 2014.0653E at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.

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The information contained in the 2012 IS/MND is still current, applicable, and descriptive of disposal-related impacts from the proposed project. Solano County staff have concurred that there has been no substantial change in circumstances surrounding that project in the intervening two years, and no new information which would invalidate the analysis or conclusions from that 2012 MND.<sup>20</sup> In fact, the 2012 IS/MND examined a higher level of waste acceptance (2,400 tons per day) than would occur with the current project (the addition of about 1,200 tons per day of San Francisco's MSW to the current average of about 651 tons per day,<sup>21</sup> or a total of about 1,851 tons per day). Therefore, the 2012 IS/MND may be considered "conservative" (that is, it tends to overstate impacts) for the purpose of evaluating the disposal-related impacts of the proposal to dispose of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill.

There are no issues or circumstances raised by the proposal to dispose of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill that are inconsistent with or that invalidate the analysis and conclusions contained in the 2012 IS/MND. The proposed project would not require revisions to the landfill's permits, and would not require any change in operations that were not contemplated and analyzed in the 2012 IS/MND. Furthermore, where potentially significant impacts were identified in the 2012 IS/MND, mitigation measures were specified to avoid these impacts or to reduce them to less than significant, and these measures were incorporated as conditions in the landfill's permits. Therefore, the proposed project would not cause any new, greater or different significant impacts related to disposal of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill beyond the impacts that were analyzed and described in the 2012 IS/MND.

For informational purposes, this document sets forth the conclusions regarding disposal-related impacts contained in the 2012 IS/MND. These are presented within each environmental topic discussion, following discussion of the potential impacts of the transportation component of the project. The combined effects of disposal and transportation together are also discussed in each topical section. In most cases, impacts of transportation and disposal do not overlap or combine, as they are separated in time and space. In the few instances where they do have the potential to combine, such as air emissions and noise, the combined impact is examined and a conclusion reached regarding significance. The analysis of cumulative impacts then follows the discussion of transportation, disposal, and combined impacts.

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<sup>20</sup> Ferrario, Nedzlene (Solano County Planning Department), 2014. E-mail to Dan Sicular, ESA RE: Initial Study-- SF Waste to Recology Hay Road Landfill, December 17, 2014.

<sup>21</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2015.

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### *Cumulative Impacts*

Two approaches to a cumulative impact analysis are provided in CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(b)(1). The analysis can be based on (a) a list of past, present, and probable future projects producing related impacts that could combine with those of a proposed project, or (b) a summary of projections contained in a general plan or related planning document. The analysis in this Initial Study employs both list-based and projections approaches, depending on which approach best suits the individual environmental topic being analyzed. In particular, the projections approach is used in the traffic analysis, air quality analysis, and greenhouse gas analysis. For other topic areas, the list-based approach is used.

One project was identified for the list-based approach: the proposed development of an anaerobic digestion facility at the Recology Hay Road landfill.

#### *Recology Hay Road Anaerobic Digestion Project*

The proposed Anaerobic Digestion (AD) project includes the construction and operation of an anaerobic digester at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The anaerobic digester would be used for processing organics-rich wastes and production of compressed natural gas (CNG). The digestion process breaks down organics-rich materials in an enclosed vessel, resulting in a high nutrient digestate, which can be composted or recirculated back into the digestion process. A byproduct of the digestion process is biogas, consisting mostly of methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O). Biogas would be captured and converted into a fuel source, specifically, the CH<sub>4</sub> would be concentrated and compressed to produce CNG. In sum, the AD project would divert organic material (organics) from landfill disposal, and use the material to produce fuel and soil amendments.

The proposed AD facility would be located within the western portion of the Recology Hay Road site, on approximately two and a half acres. The proposed AD project would include the following changes to the Recology Hay Road Landfill site:

- The AD facility is expected to receive and process up to 57,200 tons per year<sup>22</sup> of various types of organics-rich wastes, including but not limited to commercial and residential food wastes, green wastes, industry wastes and preprocessed municipal solid waste.
- The tonnage received at the AD facility would fall under the existing tonnage limit for the Jepson Prairie Organics composting facility, which is also located within the Recology Hay Road facility. The combined tonnage limit for the two facilities would be the same as the current limit for the composting facility, 600 tons per day (average over seven days) with a peak limit of 750 tons per day.

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<sup>22</sup> Based on 220 tons per day, 5 days per week (260 days per year).

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- The permitted 620 average vehicle trip limit, which currently applies to vehicles hauling waste for both the landfill and the composting operation, would not change; vehicles hauling waste destined for the AD facility would also be included in the 620 vehicle limit. About 25 vehicles per day would be expected to arrive at the AD facility, which includes approximately 15 transfer trucks with incoming organic feedstock, one to two CNG tube trucks, and up to seven to eight employee vehicles. The estimated 15 incoming feedstock trucks would not constitute new vehicles to the site, since these trucks would deliver material to the digester instead of delivering material to the compost facility on site. Since there would be no increase in organics tonnage to the site, the number of incoming and outgoing feedstock trucks would remain the same. The only new vehicles coming to the site would be the CNG tube trucks and employee vehicles, which would be a total of up to 10 new vehicles.
  - The proposal would include construction and operation of the AD facility, including facilities to upgrade and compress the biogas produced to produce CNG;
  - The proposal would involve construction and operation of a piping system to transport digestate to the existing composting facility for use as a compost feedstock. After the organics are “digested” and gas is extracted, the residual organic material, or “digestate”, remains. This digestate is nutrient rich and makes for a good compost feedstock. The facility would be designed to convey the digestate to the Jepson Prairie Organics composting operations, via a pipeline.
  - The proposal would include the construction of an underground piping system to transport CNG fuel from the AD facility to new CNG fueling stations. One fueling station would be located at the existing Recology Vacaville Solano maintenance shop, which is located within the landfill property, and the other would be located within the disposal area boundary of the landfill. Another piping system would also be constructed to carry landfill gas to the AD facility, also to be used to produce CNG.
  - The landfill would receive residuals from the AD facility that cannot be composted or recycled.

Environmental review for the proposed AD facility has not been completed. The lead agency for environmental review of the proposed AD facility is Solano County. In 2012, CalRecycle certified a Programmatic EIR (PEIR) examining the potential impacts of AD facilities co-located with solid waste disposal facilities.<sup>23</sup> The cumulative analysis presented in the current document draws on the conclusions of the PEIR regarding potential impacts and mitigation measures of the proposed Recology AD facility.

### ***Other Pending Applications***

The proposed project would not result in any changes at the San Francisco transfer station; therefore the project could not contribute to cumulative impacts at this location. However, for informational purposes, this section describes two potential future projects at sites that would not be affected by the proposed project.

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<sup>23</sup> CalRecycle, 2011. Statewide Anaerobic Digester Facilities for the Treatment of Municipal Organic Solid Waste. Final Program Environmental Impact Report. SCH No. 2010042100 Prepared the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) by ESA, June 2011. Available online at: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/swfacilities/compostables/AnaerobicDig/PropFnlPEIR.pdf>



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**Transfer Station expansion.** Recology is seeking entitlements for an expansion to the existing transfer station building. The proposal involves the construction of a 40-foot-tall, two-story, approximately 14,000-sf addition to the existing 43-foot-tall, one-story, approximately 47,000-sf MSW transfer station. One new loading space would be added to the lower partial level of the addition at the southern edge of the transfer station site. The expansion of the transfer station would allow additional space to recover recyclables and organics materials that would otherwise be sent to a landfill. The City and County of San Francisco is the CEQA lead agency for this project, and is currently preparing an IS/MND (Case Number 2013.0850E). This project would not result in an increase in MSW transported to the Hay Road Landfill.

**Recology San Francisco Modernization and Expansion.** Recology is planning a comprehensive redevelopment of its Tunnel and Beatty site. The proposal involves replacement of most of the buildings currently on-site with new recycling and resource recovery facilities, maintenance facilities, administrative offices, and supporting operations buildings. The proposal would focus on resource recovery rather than transfer and disposal, and would serve as a model of sustainable infrastructure. The City of Brisbane is the CEQA lead agency for this project. No environmental documents have yet been issued for this project. This project would not increase, and could reduce the quantity of MSW transported to the Hay Road Landfill.

### ***Issues Raised In Response to Notification of Project Receiving Environmental Review***

In June 2014, a Notification of Project Receiving Environmental Review for the proposed project was distributed by the Planning Department. The Notification was mailed to numerous residents of San Francisco and Solano counties who had previously expressed interest in Recology's operations. Comments were received from several individuals and agencies. These comments raised concerns regarding the potential for the proposed project to increase the intensity of landfill operations and possibly cause environmental impacts. In particular, concerns were raised about the possibility of increased odor, increased noise, increased bird nuisance, adverse effects on water quality, and increased litter. Issues raised by the public are described in more detail in Section G of this Initial Study, and potential impacts associated with these issues are discussed below as Disposal Site impacts.

### ***Checklist: Responses to Multiple Questions***

In the following sections, a single impact statement is sometimes used to address two or more checklist questions. Where this occurs, the impact statement is followed by a note stating which questions are being addressed. Where an impact statement addresses only one question, there is no note, but the impact statement itself closely follows the wording of the question.

## E.1 Land Use and Land Use Planning

Topics:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Not Applicable
<b>1. LAND USE AND LAND USE PLANNING— Would the project:</b>					
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial impact upon the existing character of the vicinity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

#### **Impact LU-1: The proposed project would not physically divide an established community. (No Impact)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would take place on existing roadways, between existing facilities. The freeway and road segments between the eastern end of the Bay Bridge and the Recology Hay Road Landfill, which would experience new truck trips as a result of the proposed project, presently carry vehicles and trucks. Potential traffic impacts associated with that increase in vehicle and truck activity are discussed below under Transportation Impacts. However, with respect to land use, there would be no fundamental change in the types of trips or use of those roads as a result of the project. The proposed project would not change the existing roadway configurations or the types of vehicles that use those roads. Therefore, the proposed project does not have the potential to physically divide an established community, and would have *no impact* with regard to this issue.

#### **Impact LU-2: The proposed project is consistent with applicable land use plans, policies, and regulations of an agency with jurisdiction over the project adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not alter existing programs aimed at diverting San Francisco's waste from landfills and would not inhibit the City's efforts to achieve zero waste. The proposed project would not interfere with or inhibit the ability to achieve other City plans, policies, and regulations. Therefore, the project would have *no impact* with regard to this issue.

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**Impact LU-3: The proposed project would not have a substantial impact upon the existing character of the vicinity. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would involve no physical alteration of buildings, landscaping, natural features, or infrastructure in San Francisco or Solano County. Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in an increase of large trucks on I-80 between the I-80/I-880/I-580 interchange and the Midway Road exit, and on Midway Road, State Route 113, and Hay Road. These are, however, existing truck routes and the addition of approximately 100 truck trips per day, spread out over the course of the day and the night, would not result in a change to the functional or visual character of these roads or the areas in proximity to them. Therefore, the project would have *no impact* with regard to this issue.

**Impact LU-4: The project would not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan, as all transportation would be on existing roadways which are not included in any habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. Therefore, there would be *no impact* of this kind.

***Disposal Component of the Project***

With respect to the potential for the proposed project to cause Land Use and Planning impacts related to disposal of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the 2012 IS/MND examined potential Land Use and Planning impacts associated with increasing disposal of MSW from 1,200 tons per day average and 2,400 tons per day maximum, to a simple limit of 2,400 tons per day. The 2012 IS/MND therefore addressed environmental issues raised by the acceptance of MSW at a rate greater than would occur under the currently proposed project. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that increasing disposal would not physically divide an established community, and would not conflict with the land use or zoning designations for the site or otherwise conflict with a policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

The 2012 IS/MND also concluded that the proposed increase in waste acceptance could not conflict with any habitat conservation plan, as it would have no effect on sensitive species or their habitat.

The 2012 IS/MND examined whether increasing the rate of waste acceptance would affect the character of the surrounding area, through its examination of aesthetic, traffic, noise, and other impacts. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that, with mitigation, all impacts would be less than significant. The 2012 IS/MND's

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conclusions about these impacts and the required mitigation measures are set forth below as part of the individual topic's discussion.

Therefore, as concluded in the 2012 IS/MND, disposing of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not have a substantial adverse effect on Land Use and Planning.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, neither transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, nor its disposal there would result in a substantial adverse impact on Land Use and Planning. The transportation component of the project was determined to have no land use impacts, and the disposal component was found to have less than significant impacts. Taken together, transportation and disposal would not divide an established community, would not conflict with an applicable land use plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of environmental protection, would not conflict with any habitat conservation plan, and would not have an adverse impact on the character of the vicinity. Therefore, transportation and disposal, taken together, would not have a significant impact on Land Use and Planning.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-LU-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the site vicinity, would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant land use impact. (No Impact)**

As discussed above, the proposed project does not have the potential for a substantial adverse effect on Land Use and Planning. As discussed above under Approach to the Analysis, the only relevant cumulative project is the Recology Hay Road AD project. The AD project would take place completely within the existing landfill property and would not substantially alter land use or affect surrounding land uses. Therefore, the AD project would not be expected to divide an established community, would not conflict with an applicable land use plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of environmental protection, would not conflict with any habitat conservation plan, and would not have an adverse impact on the character of the vicinity. Therefore, neither the proposed project nor the proposed AD project would contribute to a cumulative impact on Land Use and Planning, and the cumulative impact of the two projects is less than significant.

## E.2 Aesthetics

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>2. AESTHETICS—Would the project:</b>					
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and other features of the built or natural environment which contribute to a scenic public setting?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area or which would substantially impact other people or properties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

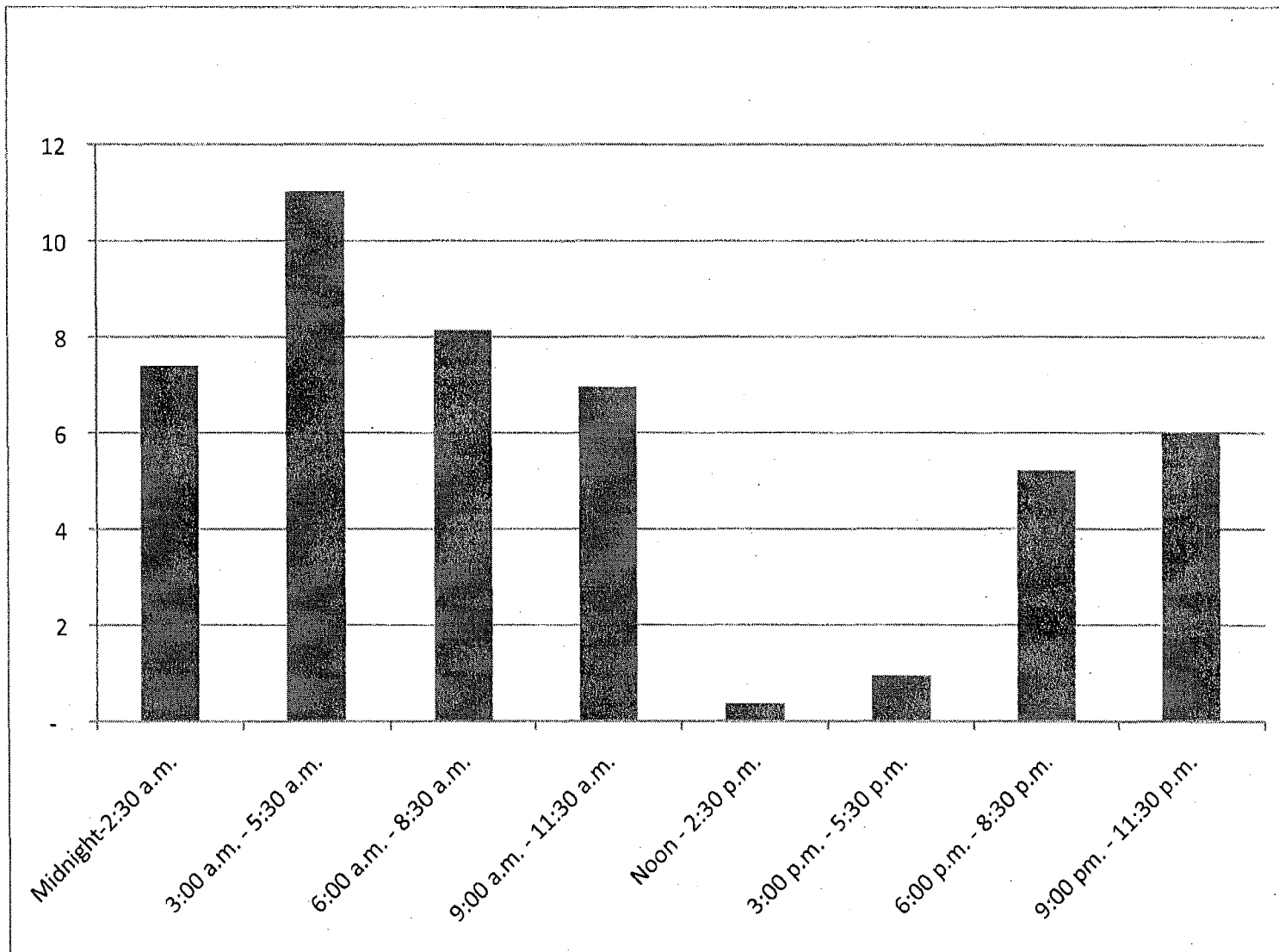
**Impact AE-1: The proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve development of any new structures or facilities that could obstruct a scenic vista. Project-related transportation of MSW would occur only on existing roadways, and no changes to roadway configurations are proposed. The project would result in an increase of about 50 trucks per day in each direction on these roads, or an average of about two per hour in each direction. As shown on **Figure 4**, page 28, a slightly higher portion of the daily trips occurs between 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., when scenic vistas tend to be less visible due to the lack of natural daylight. However, conservatively assuming an average of two truck trips per hour in each direction during daylight hours, this would not block, alter, or restrict access to any scenic vista. Therefore, the project does not have the potential to adversely affect a scenic vista, and would result in *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact AE-2: The proposed project would not substantially damage any scenic resource. (No Impact)**

Scenic resources are visible physical features of a landscape (i.e., land, water, vegetation, animals, structures, or other features).

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve development of any new structures or facilities that could damage a scenic resource. The proposed project involves the transport of waste within enclosed large trucks on existing roadways. East of the Bay Bridge, the proposed



SOURCE: Recology

San Francisco Waste Transport for Disposal at Recology Hay Road Landfill . 210655

**Figure 4**  
Average Daily Departures of Municipal Solid Waste Loads  
from San Francisco Transfer Station and Recycle Central,  
December 2012--September 2013

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project would result in approximately fifty trucks spread out over 24 hours traveling between the Bay Bridge and the Recology Hay Road Landfill site along the route shown in Figure 1 on page 2, and the same number of trucks travelling back along the same route. A substantial portion of this route is along Highway I-80 which currently carries large numbers of vehicles and trucks.

Regarding the portions of the truck route in Solano County between Highway I-80 and the landfill site, State Route 113 is not a State-designated Scenic Highway. However, the Scenic Roadways Element of the Solano County General Plan identifies State Route 113 from the Interstate 80 interchange in Dixon to its intersection with State Route 12 as a County scenic roadway. Automobiles and trucks currently travel on this roadway. Transportation of San Francisco's MSW along this route with a daily average of approximately two trucks per hour in each direction would not cause any alteration or damage to scenic elements in the landscape, including vegetation, geologic features, water features, animals, structures, and landforms. Therefore, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW would not have the potential to damage any scenic resource, and there would be *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact AE-3: The proposed project would not result in a change to the existing character of the project site, and would not degrade the visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve development of any new structures or facilities that could result in a change to any site's visual quality. Increased truck traffic along the haul route, including State Route 113, would not substantially alter the character of this road, as it is already a truck route, and the addition of several trucks each hour would not affect the visual character or quality of the area surrounding the highway, nor would the increase in traffic volume be readily apparent to nearby observers.

The trucks that would be used by Recology to transport San Francisco MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill are enclosed by tarps and flaps over the top of the truck. Furthermore, the Recology Hay Road Landfill is required, as a condition of its CUP, to maintain a litter abatement program around the facility and along roadways leading to it. Therefore, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW would not result in a substantial increase in the amount of waste that becomes litter along local roadways and nearby properties. The transportation of San Francisco's MSW would therefore have *no impact* with regard to degradation of the visual character and quality of the site and its surroundings. For more on this issue, please see the discussion of the disposal component of the project, below.

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**Impact AE-4: The proposed project could create a new source of light and glare that could adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area or substantially impact other people or properties. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in an increase in the number of trucks traveling on I-80 between the I-80/I-880/I-580 interchange and the Midway Road exit, and on Midway Road, State Route 113, and Hay Road during the night compared to current conditions, and so would result in additional vehicle lights along these roadways. These are, however, existing truck routes that are utilized by trucks 24 hours per day. I-80 has an average daily traffic volume of about 115,000 vehicles near the Midway Road interchange. The average daily traffic volume on State Route 113 in the project area is about 3,550 vehicles.<sup>24</sup> As shown in Figure 4 on page 28, up to about 29 truck MSW loads per day depart the SF Transfer Station and Recycle Central facilities between 6:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., with the greatest number departing between midnight and 5:30 a.m. On average, there are about 2.5 trucks per hour departing the San Francisco facilities during this time period. Assuming the same number of trucks would return from the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the project would result in approximately 5 additional trucks per hour during nighttime hours, or one about every 12 minutes. This would not be expected to result in a noticeable increase in the light and glare caused by vehicle lights from nighttime traffic on these roads. Because of the relatively small number of additional trucks trips, and the fact that they would occur infrequently through the night, the increase in nighttime light caused by the project would not be considered substantial, and this impact would be *less than significant*.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND concluded that the proposal to increase waste acceptance to 2,400 tons per day at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have no impact on scenic vistas or scenic resources, and would have no impact resulting from new sources of nighttime light or glare. The 2012 IS/MND identified a potentially significant impact on the visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings, from an increased potential for litter associated with increased waste acceptance. The 2012 IS/MND identified the following mitigation measure, and found that it would be sufficient to reduce this impact to less than significant:

#### **Mitigation Measure 1 (Aesthetics)**

The facility operator shall implement the following litter control mitigation measures following implementation of the proposed project:

- Portable litter control fences shall be installed directly downwind of the working face during site operations.

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<sup>24</sup> Caltrans, 2013.



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- Additional litter collection crews shall be deployed following high wind events to remove litter from the parcels adjacent to the landfill. The facility operator shall work to establish site access agreements with the adjacent property owners prior to project implementation.
  - In the event that waste generated from City of Fairfield is received at RHR, the facility operator shall check for and pick up litter, on a weekly basis, or more frequently if needed, on the following roads: Vanden Road from Peabody Road to Canon Road, Canon Road from Vanden Road to North Gate Road, North Gate Road from Canon Road to McCrory Road, McCrory Road from North Gate Road to Meridian Road, Meridian Road from McCrory Road to Hay Road, Hay Road from Meridian Road to Lewis Road and Midway Road from Interstate 80 to State Route 113.
  - The facility operator shall negotiate an agreement with Solano County regarding reimbursement for the cost of removing trash and materials dumped along the above mentioned County roads, should County employees be required to assist in the removal of trash associated with the expanded use of the landfill.

Condition 34 of the landfill's amended CUP incorporates this Mitigation Measure.

#### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND fully considered the potential aesthetic effects of increased waste acceptance at and proximate to the Recology Hay Road Landfill site, where any aesthetic impacts would be focused, and concluded that, with mitigation, all impacts would be less than significant. The analysis in the current document concludes that transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in no aesthetic impact with respect to scenic vistas, scenic resources or visual character. Hence there could be no combined impact with respect to those issues. Regarding glare, both this Initial Study and the 2012 IS/MND concluded that the project would have less than significant impacts. Those less than significant impacts would occur in different locations which would not combine. Hence, the combination of transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill and disposal of that waste therein therefore does not pose the potential for a substantial adverse aesthetic impact.

#### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-AE-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the site vicinity, would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant aesthetics impact. (Less than Significant)**

As discussed above, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have no impact on scenic resources or scenic vistas. Therefore, transportation of San Francisco's MSW could not contribute to a cumulative impact of this kind.

Impact AE-4, above concluded that the project would result in a less-than-significant increase in nighttime lighting from increased truck traffic. The only relevant cumulative project, the proposed AD Project at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, would result in approximately 10 additional vehicles per day entering and leaving the Recology Hay Road facility. As discussed under impact AE-4, the proposed project is expected to result in approximately five new truck trips per hour during nighttime hours. The AD Project is expected to result in only one to two new truck trips, and seven to eight employee trips to and from the AD Project site per day. These new truck trips would primarily be during the day. Even if half of these trips were at night, the combination of only a few new vehicle trips associated with the AD Project, in combination with the approximately five trips per hour associated with the proposed project, would not be expected to result in a noticeable increase in the light and glare caused by vehicle lights from nighttime traffic on I-80, Midway Road, or State Route 113, and the cumulative impact of additional traffic-related nighttime lighting is therefore less than significant. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that increasing the rate of disposal at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not result in an increase in nighttime lighting. Although final design details of the AD Project are not complete, the AD Project would likely have an industrial appearance and would be located within an existing landfill facility, which is also industrial in character and appearance. Therefore, when taken together, transportation, disposal, and the AD project would not combine in a cumulative manner to cause a significant aesthetic impact.

### E.3 Population and Housing

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>3. POPULATION AND HOUSING— Would the project:</b>					
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing units or create demand for additional housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### *Transportation Component of the Project*

In general, a project would be considered to have a significant impact on population and housing if it were to result in a substantial population increase, or if it were to displace a substantial number of people or existing housing units. This could occur if the project were to add a substantial number of housing

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units, or if the project were to attract a substantial number of employees who would have to be housed in the area. An increase of approximately nine to ten full time equivalent drivers would be needed to haul San Francisco MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill due to the longer trip length compared to hauling waste to the Altamont Landfill. This number of jobs can be accommodated by the local workforce and would not result in a substantial population increase. The project would not add any new housing units and the project does not include development of new structures or facilities that would displace any existing housing units.

A project could also have a significant impact if it were to extend roads or other infrastructure into new areas, thus enabling additional growth in the future. The project would not extend roads or other infrastructure, and so would have no impact of this kind.

**Impact PH-1: The proposed project would not induce substantial population growth, either directly or indirectly. (No Impact)**

As explained above, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not create new housing or substantial new employment. Therefore, the project would not directly or indirectly induce population growth, and would have *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact PH-2: The proposed project would not displace any existing housing units or create a demand for additional housing that would necessitate the construction of replacement housing. (No Impact)**

As explained above, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not displace existing housing. As the project would not induce population growth, it would not create demand for additional housing. Consequently, the project would result in *no impact* related to displacement of housing or demand for additional housing.

**Impact PH-3: The proposed project would not displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. (No Impact)**

As explained above, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not displace any people from their residences. Consequently, the project would result in *no impact* related to displacement of people.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND concluded that the proposal to increase waste acceptance to 2,400 tons per day at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve the construction of any components (such as roads, or residential homes) that would induce population growth, would not displace any existing housing, and

would not displace substantial numbers of people, and that therefore the increase in waste acceptance would have no impact on population and housing.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, neither transport nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would result in any adverse impact on population and housing. Similarly, taken together, transport and disposal would not require new housing, displace existing housing, or displace people. Therefore, considered together, transport and disposal would not result in a significant impact on population and housing.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-PH-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the site vicinity, would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant population or housing impact. (No Impact)**

Because neither transportation nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would have an impact on population or housing, the project does not have the potential to contribute to a cumulative impact on population or housing.

## **E.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources**

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>4. CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES—Would the project:</b>					
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5, including those resources listed in Article 10 or Article 11 of the San Francisco Planning Code?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

This section examines the potential for the proposed project to have an adverse effect on cultural and paleontological resources.

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Cultural resources include historical resources and archeological resources. Historical resources are those that meet the terms of the definitions in Section 21084.1 of the CEQA Statute and Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines. Historical resources are defined as properties or districts listed in, or formally determined eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources, or listed in an adopted local historic register. The term "local historic register" (or "local register of historical resources") refers to a list of resources that are officially designated or recognized as historically significant by a local government pursuant to resolution or ordinance. Historical resources also include resources identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting certain criteria. Additionally, properties not listed but otherwise determined to be historically significant, based on substantial evidence, would also be considered historical resources.

Archeological resources include material remains of past human life or activities which are of archeological interest, including buried remains of Native American settlements and artifacts, early historical period artifacts (such as buried or sunken ships) and human remains.

Paleontological resources include fossilized remains or traces of animals, plants and invertebrates, including their imprints, from a previous geological period. Localities where fossils are collected, and the geologic formations containing fossils, are also considered paleontological resources as they represent a limited, nonrenewable resource and once destroyed, cannot be replaced.

### ***Transportation Component of the Project***

**Impact CP-1: The proposed project would not result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of historic architectural resources. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW on existing roadways would not alter, demolish, or otherwise affect any structure, or disturb any land, or otherwise cause changes that could affect an historic architectural resource. Therefore, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW does not have the potential to cause an adverse change in the significance of historical architectural resources, and there would be *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact CP-2: The proposed project would not result in damage to, or destruction of, unique geological features or as-yet unknown archeological or paleontological resources, or human remains. (No Impact)**

This impact addresses questions 4.b, 4.c, and 4.d from the checklist at the beginning of this section.

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Because transportation of San Francisco's MSW on existing roadways would not involve any land disturbance, it would not have the potential to damage or destroy any unique geological features or any as-yet undiscovered archeological or paleontological resources or human remains. Therefore, the project would have *no impact* of this kind.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for increasing the rate of waste acceptance to result in a substantial adverse impact on cultural resources. The 2012 IS/MND stated that because the project being examined at that time would not alter the configuration of the landfill, there would be no change in site grading or excavation activities. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that the project would not have the potential to expose, damage, or destroy significant cultural resources, and therefore there would be no impact to historical, archeological, or paleontological resources or human remains.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, neither transportation nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would result in any adverse impact on cultural resources. Similarly, taken together, transport and disposal would not have the potential to expose, disturb, or destroy historical, archeological, or paleontological resources or human remains. Therefore, considered together, transport and disposal would not result in a significant impact on population and housing.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-CP-1: The proposed project in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the vicinity, would not result in cumulative impacts to cultural resources. (No Impact)**

No historic, archeological, or paleontological resources or human remains would be affected by the transportation or disposal of San Francisco's MSW. Therefore, the project does not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact on cultural resources.

## E.5 Transportation and Circulation

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>5. TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION – Would the project:</b>					
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels, obstructions to flight, or a change in location, that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

The transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill does not include any activities that would adversely affect air traffic patterns. Therefore, question 5.c from the above checklist does not apply to this aspect of the project.

The existing road network for trips to and from Recology Hay Road Landfill is described above on pages 11-13. As previously stated in the project description, transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would cause no changes in existing truck or vehicular activity between the Recology San Francisco Transfer Station and the east end of the Bay Bridge. The project would generate new truck trips between the east end of the Bay Bridge and the Recology Hay Road Landfill site in Solano County.

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The analysis of potential project impacts, presented below, focuses on the effects on I-80 from the east end of the Bay Bridge to the interchange at Midway Road, as well as the following local area intersections (all unsignalized), which are located on the travel route that project-generated trucks would use from I-80 to the Recology Hay Road facility:

1. I-80 Westbound Ramps at O'Day Road
2. Midway Road at O'Day Road
3. Midway Road at I-80 Eastbound Ramps
4. Midway Road at Porter Road
5. Midway Road at State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road)
6. State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road) at Hay Road
7. Hay Road at Recology Hay Road Landfill Access

Each of the seven study intersections currently operate with very good to excellent level of service (LOS), i.e., LOS B or better, during the a.m. and p.m. peak traffic hours (see Table TR-1 on page 41); drivers experience minimal delays traveling through the intersections.<sup>25</sup> See Appendix A, Traffic Technical Appendix, for the LOS calculation sheets and a map showing the location of study intersections.

**Impact TR-1: The proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation, nor would the project conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures. (Less than Significant)**

To determine whether transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would conflict with a transportation- or circulation-related plan, ordinance or policy (e.g., the Solano County General Plan and the Solano Congestion Management Program), this section analyzes the proposed project's effects on intersection operations, transit demand, impacts on pedestrian and bicycle circulation, and freight loading.<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Level of service (LOS) is a qualitative description of the performance of an intersection based on the average delay per vehicle, ranging from LOS A, which indicates excellent conditions with short delays, to LOS F, which indicates congested conditions with extremely long delays. For unsignalized intersections, the average delay and LOS are calculated by approach (e.g., northbound) and movement (e.g., northbound left turn) for those movements that are subject to delay, with the approach having the highest delay determining the reported LOS. The a.m. and p.m. peak (commute) hours are the highest 60-minute periods within the 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. periods, respectively.

<sup>26</sup> As explained below, the effect of project traffic on the I-80 freeway between the east end of the Bay Bridge and the point at which project trucks would exit the freeway (or enter the freeway when returning) would be so small as to be less than significant. Accordingly, the project would not conflict with any transportation- or circulation-related plan, ordinance, or policy applicable to areas beyond the Hay Road Landfill vicinity, and thus Solano County plans and policies are the only such documents applicable here.



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#### Trip Generation

The transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in San Francisco's MSW no longer being trucked to Altamont Landfill in Alameda County; instead, MSW would be transported by long-haul trucks owned and operated by Recology, with a maximum of 24.5 tons of waste per load.

#### Existing Conditions

The Recology Hay Road facility, including both the landfill and the composting facility, currently receives on average approximately 325 trucks per day, seven days per week. The landfill is permitted by Solano County and CalRecycle to receive up to 620 vehicles per day (averaged over a seven-day period), and to operate up to 24 hours per day, seven days per week. As stated in the project description, the landfill currently operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 361 days per year. Located within the footprint of the landfill is the Jepson Prairie Organics composting facility, which accepts organic materials for composting (a portion of which currently comes from San Francisco). The vehicle limit noted above, 620 vehicles per day, is shared by the landfill and the composting facility.

Based on a 6-day week (Recology typically hauls MSW loads from Sunday evening through Friday), there are approximately 44 trucks (or round trips) per day hauling MSW for disposal from the Recology San Francisco transfer station to the Altamont Landfill. In addition to MSW from the Recology San Francisco transfer station, approximately six trucks per day haul residual wastes from Recology's Recycle Central facility to the Altamont Landfill.

#### Proposed Project Conditions

The volume of MSW being hauled from San Francisco would be the same with or without the proposed project. Instead of going to the Altamont Landfill, the existing 50 trucks per day, or 100 daily one-way trips, would transport MSW from the Recology San Francisco facilities to the Recology Hay Road Landfill.<sup>27</sup> The net new trip generation figures presented in this section of the Initial Study represent the traffic that would be added to the existing traffic stream of the local area roadways that would be used by project-generated trucks. It is estimated that the proposed project would generate a total of about 12 new one-way trips on I-80 east of the eastern end of the Bay Bridge and on roads between I-80 and the landfill during the a.m. peak hour (about 11-12% of Recology's daily trips), and the project would generate no new one-way trips on these roads during the p.m. peak hour. The peak-hour project trips were derived

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<sup>27</sup> Round trips consist of two one-way trips (in this case, one inbound loaded truck trip and one outbound empty truck trip).

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on the basis of the existing hourly distribution of Recology transfer trucks departing their San Francisco facilities bound for the Altamont Landfill (see Figure 4 on page 28), and an estimated travel time of 90 minutes to 2 hours from the Points of Origin to the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The project would result in no change in traffic on San Francisco city streets, on U.S. 101 in San Francisco, or on I-80 over the Bay Bridge.

Because the transfer truck fleet is owned, controlled and dispatched by Recology, Recology has considerable flexibility in its shipping schedule, and as such, makes efforts to minimize the number of trucks on the road during peak traffic times. The majority of trips occur in the early morning hours prior to a.m. peak traffic period (7:00 – 9:00 a.m.), mid-morning following the a.m. peak traffic period, and in the evenings following the p.m. peak traffic period (4:00 – 6:00 p.m.; see Figure 4 on page 28). Under the project, Recology would continue its existing practice of managing departures to avoid heavy traffic periods, and in particular to avoid the Fairfield-Vacaville section of I-80 during the morning commute period, in accordance with the requirements set forth in Recology Hay Road Landfill's Conditional Use Permit from Solano County. However, this analysis conservatively assumes that Recology would make no adjustment to the existing departure times of transfer trucks to account for the travel time from San Francisco to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, ensuring that potential project impacts are not underestimated.

Project-generated trucks would travel the same route as Recology's organic materials transfer trucks do at present: Midway Road exit from I-80, east on Midway Road to State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road), then south to Hay Road (see Figure 2 on page 3). Empty transfer trucks would return to San Francisco via these same roads (in reverse order).

#### Project Impacts

**Freeway Impacts.** As stated in the Setting, I-80 has an average daily traffic volume of about 115,000 vehicles near the Midway Road interchange. The project-generated 100 new daily one-way trips would not represent a substantial increase in daily traffic volume (less than 0.1%). This level of additional freeway traffic due to the project would be well within the daily fluctuation in existing freeway traffic volumes and as such would not constitute a noticeable increase in freeway traffic. Therefore, traffic flow conditions on I-80 would not be adversely affected. The project would add approximately 12 new peak-hour trips, which would have a less-than-significant impact on peak-hour traffic congestion on I-80.

**Intersection Impacts.** As shown in Table TR-1, below, the estimated peak-hour vehicle trips would result in minor changes to the average delay per vehicle under existing plus project conditions; all study intersections in the project vicinity would continue to operate at excellent to very good levels of service.

As such, the proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system (e.g., the Solano County General Plan and the Solano Congestion Management Program), nor would the project conflict with level of service standards and travel demand measures (e.g., the goal of Solano County is to maintain a LOS C on all roads and intersections), and the proposed project's impact would be *less than significant*.

**TABLE TR-1  
LEVELS OF SERVICE (LOS) AND AVERAGE VEHICLE DELAY (SECONDS PER VEHICLE)  
EXISTING VS. EXISTING PLUS PROJECT CONDITIONS**

Study Intersection ( <i>all unsignalized</i> )	Existing				Existing Plus Project			
	AM Peak Hour		PM Peak Hour		AM Peak Hour		PM Peak Hour	
	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS
1. I-80 Westbound Ramps at O'Day Rd.	8.9	A	8.9	A	8.9	A	8.9	A
2. Midway Road at O'Day Road	9.1	A	9.1	A	9.1	A	9.1	A
3. Midway Rd. at I-80 Eastbound Ramps	10.0	A	9.5	A	10.0	A	9.5	A
4. Midway Road at Porter Road	10.0	A	10.1	B	10.0	A	10.1	B
5. Midway Rd. at State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Rd.)	10.9	B	13.4	B	11.0	B	13.4	B
6. State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road) at Hay Road	10.2	B	10.2	B	10.5	B	10.2	B
7. Hay Road at Recology Hay Road Landfill Access	9.1	A	9.1	A	9.1	A	9.1	A

SOURCE: ESA, 2014 (Appendix A)

**Impact TR-2: The proposed project would not substantially increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not alter the design of any roadways. In addition, the project-generated trips would be made by the type of vehicles (trucks) that currently travel on I-80 and on the existing roadways used to haul waste to the Recology Hay Road Landfill (i.e., the project would not introduce vehicles that are incompatible with existing traffic in the area). Lastly, the facility operator would be required by existing permit conditions<sup>28</sup> for the Recology Hay Road Landfill to continue to compensate Solano County annually to pay for pavement repairs necessitated by transfer trucks and trucks used for hauling soil operated by Recology or its contractors over area roadways. For these reasons, the proposed project would not substantially increase traffic hazards, and the impact would be *less than significant*.

<sup>28</sup> Solano County Conditional Use Permit Conditions 14(f) and 31(d).

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**Impact TR-3: The proposed project would not result in inadequate emergency access. (Less than Significant)**

The surrounding road network serving the project site accommodates the movements of emergency vehicles that travel to and through the area. As indicated above, project traffic would have minimal effect on conditions on I-80, and all relevant intersections on Solano County roadways would continue to operate at excellent or very good levels of service. Hence, emergency access would remain unchanged from existing conditions. Therefore, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have a *less-than-significant* impact on emergency vehicle access to the project site or any surrounding sites.

**Impact TR-4: The proposed project would not conflict with any adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill does not include elements that would conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., the Solano Comprehensive Transportation Plan, Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan, and Solano Countywide Pedestrian Plan). In addition, the additional trips on Solano County local roadways associated with the project would have little impact on existing excellent or very good levels of service. For these reasons, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have a *less-than-significant* impact on these programs.

***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for traffic impacts associated with increasing the rate of waste acceptance, focusing, as the analysis above does, on the impact of increased waste-hauling vehicles on freeways and local roadways. The 2012 IS/MND assumed that up to an additional 434 daily vehicle trips could occur (over four times the 100 daily project-generated vehicle trips examined in this document), but determined that this would have a less-than-significant impact on traffic operations at the same intersections analyzed for the proposed project (under existing plus project, and cumulative plus project, conditions).

***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, transport of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not result in a substantial adverse impact on traffic. The few additional trips from increased disposal (from increased number of employees and increased equipment and supply deliveries), added to the 100 additional truck trips per day associated with transport of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, would not cause a significant traffic impact. The 2012 IS/MND examined the impacts associated with 434

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additional daily vehicle trips, and found that traffic impacts would be less than significant. Therefore, considered together, transport and disposal would not result in a significant traffic impact.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-TR-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects would not result in a substantial contribution to cumulative transportation impacts. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed project would have a duration of up to 15 years. As such, project-generated traffic may no longer exist at the time of traditional cumulative ("horizon year") conditions (e.g., 2035 or later). Regardless of the project's limited lifespan, it also is noted that, as described under Impact TR-1, the project would generate about 100 one-way trips per day, with about 12 trips during the a.m. peak hour, and no new trips during the p.m. peak hour.

The proposed AD facility would generate up to 25 round-trip (or 50 one-way) vehicle trips per day (by up to 8 employees, 15 delivery trucks, and up to 2 CNG tube trucks), of which only 10 would be new round trips to the site.

The combined number of vehicle trips from the proposed project, combined with operation of the proposed AD facility and other operations at the Recology Hay Road Landfill and Jepson Prairie Organics cannot exceed the 620 average vehicle trip limit that Solano County has imposed as a condition of its permit for the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Accordingly, the combined number of vehicle trips traveling to and from the landfill would not result in vehicle trip generation in excess of the number of trips that were analyzed in the 2012 IS/MND.

The 2012 IS/MND concluded that full operation of the Recology Hay Road Landfill (including up to 620 average vehicle trips per day) would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative traffic impact through the year 2030 (i.e., the build-out year as defined in the Solano County and City of Dixon General Plans, analyzed in the 2012 IS/MND, and the approximate end date of the proposed project assumed for this Initial Study). The proposed new truck trips evaluated in this Initial Study would represent only a portion of the maximum 620 daily vehicle trips at the landfill evaluated in the 2012 IS/MND. One intersection in the vicinity of the Recology Hay Road Landfill was identified in the 2012 IS/MND as experiencing a potentially significant level of congestion under cumulative traffic conditions in the year 2030 (the intersection of Midway and State Route 113). However, the 2012 IS/MND found that the significant cumulative impact would occur only in the p.m. peak hour, and that the combined traffic from the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to this potential impact.

Given the conclusions of the 2012 IS/MND, together with the analysis in this Initial Study that shows the proposed project is expected to generate only 12 a.m. peak hour trips, and no p.m. peak hour trips, it is concluded that the project would not make a considerable contribution to traffic volumes and intersection performance under cumulative conditions. As a result, the project would be considered to have a *less-than-significant* cumulative impact on area intersections and the surrounding transportation network.

## E.6 Noise

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>6. NOISE—Would the project:</b>					
a) Result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, in an area within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project located in the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Be substantially affected by existing noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

**Impact NO-1:** The proposed project would not result in exposure to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, and would not result in a substantial permanent or temporary increase in ambient noise levels, groundborne vibration, or groundborne noise in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project. Nor would the project expose persons residing or working in the project area to excessive levels of aviation noise. (Less than Significant)

This impact addresses questions 6.a through 6.g from the above list.

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The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in a slight increase in traffic noise and groundborne vibration along the haul route along I-80 between the I-80/I-880/I-580 interchange and the Midway Road exit, and on Midway Road, State Route 113, and Hay Road. However, these are established truck routes, and the addition of approximately 100 truck trips per day would constitute a proportionally small increment of traffic along these routes, which would not substantially increase existing traffic noise or vibration, or substantially increase exposure to noise for people in the vicinity. Therefore, the proposed project would have a *less-than-significant* impact with regard to generation of noise, groundborne noise, and groundborne vibration, and also a *less-than-significant* impact with regard to exposure of people to increased noise levels.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for increasing the rate of waste acceptance to result in a substantial adverse noise impact, focusing both on the potential for increased traffic noise and on increased noise from more intensive landfill operations. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that there would not be a substantial increase in noise levels from increased traffic or from increased disposal operations. The 2012 IS/MND noted that the nearest residence to the Recology Hay Road facility is located more than one mile from the landfill operations area and noise generated from the site is substantially attenuated by this separation.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, neither transport nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would result in a substantial adverse noise impact. Because of the distance of the landfill from sensitive receptors, increased operational noise would not combine with increased traffic noise to cause a significant increase in ambient noise levels at the location of sensitive receptors. Therefore, considered together, the transportation and disposal components of the proposed project would not result in a significant noise impact.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-NO-1: The proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulatively significant noise impacts. (Less than Significant)**

A 2011 Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) examining AD facilities located at landfills and other solid waste facilities<sup>29</sup> found that both construction and operation of AD facilities could cause

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<sup>29</sup> CalRecycle, 2011.

significant noise impacts. Noise from construction may include heavy equipment and other machinery operation, construction noise, and construction traffic-related noise. Operations of AD facilities that generate noise may include receiving of materials, preprocessing including sorting and grinding, vehicle circulation, and the operation of mechanical equipment such as stationary pumps, motors, compressors, fans, and generators. Operation of pipelines for conveyance of gas produced would not result in any discernible noise. Some equipment, such as electrical generators, may operate 24-hours a day, creating operational noise during nighttime hours. The PEIR concluded that AD facilities located within 2,000 feet of a sensitive receptor could cause a significant increase in ambient noise levels.

The proposed AD facility would be located within the landfill property, and, like landfill operations that generate noise, would be located over one mile away from the nearest sensitive receptor. At this distance, the slight increase in noise from increased disposal operations, combined with noise levels from the AD facility and the slight increase in noise from increased truck traffic, would not combine to cause a significant increase in ambient noise levels for nearby sensitive receptors, as the distance to the nearest receptors would be more than twice the 2,000 foot threshold described in the PEIR. The proposed project, including permitted disposal and combined with the AD project, would therefore have a *less-than-significant* cumulative noise impact.

## E.7 Air Quality

Topics:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Not Applicable
<b>7. AIR QUALITY—Would the project:</b>					
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal, state, or regional ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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## *Introduction*

Under the proposed project, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would occur both in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB) and in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin (SVAB).

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the regional agency with jurisdiction over the SFBAAB, which includes San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties, and portions of Sonoma and Solano Counties. The BAAQMD is responsible for attaining and maintaining air quality in the SFBAAB within federal and state air quality standards, as established by the federal Clean Air Act (CAA) and the California Clean Air Act (CCAA), respectively. Specifically, the BAAQMD has the responsibility to monitor ambient air pollutant levels throughout the SFBAAB and to develop and implement strategies to attain the applicable federal and state standards. The CAA and the CCAA require plans to be developed for areas that do not meet air quality standards, generally. The most recent air quality plan, the Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan (Bay Area 2010 CAP), was adopted by the BAAQMD on September 15, 2010. The Bay Area 2010 CAP updates the Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy in accordance with the requirements of the CCAA to implement all feasible measures to reduce ozone; to provide a control strategy to reduce ozone, particulate matter, air toxics, and greenhouse gases in a single, integrated plan; and to establish emission control measures to be adopted or implemented. The Bay Area 2010 CAP contains the following primary goals:

- Attain air quality standards;
- Reduce population exposure and protect public health in the San Francisco Bay Area; and
- Reduce GHG emissions and protect the climate.

The Bay Area 2010 CAP represents the most current applicable air quality plan for the SFBAAB.

The Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD) is the regional agency with jurisdiction over the portion of the SVAB in which the Recology Hay Road Landfill is located. Every three years, the YSAQMD prepares a Triennial Assessment and Plan Update of its Clean Air Plan, detailing how the District will expeditiously achieve the California air quality standards. The latest update was published in April of 2013.<sup>30</sup> The Final 2013 Triennial Report and Update for YSAQMD builds upon improvements accomplished from the previous plans, and aims to incorporate all feasible control measures while balancing costs and socioeconomic impacts.

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<sup>30</sup> YSAQMD, 2013. Triennial Assessment and Plan Update. April. Available at: <http://www.ysaqmd.org/documents/plans/Triennial%20Plan%202012%20DRAFT.pdf>. Assessed February, 2015.

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Consistency with these two plans, the Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan and the YSAQMD Triennial Assessment and Plan Update, serves as the basis for determining whether the proposed project would conflict with or obstruct implementation of air quality plans.

#### Criteria Air Pollutants

In accordance with the CAA and CCAA, air pollutant standards are identified for the following six criteria air pollutants: ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter (PM), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and lead. These air pollutants are termed criteria air pollutants because they are regulated by developing specific public health and welfare-based criteria as the basis for setting permissible levels. In general, the SFBAAB and SVAB experience low concentrations of most pollutants when compared to federal or state standards. The SFBAAB is designated as either in attainment<sup>31</sup> or unclassified for most criteria pollutants with the exception of ozone, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub>, for which these pollutants are designated as non-attainment for either the state or federal standards. The SVAB is either in attainment or unclassified for criteria pollutants except for the State 24-hour and annual PM<sub>10</sub> standards and the state and federal 8-hour ozone standards. By its very nature, regional air pollution is largely a cumulative impact in that no single project is sufficient in size to, by itself, result in non-attainment of regional air quality standards. Instead, a project's individual emissions contribute to existing cumulative air quality impacts. If a project's contribution to cumulative air quality impacts is considerable, then the project's impact on air quality would be considered significant.<sup>32</sup>

The proposed project may contribute to regional criteria air pollutants during the operational phase. Table AQ-1, on page 49, identifies the air quality significance thresholds used in this Initial Study air quality analysis. Projects that would result in criteria air pollutant emissions below these significance thresholds would not violate an air quality standard, contribute substantially to an air quality violation, or result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in criteria air pollutants. The rationale used for establishing these thresholds is discussed below.

BAAQMD adopted updated *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines*, including new thresholds of significance, in June 2010, and revised them in May 2011. The Air Quality Guidelines advise lead agencies on how to evaluate potential air quality impacts, including establishing quantitative and qualitative thresholds of significance. The BAAQMD resolutions adopting and revising the significance thresholds in 2011 were set aside by the

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<sup>31</sup> "Attainment" status refers to those regions that are meeting federal and/or state standards for a specified criteria pollutant. "Non-attainment" refers to regions that do not meet federal and/or state standards for a specified criteria pollutant. "Unclassified" refers to regions where there is not enough data to determine the region's attainment status.

<sup>32</sup> BAAQMD, 2009. Revised Draft Options and Justification Report, California Environmental Quality Act Thresholds of Significance, October 2009, p. 33.

**TABLE AQ-1  
AIR QUALITY THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Pollutant	Operational Thresholds for use within the SFBAAB	
	Average Daily Emissions (lbs. /day)	Maximum Annual Emissions (tons/year)
ROG	54	10 <sup>a</sup>
NO <sub>x</sub>	54	10 <sup>a</sup>
PM <sub>10</sub>	82 <sup>b</sup>	15
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	54	10
Fugitive Dust	Not Applicable	
CO	CO concentrations of 9.0 ppm (8-hour average) and 20.0 ppm (1-hour average) as estimated by roadway vehicle volumes exceeding 44,000 vehicles per hour at any intersection.	

<sup>a</sup> Also applicable within the SVAB.

<sup>b</sup> YSAQMD significance threshold for PM<sub>10</sub> is 80 lbs. /day.

SOURCE: BAAQMD, 2009; YSAQMD, 2007.

Alameda County Superior Court on March 5, 2012.<sup>33</sup> In May of 2012, BAAQMD updated its CEQA Air Quality Guidelines to continue to provide direction on recommended analysis methodologies, but without recommended quantitative significance thresholds.<sup>34</sup>

The air quality analysis below uses the previously-adopted 2011 thresholds of the BAAQMD to determine the potential impacts of the project. These thresholds are based on substantial evidence identified in BAAQMD's 2009 *Justification Report*<sup>35</sup> and are therefore used within this document. Because the SFBAAB is in non-attainment for ozone and particulate matter, significance thresholds are identified for ROG and NO<sub>x</sub> (ozone precursors) and, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> (particulate matter), as shown in Table AQ-1.

YSAQMD has adopted thresholds for annual NO<sub>x</sub> and ROG, and daily PM<sub>10</sub>.<sup>36</sup> YSAQMD has no PM<sub>2.5</sub> threshold; it also has no daily thresholds for ROG or NO<sub>x</sub>, nor an annual threshold for PM<sub>10</sub>. The YSAQMD thresholds, noted in Table AQ-1, are applicable to emissions that would occur in the SVAB.

<sup>33</sup> The thresholds BAAQMD adopted were called into question by a minute order issued January 9, 2012, in *California Building Industry Association v. BAAQMD*, Alameda Superior Court Case No. RG10548693. The minute order states that "The Court finds [BAAQMD's adoption of thresholds] is a CEQA Project, the court makes no further findings or rulings." The claims made in the case concerned the CEQA impacts of adopting the thresholds, particularly, how the thresholds would affect land use development patterns. Petitioners argued that the thresholds for Health Risk Assessments encompassed issues not addressed by CEQA.

<sup>34</sup> On August 13, 2013, the First District Court of Appeal ordered the trial court to reverse the judgment and upheld the BAAQMD's CEQA thresholds. The appellate court judgment has been suspended pending review by the California Supreme Court (Supreme Court Case No. S213478), and thus BAAQMD has not re-instated the thresholds.

<sup>35</sup> BAAQMD, 2009.

<sup>36</sup> YSAQMD, 2007. Handbook for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts. Adopted July 11, 2007.

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**Ozone Precursors.** As discussed previously, the SFBAAB is currently designated as non-attainment for ozone. The SVAB is also in non-attainment for ozone. Ozone is a secondary air pollutant produced in the atmosphere through a complex series of photochemical reactions involving reactive organic gases (ROG) and oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>). The potential for a project to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in criteria air pollutants, which may contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation, are based on the CAA and CCAA emissions limits for stationary sources. To ensure that new stationary sources do not cause or contribute to a violation of an air quality standard, BAAQMD Regulation 2, Rule 2 requires that any new source that emits criteria air pollutants above a specified emissions limit must offset those emissions. For ozone precursors ROG and NO<sub>x</sub>, the offset emissions level is an annual average of 10 tons per year (or 54 pounds (lbs.) per day).<sup>37</sup> These levels represent emissions below which new sources are not anticipated to contribute to an air quality violation or result in a considerable net increase in criteria air pollutants. Although BAAQMD Regulation 2, Rule 2 applies to stationary sources, these standards can also be applied to projects that would emit ozone precursors and can be used to determine whether the project would have the potential to contribute to a violation of the ozone standard.

**Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>).**<sup>38</sup> The federal New Source Review (NSR) program was created by the federal CAA to ensure that stationary sources of air pollution are constructed in a manner that is consistent with attainment of federal health-based ambient air quality standards. Projects that increase and/or redirect vehicle trips can increase PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions and concentrations, thus the emissions limit in the NSR can be used to determine whether the project would contribute to a violation of particulate matter standards. For PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, the emissions limit under NSR is 15 tons per year (82 lbs. per day) and 10 tons per year (54 lbs. per day), respectively. These emissions limits represent levels at which a source is not expected to have an impact on air quality.<sup>39</sup> However, the YSAQMD has adopted a PM<sub>10</sub> threshold of 80 lbs/day, slightly lower than the emissions limit under NSR. Thus, this Initial Study utilizes the more stringent 80 lb/day standard for PM<sub>10</sub>.

**Health Risk.** The proposed project requires the use of heavy-duty diesel vehicles and equipment, which emit diesel particulate matter (DPM). The California Air Resources Board (ARB) identified DPM as a toxic air contaminant (TAC) in 1998, based on evidence demonstrating cancer effects in humans.<sup>40</sup> The exhaust

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<sup>37</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, page 17.

<sup>38</sup> PM<sub>10</sub> is often termed "coarse" particulate matter and is made of particulates that are 10 microns in diameter or smaller. PM<sub>2.5</sub>, termed "fine" particulate matter, is composed of particles that are 2.5 microns or less in diameter.

<sup>39</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, page 16.

<sup>40</sup> California Air Resources Board, 1998. Fact Sheet: The Toxic Air Contaminant Identification Process: Toxic Air Contaminant Emissions from Diesel-fueled Engines. October 1998. Available online at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/dieseltac/factsht1.pdf>, accessed February 27, 2012. This document is also available for review at the Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, in Case File No. 2004.0093E.

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from diesel engines includes hundreds of different gaseous and particulate components, many of which are toxic. Mobile sources such as trucks and buses are among the primary sources of diesel emissions, and concentrations of DPM are higher near heavily traveled highways. Projects that require a substantial amount of heavy-duty diesel vehicles and equipment, would result in emissions of DPM and possibly other TACs that may affect nearby sensitive receptors.

Both YSAQMD and BAAQMD have developed significance thresholds for health risks. YSAQMD has adopted a cancer risk significance threshold of 10 in one million, and an acute and chronic hazard index significance threshold of 1.0 for the maximally exposed individual (MEI). However, YSAQMD's thresholds apply only to stationary sources. YSAQMD's guidance clearly states that these thresholds do not apply to mobile sources.<sup>41</sup> Consequently, this analysis uses the BAAQMD's previously adopted 2011 thresholds to determine the potential health risk impacts of the project. Similar to the BAAQMD's air quality significance thresholds adopted in 2011, BAAQMD's health risk thresholds are not currently recommended for use by BAAQMD. However, BAAQMD's 2011 health risk thresholds are based on substantial evidence identified in BAAQMD's 2009 Justification Report and described below and are therefore used in this document.

**Excess Cancer Risk and Hazard Index.** Similar to criteria pollutant thresholds identified above, the BAAQMD Regulation 2, Rule 5 sets cancer risk limits for new and modified sources of TACs at the maximally exposed individual (MEI). In addition to cancer risk, some TACs pose non-carcinogenic chronic and acute health hazards. Acute and chronic non-cancer health hazards are expressed in terms of a hazard index, or HI, which is a ratio of the TAC concentration to a reference exposure level (REL), a level below which no adverse health effects are expected, even for sensitive individuals.<sup>42</sup> In accordance with Regulation 2, Rule 5, the BAAQMD Air Pollution Control Officer shall deny any permit to operate a source that results in an increased cancer risk of 10 per million or an increase chronic or acute HI of 1.0 at the MEI. This threshold is designed to ensure that the source does not contribute to a cumulatively significant health risk impact.<sup>43</sup>

**Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>).** Particulate matter, primarily associated with mobile sources (vehicular emissions) is strongly associated with mortality, respiratory diseases, and impairment of lung development in children, and other endpoints such as hospitalization for cardiopulmonary disease. Based on toxicological and epidemiological research, smaller particles and those associated with traffic appear

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<sup>41</sup> YSAQMD, 2007.

<sup>42</sup> YSAQMD, 2007, p. D-35. BAAQMD, 2012. Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards, Version 3.0. May, 2012.

<sup>43</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 54.

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more closely related to health effects.<sup>44</sup> Therefore, estimates of PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from a new source can be used to approximate broader potential adverse health effects. The United State Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed a Significant Impact Level (SIL) for PM<sub>2.5</sub>. For developed urban areas, including much of San Francisco, the EPA has proposed a SIL of between 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 0.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The SIL represents the level of incremental PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions that represents a significant contribution to regional non-attainment.<sup>45</sup> The lower range of the EPA recommended SIL of 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> is an appropriate threshold for determining the significance of a source's PM<sub>2.5</sub> impact.

In determining the potential distance that emissions from a new source may affect nearby sensitive receptors, a summary of research findings in the ARB's *Land Use Compatibility Handbook* suggest that air pollutants from high volume roadways are substantially reduced or can even be indistinguishable from upwind background concentrations at a distance of 1,000 feet downwind from sources such as freeways and large distribution centers.<sup>46</sup> This radius is also consistent with Health and Safety Code Section 42301.6 (Notice for Possible Source Near School).

In summary, potential health risks and hazards from new sources on sensitive receptors are assessed within a 1,000-foot zone of influence and risks and hazards from new sources that exceed any of the following thresholds at the MEI are determined to be significant: excess cancer risk of 10 per one million, chronic or acute HI of 1.0, and annual average PM<sub>2.5</sub> increase of 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

**Cumulative Health Risk.** The United State Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has established an excess cancer risk standard of 100 per one million persons (100 excess cancer risk) for conducting air toxic analyses and making risk management decisions at the facility and community-scale level.<sup>47</sup> As described by the BAAQMD, the USEPA considers a cancer risk of 100 per million to be within the "acceptable" range of cancer risk. Furthermore, in the 1989 preamble to the benzene National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) rulemaking,<sup>48</sup> the USEPA states that it "...strives to provide maximum feasible protection against risks to health from hazardous air pollutants by (1) protecting the greatest number of persons possible to an individual lifetime risk level no higher than approximately one in one million and (2) limiting to no higher than approximately one in ten thousand

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<sup>44</sup> San Francisco Department of Public Health, 2008. Assessment and Mitigation of Air Pollutant Health Effects for Intra Urban Roadways: Guidance for Land Use Planning and Environmental Review. May 2008, p.5.

<sup>45</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 65.

<sup>46</sup> ARB, 2005. Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: a Community Health Perspective. Available online at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/handbook.pdf>

<sup>47</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 67.

<sup>48</sup> 54 Federal Register 38044, September 14, 1989.

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[100 in one million] the estimated risk that a person living near a plant would have if he or she were exposed to the maximum pollutant concentrations for 70 years.”

In terms of non-carcinogenic chronic and acute health hazards associated with TACs, a project would have a significant cumulative impact if the total of all past, present, and foreseeable future sources within a 1,000 foot radius (or beyond where appropriate) from the fence line of a source, or from the location of a receptor, plus the contribution from the project, exceeds a chronic hazard index (HI) greater than 10.0 for TACs.<sup>49</sup>

With respect to incremental annual average PM<sub>2.5</sub> threshold, a PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard of 0.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> is used for cumulative sources within the 1,000-foot evaluation zone because the USEPA is proposing a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) of 0.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> as a cumulative threshold for all PM<sub>2.5</sub> sources.<sup>50</sup> This threshold is used as the basis for determining cumulative health risk impacts for this project.

### ***Transportation Component of the Project***

#### **Impact AQ-1: The proposed project would not conflict with, or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plans. (Less than Significant)**

In determining consistency with the Bay Area 2010 CAP, this analysis considers whether the transportation of San Francisco’s MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would: (1) support the primary goals of the Bay Area 2010 CAP, (2) include applicable control measures from the Bay Area 2010 CAP, and (3) avoid disrupting or hindering implementation of control measures identified in the Bay Area 2010 CAP.

The primary goals of the Bay Area 2010 CAP are to: (1) Reduce emissions and decrease ambient concentration of harmful pollutants; (2) Safeguard the public health by reducing exposure to air pollutants that pose the greatest risk; and (3) Reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To meet the primary goals, the Bay Area 2010 CAP recommends specific control measures and actions. These control measures are grouped into various categories and include 18 stationary and area source measures, 10 mobile source measures, 17 transportation control measures, six land use measures, and four energy and climate measures.

Of the 10 mobile source measures included in the Bay Area 2010 CAP, only two apply to heavy-duty on-road vehicles: 1) MSM B-1 Fleet Modernization for Medium- and Heavy-Duty On-Road Vehicles and

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<sup>49</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p.68.

<sup>50</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p.67.

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2) MSM B-2 – Low NOx Retrofits in Heavy-Duty On-Road Vehicles. Under MSM B-1, BAAQMD will provide incentives for the purchase of new trucks that meet 2010 emission standards for heavy-duty engines. Under MSM B-2, BAAQMD will provide incentives for the installation of ARB-verified abatement equipment to reduce NOx emissions from existing on-road heavy-duty truck engines. The proposed project would not hinder or interfere with either measure.

Of the 17 transportation control measures included in the Bay Area 2010 CAP, one could potentially apply to the Project: Measure TCM B-4, Goods Movement Improvements and Emission Reduction Strategies. TCM B-4 will improve goods movement and heavy-duty truck emission reductions by providing incentive funding for diesel equipment owners to purchase cleaner-than-required vehicles and equipment. The proposed project, which already uses LNG and biodiesel-powered trucks, would not interfere with TCM B-4 as the project already includes cleaner-than-required vehicles.

Examples of a project that could cause the disruption or delay of Clean Air Plan control measures are projects that would preclude the extension of a transit line or bike path or projects that propose excessive parking beyond City parking requirements. The proposed project would increase haul route distance for San Francisco's MSW, but would not include any elements that could hinder implementation of the 2010 CAP.

Impact GG-2 in Section E-8, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, discusses the proposed project's consistency with GHG reduction measures in the Bay Area 2010 CAP, and concludes that the proposed project would be consistent with these measures. Impact GG-1 in Section E-8 concludes that GHG emissions of the proposed project would be less than significant.

Based on this assessment, the project would not interfere with the Bay Area 2010 CAP.

YSAQMD's 2012 Triennial Assessment and Plan Update discusses the progress the YSAQMD has made towards improving the air quality in its jurisdiction since its last Triennial Plan Update. The Plan also identifies control measures needed to make further progress towards achieving the State ozone standard. These include measures to reduce emissions from area, stationary, agricultural, and mobile sources. The mobile source measures focus primarily on ways to improve transit, bicycle, and pedestrian travel. The 2012 Triennial Assessment and Plan Update does not include any specific control measures for on-road trucks. The Project's increase in haul route distance and rerouting of truck trips would add only marginally to the SVAB air emissions and would not interfere with the 2012 Triennial Assessment and Plan Update.



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Since the proposed project would not interfere with implementation of the Bay Area 2010 CAP or YSAQMD's 2012 Triennial Assessment and Plan Update, this impact would be *less than significant*.

**Impact AQ-2: During project operations, the proposed project would result in emissions of criteria air pollutants, but not at levels that would violate an air quality standard, or that would contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation. (Less than Significant)**

This impact addresses checklist questions 7.b and 7.c. Cumulative impacts are discussed below, under Impact C-AQ-1.

The emissions increases attributable to the transport of San Francisco's MSW would be from the increase in distance required to haul San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill compared to current conditions under which San Francisco's MSW is hauled to the Altamont Landfill. Because the Recology Hay Road Landfill is farther from the Points of Origin, emissions from hauling would be higher. Some of the increase in emissions would occur in the SFBAAB, and new emissions would occur in the SVAB. Project air emissions were calculated using emission rates provided by ARB's EMFAC2011 for the SFBAAB and SVAB, and biodiesel adjustment factors, LNG emission rates, and CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission factors provided by the ARB. Vehicle information and haul route details were provided by Recology. Trip length was estimated using Google maps. Out of a total of 51 vehicles in the haul fleet, 40 are B20 biodiesel-powered and 11 are LNG-powered.

The proposed project is not expected to result in an increase in the number of daily truck trips, which would remain at approximately 50 round trips per day. The data regarding the number of truck trips, trip lengths and haul routes were used with the EMFAC2011 emission factors for heavy heavy-duty tractor-trailer trucks (T7 Tractor) to determine the maximum annual emission increase as well as average daily emission increases. Since the truck fleet is an average of six years old, EMFAC2011 emission rates for vehicle model year 2008 were selected. Average haul truck speed was assumed to be the EMFAC2011 aggregate average throughout the trip length, so emission rates at this speed were used to conduct the emissions calculations. All of the above assumptions and calculations are detailed in the project-specific Air Quality Technical Report.<sup>51</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> Environmental Science Associates (ESA), 2015. Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County Project, Air Quality Technical Report. January, 2015. This document is available for review as part of Case File No. 2014.0653E at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.

Criteria pollutant emissions from the anticipated project-related operational sources are quantified in Tables AQ-2 and AQ-3, below. As shown, the project would not exceed significance thresholds for criteria air pollutants within each air basin. Furthermore, the combined emissions in both the SFBAAB and the SVAB would not exceed the significance thresholds for either air basin. Therefore, the project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

**TABLE AQ-2  
INCREMENTAL INCREASE IN AVERAGE DAILY OPERATIONAL EMISSIONS FOR THE  
PROPOSED PROJECT**

Source	ROG	NO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
<b>Average Daily Emissions (pounds/day)</b>				
SFBAAB Emissions	<u>1,391.11</u>	<u>17,2513.39</u>	<u>1,000.74</u>	<u>0,440.34</u>
Significance Thresholds for the SFBAAB	54	54	82	54
Exceeds Thresholds?	No	No	No	No
SVAB Emissions	<u>1,141.09</u>	<u>15,5414.92</u>	<u>1,051.00</u>	<u>0,410.39</u>
YSAQMD Significance Thresholds	N. A.	N. A.	80	N. A.
Exceeds YSAQMD Thresholds?	N. A.	N. A.	No	N. A.
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b><u>2,532.20</u></b>	<b><u>32,7928.31</u></b>	<b><u>2,041.74</u></b>	<b><u>0,850.73</u></b>
Exceeds Either set of Thresholds?	No	No	No	No

N. A.: Not applicable for YSAQMD

SOURCE: ESA, 2015; BAAQMD 2009, YSAQMD 2007.

**TABLE AQ-3  
INCREMENTAL INCREASE IN MAXIMUM ANNUAL OPERATIONAL EMISSIONS FOR THE  
PROPOSED PROJECT**

Source	ROG	NO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
<b>Maximum Annual Emissions (tons/year)</b>				
SFBAAB Emissions	<u>0,229.17</u>	<u>2,702.09</u>	<u>0,160.12</u>	<u>0,079.05</u>
Significance Thresholds for the SFBAAB	10	10	15	10
Exceeds Thresholds?	No	No	No	No
SVAB Emissions	<u>0,180.17</u>	<u>2,432.33</u>	0.16	0.06
YSAQMD Significance Thresholds	10	10	N. A.	N. A.
Exceeds YSAQMD Thresholds?	No	No	N. A.	N. A.
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b><u>0,400.34</u></b>	<b><u>5,134.43</u></b>	<b><u>0,320.27</u></b>	<b><u>0,130.11</u></b>
Exceeds Either set of Thresholds?	No	No	No	No

N. A. Not applicable for YSAQMD

SOURCE: ESA, 2015; BAAQMD 2009; YSAQMD 2007.

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**Impact AQ-3: During project operations, the proposed project would result in emissions of carbon monoxide, but not at levels that would violate an air quality standard, or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation. (Less than Significant)**

This is the first of two impact statements that correspond to Checklist Question 7d. Cumulative impacts are discussed below, under Impact C-AQ-1. Emissions from traffic at congested intersections can, under certain circumstances, cause a localized build-up of CO concentrations. Regional ambient air quality monitoring data demonstrate that CO concentrations are well below the applicable standards, despite long-term upward trends in vehicle miles traveled. This monitoring data confirms that the potential for localized increases in CO concentrations from increased traffic has been greatly reduced in recent years. Improvements in motor vehicle exhaust controls since the early 1990s and the use of oxygenated fuels have substantially reduced CO emissions from motor vehicles.

Elevated concentrations of localized CO from congested traffic would not have the potential to cause a violation of ambient air quality standards because the following three criteria would be met:

- The project is consistent with an applicable congestion management program established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways, regional transportation plan, and local congestion management agency plans. The proposed project would be consistent with these regional plans, since (as described Section E.5, Transportation and Circulation) the project-generated 100 daily trips (which would be re-directed to the Recology Hay Road Landfill from the Altamont Landfill) would not represent a substantial increase in daily traffic volume on affected roadways (less than 0.1%), and traffic flow conditions would not be adversely affected. Plans include the Congestion Management Program adopted by the San Francisco County Transportation Authority in December 2011 and the Plan Bay Area adopted by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission on July 18, 2013. The proposed project would not substantially increase daily traffic volume on affected roadways and therefore, the project would comply with this criterion.
- Project traffic would not increase traffic volumes at affected intersections to more than 44,000 vehicles per hour.<sup>52</sup> There would be no additional traffic at intersections along the haul routes within San Francisco, and, as described in Section E.5, Transportation and Circulation, intersections in Solano County along the haul route would have less than 44,000 vehicles per hour under existing plus project and cumulative conditions.
- The project traffic would not increase traffic volumes at affected intersections where vertical and/or horizontal mixing is substantially limited (e.g., tunnel, parking garage, bridge underpass, natural or urban street canyon, below-grade roadway).

Because each of the criteria would be met, elevated concentrations of localized CO from congested traffic would not cause a violation of ambient air quality standards, and the transportation of San Francisco's

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<sup>52</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 37.

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MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not be expected to result in localized concentrations of CO at unhealthful levels. Therefore, CO impacts would be *less than significant*.

**Impact AQ-4: During project operations, the proposed project would generate toxic air contaminants, including diesel particulate matter, but would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial air pollutant concentrations. (Less than Significant)**

This is the second of two impact statements that correspond to Checklist Question 7d. Cumulative impacts are discussed below, under Impact C-AQ-1.

Estimated emissions from MSW haul trucks traveling between San Francisco and the Recology Hay Road landfill were evaluated to determine whether they would result in significant health risks associated with diesel emissions. Since the project would relocate MSW haul truck trips, it would also relocate any associated health risks to the I-80 corridor and Solano County roads leading to and from the Hay Road Landfill. The project-related increase in the number of truck trips on I-80 and on Solano County roads would equal 50 round trips per day. A screening level analysis was used to estimate the increase in ambient pollutant concentrations resulting from these additional trips. These concentrations were then converted to health risks using procedures recommended by the BAAQMD and the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA).<sup>53,54</sup> The YSAQMD has not developed any specific health risk guidance for mobile sources.<sup>55</sup>

The CALINE4 model was used to estimate ambient concentrations of DPM. DPM is the primary toxic air pollutant of concern from diesel trucks. The CALINE4 model is a line source air quality model developed by the California Department of Transportation specifically to assess air quality impacts of CO, nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), and suspended particles such as PM<sub>10</sub> near roadways. The model can predict pollutant concentrations for receptors located within 500 meters of a roadway. CALINE4 was used to estimate the increase in ambient pollutant concentrations that would be emitted by the increase in trucks traveling on I-80 and on the local roads from I-80 to the landfill. Concentrations were estimated at varying distances from the edge of the roadway. CALINE4 was run using the worst-case wind angle option, which estimates the maximum 1-hour concentration that could occur at each sensitive receptor using worst-case meteorology.

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<sup>53</sup> BAAQMD, 2012. Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards. Version 3.0. May, 2012.

<sup>54</sup> California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), 2014. Air Toxics Hot Spots Program Risk Assessment Guidelines, The Air Toxic Hot Spots Program Guidance Manual for Preparation of Health Risk Assessments. June, 2014. Review Draft.

<sup>55</sup> YSAQMD, 2007.

Using the results of the CALINE4 model, the project's health risks are shown in **Table AQ-4**, below. The maximum cancer risk of 1.6244 per million is less than the 10 per million significance thresholds discussed above. The chronic hazard index of 0.00060.0009 is less than the chronic hazard index of one significance threshold discussed above. Using CALINE4's modeled concentration of DPM as a surrogate for PM<sub>2.5</sub>, the maximum annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration is estimated at 0.00290.0045 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, which is substantially below the significance threshold of 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

**TABLE AQ-4**  
**PROJECT SPECIFIC HEALTH RISKS<sup>a</sup>**

	Cancer Risk	Chronic Hazard Index	Annual PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Project Specific Increase in Risk to Sensitive Receptors Near Freeway	<u>1.6244</u> per million	<u>0.00060.0009</u>	<u>0.00290.0045</u>
Significance Thresholds	10 per million	1	0.3 <sup>b</sup>
Exceed Threshold?	No	No	No

NOTES:

<sup>a</sup> Risks are based on exposure to DPM.

<sup>b</sup> This threshold has only been suggested within BAAQMD jurisdiction.

SOURCE: ESA, 2015

OEHHA has not established an acute REL for DPM. However, many of the speciated components of DPM (i.e., the different chemicals making up DPM) do have established acute RELs. Given that the DPM emissions associated with the proposed project are relatively low with respect to cancer risk and chronic HI, the acute HI would not be exceeded when assessing the acute HI for each of the speciated components of DPM. Therefore, no acute health risk is shown in Table AQ-4.

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would therefore result in a *less-than-significant* impact with respect to exposing sensitive receptors to substantial levels of toxic air contaminants.

**Impact AQ-5: The proposed project would not create objectionable odors that would affect a substantial number of people. (Less than Significant)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in longer waste hauling trips and an increase in the number of trucks hauling MSW on I-80 and Solano County local roads compared to existing conditions. Waste-hauling vehicles have the potential to generate odors. However, the haul route that would be used under the proposed project is already used by waste-hauling vehicles and MSW trucks hauling waste would be covered. The addition of approximately 50 waste-hauling vehicles per day, spread out over the course of a day and night, would not substantially increase

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odor for receptors along the roadways. The proposed project would have a *less than significant* impact with regard to generation of substantial odors.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined air quality impacts associated with both transportation and operations-related air emissions related to the then-proposed increase in the rate of waste acceptance. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that there was the potential for significant increases in criteria air pollutants emissions, particularly NO<sub>x</sub> and PM-10, from increased generation of landfill gas, increased use of off-road equipment, and increased emissions from haul trucks. The 2012 IS/MND included the following mitigation measures to reduce this impact to less than significant:

#### **Mitigation Measure 2**

The facility operator shall implement the following dust control mitigation measures during implementation of the proposed project and during ongoing site operations:

- The project applicant shall implement the Best Available Control Technologies (BACT), including using water trucks to reduce PM10 from dust emissions at the project site, consistent with current operations.
- Project PM10 emissions from stationary sources shall be offset by the acquisition of emission offsets during the permitting process, if determine necessary by the YSAQMD, consistent with YSAQMD Regulation 3-4.

#### **Mitigation Measure 3**

The facility operator shall implement the following mitigation measure prior to implementation of the proposed project:

- The project applicant shall control additional landfill gas generations through modifications to the landfill gas collection and treatment system and shall implement any required offsets, consistent with the YSAQMD Rule 3-4.

These measures were included as conditions in the amended CUP as conditions 29a, 29b, and 29c.

The 2012 IS/MND noted that the Recology Hay Road Facility has been the object of numerous odor complaints, but points out that these complaints focus on the existing Jepson Prairie Composting operation. The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for increased acceptance of waste for landfilling to increase odors, and found that existing environmental controls are sufficient; the 2012 IS/MND concluded that landfilling up to 2,400 tons per day would result in a less-than-significant odor impact.

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The 2012 IS/MND also concluded that the proposed increase in the rate of waste acceptance would not result in a substantial increase in health risk, nor would it result in a violation of an adopted air quality plan.

***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

The air quality analysis contained in the 2012 IS/MND considered emissions from multiple sources, including haul vehicles, equipment operations, and fugitive landfill gas.<sup>56</sup> The analysis concluded that the project being examined could result in a significant increase in criteria air pollutants (NO<sub>x</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>), but that the mitigation measures specified would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels. The calculated increase in haul vehicle emissions in the 2012 IS/MND was greater than that calculated for the proposed project (the 2012 IS/MND assumed that all increased vehicle emissions would be within the SVAB); therefore, when using the lower values calculated for the current project, the combined impact of all sources considered in the 2012 IS/MND would also be less than significant with the inclusion of the mitigation measures specified in the 2012 IS/MND, which have been adopted by Solano County as conditions in the CUP. Therefore, the combined impact of Transportation and Disposal would be less than significant.

The Health Risk Assessment (HRA) performed for the 2012 IS/MND included an assessment of health risks from the then-proposed increase in disposal. The HRA considered TAC emissions from several sources, including DPM emissions from landfill equipment and diesel-powered haul vehicles, as well as other TACs contained in landfill gas. The HRA assumed that the most exposed individuals would be residents within one mile of the landfill.<sup>57</sup> The HRA concluded that the increased cancer risk from all disposal and transport sources combined would be less than the 10 additional cases per million, and that the increase in both chronic and acute HI would be less than 1.0. Therefore, the 2012 IS/MND already considered the health risks for exposed individuals within vicinity of the landfill from both disposal and from transportation, and found that the combined health risk of transportation and disposal would be less than significant.

Because of the distance to sensitive receptors, transportation-related odor emissions would not be expected to combine with disposal-related odor emissions to cause a significant odor impact.

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<sup>56</sup> 2012 IS/MND, Appendix A, Table ES-4.

<sup>57</sup> 2012 IS/MND, Appendix A, Section 4.

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### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-AQ-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the project area would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to cumulative air quality impacts. (Less than Significant)**

As discussed above, regional air pollution is by its very nature largely a cumulative impact. Emissions from past, present, and future projects contribute to the region's adverse air quality on a cumulative basis. No single project by itself would be sufficient in size to result in regional nonattainment of ambient air quality standards. Instead, a project's individual emissions contribute to existing cumulative adverse air quality impacts.<sup>58</sup> The project-level thresholds for criteria air pollutants are based on levels by which new sources are not anticipated to contribute substantially to an air quality violation or result in a considerable net increase in criteria air pollutants.

As discussed above, project-related criteria pollutant emissions within the SFBAAB would be less than significant; therefore, emissions within the SFBAAB would not be cumulatively considerable. Also as discussed above, project-related transportation emissions within the SVAB would be less than significant, and therefore would not be cumulative considerable. With respect to emissions from disposal of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the 2012 IS/MND examined the impacts of increased emissions of criteria air pollutants from increased disposal together with anticipated increases in transportation-related emissions, and concluded that after application of mitigation measures, the project then being examined would have a less-than-significant air quality impact within the SVAB. The 2012 IS/MND therefore concluded that the increased rate of disposal then being examined would not make a considerable contribution to cumulative impacts within the SVAB.

With regard to cumulative health risks, as discussed above, the cumulative health risk significance thresholds used in this analysis are 100 per million for cancer risk, 10.0 for chronic HI, and 0.8  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  for  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentration. As noted above, the 2012 IS/MND calculated health risks associated with the then-proposed increase in waste acceptance, including health risks from increased emissions of diesel equipment, diesel haul trucks, and landfill gas, and found that the resulting health risks would be below the individual project significance thresholds of 10 additional cancer cases per million exposed, and also below the chronic and acute HI of 1.0. The 2012 IS/MND also examined the combined health risks of the then-proposed increase in waste acceptance, in combination with health risks from the ongoing landfill operation, and

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<sup>58</sup> BAAQMD, 2009. p. 33.



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found that, together, cancer, chronic, and acute health risks would also be below the individual project significance thresholds stated above, and therefore also below the cumulative significance thresholds. No other sources of TACs have been identified within close proximity to the Recology Hay Road landfill. Therefore, the increased rate of disposal would not make a considerable contribution to cumulative health risks.

Health risks from Recology vehicles transporting San Francisco's waste between San Francisco and the Recology Hay Road landfill would combine with health risks from other sources, including roadways, industrial sources, and other sources. Using the BAAQMD's health risk screening tools (Highway Screening Analysis Tool and Stationary Source Analysis Tool), the cumulative health risks along the I-80 corridor were estimated and compared to the cumulative thresholds discussed above. The cumulative health risks were estimated by combining:

- the increase in health risk from the project's waste haul trucks traveling on I-80,
- existing health risks from traffic traveling on I-80 (identified using BAAQMD's Highway Screening Analysis Tool), and
- stationary source health risks from sources located near I-80 (identified using BAAQMD's Stationary Source Analysis Tool).

The cumulative health risks for the project, in combination with the other sources cited above, would be as follows: cancer risk of 77.7 per million; chronic HI of 0.1; and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration of 0.6 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Each of these risk levels is lower than the applicable cumulative health risk threshold, which are 100 per million for cancer risk, 10.0 for chronic HI, and 0.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> for PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration. Therefore, the proposed project's contribution to cumulative health risks would be less than significant.

Finally, MSW trucks would not contribute to a cumulative odor impact while in transit or while at the Hay Road Landfill. Although an AD facility is proposed for the landfill, a significant cumulative odor impact resulting from odors generated by waste hauling and anaerobic digester operation is unlikely given the landfill's location in a rural area with few residences nearby. Therefore, the proposed project's contribution to cumulative regional and localized air quality impacts would be *less than significant*.

## E.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Topics:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Not Applicable
8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS— Would the project:					
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Approach to Analysis

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are analyzed in the context of their contribution to the cumulative effects of climate change, since a single land use project could not generate enough GHG emissions to noticeably change the global average temperature.

Sections 15064.4 and 15183.5 of the *CEQA Guidelines* address the analysis and determination of significant impacts from a proposed project's GHG emissions. Factors to be considered include: 1) the extent to which GHG emissions would increase or decrease as a result of the proposed project; 2) whether or not a proposed project exceeds a threshold that the lead agency determines applies to the project; and 3) demonstrating compliance with plans and regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing or mitigating GHG emissions.

The GHG analysis provided below includes a quantitative assessment of GHG emissions that would result from the proposed project. However, neither the BAAQMD nor the YSAQMD has an adopted significance threshold for project operations. BAAQMD adopted updated *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines*, including new thresholds of significance, in June 2010, and revised them in May 2011. The BAAQMD resolutions adopting and revising the significance thresholds in 2011 were set aside by the Alameda County Superior Court on March 5, 2012.<sup>59</sup> In May of 2012, BAAQMD updated its *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines* to continue to provide direction on recommended analysis methodologies, but without recommended quantitative significance thresholds.

<sup>59</sup> The thresholds BAAQMD adopted were called into question by a minute order issued January 9, 2012, in *California Building Industry Association v. BAAQMD*, Alameda Superior Court Case No. RG10548693. The minute order states that "The Court finds [BAAQMD's adoption of thresholds] is a CEQA Project, the court makes no further findings or rulings." The claims made in the case concerned the CEQA impacts of adopting the thresholds, particularly, how the thresholds would affect land use development patterns. Petitioners argued that the thresholds for Health Risk Assessments encompassed issues not addressed by CEQA.

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The significance thresholds adopted by BAAQMD in 2011 are based on substantial evidence identified in BAAQMD's 2009 Justification Report<sup>60</sup> and are therefore used within this document. For operational emissions, this threshold is 1,100 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) per year.<sup>61</sup> BAAQMD determined that this threshold would achieve aggregate emissions reduction of 1.6 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2020, which is the SFBAAB's fair share of mandated GHG emission reductions needed from new land use projects to comply with the AB 32 Scoping Plan (see below).

The analysis presented below also evaluates the project's consistency with plans and regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. Three greenhouse gas reduction plans -- the AB 32 Scoping Plan, BAAQMD's 2010 CAP, and the Solano County Climate Action Plan<sup>62</sup> -- are all intended to reduce GHG emissions below current levels, and are all applicable to the current project. Therefore, the analysis below examines the project's consistency with relevant components of these three plans. The following provides a brief description of each of the three plans.

#### AB 32 Scoping Plan and Update

Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32, Statutes of 2006, Chapter 488) declares that global warming poses a serious threat to the economic well-being, public health, natural resources, and environment of California and charges the ARB with "monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases that cause global warming in order to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases." AB 32 provided initial direction on creating a comprehensive multi-year program to limit California's GHG emissions at 1990 levels by 2020 and initiate the transformations required to achieve the State's long-range climate objectives. One specific requirement is to prepare a "scoping plan" for achieving the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective GHG emission reductions by 2020. ARB is required to update the plan for achieving the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions in GHG emissions at least once every five years.

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<sup>60</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 38.

<sup>61</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>e, or carbon dioxide equivalency, is a quantity that describes, for a given mixture and amount of greenhouse gas, the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> that would have the same global warming potential (GWP), when measured over a specified timescale (generally, 100 years). Carbon dioxide equivalency thus reflects the time-integrated radiative forcing of a quantity of emissions, expressed in terms of the GWP of the most common and abundant GHG, CO<sub>2</sub>. The carbon dioxide equivalency for a gas is obtained by multiplying the mass and the GWP of the gas. For example, the currently-accepted GWP for methane over 100 years is 25. This means that emissions of 1 metric tonne of methane is equivalent to emissions of 25 metric tons of carbon dioxide.

<sup>62</sup> Solano County, 2011, County of Solano Climate Action Plan. Adopted June 7, 2011.

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The Scoping Plan was approved in 2008, as required by AB 32, and reapproved in 2011.<sup>63</sup> The Scoping Plan contained a mix of recommended strategies that combined direct regulations, market-based approaches, voluntary measures, policies, and other emission reduction programs calculated to meet the 2020 statewide GHG emission limit and initiate the transformations needed to achieve the State's long-range climate objectives. The passage of AB 32, and its ongoing implementation, has put California on a path to continually reduce GHG emissions by adopting and implementing regulations and other programs to reduce emissions from cars, trucks, electricity production, fuels, and other sources.

This First Update to the Scoping Plan<sup>64</sup> (Scoping Plan Update) was developed by the ARB in collaboration with the State's Climate Action Team and reflects the input and expertise of a range of state and local government agencies. The Scoping Plan Update, which was adopted by the ARB in 2014, reflects public input and recommendations from business, environmental, environmental justice, and community-based organizations provided in response to the release of prior drafts of the Scoping Plan Update. The Update highlights California's success to date in reducing its GHG emissions and lays the foundation for establishing a broad framework for continued emission reductions beyond 2020, on the path to the target of 80 percent reduction in GHG emissions below 1990 levels by 2050.

The Scoping Plan Update covers a range of topics, including the following:

- An update of the latest scientific findings related to climate change and its impacts, including short-lived climate pollutants.
- A review of progress-to-date, including an update of Scoping Plan measures and other state, federal, and local efforts to reduce GHG emissions in California.
- Potential technologically feasible and cost-effective actions to further reduce GHG emissions by 2020.
- Recommendations for establishing a mid-term emissions limit that aligns with the State's long-term goal of an emissions limit 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.
- Sector-specific discussions covering issues, technologies, needs, and ongoing State activities to significantly reduce emissions throughout California's economy through 2050.
- Priorities and recommendations for investment to support market and technology development and necessary infrastructure in key areas.

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<sup>63</sup> ARB.2008. Climate Change Scoping Plan, a Framework for Change, Adopted December, 2008. Available online: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/document/scopingplandocument.htm>

<sup>64</sup> ARB, 2014. First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan: Building on the Framework. Adopted May, 2014. Available online: [http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/2013\\_update/first\\_update\\_climate\\_change\\_scoping\\_plan.pdf](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/2013_update/first_update_climate_change_scoping_plan.pdf)

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- A discussion of the ongoing work and continuing need for improved methods and tools to assess economic, public health, and environmental justice impacts.

#### BAAQMD 2010 Clean Air Plan

The Bay Area 2010 CAP<sup>65</sup> was adopted by the BAAQMD on September 15, 2010. The Bay Area 2010 CAP updates the *Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy* in accordance with the requirements of the CCAA to implement all feasible measures to reduce ozone; to provide a control strategy to reduce ozone, particulate matter, air toxics, and greenhouse gases in a single, integrated plan; and to establish emission control measures to be adopted or implemented. The Bay Area 2010 CAP contains the following primary goals:

- Attain air quality standards;
- Reduce population exposure and protect public health in the San Francisco Bay Area; and
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the climate.

The Bay Area 2010 CAP represents the most current applicable air quality plan for the SFBAAB. The Bay Area 2010 CAP performance objective for GHGs is to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and 40% below 1990 by 2035. This corresponds with GHG reduction goals established by the State of California and contained in the AB 32 Scoping Plan. The Bay Area 2010 CAP includes numerous “control measures” intended to reduce GHG emissions. Some would directly reduce GHG emissions; many other measures are aimed at reducing criteria pollutants and TACs, but would also provide GHG reductions as a co-benefit.

#### Solano County Climate Action Plan

In 2008, the Solano County General Plan recognized the threat of global climate change and the need to take local action to reduce communitywide GHG emissions and the likelihood of negative climate change effects on the County. The Solano County Climate Action Plan,<sup>66</sup> adopted in 2011, recognizes that climate change is a global problem, but states that many strategies are best developed locally to adapt to a changing climate and to reduce GHG emissions. The Climate Action Plan establishes a community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal of 20 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. To achieve that goal, the Climate Action Plan includes several categories of reduction measures that include agriculture, energy and efficiency, transportation and land use, waste reduction and recycling, and water conservation.

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<sup>65</sup> BAAQMD, 2010.

<sup>66</sup> Solano County, 2011.

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### *Transportation Component of the Project*

**Impact GG-1: The proposed project would generate greenhouse gas emissions, but not at levels that would result in a significant impact on the environment. (Less than Significant)**

Common GHGs resulting from human activity associated with decisions by local government agencies are CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>O. Individual projects contribute to the cumulative effects of climate change by directly or indirectly emitting GHGs during construction and operational phases.

The GHG emissions increases attributable to the transport of San Francisco's MSW would be from the increase in distance required to haul San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill compared to current conditions under which San Francisco's MSW is hauled to the Altamont Landfill. Because the Recology Hay Road Landfill is farther from the Points of Origin, emissions from hauling would be higher. The proposed project's GHG emissions were calculated using emission rates provided by ARB's EMFAC2011 for the SFBAAB and SVAB, and biodiesel adjustment factors, LNG emission rates, and CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission factors provided by the ARB. Vehicle information and haul route details were provided by Recology. Trip length was estimated using Google maps. Out of a total of 51 vehicles in the haul fleet, 40 are B20 biodiesel-powered and 11 are LNG-powered.

The proposed project is not expected to result in an increase in the number of daily truck trips, which would remain at approximately 50 round trips per day. The data regarding the number of truck trips, trip lengths and haul routes were used with the EMFAC2011 emission factors for heavy heavy-duty tractor-trailer trucks (T7 Tractor) to determine the maximum annual emission increase as well as average daily emission increases. All of the above assumptions and calculations are detailed in the project-specific Air Quality Technical Report.<sup>67</sup>

The proposed project would increase emissions produced by trucks hauling San Francisco MSW because the trip from the Points of Origin to the Recology Hay Road Landfill that would occur under the proposed project is longer than the trip from the Points of Origin to the Altamont Landfill that occurs under current conditions. The longer vehicle trip length in the proposed project would generate GHG emissions. GHG emissions of the proposed project were estimated based on the types and number of trucks that would be used to transport San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, miles traveled, and emission factors from ARB's EMFAC2011 database and other sources. **Table GG-1**, below, compares the incremental increase in GHG emissions resulting from the proposed project (i.e., the difference between

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<sup>67</sup> Environmental Science Associates (ESA), 2015.

existing emissions and the emissions that would occur under the proposed project) and compares these to the significance threshold of 1,100 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e discussed above.

**TABLE GG-1**  
**MAXIMUM ANNUAL OPERATIONAL GHG EMISSIONS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT**  
**(INCREMENTAL INCREASE IN GHG EMISSIONS OVER BASELINE)**

Source	CO <sub>2</sub> e (metric tons)
San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin	<u>281415</u>
Sacramento Valley Air Basin	<u>519541</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>800956</u></b>
<b>Significance Threshold</b>	<b>1,110</b>

Given that GHG emissions of the proposed project would not exceed the significance threshold, the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact with respect to GHG emissions.

**Impact GG-2: The proposed project would not conflict with any policy, plan, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. (Less than Significant)**

As discussed above, three greenhouse gas reduction plans – the ARB’s AB 32 Scoping Plan Update, BAAQMD’s 2010 CAP, and the Solano County Climate Action Plan -- are all intended to reduce GHG emissions below current levels, and are all applicable to the current project. Consistency of the proposed project with relevant objectives and measures contained within these plans is discussed below.

#### Consistency with AB 32 Scoping Plan Update

The AB 32 Scoping Plan and Scoping Plan Update include four transportation-related strategies for reduction of GHGs and criteria pollutants: (1) improve vehicle efficiency and develop zero emission technologies, (2) reduce the carbon content of fuels and provide market support to get these lower-carbon fuels into the marketplace, (3) plan and build communities to reduce vehicular GHG emissions and provide more transportation options, and (4) improve the efficiency and throughput of existing transportation systems. The Scoping Plan Update specifically addresses GHG emissions from heavy-duty trucks. The Scoping Plan Update notes that ARB recently approved a regulation establishing GHG emission reduction requirements for all medium- and heavy-duty vehicles and engines manufactured for use in California. For Class 8 heavy-duty vehicles (the class of vehicles used by Recology to transport San Francisco’s waste), this “Phase I” GHG standard will reduce new vehicle emissions by an estimated four to five percent per year from 2014–2018.

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ARB is working with U. S. EPA on Phase 2 GHG standards for heavy-duty vehicles to continue these reductions beyond 2018. U. S. EPA is planning to finalize Phase 2 standards in 2016. ARB believes additional annual improvements of around five percent through 2025 can be achieved from Class 8 heavy-duty vehicles using commercially available technologies and advanced transmissions, hybridization, improved trailer aerodynamics, and other technologies.

The Scoping Plan Update states that the Phase 2 standards will be an important next step in reducing GHG emissions from heavy-duty trucks, but that significantly greater reductions will be needed to meet California's climate change goals. To continue reducing emissions, zero and near-zero emission technologies will need to be deployed in large numbers. For heavy, long-range applications where electrification is not practical, low-carbon sources of energy, such as renewable fuels and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, will be necessary.

Most of Recology's transfer fleet currently runs on B-20 biodiesel (that is, diesel fuel that is derived from 20 percent vegetable or animal fats and 80 percent petroleum). Currently, eleven trucks in the fleet run on liquefied natural gas (LNG), and Recology is in the process of phasing in additional transfer vehicles that run on LNG or compressed natural gas (CNG). All of these fuels produce lower GHG emissions than conventional diesel. The proposed project is therefore consistent with the Scoping Plan Update's emphasis on reducing GHG emissions from heavy-duty trucks. Furthermore, because the proposed project's GHG emissions would be below the quantitative significance threshold of 1,100 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year (see Greenhouse Gas Emissions Approach to Analysis and Impact GG-1, above), the proposed project would contribute to meeting the SFBAAB's fair share of emission reductions for the year 2020, as set in the AB 32 Scoping Plan and determined in the BAAQMD's Justification Report.<sup>68</sup>

#### Consistency with the BAAQMD 2010 CAP

With regard to GHGs, the Bay Area 2010 CAP performance objective is to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and 40% below 1990 by 2035. This corresponds with GHG reduction goals established by the State of California. The CAP includes numerous "control measures" intended to reduce GHG emissions. Some would directly reduce GHG emissions; many other measures are aimed at reducing criteria pollutants and TACs, but would also provide GHG reductions as a co-benefit. Two control measures intended to reduce criteria pollutants, TACs, and GHGs are directly applicable to the Transportation component of the proposed project:

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<sup>68</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 3.



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*MSM B-1 - Fleet Modernization for Medium- and Heavy-Duty On-Road Vehicles*

Under this measure, the BAAQMD will directly provide and encourage incentives for the purchase of new trucks that meet the ARB's 2010 emission standards for heavy-duty engines. This program is designed to assist truck owners/operators to replace pre-2003 heavy-duty diesel trucks with new diesel-fueled or natural gas-fueled trucks in advance of requirements of ARB's in-use truck regulation.

Recology's truck fleet has an average age of 6 years; many of the trucks in the fleet already meet ARB's 2010 emission standards. Several of the trucks in the fleet run on LNG, with plans to phase in more that run on LNG or CNG. Thus, the proposed project is consistent with the intent of Measure MSM B-1.

*TCM B-1 - Freeway and Arterial Operations Strategies*

TCM B-1 will improve the performance and efficiency of freeway and arterial systems through operational improvements. These improvements include implementing the Freeway Performance Initiative (FPI), the Bay Area Freeway Service Patrol (FSP), and the Arterial Management Program. This measure will reduce emissions by improving the efficiency of existing freeways and roadways throughout the Bay Area.

Recology manages departure of vehicles from its San Francisco facilities to avoid periods of heavy traffic congestion. This contributes to the intent of Measure TCM B-1, by reducing congestion and improving the performance and efficiency of the freeway system.

*Consistency with the Solano County Climate Action Plan*

Solano County's Climate Action Plan establishes a community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal of 20 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. To achieve that goal, the Climate Action Plan includes several categories of reduction measures that include agriculture, energy and efficiency, transportation and land use, waste reduction and recycling, and water conservation. The Transportation and Land Use measures have the objective of supporting a transportation system and land use pattern that promotes carpooling, walking, biking, and using public transit. Measures and actions do not address waste transport within the County, nor emissions from heavy-duty trucks. There are no measures or policies within the Climate Action Plan that are relevant to the Transportation component of the proposed project. Consistency of the Disposal component of the proposed project with Climate Action Plan is discussed below.

In summary, the proposed project would not conflict with plans, policies, or regulations associated with the AB32 Scoping Plan and Scoping Plan Update, nor with the BAAQMD's 2010 Clean Air Plan, nor with Solano County's CAP. This impact would therefore be *less than significant*.

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### *Disposal Component of the Project*

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for the then-proposed increase in waste acceptance to result in a substantial increase in GHG emissions. The 2012 IS/MND found that there would be an increase in GHG emissions from increased equipment operation and increased emissions of landfill gas. However, the 2012 IS/MND also concluded that increased waste acceptance would result in a greater volume of material placed in the landfill where it would not decompose, and therefore the carbon contained in that material would not be emitted as CO<sub>2</sub> or CH<sub>4</sub>. When accounting for this form of “carbon sequestration,” the 2012 IS/MND concluded that the proposed increase in waste acceptance would result in a net decrease in GHG emissions. The 2012 IS/MND also concluded that the project then being examined would not conflict with any plans or policies intended to reduce GHG emissions.

The ARB’s Scoping Plan Update describes the status of several landfill methane control measures that were proposed in the original Scoping Plan. In the Scoping Plan, reducing methane emissions from landfills was identified as an early action item. Subsequently, ARB approved the Landfill Methane Control Measure, which became effective in 2010. The measure requires the installation of landfill gas<sup>69</sup> collection and control systems at certain municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills, requires landfills to meet stringent emission standards for landfill gas, and requires monitoring, reporting, and where necessary, corrective action to demonstrate and achieve these standards. The Scoping Plan Update includes several “key recommended actions for the waste sector,” including several that are relevant to the Disposal component of the proposed project. These include the following:

- the development of program(s) to eliminate disposal of organic materials at landfills.
- identifying and recommending actions to address cross-California agency and federal permitting and siting challenges associated with composting and anaerobic digestion.
- explore and identify opportunities for additional methane control at new and existing landfills, and increase the utilization of captured methane for waste already in place as a fuel source for stationary and mobile applications.
- if determined appropriate, amend the Landfill Methane Regulation and/or move landfills into the Cap-and-Trade Program.

The Recology Hay Road Landfill has implemented the applicable provisions of the Landfill Methane Control Measure and is in compliance with the new landfill gas emission standards. If and when implemented, Recology would comply with any new requirements of key recommended actions contained

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<sup>69</sup> Landfill gas consists of approximately 50% methane.

in the Scoping Plan Update. The Project therefore would not conflict with any aspects of the Scoping Plan or the Scoping Plan Update.

The Solano County Climate Action Plan includes measures for reducing GHGs through Waste Reduction and Recycling. Included among these measures is Measure W-4. Methane Capture. The intent of this measure is to facilitate implementation of ARB's Landfill Methane Control Measure. As noted above, the Recology Hay Road Landfill has implemented the applicable provisions of the Landfill Methane Control Measure and is in compliance with the new standards for landfill gas emissions. The proposed project would therefore not conflict with any provisions of the Solano County Climate Action Plan.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As described above, the 2012 IS/MND concluded that the then-proposed increase in the rate of waste disposal would result in a net decrease in GHG emissions. When added to the calculated increase in emissions associated with transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the net emissions of GHGs would be less than the GHGs associated with transportation alone. Therefore, the combined impact of transportation and disposal would be less than significant.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-GG-1: The proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulative significant effects related to emissions of greenhouse gases. (Less than Significant)**

Given that all GHG impacts are cumulative, and that the 1,100 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year significance threshold represents a threshold for determining whether a project makes a cumulatively considerable contribution, which the proposed project's emissions do not exceed, the proposed project's impacts related to cumulative emissions of GHGs would be *less than significant*.

## **E.9 Wind and Shadow**

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>9. WIND AND SHADOW – Would the project:</b>					
a) Alter wind in a manner that substantially affects public areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create new shadow in a manner that substantially affects outdoor recreation facilities or other public areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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## *Transportation*

**Impact WS-1: The proposed project would not alter wind in a manner that substantially affects public areas. (No Impact)**

Wind impacts are generally caused by large building masses extending substantially above their surroundings, and by buildings oriented such that a large wall catches a prevailing wind, particularly if such a wall includes little or no articulation. Given that the proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill involves no new or altered buildings, transportation does not have the potential to alter wind, and there would be *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact WS-2: The proposed project would not create new shadows in a manner that substantially affects outdoor recreation facilities or other public areas. (No Impact)**

Planning Code Section 295 restricts new shadow on public spaces under the jurisdiction of the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) by any structure exceeding 40 feet in height, unless the Planning Commission finds the impact to be less than significant. Because the proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not include the construction or alteration of any building, it does not have the potential to create new shadows. There would therefore be *no impact* of this kind.

## *Disposal Component of the Project*

Examination of potential effects of a project on wind and shadows is not a required part of a CEQA analysis, though it is standard practice for the City and County of San Francisco. Solano County does not include examination of wind and shadow impacts in their standard IS checklist. The 2012 IS/MND did not examine wind and shadow impacts. However, the disposal of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in no new buildings or other structures that could alter wind or cast shadows. The project examined in the 2012 IS/MND, like the current project, would not result in a change to the final height or mass of the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Therefore, the increased rate of disposal does not have potential to result in a substantial adverse effect on wind and shadows.

## *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

As discussed above, neither the transportation nor the disposal component of the proposed project would alter wind or cast shadows. There would be no combined effect of transportation and disposal on wind or shadows.

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### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-WS-1:** The proposed project, in combination with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would not result in significant cumulative wind and shadow impacts. (No Impact)

Because the proposed project does not have the potential to impact wind or shadow, it also lacks the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact on wind or shadow; there would be *no cumulative impact* of this kind.

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### **E.10 Recreation**

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>10. RECREATION—Would the project:</b>					
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Physically degrade existing recreational resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### ***Transportation Component of the Project***

**Impact RE-1:** The proposed project would not result in a substantial increase in the use of existing neighborhood parks or other recreational facilities, physically degrade existing recreational resources, or require the construction of recreational facilities that may have a significant effect on the environment. (No Impact)

This impact addresses questions E.10a, E.10b, and E.10c from the checklist above.

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would add approximately nine to ten full time equivalent drivers. This small number of new employees would not increase demand for recreational activities, require the construction of new recreational facilities, or physically degrade existing recreational resources. There would be *no impact* of this kind.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND found that the proposal to increase the rate of waste acceptance would not result in increased demands on local parks or other recreational facilities, and would not require the construction

of new or expansion of existing recreational facilities. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that increasing the rate of waste acceptance would therefore have *no impact* on recreation.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, neither the transportation nor the disposal component of the proposed project would have an impact on recreation. There could therefore be no combined effect of transportation and disposal on recreation.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-RE-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future project, would not contribute considerably to a significant recreational impact in the project site vicinity. (No Impact)**

Because the proposed project would not increase demand for recreational activities, require the construction of new recreational facilities, or physically degrade existing recreational resources, it would not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact on recreational facilities. There would be *no cumulative impact* of this kind.

## **E.11 Utilities and Service Systems**

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>11. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS--</b>					
<b>Would the project:</b>					
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supply available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or require new or expanded water supply resources or entitlements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that would serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### ***Transportation Component of the Project***

**Impact UT-1: The proposed project would not significantly exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the RWQCB or affect wastewater collection and treatment facilities, would not require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, and would not require expansion or construction of new water supply or treatment facilities. (No Impact)**

This impact statement addresses questions E.11a through E.11e from the above checklist.

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not necessitate any new or expanded water supply or wastewater treatment facilities, and would not affect existing stormwater drainage facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on these public utilities.

**Impact UT-2: The proposed project would be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would replace the current practice of transporting and disposing of the City's MSW at the Altamont Landfill in Alameda County. The project would result in the transportation and disposal of 5 million tons of San Francisco MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, which would be expected to occur over a 15-year period beginning in 2016. As discussed in the Project Description, the Recology Hay Road Landfill is permitted to accept up to 2,400 tons of waste per day, and, at this maximum rate of waste acceptance, the landfill has permitted capacity to continue to receive waste approximately through the year 2034. At the estimated rate of waste disposal of about 1,851 tons per day, closure would be in approximately 2041.<sup>70</sup> Therefore, the Recology Hay Road Landfill has sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.

<sup>70</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2015.

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Over the past two years, between June, 2012 and June, 2014 Recology Hay Road Landfill received on average about 651 tons of waste per day.<sup>71</sup> Waste from San Francisco would average about 1,200 tons per day; therefore, on average, the combined amount of existing waste and San Francisco MSW hauled to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, about 1,851 tons per day, would be within the Landfill's permit limit of 2,400 tons of waste per day.

In sum, the proposed project would have a *less-than-significant impact* on landfill capacity.

**Impact UT-3: The proposed project would follow all applicable statutes and regulations related to solid waste. (No Impact)**

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) requires municipalities to adopt an Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP) to establish objectives, policies, and programs relative to waste disposal, management, source reduction, and recycling. Reports filed by the San Francisco Department of the Environment show that the City generated approximately 870,000 tons of waste material in 2000. By 2010, that figured decreased to approximately 455,000 tons. Waste diverted from landfills is defined as recycled or composted material. San Francisco has a goal of 75 percent landfill diversion by 2010, and 100 percent by 2020. As of 2012, 80 percent of San Francisco's solid waste was being diverted from landfills, and the City had met the 2010 diversion target.<sup>72</sup> The proposed project would not alter or interfere with the City's efforts to comply with AB939 and its own landfill diversion goals.

The facilities where waste would be shipped from and to, i.e., Recology San Francisco Transfer Station, Recycle Central, and Recology Hay Road Landfill, are all permitted by State and local agencies. The proposed project would not result in any changes to operations at any of these facilities that would result in an inconsistency or violation of permit conditions at any of these facilities.

Based on the foregoing discussion, the proposed project would follow all applicable statutes and regulations related to solid waste, and would have *no impact* of this kind.

***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined potential impacts on utilities and service systems associated with increasing the rate of waste acceptance and found that there would be *no impact* of this kind.

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<sup>71</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2015.

<sup>72</sup> San Francisco Department of the Environment, 2012. "Mayor Lee Announces San Francisco Reaches 80 Percent Landfill Waste Diversion, Leads All Cities in North America". October 5, 2012. Available online at <http://www.sfenvironment.org/news/press-release/mayor-lee-announces-san-francisco-reaches-80-percent-landfill-waste-diversion-leads-all-cities-in-north-america>



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### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, neither transportation to nor disposal at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have an impact on utilities and service systems. There could therefore be no combined effect of transportation and disposal on utilities and service systems.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-UT-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the site vicinity, would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant utilities or service systems impact. (Less than Significant)**

Even with the addition of 5 million tons of San Francisco MSW over an assumed period of 15 years, the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have sufficient capacity to continue accepting waste through at least 2034. Therefore, the contribution of the proposed project to any cumulative effect on permitted landfill capacity would not be considerable.

In terms of other impacts related to utilities and service systems, the proposed project would have no impact, and therefore would not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact related to this topic.

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## **E.12 Public Services**

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>12. PUBLIC SERVICES— Would the project</b>					
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any public services such as fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, or other services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### ***Transportation Component of the Project***

**Impact PS-1: The proposed project would not increase the demand for police or fire protection service, other governmental service, or new schools, such that new or physically altered facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, would be required in order to maintain acceptable levels of service. (No Impact)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not add a substantial number of employees or develop new structures that would require an increase in police or

fire protections services, or other governmental services such as libraries, community centers, or other public facilities. Likewise, the proposed project would not increase school enrollment and would not require new schools. Therefore, the proposed project would not require the construction of new or alteration of existing governmental facilities which could cause significant environmental effects, and there would be *no impact* of this kind.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined potential impacts on utilities and service systems associated with increasing the rate of waste acceptance and found that there would be *no impact* of this kind.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, neither transportation to nor disposal at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have an impact on utilities and service systems. There could therefore be no combined effect of transportation and disposal on utilities and service systems.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-PS-1:** The proposed project, combined with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the vicinity, would not have a substantial cumulative impact to public services. (No Impact)

Because the proposed project would have no impact on public services, it would not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impacts of this kind.

## **E.13 Biological Resources**

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>13. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES— Would the project</b>					
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations; or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### ***Transportation Component of the Project***

**Impact BI-1: The proposed project would not directly or indirectly impact special status plant or animal species or sensitive natural community including wetlands and riparian areas; would not interfere with the movement of native resident or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance, and would not conflict with an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. (No Impact)**

This discussion addresses questions 13.a through 13.f from the checklist above.

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would involve the transport of waste on existing roadways, along existing truck routes. The small increase in daily truck traffic on I-80 and Solano County local roadways would not directly or indirectly impact sensitive species or habitat, and therefore would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances, or adopted habitat conservation plans or other conservation plans. Therefore, the proposed project would have ***no impact*** on biological resources.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined potential impacts on biological resources associated with increasing the rate of waste acceptance. The 2012 IS/MND found that, because the project then being examined would not disturb any previously undisturbed areas and would not disturb any sensitive habitat or species, it would have ***no impact*** on biological resources.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, neither transportation to nor disposal at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have an impact on biological resources. There could therefore be no combined effect of transportation and disposal on biological resources.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-BI-1:** The proposed project, in combination with other past, present or reasonably foreseeable projects, would not result in a considerable contribution to cumulative impacts on biological resources. (No Impact)

Because the proposed project would have no impact on biological resources, it would not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact on biological resources.

## **E.14 Geology and Soils**

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>14. GEOLOGY AND SOILS—Would the project:</b>					
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:					
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in the San Francisco Building Code, creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
c) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Change substantially the topography or any unique geologic or physical features of the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### ***Transportation Component of the Project***

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not require the use of a septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems; therefore, question 14. e from the above checklist is not applicable to the proposed project.

**Impact GE-1: The proposed project would not result in exposure of people and structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, expansive soils, seismic ground-shaking, liquefaction, lateral spreading, or landslides. (No Impact)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill involves the transport of waste on existing streets and highways and includes no new or altered structures, and therefore would not increase exposure of people or structures to risk of loss, injury, or death due to geologic hazards. There would be *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact GE-2: The proposed project would not result in substantial loss of topsoil or erosion, and would not be located on a geologic unit or soil (including expansive soil) that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project (No Impact)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill involves the transport of waste on existing streets and highways and includes no new or altered structures, and therefore would not cause an increase in the loss of topsoil or erosion; neither would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil type that is unstable or that would become unstable as a result of the project. Therefore, there would be *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact GE-3: The proposed project would not change the topography of the project site in a manner that would result in a significant impact to geologic or physical features of the site. (No Impact)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not result in any alteration of topography, and so could not have a significant impact on geologic or physical features. There would be *no impact* of this kind.

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### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined potential impacts related to geology and soils associated with increasing the rate of waste acceptance. The 2012 IS/MND found that the increased rate of waste acceptance would not increase the height of the landfill, modify landfill slopes, or make any other changes that could increase the potential for damage due to shaking ground rupture or failure, landslides, soil loss or erosion. The 2012 IS/MND furthermore found that previously-imposed mitigation measures were adequate to prevent environmental impacts associated with development of on-site sewage disposal systems. The 2012 IS/MND noted that soils underlying the landfill contain varying amounts of clay, which could exhibit shrink-swell characteristics in localized areas. However, the shallow clay materials had previously been characterized as having a low plasticity, and the area of expansive soils would likely be limited in extent. Therefore, the potential for expansive soils to adversely affect the project site was determined to be low and the potential impact resulting from expansive soils was considered less than significant.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

Because transportation and disposal of San Francisco's waste would take place in different locations, they would not have the potential to combine to cause a significant impact with regard to geology and soils.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-GE-1: The proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulative significant effects related to geology or soils. (No Impact)**

As discussed above, the transportation component of the proposed project would have no impact related to geology and soils, and the disposal component would have only a less-than-significant impact related to expansive soils. The development of the proposed AD facility could also be affected by expansive soils. However, design of the facility, including design to meet Building Code requirements in response to any identified geotechnical issues, would avoid or minimize potential effects of expansive soils. Therefore, the cumulative effect related to expansive soils would be less than significant.

## E.15 Hydrology and Water Quality

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>15. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY— Would the project:</b>					
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion of siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other authoritative flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not place housing or other structures within a 100-year floodplain. Therefore, questions 15.g and 15.h from the above checklist are not applicable to the transportation component of the proposed project.

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**Impact HY-1: The proposed project would not violate water quality standards or otherwise substantially degrade water quality, would not alter or interfere with drainage patterns or drainage systems, and would not deplete groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge. (No Impact)**

This impact addresses questions 15.a through 15.f from the above checklist.

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not result in the alteration of land or water bodies, and would have no effect on natural or built drainage structures or systems or on groundwater or groundwater recharge. The proposed project would not result in increased runoff, erosion, or water pollution. The proposed project would therefore have no impact on the quality of surface water or groundwater; would not affect, drainage patterns, and would not affect groundwater supplies; it would have *no impact* on hydrology and water quality.

**Impact HY-2: The proposed project would not expose people, housing, or structures to substantial risk of loss due to flooding, would not impede or redirect flood flows, and would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. (Less than Significant)**

This impact addresses checklist questions 15.i and 15.j.

While some of the roadways involved in the proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill may be susceptible to flooding or inundation by seiche (a seiche is an oscillation of a water body, such as a bay, that may occur due to a landslide or earthquake, and that may cause local flooding), tsunami, or mudflow, the project would not alter this risk or expose substantial numbers of people to these risks. Therefore, this impact would be *less than significant*.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for increased acceptance of waste for landfill (2,400 tons per day) to adversely affect water quality, and found that, because the landfill would continue to be required to comply with the site's Waste Discharge Requirements (conditions required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board to protect surface and ground water quality) and with the requirements of the facility's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, operation of the landfill would not result in violation of any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

Because transportation and disposal of San Francisco's waste would take place in different locations, they would not have the potential to combine to cause a significant impact with regard to hydrology and water quality.



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### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-HY-1: The proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulative significant effects related to hydrology or water quality. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed project could have an insubstantial, less-than-significant impact by exposing persons (i.e., the drivers of the trucks used to haul waste) to risk of loss, injury, or death due to a natural disaster, such as a seiche, tsunami, mudflow, or flood inundating one of the roadways at the time and place where waste was being transported. Such risks already exist in association with the transportation of waste from the City of San Francisco to the Altamont Landfill. This risk would be about the same with and without the project, though some of the roadways involved would change. Therefore, the proposed project would not make a substantial or considerable contribution to the general cumulative risks of this kind that people in the San Francisco Bay Area are already exposed to.

The 2012 IS/MND concluded that disposal would have no impact on hydrology and water quality, and therefore could not contribute to a cumulative impact of this kind.

The AD project would take place within the landfill footprint. It, too, would be subject to regulations and permits for prevention of flooding and for protection of surface water, groundwater, and waterways. With adherence to regulatory requirements, the AD facility would not combine with landfill disposal to cause a significant cumulative impact on water quality.

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### **E.16 Hazards and Hazardous Materials**

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>16. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS— Would the project:</b>					
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### ***Transportation Component of the Project***

**Impact HZ-1: The proposed project would not create a significant hazard through routine transport, use, disposal, handling, or emission of hazardous materials, or through reasonably foreseeable upset or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. (Less than Significant)**

This impact addresses questions 16.a, 16.b, and 16.c from the above checklist.

Disposal of hazardous waste with municipal solid waste is illegal. The San Francisco Department of the Environment and Recology conduct public education campaigns promoting the proper handling and disposal of hazardous wastes from households and small quantity commercial generators. Recology maintains load checking programs at the San Francisco Transfer Station and Recycle Central facility, to detect, sequester, and properly dispose of any hazardous waste that inadvertently or illegally arrives in loads of MSW or recycled materials.

Despite efforts to prevent, detect, and remove hazardous materials from disposed municipal solid waste, small quantities of these materials are present, and would be present in the loads of waste being transported under the proposed project. There is some risk of emission of small amounts of volatile substances, or leak or spill of hazardous substances during routine transport of waste, or in the event of an accident involving waste transport vehicles. The route that would be taken by vehicles under the proposed project passes through heavily urbanized areas, including the cities of San Francisco, Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley, Richmond, San Pablo, Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo, Crockett, Vallejo, and Fairfield.

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Along these corridors are located numerous sensitive receptors, including residences, schools, day care facilities, hospitals, and nursing homes, including numerous instances of such receptors located within one quarter mile of the roadway. A spill of hazardous materials along U.S. 101 or I-80 corridors could pose a health and safety risk to many people, including especially sensitive individuals such as the elderly and school children. However, the risk of spills, leaks, and upset is small, and MSW is not classified as hazardous waste. Furthermore, MSW is solid waste, and contains little free liquid or gases that could spread beyond the location of a spill. If a spill, leak, or accident were to occur, any release of hazardous waste from MSW loads would be very small and localized, and would not be expected to adversely impact nearby sensitive receptors.

As previously indicated, the proposed project would represent no change in operations between the points of origin and the east end of the Bay Bridge. The proposed project would change the route of haul trucks from the east end of the Bay Bridge to the landfill destination, but both routes (existing route to Altamont and proposed route to Hay Road landfill) consist primarily of freeway segments through both urban and rural areas, as well as shorter segments on less-traveled roads through rural areas. As the existing and proposed routes are similar in nature, the proposed project is not expected to change or increase the potential for accidents or spills. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that there would be no significant hazardous materials impact with respect to the transport of MSW to Hay Road Landfill. Therefore, the proposed project would have only a *less-than-significant* impact of this kind.

**Impact HZ-2: The project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment as a result of being located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (No Impact)**

The transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would take place on existing roadways, and would not require any new construction or alteration of these roadways. Therefore, transportation would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment from disturbance or development of a site included on one of the hazardous materials site list. Therefore, transportation would have *no impact* with respect to the potential to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment as a result of being located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

**Impact HZ-3: The proposed project would not result in a safety hazard for people working in proximity to a public airport, public use airport, or private airstrip. (No Impact)**

This impact addresses questions 16. e and 16. f from the checklist above.

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Airports and airstrips within 2 miles of the haul route that would be used to transport San Francisco MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill include the Nut Tree Airport, located west of I-80 in Vacaville, the Maine Prairie airstrip, just west of State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road) north of the Recology Hay Road Landfill, and Travis Air Force Base, the closest point of which is about one and a half miles southwest of the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The routine transport of MSW over public roadways would not in any way affect operations at any of these airports and air strips, nor would it pose a safety hazard for people living or working in proximity to them. Therefore, the project would have *no impact* with regard to airport and airfield safety hazards.

**Impact HZ-4: The proposed project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving fires, nor interfere with the implementation of an emergency response plan. (No Impact)**

This impact addresses questions 16.g and 16.h from the checklist above.

Transportation of waste under the proposed project would not increase fire risk, and so would not increase the risk of loss, injury or death involving fires. Neither would transportation interfere with implementation of an emergency response plan. There would be *no impact* of this kind.

#### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for increased acceptance of waste for landfilling (2,400 tons per day) to increase aviation safety hazards. The 2012 IS/MND noted that the facility currently implements bird deterrence measures in order to limit potential bird hazards to aircraft. The deterrence program includes the training of selected landfill staff in firearm safety and Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) strategies; use of deterrent measures including "screamers" (shells fired from a hand-held pistol); implementation of a regular falconer program; and use of blank shotgun shells as a scare device. As part of the existing bird deterrence program, wildlife biologists visit the site on a quarterly basis to record conditions and make observations regarding the effectiveness of control measures. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that the increased landfill operations would not increase the attraction of birds to the site above current peak conditions and would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.

The 2012 IS/MND also concluded that increasing the rate of waste acceptance would cause no impact with respect to other hazards or hazardous materials.

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### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

Because transportation and disposal of San Francisco's MSW would take place in different locations, they would not have the potential to combine to cause a significant impact with regard to hazards and hazardous materials.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-HZ-1: The proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulative significant effects related to hazards or hazardous materials. (Less than Significant)**

Because the proposed project would have no impact with regard to increasing risk of loss, injury, or death involving fires, or interfering with the implementation of an emergency response plan, the proposed project does not have the potential to contribute to a cumulative effect of this kind. Also, because the project would have no impact with regard to listed hazardous materials sites and aircraft safety, it could not contribute to a cumulative impact of these kinds.

As noted in the discussion of Impact HZ-1, the slight risk of hazardous materials emissions or spills associated with transport of MSW would be little different from the existing, baseline condition. The same amount of waste would be transported on public roadways with and without implementation of the project. The additional travel distance for waste-hauling vehicles under the proposed project would slightly increase the risk of spill or upset associated with transport of materials containing MSW, which is not hazardous waste, but which may contain incidental amounts of hazardous waste. This risk would combine with the cumulative risk of upset and spill posed by existing and future transport of hazardous materials on public roads. However, as noted in the discussion of Impact HZ-1, the amount of hazardous materials present in San Francisco's MSW is very small, the risk of upset is also small, and the types of hazardous materials likely present in San Francisco's MSW would be unlikely to spread beyond the location of a spill. For these reasons, the contribution of the project to cumulative impacts associated with accidental hazardous materials emissions or spills on public roadways is very small, and not considered cumulatively considerable. The cumulative impact would therefore be *less than significant*.

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## E.17 Mineral and Energy Resources

Topics:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Not Applicable
<b>17. MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES— Would the project:</b>					
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Encourage activities which result in the use of large amounts of fuel, water, or energy, or use these in a wasteful manner?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

**Impact ME-1: The proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource or a locally important mineral resource recovery site. (No Impact)**

Because the proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve development of new or expanded structures, it does not have the potential to interfere with or result in the loss of availability of any known mineral resource or mineral resource recovery site. Thus, the project would have *no impact* on mineral resources.

**Impact ME-2: Implementation of the proposed project would not encourage activities that would result in the use of large amounts of fuel, water, or energy, or use these in a wasteful manner. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would consume energy in the form of transportation fuel to accomplish the essential municipal task of transporting waste for disposal. The proposed project would result in an increase of about 40 miles roundtrip traveled by waste-hauling vehicles. These vehicles have a fuel consumption rate of about four miles per gallon. Therefore, each roundtrip would consume about 10 gallons of fuel more than the existing haul to the Altamont Landfill. With about 50 roundtrips per day, this totals about 500 gallons of fuel per day, or about 156,000 gallons per year (six days per week). This is equivalent to about one-fifth (1/5) of a gallon per capita (San Francisco's population served by Recology is about 837,000 people, not including businesses) per year, which is a reasonable expenditure of energy for the essential municipal function of waste disposal. Furthermore, the City and County of San Francisco has an ambitious and successful waste diversion program that minimizes the amount of waste that must be disposed of through landfilling. Also, some of the trucks in Recology's long-haul fleet are fueled with a biofuel blend derived

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partially from renewable vegetable oil, and others are fueled with LNG, an efficient fuel with relatively low emissions. Therefore, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not result in the use of, or encourage activities that would result in the use of large amounts of fuel, water, or energy, or use these in a wasteful manner. The small increase in the use of transportation fuels would be considered a *less-than-significant* impact.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND states that there are no known mineral resources within the footprint of the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Furthermore, the then-proposed increase in waste acceptance would not change the landfill's footprint or extent. Therefore, the IS/MND concludes that the increase in waste acceptance would have no impact on mineral resources.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

Because neither transportation nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would impact mineral resources, they would not have the potential to combine to cause a significant impact with regard to mineral resources.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-ME-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the site vicinity, would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant energy and minerals impact. (Less than Significant)**

As described above, the proposed project would not have the potential to interfere with or result in the loss of availability of any known mineral resource or mineral resource recovery site. Thus, the project would not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact on mineral resources. As noted in the discussion of impact ME-2, the increase in use of transportation fuels is reasonable given that the increase is relatively small for the population served, that the project would provide an essential municipal service, and that types of fuels used are partly derived from renewable resources. Therefore, the increase in use transportation fuels would not constitute a considerable contribution to the cumulative use of energy resources. The AD project would result in the production of renewable fuel which may potentially be used for this project. Therefore, the combination of the project with the AD project would not result in a cumulative impact on energy resources.

## E.18 Agriculture and Forest Resources

Topics:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Not Applicable
<b>18. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES:</b> In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.					
<b>Would the project:</b>					
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)) or timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Transportation Component of the Project

**Impact AF-1:** The proposed project would not result in the conversion of farmland or forest land to non-farm or non-forest use, nor would it conflict with existing agricultural or forest use or zoning. (No Impact)

This impact addresses questions 18. a through 18. e from the above checklist.

Because the proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve development of structures or facilities, it would not convert any prime farmland, unique farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use, and would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural land use or a Williamson Act contract, nor would it involve any changes to the environment that could result in the conversion of farmland or forest land. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on agricultural or forest resources.



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### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND stated that the then-proposed increase in waste acceptance at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not convert any farmland to non-agricultural uses, nor would it conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or with an existing Williamson Act contract. Therefore, the IS/MND concluded that the increase in waste acceptance would have no impact on agricultural resources. The landfill is not located in a forested area, and therefore the increased acceptance of waste would not adversely impact forest resources.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal***

Because neither transportation nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would impact agriculture or forest resources, they would not have the potential to combine to cause a significant impact with regard to agriculture or forest resources.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-AF-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the site vicinity, would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant agriculture and forest resources impact. (No Impact)**

Because the proposed project would have no impact on agricultural or forest resources, it could not contribute to a cumulative impact on these resources: *No cumulative impact* would occur.

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## **E.19 Mandatory Findings of Significance**

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>19. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE—</b>					
<b>Would the project:</b>					
a) Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
b) Have impacts that would be individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

E.20. a) As discussed in section E.13, Biological Resources and section E.4, Cultural Resources, the proposed project would have no impact on biological resources or cultural resources. Therefore, the proposed project would not degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal. Neither would the proposed project eliminate any examples of major periods of California history or prehistory.

E.20. b) The potential for the proposed project to make a considerable contribution to a cumulative impact is considered in each topical section above. In all instances, the conclusion reached is that the proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulative impact.

E.20. c) The project's potential to cause significant human health risks due to emission of diesel particulate matter is evaluated in section E.7, Air Quality, and found to be less than significant. The potential for the project to result in emission, leak, or spill of hazardous materials, to increase the risk of loss through fire, and to result in increased safety risk involving aircraft is evaluated in section E.16, Hazardous Materials, and is also found to be less than significant. Therefore, the proposed project would not cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

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## **F. MITIGATION MEASURES AND IMPROVEMENT MEASURES**

No mitigation measures are identified in the foregoing discussion; none are necessary, since no potentially significant impacts are identified.

## **G. PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT**

The Planning Department prepared and distributed a Notification of Project Receiving Environmental Review for the project on June 27, 2014. The notice was mailed to Solano County, other public agencies, and interested parties. Comments received during the 30-day period following issuance of the Notification were considered during the preparation of this document. These comments raised concerns regarding the potential for the proposed project to increase the intensity of landfill operations and possibly cause environmental impacts. In particular, concerns were raised about the possibility of increased odor, increased noise, increased traffic, increased bird nuisance, adverse effects on water quality, and increased litter. Each of these issues is addressed in the Initial Study under the specific topic headings.

Several comments stated that the acceptance of waste from San Francisco at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would violate Solano County Measure E, a ballot initiative passed by the voters of Solano County in 1984, which limited the amount of out-of-county waste that could be disposed of in landfills within the county. However, in August, 2013, The California Court of Appeal ruled that Measure E is invalid and no longer in effect. The court stated: "Measure E is preempted by Assembly Bill No.845, which expressly prohibits counties from discriminating against solid waste importation based on place of origin. (Pub. Resources Code, § 40059.3, subd. (a).) Assembly Bill No.845 therefore renders Measure E void and unenforceable." Therefore, the project's consistency with Measure E is not considered in this Initial Study.

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## H. DETERMINATION

On the basis of this Initial Study:

- ☒ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, no further environmental documentation is required.

DATE

March 4, 2015



Sarah B. Jones  
Environmental Review Officer  
for  
John Rahaim  
Director of Planning

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## **I. LIST OF PREPARERS**

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## **APPENDIX A**

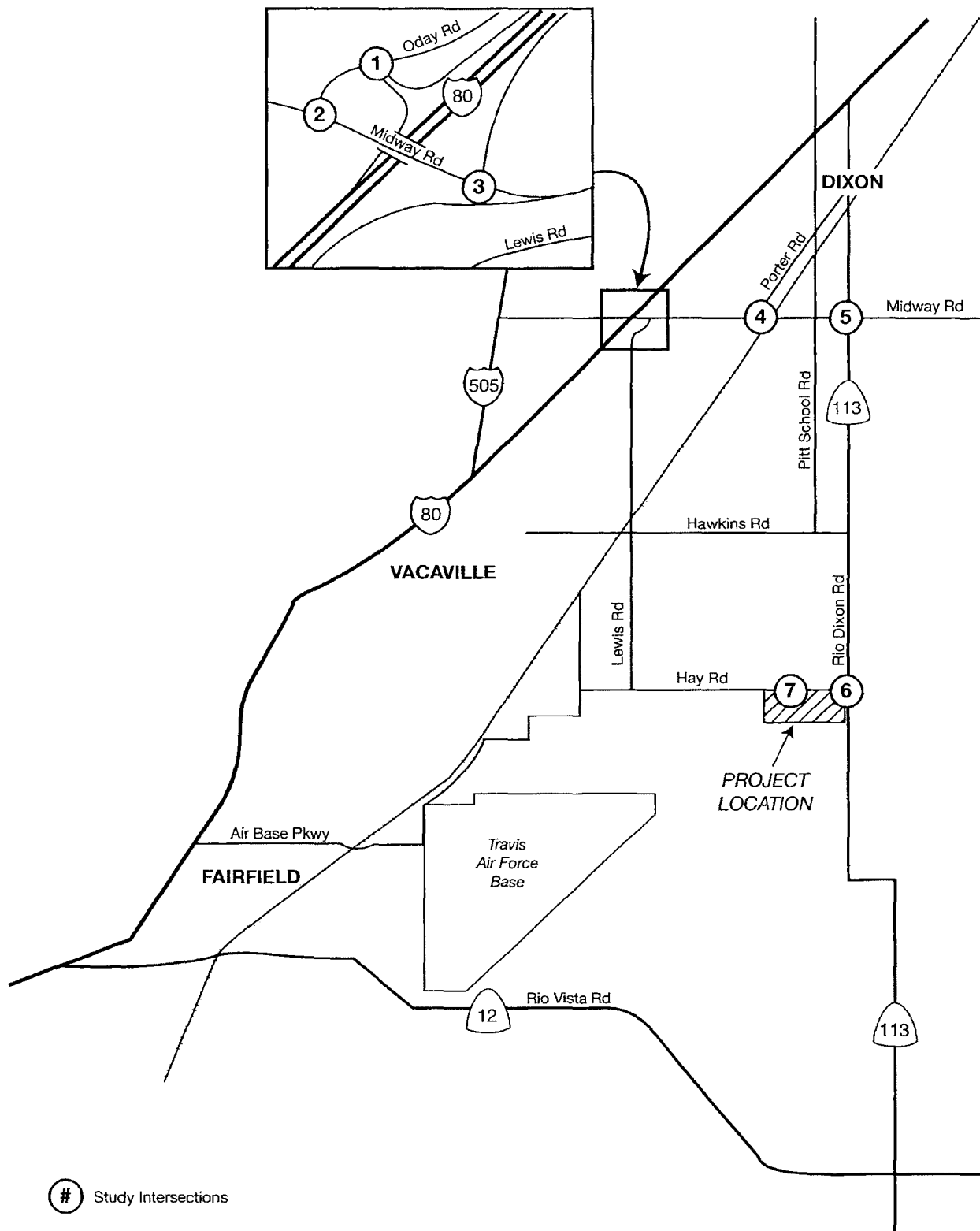
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### **Traffic Technical Appendix Intersection LOS Calculation Sheets**

1. Figure TR-1. Traffic Study Area
2. Existing Conditions
3. Existing Plus Project Conditions


















SOURCE: ESA San Francisco Waste Transport for Disposal at Recology Hay Road Landfill . 210655

**Figure TR-1**  
Traffic Study Area



1: O'Day Road & I-80 WB Off-Ramp  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing AM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	61	1	5	136	4	4
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84
Hourly flow rate (vph)	73	1	6	162	5	5
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None			None
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	20	6			168	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	20	6			168	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	93	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	993	1077			1410	

Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1
Volume Total	73	1	6	162	10
Volume Left	73	0	0	0	5
Volume Right	0	1	0	162	0
cSH	993	1077	1700	1700	1410
Volume to Capacity	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00
Queue Length 95th (ft)	6	0	0	0	0
Control Delay (s)	8.9	8.3	0.0	0.0	3.8
Lane LOS	A	A			A
Approach Delay (s)	8.9		0.0		3.8
Approach LOS	A				

Intersection Summary					
Average Delay		2.8			
Intersection Capacity Utilization		18.4%	ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)		15			

## 2: Midway Rd & O'Day Rd

### HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis


















Existing AM Peak



Movement	EBL	EBT	WBT	WBR	SBL	SBR
Lane Configurations		↰	↰	↰	↰	↰
Volume (veh/h)	6	97	35	124	38	31
Sign Control		Free	Free		Stop	
Grade		0%	0%		0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90
Hourly flow rate (vph)	7	108	39	138	42	34
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type		None	None			
Median storage veh						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	177				160	39
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	177				160	39
tC, single (s)	4.1				6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	2.2				3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %	100				95	97
cM capacity (veh/h)	1399				827	1033
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	SB 1	SB 2	
Volume Total	114	39	138	42	34	
Volume Left	7	0	0	42	0	
Volume Right	0	0	138	0	34	
cSH	1399	1700	1700	827	1033	
Volume to Capacity	0.00	0.02	0.08	0.05	0.03	
Queue Length 95th (ft)	0	0	0	4	3	
Control Delay (s)	0.5	0.0	0.0	9.6	8.6	
Lane LOS	A			A	A	
Approach Delay (s)	0.5	0.0		9.1		
Approach LOS				A		
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay		2.1				
Intersection Capacity Utilization		20.0%		ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)		15				











### 3: I-80 EB Off-Ramp/I-80 EB On-Ramp & Midway Road HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing AM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	66	102	0	0	159	22	16	2	55	0	0	0
Sign Control		Free			Free			Stop			Stop	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86
Hourly flow rate (vph)	77	119	0	0	185	26	19	2	64	0	0	0
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type		None			None							
Median storage (veh)												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	210			119			457	483	119	522	457	185
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	210			119			457	483	119	522	457	185
tC, single (s)	4.1			4.1			7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	2.2			2.2			3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3
p0 queue free %	94			100			96	99	93	100	100	100
cM capacity (veh/h)	1360			1469			492	456	933	413	472	857
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2							
Volume Total	195	185	26	21	64							
Volume Left	77	0	0	19	0							
Volume Right	0	0	26	0	64							
cSH	1360	1700	1700	488	933							
Volume to Capacity	0.06	0.11	0.02	0.04	0.07							
Queue Length 95th (ft)	4	0	0	3	6							
Control Delay (s)	3.4	0.0	0.0	12.7	9.1							
Lane LOS	A			B	A							
Approach Delay (s)	3.4	0.0		10.0								
Approach LOS				B								
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			3.1									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			30.7%			ICU Level of Service		A				
Analysis Period (min)			15									



















4: Porter Rd & Midway Rd  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing AM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	90	1	41	0	0	75
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76
Hourly flow rate (vph)	118	1	54	0	0	99
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None			None
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	153	54			54	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	153	54			54	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	86	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	839	1013			1551	
Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	SB 1		
Volume Total	118	1	54	99		
Volume Left	118	0	0	0		
Volume Right	0	1	0	0		
cSH	839	1013	1700	1700		
Volume to Capacity	0.14	0.00	0.03	0.06		
Queue Length 95th (ft)	12	0	0	0		
Control Delay (s)	10.0	8.6	0.0	0.0		
Lane LOS	A	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.0		0.0	0.0		
Approach LOS	A					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			4.4			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			15.6%		ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)			15			

5: SR 113 & Midway Rd  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing AM Peak













												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	22	13	19	8	22	10	24	51	17	7	72	83
Sign Control		Stop			Stop			Free			Free	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84
Hourly flow rate (vph)	26	15	23	10	26	12	29	61	20	8	86	99
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type								None			None	
Median storage (veh)												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	295	290	135	261	329	71	185			81		
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	295	290	135	261	329	71	185			81		
tC, single (s)	7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2	4.1			4.1		
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3	2.2			2.2		
p0 queue free %	96	97	98	99	95	99	98			99		
cM capacity (veh/h)	615	604	914	649	575	992	1390			1517		

Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1	SB 2
Volume Total	64	48	29	81	8	185
Volume Left	26	10	29	0	8	0
Volume Right	23	12	0	20	0	99
cSH	691	659	1390	1700	1517	1700
Volume to Capacity	0.09	0.07	0.02	0.05	0.01	0.11
Queue Length 95th (ft)	8	6	2	0	0	0
Control Delay (s)	10.7	10.9	7.6	0.0	7.4	0.0
Lane LOS	B	B	A		A	
Approach Delay (s)	10.7	10.9	2.0		0.3	
Approach LOS	B	B				

Intersection Summary						
Average Delay		3.6				
Intersection Capacity Utilization		27.9%		ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)		15				

# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis 6: SR 113 & Hay Rd

Existing AM Peak

						
Movement	EBL	EBR	NBL	NBT	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	8	6	15	175	120	18
Sign Control	Stop			Free	Free	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Hourly flow rate (vph)	9	7	17	199	136	20
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type				None	None	
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	380	147	157			
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	380	147	157			
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2	4.1			
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3	2.2			
p0 queue free %	99	99	99			
cM capacity (veh/h)	615	900	1423			
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	NB 1	SB 1			
Volume Total	16	216	157			
Volume Left	9	17	0			
Volume Right	7	0	20			
cSH	712	1423	1700			
Volume to Capacity	0.02	0.01	0.09			
Queue Length 95th (ft)	2	1	0			
Control Delay (s)	10.2	0.7	0.0			
Lane LOS	B	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.2	0.7	0.0			
Approach LOS	B					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay		0.8				
Intersection Capacity Utilization		30.8%		ICU Level of Service	A	
Analysis Period (min)		15				



# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis 7: RHR Access & Hay Rd












Existing AM Peak

	→	↘	↙	←	↖	↗
Movement	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	NBL	NBR
Lane Configurations	↗		↘	↗	↘	
Volume (veh/h)	8	31	28	9	23	9
Sign Control	Free			Free	Stop	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Hourly flow rate (vph)	9	35	32	10	26	10
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type	None			None		
Median storage veh						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume			9		101	27
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol			9		101	27
tC, single (s)			4.1		6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)			2.2		3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %			98		97	99
cM capacity (veh/h)			1611		880	1049
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1		
Volume Total	44	32	10	36		
Volume Left	0	32	0	26		
Volume Right	35	0	0	10		
cSH	1700	1611	1700	922		
Volume to Capacity	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.04		
Queue Length 95th (ft)	0	2	0	3		
Control Delay (s)	0.0	7.3	0.0	9.1		
Lane LOS		A		A		
Approach Delay (s)	0.0	5.5		9.1		
Approach LOS				A		
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay		4.6				
Intersection Capacity Utilization		18.2%		ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)		15				



1: O'Day Rd & I-80 WB Off-Ramp  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing PM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	76	3	4	96	1	5
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85
Hourly flow rate (vph)	89	4	5	113	1	6
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None			None
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	13	5			118	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	13	5			118	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	91	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	1005	1079			1471	

Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1
Volume Total	89	4	5	113	7
Volume Left	89	0	0	0	1
Volume Right	0	4	0	113	0
cSH	1005	1079	1700	1700	1471
Volume to Capacity	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00
Queue Length 95th (ft)	7	0	0	0	0
Control Delay (s)	8.9	8.3	0.0	0.0	1.2
Lane LOS	A	A			A
Approach Delay (s)	8.9		0.0		1.2
Approach LOS	A				

Intersection Summary					
Average Delay		3.8			
Intersection Capacity Utilization		15.9%	ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)		15			

2: Midway Rd & O'Day Rd  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing PM Peak




















Movement	EBL	EBT	WBT	WBR	SBL	SBR
Lane Configurations		↔	↑	↗	↖	↗
Volume (veh/h)	19	79	43	105	26	59
Sign Control		Free	Free		Stop	
Grade		0%	0%		0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Hourly flow rate (vph)	22	90	49	119	30	67
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type		None	None			
Median storage veh						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	168				182	49
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	168				182	49
tC, single (s)	4.1				6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	2.2				3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %	98				96	93
cM capacity (veh/h)	1409				795	1020

Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	SB 1	SB 2
Volume Total	111	49	119	30	67
Volume Left	22	0	0	30	0
Volume Right	0	0	119	0	67
cSH	1409	1700	1700	795	1020
Volume to Capacity	0.02	0.03	0.07	0.04	0.07
Queue Length 95th (ft)	1	0	0	3	5
Control Delay (s)	1.6	0.0	0.0	9.7	8.8
Lane LOS	A			A	A
Approach Delay (s)	1.6	0.0		9.1	
Approach LOS				A	

Intersection Summary					
Average Delay		2.8			
Intersection Capacity Utilization		21.9%	ICU Level of Service	A	
Analysis Period (min)		15			











### 3: I-80 EB Off-Ramp/I-80 EB On-Ramp & Midway Rd HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing PM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	42	64	0	0	131	89	20	1	141	0	0	0
Sign Control		Free			Free			Stop			Stop	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95
Hourly flow rate (vph)	44	67	0	0	138	94	21	1	148	0	0	0
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type		None			None							
Median storage (veh)												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	232			67			294	387	67	443	294	138
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	232			67			294	387	67	443	294	138
tC, single (s)	4.1			4.1			7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	2.2			2.2			3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3
p0 queue free %	97			100			97	100	85	100	100	100
cM capacity (veh/h)	1336			1534			642	529	996	435	597	910
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2							
Volume Total	112	138	94	22	148							
Volume Left	44	0	0	21	0							
Volume Right	0	0	94	0	148							
cSH	1336	1700	1700	635	996							
Volume to Capacity	0.03	0.08	0.06	0.03	0.15							
Queue Length 95th (ft)	3	0	0	3	13							
Control Delay (s)	3.2	0.0	0.0	10.9	9.2							
Lane LOS	A			B	A							
Approach Delay (s)	3.2	0.0		9.5								
Approach LOS				A								
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			3.8									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			25.9%		ICU Level of Service				A			
Analysis Period (min)			15									



















4: Porter Rd & Midway Rd  
HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing PM Peak

								
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT		
Lane Configurations								
Volume (veh/h)	63	0	101	0	0	61		
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free		
Grade	0%		0%			0%		
Peak Hour Factor	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80		
Hourly flow rate (vph)	79	0	126	0	0	76		
Pedestrians								
Lane Width (ft)								
Walking Speed (ft/s)								
Percent Blockage								
Right turn flare (veh)								
Median type			None			None		
Median storage (veh)								
Upstream signal (ft)								
pX, platoon unblocked								
vC, conflicting volume	202	126			126			
vC1, stage 1 conf vol								
vC2, stage 2 conf vol								
vCu, unblocked vol	202	126			126			
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1			
tC, 2 stage (s)								
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2			
p0 queue free %	90	100			100			
cM capacity (veh/h)	786	924			1460			
Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	SB 1				
Volume Total	79	0	126	76				
Volume Left	79	0	0	0				
Volume Right	0	0	0	0				
cSH	786	1700	1700	1700				
Volume to Capacity	0.10	0.00	0.07	0.04				
Queue Length 95th (ft)	8	0	0	0				
Control Delay (s)	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Lane LOS	B	A						
Approach Delay (s)	10.1		0.0	0.0				
Approach LOS	B							
Intersection Summary								
Average Delay	2.8							
Intersection Capacity Utilization	15.5%			ICU Level of Service		A		
Analysis Period (min)	15							

5: SR 113 & Midway Rd  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing PM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	12	27	11	80	24	14	24	83	48	22	89	26
Sign Control		Stop			Stop			Free			Free	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85
Hourly flow rate (vph)	14	32	13	94	28	16	28	98	56	26	105	31
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type								None			None	
Median storage (veh)												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	356	382	120	368	369	126	135			154		
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	356	382	120	368	369	126	135			154		
tC, single (s)	7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2	4.1			4.1		
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3	2.2			2.2		
p0 queue free %	97	94	99	83	95	98	98			98		
cM capacity (veh/h)	549	530	931	538	539	925	1449			1426		
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1	SB 2						
Volume Total	59	139	28	154	26	135						
Volume Left	14	94	28	0	26	0						
Volume Right	13	16	0	56	0	31						
cSH	591	567	1449	1700	1426	1700						
Volume to Capacity	0.10	0.25	0.02	0.09	0.02	0.08						
Queue Length 95th (ft)	8	24	1	0	1	0						
Control Delay (s)	11.8	13.4	7.5	0.0	7.6	0.0						
Lane LOS	B	B	A		A							
Approach Delay (s)	11.8	13.4	1.2		1.2							
Approach LOS	B	B										
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			5.5									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			33.8%		ICU Level of Service		A					
Analysis Period (min)			15									

# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis 6: SR 113 & Hay Rd

Existing PM Peak













Movement	EBL	EBR	NBL	NBT	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations	Y			4	5	
Volume (veh/h)	17	13	11	130	156	3
Sign Control	Stop			Free	Free	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90
Hourly flow rate (vph)	19	14	12	144	173	3
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type				None	None	
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	344	175	177			
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	344	175	177			
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2	4.1			
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3	2.2			
p0 queue free %	97	98	99			
cM capacity (veh/h)	647	868	1399			
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	NB 1	SB 1			
Volume Total	33	157	177			
Volume Left	19	12	0			
Volume Right	14	0	3			
cSH	727	1399	1700			
Volume to Capacity	0.05	0.01	0.10			
Queue Length 95th (ft)	4	1	0			
Control Delay (s)	10.2	0.7	0.0			
Lane LOS	B	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.2	0.7	0.0			
Approach LOS	B					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			1.2			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			25.9%	ICU Level of Service	A	
Analysis Period (min)			15			



# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis 7: RHR Access & Hay Rd













Existing PM Peak

						
Movement	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	NBL	NBR
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	14	20	17	9	43	17
Sign Control	Free			Free	Stop	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90
Hourly flow rate (vph)	16	22	19	10	48	19
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type	None				None	
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume			16		74	27
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol			16		74	27
tC, single (s)			4.1		6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)			2.2		3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %			99		95	98
cM capacity (veh/h)			1602		918	1049
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1		
Volume Total	38	19	10	67		
Volume Left	0	19	0	48		
Volume Right	22	0	0	19		
cSH	1700	1602	1700	952		
Volume to Capacity	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.07		
Queue Length 95th (ft)	0	1	0	6		
Control Delay (s)	0.0	7.3	0.0	9.1		
Lane LOS		A		A		
Approach Delay (s)	0.0	4.8		9.1		
Approach LOS				A		
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			5.6			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			17.7%	ICU Level of Service	A	
Analysis Period (min)			15			



1: O'Day Road & I-80 WB Off-Ramp  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing + Project AM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	61	1	5	142	4	4
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84
Hourly flow rate (vph)	73	1	6	169	5	5
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None			None
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	20	6			175	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	20	6			175	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	93	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	993	1077			1401	

Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1
Volume Total	73	1	6	169	10
Volume Left	73	0	0	0	5
Volume Right	0	1	0	169	0
cSH	993	1077	1700	1700	1401
Volume to Capacity	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00
Queue Length 95th (ft)	6	0	0	0	0
Control Delay (s)	8.9	8.3	0.0	0.0	3.8
Lane LOS	A	A			A
Approach Delay (s)	8.9		0.0		3.8
Approach LOS	A				

Intersection Summary					
Average Delay		2.7			
Intersection Capacity Utilization		18.8%	ICU Level of Service	A	
Analysis Period (min)		15			

2: Midway Rd & O'Day Rd  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing + Project AM Peak




















Movement	EBL	EBT	WBT	WBR	SBL	SBR
Lane Configurations		↰	↰	↰	↰	↰
Volume (veh/h)	6	97	35	130	38	31
Sign Control		Free	Free		Stop	
Grade		0%	0%		0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90
Hourly flow rate (vph)	7	108	39	144	42	34
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type		None	None			
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	183				160	39
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	183				160	39
tC, single (s)	4.1				6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	2.2				3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %	100				95	97
cM capacity (veh/h)	1392				827	1033

Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	SB 1	SB 2
Volume Total	114	39	144	42	34
Volume Left	7	0	0	42	0
Volume Right	0	0	144	0	34
cSH	1392	1700	1700	827	1033
Volume to Capacity	0.00	0.02	0.08	0.05	0.03
Queue Length 95th (ft)	0	0	0	4	3
Control Delay (s)	0.5	0.0	0.0	9.6	8.6
Lane LOS	A			A	A
Approach Delay (s)	0.5	0.0		9.1	
Approach LOS				A	

Intersection Summary					
Average Delay		2.0			
Intersection Capacity Utilization		20.2%		ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)		15			











### 3: I-80 EB Off-Ramp/I-80 EB On-Ramp & Midway Road HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing + Project AM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	66	102	0	0	165	22	16	2	61	0	0	0
Sign Control		Free			Free			Stop			Stop	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86
Hourly flow rate (vph)	77	119	0	0	192	26	19	2	71	0	0	0
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type		None			None							
Median storage veh												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	217			119			464	490	119	536	464	192
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	217			119			464	490	119	536	464	192
tC, single (s)	4.1			4.1			7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	2.2			2.2			3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3
p0 queue free %	94			100			96	99	92	100	100	100
cM capacity (veh/h)	1352			1469			486	452	933	401	467	850
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2							
Volume Total	195	192	26	21	71							
Volume Left	77	0	0	19	0							
Volume Right	0	0	26	0	71							
cSH	1352	1700	1700	482	933							
Volume to Capacity	0.06	0.11	0.02	0.04	0.08							
Queue Length 95th (ft)	5	0	0	3	6							
Control Delay (s)	3.4	0.0	0.0	12.8	9.2							
Lane LOS	A			B	A							
Approach Delay (s)	3.4	0.0		10.0								
Approach LOS				B								
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			3.1									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			31.0%		ICU Level of Service				A			
Analysis Period (min)			15									



















4: Porter Rd & Midway Rd  
HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing + Project AM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	96	1	41	0	0	75
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76
Hourly flow rate (vph)	126	1	54	0	0	99
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None		None	
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	153	54			54	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	153	54			54	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	85	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	839	1013			1551	
Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	SB 1		
Volume Total	126	1	54	99		
Volume Left	126	0	0	0		
Volume Right	0	1	0	0		
cSH	839	1013	1700	1700		
Volume to Capacity	0.15	0.00	0.03	0.06		
Queue Length 95th (ft)	13	0	0	0		
Control Delay (s)	10.0	8.6	0.0	0.0		
Lane LOS	B	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.0		0.0	0.0		
Approach LOS	B					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			4.6			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			15.9%	ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)			15			

5: SR 113 & Midway Rd  
HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing + Project AM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	22	13	25	8	22	10	30	51	17	7	72	83
Sign Control		Stop			Stop			Free			Free	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84
Hourly flow rate (vph)	26	15	30	10	26	12	36	61	20	8	86	99
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type								None			None	
Median storage (veh)												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	309	304	135	282	343	71	185			81		
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	309	304	135	282	343	71	185			81		
tC, single (s)	7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2	4.1			4.1		
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3	2.2			2.2		
p0 queue free %	96	97	97	98	95	99	97			99		
cM capacity (veh/h)	599	590	914	620	561	992	1390			1517		
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1	SB 2						
Volume Total	71	48	36	81	8	185						
Volume Left	26	10	36	0	8	0						
Volume Right	30	12	0	20	0	99						
cSH	697	643	1390	1700	1517	1700						
Volume to Capacity	0.10	0.07	0.03	0.05	0.01	0.11						
Queue Length 95th (ft)	9	6	2	0	0	0						
Control Delay (s)	10.8	11.0	7.7	0.0	7.4	0.0						
Lane LOS	B	B	A		A							
Approach Delay (s)	10.8	11.0	2.3		0.3							
Approach LOS	B	B										
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			3.8									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			28.2%		ICU Level of Service					A		
Analysis Period (min)			15									

# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis 6: SR 113 & Hay Rd

Existing + Project AM Peak



Movement	EBL	EBR	NBL	NBT	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations	Y			4	1	
Volume (veh/h)	14	6	15	175	120	24
Sign Control	Stop			Free	Free	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Hourly flow rate (vph)	16	7	17	199	136	27
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type				None	None	
Median storage veh						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	383	150	164			
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	383	150	164			
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2	4.1			
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3	2.2			
p0 queue free %	97	99	99			
cM capacity (veh/h)	612	896	1415			
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	NB 1	SB 1			
Volume Total	23	216	164			
Volume Left	16	17	0			
Volume Right	7	0	27			
cSH	677	1415	1700			
Volume to Capacity	0.03	0.01	0.10			
Queue Length 95th (ft)	3	1	0			
Control Delay (s)	10.5	0.7	0.0			
Lane LOS	B	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.5	0.7	0.0			
Approach LOS	B					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay		1.0				
Intersection Capacity Utilization		31.1%		ICU Level of Service	A	
Analysis Period (min)		15				



# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis 7: RHR Access & Hay Rd

Existing + Project AM Peak

	→	↘	↙	←	↖	↗
Movement	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	NBL	NBR
Lane Configurations	↗		↖	↗	↖	
Volume (veh/h)	8	31	34	9	23	15
Sign Control	Free			Free	Stop	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Hourly flow rate (vph)	9	35	39	10	26	17
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type	None			None		
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume			9		114	27
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol			9		114	27
tC, single (s)			4.1		6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)			2.2		3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %			98		97	98
cM capacity (veh/h)			1611		861	1049

Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1
Volume Total	44	39	10	43
Volume Left	0	39	0	26
Volume Right	35	0	0	17
cSH	1700	1611	1700	927
Volume to Capacity	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.05
Queue Length 95th (ft)	0	2	0	4
Control Delay (s)	0.0	7.3	0.0	9.1
Lane LOS		A		A
Approach Delay (s)	0.0	5.8		9.1
Approach LOS				A

Intersection Summary			
Average Delay		4.9	
Intersection Capacity Utilization		18.6%	ICU Level of Service A
Analysis Period (min)		15	



## Existing plus Project PM Peak-Hour LOS

- Same as Existing PM Peak-Hour LOS  
(*no Project-generated PM peak-hour trips*)



## **APPENDIX B**

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### **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for Recology Hay Road Landfill**



**RECOLOGY HAY ROAD  
LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATION NO. U-11-09  
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM  
(ADOPTED 2005, UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2012)**

When an agency makes a finding that potentially significant impacts have been mitigated to less than significant levels, the agency must also adopt a program for reporting on or monitoring the efficacy of the mitigation measures that were adopted (Public Resources Code 21081.6). This document consists of a proposed Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09. The monitoring and reporting measures included in this program are the responsibility of the Project Sponsor, Recology Hay Road.

The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program includes the confirmation of, or review and approval of, the implementation of specific mitigation actions in the form of reports, surveys, and plans. It also includes monitoring of project construction and continued operational monitoring by the Solano County Local Enforcement Agency (LEA). The mitigation measures included in this monitoring program will be completed at various stages of the Project, including future document submittals for Building and Grading Permit approvals, actions or approvals linked to other Responsible Agencies including the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD), CalRecycle, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), as well as during project construction and implementation. Solano County will provide documentation that the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program has been fully adhered to and completed. This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program applies to all activities evaluated by the Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Initial Study.

Solano County remains responsible for ensuring that the implementation of these mitigation measures occurs to the extent noted in this Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program and, where it is noted, Solano County will be responsible for reviewing and monitoring the required mitigation measures to ensure compliance (CEQA Guidelines 15097).

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program includes the original mitigation measures adopted in 2005 when the County certified the March 2005 Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report for the Norcal Waste Systems, Inc. Hay Road Landfill Project. This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program has been updated to include the new mitigation measures that were identified in the Initial Study for the Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09. The new mitigation measures are identified as **bold underline** text.

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<b>Air Quality</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Air-1a:</b> The Applicant shall mitigate or reduce the ROG emissions of the proposed Project to a level that does not exceed the YSAQMD ROG threshold.	Recology Hay Road	YSAQMD		Less than significant
<b>Mitigation Measure Air-1b:</b> The applicant should maintain records of all materials composted (either in terms of volume or weight by material type) and submit them to the YSAQMD in addition to complying with all other applicable YSAQMD rules, regulations and permit conditions. This will enable the YSAQMD to calculate estimated ROG emissions from the composting operation so that emissions reductions can be claimed if specific controls are implemented in the future. The YSAQMD also can use the information in preparing emissions inventories that form the basis of plans developed to achieve attainment of state and national ozone standards.	Recology Hay Road	YSAQMD		Less than significant
<b>Mitigation Measure Air-2:</b> The existing odor source and management techniques (Table 4.2-8 of the 2005 Subsequent EIR) shall be continued and expanded to handle the larger volume of processed material. In addition, the Applicant shall comply with the following complaint response protocol: <b>COMPLAINT RESPONSE PROTOCOL</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Site receives complaint either verbally (phone call) or in written form.</li><li>2. During regular business hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM), the Solano County Department of Resource Management will be notified as soon as an odor complaint is received at (707) 784-6765.</li><li>3. After business hours, odor complaints will be forwarded as soon as they are received by landfill personnel to the Department of Resource Management 24-hour complaint number (1-866-329-0932). The phone call then will be routed to a Department of Resource Management staff member for disposition.</li><li>4. Odor complaints can also be logged in</li></ol>	Recology Hay Road	Solano County LEA	Continue to inspect the site and monitor adherence to odor complaint response protocols.	Less than significant



Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p><a href="http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/RM/environmental_health/solid_waste_complaint.asp">http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/RM/environmental_health/solid_waste_complaint.asp</a>.</p> <p>5. Odor investigations will be conducted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Determine if odor is detectable by site personnel at off-site complaint location. If not detectable, complete investigation by submitting Odor Complaint Report to the Solano County Department of Resource Management within 24 hours of receiving the complaint.</li> <li>b. If detectable at the complainant's site, determine the source. Determine if source and nature of odor is short term or long term duration.</li> <li>c. If short term, take appropriate action to abate the source of odors. Complete investigation by submitting Odor Complaint Report to the Solano County Department of Resource Management within 24 hours of receiving the complaint. Submittal will outline the odor source and steps being taken to abate the odors. Continue to monitor and take steps to abate source of odors.</li> <li>d. If odors reoccur and become a long-term consistent problem, determine extent and nature of offsite odors. If odor source is related to weather or operations, abate the problem by taking appropriate adjustments to storage, process control, and facility improvements. Submit Odor Complaint Report to the Solano County Department of Resource Management within 24 hours of receiving the complaint outlining the odor source and steps being taken to abate the odors. Continue to monitor and take steps to abate source of odors.</li> </ul> <p>6. To mitigate long term consistent odors, the LEA may require an odor abatement system to be employed. The system would consist of either a vapor phase counteractant system during sludge drying operations or the use of topical applicants as an odor neutralizer during sludge spreading or harrowing operations. The</p>				

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>vapor phase counteractant system would consist of an automated pumping system that delivers a high-pressure distribution hose that is equipped with misting nozzles. The system produces a fog downwind of the odor area that mixes with the odor and masks or counteracts its nuisance effects. A topical applicant would consist of a potassium permanganate solution applied to wet sludge as topical odor neutralizer.</p> <p>7. Alternately, the LEA may request that the receipt of the odor source be discontinued or drying operations cease. In the event odor impacts continue, the LEA may require the existing, on-site source of the odor to be land filled and covered with soil. Upon odor remediation, the site may resume operations that have implemented odor remediation strategies to the acceptance of the LEA.</p>				
<p><b>Mitigation Measure 2 (Air Quality - PM<sub>10</sub>):</b> The facility operator shall implement the following dust control mitigation measures during implementation of the proposed project and during ongoing site operations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The project applicant shall use water trucks to reduce PM<sub>10</sub> from dust emissions, which is considered Best Available Control Technologies (BACT) for dust control at the project site, consistent with current operations.</li><li>2. Project PM<sub>10</sub> emissions from stationary sources shall be offset by the acquisition of emission offsets during the permitting process, if determine necessary by the YSAQMD, consistent with YSAQMD Regulation 3-4.</li></ol>	Recology Hay Road	YSAQMD	Review and enforce through air permit compliance procedures.	Less than significant
<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3 (Air Quality - NO<sub>x</sub>):</b> The facility operator shall implement the following mitigation measure prior to implementation of the proposed project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The project applicant shall control additional landfill gas generation through modifications to the landfill gas collection and treatment system and shall implement any</li></ol>	Recology Hay Road	YSAQMD	Review and enforce through air permit compliance procedures.	Less than significant

<b>Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09            Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>Party Responsible for Implementation</b>	<b>Party Responsible for Monitoring</b>	<b>Monitoring Action</b>	<b>Significance After Mitigation</b>
required offsets, consistent with the YSAQMD Rule 3-4.				
<b>Biological Resources</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Bio-1:</b> The landscaping plant palette for the landfill support facility shall not include any invasive exotic plants listed by the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) in their "Exotic Pests Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in California" including all A1, B, or red alert listed species ( <a href="http://www.cal-ipc.org">http://www.cal-ipc.org</a> ).	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Building and Safety Division	Review the landscaping plan to ensure that the plant palette does not include invasive species listed by the Cal-IPC.	Less than significant
<b>Geology and Soils</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Geo-1:</b> A site evaluation report, prepared in conformance with the Solano County Site Evaluation requirements for On-site Sewage Disposal Systems, shall be submitted to the Solano County Environmental Health Services (EHS) Division for the proposed on-site sewage disposal system. The proposed septic system must incorporate all necessary design measures as required by the EHS Division to prevent impacts to surface or groundwater. If the EHS Division determines that the land proposed for sewage disposal has severe limitations, then a holding tank sewage disposal system shall be incorporated into the proposed project in lieu of a septic tank system. The holding tank system shall be similar in design and function to the existing on-site holding tank.	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Environmental Health Services Division	Review the site evaluation report and assure compliance with the Site Evaluation Requirements for on-site sewage disposal.	Less than significant
<b>Hazards and Hazardous Materials</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-1:</b> The Recology Hay Road's existing Load Checking Program shall be modified to include site surveillance and load inspection protocols to identify the presence of hazardous waste in the recyclables loading area waste stream. All hazards shall be removed, stored in a contained area and disposed of at a qualified hazardous waste facility.	Recology Hay Road	Solano County LEA	Review the modified Load Checking Program to assure that appropriate surveillance and inspection protocols for the Recyclables loading area have been incorporated.	Less than significant
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-2a:</b> The Recology Hay Road landfill shall ensure proper labeling, storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials at the landfill support facility in accordance with best management practices, including applicable California	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Environmental Health Services Division	Periodically inspect the landfill support facility to ensure compliance with the proper usage and handling of	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
Fire Codes and California Department of Industrial Relations (Cal-OSHA) pursuant to Title 8 CCR including ensuring that employees are properly trained in the use and handling of these hazardous materials and that each material is accompanied by a Material Safety Data Sheet. Recology shall ensure employees are trained on Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) regulations (8CCR, Section 5192). Recology shall also comply with California Health and Safety Code, Chapters 6.5, 6.67, 6.95 and their associated regulations in the California Code of Regulations (CCR) that regulates the legal management and disposal hazardous materials and hazardous waste.			hazardous materials, and OSHA HAZWOPER regulations.	
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-2b:</b> The following construction-related Best Management Practices (BMPs) shall be implemented as a condition of Solano County grading and building permits in order to minimize the potential negative effects to groundwater and site soils from accidental releases of hazardous materials. <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The manufacturer's recommendations on use, storage and disposal of chemical products used in construction shall be strictly adhered to;</li><li>2. Construction equipment and vehicle gas tanks shall not be overtopped during fueling;</li><li>3. Grease and oils shall be properly contained and removed during routine maintenance of construction equipment;</li><li>4. Discarded containers of fuels and other chemicals shall be properly disposed of; and</li><li>5. Accidental spills of construction-related hazardous materials shall be cleaned-up consistent with the Recology Hay Road Hazardous Materials Management and Emergency Response Plans.</li></ol>	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Building and Safety Division	Periodically inspect the project site throughout the construction process to ensure compliance with grading and construction BMPs.	Less than significant
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-3a:</b> Recology and JPO shall continue implementation of the existing bird deterrence program and BASH strategies. Bird deterrence measures shall be adjusted as warranted to address any increased bird activity at the sit including the periodic use of lethal methods, such as a depredation approach where the remains of one bird is laid out	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Resource Management Department	Monthly site inspections by the LEA will verify use of proper bird control measures and their effectiveness. Any modification to BASH strategies will require Solano	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
each day as a deterrence. Bombs, whistles, or other screamer devices should be deferred when aircraft are overhead.			County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) and TAFB review.	
<p><b>Mitigation Measure Haz-3b:</b> Recology shall develop and implement a program for coordination among Recology, the County Department of Resource Management and Travis Air Force Base (TAFB) to exchange information on conditions associated with the presence of ambient bird population associated with Recology, and to identify the process for developing and implementing bird control strategies to avoid or mitigate potential bird impact to TAFB and lands bordering Recology to the south.</p> <p>The program will require each entity to assign a liaison and shall identify a method of formal contact among the participating entities. Written records of discussions and coordination efforts shall be prepared and kept on file.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Recology Hay Road Landfill shall employ the services of a qualified individual to perform the duties of "Bird Coordinator" for Recology.</li> <li>b. Recology Hay Road Landfill shall develop a log that will be used to document current conditions associated with bird activity within and adjacent to Recology. A preliminary document shall be prepared for review by the County Department of Resource Management and TAFB and will be finalized by Recology Hay Road Landfill pending input from these entities. The document shall include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project area (i.e., the boundaries of areas controlled by Recology and TAFB) and its relationship to surrounding land uses.</li> <li>2. Project area land uses that may attract birds or provide permanent and seasonal habitats.</li> <li>3. General bird use characteristics of the project area.</li> <li>4. Protocols for tracking bird species, behavior and occurrence within the project area.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Resource Management Department	Monthly site inspections by the LEA will verify use of proper bird control measures and their effectiveness. Any modification to BASH strategies will require Solano County ALUC and TAFB review.	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>c. Recology Hay Road Landfill shall develop and implement a Bird Control Program (BCP) that includes supplemental measures to be implemented dependent upon ambient bird behavior observed and reported by the County Department of Resource Management, TAFB, and Recology. At a minimum, the BCP shall include the following provisions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintenance of the landfill active face to smallest practical size.</li> <li>2. Protocols for coordination among Recology, the County Department of Resource Management, and TAFB to exchange information and conditions associated with the presence and nuisance of the ambient bird population associated with the Recology and to identify the process for developing bird control strategies as may be necessary;</li> <li>3. Protocols for establishing an ongoing monitoring and reporting program for use in identifying bird use activities and pest behavior;</li> <li>4. Protocols for developing and implementing strategies to address observed pest behavior; and</li> <li>5. Protocols for monitoring and reporting the implementation and effectiveness of control strategies. Such protocols should include input from TAFB aircrews using methods agreed to and approved by the TAFB liaison.</li> <li>6. Recology Hay Road Landfill shall obtain falconry services of a qualified firm or individual to implement the BCP. Falconry services would be retained on the basis of BCP implementation requirements and may require full-time (40 hours/week) falconry services with overtime on an as needed basis. Falconry services may not be necessary on a year-round basis.</li> <li>7. Any request to change or discontinue falconry services once initiated must be with the concurrence of TAFB and Solano County Department of</li> </ol>				

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>Resource Management, after appropriate coordination, and only after a successful test and trial period agreed to in advance by both TAFB and Solano County Department of Resource Management.</p> <p>8. Recology Hay Road Landfill shall develop and distribute quarterly reports assessing the effectiveness of the BCP. These reports shall include data and observations compiled for the quarter, as well as any concerns from TAFB that may have been identified and reported. The Bird Coordinator shall produce these quarterly reports with concurrence of TAFB and forward them to the County Department of Resource Management. At a minimum, these reports shall include: the adequacy of the adopted abatement measures; the appropriateness of the abatement measures; and the need for new, modified, or different mitigation measures.</p> <p>If substantive issues or suggestions are identified in any of the quarterly reports or otherwise identified through meetings and discussions with TAFB and/or the County through the coordination protocols, Recology staff shall conduct focused studies of these subjects and develop additional control strategies as necessary. These control strategies will be presented to the Bird Coordinator for consideration at a subsequent meeting with the County Department of Resource Management and TAFB. Any such additional control strategies shall be implemented as soon as practicable, pending concurrence by the County and TAFB.</p>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-4a:</b> To facilitate emergency response, the landfill support facility shall have a separate address from the existing buildings at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Building and Safety Division	A complete set of landfill support facility building plans shall be provided to the Dixon	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
address shall be constructed of reflective material with numbering which is a minimum of four inches in height. In addition, the landfill support facility shall be equipped with fire sprinklers, a fire pump, a fire hydrant, and a fire alarm system, or other fire suppression equipment as required by the Dixon Fire Department and Solano County Fire Marshall.			Fire Department and the Building and Safety Division of the Solano County Department of Resource Management for review and approval prior to building permit issuance. The Building and Safety Division would oversee the issuance of a separate address for the support facility as part of the building permit process (Ramos, 2002), and conduct inspections of the building site to ensure compliance with permitted conditions.	
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-4b:</b> The project sponsor shall review and update the facility's Hazardous Materials Management Plan and Emergency Response Plan as necessary to ensure that use of hazardous materials and materials potentially encountered as a result of the proposed project are adequately addressed.	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Resource Management Department	Review the updated plan to ensure compliance.	Less than significant
<b>Hydrology and Water Quality</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Hydro-1:</b> A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) shall be prepared and implemented to reduce potential impacts to surface water quality through the construction of the project. The SWPPP must be prepared in accordance with RWQCB Phase II storm water regulations and shall include the following components: a. BMPs to address construction-related pollutants shall include practices to minimize the contact of construction materials, equipment, and maintenance supplies (e.g., fuels, lubricants, paints, solvents, adhesives) with storm water. The SWPPP shall specify properly designed centralized storage areas that keep these materials out of the rain. Designated fueling areas with containment	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Building and Safety Division	Ensure that a SWPPP has been prepared to the satisfaction of the RWQCB prior to approval of the grading plan. The SWPPP must be maintained on the site and made available to RWQCB staff upon request.	Less than significant



Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>systems for runoff would be created.</p> <p>b. An erosion control plan that may include, but not be limited to, a combination of temporary sediment basins, hydroseeding of unprotected erodible soils, temporary water bars and berms across roads and level building pad areas, silt fences, straw wattles, jute netting, and erosion control mats. Side casting of soil would be prohibited. Slash and other sources of organic material would be collected and directed into the existing composting facility.</p> <p>c. To educate on-site personnel and maintain awareness of the importance of storm water quality protection, site supervisors shall conduct regular tailgate meetings to discuss pollution prevention. The frequency of the meetings and required personnel attendance list shall be specified in the SWPPP.</p> <p>d. The SWPPP shall specify a monitoring program to be implemented by the construction site supervisor, and must include both dry and wet weather inspections. In addition, monitoring would be required during the construction period for pollutants that may be present in the runoff that are not visually detectable in runoff.</p>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Hydro-2:</b> Implementation of Mitigation Measure Geo-1 shall assure that impacts to groundwater, soils, and surface water contamination associated with improper installation are avoided.	Recology Hay Road	Solano County LEA	Ensure that a SWPPP has been prepared to the satisfaction of the RWQCB prior to approval of the grading plan. The SWPPP must be maintained on the site and made available to RWQCB staff upon request.	Less than significant
<b>Noise</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Noi-1:</b> The office portion of the landfill support facility maintenance building shall be constructed to attenuate exterior noise level by 30 dBA within the TAFB 75-80 dBA CNEL, reducing the interior noise level within associated enclosed employee spaces to 45 dBA. Submitted building plans	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Building and Safety Division	A complete set of landfill support facility building plans shall be provided to the Building and Safety Division of the Solano County	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>shall depict attenuation measures where appropriate such as insulation, double window glazing and other measures, and shall include signature by a certified acoustician verifying conformance with interior CNEL standards.</p> <p>In addition, noise shall be monitored to ensure working environments meet the Cal-OSHA standards for hearing protection within shops, office and other exterior and interior workplaces within the landfill support facility. Appropriate hearing protection will be provided consistent with a standard hearing protection program.</p>			<p>Department of Resource Management for review and approval prior to building permit issuance.</p> <p>Compliance is voluntary. Cal-OSHA to respond to employee complaints.</p>	
<b>Aesthetics</b>				
<p>Mitigation Measure 1 (Aesthetics): The facility operator shall implement the following litter control mitigation measures following implementation of the proposed project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The maximum size of the working face shall be limited to 200 feet by 75 feet or smaller.</li><li>2. Use portable fencing in the immediate vicinity of the landfill's working face and downwind of the working face to contain litter.</li><li>3. Fencing along the site boundary should be high enough to contain litter from migrating off-site.</li><li>4. Adequate staffing shall be on site to remove litter immediately from the property boundary in the event of a sudden change in wind speed or direction. Similarly, additional litter collection crews shall be deployed following such high wind events to remove litter from parcels adjacent to the landfill. The facility operator shall establish site access agreements with the adjacent property owners within 90 days of issuance of the use permit.</li><li>5. Litter control shall be the responsibility of the facility compliance officer and shall be monitored by the LEA to ensure compliance with State Minimum Standards. A plan for litter control, by means of fencing, crews,</li></ol>	Recology Hay Road	Solano County LEA	Regularly review litter control to ensure compliance.	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>adjustment of the size of working face and use of soil cover shall be detailed in the Litter Management Plan.</p> <p>6. On a weekly basis, or more frequently if needed, the facility operator shall check for and pick up litter along adjacent properties, and along Burke Lane south of Hay Road, Dally Road north and south of Hay Road, Box R Ranch Road, Binghampton Road between SR 113 and Pedrick Road, Main Prairie Road between SR 113 and Pedrick Road, Brown Road between SR 113 and Pedrick Road, Pedrick Road between Brown Road and Binghampton Road, and along the following major haul routes: Fry Road between Leisure Town Road and SR 113, Lewis Road between Fry Road and Hay Road, Hay Road between SR 113 and Meridian Road, Meridian Road between McCrory Road and Fry Road. The site, offsite properties, and roads listed above shall be kept as litter free as possible depending upon weather conditions. The County shall not be charged for disposal of litter or trash pickup during these activities.</p> <p>7. If waste is hauled by the facility operator or its contractors over the following roads, the operator shall check for and pick up litter, on a weekly basis, or more frequently if needed, on the following roads: Vanden Road from Peabody Road to Canon Road, Canon Road from Vanden Road to North Gate Road, North Gate Road from Canon Road to McCrory Road, McCrory Road from North Gate Road to Meridian Road, Meridian Road from McCrory Road to Hay Road, Hay Road from Meridian Road to Lewis Road, Lewis Road from Midway Road to Fry Road, and Midway Road from Interstate 80 to State Route 113. Within 90 days of the issuance of the use permit, the facility operator shall execute an agreement with Solano County regarding reimbursement to the County for the cost of removing trash and materials dumped along the above mentioned County roads, should County employees be required to assist in the removal of trash associated with</p>				

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>the use of the landfill in the event that Recology does not timely remove the litter, pursuant to the last paragraph below.</p> <p>8. The facility operator shall construct a permanent 25 foot tall litter-control fence along the entire length of the southerly site boundary.</p> <p>9. If Solano County personnel identify litter on roads used by Recology, Solano County shall immediately notify Recology and request that it be removed. Recology shall respond and remove such litter within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving notification from Solano County under this provision.</p>				
<b>Traffic</b>				
<p>The facility operation shall mitigate traffic impacts associated with trucks operated by the facility operator or its contractors by implementing the following measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Local soil hauling trucks shall be restricted to routes approved by the Solano County Department of Resource Management.</li> <li>2. The facility operator shall construct a northbound left-turn pocket on State Route 113 at Hay Road within three years of the issuance of the Use Permit, if approved by the California Department of Transportation.</li> <li>3. The facility operator shall make every effort to restrict acceptance of waste material from outside Solano County during the a.m. peak hour in order to avoid peak-hour congestion on Interstate 80 through Fairfield and Vacaville.</li> <li>4. Within 90 days of issuance of the use permit, the facility operator and the Department of Resource Management shall enter into a new road damage agreement, or a modification of the existing road damage agreement for the facility, to mitigate impacts to the County road system resulting from increased tonnage entering the landfill. The road damage impact fee shall be based on the reported tonnage (waste, green waste, food waste,</li> </ol>	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Public Works Division	Regularly review facility traffic patterns to ensure compliance.	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
soil, recyclables, etc.) entering the landfill and the mileage of the haul roads in the County regularly used by the facility operator and its contractors to transport waste to the landfill. The new road damage agreement shall provide an annual escalation factor consistent with ENR's Construction Cost Index and allows the road impact fee to be adjusted every two years, in even numbered years, within 90 days after the facility operator submits its annual compliance report to the Department of Resource Management pursuant to Condition 12A.				





**SF Environment**

**Our home. Our city. Our planet.**

A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

Edwin M. Lee  
Mayor

Deborah O. Raphael  
Director

June 1, 2015

TO: Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors

FM: Deborah O. Raphael *Deborah O. Raphael*

RE: Recommendation Approving Landfill Disposal Agreement and Adopting the  
Negative Declaration

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### Action

As Director of the Department of the Environment, I recommend the Board of Supervisors' approval of the attached Landfill Disposal Agreement between the City of San Francisco and Recology. Further, I hereby adopt the San Francisco Planning Department's Negative Declaration, Planning Department File No. 2014.0653E, entitled "The Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County," as upheld by the Planning Commission in its Motion No. 19376, for the proposed agreement between the City and County of San Francisco and Recology to change the disposal site for San Francisco's solid waste. As provided in Chapter 31, my recommendation will be considered the first "approval action" under Chapter 31, and will trigger a 30-day appeal period for appealing the negative declaration to the Board of Supervisors.

### Landfill Disposal Agreement

The City's current landfill disposal agreement at the Waste Management Altamont Landfill is set to expire when the cumulative disposal under the agreement reaches 15 million tons. The Department of the Environment projects that date to be January 2016, under our current rate of disposal. The Department has negotiated a landfill disposal agreement with Recology for disposal at their Hay Road landfill in Solano County, which is the back-up landfill previously approved by the Board of Supervisors following a multi-year extensive public competitive selection process.

The agreement designates Recology's Hay Road landfill in Solano County as the exclusive site, once the current agreement expires, for disposal of all solid waste collected in the City and delivered to Recology's transfer station, as well as residue for disposal from Recology's Pier 96 Recycle Central facility, until 5 million tons have been disposed. The Department anticipates that this term will exceed 10 years. The agreement provides for a base landfill operations fee of \$22.73 per ton that is increased annually by the San Francisco Region Consumer Price Index, plus Solano County, state and other required fees. To facilitate the transportation of solid waste to the Hay Road landfill, the agreement

requires that Recology continue to operate the transfer station and be the sole entity for receipt of solid waste covered by and during the term of the disposal agreement, except as to small amounts for testing alternative technologies.

### Environmental Review

The City conducted environmental review of the Agreement and all implementation actions to transport and dispose of the City's waste at the Recology Hay Road Landfill Facility in Solano County (collectively, the "Project") under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the City's Administrative Code Chapter 31, which implements CEQA procedures locally.

The Environmental Review Officer (ERO) determined that a negative declaration (neg dec) should be prepared to analyze the environmental impacts of the Project, prepared the neg dec, and provided public notice of that determination and the availability of a preliminary neg dec for public review on March 4, 2014. Public comments were submitted, and the Solano County Orderly Growth Committee appealed the neg dec to the Planning Commission.

On May 21, 2015, the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing to hear the appeal of the neg dec. Following the hearing, the Planning Commission affirmed the neg dec by its Motion No. 19376. The Planning Commission found the neg dec was adequate, accurate and objective, reflected the independent analysis and judgment of the Planning Department and the Planning Commission, and that the responses to comments contained no significant revisions to the Preliminary neg dec, and approved the final neg dec for the Project in compliance with CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines and Chapter 31. The Planning Department, Jonas Ionin, is the custodian of records, located in File No. 2014.0653E, at 1650 Mission Street, Fourth Floor, San Francisco, California. The neg dec may be found online at [http://sfmea.sfplanning.org/2014.0653E\\_PND.pdf](http://sfmea.sfplanning.org/2014.0653E_PND.pdf). The neg dec identified no potential significant environmental impacts of the Project and thus proposed no mitigation measures for adoption now.

In connection with my adoption of the neg dec, I have reviewed and considered the neg dec and the record as a whole, I find that the neg dec is adequate for my use as a decision maker for the Project, and that there is no substantial evidence that the Project will have a significant effect on the environment.

Solano County also separately prepared a negative declaration for changes to the Recology Hay Road Landfill Facility in 2012. When Solano County approved the changes to the Landfill Facility through approval of a Conditional Use Permit, it adopted mitigation measures to address identified environmental impacts and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) that included those mitigation measures as conditions of approval.

The Solano County negative declaration and MMRP are available for review at the San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103, as well as the Solano County Resource Management Department. Recology's compliance with all Solano County requirements, conditions of approval and the MMRP is included as a condition of the Agreement.



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WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 30, 2015

## VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board  
Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
City Hall, Room 244  
San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4689

Re: Appeal of Adoption of Negative Declaration  
Case No. 2014.0653E  
Project Title: Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at  
Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County

Dear Ms. Calvillo:

This letter is respectfully submitted to the Board of Supervisors (the "Board") on behalf of Solano County Orderly Growth Committee ("SCOGC") pursuant to Administrative Code Section 31.16 to appeal the adoption of a Negative Declaration for the Recology Hay Road Landfill Project (the "Project").

The City and County of San Francisco's Planning Department (the "Planning Department") issued a preliminary negative declaration relating to the Project on March 4, 2015. SCOGC timely filed an appeal on April 2, 2015 and filed a supplemental brief in support of its appeal on May 19, 2015.<sup>1</sup> SCOGC also voiced its objection to the negative declaration at the Planning Commission hearing on May 21, 2015. On that day, the Planning Commission issued a Final Negative Declaration (the "FND") for the Project. On June 1, 2015, the San Francisco Department of the Environment ("DOE") issued a recommendation ("the DOE Recommendation") that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopt the FND. The DOE Recommendation stated that the recommendation should be considered the first "approval action" of the FND, thus triggering the 30 day period for appealing the FND. See id.

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<sup>1</sup> To the extent not otherwise set forth in this letter, all arguments contained in these attached briefs regarding the deficiencies of the underlying negative declaration are incorporated herein by reference.

Ms. Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board  
Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
June 30, 2015  
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Through this letter, SCOGC appeals the adoption of the FND and the DOE Recommendation. This appeal is brought because the existing record establishes that the approval does not conform with CEQA requirements with respect to a negative declaration. The Board should reverse the Planning Commission's approval because the whole record before the Board contains substantial evidence to support a fair argument that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment, thus mandating that an environmental impact report ("EIR") be conducted. Specifically, the FND is flawed for reasons including the following:

- Contending that 624,000 additional trash truck miles per year for 15 years through Bay Area traffic could not, even arguably, have a significant effect on the environment defies logic and lacks credulity. Courts have required CEQA review of projects that had considerably less impact than the massive project under consideration.
- The scope of the environmental analysis was improperly constrained. The environmental review must consider the entirety of the proposed action, and not just the net additional miles travelled because (i) this is a new Project and not an amendment to an existing project or agreement, and (ii) because there was no prior environmental review of the transport of municipal solid waste ("MSW") from San Francisco to the Hay Road Landfill.
- The approval of the Negative Declaration is predicated upon the false assumption that San Francisco's population and trash generation will not change during the expected 15 year life of the proposed Project. The Project description artificially constrains and manipulates the analysis by assuming that there will be no increase in the existing pattern of 50 large truck trips per day over the 13-15 year life of the Project. The FND ignores the absence of any contractual limitations on the number of trips and ignores evidence of substantial growth and development in San Francisco which invariably will increase the amount of trash and the number of trips. In fact, as was brought up at the Planning Commission hearing on May 21<sup>st</sup>, San Francisco's MSW currently being disposed of at the Altamont Landfill is actually increasing.
- The Project description and cumulative analysis fails to take into consideration the additional vehicle trips and the cumulative impacts associated with doubling the organics disposal and treatment program at the Hay Road landfill, and the substantial increased export of compost material from Hay Road to other locations, including San Francisco.
- The environmental review ignores the policy guidance of SB 375, the draft CEQA Guidelines, and the Governor's recent Executive Order, all requiring the Project's compliance with climate action and greenhouse gas

Ms. Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board  
Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
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reduction policies. The Project should be considered to have potentially significant environmental impacts because the vehicle miles to be travelled to the Hay Road Landfill will greatly exceed regional norms for transport of MSW.

The faulty determination that the Project could not have a significant impact on the environment is predicated upon bald denials and demonstrably false assumptions. Only by ignoring or simply denying the expert reports, scientific projections, associated evidence on the greenhouse gas impacts, the BAAQMD air quality threshold limits, the different route with additional truck traffic miles, could the Planning Commission conclude that hauling five million tons of trash more than nine million miles over fifteen years, “could not have a significant effect on the environment.”

SCOGC respectfully submits that there is substantial evidence to support a fair argument that this new Project may have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, the Board should reverse the decision of the Planning Commission and remand the Negative Declaration to the Planning Department with directions to prepare an EIR for the Project.

1. The Project Will Arguably Have A Significant Environmental Impact

The recent decision in *Keep Our Mountains Quiet v. County of Santa Clara*, 236 Cal. App. 4<sup>th</sup> 714, 187 Cal. Rptr. 3d 96 (2015) is instructive. In that case, the plaintiff successfully petitioned for a writ of mandate on the ground that the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors violated CEQA by adopting a mitigated negative declaration instead of requiring an Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”). The defendants appealed, and the Court of Appeal affirmed. The Court held that substantial evidence supported fair arguments that the project could have significant unmitigated noise and traffic impacts.

The project at issue in that case was the use of a rural property in the Santa Cruz mountains to host wedding receptions and other similar special events. Notably, the scope of that project pales in comparison to the magnitude of this Project with its massive trash truck hauling convoys about to be unleashed on the already congested Bay Area freeways.

In *Keep Our Mountains Quiet*, the Court reconfirmed that under the CEQA guidelines, particularly 14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15384, “**substantial evidence**” includes “**reasonable assumptions predicated upon facts**, . . . and reasonable inferences from the facts.” In that case, the testimony of the neighbors and traffic and noise studies, although contradictory and disputed, were determined to provide the required substantial evidence that the project could have significant impacts on traffic and noise. In contrast, with this Project, despite the undeniable facts of millions of tons of trash will be hauled millions of miles for fifteen years, the Planning Commission adopted the Negative Declaration. As the scale of the project is exponentially greater than the limited projects for which courts have required CEQA review, full CEQA review must be undertaken before this massive multi-year project is commenced.

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2. Baseline Improperly Limits Analysis.

The Project baseline and description are flawed in several respects. First, the Negative Declaration improperly splits the Project into two component parts, i.e., between the San Francisco transfer station and the east end of the Bay Bridge and from there to the landfill in Solano County, and only analyzes the 2,000 net additional vehicle miles per week required to transport MSW to the more remote Hay Road Landfill.

There are two fundamental reasons why this approach was improper. First, and foremost, the Project proposal for disposal at Hay Road clearly is not the same project as the previous Altamont transportation and disposal scheme. This new Project provides for disposal to a different landfill, located in a different County in an entirely different part of the Bay Area, under different ownership, on different terms and under different circumstances, and requires MSW disposal trucks to travel a different and much lengthier route over two bridges instead of one and through already heavily impacted areas. In short, on its face, the new agreement and new landfill confirm that this is far more than a simple modification to an existing project. New agreements, different permits, and alternate transportation plans all are required. Accordingly, this is a new project altogether.<sup>2</sup>

In addition, the changing environmental context for evaluating a project's impact with respect to greenhouse gas emissions and consistency with climate action policies present a critical and unprecedented imperative to review the entirety of the proposed action. The Negative Declaration approach conveniently ignores half of the vehicle miles travelled ("VMT") without any environmental record for doing so, i.e., there was no prior environmental analysis of the transportation and disposal of MSW to Altamont. CEQA requires the Negative Declaration to analyze the entirety of the action to transport and dispose of all of San Francisco's MSW at the Hay Road Landfill in Solano County, and not just focus on the net additional distances/trips. As noted in the analytical report prepared by SWAPE dated May 19, 2015 (the "SWAPE Report"), which was attached to the May 19, 2015 supplemental brief, and as also noted in the Negative Declaration, if the entire distance of the proposed truck trips is considered, it cannot reasonably be disputed that the Project will certainly have significant environmental impacts and requires an EIR.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., *Save Our Neighborhood v. Lishman*, 140 Cal.App.4th 1288 (2006) (application for a 102 room hotel (with convention facilities, gas station and convenience store) could not rely on an addendum to an initial study and mitigated negative declaration previously prepared for a prior project, a 106 room motel (with restaurant, lounge, gas station, convenience store and car wash) that was never constructed, because it was a new project and not a modification to a prior project, with different plans and proponents).

<sup>3</sup> *Keep Our Mountains Quiet*, 236 Cal. App. 4th 714, 729 ("the overriding purpose of CEQA is to ensure that the agencies regulating activities that may affect the quality of the environment give primary consideration to preventing environmental damage.")

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3. The Negative Declaration Ignores Growth and Improperly Assumes No Changes in Trips and Associated Impacts.

A second fundamental flaw with the Project description is that there is no substantial evidence in the record to support the assumption that the truck trips will remain consistent with past practices and be limited to only 50 trips per day. In fact, the only limitation in the proposed Project agreement is the total long-term cap of approximately 5 million tons of MSW disposal at Hay Road. Significantly, the proposed agreement does not impose any limit whatsoever on the number of daily trips. Accordingly, Recology could at any time increase the number of trips per day, and, in fact, there are significant reasons to expect that this most likely will occur. More people, more trash, more truck trips.

The Negative Declaration also improperly ignores the fact that San Francisco is one of the five fastest growing counties in the State, including both substantial commercial and residential growth. A recent report from the State Department of Finance indicates that San Francisco had a net housing gain of 3,500 units in 2014, which was a 50% jump over the 2,400 units gained in 2013. These 5,900 units over the past two years came as San Francisco added 21,000 people during that same two year period. (State Department of Finance data, cited in San Francisco Chronicle, Saturday, May 2, 2015.). This growth is in addition to the clearly visible and substantial commercial development activity in San Francisco. The Negative Declaration provides no evidence in the record regarding how MSW from this growth will be handled, or to justify the indefeasible assumption that it will not generate additional large semi-truck MSW disposal trips.

Noteworthy is the reported increase in waste that San Franciscans are generating. The SF Department of Environment zero waste manager, Robert Haley, stated in an interview that “last year the city sent more tons of trash to landfills than it did in 2012: 456,764 tons, or about three pounds per day per resident.” (SOURCE: “San Francisco Stalls in Its Attempt to Go Trash-Free,” Carl Bialik, [www.fivethirtyeight.com](http://www.fivethirtyeight.com) 9/4/14). Combine the increased waste generation with the population growth and the estimated number of truck trips is easily understated.

The SWAPE Report provides substantial evidence that, contrary to the erroneous and unsubstantiated assumptions in the Negative Declaration, the number of large semi-truck trips during the term of the Project will, in fact, be expected to significantly increase, due to population growth and corresponding increases in MSW volume in San Francisco. The SWAPE Report confirms that those anticipated additional trips will result in significant carbon emission impacts that exceed the BAAQMD's significance thresholds starting in year 2019 (SWAPE Report at pages 3-11)<sup>4</sup>, and will pose significant health risks to sensitive receptors located near

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<sup>4</sup> The SWAPE Report also provides substantial evidence demonstrating that historical data and market conditions indicate that waste reduction and diversion programs have flattened-out in recent years and therefore cannot be relied upon to counter growth-induced increases in waste streams. See also, article,

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the proposed truck route due to increased diesel particulates (DPM). As such, a proper CEQA evaluation should be required and adequate mitigation measures and alternatives evaluated for the Project.<sup>5</sup> These findings alone support fair arguments that the Project could have significant impacts on the environment.

In addition, the Negative Declaration at page one conservatively assumes disposal may occur over a 15 year period, rather than over 13 years at current disposal rates. This so-called conservative assumption actually has the opposite effect of artificially reducing the impacts of the additional vehicle trips per day. The artificially assumed limitation on the number of trips per day is of particular concern since it would not require a significant increase of truck trips to exceed the existing CO<sub>2</sub> significance threshold, as discussed in the SWAPE Report, and because any additional truck trips would cause the Project to exceed the existing baseline of trips (even assuming this is an appropriate measure, as discussed above), and therefore should be analyzed over the full length of those trips from San Francisco to Hay Road.

At the May 21 hearing, SCOGC pointed out that the only projections in the record that considered the waste that would be generated by the anticipated increased population were the consultant projections in the SWAPE report, which concluded that thresholds would be exceeded if growth was taken into account. In response, the Planning Department merely offered a verbal representation that it expected that future waste would be limited as it hoped that waste would be reduced in the future. In effect, in response to a consultant report detailing a problem, the City offered nothing but an unsupported verbal assertion denying that the problem existed. CEQA review is required if a fair argument exists that shows that there may be an environmental impact if the project goes forward. The City cannot deny that such a fair argument exists merely by making unsupported statements that it disagrees with expert evidence showing significant impacts.

#### 4. Sources of Additional Vehicle Trips Ignored.

There are other significant sources of vehicle emission ignored by the Negative Declaration. For example, the Project description and cumulative impacts analysis ignores the fact that in addition to the identified 2,000 miles of additional large "possum belly" tip-truck vehicle trips required for disposal of MSW, Recology reportedly also intends to double the capacity of the Hay Road facility to handle compostable materials. This will result in additional truck trips importing green waste to Hay Road, as well as additional trucks exporting compost material to end-users, including to San Francisco. The cumulative impact of the additional vehicle trips associated with this green waste-hauling, which would be separate from and in

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"San Francisco Stalls in its Attempt to go Trash Free", by Carl Bialik, in Five Thirty-Eight, September 4, 2014.

<sup>5</sup> The inadequacies of the Negative Declaration health risk assessment are described in the SWAPE Report at pages 15-18.

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addition to the MSW truck trips, has not been addressed, and the entire round-trip length of these trips also should be assessed. See, Negative Declaration, pp. 8-9.

Finally, the consideration given to the proposed anaerobic digestion ("AD") facility in the cumulative impacts analysis is inadequate. The cumulative impact analysis generally relies on the 2012 initial study/mitigated negative declaration for the Hay Road Landfill expansion, but that analysis did not discuss the AD project (and there is no evidence that the 2012 Hay Road environmental document relied on the State's 2012 Program EIR). The cumulative air quality analysis did not consider the impacts associated with the AD facility, except with respect to odor, and the State's program EIR did not address any site specific impacts associated with a new AD facility at Hay Road, including associated additional vehicle trips. See, Negative Declaration, pp. 21-22.

5. The Negative Declaration fails to address the Projects' inconsistency with Climate Action Policies.

The proposed agreement and Negative Declaration are contrary to the State's and San Francisco's commitment to the reduction of greenhouse gases and to policies that advance local, regional and state-wide climate action goals.

To try and justify the Negative Declaration, the Department has taken an impermissibly narrow view of the proposed Project to change San Francisco's existing disposal site at the Altamont Landfill, in eastern Alameda County, and to transport and dispose of approximately 5 million tons of MSW over the next 13 to 15 years at the even more remote Hay Road Landfill in Solano County. The Project would include an increase of over 2,000 large- truck vehicle miles, six days per week, for the life of the agreement.

In so doing, the Department is fast-tracking its review of the Hay Road agreement and is thereby encouraging San Francisco to take action contrary to its climate action goals, and without any environmental review of readily available project alternatives or mitigation measures. This action sets a dangerous precedent and has potentially far-reaching negative impacts for the entire Bay Area.

The Department's approach, particularly for a heavily transportation based proposal like this, should be focused on how the project responds to local, regional, and statewide climate action goals consistent with SB 375. Instead, because clearly it does not, the Department has entirely ignored this threshold question.

The preliminary draft of changes to the CEQA Guidelines designed to implement SB 375,<sup>6</sup> reflect the state's intention and goal to evaluate projects to determine if they advance

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<sup>6</sup> The comment period of the initial discussion draft was closed on November 21, 2014, and OPR is currently in the process of developing revised draft Guidelines. In the meantime, while other measures of transportation impacts such as intersection and freeway levels of service should not be ignored, there is no

climate action goals. For land use development projects, for example, VMT is viewed as the best measure to evaluate the transportation impacts of projects, and regional average VMT is identified as a potential threshold of significance. Thus, to the extent a project would cause or induce vehicle miles travelled to exceed "regional averages" for that type of use, the project would be considered to have a significant impact.<sup>7</sup>

The proposed Hay Road agreement will substantially increase VMT at a time when the state-wide goal is to reduce VMT, and will cause San Francisco's trash disposal scheme to exceed regional averages for disposal of MSW even more significantly than it currently does. Public records show that the overwhelming majority of cities and counties in the Bay Area dispose of their MSW at significantly more geographically close-in landfills, typically in the same county. San Francisco's proposed long-haul plan very substantially departs from and exceeds these typical practices, and is thereby, by itself, evidence of significant carbon emissions and transportation impact.

The Department's narrow approach avoids discussion of the full impact of the VMT associated with the proposed agreement, avoids discussion of consistency with and furtherance of state, regional, and local climate action and greenhouse gas goals and policies, including, for example, failure to implement applicable AB-32 greenhouse gas reduction targets<sup>8</sup>, and erroneously suggests that the Project is consistent with the AB-32 Scoping Plan,<sup>9</sup> and avoids any discussion of applicable mitigation measures and feasible and plainly available alternatives that would, at a minimum, maintain the status quo and avoid worsening the regional climate change conditions.

Governor Brown's recent Executive Order, No. 03-30-15 (the "Order") establishes an aggressive state-wide greenhouse gas reduction target of 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. The Order underscores the need for focused action to reduce carbon emissions over the next decade and a half, *i.e.*, precisely during the term of the proposed Project, and the need for climate change and emissions reductions to guide regulatory decisions during this critical period. The Hay Road transportation and disposal Project would, as further supported by the evidence in the SWAPE Report, aggressively move San Francisco in the wrong direction, and the Negative

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basis for ignoring the guidance provided in the draft and considering VMT in evaluating the impacts of this Project.

<sup>7</sup> The draft guidelines focus on land use projects that would increase VMT over regional standards, and transportation projects, such as infrastructure improvements, that could induce increases in VMT. While the proposed project does not fall neatly into either of these categories, the purpose and intent to further climate action goals by considering VMT based significance thresholds in relation to the proposed use should continue to apply.

<sup>8</sup> See SWAPE report at page 14.

<sup>9</sup> Because of uncertainty in Recology's commitment to update its truck fleet to cleaner vehicles, the Project cannot provide the necessary information needed to actually conclude compliance with AB-32 Scoping Plan. SWAPE Report at pages 12-13.



Declaration gives scant consideration to the effect of such contrary action while ignoring the science of climate change. The fact that state-wide or regional implementing actions or legislation have not yet been adopted does not excuse the Department from taking climate change into account, from properly evaluating the effect of the proposed decision or from evaluating feasible alternatives.

6. A Superior Close-In Alternative Exists.

The existing and geographically closer option of continuing MSW disposal at Altamont, which remains readily available, should be considered to reduce the environmental impacts of San Francisco's MSW transport and disposal program. Altamont is not only substantially closer to San Francisco than Hay Road, but it is also significantly closer to the access freeway (5.4 miles from I-580, as compared to 12.4 miles to Hay Road from I-80). The greater distance provides the potential for greater impacts to local county roads, as well as increased potential for safety, noise, odor, and air quality impacts for nearby residents along the route. These are the very same factors that required an EIR in the *Keep Our Mountains Quiet* case.

In addition, increased use of zero emission vehicles and renewable liquid fuels are key components of the scenarios for achieving GHG 2030 target emission reductions. Yet, there is no commitment by Recology under the Project to use cleaner vehicles. San Francisco has the opportunity, however, at Altamont to immediately support a cleaner MSW transportation program.

Waste Management of Alameda (WMAC) developed and installed the "World's largest state-of-the-art Landfill Gas (LFG) to Liquefied Natural Gas" (LNG) operation at the Altamont Landfill. This ultra low-carbon bio-fuel powers nearly 300 Waste Management trucks a day, most of which operate in Alameda County, helping to improve the region's air quality.

By the time San Francisco's current disposal contract expires, San Francisco will have sent more than 15 million tons of solid waste to the Altamont Landfill — including about 6 million tons of organic materials. These organic wastes, along with the organic wastes accepted from other Bay Area communities over the past three decades, represent an extraordinarily valuable resource.

Today, the Altamont landfill is the only facility in the region with facilities to convert this waste-derived resource into renewable electricity as well as large quantities of ultra low-carbon transportation fuel. Using only the wastes already in place, the Altamont Landfill is capable of producing an average of about 8 megawatts of electricity and an estimated 13,000 gallons per day of bio-fuel in the form of LNG and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for each of the next 25 years. The California Air Resources Board determined that this natural gas produced from biomethane (in this case captured landfill gas) has the lowest carbon intensity of any fuel available today — about 85% lower than either gasoline or diesel.

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The landfill gas to biomethane system provides the most environmentally positive means of managing any organics contained in the City's waste, in fact, rather than simply disposing of the City's garbage, WMAC takes that garbage and converts it into an environmentally beneficial, completely non-fossil fuel to transport solid waste. In effect, WMAC will be 'closing the loop' in the collection and disposal process by recovering and re-using a valuable byproduct of the landfill operation." The bio-fuel production also is consistent with San Francisco's Zero Waste goal as fuel production can be met through existing waste deposits in the Altamont Landfill and is not dependent on new organic waste streams.<sup>10</sup> New organics processing and recovery technologies planned for the Altamont facility will allow for even greater low-carbon energy production.

This bio-fuel is the lowest carbon intensity fuel available in California eliminating reliance on petroleum fuel and reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Transporting San Francisco's MSW a considerably shorter distance to a landfill that converts garbage to an almost zero carbon intensity fuel is clearly consistent with San Francisco's goal of "minimizing and mitigating environmental impacts" and San Francisco has the opportunity to be a part of this worldwide recognized cutting-edge process. In fact, the Altamont's LNG facility was recognized by the US EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) as the 2009 Project of the Year and by the US Department of Energy Clean Cities Coalition — East Bay Chapter, which awarded the project its "East Bay Clean Cities 2009 Clean Air Champion" award.

In contrast, most of Recology's existing fleet is B-20 bio-diesel (diesel fuel derived from 20% vegetable or animal fats and 80% from petroleum). Only eleven trucks (or 20% of its fleet) run on lower emission LNG. While Recology has indicated that it plans to further up-grade its fleet, these plans remain uncertain and cannot be assumed for purposes of environmental review (and, in fact, were not assumed by the City in the FND). However, an alternative exists that would allow San Francisco to take advantage of the present opportunity to lessen the impact of its long-haul disposal and positively contribute to regional air quality. An environmental impact report is required to evaluate and consider that and any other feasible alternatives.

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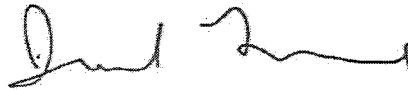
<sup>10</sup> Moreover, the capture rates for landfill gas at the Altamont exceed 93% -- among the highest in the industry. This high rate of recovery ensures that existing gas is converted to the highest value of reuse — both bio-methane fuel and energy, and thus further reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Working with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the California Air Resources Board, California Energy Commission and California Integrated Waste Management Board, WMAC has adopted the most sophisticated greenhouse gas emissions testing program in the industry, utilizing tunable diode laser technology, hundreds of field measurements are taken in the course of a few days to establish methane emissions. This is the most comprehensive test available.

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7. No Environmental Review Shortcut for Hay Road Disposal Agreement.

The Board of Supervisors should overturn the approval of the Negative Declaration and direct the Planning Department to correct the deficiencies in the Project Description, provide the additional required analyses, and insure that the Project complies with plainly applicable climate action goals and policies. These corrections and reviews will require preparation of a focused EIR to, at a minimum, address the transportation and associated air quality and greenhouse gas impacts of the Project, and to analyze appropriate mitigation measures including the reasonable range of feasible alternatives to lessen or avoid these impacts.

Respectfully,



Joshua N. Levine, of  
DONGELL LAWRENCE FINNEY LLP

JNL/MAV:sd

Attachments:

Appeal Letter dated April 2, 2015;

Appeal Letter dated May 19, 2015 including attachments:

SWAPE Report, dated May 19, 2015, Comments on the Proposed Negative Declaration of the Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County;

Article, San Francisco Chronicle, "3 Bay Area Counties Among Fastest Growing in State" (May 1, 2015);

Article, San Francisco Chronicle, "San Francisco Stalls In Its Attempt to Go Trash Free" (September 4, 2014);

May 21, 2015 Final Negative Declaration;

June 1, 2015 DOE Recommendation; and

Filing fee (\$521.00)

cc: Sara Jones, Environmental Review Officer (via email only)  
Paul Maltzer, Senior Environmental Planner (via email only)

## **EXHIBIT B**

### **Planning Department Response to Appeal of Preliminary Negative Declaration**

- May 14, 2015 Memorandum from Paul Maltzer to San Francisco Planning Commission



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

**MEMO**

**DATE:** May 14, 2015

**TO:** San Francisco Planning Commission

**FROM:** Paul Maltzer, Planning Department  
Environmental Planning

**RE:** Appeal of Preliminary Negative Declaration for  
Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid  
Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County  
Planning Department Case No. 2014.0653E

**HEARING DATE:** May 21, 2015

1650 Mission St.  
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CA 94103-2479

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An appeal has been received concerning a Preliminary Negative Declaration for the following project:

**Case No. 2014.0653E – Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County:** Agreement between the City of San Francisco and Recology to change the disposal site for San Francisco's municipal solid waste (MSW). Currently, San Francisco's MSW is transported to the Altamont Landfill, located in eastern Alameda County, for disposal. The proposed project consists of an Agreement to authorize the transportation of MSW from San Francisco to the existing Recology Hay Road Landfill located in unincorporated Solano County, at 6426 Hay Road, near State Route 113, southeast of Vacaville, where it would be disposed. San Francisco and Recology would enter into an Agreement for the transportation and disposal of five million tons of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, beginning in 2016. At current rates of disposal, it is estimated that the Agreement would have a term of approximately 13 – 15 years. No new construction or changes in current Recology operations within San Francisco are proposed. No new construction or change in existing permits would be required at the Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County. The Agreement between San Francisco and Recology to authorize the proposed change in disposal sites would need to be approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

This matter is calendared for public hearing on May 21, 2015. Enclosed are an Executive Summary, the Draft Planning Commission Motion upholding the decision to issue a Negative Declaration, the staff response to the appeal (Exhibit A), the appeal letter, comment letters, and the amended Negative Declaration.

If you have any questions related to this project's environmental evaluation, please contact me at (415) 575-9038 or paul.maltzer@sfgov.org.

Thank you.



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## Appeal of Preliminary Negative Declaration Executive Summary

HEARING DATE: May 21, 2015

*Transmittal Date:* May 14, 2015  
*Case No.:* **2014.0653E**  
*Project Address:* **Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County**  
*Zoning:* Not Applicable – Agreement Citywide in Scope  
*Block/Lot:* Not Applicable – Agreement Citywide in Scope  
*Project Sponsor:* Jack Macy, Department of the Environment  
*Staff Contact:* Paul Maltzer – (415) 575-9038  
[paul.maltzer@sfgov.org](mailto:paul.maltzer@sfgov.org)  
*Recommendation:* **Uphold the Negative Declaration**

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### PROPOSED COMMISSION ACTION:

Consider whether to uphold staff's decision to prepare a Negative Declaration (ND) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), or whether to overturn that decision and require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) due to specified concerns raised by the appellant, including potential significant environmental effects of the proposed project.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed project consists of an Agreement between the City of San Francisco and Recology to change the disposal site for San Francisco's municipal solid waste (MSW). Currently, Recology, the company that collects San Francisco's waste, transports San Francisco's MSW to the Altamont Landfill, located in eastern Alameda County, for disposal. San Francisco's existing agreement with Waste Management, Inc., operator of the Altamont Landfill, will expire around 2016. The proposed project consists of an Agreement to authorize the transportation of MSW from San Francisco to the existing Recology Hay Road (RHR) Landfill located in unincorporated Solano County, at 6426 Hay Road, near State Route 113, southeast of Vacaville, where it would be disposed. San Francisco and Recology would enter into an Agreement for the transportation and disposal of five million tons of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. MSW would be transported by long haul semi-trucks, primarily from the Recology San Francisco transfer station located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, with several additional trucks hauling residual wastes for disposal from Recology's Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 in San Francisco, as is presently the case. At current rates of disposal, it is estimated that the Agreement would have a term of approximately 13 – 15 years. No new construction or changes in current Recology operations within San Francisco are proposed. No new construction or change in existing permits would be required at the Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County. The proposed project would correspond with the cessation of transport of San Francisco's MSW to Altamont Landfill.

The Agreement between San Francisco and Recology to authorize the proposed change in disposal sites would need to be approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

## ISSUES:

The Planning Department published a Preliminary Negative Declaration (PND) on March 4, 2015, and received an appeal letter from The Solano County Orderly Growth Committee on April 3, 2015, appealing the determination to issue a ND. The appeal letter states that an EIR should be prepared for the proposed project and raises several issues of concern to the appellant. Every issue raised by appellant is described and responded to in Exhibit A, attached to the Draft Planning Commission Motion within this packet. The main issues raised by the appellant are summarized as follows:

1. Is there substantial evidence to support a fair argument that the project could have a significant environmental impact?
2. Should alternatives to the project be considered in the CEQA document?
3. Will the project have an adverse effect on traffic and air quality?
4. Does the air quality impact analysis improperly rely upon Bay Area Air Quality Management District thresholds which are no longer in effect?
5. Does the PND use an improper baseline for calculating project traffic and air quality impacts?
6. Does the PND underestimate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions? Another report, the "Gladstein Report" provides a more accurate estimate and predicts significant GHG emissions;
7. EIRs have been prepared for other projects that have less impacts;
8. Does the PND improperly rely upon a Solano County 2012 Mitigated Negative Declaration to support its conclusions?

Additional issues raised by commenters on the PND, other than the appellant, are as follows:

1. Import tonnage should be disclosed in the PND;
2. Recology Hay Road Landfill has lower host community mitigation fees than the Altamont Landfill; and
3. Recology trucks are fueled with conventional fossil fuels, with no assurance that Recology will convert its fleet to liquefied natural gas.
4. San Francisco should not send its MSW to Solano County for disposal.

All of the issues raised in the appeal letter and by other commenters have been addressed in the attached materials, which include:

1. A Draft Motion upholding the decision to issue a Negative Declaration;
2. Exhibit A to draft Motion, Planning Department Response to the Appeal and Comment Letters;
3. Appeal Letter;
4. Comment Letters; and
5. Negative Declaration and Initial Study as amended, with deletions shown in strikethrough and additions shown in double underline.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission adopt the motion to uphold the Negative Declaration. No substantial evidence supporting a fair argument that a significant environmental effect may occur as a result of the project has been presented that would warrant preparation of an EIR. By upholding the Negative Declaration (as recommended), the Planning Commission would not prejudice or restrict the ability of the Board of Supervisors to consider whether or not to approve the proposed project.





# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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**DRAFT**

## **Planning Commission Motion No.**

**HEARING DATE: May 21, 2015**

*Transmittal Date:* May 14, 2015  
*Case No.:* **2014.0653E**  
*Project Title:* **Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County**  
*Zoning:* N/A – Agreement citywide in scope  
*Block/Lot:* N/A – Agreement citywide in scope  
*Project Sponsor:* Jack Macy  
Department of Environment  
*Staff Contact:* Paul Maltzer – (415) 575-9038  
paul.maltzer@sfgov.org

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### **ADOPTING FINDINGS RELATED TO THE APPEAL OF THE PRELIMINARY NEGATIVE DECLARATION, CASE NUMBER 2014.0653E, FOR THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT FOR DISPOSAL OF SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL WASTE AT RECOLOGY HAY ROAD LANDFILL IN SOLANO COUNTY.**

MOVED, that the San Francisco Planning Commission (hereinafter "Commission") hereby AFFIRMS the decision to issue a Negative Declaration, based on the following findings:

1. On April 21, 2014, pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), the State CEQA Guidelines, and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, the Planning Department ("Department") received an Environmental Evaluation Application form for the Project, in order that it might conduct an initial evaluation to determine whether the Project might have a significant impact on the environment.
2. On March 4, 2015, the Department determined that the Project, as proposed, could not have a significant effect on the environment.
3. On March 4, and March 5, 2015, two notices of determination that a Negative Declaration would be issued for the Project were duly published in newspapers of general circulation in the City and in Solano County, respectively, and the Negative Declaration posted in the Department offices, and distributed all in accordance with law.
4. On April 3, 2015, an appeal of the decision to issue a Negative Declaration was timely filed by Solano County Orderly Growth Committee.

5. A staff memorandum, dated May 14, 2015, addresses and responds to all points raised by appellant in the appeal letter. That memorandum is attached as Exhibit A and staff's findings as to those points are incorporated by reference herein as the Commission's own findings. Copies of that memorandum have been delivered to the City Planning Commission, and a copy of that memorandum is on file and available for public review at the San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400.
6. The Planning Department is proposing that amendments be made to the Preliminary Negative Declaration, as per the attached amended Preliminary Negative Declaration, with amendments shown in strikethrough and double underline. The amendments update the calculation of air quality impacts for the project. Those updated calculations indicate a slight increase in emissions from the project, relative to those reflected in the Preliminary Negative Declaration published on March 3, 2015, but all such emissions remain below all thresholds of significant impact. Such amendments do not include new, undisclosed environmental impacts and do not change the conclusions reached in the Preliminary Negative Declaration. The changes do not require "substantial revision" of the Preliminary Negative Declaration, and therefore recirculation of the Preliminary Negative Declaration is not required.
7. On May 21, 2015, the Commission held a duly noticed and advertised public hearing on the appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration, at which testimony on the merits of the appeal, both in favor of and in opposition to, was received.
8. All points raised in the appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration at the May 21, 2015, City Planning Commission hearing have been responded to either in the Memorandum or orally at the public hearing.
9. After consideration of the points raised by appellant, both in writing and at the May 21, 2015 hearing, the San Francisco Planning Department reaffirms its conclusion that the proposed project could not have a significant effect upon the environment.
10. In reviewing the Preliminary Negative Declaration and amended Preliminary Negative Declaration issued for the Project, the Planning Commission has had available for its review and consideration all information pertaining to the Project in the Planning Department's case file.
11. The Planning Commission finds that Planning Department's determination on the Negative Declaration, as amended, reflects the Department's independent judgment and analysis.

The City Planning Commission HEREBY DOES FIND that the proposed Project, could not have a significant effect on the environment, as shown in the analysis of the Negative Declaration, as amended, and HEREBY DOES AFFIRM the decision to issue a Negative Declaration, as prepared by the San Francisco Planning Department.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was ADOPTED by the City Planning Commission on May 21, 2015.

**Motion No.**  
**Appeal of PND**  
**Hearing Date: May 21, 2015**

**Draft Motion**  
**Case No. 2014.0653E**  
**Agreement for Disposal of SF MSW at RHR Landfill**

Jonas Ionin  
Commission Secretary

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ADOPTED:



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

**MEMO**

## **Exhibit A to Draft Motion Planning Department Response to Appeal of Preliminary Negative Declaration**

**CASE NO. 2014.0653E– AGREEMENT FOR DISPOSAL OF SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL SOLID  
WASTE AT RECOLOGY HAY ROAD LANDFILL IN SOLANO COUNTY  
PUBLISHED ON MARCH 4, 2015**

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### **BACKGROUND**

The San Francisco Department of the Environment filed an environmental evaluation application (2014.0653E) for the proposed Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County project on April 21, 2014, for a proposal to change the disposal site for San Francisco's municipal solid waste (MSW). Currently, Recology, the company that collects San Francisco's waste, transports San Francisco's MSW to the Altamont Landfill, located in eastern Alameda County, for disposal. San Francisco's existing agreement with Waste Management, Inc., operator of the Altamont Landfill, will expire around 2016. (The estimated time of contract expiration is based on disposal tonnage, rather than a specific date.) The proposed project consists of an Agreement to authorize the transportation of MSW from San Francisco to the existing Recology Hay Road Landfill located in unincorporated Solano County, at 6426 Hay Road, near State Route 113, southeast of Vacaville, where it would be disposed. The Agreement between San Francisco and Recology to authorize the proposed change in disposal sites would need to be approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

The San Francisco Planning Department published a Preliminary Negative Declaration (PND) analyzing the potential physical environmental effects of the proposed project on March 4, 2015. On April 3, 2015, the Solano County Orderly Growth Committee filed a letter appealing the PND. The concerns listed below are summarized from the appeal letter, copies of which are included within this appeal packet. The concerns are listed in the order presented in the appeal letter.

In addition to the appeal letter described above, one comment letter was received on the PND that addresses environmental issues. This comment letter, from David Tam of the organization Sustainability, Parks, Recycling And Wildlife Legal Defense Fund (SPRAWLDEF) purports to join in the appeal of the PND, but the commenter did not file a formal appeal with the Planning Department, nor did the commenter file the required appeal fee. Therefore, the SPRAWLDEF letter is treated as a comment letter, not as a part of the appeal.

A second comment letter was received, from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). This comment letter does not raise any environmental concerns.

For informational purposes, a summary of concerns raised in these comment letters, together with the Planning Department responses to those concerns, are presented below after the discussion of the appeal letter. Copies of those comment letters are also included within this packet.

***Appeal Letter from Solano County Orderly Growth Committee***

**CONCERN 1: Request that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) be Prepared.**

The PND concluded that the proposed project would not have a significant adverse environmental effect, but the appellant disagrees, and requests that an EIR be prepared, saying that there is substantial evidence that the proposed project will have significant environmental impacts related to hauling of waste. Alternatives to the project should be considered in an EIR, in particular the alternative of disposal of MSW at Altamont Landfill utilizing liquefied natural gas (LNG) fueled trucks, which the appellant maintains would be environmentally and economically advantageous.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 1:** Potential physical environmental impacts of the proposed project are fully analyzed and described in the PND. The PND analysis and conclusions are based upon substantial evidence, as described in detail in the PND. The summary, introductory statement by appellant provides no evidence to support the opinion stated. Pursuant to and consistent with CEQA, a PND analyzes only the potential physical environmental impacts of the project proposed. An alternatives analysis is a component of an EIR. Alternatives analysis is not a component of a Negative Declaration. Potential economic impacts of a proposed project are also not included within the scope of a CEQA document.

**CONCERN 2: Procedural Background.**

San Francisco's past decision to award an agreement for transport and disposal of San Francisco's municipal solid waste to Recology did not follow proper procedures, was challenged in court and an EIR has not been completed for that agreement.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 2:** None of the points raised on page 2 of the appeal letter with respect to the procedural background of the project are relevant to the information, analysis, or conclusions regarding potential physical environmental effects of the proposed project.

Footnote 2 in the PND explains the relationship between the past agreement to transport San Francisco's MSW by rail to Recology's Ostrom Road Landfill in Yuba County, and the present

project. As the appellant recognizes, San Francisco terminated the past agreement pertaining to disposal at Ostrom Road. The proposed Recology Ostrom Road Green Rail and Permit Amendment Project (Ostrom Road Project) is undergoing environmental review by Yuba County and the City and County of San Francisco. However, due to delays in the Ostrom Road Project, the Department of the Environment has determined that the Ostrom Road project cannot be approved and constructed in a timely manner. Instead, the Department of Environment is considering the proposed project, under which San Francisco MSW would be taken to Recology's Hay Road Landfill. As explained in footnote 2 of the PND, "If this project is approved and implemented, the City's participation in the Ostrom Road Landfill would cease."

**CONCERN 3: Inadequacy of Environmental Review.**

The City is advocating that the project be approved without substantive environmental review or analysis of alternatives to the project.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 3:** The PND is not advocating for or against project approval. The PND is an informational document that discloses the potential for physical environmental impacts, based on the evidence and analysis presented in the document. An alternatives analysis is not required or typically included in a PND. Disposal of San Francisco MSW at Recology's Hay Road landfill would involve transportation by the same trucks as are currently used to transport San Francisco MSW, and would not include construction of any new infrastructure improvements. The Initial Study for the proposed project concluded that the proposed project would not result in significant adverse environmental impacts; accordingly, a PND was prepared and circulated.

**CONCERN 4: Other Projects with Less Significant Impacts Have Required EIRs.**

Other projects with lesser significant environmental impacts have been found to merit an EIR. [The commenter cites as examples the San Francisco Bicycle Plan, the San Jose Single-Use Carry-Out Bag Ordinance, and a San Diego Unified School District high school improvement project.]

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 4:** Each project is analyzed based upon its own unique issues and impacts. No evidence or information is presented which indicates that potential impacts from the San Francisco Bicycle Plan, San Jose Single-Use Bag Ordinance, or San Diego high school project are similar to, or have any bearing or relevance to, potential impacts from the proposed project. A thorough Initial Study was completed for the proposed project, and that analysis concluded that the proposed project could not have a significant impact on the environment. Hence, a PND was published.

**CONCERN 5: Traffic and Air Quality.**

Hauling of up to 5 million tons of San Francisco’s waste to Solano County will have an adverse effect on traffic and air quality.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 5:** Potential traffic and air quality impacts of the proposed project are specifically analyzed in the PND and found to be less than significant. “Less than significant” does not mean that a project has no impact: rather, it means that the impact described falls below the threshold of significance, as described in the PND. Appellant has provided no evidence to support their opinion that the proposed project would have significant environmental impacts. It also bears noting that the existing permit conditions for operation of Recology’s Hay Road Landfill require Recology to mitigate impacts to the County road system resulting from increased tonnage entering the landfill. (See Appendix B to PND: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for Recology Hay Road Landfill, adopted by Solano County when it approved the Hay Road Landfill project.) As indicated in the PND, the proposed project would require no further Solano County permits, permit revisions or physical improvements to the existing, operational landfill, as the landfill is presently permitted and equipped to accept the MSW volumes and truck trips proposed.

**CONCERN 6: Grounds for Administrative Challenge.**

An EIR must be prepared if it can be “fairly argued,” based upon substantial evidence, that a project could have a significant environmental impact. Also, the use of a Negative Declaration is confined to situations in which limited public input appears sufficient.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 6:** No specific challenge is made to the analysis or conclusions of the PND or to the supporting evidence. As will be discussed further below, the appellant has failed to make a fair argument supported by substantial evidence that the proposed project could have potentially significant impacts. Therefore an EIR is not necessary. The appellant’s citation to a 1982 judicial decision confining use of a Negative Declaration to situations in which limited public input appears sufficient is outdated. Early case law holding that an EIR was required due to public controversy was effectively overridden by a 1984 amendment to CEQA. Under Public Resources Code section 21082.2, a lead agency must base its decision on whether a project may have a significant environmental impact on substantial evidence, and public controversy cannot trigger an EIR if the record does not contain substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect. The CEQA Guidelines set forth the same rule.

The Planning Department distributed Notices of Availability and/or copies of the PND in both San Francisco and Solano Counties. Notices of the intent to adopt the PND were published in newspapers of general circulation in both San Francisco and Solano counties, and the PND was also distributed to the Solano County Department of Resource Management, and to State and Regional agencies through the State Clearinghouse. The Planning Department has received input from members of the public in Solano and San Francisco counties, from CalRecycle and the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District, as well as from newspapers in Solano County. Many Solano County residents have expressed their opinion that they do not want San Francisco to send its garbage to Solano County for disposal.

**CONCERN 7: Project Description.**

The project will add approximately 2,000 miles per day by trucks transporting San Francisco's MSW.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 7:** The information in this statement is calculated from information provided in the PND, based on 50 round-trip truck trips per day (page 6) times 40 additional miles per round trip (page 9 of the PND). These truck trips would occur six days per week. This amount of additional mileage by trucks transporting San Francisco's MSW provided the basis for the transportation, air quality and other impact analyses that are presented in the PND.

**CONCERN 8: Air Quality – Reliance Upon Air District Statistics, Standards; Methodology.**

The air quality analysis in the PND relies on Air District statistics and standards and is a theoretical exercise that does not support the conclusion that the project would have a less than significant air quality impact.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 8:** The air quality analysis in the PND is based on emissions modeling, consistent with the industry standard for conducting CEQA air quality analyses. Reliance upon applicable statistics and standards from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District is appropriate as those are the two districts with responsibility for regulating emissions within the two air basins where the project would have potential air quality impacts. The methodology, sources, and assumptions for the Air Quality analysis are described in more detail in the Air Quality and GHG Technical Report prepared for the proposed project, which is summarized in the PND on pages 55-61. See also the Staff Initiated Text Changes discussion, below, regarding amendments to the Air Quality Technical Report calculations.



**CONCERN 9: Air Quality – BAAQMD Thresholds No Longer in Effect.**

The air quality analysis uses Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) thresholds of significance, which are no longer in effect as a result of legal action.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 9:** As stated in the PND on pages 48 and 49, BAAQMD adopted updated *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines*, including new thresholds of significance, in June 2010, and revised them in May 2011. The Air Quality Guidelines advise lead agencies on how to evaluate potential air quality impacts, including establishing quantitative and qualitative thresholds of significance. The BAAQMD resolutions adopting and revising the significance thresholds in 2011 were set aside by the Alameda County Superior Court on March 5, 2012. The Alameda Superior Court did not determine whether the thresholds were valid on the merits, but found that the adoption of the thresholds was a project under CEQA, necessitating environmental review. The BAAQMD appealed the Alameda County Superior Court's decision. The Court of Appeal of the State of California, First Appellate District, reversed the trial court's decision. The Court of Appeal's decision was appealed to the California Supreme Court, which granted limited review, and the matter is currently pending there. The California Supreme Court has indicated that it will address the question whether CEQA review is confined to an analysis of a proposed project's impacts on the existing environment, or does it also require analysis of the existing environment's impacts on the proposed project. The California Supreme Court has not indicated that it will review the underlying question whether adoption of the thresholds is a project under CEQA, and no court has indicated that the thresholds lack evidentiary support.

In May of 2012, BAAQMD updated its CEQA Air Quality Guidelines to continue to provide direction on recommended analysis methodologies, but without recommended quantitative significance thresholds. The May 2012 BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines state that Lead agencies may reference the Air District's 1999 Thresholds of Significance available on the Air District's website. Lead agencies may also reference the Air District's CEQA Thresholds Options and Justification Report developed by staff in 2009. The *CEQA Thresholds Options and Justification Report* (Justification Report), available on the District's website, outlines substantial evidence supporting a variety of thresholds of significance.

The air quality analysis in the PND used the previously-adopted 2011 thresholds of the BAAQMD to determine the potential impacts of the project. These thresholds are based on substantial evidence identified in BAAQMD's 2009 Justification Report; this report was independently reviewed by the Planning Department, which considers the thresholds developed by the

BAAQMD in 2009 to be supported by substantial evidence. The PND provides the substantial evidence used to support the significance thresholds identified on pages 47 through 53 of the PND. Accordingly, these thresholds are used by the Planning Department for CEQA analysis, including within the PND.<sup>1</sup> The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD) has adopted thresholds for emissions within the Sacramento Valley Air Basin, where a portion of the proposed project's emissions would occur. Thresholds used in the air quality analysis are shown in Table AQ-1 on page 49 of the PND.

**CONCERN 10: Air Quality Improper Use of Significance Thresholds.**

The air quality analysis improperly uses significance thresholds from BAAQMD and YSAQMD.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 10:** As noted in the Response to Concern 9, the PND relies on the BAAQMD's 2009 Justification Report, which provides substantial evidence for the establishment of air quality thresholds for project emissions within the Bay Area Air Basin. The thresholds used by San Francisco and supported by the 2009 Justification Report are more strict than the BAAQMD's 1999 thresholds. The thresholds cited in the PND for the YSAQMD are in fact the YSAQMD's established thresholds for emissions within the Sacramento Valley Air Basin. As discussed in Impact AQ-2 on pages 55 and 56 of the PND, and as shown in Tables AQ-2 and AQ-3, the PND compares the increase in modeled criteria pollutant emissions within each air basin to the applicable threshold, and also conservatively compares the total increase in project emissions in both air basins to each set of thresholds. Hence, the PND compares total net new emissions from the proposed project to the most conservative threshold for each air district. In all cases, criteria pollutant emissions of the proposed project were found to be substantially below the significance threshold (i.e., total emissions represent no more than 61 percent of any of the thresholds, and in most instances far less). (See also the Staff Initiated Text Change discussion below, regarding an update to Tables AQ-2, AQ-3, and AQ-4 in the Initial Study.)

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<sup>1</sup> It is noted that the BAAQMD's previous thresholds of significance, adopted in 1999 and not challenged in court, are considerably higher (i.e., more permissive) with respect to the ozone precursors reactive organic gases (ROG) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx)—80 pounds per day or 15 tons per year, versus 54 pounds per day or 10 tons per year for ROG and NOx in the 2009 Justification Report thresholds. Thus, the use of the 2009 thresholds is conservative with respect to these pollutants, which represent the greatest emissions from the proposed project, as shown in PND Tables AQ-2 and AQ-3, page 56.

**CONCERN 11: Air Quality – Improper Comparison of Impacts to Baseline.**

The PND uses improper methodology in comparing project emissions to baseline emissions.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 11:** The PND properly establishes the baseline as the current physical environment, which includes the hauling of San Francisco’s waste to the Altamont Landfill in Alameda County, and disposing of it there. The PND properly compares modeled emissions of the entire proposed project to modeled emissions of the baseline condition. The difference between the two is the basis for determining whether a significant impact would occur, because “[e]ffects analyzed under CEQA must be related to a physical change” (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15358(b)). With respect to regional air pollutants, the analysis accounts for the existing baseline emissions that occur from hauling of San Francisco’s MSW to Altamont Landfill as well as the emissions from the entire trip that would occur from hauling this same amount of MSW to the Hay Road Landfill. The net impact of the project on regional air pollution is the difference in emissions of criteria air pollutants between these two haul routes. As discussed in Impact AQ-2 on pages 55 and 56 of the PND, and as shown in Tables AQ-2 and AQ-3, the impact of increased criteria air pollutant emissions resulting from the “physical change” in haul routes (i.e., the project impact) would be less than significant.

The PND also analyzes localized air pollution, or “health risks,” that would occur from the proposed project. With respect to localized air pollution, sensitive receptors along the project’s modified MSW haul route would be exposed to entirely new pollutant emissions. This impact is analyzed in Impact AQ-4 which concludes that the health risk impact of the project’s truck trips to nearby sensitive receptors would be well below the PND’s significance criteria.

**CONCERN 12: Greenhouse Gas Emissions – Improper Reliance upon Data from BAAQMD.**

The PND’s findings pertaining to the generation of greenhouse gases (GHGs) are incorrect for five reasons. The first reason is that PND relies on quantifiable data from the BAAQMD to determine GHG emissions of the proposed project.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 12:** As described in Impact GHG-2 on page 68 of the PND, the proposed project’s GHG emissions were calculated using emission rates provided by the California Air Resources Board’s (ARB’s) EMFAC2011 for the SFBAAB and SVAB, and biodiesel adjustment factors, liquid natural gas (LNG) emission rates, and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and (N<sub>2</sub>O) emission factors provided by the ARB. Vehicle information, fuel type, and haul route details were provided by Recology. Trip length was estimated using Google maps.

Furthermore, as discussed above in the Response to Concern 9 and on page 65 of the PND, the GHG analysis uses thresholds independently reviewed and relied upon by the Planning Department based on the substantial evidence contained in the BAAQMD's 2009 Justification Report. The methodology, sources, and assumptions for the GHG and Air Quality analyses are described in more detail in the Air Quality and GHG Technical Report prepared for the proposed project. With regard to the quantitative GHG significance threshold used in the PND, as discussed on page 65, the City and County of San Francisco selected the threshold of 1,100 metric tons per year based on substantial evidence provided in the BAAQMD's 2009 Justification Report.

**CONCERN 13: Greenhouse Gas Emissions – PND Did Not Account for All GHG Emissions.**

The GHG analysis should have accounted for all project GHG emissions, not just emissions from the additional mileage that would be travelled to the Recology Hay Road Landfill.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 13:** As discussed in the Response to Concern 11, the PND properly establishes the baseline as the current physical environment, which includes the hauling of San Francisco's waste to the Altamont Landfill in Alameda County, and disposing of it there. The environmental impacts of the proposed project are the impacts that could result from proposed changes to the existing baseline condition. With respect to GHG emissions, the analysis accounts for the existing baseline emissions that occur from hauling of San Francisco's MSW to Altamont Landfill as well as the emissions from the entire trip that would occur from hauling this same amount of MSW to the Hay Road Landfill. The net impact of the project on GHG emissions is the difference in emissions between these two haul routes. As discussed in Impact GG-1 on pages 68 and 69 of the PND, and as shown in Table GG-1, the impact of the incremental increase in GHG emissions would be less than significant. (See also the Staff Initiated Text Change discussion below, regarding an update to Table GG-1.) As noted previously, the methodology, sources, and assumptions for the GHG and Air Quality analyses are described in more detail in the Air Quality and GHG Technical Report prepared for the proposed project. The methodology for conducting the air quality and GHG impact analyses for this project is consistent with the City's established practices and procedures, and is also consistent with applicable Air Districts' guidance documents.

**CONCERN 14: Greenhouse Gas Emissions – Gladstein Report Provides More Accurate Estimate.**

The PND underestimates GHG emissions. Another report, the "Gladstein Report" provides a more accurate estimate of GHG emissions.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 14:** As noted previously, the methodology, sources, assumptions, and factors used in modeling of GHG emissions are described in detail in the Air Quality and GHG Technical Report. EMFAC 2011 emission factors were used to calculate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from trucks fueled by biodiesel. Other greenhouse gases from biodiesel trucks were calculated based on CARB's Local Government Operations Protocol. GHG emissions from trucks fueled by LNG were calculated based on LNG fuel consumption.

The "Gladstein Report" was not prepared as a CEQA analysis and it is not specific to this project. That report calculated and compared GHG emissions from four scenarios for transporting San Francisco's MSW to a landfill. None of these scenarios involves the Recology Hay Road Landfill; therefore, the Gladstein Report does not provide an analysis of the potential GHG emissions of the proposed project. The scenario analyzed in the Gladstein Report that most closely resembles the baseline condition used in the PND is Scenario 1- Current Diesel and Dual-Fuel Transfer Trucks to Altamont. However, the assumptions stated for this scenario regarding fuel type appear to be out of date, and do not accurately characterize Recology's fleet of long-haul trucks which are currently used to haul San Francisco's MSW to the Altamont Landfill, and, if the proposed project is approved, would continue to be used to haul San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The Gladstein Report stated that about 20% of the truck trips to the Altamont landfill used dual-fuel transfer trucks that use approximately 95% liquefied natural gas (LNG) and 5% diesel fuel to operate, and that the remaining 80% of the trips to Altamont were via standard diesel transfer trucks. In fact, as stated on page 10 of the PND, most of the trucks in Recology's transfer fleet run on B-20 biodiesel (that is, diesel fuel that is derived from 20 percent vegetable or animal fats and 80 percent petroleum). Currently, eleven trucks in the fleet (about 20 percent of the fleet) use LNG. Biodiesel has lower GHG emissions than conventional diesel. The Air Quality and GHG Technical Report prepared for the project conservatively did not deduct emissions from the biogenic component of the biodiesel; however, such a deduction would be allowed under the BAAQMD CEQA Guidelines. On page 4-5 of the May 2012 BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, the BAAQMD states: "Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions should not be included in the quantification of GHG emissions for a project. Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions result from materials that are derived from living cells, as opposed to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions derived from fossil fuels, limestone and other materials that have been transformed by geological processes. Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> contains carbon that is present in organic materials that include, but are not limited to, wood, paper, vegetable oils, animal fat, and food, animal and yard waste."

In addition, the Gladstein Report stated that there were 64 trips per day of MSW waste to Altamont Landfill. The current number is 50. Therefore, the Gladstein report overestimates GHG emissions of the existing condition, both by overstating the number of daily truck trips, and by assuming use of a truck fleet with higher average emissions.

Finally, the Gladstein report uses emissions factors that are based on the life cycle of fuel production, refining or manufacture, and use for the project. Use of life cycle emission factors of this kind are inappropriate for a CEQA analysis and contrary to generally accepted practice. In connection with its 2009 amendments to the CEQA Guidelines to address greenhouse gas emissions, the California Natural Resources Agency elected to remove the term “life cycle” from the appendix that addresses energy use. The Resources Agency expressed its concern that as a general matter, the term “life cycle” could refer to emissions beyond those that could be considered indirect effects of a project as that term is defined in Section 15358 of the CEQA Guidelines. CEQA only requires analysis of impacts that are directly or indirectly attributable to the project under consideration (State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064(d)). Furthermore, a lead agency may not be able to require mitigation for emissions that result from effects that may be considered beyond the indirect effects of a project because mitigation can only be required for emissions that are actually caused by the project (State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.4(a)(4)). Therefore, use of lifecycle emission factors results in additional overstatement of GHG emissions.

**CONCERN 15: Greenhouse Gas Emissions – PND Underestimates GHG Emissions.**

The PND underestimates GHG emissions of the proposed project, which, according to the Gladstein Report, would be nearly seven times the significance threshold established by the BAAQMD.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 15:** As noted previously, the PND properly compares modeled emissions of the proposed project to modeled baseline emissions to determine the incremental increase in GHG emissions attributable to the proposed project, and concludes that emissions would be less than significant. Also as previously discussed, the Gladstein report does not present an analysis of GHG emissions of the proposed project. The appellant apparently extrapolates the incorrect GHG emissions calculation given in the Gladstein Report for Scenario 1 – Current Diesel and Dual-Fuel Transfer Trucks to Altamont (see Response to Concern 14) for the longer trip to the Recology Hay Road landfill to arrive at the conclusion that the proposed project would result in GHG emissions totaling 7,649 metric tons of carbon dioxide-equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e), or about seven times the significance threshold for GHG emissions. This figure does not reflect the Recology fuel used by the Recology truck fleet, and

the existing and future number of trips per day under the proposed project for the same reasons stated in the Response to Concern 14. In addition, this figure is based on a life cycle emissions factor rather than emissions attributed to the proposed project pursuant to generally accepted CEQA practice. Finally, this figure does not account for the difference between baseline and project emissions. The Negative Declaration, as revised pursuant to the Staff Initiated Text Change discussed below, accurately characterizes Recology's truck fleet and the number of truck trips, uses appropriate emission factors and assumptions for a CEQA analysis, and considers the incremental increase between the existing baseline condition and the proposed project condition, concluding that the change in emissions is less than significant.

**CONCERN 16: Alternatives/Greenhouse Gas Emissions.**

The PND should have considered an alternative presented in the Gladstein Report, in which zero to low emission vehicles would transport San Francisco's MSW to Altamont Landfill.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 16:** Whether an alternative of hauling San Francisco's MSW to Altamont Landfill using other trucks would have greater or lesser impact is not relevant to the adequacy or accuracy of the PND, which describes and analyzes the project as proposed. Consistent with CEQA, the PND is not required to analyze alternatives.

**CONCERN 17: Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Alternatives/Competitive Bid Requirement.**

The PND underestimates GHG emissions by not comparing total project emissions to an alternative involving Altamont Landfill. Transportation of the City's MSW must be competitively bid, which it was not.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 17:** As previously discussed, the PND properly compares project emissions to baseline emissions. As previously discussed, consistent with CEQA, the PND does not analyze alternatives. As noted in Response to Concern 11, the PND properly evaluates the physical change that would result from the project, and thus does compare the existing condition, under which San Francisco's MSW is hauled to Altamont Landfill, to the proposed project condition, under which San Francisco's MSW would be hauled to Hay Road Landfill.

The issue of whether transportation of the City's MSW must be competitively bid is not a physical environmental impact issue, and therefore that issue is not proper subject matter for a CEQA document. Whether or not the proposed project was competitively bid has no bearing on the potential environmental impacts of the project described and analyzed in the PND. The Board of Supervisors is the City body that will ultimately decide whether to approve the

proposed project. Appellant may raise the competitive bidding issue with the Board of Supervisors when the Board holds its hearing on the proposed project.

**CONCERN 18: Environmental Impact Report.**

Because the City of San Francisco is preparing an EIR for the proposed “Green Rail” project, it should also prepare an EIR for the proposal to transport MSW by truck to the Recology Hay Road Landfill.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 18:** The Green Rail project is a separate project, and is undergoing its own environmental review with Yuba County as Lead Agency. That project includes construction of new and improved rail line partly within an area of potential jurisdictional wetlands in Yuba County, new facilities in the City of Oakland, revision to an existing landfill permit, and new train trips. Yuba County determined that it would be appropriate to prepare an EIR for that project. The Green Rail project is very different from the currently proposed project, which would entail a change of haul route relying entirely on existing physical facilities. The Planning Department has conducted a thorough analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project and found no substantial evidence that the proposed project could have a significant impact on the environment, as the PND concludes. The appellant and commenter have not presented substantial evidence to support a fair argument that the proposed project could have a significant environmental impact. Therefore, an EIR is not required.

**CONCERN 19: Alternatives – General.**

A reasonable range of alternatives must be considered.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 19:** EIRs are required by CEQA to consider a reasonable range of alternatives that could reduce or avoid potentially significant impacts of a project under review. PNDs are not required, nor expected, to analyze alternatives.

**CONCERN 20: Alternatives – Green Rail Project Should be Considered as an Alternative.**

The Green Rail Project and hauling San Francisco’s MSW to the Altamont Landfill should have been included in an alternatives analysis. By issuing a PND for the proposed project, the City has terminated any consideration of any environmentally and economically advantageous project.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 20:** As previously stated, EIRs are required by CEQA to consider a reasonable range of alternatives that could reduce or avoid potentially significant impacts of a project under review. PNDs are not required, nor expected, to analyze alternatives.



PNDs are not advocacy documents, and they do not terminate consideration or discussion of other projects. Hence, completion of a Negative Declaration for the proposed project does not preclude discussion or consideration of the Green Rail project. PNDs are informational disclosure documents, analyzing and describing the potential environmental impacts of a proposed project. Should decision-makers wish to consider or discuss projects other than the project analyzed in a PND, the PND does not prevent any such discussion or consideration. However, before the City could approve some other project, that other project would also need to have a CEQA document completed, analyzing the potential environmental impacts of that project. It is also noted that the PND, in footnote 2, states that if the proposed project is approved by the City, then the City's participation in the Green Rail project would cease.

**CONCERN 21: Greenhouse Gas Emissions – Violation of Climate Action Plan.**

The GHG analysis is inadequate and puts the City of San Francisco in violation of its own Climate Action Plan.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 21:** The Department of the Environment and Board of Supervisors will consider the project relative to the City's Climate Action Plan when they make recommendations and decisions regarding the proposed project. The PND discloses the potential physical impacts of the proposed project with respect to GHG emissions, finding them less than significant. As indicated in Response to Concern 13 above, the methodology utilized for the GHG impact analysis for this project is consistent with the City's established practices and procedures, and is also consistent with applicable Air Districts' guidance documents. The appeal letter and comments submitted in response to the PND have presented no relevant evidence to support a conclusion that the proposed project could have a significant impact.

**CONCERN 22: Traffic/Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Climate Action Plan.**

The Department of Environment has failed to act in accordance with the Climate Action Plan by issuing a PND without properly evaluating metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e. The PND fails to consider increased GHG emissions from increased traffic congestion on Interstate 80 that the proposed project would cause. Issuance of a PND terminates consideration of an alternative project with lower GHG emissions.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 22:** The PND was not issued by the Department of Environment, but rather the Planning Department, as Lead Agency for the City and County of San Francisco in the preparation of CEQA documents. As previously stated in Responses to Concerns 13 and 21 above, the methodology utilized for air quality impact analysis for this project, including GHG analysis, is consistent with the City's established practices and procedures, and is also

consistent with applicable Air Districts' guidance documents. Such analysis did include an evaluation of metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e and project impacts were found to be less than significant. The Department of Environment will consider the information and conclusions from the PND, together with Climate Action Plan policies, when that Department makes a decision on whether to approve the proposed project.

The PND is also based on a traffic analysis for the proposed project that concluded that the project would not substantially increase traffic congestion on Interstate 80. Therefore, the proposed project would not be expected to result in increased GHG emissions related to increased traffic congestion. Furthermore, the proposed project would result in a decrease in truck traffic on Interstate 580; any increase in GHG emissions associated with truck travel on Interstate 80 would be offset in part by reductions on Interstate 580. The EMFAC2011 emissions factors used to calculate greenhouse gas emissions for the proposed project account for congestion levels and resulting vehicle speed in the relevant air basin. The PND does not need to analyze alternative projects and does not preclude consideration of other projects, as discussed above in Responses to Concerns 19 and 20.

**CONCERN 23: Traffic – Reliance upon 2012 Solano County Negative Declaration.**

The PND's conclusion that the proposed project would not cause a significant traffic impact on local streets in Solano County relies solely on the 2012 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) prepared by Solano County.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 23:** The appellant is incorrect in stating that the PND relies solely on the traffic study from the 2012 IS/MND. Rather, a new traffic study was performed for the proposed project and serves as the basis for the conclusions of less-than-significant traffic impacts. This analysis is presented in the PND on pages 37-44, with additional detail presented in PND Appendix A. Hence, the PND conclusions regarding project transportation impacts are based upon independent traffic analysis performed for the proposed project, comparing existing baseline conditions to future conditions with the proposed project. In addition to that independent analysis of project impacts, the PND also includes information from the 2012 IS/MND completed by Solano County as further evidence to demonstrate that the less than significant impact conclusions presented in the PND are consistent with Solano County conclusions regarding potential transportation impacts of the Recology Hay Road landfill, when operating at full capacity. The information from the 2012 IS/MND is included in the PND in addition to, not in lieu of, the independent analysis conducted for the project and presented in the PND.

**CONCERN 24: Traffic – Improper Use of Baseline.**

The PND incorrectly uses the permit limit of 620 vehicles per day as a baseline for the traffic analysis, not the actual current condition of about 325 vehicles per day.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 24:** The appellant is incorrect in stating that the PND traffic analysis uses the permit limit of 620 vehicles per day for the traffic analysis. In fact, the traffic analysis uses the existing physical condition of about 325 vehicles per day as the baseline for the analysis, as well as current conditions on Interstate 80 and local roadways that would be used by vehicles hauling San Francisco's MSW under the proposed project. See Impact TR-1 starting on page 38 of the PND.

**CONCERN 25: Traffic – Incorrect Assumptions From 2012 Solano County Negative Declaration.**

The 2012 IS/MND traffic study cannot be relied on, as it uses incorrect assumptions.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 25:** As stated in the Response to Concern 23, the PND does not rely solely on the traffic study from the 2012 IS/MND, but rather relies upon a new, project-specific traffic study.

**CONCERN 26: Air Quality - Incorrect Assumptions From 2012 Solano County Negative Declaration.**

The 2012 IS/MND cannot be relied on for assessing emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx), because it uses incorrect assumptions regarding vehicles and miles travelled.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 26:** The appellant is incorrect in stating that the PND relies on the 2012 IS/MND for assessing traffic generation or mobile source air emissions for the proposed project. Project-specific traffic and air quality analyses were conducted, and an air quality technical report prepared, for the PND. Please see the Responses to Concerns 8 and 23, above.

**CONCERN 27: Air Quality – Reliance upon 2012 Solano County Negative Declaration.**

The 2012 IS/MND cannot be relied on for assessing mobile source emissions of the proposed project. The 2012 IS/MND did not address a comment that Solano County received from the YSAQMD regarding calculation of mobile source emissions.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 27:** As previously stated, the PND does not rely on the air quality analysis from the 2012 IS/MND to assess mobile source emissions, but rather on a project-specific air quality analysis. The PND also considers cumulative air emissions from the proposed project and the projected increase in on-site emissions associated with increased disposal at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, which was provided in the 2012 IS/MND. It is

further noted that the methodology used for air quality impact analysis in the PND is in essence a cumulative impact analysis. That analysis takes into account emissions throughout the regions analyzed, which would include emissions related to the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The question of whether or not the Solano County 2012 IS/MND for the Recology Hay Road Landfill addressed a particular comment has no bearing on the independent air quality analysis completed for the PND for the proposed project.

**CONCERN 28: Traffic/Air Quality –Reliance upon 2012 Solano County Negative Declaration.**

The 2012 IS/MND cannot be relied on to assess traffic impacts of the proposed project on local roads, or to assess NOx emissions.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 28:** As previously stated, the PND does not rely solely on either the traffic analysis or the air quality analysis from the 2012 IS/MND to assess impacts of the proposed project, but rather is based on project-specific studies performed for the PND. These studies used existing conditions at the time the PND was drafted as the baseline, and projected vehicle numbers associated with the proposed project. See also Response to Concern 23, above.

**CONCERN 29: Disposal-Related Impacts.**

The PND cannot rely on the 2012 IS/MND for assessment of impacts related to disposal of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 29:** The Recology Hay Road Landfill is a fully-permitted disposal facility with adequate capacity to receive the projected number of vehicles and dispose of the projected volume of MSW associated with the proposed project. No new permits or authorization from Solano County are required. The 2012 IS/MND was adopted by Solano County and serves as the basis for the facility's current permits. Neither the 2012 IS/MND nor the permits that rely on it were challenged. In preparing the PND, the Planning Department consulted with the Solano County Planning Department, which concurred that the information and analysis of landfill operations in the 2012 IS/MND is still accurate and applicable. Therefore, information from the 2012 IS/MND was used in the PND to characterize disposal-related impacts.

**CONCERN 30: Impacts of Proposed Anaerobic Digester.**

The PND's assessment of impacts of the planned anaerobic digester at the Recology Hay Road Landfill is inadequate, and improperly relies on a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 30:** The proposed anaerobic digester is not a part of the proposed project and would not be entitled by approval of the proposed project. The proposed anaerobic digester is a separate project that is undergoing separate environmental review, with Solano County as the lead agency. Because the anaerobic digester is a reasonably foreseeable future project, it is included in the cumulative impact analysis of the PND.

For a project to have significant cumulative impacts, it must meet two conditions: it must have impacts which combine with impacts of one or more other projects to create a significant impact; and the project's contribution to the cumulative impact must be considerable. The PND uses this approach to consider the cumulative impacts of the proposed project in combination with the proposed anaerobic digester project. Since Solano County's environmental review of the anaerobic digester project is still in progress, the PND relies on the impact analysis contained in a 2012 Programmatic EIR, prepared by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), which examines potential impacts of anaerobic digester facilities located at solid waste facilities. That document provides the best available information regarding potential environmental impacts of anaerobic digester facilities of this kind. For each environmental topic, the PND uses the two-step approach described above to determine whether the proposed project, in combination with the likely impacts of the anaerobic digester project, would result in a significant cumulative impact. In each case, the PND concludes that it would not, either because there would be no combined cumulative significant impact, or because the proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to a cumulative impact.

**CONCERN 31: Traffic – Truck Traffic in San Francisco and on Bay Bridge.**

The PND should have examined the impact of truck traffic on San Francisco city streets and the Bay Bridge.

**RESPONSE TO CONCERN 31:** As stated in the PND, and as quoted by the appellant, the PND does not examine impacts of truck traffic on San Francisco city streets or the Bay Bridge, because there would be no difference between the existing condition (the baseline condition) and the project condition. Therefore, there is no potential for a significant traffic impact to result from approval of the proposed project. As stated in Response to Concern 11, "Effects analyzed under CEQA must be related to a physical change." As there would be no change with project implementation in the number of trucks hauling waste on San Francisco city streets or in truck haul routes, there could be no new impact.

## COMMENT LETTERS RECEIVED

In addition to the appeal described above, one comment letter was received on the PND that addresses environmental issues. This comment letter, from David Tam of the organization Sustainability, Parks, Recycling And Wildlife Legal Defense Fund (SPRAWLDEF) purports to join in the appeal of the PND, but the commenter did not file a formal appeal with the Planning Department, nor did the commenter file the required appeal fee. Therefore, the SPRAWLDEF letter is treated as a comment letter, not as a part of the appeal, and is addressed herein for informational purposes.

A second comment letter was received, from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). Because the project proposes no changes to the design or operation of any solid waste facility that would affect that facility's permits, CalRecycle expressed no concern with the PND.

### ***Comments from David Tam of SPAWLDEF, letter dated April 3, 2015***

**COMMENT #1:** Import Tonnage Should be Disclosed in the environmental review for Recology Hay Road Landfill.

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT #1:** As stated on page 5 of the PND, the Recology Hay Road Landfill currently receives on average about 651 tons of MSW per day. The tonnage figures stated in the comment are accurate for 2013, as reported by CalRecycle in their Disposal Reporting System database (<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/DRS/Origin/FacSummary.aspx>). 2013 is the most recent year for which information is available from this source. The Disposal Reporting System report for Recology Hay Road shows that the facility received waste from several dozen communities throughout California during 2013. The table below shows the top 12 sources of waste disposed at the Recology Hay Road Landfill in 2013.

However, information provided by Recology indicates that the amount of waste received at the Recology Hay Road Landfill decreased in the 12-month period from February 2014 through January 2015, from the 2013 figure of 279,917 tons to about 235,000 tons. This is because Sonoma County is shipping less waste to the Recology Hay Road Landfill now than it did in 2013, as the Sonoma County Central Landfill has since reopened. This is consistent with the impact analysis and conclusions presented in the PND, which are based upon existing physical conditions in 2014, and potential impacts from the proposed project upon that baseline condition.

Rank	Jurisdiction	2013 Disposal at Recology Hay Rd LF (tons)
1	Vacaville	75,174
2	Sonoma County Waste Management Agency	58,737
3	San Bruno	22,551
4	Solano-Unincorporated	14,691
5	Dixon	13,350
6	San Francisco	13,321
7	Stockton	11,409
8	Oakland	8,068
9	San Leandro	7,025
10	San Jose	4,658
11	Fort Bragg	4,579
12	Berkeley	4,493
	All Others	41,862
<b>Total</b>		<b>279,917</b>

SOURCE: CalRecycle, Disposal Reporting System

**COMMENT #2:** Recology Hay Road Landfill has lower host community mitigation fees than the Altamont Landfill.

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT #2:** This comment is not relevant to the adequacy nor the accuracy of the PND. CEQA documents are intended to analyze and report on potential physical environmental impacts, not economic or financial aspects of a project.

**COMMENT #3:** Recology trucks are fueled with conventional fossil fuels, with no assurance that Recology will convert its fleet to liquefied natural gas.

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT #3:** The commenter is incorrect. As stated on page 10 of the PND, most of Recology's transfer fleet currently runs on B-20 biodiesel (that is, diesel fuel that is derived from 20 percent vegetable or animal fats and 80 percent petroleum). Eleven trucks in the fleet run on LNG. Recology is in the process of phasing in additional transfer vehicles that would run on LNG or compressed natural gas (CNG). These trucks have lower emissions than B-20 biodiesel. Because Recology's plans for conversion of the transfer fleet to a different fuel type are still at an early stage, the analysis in the PND conservatively assumes that the fleet will continue to be fueled with B-20 biodiesel and LNG at the current levels. However, while not included in the PND air quality impact analysis, it is noted that Recology reports that it expects to convert 2/3 of its fleet to LNG by the beginning of 2016. Recology also expects that the entire fleet used to haul San Francisco waste will be converted to LNG or compressed natural gas (CNG) by 2017.

For information, it is noted that the air quality and GHG analyses in the PND relied on Recology's current vehicle fleet mix, as stated on PND page 55. Accordingly, the analysis does not account for potential future reduction in emissions should there be a future conversion to LNG/CNG fuel, and the analysis presented in the PND is therefore conservative (in other words, the analysis may overstate the project's actual air quality and GHG impacts).

***Comments from CalRecycle, by David Otsubo, letter dated March 20, 2015***

**COMMENT #1:** The comment letter summarizes information from the PND and concludes that as no changes are being contemplated at existing solid waste facilities in San Francisco or Solano County, "we have no comments on this document."

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT #1:** The comment is noted. No response is required.

**COMMENTS OBJECTING TO PROPOSED PROJECT**

In addition to the appeal and the comment letters described above, the Planning Department received several e-mails from members of the public who did not comment on the PND, but rather stated their objection to the proposed project. The text of these communications is included at the end of Exhibit A. These comments do not raise any specific issues regarding the adequacy of accuracy of the PND. These comments will be transmitted to the Board of Supervisors, together with the Negative Declaration, prior to the Board's hearing on the proposed Agreement.

**STAFF INITIATED TEXT CHANGES TO PND AND AIR QUALITY TECHNICAL REPORT**

Subsequent to publication of the PND, the Planning Department became aware that the Air Quality Technical Report, which was intended to analyze the potential air quality impacts from 50 truck round trips per day, in fact only calculated the potential air quality impacts from 48 truck round trips per day. In addition, minor spreadsheet errors were discovered and corrected. The results from those calculations and corrections are shown in the Air Quality Technical Report and also reported in the PND in Air Quality Tables AQ-2, AQ-3 and AQ-4, and the text on pages 59 and 63; and in Greenhouse Gas Table GG-1. With the revised calculations, all potential air quality and GHG impacts remain less than significant.

The amended Negative Declaration, which was amended to reflect the updated air quality calculations, is included in this packet. The amended Air Quality Technical Report, showing the updated Table calculations, is in the Planning Department Case File 2014.0653E, available for review at 1650 Mission Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, California.



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April 2, 2015

**RECEIVED**

**APR 03 2015**

**CITY & COUNTY OF S.F.  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
RECEPTION DESK**

**VIA PERSONAL DELIVERY**

San Francisco Planning Department  
Attention: Sarah B. Jones  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Appeal of March 4, 2015 Preliminary Negative Declaration  
for Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid  
Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County

Dear San Francisco Planning Department:

This firm represents Solano County Orderly Growth Committee (“SCOGC”) in connection with the above-referenced matter. SCOGC is an organization of concerned citizens dedicated to working towards a better future for Solano County. Through this letter, SCOGC appeals the Preliminary Negative Declaration (“PND”) issued by the City and County of San Francisco’s (“CCSF”) Planning Department (“Planning Department”) on March 4, 2015, regarding the “Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County” (the “Project”).<sup>1</sup>

In the PND, the Planning Department stated that “[t]his project could not have a significant effect on the environment.” We disagree and request that an Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) be prepared. The California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) requires the Planning Department to produce an EIR for the Project because there is substantial evidence that the Project will have significant environmental impacts. The proposed project will clearly have such impact as it involves hauling five million tons of waste, in hundreds of trucks driving thousands of miles, from San Francisco to Solano County. Moreover, CCSF has failed to properly consider reasonable alternatives to the Hay Road Landfill agreement – including transporting the City’s Municipal Solid Waste (“MSW”) to the Altamont Landfill by LNG-fueled trucks, which could not only result in a zero carbon footprint but which is available immediately (and at substantially lower transportation and administrative costs) – a textbook example of “the environmentally and economically advantageous alternative project” under CEQA.

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<sup>1</sup> By this appeal, SCOGC seeks to protect its own interests and those of the general public and to enforce a public duty owed to it by the City and County of San Francisco. SCOGC brings this appeal on behalf of the public interest, to vindicate the public’s interest in the informed decision-making process that CEQA promotes.

### **Factual and Procedural Background**

On July 26, 2011, CCSF awarded the Landfill Disposal Agreement to Recology San Francisco and its related companies (“Recology”) and approved the amendment to the existing Facilitation Agreement which would provide that Recology would transport San Francisco’s MSW by rail to Recology’s Ostrom Road Landfill in Yuba County. Recology’s Hay Road Landfill in Solano County was designated as a “back-up” facility to provide service only during those periods when Ostrom Road was not operational.

Waste Management of Alameda County, Inc. (“WMAC”) challenged the contract awards.<sup>2</sup> In addition to the WMAC lawsuit, Yuba Group Against Garbage (“YUGAG”) filed an action under CEQA challenging the City’s failure to conduct environmental review of the rail haul and disposal project.

The City’s Department of the Environment (“DOE”), without formal Board of Supervisor’s approval, terminated the Disposal Agreement and amended Facilitation Agreement on November 26, 2012, solely to allow the City, working in conjunction with Yuba County, to conduct an environmental review of the proposed transportation and disposal project under CEQA, including a commitment to the preparation of an EIR.<sup>3</sup> To date, no such EIR has been prepared and no explanation has been given as to why this commitment was abandoned. However, the City relied on its commitment to perform an EIR as grounds for rescinding the initial award and for successfully arguing that the WMAC and YUGAG suits be dismissed on the grounds they were not yet ripe for adjudication.<sup>4</sup>

2

In the meantime, CCSF has abandoned the rail-haul project to Ostrom Road and scrapped its commitment to perform a full-blown EIR on the new landfill agreement. Instead, CCSF is attempting to enter a back-door agreement to send the City’s waste to the Hay Road facility in unincorporated Solano County without properly subjecting such proposal to the City’s bidding and procurement rules and requirements and without proper environmental review. Under the proposal, CCSF and Recology would enter into an Agreement for the transportation and disposal of five million tons of CCSF’s MSW at the Recology Landfill at 6426 Hay Road, just outside Vacaville. The MSW would be transported by long haul semi-trucks, primarily from the

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<sup>2</sup> It is our understanding that WMAC challenged the contract awards on grounds that the award violated the City’s procurement procedures outlined in the Request for Proposals because it solicited and allowed Recology to propose on transportation, which WMAC argued was outside the scope of the RFP, and to provide integrated pricing for both disposal and transportation services. WMAC also argued that the award of the transportation services to Recology was in violation of the City’s administrative code, which requires that such contracts be competitively bid. WMAC also argued that the award of the contracts violated the City’s Climate Action Plan because the Department of the Environment (“DOE”) failed to do a comparative analysis of transportation alternatives with respect to air emissions, and merely considered rail haul and truck transfer by Recology without allowing any other competitor to bid on transportation. Finally, WMAC argued the City wrongly and without factual support assumed that Recology would be fully permitted to rail haul waste to Ostrom Road by the start of the new contract, which will likely be in the first quarter of 2016.

<sup>3</sup> See City and County of San Francisco “Termination Agreement Regarding 2011 Landfill Disposal and Facilitation Agreements” (Nov. 26, 2012).

<sup>4</sup> The determination in the YUGAG suit is currently being appealed.

Recology San Francisco transfer station located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, with several additional trucks hauling residual wastes for disposal from Recology's Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 on San Francisco.

On March 4, 2015, the Planning Department issued the PND for the Project.<sup>5</sup> The Planning Department found that "[t]his project could not have a significant effect on the environment." It also found that "[m]itigation measures are not required in this project to avoid potentially significant effects." Thus, CCSF is advocating that Recology be allowed to haul all of CCSF's MSW – all the trash in San Francisco – more than 70 miles to Solano County by truck on Interstate 80, a project that is not currently active, without doing any substantive environmental review or doing any analysis of reasonable alternatives.

3

Projects with far a less significant environmental impact have been found to merit an EIR. For example, the 2009 San Francisco Bicycle Plan warranted an EIR. The Bicycle Plan sought to install new bicycle lanes on some city streets, increase the amount of available bicycle parking, improve bicycle signage in the city, promote safe overall bicycling, and promote citywide bicycle friendly practices. The 2013 San Jose Single-Use Carryout Bag Ordinance also required an EIR. This ordinance prohibited most stores in San Jose from simply giving customers plastic bags to carry their purchases, but allowed stores to charge ten cents per bag for paper bags. When a high school in San Diego proposed some upgrades to its football stadium – new bleachers, new lights, a new public address system, etc. – the school district intended to adopt a mitigated negative declaration, and the board of education found no substantial evidence that the project would have a significant effect on the environment. The Court of Appeal disagreed, finding that an EIR was required. *Taxpayers for Accountable Sch. Bond Spending v. San Diego Unified Sch. Dist.*, 215 Cal. App. 4th 1013 (2013).

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If projects such as these merit an EIR, surely the proposal to haul all of CCSF's MSW to Solano County by truck also requires one. Recology is proposing to haul five million tons of waste, in hundreds of trucks driving thousands of miles, along a completely new route from San Francisco to Solano County. It is undeniable that a fleet of heavy-duty trucks continuously making the 155 mile round trip from CCSF to the Hay Road Landfill will affect some of the region's most congested traffic arteries, will affect infrastructure in the form of roads not currently burdened with the weight and wear of all of those trucks, will affect the air quality of communities through which a constant parade of diesel trucks does not currently drive. If the plan to add bike lanes requires an EIR, so must the plan to address waste disposal for all of San Francisco.

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The Planning Department has provided for a 30-day appeal period. We hereby submit this administrative challenge to the PND pursuant to the applicable San Francisco Administrative Code sections and rules and regulations under CEQA.

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<sup>5</sup> The Planning Department based its findings on an Initial Study prepared by the Planning Department and the private environmental consultants Environmental Science Associates.

### **Grounds for Administrative Challenge to PND**

CEQA establishes a low legal threshold for preparation of an EIR. An EIR must be prepared whenever it can be “fairly argued” based on substantial evidence that the project may have a significant environmental impact, even though the agency is also presented with other substantial evidence that the project will not have a significant environmental effect. *No Oil, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles*, 13 Cal.3d 68, 75 (1974); *Friends of "B" Street v. City of Hayward*, 106 Cal.App.3d 988, 1002 (1980); 14 Cal. Code Reg. § 15064(f)(1). If there is substantial evidence in light of the whole record before the Lead Agency that a project may have a significant environmental effect – adverse or beneficial – then an EIR, rather than a Negative Declaration, must be prepared. Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21082.2(d). An EIR is required whenever substantial evidence in the record supports even just a “fair argument” that significant environmental impacts may occur. 106 Cal.App.3d at 1002.

In determining the significance of potential environmental impacts, CEQA defines the relevant geographical environment as the area where physical impacts will be caused by the proposed project. Consequently, an agency may not limit its analysis to an artificially defined project area, when the project’s impact may occur outside this area. Nor can an agency limit its analysis to its legal jurisdiction when extraterritorial effects are foreseeable. Rather, the Lead Agency must consider cause and effect regardless of location, so long as such effects are reasonably “foreseeable.” *County Sanitation Dist. No. 2 of Los Angeles County v. County of Kern*, 127 Cal.App.4th 1544, 1582 (2005) (impacts of county ordinance banning land application of sewage sludge may occur elsewhere in county as well as outside of county); see *American Canyon Community United for Responsible Growth v. City of American Canyon*, 45 Cal.App.4th 1062, 1081–1083 (2006) (city must consider urban decay outside of jurisdiction of Lead Agency that could occur from large retail project).

A Negative Declaration may be prepared only if either of the following applies: (1) There is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record before the Lead Agency that the project will have a significant environmental effect [Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21080(c)(1); 14 Cal. Code Reg. § 15070]; or (2) The Initial Study identifies potentially significant effects, but (a) an applicant, before public release of a proposed Negative Declaration, has made or agreed to project revisions that clearly mitigate the effects, and (b) there is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record before the Lead Agency that the project, as revised, may have a significant environmental effect [Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21080(c)(2); 14 Cal. Code Reg. §§ 15064(f)(2)].

“If there [is] substantial evidence that the proposed project might have a significant environmental impact, evidence to the contrary is not sufficient to support a decision to dispense with preparation of an EIR and adopt a negative declaration, because it could be ‘fairly argued’ that the project might have a significant environmental impact.” *Friends of "B" St. v. City of Hayward*, 106 Cal. App. 3d 988, 1002 (1980). Also, “the use of negative declarations is confined to situations in which limited public input appears sufficient.” *Perley v. Bd. of Supervisors*, 137 Cal. App. 3d 424, 432 (1982). Limited public input is clearly not sufficient in this case, where the easily-discernible potential environmental impacts will affect multiple Bay Area counties in some of the region’s most densely-traveled corridors.

**1. There Is Substantial Evidence That Recology’s Proposed Plan To Haul MSW Along I-80 From San Francisco To The Exit In Solano County For The Hay Road Landfill Would Have A Significant Environmental Impact.**

The Initial Study stated that 50 trucks per day will make the trip from San Francisco to the Hay Road Landfill in Solano County, the same number as currently makes the trip to the Altamont Landfill. The Initial Study concedes that the haul to Hay Road Landfill is approximately 40 total miles *longer* than the haul to Altamont. Thus, the Project will entail an **additional 2,000 miles per day** driven by trucks hauling San Francisco’s MSW.

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In attempting to argue that such an increase in mileage will have a less than significant impact, the Initial Study relies solely on air emission statistics and standards by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (“BAAQMD”) and the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (“YSAQMD”) statistics and standards. The Initial Study presents a purely theoretical exercise in determining whether or not these 2,000 extra miles will have a significant environmental impact, and, in fact, obfuscates the statistics to make it appear that the hauling of San Francisco MSW through communities and along roadways previously untouched by such transportation would have a less than significant environmental impact. The data CCSF relies on does not support such a surprising conclusion.

8

In addition, the Initial Study’s finding that the proposed project would have a less than significant impact on air quality is baseless. The Initial Study’s air quality findings rely wholly on air quality thresholds that BAAQMD has explicitly announced are no longer viable measures of a project’s significant air quality impacts. The Preliminary Negative Declaration states that “Table AQ-1, on page 49, identifies the air quality significance thresholds used in this Initial Study air quality analysis.” (*Id.* at 48.) The referenced table refers to BAAQMD standards. (*Id.* at 49). However, the District has explicitly stated that “. . . the Air District has been ordered to set aside the Thresholds and is no longer recommending that these Thresholds be used as a general measure of project’s significant air quality impacts.” *See* <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES.aspx>. Accordingly, it was improper for the Initial Study to rely on these standards.

9

Further, Table AQ-1, which is misleadingly titled “Operational Thresholds for use within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB),” also improperly relies on a 2007 Handbook by the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (“YSAQMD”). However, the SFBAAB is governed solely by the BAAQMD, not the YSAQMD. In addition, the majority of air space for the Project (i.e. from San Francisco to the Western edge of Vacaville) at issue is governed by the BAAQMD, not the YSAQMD. Thus, reliance on thresholds from the YSAQMD is improper as applied to the majority of the air space at issue, and such use of the YSAQMD thresholds is misleading. Moreover, the numbers applied in the Initial Study and listed in table AQ-1 are taken directly from BAAQMD’s inapplicable quantitative thresholds: the table lists average daily emissions for ROG as 54 and 10, respectively, NOx as 54 and 10 respectively, PM10 as 82 and 15, and PM2.5 as 54 and 10—all BAAQMD’s nonviable thresholds. This data may not be relied upon and thus the Initial Study’s conclusion that the proposed Project will have a less than significant environmental impact is wholly unsubstantiated.

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Moreover, while the Initial Study claims that the Project will result in emissions levels within certain threshold and permit levels, it ignores the proper methodology for determining environmental impact. To satisfy CEQA, total post-project emissions should be evaluated against baseline emissions. While Hay Road Landfill may be permitted for certain higher emission levels, current conditions should provide the baseline for CEQA analysis. The difference between current conditions—**none** of CCSF’s MSW is hauled to Solano County—and post-Project conditions—**all** of CCSF’s MSW would be hauled to Solano County—provides the total impact of the Project. The Initial Study tries to split hairs by analyzing the increase in emissions because the trip from CCSF to Hay Road Landfill is longer than the trip to Altamont Landfill, but ignores the fact that the *entire* trip from CCSF to Hay Road Landfill needs to be evaluated for its impact.

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In addition to the Initial Study’s baseless conclusion that the proposed project’s air pollutants will not result in a significant environmental impact, the Initial Study’s findings pertaining to the generation of greenhouse gas emissions is also flat out wrong for at least five reasons:

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First, the Initial Study relies on quantifiable data from BAAQMD to determine that the proposed project’s greenhouse gas emissions will not have a significant environmental impact. However, the BAAQMD, as discussed above, is no longer a viable source of metrics by which to measure the emissions of any proposed projects. *See* <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES.aspx>.

Second, even if this number could be relied upon, BAAQMD’s threshold of 1,110 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per day applies to the threshold for a land project **in its entirety**, but the Initial Study compares this number to the emissions generated **only by the increase in mileage** of this project as compared to the previous route to Altamont. *See* BAAQMD Guidelines-May 2011 Section 2.1 and 2.2, PND p. 69 Table 66-1. This is a disingenuous comparison because the Initial Study is evaluating the CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions for only 40 miles of the proposed truck route, when in fact the project spans a total of 155 miles.

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Third, even if 40 roundtrip miles were the correct measurement, the Initial Study grossly understates the metric tons of GHG emissions that would result from those truck trips. Without providing hard data and factual support for its assumptions, the Initial Study claims that the 40 extra round trip miles would result in only 800 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. CCSF is way off the mark. Based on an earlier analysis presented during the RFP challenge stage in a report by Gladstein Neandross & Associates report (“Gladstein Report”), the actual metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year would be approximately 2,000 MT for the extra 40 miles round trip, far in excess of the supposed threshold of 1,100.

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Fourth, proper calculation of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions based on the Gladstein Report illustrates that the proposed project will have a significant impact on the generation of greenhouse gasses because the annual CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions for the entire proposed project, spanning 155 miles roundtrip, would be 7,649 metric tons. CEQA compliant thresholds suggest a maximum of

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1,110 metric tons.<sup>6</sup> The initial report should have analyzed this figure, 7,649 metric tons, against area thresholds and CEQA approved projects. Because carbon emissions from the proposed project are nearly seven times those outlined in area thresholds, it is obvious that the proposed project will have a significant impact on the generation of greenhouse gas emissions.

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cont.

Fifth, had CCSF considered environmentally and economically advantageous alternatives, which it admittedly did not, it would have to concede that the alternative plan to haul the City's MSW to the Altamont Landfill via zero to low emission vehicles would result in significantly lower annual CO<sub>2</sub>e levels. Based on the Gladstein Report, annual CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions for the WMAC project are 1,015 metric tons, whereas, as discussed above, annual emissions for the proposed project are 7,649 metric tons—seven times more than WMAC's plan.

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Further, the Planning Commission failed to compare the total air emissions generated from the Altamont project and the proposed Hay Road project. Without this complete and accurate comparison, the Initial Study has provided no basis on which to find less than significant environmental impact. Thus, the proposed plan will result in a significant impact on the generation of greenhouse gas emissions in light of other feasible alternatives,<sup>7</sup> and the Planning Commission's glaring omission of a comparison of the total air emissions generated from the Altamont project and the proposed project.

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In addition, CCSF has already conceded that an alternative project for out-of-city waste disposal, the "Green Rail" project, requires an EIR. Because CCSF has already represented that it would conduct a full environmental review of the "Green Rail" project, the City's finding that the Hay Road Landfill Agreement does not require an EIR is faulty. Like the "Green Rail" project, the Hay Road Landfill project involves hauling the City's MSW out of the City, along a new route, to a new landfill significantly farther from San Francisco than the City's present landfill at Altamont. Under CEQA, the Lead Agency must consider a reasonable range of alternatives to the project, or to the location of the project, which (1) offer substantial environmental advantages over the project proposal and (2) may be feasibly accomplished in a successful manner considering the economic, environmental, social and technological factors involved. *Citizens of Goleta Valley v. Board of Supervisors*, 52 Cal.3d 553, 566 (1990).

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The "Green Rail" project is obviously a project that would have to be evaluated in an EIR for Hay Road Disposal Agreement because it is within the range of reasonable alternatives. But by issuing a Negative Declaration for Hay Road Disposal Agreement, the City has terminated any consideration of any environmentally and economically advantageous project, whether it be by rail haul to a much longer destination, or the alternative project of hauling and disposing

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<sup>6</sup> BAAQMD provides guidance as to what is an acceptable threshold under CEQA, proposing the threshold of significance at 1,100 MT of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. Despite the fact that BAAQMD's quantitative thresholds are not currently a viable metric, as detailed above, BAAQMD's guidelines are generally indicative of CEQA Guidelines.

<sup>7</sup> CCSF incorrectly maintains that under its ordinances governing solid waste collection only Recology is permitted to transport waste from San Francisco to an out-of-town landfill. CCSF's interpretation of the relevant ordinances is incorrect because transportation from San Francisco to a selected landfill is not a designated route under CCSF's existing permit system, and, as such, Recology does not hold such a license or "route" permit, and the material being transported does not qualify as "licensed" material or activity under the City's permit system. Consequently, under the City's administrative code, transportation of MSW must be competitively bid, which it was not.

waste at the much closer Altamont Landfill, which would also be environmentally and economically advantageous to the Hay Road Disposal Agreement.

Such failure to adequately consider the proposed Project's impacts on GHG emissions also puts CCSF in violation of its own Climate Action Plan. The City's Climate Action Plan, codified in Chapter 9 of the San Francisco Environment Code ("Environment Code"), specifies reduction goals for the City's greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions and mandates that all City departments "consider the effect of all decisions and activities within their jurisdiction on [GHG] emissions and undertake their responsibilities to the end that the City achieves the [GHG] emissions limits set forth in this Ordinance." Environment Code §§ 902(a) & (b). To administer these regulations, the DOE must "coordinate all departmental action plans, reports of actions taken, and their effectiveness in achieving the [GHG] emissions limits provided herein." Environment Code § 903(a).

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Here, DOE has failed to act in accordance with the Climate Action Plan by issuing the PND without properly evaluating the metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e that would result from truck hauling the City's MSW to the Hay Road Landfill. The DOE also failed to evaluate the effect on GHG emissions of increased traffic congestion along I-80 and attendant traffic delays. In addition, CCSF's issuance of a PND terminates consideration of an alternative project with lower GHG emissions.

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**2. There Is Substantial Evidence That Recology's Proposed Plan To Haul MSW On Local Streets In Solano County To The Hay Road Landfill Would Have A Significant Environmental Impact.**

The proposed project to haul MSW from San Francisco includes transporting the MSW by truck from Interstate 80 to the Hay Road Landfill through local streets in Solano County. With regard to this leg of the MSW transportation the Initial Study concluded there would not be a significant environmental impact because "[t]he landfill is permitted by Solano County to receive up to 620 vehicles per day. The approximately 50 trucks per day hauling San Francisco MSW would be within the 620 total vehicles that are permitted to access the landfill, and would not result in any increase in truck traffic beyond the amount Solano County already has approved." (IS at 18.) To reach this conclusion, CCSF relied solely on a 2012 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration ("2012 IS/MND") conducted by Solano County evaluating and increase in truck traffic and disposal tonnage at the Hay Road Landfill.

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As an initial matter, even if Hay Road Landfill is currently permitted to receive up to 620 trucks per day, the Initial Study concedes that it receives only "approximately 325 vehicles per day." (IS at 18.) This number, which represents current conditions, provides the baseline for CEQA analysis. Simply pointing to the fact that Hay Road Landfill is permitted to receive up to 620 trucks per day cannot stand in for analysis of the certain environmental impact created by 50 trucks per day being added to baseline conditions.

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In addition, CCSF's reliance on the 2012 IS/MND to reach its conclusions here is unwarranted because the conclusions from that study are both factually incorrect and wholly inapplicable to this Project. First, the 2012 IS/MND did not rely on exact waste origins. Without

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correct waste origins, the mileage traveled cannot be calculated, nor can traffic patterns be assessed. Without the underlying facts of total mileage and traffic patterns, calculating the accurate level of nitrogen oxides (“NOx”) emitted is impossible. Reliance on the 2012 IS/MND is wholly inadequate because it itself is based on incorrect numbers, and these numbers do not consider mileage and traffic patterns specific to this Project in light of its waste origins in CCSF.

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Further, the 2012 IS/MND fails to explain how it calculated the impact of mobile source activity, and according to YSAQMD in its comment to the 2012 IS/MND, a proper analysis reveals mobile source annual emissions of 11.79 total tons of NOx, above the CEQA threshold. YSAQMD’s comment considered emissions from various mobile source categories, including onsite haul vehicle emissions, offsite moving emissions, and onsite construction equipment emissions. Despite YSAQMD’s clear analysis and calculation, the 2012 IS/MND failed to reassess its calculations, nor did it include mitigation measures. Thus, the Initial Study cannot rely on the 2012 IS/MND to assess NOx emissions levels.

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Also, conditions in the area surrounding the Hay Road Landfill including traffic congestion, inventory of the amount of trucks on the property and road conditions, cannot be presumed to be the same as was determined in the 2012 IS/MND. Without a present day analysis of these conditions, the Initial Study’s conclusion that NOx mobile source emissions are below CEQA’s threshold relies on faulty, unverifiable and inapplicable data.

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### **3. There Is Substantial Evidence That Recology’s Plan To Dump MSW At The Hay Road Landfill Would Have A Significant Environmental Impact.**

As with the CCSF’s consideration of potential environmental impacts the project may have on local roads and communities in Solano County, the CCSF also relies on the 2012 IS/MND to find that the Project would have no significant impacts at the Hay Road Landfill itself. “The 2012 IS/MND concluded that with mitigation, increasing disposal to 2,400 tons per day would not result in a significant adverse environmental impact. As part of its approval process, Solano County incorporated these mitigation measures as conditions of approval in the amended CUP.” (IS at 19.) Such reliance is unwarranted.

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The Initial Study erroneously and improperly concludes that a proposed Anaerobic Digester (“AD”) facility at the Hay Road Landfill would not have any significant environmental impacts. “The proposed Anaerobic Digestion (AD) project includes the construction and operation of an anaerobic digester at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The anaerobic digester would be used for processing organics-rich wastes and production of compressed natural gas (CNG) ... A byproduct of the digestion process is biogas, consisting mostly of methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O). Biogas would be captured and converted into a fuel source, specifically, the CH<sub>4</sub> would be concentrated and compressed to produce CNG. In sum, the AD project would divert organic material (organics) from landfill disposal, and use the material to produce fuel and soil amendments.”

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The proposal would include construction and operation of the AD facility, including facilities to upgrade and compress the biogas produced to produce CNG. The proposal would involve construction and operation of a piping system to transport digestate to the existing composting facility for use as a compost feedstock. After the organics are “digested” and gas is extracted, the residual organic material, or “digestate”, remains. This digestate is nutrient rich and makes for a good compost feedstock. The facility would be designed to convey the digestate to the Jepson Prairie Organics composting operations, via a pipeline. The proposal would include the construction of an underground piping system to transport CNG fuel from the AD facility to new CNG fueling stations. One fueling station would be located at the existing Recology Vacaville Solano maintenance shop, which is located within the landfill property, and the other would be located within the disposal area boundary of the landfill. Another piping system would also be constructed to carry landfill gas to the AD facility, also to be used to produce CNG. (*Id.* at 22.)

CCSF admits that environmental review for the proposed AD facility has not been completed. (*See id.* at 22.) Instead, CCSF erroneously and improperly relies on a Program Environmental Impact Report (“PEIR”) on AD facilities to incorrectly support its conclusion that the AD would not have a significant environmental impact. In 2012, CalRecycle certified a PEIR that examined potential impacts of AD facilities co-located with solid waste disposal facilities. CCSF states in its Initial Study that “[t]he cumulative analysis presented in the current document draws on the conclusions of the PEIR regarding potential impacts and mitigation measures of the proposed Recology AD facility.” (*Id.* at 22.) The Initial Study, in fact, does not provide any support that it incorporated any findings from the PEIR.

CCSF cannot rely on the PEIR for a finding of less than or no significant impacts by the proposed AD facility. In fact, the PEIR found that AD facilities *have numerous significant environmental impacts*. Those impacts include without limitation: emissions of toxic air contaminants that could exceed applicable air quality standards; creation of objectionable odors that could affect a substantial number of people; increase in GHG emissions; contribution of regional criteria pollutants; adverse impact on surface and groundwater quality; adverse impact on water quality, generally; and potentially exceedance of wastewater treatment requirements. (*See* PEIR at 1-7 to 1-16 (Table 1-1 Revised).)

Moreover, CCSF’s reliance on the PEIR is improper as the PEIR does not permit avoidance of a site-specific EIR of the proposed AD facility at Hay Road Landfill. The PEIR expressly provides that “To comply with CEQA, lead agencies considering individual AD facility projects in the future will prepare a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration *or site-specific EIR* to address local impacts, but may utilize the information and analysis in this Program EIR.” (*Id.* at 2-3(emphasis added).) Citing CEQA guidelines, the PEIR clearly states that “Where an EIR has been prepared and certified for a program, plan, policy, or ordinance consistent with the requirements of this section [of the CEQA guidelines], any lead agency for a later project pursuant to or consistent with the program, plan, policy, or ordinance should limit the EIR or negative declaration on the later project to effects which (1) Were not examined as significant effects on the environment in the prior EIR; or (2) Are susceptible to substantial reduction or avoidance by the choice of specific revisions in the project, by the imposition of conditions, or other means.” (*Id.* at 2-3.)

With regard to Recology's proposed AD facility at the Hay Road Landfill, CCSF must prepare an EIR because the PEIR did not consider impacts on air quality standards, objectionable odors, increase in GHG emissions, greater numbers of pollutants, and degradation of water quality that the proposed facility could have on the environment. Indeed, the PEIR made explicitly clear that it had not actually evaluated *any* AD facilities: "Currently there are no commercial-scale stand-alone AD facilities or AD digesters co-located at solid waste facilities that process municipal organic solid waste in California." (*Id.* at 2-1.) Therefore, CCSF cannot rely on the PEIR for its no significant impact determination. To do so would be nothing less than dangerous and irresponsible. In any event, the Initial Study put forward *no* mitigation measures that would address the significant impacts of the AD facility identified by the PEIR. As such, CCSF's reliance on the PEIR is ineffective and cannot support the PND.

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**4. There Is Substantial Evidence That Recology's Plan To Haul MSW From Its San Francisco Facilities Along Local Streets And Over The Bay Bridge Would Have A Significant Environmental Impact.**

Under the proposed agreement with CCSF, Recology trucks would transport the City's MSW to the Hay Road Landfill from Recology's two waste collection centers in San Francisco, hauling it across the Bay Bridge, before turning up Interstate 80 to Solano County. Under current conditions, Recology hauls approximately 294 truckloads of MSW per week, 52 weeks per year, to the Altamont Landfill. Based on a 6-day week, this results in "approximately 50 trucks (or round trips) per day[.]" (Initial Study at 6.) The Initial Study assumes that approximately the same number of trucks will haul approximately the same tonnage of MSW under the proposed agreement. However, the Initial Study very bluntly admits that it makes no attempt to gauge any potential environmental impact to the City and County of San Francisco.

To be clear, the Initial Study **fails to analyze any potential impact** of the proposed agreement regarding the transportation of waste in CCSF, U.S. 101, or the Bay Bridge. Rather, because Recology's waste collection centers and truck routes to the eastern end of the Bay Bridge supposedly will remain the same as they do under current operating conditions, the Initial Study simply ignores any impact on San Francisco entirely:

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Truck trips from the Recology San Francisco transfer station and the Recycle Central facility to the eastern end of the Bay Bridge would be unaffected by the project; the same number of trucks would travel on local San Francisco roadways, U.S. 101, and the Bay Bridge on essentially the same schedule, whether or not the project is approved. Because the project would not result in any physical or operational changes on local San Francisco streets, U.S. 101, or the Bay Bridge compared to current conditions, it would not result in any physical changes in the environment in this area, and therefore **the impact analysis in this Initial Study does not present any further analysis of transport of waste between the Points of Origin and the eastern end of the Bay Bridge.**

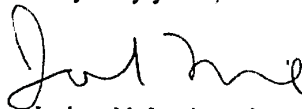
(*Id.* at 17) (emphasis added) The Initial Study cites no previous study or EIR as authority to make this determination. "The Initial Study cites no previous study or EIR as authority to make this determination. **In fact, no EIR or any other form of environmental review appears to have been conducted regarding the transportation of MSW through San Francisco and on roadways to an out-of-city disposal site.** Given that the Initial Study neither cites a previous study authorizing current operating conditions, nor presents any new analysis of the potential impact of hauling MSW within San Francisco or on the Bay Bridge, there is no conceivable way that the Initial Study could reach the conclusion that the Project will have no significant effect on the environment.

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cont.

### **Conclusion**

The Planning Department was wrong to issue a Preliminary Negative Declaration regarding the "Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County," and it should not compound this mistake by adopting the PND as a Final Negative Declaration. There is certainly substantial evidence that the Project, which involves the hauling of 5 million tons of trash, will have a significant environmental impact on affected areas. For these reasons and those outlined above, we appeal the San Francisco Planning Department's Preliminary Negative Declaration for this Project and request that an EIR be prepared.

Very truly yours,



Joshua N. Levine of  
DONGELL LAWRENCE FINNEY LLP  
Attorneys for Solano County Orderly Growth  
Committee

JNL:sd

Enclosure(s): check in the amount of \$547.00 payable to the San Francisco Planning Department

**From:** [David Tam](#)  
**To:** [Maltzer, Paul \(CPC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [SPRAWLDEF Attorney Kelly T. Smith](#); [Norman La Force](#); [Lautze, Steve](#); [Joan Seppala](#)  
**Subject:** Joining in Appeal of Solano Orderly Growth Committee of Hay Road LF Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration  
**Date:** Friday, April 03, 2015 4:58:08 PM

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**1. SPRAWLDEF (Sustainability, Parks, Recycling And Wildlife Legal Defense Fund) hereby joins in the appeal filed by the Solano Orderly Growth Committee of the Hay Road LF Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration.**

**2. Import Tonnage Should be Disclosed in the environmental review for Recology Hay Road LF** (as contained in CalRecycle's Facility Report). In 2008, Hay Road took in 159,325 tons; tonnage total grew by over 100,000 in the last available year, indicating that this landfill is pulling in wastes from over 100 miles round-trip from three coastal counties (Sonoma, San Francisco, San Mateo). As the Governor was advised when he was urged to veto the odious "civil rights for garbage" AB 845 (Ma, 2012), **Cheap Is Not Beautiful.**

**Major 2013 Hay Road Disposal Sources (over 10,000 tons)**

Dixon	13,350
San Bruno (San Mateo County)	22,551
San Francisco	13,321
Solano Unincorporated	14,691
Sonoma County WMA	58,737
Vacaville	75,174

**TOTAL TONNAGE (2013)**                      279,917

3. Hay Road Land Fill tip fees are subject to insignificant mitigation fees to benefit the host community, the rural area from Vacaville to Midway Road, on which over 1,000 tons per day will be trucked. The present site for San Francisco waste disposal, Altamont Landfill and Resource Recovery Facility, about 40 miles closer round trip, provides mitigation fees of about \$1.60 per ton for wildlife habitat, recycling education/job training, and host community (Livermore) impacts, per the settlement agreement for *Sierra Club, Northern Californian Recycling Association, Livermore, Pleasanton and ALARM vs. Waste Management and Alameda County*.

4. The trucks are fueled with conventional fossil fuels, not liquefied natural gas, and the vague assurance that Recology will convert its fleet is unreliable.

With paramount concern for the environment, not for cheapness,

David I. Tam 510-859-5195  
Vice President, Research and Development  
[daviditam3@gmail.com](mailto:daviditam3@gmail.com)

TO:

Paul Maltzer

Senior Planner

San Francisco Planning Department

Environmental Planning

[paul.maltzer@sfgov.org](mailto:paul.maltzer@sfgov.org)

[415-575-9038](tel:415-575-9038)



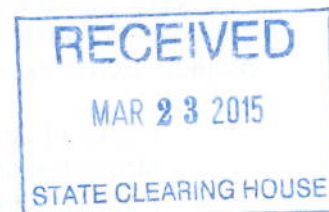
**DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES RECYCLING AND RECOVERY**

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P.O. Box 4025, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812

March 20, 2015

Paul Maltzer  
San Francisco Planning Department  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400  
San Francisco, CA 94103



**SUBJECT:** SCH 2015032014 - Comments on the Preliminary Negative Declaration (ND) for Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County

Dear Mr. Maltzer:

Thank you for allowing the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) staff to provide comments for this proposed project and for your agency's consideration of these comments as part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project consists of an Agreement between the City of San Francisco and Recology to change the disposal site for San Francisco's municipal solid waste (MSW). Currently, Recology, the company that collects San Francisco's MSW, transports San Francisco's MSW to the Altamont Landfill, located in eastern Alameda County, for disposal. San Francisco's existing agreement with Waste Management, Inc., operator of the Altamont Landfill, will expire around 2016.

The proposed project consists of an Agreement to authorize the transportation of MSW from San Francisco to the existing Recology Hay Road Landfill located in unincorporated Solano County, at 6426 Hay Road, near State Route 113, southeast of Vacaville, where it would be disposed. San Francisco and Recology would enter into an Agreement for the transportation and disposal of five million tons of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. MSW would be transported by long haul semi-trucks, primarily from the Recology San Francisco transfer station located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, with several additional trucks hauling residual wastes for disposal from Recology's Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 in San Francisco, as is presently the case. At current rates of disposal, it is estimated that the Agreement would have a term of approximately 13 – 15 years. No new construction or changes in current Recology operations within San Francisco are proposed. No new construction or change in existing permits would be required at the Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County. The proposed project would correspond with the cessation of transport of San Francisco's MSW to Altamont Landfill. The Agreement between San Francisco and Recology to authorize the proposed change in disposal sites would need to be approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.



## **COMMENTS**

The project would possibly affect three solid waste facilities, two located in San Francisco, and one in Solano County.

At several points in the ND, it is stated that no changes in design or operation that would affect the current solid waste facility permits for these facilities would be necessitated by the approval of this project. Some examples of these statements are excerpted below:

Points of Origin - Under the proposed project, no changes would be made to physical structures or operations at the two Points of Origin for the waste hauling operations. Those Points of Origin are the Recology San Francisco transfer station and Recology's Recycle Central facility.

Disposal - The proposed project would not change the physical facilities at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, nor would the project necessitate any changes to the existing permits for the Recology Hay Road Landfill.

Transportation - The proposed project would change part of the route that is used to transport waste. San Francisco's MSW would be transported by truck to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, instead of the Altamont Landfill. Neither the number of truckloads (currently 50 trucks per day) nor the volume of San Francisco MSW being hauled (currently 1,200 tons per day) would change as a result of the project.

Disposal - Once at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, trucks would be directed to the active disposal area where they would unload with a tipper at the open face. The waste would be further compacted and covered daily with soil or other approved alternative cover material, per regulatory requirements. As indicated above, on average, the project would result in the addition of approximately 1,200 tons per day of MSW and 50 trucks per day, relative to current operations at the landfill, which would be within the limits of existing permits, which were previously subject to environmental review by Solano County.

As no changes are being contemplated at this time, we have no comments on this document.

## **Permits**

Should changes be proposed at a San Francisco solid waste facility, the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) contact would be Beronica Lee of the San Francisco Bureau of Environment Health Services. She can be reached at 415-252-3840 or by e-mail at [Beronica.Lee@sfdph.org](mailto:Beronica.Lee@sfdph.org).

## **CONCLUSION**

CalRecycle staff thanks the Lead Agency for the opportunity to review and comment on the environmental document and hopes that this comment letter will be useful to the Lead Agency in carrying out their responsibilities in the CEQA process.

CalRecycle staff requests copies of any subsequent environmental documents, copies of public notices and any Notices of Determination for this project are sent to the Permitting and Assistance Branch.



If the environmental document is adopted during a public hearing, CalRecycle staff requests ten days advance notice of this hearing. If the document is adopted without a public hearing, CalRecycle staff requests ten days advance notice of the date of the adoption and project approval by the decision-making body.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at 916.341.6330 or by e-mail at [David.Otsubo@calrecycle.ca.gov](mailto:David.Otsubo@calrecycle.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



David Otsubo  
Permitting & Assistance Branch  
Waste Permitting, Compliance & Mitigation Division

cc: Beronica Lee  
San Francisco Bureau of Environment Health Services

Ricardo Serrano  
Solano County Department of Research Management





# Comment Letters Objecting to the Proposed Project

The following comments were e-mailed to the Planning Department.

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**From:** mb sherry [mailto:mbsherry7@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 10, 2015 4:51 PM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** Dump in Fairfield

Please do not bring your trash here. I work hard and grow lots of food. I found my home and want to keep my clean organic home the way it is.

Thank you  
Marbeth Sherry  
Fairfield resident.

---

**From:** Vicky Flandi [mailto:buggysgrandma@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:59 AM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** Keep Solano Green

Please do not bring San Francisco's trash to a Solano County landfill. Keep Solano Green!

Victoria Flandi

---

**From:** Rebecca [mailto:bekysc5@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2015 12:10 PM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** Solano County

See message below!

Thank you!

---

**From:** Mail Delivery System <MAILER-DAEMON@ironport.sfgov.org>  
**Date:** 03/11/2015 11:36 AM (GMT-08:00)  
**To:** bekysc5@sbcglobal.net  
**Subject:** Delivery Status Notification (Failure)

Please keep Solano County "GREEN". Find another place for San Francisco's trash.

Sincerely,

Rebecca L. Steckly

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**From:** Julie K-Swingle [mailto:julieswingle@att.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2015 2:51 PM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** Keeping our city clean

Dear Paul Maltzer  
Senior Planner, San Francisco Planning Department, Environmental Planning

I am writing this email on behalf of my family. We have resided in Vacaville for over twenty years and I am appauled that San Francisco is sending their trash to our little town. Why can't you utilize the facilities in San Mateo County? I hope that you reconsider and help keep Solano County clean by NOT sending San Francisco's waste here.

Regards,  
Julie Swingle

---

**From:** Caitlyn Cobb [mailto:cobbcaitlyn999@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:47 PM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** Fwd: KEEP SF WASTE OUT OF VACAVILLE

Keep San Francisco waste out of Solano!!!!!!

Signed,  
Concerned Small Town Citizen

---

**From:** Karlyn Lewis [mailto:Karlyn.Lewis@jimbabwe.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2015 10:10 PM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** don't sent SF's trash here!

Dear Mr Maltzer,

I have worked in open space preservation in Solano County for about 30 years. I've visited and photographed every open-space acre around the county that is open to the public. I'm sorry that you have not been able to experience the wonderful breadth and depth of the beauties of nature in Solano as I have. Perhaps then you would understand what we are fighting for. I realize that you need somewhere to dump your trash. But we are not the place for the pollution from your garbage trucks nor the pollution from landfill expansions only needed to import your trash.

If you would like to come and experience some of our open spaces, check out upcoming outdoor activities around the county at <http://solanoopenspace.org/AandE.asp>.

I am not alone. As a county we voted to bar trash importation. Unfortunately, Fiona Ma passed legislation saying we could not do that. Shame on her. We deserve better. I urge you to find a better solution.

Sincerely,

Karlyn H. Lewis  
klewis@jimbabwe.com

---

**From:** Valerie Lambert-Reed [mailto:samreedjr@juno.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:25 AM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** SF Garbage in Solano county!

I do not want SF's garbage in Solano County!

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act but a habit.  
-Aristotle

---

**From:** hyawatha@netzero.net [mailto:hyawatha@netzero.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:14 AM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** Solano County

Dear Mr Maltzer,

whilst you may have convinced Solano county to accept the rubbish generated in SF, I am sure by now that you are aware that a vast majority of residents of the county do not agree with further irreversible environmental damage being created by non county residents. In this day and age of scientific developments, it beggars belief, that a solution other than dumping has not been rolled out. Nevertheless, it should be up to each county to find a clean solution and I for one add my objections; as a county tax payer; to those that you have already recieved.

Sincerely

Linda Ryder, Solano County Resident.

---

**From:** Hope Nix [mailto:hopeandtammy@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:33 PM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** KEEP SF TRASH OUT OF SOLANO COUNTY

Please keep YOUR trash/garbage out of Solano County! We don't want it! Put it on a barge and send it to Texas

Hope

---

**From:** Tony Hernandez [mailto:adhernadez1993@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:16 PM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** Waste

Keep Solano county green and keep sf trash out of Solano we have enough already

---

**From:** paandrina@comcast.net [mailto:paandrina@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2015 7:21 AM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** keep Solano Green

As a Vacaville residence, I stand firm with the KEEP SOLANO GREEN. Please keep your trash out of my backyard.

Thank you  
Paula Meany

---

**From:** niamerlin@gmail.com [mailto:niamerlin@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Sharon Dellinger  
**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2015 9:16 AM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** Can You Explain This Please? This is not spam, it's about our county of Solano

What is this I hear about San Francisco's trash coming to Solano County? Is that a real issue? I am concerned, obviously, as we have enough trash here of our own. Please, tell me what's going on?

Sharon

---

**From:** Jon Martin [mailto:j.martin11369@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2015 2:38 PM  
**To:** Maltzer, Paul (CPC)  
**Subject:** solano county waste

Dear Sir

Would you please keep your trash, vehicles and pollutants out of my county?

I hasten to say that no one here wants it, unless a city manager is making money on it. Either way us residents of this county don't want your waste or your politics.

Best regards  
Jon Martin  
Disabled Vet and concerned citizen



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## Preliminary Negative Declaration

*Date:* March 4, 2015, revised May 14, 2015  
*Case No.:* **2014.0653E**  
*Project Title:* **Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County**  
*BPA Nos.:* Not Applicable  
*Zoning:* Not Applicable – Agreement citywide in scope  
*Block/Lot:* Not Applicable – Agreement citywide in scope  
*Lot Size:* Not Applicable – Agreement citywide in scope  
*Project Sponsor* Jack Macy, Department of the Environment  
415-355-3751  
*Lead Agency:* San Francisco Planning Department  
*Staff Contact:* Paul Maltzer – (415) 575-9038  
paul.maltzer@sfgov.org

1650 Mission St.  
Suite 400  
San Francisco,  
CA 94103-2479

Reception:  
**415.558.6378**

Fax:  
**415.558.6409**

Planning  
Information:  
**415.558.6377**

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed project consists of an Agreement between the City of San Francisco and Recology to change the disposal site for San Francisco's municipal solid waste (MSW). Currently, Recology, the company that collects San Francisco's waste, transports San Francisco's MSW to the Altamont Landfill, located in eastern Alameda County, for disposal. San Francisco's existing agreement with Waste Management, Inc., operator of the Altamont Landfill, will expire around 2016. The proposed project consists of an Agreement to authorize the transportation of MSW from San Francisco to the existing Recology Hay Road Landfill located in unincorporated Solano County, at 6426 Hay Road, near State Route 113, southeast of Vacaville, where it would be disposed. San Francisco and Recology would enter into an Agreement for the transportation and disposal of five million tons of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. MSW would be transported by long haul semi-trucks, primarily from the Recology San Francisco transfer station located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, with several additional trucks hauling residual wastes for disposal from Recology's Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 in San Francisco, as is presently the case. At current rates of disposal, it is estimated that the Agreement would have a term of approximately 13 – 15 years. No new construction or changes in current Recology operations within San Francisco are proposed. No new construction or change in existing permits would be required at the Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County. The proposed project would correspond with the cessation of transport of San Francisco's MSW to Altamont Landfill. The Agreement between San Francisco and Recology to authorize the proposed change in disposal sites would need to be approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

### FINDING:

This project could not have a significant effect on the environment. This finding is based upon the criteria of the Guidelines of the State Secretary for Resources, Sections 15064 (Determining Significant Effect), 15065 (Mandatory Findings of Significance), and 15070 (Decision to prepare a Negative Declaration), and the following reasons as documented in the Initial Evaluation (Initial Study) for the project, which is attached.

Mitigation measures are not required in this project to avoid potentially significant effects.





# INITIAL STUDY

## Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste At Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County (Case No. 2014.0653E)

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# INITIAL STUDY

## Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County (Case No. 2014.0653E)

### A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

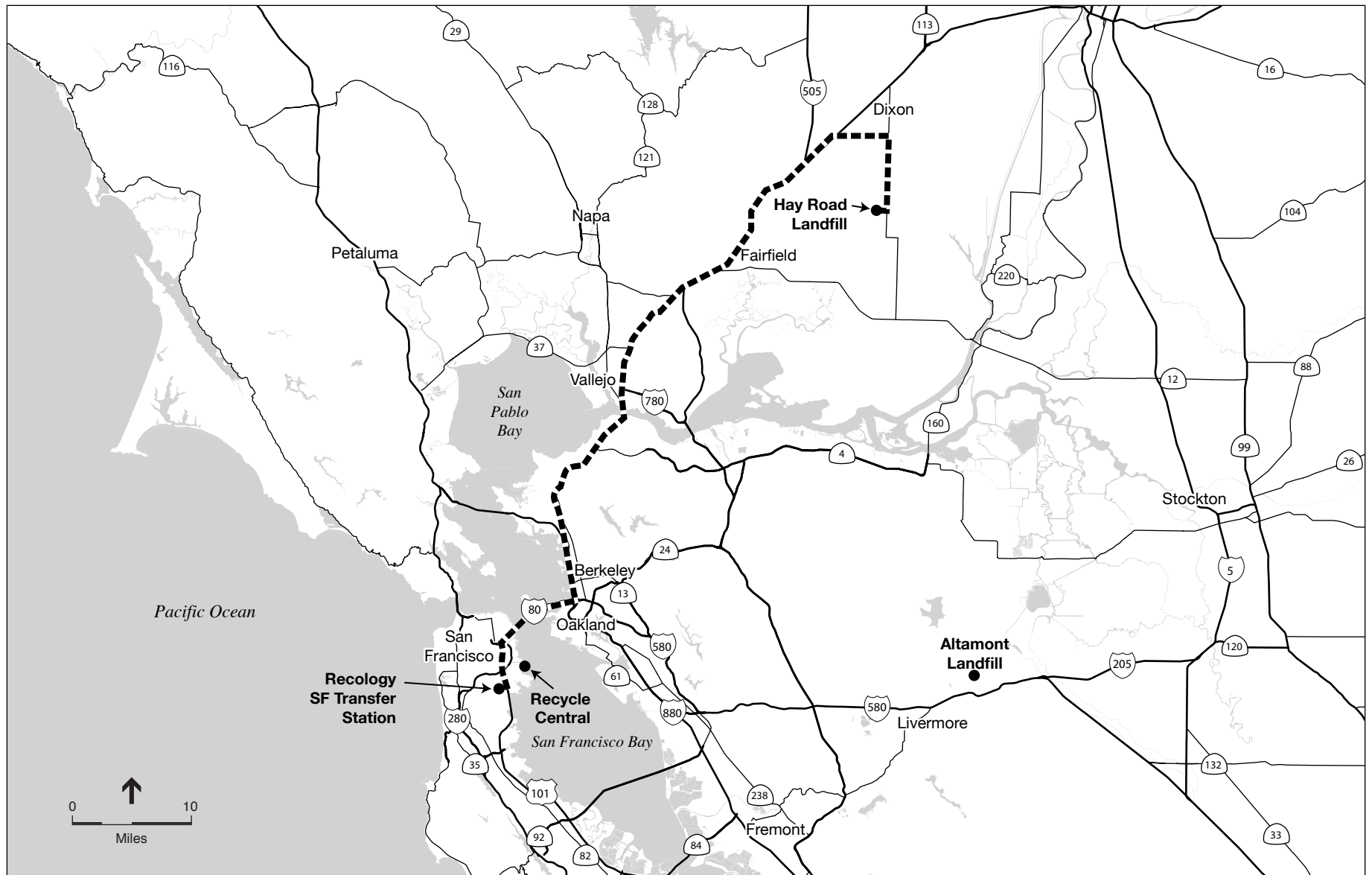
The following describes the proposed Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County project, which is referred to below as the “project.” The project sponsor is the City and County of San Francisco, Department of the Environment.

#### A.1 Project Location

The project involves the transportation by truck of municipal solid waste (MSW) from San Francisco and the disposal of MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, located in Solano County near Vacaville. The project location extends from two Points of Origin -- the Recology San Francisco transfer station, located at 501 Tunnel Avenue on the San Francisco-Brisbane border; and Recology’s Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 in San Francisco. The project terminates at one location, the Recology Hay Road Landfill, just east of Vacaville. **Figures 1 and 2** on pages 2 and 3 and show the locations of these facilities and the planned transportation routes. With implementation of the project, San Francisco MSW would no longer be disposed at the Altamont Landfill in Alameda County.

#### A.2 Project Characteristics

San Francisco and Recology (the private company that operates the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the San Francisco Transfer Station, Recology’s Recycle Central Facility, and the truck hauling fleet currently used to transport San Francisco waste) would enter into one or more agreements for the transportation and disposal of 5 million tons of San Francisco MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. At current rates of disposal, it is estimated that such an agreement (or agreements) would have a term of approximately 13 years. However, given the City’s continuing efforts to reduce MSW to landfill, for the purposes of this Initial Study, it is conservatively assumed that the proposed project could continue for a period of up to 15 years. As occurs today, MSW would be transported by long haul semi-trucks primarily from the Recology San Francisco transfer station located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, with a smaller number of trucks hauling residual wastes for disposal from Recology’s Recycle Central facility, located at Pier 96 in San Francisco. The tonnage of waste and the numbers of daily and annual truck trips would not increase as a result of the proposed project.

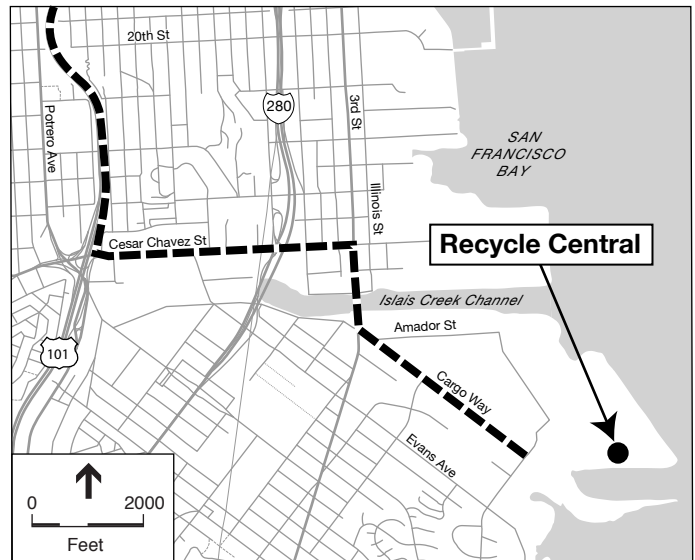
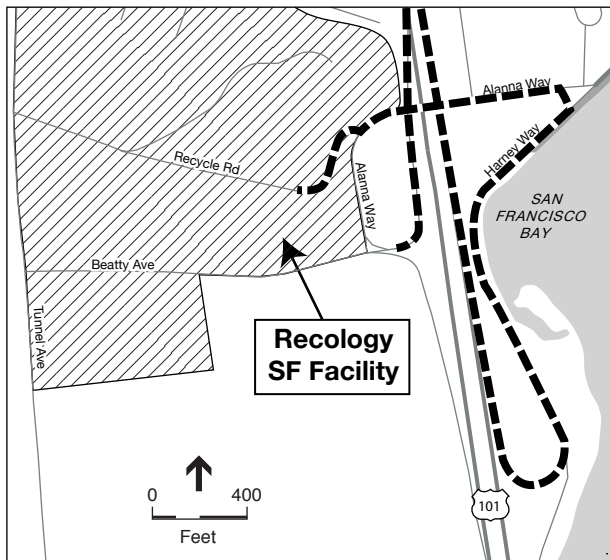


SOURCE: Recology

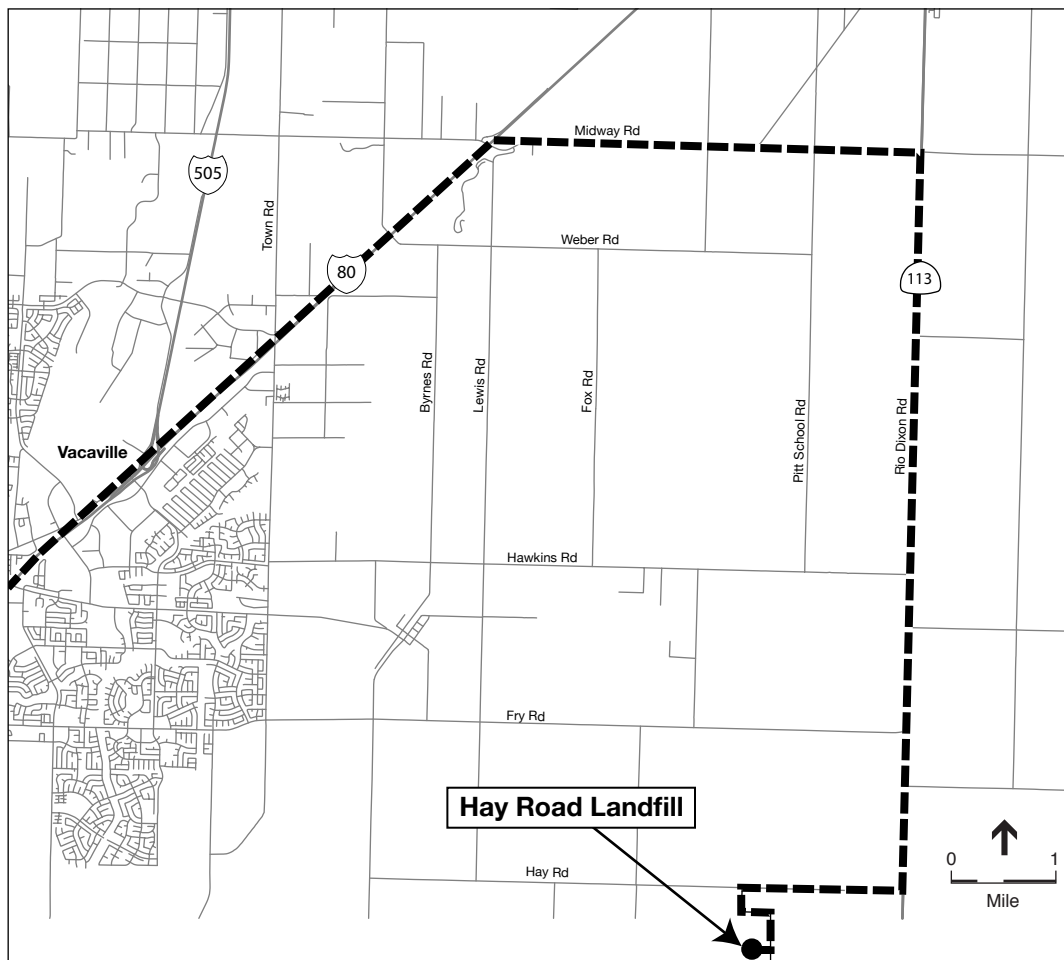
San Francisco Waste Transport for Disposal at Recology Hay Road Landfill . 210655

**Figure 1**  
Project Location – Proposed Route for Transport  
of MSW to Recology Hay Road Landfill

## San Francisco Facilities Haul Routes



## Solano County Facility Haul Route



SOURCE: Recology San Francisco Waste Transport for Disposal at Recology Hay Road Landfill . 210655

**Figure 2**  
Local Streets and Roads Used to Transport MSW

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Currently, Recology transports San Francisco's MSW to the Altamont Landfill, located in eastern Alameda County, for disposal. San Francisco's disposal agreement with Waste Management, Inc., operator of the Altamont Landfill, will expire around 2016.<sup>1</sup> The initiation of the proposed project would correspond with the cessation of transport of San Francisco's MSW to Altamont Landfill.<sup>2</sup> As noted above, the use of the Recology Hay Road Landfill for disposal of up to 5 million tons of San Francisco's MSW is assumed to continue for an estimated period of 15 years.

**Points of Origin.** Under the proposed project, no changes would be made to physical structures or operations at the two Points of Origin for the waste hauling operations. Those Points of Origin are the Recology San Francisco transfer station and Recology's Recycle Central facility.

The Recology San Francisco transfer station, located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, straddles the border between San Francisco and the City of Brisbane (San Mateo County). The transfer station receives and ships MSW, recyclable materials (including commercial and residential organic waste), and construction and demolition (C&D) debris collected within San Francisco. The transfer station is permitted to receive up to 5,000 tons per day, and can operate up to 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Recology's Recycle Central facility is located at Pier 96 in San Francisco. Recycle Central receives, processes, and ships recyclable materials collected within San Francisco. The facility is permitted to accept up to 2,100 tons per day, 80 to 85% of which is recycled. It can operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Approximately 12-18% of the materials received and processed at Recycle Central cannot be recycled, and these materials must be disposed in a landfill.

**Transportation.** Currently, Recology transports San Francisco's MSW from the two Points of Origin to the Altamont Landfill. The Altamont Landfill is located at 10840 Altamont Pass Road in unincorporated Alameda County near Livermore, and is owned and operated by Waste Management, Inc. This landfill

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<sup>1</sup> Inasmuch as the contract is based on overall disposal tonnage and not a specific time frame, there is no fixed date for the expiration of the City's disposal contract for Altamont Landfill. As of June, 2014, the Department of the Environment projected that the City will reach its permitted limit in early 2016.

<sup>2</sup> It is noted that San Francisco is participating as a potential responsible agency in the CEQA environmental review process that Yuba County is undertaking for a separate project, the Recology Ostrom Road Green Rail and Permit Amendment Project (Ostrom Road Project). As proposed, the Ostrom Road Project includes improvements to rail facilities to enable the hauling of San Francisco MSW to the Ostrom Road Landfill by rail. In March 2013, Yuba County and San Francisco entered into a Cooperative Agreement to designate Yuba County as the lead agency for the Ostrom Road Project and to outline their cooperative efforts concerning environmental review; a Notice of Preparation was also issued that month. However, due to delays in the Ostrom Road Project, the San Francisco Department of the Environment has concluded that the Ostrom Road Project cannot be approved and constructed in a timely manner, prior to the expiration of the City's contract with Altamont Landfill. Accordingly, the Department is now pursuing this project, an agreement for the transportation and disposal of 5 million tons of San Francisco MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. If this project is approved and implemented, the City's participation in the Ostrom Road Landfill project would cease.

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currently accepts San Francisco's MSW for disposal pursuant to an agreement between Waste Management, Inc. and San Francisco, which was executed in 1984.

Under the proposed project, Recology would transport San Francisco MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill instead of the Altamont Landfill. Recology Hay Road Landfill is located at 6426 Hay Road, east of Vacaville and south of Dixon, and is owned and operated by Recology.

**Disposal.** The proposed project would not change the physical facilities at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, nor would the project necessitate any changes to the existing permits for the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The Recology Hay Road Landfill currently receives an average of approximately 651 tons per day of MSW,<sup>3</sup> and approximately 325 vehicles (including trucks)<sup>4</sup> per day. The facility is open to the public seven days per week from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and to commercial haulers seven days per week, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with select commercial and contract accounts having access to the site on a 24-hour basis. The facility operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 361 days of the year. The facility is closed on four holidays every year (New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas). The landfill is permitted by Solano County and the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to accept up to 2,400 tons per day of MSW for disposal, to receive up to 620 vehicles per day (averaged over a seven-day period), and to operate up to 24 hours per day, seven days per week.<sup>5</sup> The permit for the Recology Hay Road Landfill underwent environmental review in Solano County and the potential increase in MSW that would be disposed of at the landfill pursuant to the proposed project would be within the amounts analyzed in the Solano County environmental review document (see Approach to Analysis, below, for description of Solano County environmental review documents related to Hay Road Landfill.) Under the proposed project, the average tons of MSW received at the landfill would increase from 651 tons per day to 1,851 tons per day, and the average number of vehicles (including trucks) would increase from 325 to 375 per day.

Located within the footprint of the landfill is the Jepson Prairie Organics composting facility, also owned and operated by Recology, which accepts organic materials for composting. Currently, Recology delivers approximately 20% of the organic materials that it collects in San Francisco to the Jepson Prairie Organics facility. The vehicle limit for the Recology Hay Road Landfill noted above, 620 vehicles per day, is shared by the landfill and the composting facility.

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<sup>3</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2015. Landfill Life Estimates for Hay Road Landfill (Excel spreadsheet), file dated February 24, 2015. Available for review at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.

<sup>4</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2014. Hay Road Landfill Daily Vehicle County, January 2013-June 2014 (Excel spreadsheet), file dated July 29, 2014. Available for review at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.

<sup>5</sup> Solano County Local Enforcement Agency and CalRecycle, 2013. Solid Waste Facility Permit for Recology Hay Road Landfill, Facility no.48-AA-002. Issued July 9, 2013. Available online: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/SWFacilities/Directory/48-AA-0002/Detail/>

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## *Current Conditions*

**Points of Origin.** Current Conditions at the Points of Origin are as follows:

Currently, Recology's collection truck fleet collects MSW and compostable organic material within San Francisco and delivers it to the Recology San Francisco transfer station for receipt, consolidation, and load-out into larger transfer trucks. The collection trucks unload the MSW into a pit in the enclosed transfer station building. The waste is consolidated with waste received from other collection trucks, compacted, and pushed toward an opening in the floor. Waste is pushed into a waiting transfer truck located underneath this opening in a loading tunnel. As the truck is loaded, a stationary grapple (a clamshell-like claw) moves the waste around in the trailer to provide for more compaction and to achieve loads that are near the highway weight limit of 80,000 pounds gross vehicle weight. Once the truck is full, it exits the loading tunnel and the trailer is covered.

Recology collects recyclable materials from its customers separately from MSW and organic materials. Collection vehicles deliver recyclable materials to the Recycle Central facility at Pier 96, where they are unloaded, sorted into different commodity types, baled or otherwise compacted, then shipped to market. Approximately 12-18% of the materials collected and delivered to the facility cannot, however, be recovered and sold. This includes, for example, non-recyclable plastics, grit, and other fine material. The materials that cannot be recovered and sold are sent to a landfill via transfer truck.

**Transportation.** Current conditions for transporting waste from the Points of Origin to the Altamont Landfill are as follows:

Recology owns and operates its own transfer truck fleet. Transfer trucks are classified as heavy-heavy duty tractor-trailer type trucks (Class 8 trucks). The trailers used are the large-capacity "possum belly" type, with a capacity of 137 cubic yards (**Figure 3** on page 7). These trucks have a maximum payload<sup>6</sup> of about 24.5 tons. In 2012, Recology hauled 374,844 tons of San Francisco MSW to the Altamont Landfill.<sup>7</sup> Based on the total tonnage hauled to Altamont Landfill and the capacity of each transfer truck, it took approximately 15,300 loads to reach this tonnage-- or 294 loads per week for 52 weeks. Based on a 6 day-week (Recology typically hauls MSW loads from Sunday evening through Friday) this resulted in approximately 50 trucks (or round trips) per day hauling San Francisco MSW to the Altamont Landfill.

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<sup>6</sup> Payload is the maximum tonnage that can be loaded into the trailer.

<sup>7</sup> CalRecycle Disposal Reporting System, accessed June 3, 2014 <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/Viewer.aspx?P=OriginJurisdictionIDs%3d438%26ReportYear%3d2012%26ReportName%3dReportEDRSJurisDisposalByFacility>





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SOURCE: Recology

San Francisco Waste Transport for Disposal at Recology Hay Road Landfill . 210655

**Figure 3**  
Photo of Recology Transfer Truck

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Of the 50 trucks per day that haul San Francisco MSW to the Altamont Landfill, approximately 44 depart from the Recology San Francisco transfer station. Trucks depart the Recology San Francisco transfer station onto Alanna Way, cross under U.S. 101 and turn right onto Harney Way, which leads to the U.S. 101 northbound on-ramp (Figure 2 on page 3). Trucks proceed north on U. S. Highway 101 to the junction with eastbound I-80, then cross over the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, then south on I-880 to eastbound State Highway 238, then on eastbound I-580 to the Altamont Landfill near Livermore.

In addition to the approximately 44 trucks per day that haul San Francisco MSW from the Recology San Francisco transfer station, approximately six trucks per day haul residual wastes from Recology's Recycle Central facility to the Altamont Landfill. Transfer trucks leaving the Recycle Central facility bound for the Altamont Landfill travel on Cargo Way, Third Street, and Cesar Chavez Street to U.S. 101 (Figure 2 on page 3), then follow the same route as the trucks from Recology San Francisco to the Altamont Landfill.

Empty transfer trucks return to each of these Points of Origin via the same routes that they take when they depart. The round trip distance from the San Francisco transfer station and the Recycle Central facility to the Altamont Landfill and back is approximately 115 miles.

**Disposal.** Current conditions for disposing of MSW at the Altamont Landfill are as follows:

At the landfill, the truck's trailer is unloaded using a tipper at the open landfill face. The waste is further compacted and covered daily with soil or other approved alternative cover material, per regulatory requirements.

Current conditions for disposal of MSW at Recology Hay Road Landfill are as described above under Project Characteristics, Disposal.

**Composting Operations.** In addition to transporting San Francisco MSW to the Altamont Landfill, Recology also collects San Francisco's organic materials and transports those materials to its composting facilities. Collection and transportation of San Francisco organic materials will not be affected by the proposed project. Current conditions for collecting, transporting, and disposing of organic materials are as follows:

Recology separately collects organic materials, consisting of yard waste, food waste, and other compostable materials, and delivers these materials to the Recology San Francisco facility, which includes the transfer station. There, the materials are consolidated and loaded into transfer trucks. Recology has three facilities that receive organic materials from San Francisco for composting: Jepson Prairie Organics, which receives approximately five to six loads per day of organics from Recology San Francisco; Recology Grover Environmental Products facility in Vernalis, CA, which receives 19-20 loads per day from Recology

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San Francisco; and Recology South Valley Organics facility in Gilroy, CA, which receives one to two loads per day from Recology San Francisco. In total, approximately 140-150 loads of organics from Recology San Francisco are delivered to these three facilities each week. Each load consists of 24.5 tons of waste.

Transfer trucks bound for Jepson Prairie Organics at the Recology Hay Road facility take the same route as trucks bound for Altamont Landfill from the Recology San Francisco facility to the Bay Bridge. After crossing the bridge, these trucks travel on I-80 east to the Midway Road exit northeast of Vacaville, then travel east on Midway Road to State Route 113, and then south to Hay Road.

### *Proposed Project Conditions*

**Points of Origin.** Under the proposed project, there would be no change to current conditions at the Recology San Francisco transfer station or the Recycle Central facility.

**Transportation.** The proposed project would change part of the route that is used to transport waste. San Francisco's MSW would be transported by truck to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, instead of the Altamont Landfill. Neither the number of truckloads (currently 50 trucks per day) nor the volume of San Francisco MSW being hauled (currently 1,200 tons per day) would change as a result of the project.

Trucks transporting MSW would use the same routes as they currently do between the Points of Origin to the east end of the Bay Bridge. There would be no change in the number or location of truck trips from the Points of Origin to the eastern end of the Bay Bridge.

After crossing the bridge, trucks would turn to the north toward the Recology Hay Road Landfill rather than turning to the south to the Altamont Landfill as they do under current conditions (see Current Conditions, above, for description of route to Altamont.) Trucks would continue east on I-80 to Solano County (Figure 1 on page 2). Trucks would travel the same route from I-80 to the Recology Hay Road Landfill as Recology's organic materials transfer trucks do at present: Midway Road exit from I-80, east on Midway Road to State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road), then south to Hay Road (Figure 2 on page 3). The landfill entrance is a short distance west of State Route 113 on the south side of Hay Road. Empty transfer trucks would return to San Francisco via the same route. The round trip is approximately 155 miles, or about 40 miles longer than the round trip to and from the Altamont Landfill. Because the disposal of 2,400 tons of MSW at Hay Road Landfill was analyzed for its existing permit, this change in route is the only physical change associated with the proposed project.

The transfer truck fleet would continue to be owned, controlled and dispatched by Recology. Recology has considerable flexibility in its shipping schedule. Recology makes efforts to minimize the number of

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trucks on the road during peak traffic times. The majority of trips occur in the early morning hours prior to peak morning traffic (peak morning traffic is 7:00 – 9:00 a.m.), mid-morning following the morning peak traffic, and in the evening and nighttime hours following the afternoon peak (peak afternoon traffic is 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.). Under the project, Recology would continue to manage departures to avoid heavy traffic periods, and in particular to avoid the Fairfield-Vacaville section of I-80 during the morning peak, in accordance with Recology Hay Road Landfill’s Conditional Use Permit from Solano County.

Most of Recology’s transfer fleet currently runs on B-20 biodiesel (that is, diesel fuel that is derived from 20 percent vegetable or animal fats and 80 percent petroleum). Eleven trucks in the fleet run on liquefied natural gas (LNG). Recology is in the process of phasing in additional transfer vehicles that run on LNG or compressed natural gas (CNG). These trucks have lower emissions than B-20 Diesel. Because Recology’s plans for conversion of the transfer fleet to a different fuel type are still at an early stage, the analysis in this Initial Study assumes that the fleet will continue to be fueled with B-20 biodiesel and LNG at the current levels.

**Disposal.** Once at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, trucks would be directed to the active disposal area where they would unload with a tipper at the open face. The waste would be further compacted and covered daily with soil or other approved alternative cover material, per regulatory requirements. As indicated above, on average, the project would result in the addition of approximately 1,200 tons per day of MSW and 50 trucks per day, relative to current operations at the landfill, which would be within the limits of existing permits, which were previously subject to environmental review by Solano County.

### *Project Schedule*

As noted, the City’s contract to haul MSW to Altamont Landfill is projected to terminate in early 2016 because San Francisco is expected to reach the limit for disposal of MSW set forth in that contract by that date. The City intends to approve a new contract for MSW hauling before the end of 2015.

The proposed project would not involve any construction activity, as the San Francisco Transfer Station, Recycle Central facility, and the Recology Hay Road Landfill are all existing facilities in operation at present.

## **A.3 Required Approvals**

The project would require the following approvals from City bodies:

- Approval of one or more Agreements with Recology for transportation and disposal of 5 million tons of San Francisco MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. (*Department of Environment referral of Agreement(s) to Board of Supervisors; Board of Supervisors approval of Agreement(s).*)

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**Approval Action:** Referral of the Agreement(s) by the Department of Environment to the Board of Supervisors would be considered the Approval Action for this project for the purposes of a CEQA appeal. The Approval Action date would establish the start of the 30-day appeal period for appeal of the Final Negative Declaration to the Board of Supervisors pursuant to Section 31.04(h) of the San Francisco Administrative Code.

As previously stated, the Recology Hay Road Landfill is permitted to receive up to 2,400 tons per day of MSW and compost, and up to 620 vehicles per day. Based on recent volume of waste received and vehicles arriving at the facility, the Recology Hay Road Landfill has sufficient capacity under its existing permits to accommodate the addition of San Francisco's MSW. Therefore, the proposed project does not require any new or additional approval by Solano County or other entities with regard to the Recology Hay Road Landfill.

## B. PROJECT SETTING

**Points of Origin.** The Recology San Francisco transfer station, located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, straddles the border between San Francisco and the City of Brisbane (San Mateo County). The transfer station receives and ships MSW, recyclable materials (including commercial and residential organic waste), and construction and demolition (C&D) debris collected within San Francisco. The transfer station is permitted to receive up to 5,000 tons per day, and can operate up to 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Recology's Recycle Central facility is located at Pier 96 in San Francisco. Recycle Central receives, processes, and ships recyclable materials collected within San Francisco. The facility is permitted to accept up to 2,100 tons per day. It can operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Approximately 12-18% of the materials received and processed at Recycle Central cannot be recycled, and these materials must be disposed in a landfill.

**Transportation.** The proposed project's MSW hauling operations would take place on existing city streets, freeways, County roads, and State highways between the Points of Origin and the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Specifically, trucks transporting waste from the Recology San Francisco transfer station would travel on San Francisco city streets, U.S. 101, Interstate 80, Midway Road, State Route 113, and Hay Road to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, and would return following the same route (Figures 1 and 2 on pages 2 and 3). Trucks transporting waste from the Recycle Central facility would travel on San Francisco city streets to U.S. 101, then follow the same route to the Recology Hay Road Landfill.

The San Francisco city streets that would be used between the Recology San Francisco transfer station and U.S. 101 include Alanna Way and Harney Way. Alanna Way is a two-lane, undivided road. From the intersection with Recycle Road (which is entirely within the Recology property), Alanna Way passes

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beneath U.S. 101 toward Candlestick Point. Harney Way is a three-lane, undivided road that skirts the shore of San Francisco Bay, and carries traffic to and from U.S. 101.

The city streets that would be used between the Recycle Central facility and U.S. 101 include Cargo Way, Third Street, and Cesar Chavez Street. Cargo Way is a four-lane, divided road with a landscaped median strip. Third Street, a major north-south thoroughfare, is a four-lane roadway, with light rail tracks (for the Muni T line) in-between the north bound lanes and the south bound lanes. Third Street passes over the Islais Creek Channel drawbridge before reaching Cesar Chavez Street. Cesar Chavez Street, a major east-west thoroughfare, is a four-lane road that in some places is divided. Cesar Chavez Street passes underneath the elevated I-280 freeway before reaching the U.S. 101 on-ramp.

U.S. 101 is a multi-lane freeway between the Harney Way on-ramp and the junction with I-80, that is elevated in some reaches.

I-80 is a multi-lane, elevated freeway within San Francisco. I-80 then passes over the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, through the interchange with I-580 and I-880, then continues along the eastern Bay shore through Emeryville, Berkeley, Richmond, several Contra Costa County communities, over the Carquinez Strait Bridge into Solano County, then through the communities of Vallejo, Fairfield, and Vacaville. Freeway access to and from the Recology Hay Road Landfill primarily occurs at the I-80 / Midway Road – O'Day Road interchange located approximately 12 miles north and west of the facility via Hay Road, State Route 113 and Midway Road. The average daily traffic volume on I-80 in the area of the Midway Road interchange is about 115,000 vehicles.<sup>8</sup>

Midway Road, also known as the Lincoln Highway, is a two-lane, undivided road that runs past the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery and through a rural area to the junction with State Route 113.

State Route 113 is also known as Rio-Dixon Road. It is a rural, two-lane, undivided road. The Recology Hay Road Landfill is located at the intersection of State Route 113 and Hay Road. The three-legged ("T") intersection of State Route 113 and Hay Road is unsignalized (the eastbound Hay Road approach is Stop sign controlled). A future planned and funded improvement at this intersection would entail the installation of a left turn lane on the northbound State Route 113 approach.<sup>9</sup> The average daily traffic volume on State Route 113 in the project area is about 3,550 vehicles.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), 2013 Traffic Volumes on California State Highways, 2014.

<sup>9</sup> Recology is funding the installation of the northbound left-turn lane, as it did for the westbound left-turn lane on Hay Road at the landfill entrance (completed in 2010), as part of prior mitigation requirements.

<sup>10</sup> Caltrans, 2013.

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Trucks enter and exit the facility via Hay Road. Hay Road is a rural, two-lane, undivided road that provides access for the Recology Hay Road Landfill from its intersection with State Route 113.

**Disposal.** The Recology Hay Road Landfill is located in unincorporated Solano County, approximately eight miles southeast of the City of Vacaville, approximately nine miles south of the City of Dixon, and approximately four miles northeast of Travis Air Force Base. The facility is located immediately west of State Route 113 at its intersection with Hay Road, at 6426 Hay Road (Figures 1 and 2 on pages 2 and 3).

The landfill has been in operation since 1964. It was formerly known as the B&J Dropbox Landfill or the B&J Landfill. The landfill property is 640 acres, with 256 acres permitted for disposal operations, and another 54 acres permitted for a composting operation. The topography of the area is essentially flat with a ground surface elevation of approximately 25 feet above mean sea level. The current height of the existing landfill is approximately 120 feet above the surrounding grade.

The facility is surrounded by a six-foot chain link fence with a taller litter control fence located along the perimeter of the landfill adjacent to Hay Road and State Route 113. Agricultural land uses surround the project site. Four rural residences are located within a two-mile radius of the site. Two of the residences are located approximately 1.5 miles to the west, one residence is located approximately 1.3 miles to the south, and one residence is located approximately 1.1 miles to the north.

The Recology Hay Road Landfill currently operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week. It currently receives on average approximately 651 tons of MSW per day, and approximately 325 vehicles (including trucks)<sup>11</sup> per day.

The landfill operates under the terms of several permits, including a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) from Solano County<sup>12</sup> and a Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP), jointly issued in 2013 by the Solano County Resources Management Department and CalRecycle.<sup>13</sup> These permits limit the facility to receiving a maximum of 2,400 tons of MSW per day, 7 days per week; a maximum of 2,500 tons of asbestos per month; and a maximum of 620 vehicles per day, averaged over a seven-day period. The total capacity of the landfill is 37 million cubic yards. The remaining capacity of the landfill is projected to be 27,177,046 cubic yards as of January, 2016, and the earliest estimated closure year for the landfill,

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<sup>11</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2015.

<sup>12</sup> Solano County Resource Management Department. Land Use Permit No. U-11-09, Recology and Jepson Prairie Organics, for a Landfill and Composting Facility. November 29, 2012. Available for review from Solano County Resource Management Department, and also as part of Case File No. 2014.0653E at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.

<sup>13</sup> Solano County Local Enforcement Agency and CalRecycle, 2013.

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assuming the maximum permitted rate of waste disposal, is 2034.<sup>14</sup> The maximum permitted height of the fill area is 215 feet above mean sea level (about 190 feet above the surrounding grade) and the maximum permitted depth is 20 feet above mean sea level (about five feet below the surrounding grade).

## C. COMPATIBILITY WITH ZONING, PLANS, AND POLICIES

	<i>Applicable</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
Discuss any variances, special authorizations, or changes proposed to the Planning Code or Zoning Map, if applicable.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Discuss any conflicts with any adopted plans and goals of the City or Region, if applicable.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Discuss any approvals and/or permits from City departments other than the Planning Department or the Department of Building Inspection, or from Regional, State, or Federal Agencies.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### C.1 San Francisco Planning Code

The proposed project would involve no alteration to existing land uses, structures or utilities, and would involve no new construction, nor would there be any physical changes within San Francisco or under the jurisdiction of the City & County of San Francisco. Therefore, no variances or special authorizations are required, and no changes are proposed to the San Francisco Planning Code or Zoning Map.

### C.2 Plans and Policies

#### *San Francisco Plans and Policies*

##### San Francisco General Plan

The *San Francisco General Plan* (General Plan) provides general policies and objectives to guide land use decisions. The General Plan contains 10 elements (Commerce and Industry, Recreation and Open Space, Housing, Community Facilities, Urban Design, Environmental Protection, Transportation, Air Quality, Community Safety, and Arts) that set forth goals, policies, and objectives for the physical development of the City. The General Plan also contains a number of area plans, which set forth objectives and policies with more specificity to various neighborhoods.

Local plans and policies that are relevant to the proposed project are discussed below.

- The *San Francisco Zero Waste Policy* (Board of Supervisors Resolution 679-02 and Commission on the Environment Resolution 002-03-COE) establishes a goal of achieving zero waste to landfill by

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<sup>14</sup> Golder Associates, 2013. Joint Technical Document for Recology Hay Road Landfill. Prepared for Recology, Inc., February 2013. Available for review at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.



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2020 and directs the Department of the Environment to develop policies and programs to achieve zero waste, including increasing producer and consumer responsibility, in order that all discarded materials be diverted from landfill through recycling, composting or other means.

- The *San Francisco Sustainability Plan* is a blueprint for achieving long-term environmental sustainability by addressing specific environmental issues including, but not limited to, air quality, climate change, energy, ozone depletion, and transportation. The goal of the *San Francisco Sustainability Plan* is to enable the people of San Francisco to meet their present needs without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- The *Climate Action Plan for San Francisco: Local Actions to Reduce Greenhouse Emissions* is a local action plan that examines the causes of global climate change and human activities that contribute to global warming, provides projections of climate change impacts on California and San Francisco based on recent scientific reports, presents estimates of San Francisco's baseline greenhouse gas emissions inventory and reduction targets, and describes recommended actions for reducing the City and County's greenhouse gas emissions.

Potential inconsistency with policies applicable to the proposed project that relate to physical environmental effects is discussed in Section E.

#### Solano County Plans and Policies

Compatibility of the proposed project with Solano County zoning, plans, and policies is discussed below under Section E.1, Land Use and Land Use Planning.

#### Regional Plans and Policies

In addition to local plans and policies, there are several regional planning agencies whose environmental, land use, and transportation plans and policies consider the growth and development of the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. Some of these plans and policies are advisory, and some include specific goals and provisions that must be adhered to when evaluating a project under CEQA. The regional plans and policies that are relevant to the proposed project are discussed below.

- The Bay Area Air Quality Management District's *Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan* updates the Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy, in accordance with the requirements of the California Clean Air Act, to implement feasible measures to reduce ozone and provide a control strategy to reduce ozone, particulate matter, air toxics, and greenhouse gases throughout the region.
- The Regional Water Quality Control Board's *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin* is a master water quality control planning document. It designates beneficial uses and water quality objectives for waters of the state, including surface waters and groundwater, and includes implementation programs to achieve water quality objectives.
- *Plan Bay Area*, the Bay Area's first combined Sustainable Communities Strategy (land use plan) and regional transportation plan, was developed jointly by the Association of Bay Area Governments

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(ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).<sup>15</sup> *Plan Bay Area* encourages housing and job growth proximate to transit, particularly within areas identified by local jurisdictions as Priority Development Areas (PDAs), and “is intended to enhance mobility and economic growth by linking housing/jobs with transit, thus offering a more efficient land use pattern around transit and a greater return on existing and planned transit investments.”<sup>16</sup> The plan also includes strategies and investments to maintain, manage, and improve the region’s multi-modal transportation network, from bicycle and pedestrian facilities to local streets to highways to public transit. *Plan Bay Area* also sets forth transportation projects and programs to be implemented with reasonably anticipated revenue.

- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission’s (BCDC’s) *San Francisco Bay Plan*. BCDC has regulatory responsibility over development in San Francisco Bay and along the Bay’s nine-county shoreline. The proposed project would involve no changes within 100 feet of the bay shoreline, and is therefore not within the jurisdiction of the BCDC and is not subject to the policies in the *San Francisco Bay Plan* or other BCDC policies.

The proposed project would not conflict with the provisions of any adopted habitat conservation plan.

See discussion below for physical environmental impact analysis of the proposed project, as related to specific topics addressed in these plans and policies.

## D. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The project could potentially affect the environmental topics checked below. The following pages present a more detailed checklist and discussion of each environmental topic.

<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils
<input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Wind and Shadow	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology and Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Paleo. Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards/Hazardous Materials
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and Circulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/> Mineral/Energy Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural and Forest Resources
		<input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance

### D.1 Effects Found to be Potentially Significant

The project has been evaluated to determine whether it would result in significant environmental impacts on any of the environmental topics listed above. As discussed in detail in the following pages, no potentially significant impacts have been identified.

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<sup>15</sup> Plan Bay Area was necessitated by the adoption of Senate Bill 375, which required regions to prepare a Sustainable Communities Strategy (or Alternative Planning Strategy) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by linking growth to transit.

<sup>16</sup> MTC and ABAG, 2013. Plan Bay Area Draft Environmental Impact Report. page ES-2. Available online at: [http://onebayarea.org/pdf/Draft\\_EIR\\_Chapters/0.0\\_Cover\\_Intro\\_and\\_Executive\\_Summary.pdf](http://onebayarea.org/pdf/Draft_EIR_Chapters/0.0_Cover_Intro_and_Executive_Summary.pdf). Reviewed December 30, 2013.

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## D.2 Effects Found Not to be Significant

Within each environmental topic area examined, the project was found to have either no impact or a less-than-significant impact.

## E. EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

This Initial Study examines the potential effects on the environment that would result from approval of the proposed project. For all items checked “Less-than-Significant Impact,” “No Impact,” or “Not Applicable,” the Planning Department has determined that the project would not have a significant adverse environmental effect relating to that issue. No impacts were found to be potentially significant, and so no mitigation measures are identified. All of these issues are discussed below and conclusions regarding effects are based upon field observations, staff experience and expertise on similar projects, and/or standard reference material available from the Planning Department, such as the Department’s *Transportation Impact Analysis Guidelines for Environmental Review*.

For each checklist threshold, the analysis provides an overview of the project’s general impacts, and considers the impacts of the project both individually and cumulatively.

### Approach to the Analysis

**Points of Origin.** Operations at the Recology facilities in San Francisco – the Recycle Central facility and the San Francisco transfer station – would be unaffected by the project: the same amount of waste would be processed, and the same number and same size of trucks would arrive and depart on essentially the same schedule, whether or not the project is approved. Because the project would not result in any physical or operational changes at these facilities compared to current conditions, the impact analysis in this Initial Study does not present any analysis of operations or conditions at these facilities. There would be no physical change to facilities or operations, and therefore the proposed project does not have the potential to cause adverse environmental impacts at the Points of Origin.

**Transportation.** Truck trips from the Recology San Francisco transfer station and the Recycle Central facility to the eastern end of the Bay Bridge would be unaffected by the project; the same number of trucks would travel on local San Francisco roadways, U.S. 101, and the Bay Bridge on essentially the same schedule, whether or not the project is approved. Because the project would not result in any physical or operational changes on local San Francisco streets, U.S. 101, or the Bay Bridge compared to current conditions, it would not result in any physical changes in the environment in this area, and therefore the impact analysis in this Initial Study does not present any further analysis of transport of waste between the Points of Origin and the eastern end of the Bay Bridge.

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Truck trips from the eastern end of the Bay Bridge traveling east on I-80 to the Midway Road exit from I-80 in Solano County, and continuing on local streets to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would increase as a result of the proposed project compared to current conditions. Therefore, this Initial Study evaluates the environmental effects of project-related truck trips traveling between the eastern end of the Bay Bridge and the Midway Road exit.

This Initial Study also evaluates the environmental effects of project-related truck trips traveling between the Midway Road exit and the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The Recology Hay Road Landfill is currently in operation, and currently receives approximately 325 vehicles per day. The landfill is permitted by Solano County to receive up to 620 vehicles per day. The approximately 50 trucks per day hauling San Francisco MSW would be within the 620 total vehicles that are permitted to access the landfill, and would not result in any increase in truck traffic beyond the amount Solano County already has approved. Nevertheless, these 50 truck trips proposed to haul San Francisco MSW to the Recology Hay Road site are evaluated in this Initial Study as new trips to the landfill, relative to existing conditions.

**Disposal.** Under the proposed project, San Francisco's MSW would be hauled to the Recology Hay Road Landfill and disposed there. The Recology Hay Road Landfill currently operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week, and receives on average approximately 651 tons of MSW per day and 325 vehicles (including trucks) per day. These existing conditions constitute the baseline for environmental analysis in this document.

The City & County of San Francisco does not have authority to control land use or operations at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Solano County has land use permitting authority over the landfill, and has exercised that authority through issuance of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the landfill, which was last amended in October 2012.<sup>17</sup> The landfill also operates under a Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) issued jointly by Solano County and CalRecycle, Waste Discharge Requirements issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and permits issued by the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District. The landfill's permits allow acceptance of up to 2,400 tons of MSW per day and 620 vehicles per day. The amount of San Francisco MSW received, and the number of trucks arriving at the facility as a result of the proposed project, would both be within the limits set by the facility's existing permits.

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<sup>17</sup> Solano County Resource Management Department. Land Use Permit No. U-11-09.

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At least five CEQA documents have been completed for the Recology Hay Road facility.<sup>18</sup> Solano County was the lead agency for each of these documents. The documents<sup>19</sup> are:

- Final Environmental Impact Report, B&J Landfill Master Development Plan, April 1993 (SCH #92063112);
- B&J Drop Box Landfill U-91-28 Mitigated Negative Declaration, 1995 (SCH #1995093048);
- Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for B&J Drop Box Sanitary Landfill SWFP Revision. March 2001 (SCH #2001032035);
- Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report for the Norcal Waste Systems, Inc. Hay Road Landfill Project, March 2005 (SCH #2004032138).
- Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09, August, 2012 (SCH #2004032138)

Mitigation measures identified in these documents have been incorporated as conditions of the facility's permits by Solano County. All mitigation measures currently in effect at the landfill are listed in Appendix B.

The most recent document, the 2012 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (hereafter the "2012 IS/MND"), reviewed and incorporated the analysis and conclusions from the previous documents, and specifically examined the effects of increasing the amount of MSW disposed of in the landfill, from the then-permitted level of 1,200 tons per day average and 2,400 tons per day peak, to a simple limit of 2,400 tons per day, eliminating the 1,200 tons per day average. The 2012 IS/MND used the standard Solano County CEQA checklist to examine the full range of potential environmental impacts that Solano County determined were relevant to the proposal to increase the rate of waste acceptance. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that increasing the rate of waste acceptance to 2,400 tons per day could result in several significant environmental impacts, particularly with regard to aesthetics, air quality, and traffic, and included mitigation measures to reduce these impacts. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that with mitigation, increasing disposal to 2,400 tons per day would not result in a significant adverse environmental impact. As part of its approval process, Solano County incorporated these mitigation measures as conditions of approval in the amended CUP. The CUP and the 2012 IS/MND are available for review at the San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103, as well as the Solano County Resource Management Department.

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<sup>18</sup> As previously noted, names previously used for the facility include the B&J Drop Box Landfill and the B&J Landfill. In addition, Recology was formerly named Norcal Waste Systems.

<sup>19</sup> All of the documents listed are available for review at the Solano County Resource Management Department, and as part of Case File No. 2014.0653E at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.

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The information contained in the 2012 IS/MND is still current, applicable, and descriptive of disposal-related impacts from the proposed project. Solano County staff have concurred that there has been no substantial change in circumstances surrounding that project in the intervening two years, and no new information which would invalidate the analysis or conclusions from that 2012 MND.<sup>20</sup> In fact, the 2012 IS/MND examined a higher level of waste acceptance (2,400 tons per day) than would occur with the current project (the addition of about 1,200 tons per day of San Francisco's MSW to the current average of about 651 tons per day,<sup>21</sup> or a total of about 1,851 tons per day). Therefore, the 2012 IS/MND may be considered "conservative" (that is, it tends to overstate impacts) for the purpose of evaluating the disposal-related impacts of the proposal to dispose of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill.

There are no issues or circumstances raised by the proposal to dispose of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill that are inconsistent with or that invalidate the analysis and conclusions contained in the 2012 IS/MND. The proposed project would not require revisions to the landfill's permits, and would not require any change in operations that were not contemplated and analyzed in the 2012 IS/MND. Furthermore, where potentially significant impacts were identified in the 2012 IS/MND, mitigation measures were specified to avoid these impacts or to reduce them to less than significant, and these measures were incorporated as conditions in the landfill's permits. Therefore, the proposed project would not cause any new, greater or different significant impacts related to disposal of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill beyond the impacts that were analyzed and described in the 2012 IS/MND.

For informational purposes, this document sets forth the conclusions regarding disposal-related impacts contained in the 2012 IS/MND. These are presented within each environmental topic discussion, following discussion of the potential impacts of the transportation component of the project. The combined effects of disposal and transportation together are also discussed in each topical section. In most cases, impacts of transportation and disposal do not overlap or combine, as they are separated in time and space. In the few instances where they do have the potential to combine, such as air emissions and noise, the combined impact is examined and a conclusion reached regarding significance. The analysis of cumulative impacts then follows the discussion of transportation, disposal, and combined impacts.

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<sup>20</sup> Ferrario, Nedzlene (Solano County Planning Department), 2014. E-mail to Dan Sicular, ESA RE: Initial Study-- SF Waste to Recology Hay Road Landfill, December 17, 2014.

<sup>21</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2015.

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## *Cumulative Impacts*

Two approaches to a cumulative impact analysis are provided in CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(b)(1). The analysis can be based on (a) a list of past, present, and probable future projects producing related impacts that could combine with those of a proposed project, or (b) a summary of projections contained in a general plan or related planning document. The analysis in this Initial Study employs both list-based and projections approaches, depending on which approach best suits the individual environmental topic being analyzed. In particular, the projections approach is used in the traffic analysis, air quality analysis, and greenhouse gas analysis. For other topic areas, the list-based approach is used.

One project was identified for the list-based approach: the proposed development of an anaerobic digestion facility at the Recology Hay Road landfill.

### *Recology Hay Road Anaerobic Digestion Project*

The proposed Anaerobic Digestion (AD) project includes the construction and operation of an anaerobic digester at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The anaerobic digester would be used for processing organics-rich wastes and production of compressed natural gas (CNG). The digestion process breaks down organics-rich materials in an enclosed vessel, resulting in a high nutrient digestate, which can be composted or recirculated back into the digestion process. A byproduct of the digestion process is biogas, consisting mostly of methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O). Biogas would be captured and converted into a fuel source, specifically, the CH<sub>4</sub> would be concentrated and compressed to produce CNG. In sum, the AD project would divert organic material (organics) from landfill disposal, and use the material to produce fuel and soil amendments.

The proposed AD facility would be located within the western portion of the Recology Hay Road site, on approximately two and a half acres. The proposed AD project would include the following changes to the Recology Hay Road Landfill site:

- The AD facility is expected to receive and process up to 57,200 tons per year<sup>22</sup> of various types of organics-rich wastes, including but not limited to commercial and residential food wastes, green wastes, industry wastes and preprocessed municipal solid waste.
- The tonnage received at the AD facility would fall under the existing tonnage limit for the Jepson Prairie Organics composting facility, which is also located within the Recology Hay Road facility. The combined tonnage limit for the two facilities would be the same as the current limit for the composting facility, 600 tons per day (average over seven days) with a peak limit of 750 tons per day.

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<sup>22</sup> Based on 220 tons per day, 5 days per week (260 days per year).

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- The permitted 620 average vehicle trip limit, which currently applies to vehicles hauling waste for both the landfill and the composting operation, would not change; vehicles hauling waste destined for the AD facility would also be included in the 620 vehicle limit. About 25 vehicles per day would be expected to arrive at the AD facility, which includes approximately 15 transfer trucks with incoming organic feedstock, one to two CNG tube trucks, and up to seven to eight employee vehicles. The estimated 15 incoming feedstock trucks would not constitute new vehicles to the site, since these trucks would deliver material to the digester instead of delivering material to the compost facility on site. Since there would be no increase in organics tonnage to the site, the number of incoming and outgoing feedstock trucks would remain the same. The only new vehicles coming to the site would be the CNG tube trucks and employee vehicles, which would be a total of up to 10 new vehicles.
  - The proposal would include construction and operation of the AD facility, including facilities to upgrade and compress the biogas produced to produce CNG;
  - The proposal would involve construction and operation of a piping system to transport digestate to the existing composting facility for use as a compost feedstock. After the organics are “digested” and gas is extracted, the residual organic material, or “digestate”, remains. This digestate is nutrient rich and makes for a good compost feedstock. The facility would be designed to convey the digestate to the Jepson Prairie Organics composting operations, via a pipeline.
  - The proposal would include the construction of an underground piping system to transport CNG fuel from the AD facility to new CNG fueling stations. One fueling station would be located at the existing Recology Vacaville Solano maintenance shop, which is located within the landfill property, and the other would be located within the disposal area boundary of the landfill. Another piping system would also be constructed to carry landfill gas to the AD facility, also to be used to produce CNG.
  - The landfill would receive residuals from the AD facility that cannot be composted or recycled.

Environmental review for the proposed AD facility has not been completed. The lead agency for environmental review of the proposed AD facility is Solano County. In 2012, CalRecycle certified a Programmatic EIR (PEIR) examining the potential impacts of AD facilities co-located with solid waste disposal facilities.<sup>23</sup> The cumulative analysis presented in the current document draws on the conclusions of the PEIR regarding potential impacts and mitigation measures of the proposed Recology AD facility.

### *Other Pending Applications*

The proposed project would not result in any changes at the San Francisco transfer station; therefore the project could not contribute to cumulative impacts at this location. However, for informational purposes, this section describes two potential future projects at sites that would not be affected by the proposed project.

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<sup>23</sup> CalRecycle, 2011. Statewide Anaerobic Digester Facilities for the Treatment of Municipal Organic Solid Waste. Final Program Environmental Impact Report. SCH No. 2010042100 Prepared the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) by ESA, June 2011. Available online at: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/swfacilities/compostables/AnaerobicDig/PropFnlPEIR.pdf>



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**Transfer Station expansion.** Recology is seeking entitlements for an expansion to the existing transfer station building. The proposal involves the construction of a 40-foot-tall, two-story, approximately 14,000-sf addition to the existing 43-foot-tall, one-story, approximately 47,000-sf MSW transfer station. One new loading space would be added to the lower partial level of the addition at the southern edge of the transfer station site. The expansion of the transfer station would allow additional space to recover recyclables and organics materials that would otherwise be sent to a landfill. The City and County of San Francisco is the CEQA lead agency for this project, and is currently preparing an IS/MND (Case Number 2013.0850E). This project would not result in an increase in MSW transported to the Hay Road Landfill.

**Recology San Francisco Modernization and Expansion.** Recology is planning a comprehensive redevelopment of its Tunnel and Beatty site. The proposal involves replacement of most of the buildings currently on-site with new recycling and resource recovery facilities, maintenance facilities, administrative offices, and supporting operations buildings. The proposal would focus on resource recovery rather than transfer and disposal, and would serve as a model of sustainable infrastructure. The City of Brisbane is the CEQA lead agency for this project. No environmental documents have yet been issued for this project. This project would not increase, and could reduce the quantity of MSW transported to the Hay Road Landfill.

### *Issues Raised In Response to Notification of Project Receiving Environmental Review*

In June 2014, a Notification of Project Receiving Environmental Review for the proposed project was distributed by the Planning Department. The Notification was mailed to numerous residents of San Francisco and Solano counties who had previously expressed interest in Recology's operations. Comments were received from several individuals and agencies. These comments raised concerns regarding the potential for the proposed project to increase the intensity of landfill operations and possibly cause environmental impacts. In particular, concerns were raised about the possibility of increased odor, increased noise, increased bird nuisance, adverse effects on water quality, and increased litter. Issues raised by the public are described in more detail in Section G of this Initial Study, and potential impacts associated with these issues are discussed below as Disposal Site impacts.

### *Checklist: Responses to Multiple Questions*

In the following sections, a single impact statement is sometimes used to address two or more checklist questions. Where this occurs, the impact statement is followed by a note stating which questions are being addressed. Where an impact statement addresses only one question, there is no note, but the impact statement itself closely follows the wording of the question.

## E.1 Land Use and Land Use Planning

Topics:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Not Applicable
<b>1. LAND USE AND LAND USE PLANNING— Would the project:</b>					
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial impact upon the existing character of the vicinity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

#### **Impact LU-1: The proposed project would not physically divide an established community. (No Impact)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would take place on existing roadways, between existing facilities. The freeway and road segments between the eastern end of the Bay Bridge and the Recology Hay Road Landfill, which would experience new truck trips as a result of the proposed project, presently carry vehicles and trucks. Potential traffic impacts associated with that increase in vehicle and truck activity are discussed below under Transportation Impacts. However, with respect to land use, there would be no fundamental change in the types of trips or use of those roads as a result of the project. The proposed project would not change the existing roadway configurations or the types of vehicles that use those roads. Therefore, the proposed project does not have the potential to physically divide an established community, and would have *no impact* with regard to this issue.

#### **Impact LU-2: The proposed project is consistent with applicable land use plans, policies, and regulations of an agency with jurisdiction over the project adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not alter existing programs aimed at diverting San Francisco's waste from landfills and would not inhibit the City's efforts to achieve zero waste. The proposed project would not interfere with or inhibit the ability to achieve other City plans, policies, and regulations. Therefore, the project would have *no impact* with regard to this issue.

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**Impact LU-3: The proposed project would not have a substantial impact upon the existing character of the vicinity. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would involve no physical alteration of buildings, landscaping, natural features, or infrastructure in San Francisco or Solano County. Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in an increase of large trucks on I-80 between the I-80/I-880/I-580 interchange and the Midway Road exit, and on Midway Road, State Route 113, and Hay Road. These are, however, existing truck routes and the addition of approximately 100 truck trips per day, spread out over the course of the day and the night, would not result in a change to the functional or visual character of these roads or the areas in proximity to them. Therefore, the project would have *no impact* with regard to this issue.

**Impact LU-4: The project would not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan, as all transportation would be on existing roadways which are not included in any habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. Therefore, there would be *no impact* of this kind.

***Disposal Component of the Project***

With respect to the potential for the proposed project to cause Land Use and Planning impacts related to disposal of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the 2012 IS/MND examined potential Land Use and Planning impacts associated with increasing disposal of MSW from 1,200 tons per day average and 2,400 tons per day maximum, to a simple limit of 2,400 tons per day. The 2012 IS/MND therefore addressed environmental issues raised by the acceptance of MSW at a rate greater than would occur under the currently proposed project. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that increasing disposal would not physically divide an established community, and would not conflict with the land use or zoning designations for the site or otherwise conflict with a policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

The 2012 IS/MND also concluded that the proposed increase in waste acceptance could not conflict with any habitat conservation plan, as it would have no effect on sensitive species or their habitat.

The 2012 IS/MND examined whether increasing the rate of waste acceptance would affect the character of the surrounding area, through its examination of aesthetic, traffic, noise, and other impacts. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that, with mitigation, all impacts would be less than significant. The 2012 IS/MND's

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conclusions about these impacts and the required mitigation measures are set forth below as part of the individual topic's discussion.

Therefore, as concluded in the 2012 IS/MND, disposing of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not have a substantial adverse effect on Land Use and Planning.

### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

As discussed above, neither transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, nor its disposal there would result in a substantial adverse impact on Land Use and Planning. The transportation component of the project was determined to have no land use impacts, and the disposal component was found to have less than significant impacts. Taken together, transportation and disposal would not divide an established community, would not conflict with an applicable land use plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of environmental protection, would not conflict with any habitat conservation plan, and would not have an adverse impact on the character of the vicinity. Therefore, transportation and disposal, taken together, would not have a significant impact on Land Use and Planning.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-LU-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the site vicinity, would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant land use impact. (No Impact)**

As discussed above, the proposed project does not have the potential for a substantial adverse effect on Land Use and Planning. As discussed above under Approach to the Analysis, the only relevant cumulative project is the Recology Hay Road AD project. The AD project would take place completely within the existing landfill property and would not substantially alter land use or affect surrounding land uses. Therefore, the AD project would not be expected to divide an established community, would not conflict with an applicable land use plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of environmental protection, would not conflict with any habitat conservation plan, and would not have an adverse impact on the character of the vicinity. Therefore, neither the proposed project nor the proposed AD project would contribute to a cumulative impact on Land Use and Planning, and the cumulative impact of the two projects is less than significant.

## E.2 Aesthetics

Topics:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Not Applicable
<b>2. AESTHETICS – Would the project:</b>					
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and other features of the built or natural environment which contribute to a scenic public setting?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area or which would substantially impact other people or properties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

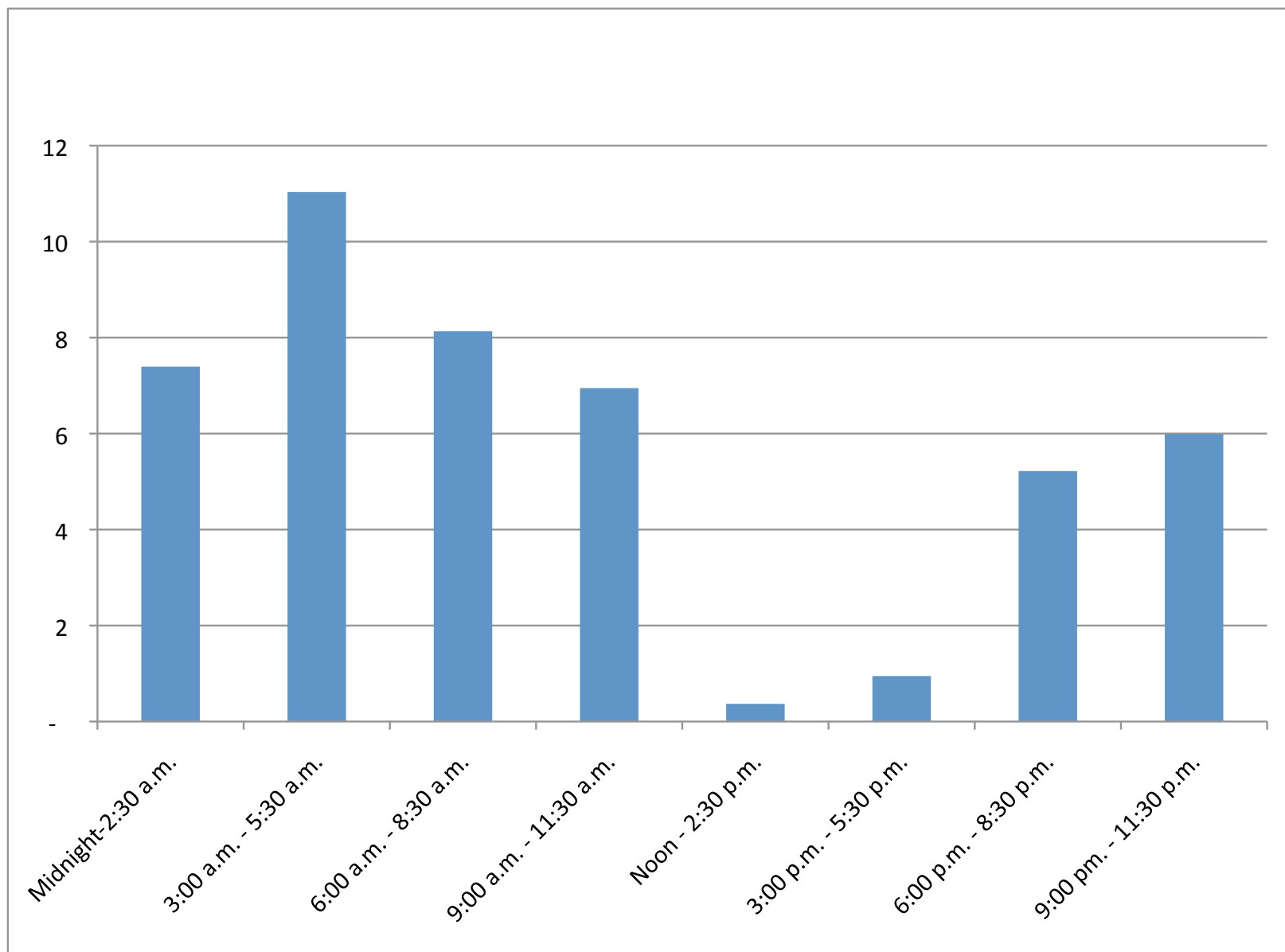
#### **Impact AE-1: The proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve development of any new structures or facilities that could obstruct a scenic vista. Project-related transportation of MSW would occur only on existing roadways, and no changes to roadway configurations are proposed. The project would result in an increase of about 50 trucks per day in each direction on these roads, or an average of about two per hour in each direction. As shown on **Figure 4**, page 28, a slightly higher portion of the daily trips occurs between 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., when scenic vistas tend to be less visible due to the lack of natural daylight. However, conservatively assuming an average of two truck trips per hour in each direction during daylight hours, this would not block, alter, or restrict access to any scenic vista. Therefore, the project does not have the potential to adversely affect a scenic vista, and would result in *no impact* of this kind.

#### **Impact AE-2: The proposed project would not substantially damage any scenic resource. (No Impact)**

Scenic resources are visible physical features of a landscape (i.e., land, water, vegetation, animals, structures, or other features).

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve development of any new structures or facilities that could damage a scenic resource. The proposed project involves the transport of waste within enclosed large trucks on existing roadways. East of the Bay Bridge, the proposed



SOURCE: Recology

San Francisco Waste Transport for Disposal at Recology Hay Road Landfill . 210655

**Figure 4**  
Average Daily Departures of Municipal Solid Waste Loads  
from San Francisco Transfer Station and Recycle Central,  
December 2012--September 2013

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project would result in approximately fifty trucks spread out over 24 hours traveling between the Bay Bridge and the Recology Hay Road Landfill site along the route shown in Figure 1 on page 2, and the same number of trucks travelling back along the same route. A substantial portion of this route is along Highway I-80 which currently carries large numbers of vehicles and trucks.

Regarding the portions of the truck route in Solano County between Highway I-80 and the landfill site, State Route 113 is not a State-designated Scenic Highway. However, the Scenic Roadways Element of the Solano County General Plan identifies State Route 113 from the Interstate 80 interchange in Dixon to its intersection with State Route 12 as a County scenic roadway. Automobiles and trucks currently travel on this roadway. Transportation of San Francisco's MSW along this route with a daily average of approximately two trucks per hour in each direction would not cause any alteration or damage to scenic elements in the landscape, including vegetation, geologic features, water features, animals, structures, and landforms. Therefore, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW would not have the potential to damage any scenic resource, and there would be *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact AE-3: The proposed project would not result in a change to the existing character of the project site, and would not degrade the visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve development of any new structures or facilities that could result in a change to any site's visual quality. Increased truck traffic along the haul route, including State Route 113, would not substantially alter the character of this road, as it is already a truck route, and the addition of several trucks each hour would not affect the visual character or quality of the area surrounding the highway, nor would the increase in traffic volume be readily apparent to nearby observers.

The trucks that would be used by Recology to transport San Francisco MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill are enclosed by tarps and flaps over the top of the truck. Furthermore, the Recology Hay Road Landfill is required, as a condition of its CUP, to maintain a litter abatement program around the facility and along roadways leading to it. Therefore, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW would not result in a substantial increase in the amount of waste that becomes litter along local roadways and nearby properties. The transportation of San Francisco's MSW would therefore have *no impact* with regard to degradation of the visual character and quality of the site and its surroundings. For more on this issue, please see the discussion of the disposal component of the project, below.

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**Impact AE-4: The proposed project could create a new source of light and glare that could adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area or substantially impact other people or properties. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in an increase in the number of trucks traveling on I-80 between the I-80/I-880/I-580 interchange and the Midway Road exit, and on Midway Road, State Route 113, and Hay Road during the night compared to current conditions, and so would result in additional vehicle lights along these roadways. These are, however, existing truck routes that are utilized by trucks 24 hours per day. I-80 has an average daily traffic volume of about 115,000 vehicles near the Midway Road interchange. The average daily traffic volume on State Route 113 in the project area is about 3,550 vehicles.<sup>24</sup> As shown in Figure 4 on page 28, up to about 29 truck MSW loads per day depart the SF Transfer Station and Recycle Central facilities between 6:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., with the greatest number departing between midnight and 5:30 a.m. On average, there are about 2.5 trucks per hour departing the San Francisco facilities during this time period. Assuming the same number of trucks would return from the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the project would result in approximately 5 additional trucks per hour during nighttime hours, or one about every 12 minutes. This would not be expected to result in a noticeable increase in the light and glare caused by vehicle lights from nighttime traffic on these roads. Because of the relatively small number of additional trucks trips, and the fact that they would occur infrequently through the night, the increase in nighttime light caused by the project would not be considered substantial, and this impact would be *less than significant*.

***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND concluded that the proposal to increase waste acceptance to 2,400 tons per day at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have no impact on scenic vistas or scenic resources, and would have no impact resulting from new sources of nighttime light or glare. The 2012 IS/MND identified a potentially significant impact on the visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings, from an increased potential for litter associated with increased waste acceptance. The 2012 IS/MND identified the following mitigation measure, and found that it would be sufficient to reduce this impact to less than significant:

**Mitigation Measure 1 (Aesthetics)**

The facility operator shall implement the following litter control mitigation measures following implementation of the proposed project:

- Portable litter control fences shall be installed directly downwind of the working face during site operations.

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<sup>24</sup> Caltrans, 2013.



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- Additional litter collection crews shall be deployed following high wind events to remove litter from the parcels adjacent to the landfill. The facility operator shall work to establish site access agreements with the adjacent property owners prior to project implementation.
  - In the event that waste generated from City of Fairfield is received at RHR, the facility operator shall check for and pick up litter, on a weekly basis, or more frequently if needed, on the following roads: Vanden Road from Peabody Road to Canon Road, Canon Road from Vanden Road to North Gate Road, North Gate Road from Canon Road to McCrory Road, McCrory Road from North Gate Road to Meridian Road, Meridian Road from McCrory Road to Hay Road, Hay Road from Meridian Road to Lewis Road and Midway Road from Interstate 80 to State Route 113.
  - The facility operator shall negotiate an agreement with Solano County regarding reimbursement for the cost of removing trash and materials dumped along the above mentioned County roads, should County employees be required to assist in the removal of trash associated with the expanded use of the landfill.

Condition 34 of the landfill's amended CUP incorporates this Mitigation Measure.

### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

The 2012 IS/MND fully considered the potential aesthetic effects of increased waste acceptance at and proximate to the Recology Hay Road Landfill site, where any aesthetic impacts would be focused, and concluded that, with mitigation, all impacts would be less than significant. The analysis in the current document concludes that transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in no aesthetic impact with respect to scenic vistas, scenic resources or visual character. Hence there could be no combined impact with respect to those issues. Regarding glare, both this Initial Study and the 2012 IS/MND concluded that the project would have less than significant impacts. Those less than significant impacts would occur in different locations which would not combine. Hence, the combination of transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill and disposal of that waste therein therefore does not pose the potential for a substantial adverse aesthetic impact.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-AE-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the site vicinity, would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant aesthetics impact. (Less than Significant)**

As discussed above, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have no impact on scenic resources or scenic vistas. Therefore, transportation of San Francisco's MSW could not contribute to a cumulative impact of this kind.

Impact AE-4, above concluded that the project would result in a less-than-significant increase in nighttime lighting from increased truck traffic. The only relevant cumulative project, the proposed AD Project at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, would result in approximately 10 additional vehicles per day entering and leaving the Recology Hay Road facility. As discussed under impact AE-4, the proposed project is expected to result in approximately five new truck trips per hour during nighttime hours. The AD Project is expected to result in only one to two new truck trips, and seven to eight employee trips to and from the AD Project site per day. These new truck trips would primarily be during the day. Even if half of these trips were at night, the combination of only a few new vehicle trips associated with the AD Project, in combination with the approximately five trips per hour associated with the proposed project, would not be expected to result in a noticeable increase in the light and glare caused by vehicle lights from nighttime traffic on I-80, Midway Road, or State Route 113, and the cumulative impact of additional traffic-related nighttime lighting is therefore less than significant. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that increasing the rate of disposal at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not result in an increase in nighttime lighting. Although final design details of the AD Project are not complete, the AD Project would likely have an industrial appearance and would be located within an existing landfill facility, which is also industrial in character and appearance. Therefore, when taken together, transportation, disposal, and the AD project would not combine in a cumulative manner to cause a significant aesthetic impact.

### E.3 Population and Housing

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>3. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:</b>					
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing units or create demand for additional housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### *Transportation Component of the Project*

In general, a project would be considered to have a significant impact on population and housing if it were to result in a substantial population increase, or if it were to displace a substantial number of people or existing housing units. This could occur if the project were to add a substantial number of housing

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units, or if the project were to attract a substantial number of employees who would have to be housed in the area. An increase of approximately nine to ten full time equivalent drivers would be needed to haul San Francisco MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill due to the longer trip length compared to hauling waste to the Altamont Landfill. This number of jobs can be accommodated by the local workforce and would not result in a substantial population increase. The project would not add any new housing units and the project does not include development of new structures or facilities that would displace any existing housing units.

A project could also have a significant impact if it were to extend roads or other infrastructure into new areas, thus enabling additional growth in the future. The project would not extend roads or other infrastructure, and so would have no impact of this kind.

**Impact PH-1: The proposed project would not induce substantial population growth, either directly or indirectly. (No Impact)**

As explained above, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not create new housing or substantial new employment. Therefore, the project would not directly or indirectly induce population growth, and would have *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact PH-2: The proposed project would not displace any existing housing units or create a demand for additional housing that would necessitate the construction of replacement housing. (No Impact)**

As explained above, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not displace existing housing. As the project would not induce population growth, it would not create demand for additional housing. Consequently, the project would result in *no impact* related to displacement of housing or demand for additional housing.

**Impact PH-3: The proposed project would not displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. (No Impact)**

As explained above, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not displace any people from their residences. Consequently, the project would result in *no impact* related to displacement of people.

***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND concluded that the proposal to increase waste acceptance to 2,400 tons per day at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve the construction of any components (such as roads, or residential homes) that would induce population growth, would not displace any existing housing, and

would not displace substantial numbers of people, and that therefore the increase in waste acceptance would have no impact on population and housing.

### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

As discussed above, neither transport nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would result in any adverse impact on population and housing. Similarly, taken together, transport and disposal would not require new housing, displace existing housing, or displace people. Therefore, considered together, transport and disposal would not result in a significant impact on population and housing.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-PH-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the site vicinity, would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant population or housing impact. (No Impact)**

Because neither transportation nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would have an impact on population or housing, the project does not have the potential to contribute to a cumulative impact on population or housing.

## E.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>4. CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES—Would the project:</b>					
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5, including those resources listed in Article 10 or Article 11 of the San Francisco Planning Code?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

This section examines the potential for the proposed project to have an adverse effect on cultural and paleontological resources.

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Cultural resources include historical resources and archeological resources. Historical resources are those that meet the terms of the definitions in Section 21084.1 of the CEQA Statute and Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines. Historical resources are defined as properties or districts listed in, or formally determined eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources, or listed in an adopted local historic register. The term “local historic register” (or “local register of historical resources”) refers to a list of resources that are officially designated or recognized as historically significant by a local government pursuant to resolution or ordinance. Historical resources also include resources identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting certain criteria. Additionally, properties not listed but otherwise determined to be historically significant, based on substantial evidence, would also be considered historical resources.

Archeological resources include material remains of past human life or activities which are of archeological interest, including buried remains of Native American settlements and artifacts, early historical period artifacts (such as buried or sunken ships) and human remains.

Paleontological resources include fossilized remains or traces of animals, plants and invertebrates, including their imprints, from a previous geological period. Localities where fossils are collected, and the geologic formations containing fossils, are also considered paleontological resources as they represent a limited, nonrenewable resource and once destroyed, cannot be replaced.

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

#### **Impact CP-1: The proposed project would not result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of historic architectural resources. (No Impact)**

Transportation of San Francisco’s MSW on existing roadways would not alter, demolish, or otherwise affect any structure, or disturb any land, or otherwise cause changes that could affect an historic architectural resource. Therefore, the transportation of San Francisco’s MSW does not have the potential to cause an adverse change in the significance of historical architectural resources, and there would be *no impact* of this kind.

#### **Impact CP-2: The proposed project would not result in damage to, or destruction of, unique geological features or as-yet unknown archeological or paleontological resources, or human remains. (No Impact)**

This impact addresses questions 4.b, 4.c, and 4.d from the checklist at the beginning of this section.

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Because transportation of San Francisco's MSW on existing roadways would not involve any land disturbance, it would not have the potential to damage or destroy any unique geological features or any as-yet undiscovered archeological or paleontological resources or human remains. Therefore, the project would have *no impact* of this kind.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for increasing the rate of waste acceptance to result in a substantial adverse impact on cultural resources. The 2012 IS/MND stated that because the project being examined at that time would not alter the configuration of the landfill, there would be no change in site grading or excavation activities. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that the project would not have the potential to expose, damage, or destroy significant cultural resources, and therefore there would be no impact to historical, archeological, or paleontological resources or human remains.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, neither transportation nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would result in any adverse impact on cultural resources. Similarly, taken together, transport and disposal would not have the potential to expose, disturb, or destroy historical, archeological, or paleontological resources or human remains. Therefore, considered together, transport and disposal would not result in a significant impact on population and housing.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

**Impact C-CP-1: The proposed project in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the vicinity, would not result in cumulative impacts to cultural resources. (No Impact)**

No historic, archeological, or paleontological resources or human remains would be affected by the transportation or disposal of San Francisco's MSW. Therefore, the project does not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact on cultural resources.

## E.5 Transportation and Circulation

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>5. TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION – Would the project:</b>					
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels, obstructions to flight, or a change in location, that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

The transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill does not include any activities that would adversely affect air traffic patterns. Therefore, question 5.c from the above checklist does not apply to this aspect of the project.

The existing road network for trips to and from Recology Hay Road Landfill is described above on pages 11-13. As previously stated in the project description, transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would cause no changes in existing truck or vehicular activity between the Recology San Francisco Transfer Station and the east end of the Bay Bridge. The project would generate new truck trips between the east end of the Bay Bridge and the Recology Hay Road Landfill site in Solano County.

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The analysis of potential project impacts, presented below, focuses on the effects on I-80 from the east end of the Bay Bridge to the interchange at Midway Road, as well as the following local area intersections (all unsignalized), which are located on the travel route that project-generated trucks would use from I-80 to the Recology Hay Road facility:

1. I-80 Westbound Ramps at O'Day Road
2. Midway Road at O'Day Road
3. Midway Road at I-80 Eastbound Ramps
4. Midway Road at Porter Road
5. Midway Road at State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road)
6. State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road) at Hay Road
7. Hay Road at Recology Hay Road Landfill Access

Each of the seven study intersections currently operate with very good to excellent level of service (LOS), i.e., LOS B or better, during the a.m. and p.m. peak traffic hours (see **Table TR-1** on page 41); drivers experience minimal delays traveling through the intersections.<sup>25</sup> See Appendix A, Traffic Technical Appendix, for the LOS calculation sheets and a map showing the location of study intersections.

**Impact TR-1: The proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation, nor would the project conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures. (Less than Significant)**

To determine whether transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would conflict with a transportation- or circulation-related plan, ordinance or policy (e.g., the Solano County General Plan and the Solano Congestion Management Program), this section analyzes the proposed project's effects on intersection operations, transit demand, impacts on pedestrian and bicycle circulation, and freight loading.<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Level of service (LOS) is a qualitative description of the performance of an intersection based on the average delay per vehicle, ranging from LOS A, which indicates excellent conditions with short delays, to LOS F, which indicates congested conditions with extremely long delays. For unsignalized intersections, the average delay and LOS are calculated by approach (e.g., northbound) and movement (e.g., northbound left turn) for those movements that are subject to delay, with the approach having the highest delay determining the reported LOS. The a.m. and p.m. peak (commute) hours are the highest 60-minute periods within the 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. periods, respectively.

<sup>26</sup> As explained below, the effect of project traffic on the I-80 freeway between the east end of the Bay Bridge and the point at which project trucks would exit the freeway (or enter the freeway when returning) would be so small as to be less than significant. Accordingly, the project would not conflict with any transportation- or circulation-related plan, ordinance, or policy applicable to areas beyond the Hay Road Landfill vicinity, and thus Solano County plans and policies are the only such documents applicable here.



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## Trip Generation

The transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in San Francisco's MSW no longer being trucked to Altamont Landfill in Alameda County; instead, MSW would be transported by long-haul trucks owned and operated by Recology, with a maximum of 24.5 tons of waste per load.

## Existing Conditions

The Recology Hay Road facility, including both the landfill and the composting facility, currently receives on average approximately 325 trucks per day, seven days per week. The landfill is permitted by Solano County and CalRecycle to receive up to 620 vehicles per day (averaged over a seven-day period), and to operate up to 24 hours per day, seven days per week. As stated in the project description, the landfill currently operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 361 days per year. Located within the footprint of the landfill is the Jepson Prairie Organics composting facility, which accepts organic materials for composting (a portion of which currently comes from San Francisco). The vehicle limit noted above, 620 vehicles per day, is shared by the landfill and the composting facility.

Based on a 6-day week (Recology typically hauls MSW loads from Sunday evening through Friday), there are approximately 44 trucks (or round trips) per day hauling MSW for disposal from the Recology San Francisco transfer station to the Altamont Landfill. In addition to MSW from the Recology San Francisco transfer station, approximately six trucks per day haul residual wastes from Recology's Recycle Central facility to the Altamont Landfill.

## Proposed Project Conditions

The volume of MSW being hauled from San Francisco would be the same with or without the proposed project. Instead of going to the Altamont Landfill, the existing 50 trucks per day, or 100 daily one-way trips, would transport MSW from the Recology San Francisco facilities to the Recology Hay Road Landfill.<sup>27</sup> The net new trip generation figures presented in this section of the Initial Study represent the traffic that would be added to the existing traffic stream of the local area roadways that would be used by project-generated trucks. It is estimated that the proposed project would generate a total of about 12 new one-way trips on I-80 east of the eastern end of the Bay Bridge and on roads between I-80 and the landfill during the a.m. peak hour (about 11-12% of Recology's daily trips), and the project would generate no new one-way trips on these roads during the p.m. peak hour. The peak-hour project trips were derived

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<sup>27</sup> Round trips consist of two one-way trips (in this case, one inbound loaded truck trip and one outbound empty truck trip).

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on the basis of the existing hourly distribution of Recology transfer trucks departing their San Francisco facilities bound for the Altamont Landfill (see Figure 4 on page 28), and an estimated travel time of 90 minutes to 2 hours from the Points of Origin to the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The project would result in no change in traffic on San Francisco city streets, on U.S. 101 in San Francisco, or on I-80 over the Bay Bridge.

Because the transfer truck fleet is owned, controlled and dispatched by Recology, Recology has considerable flexibility in its shipping schedule, and as such, makes efforts to minimize the number of trucks on the road during peak traffic times. The majority of trips occur in the early morning hours prior to a.m. peak traffic period (7:00 – 9:00 a.m.), mid-morning following the a.m. peak traffic period, and in the evenings following the p.m. peak traffic period (4:00 – 6:00 p.m.; see Figure 4 on page 28). Under the project, Recology would continue its existing practice of managing departures to avoid heavy traffic periods, and in particular to avoid the Fairfield-Vacaville section of I-80 during the morning commute period, in accordance with the requirements set forth in Recology Hay Road Landfill's Conditional Use Permit from Solano County. However, this analysis conservatively assumes that Recology would make no adjustment to the existing departure times of transfer trucks to account for the travel time from San Francisco to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, ensuring that potential project impacts are not underestimated.

Project-generated trucks would travel the same route as Recology's organic materials transfer trucks do at present: Midway Road exit from I-80, east on Midway Road to State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road), then south to Hay Road (see Figure 2 on page 3). Empty transfer trucks would return to San Francisco via these same roads (in reverse order).

#### Project Impacts

**Freeway Impacts.** As stated in the Setting, I-80 has an average daily traffic volume of about 115,000 vehicles near the Midway Road interchange. The project-generated 100 new daily one-way trips would not represent a substantial increase in daily traffic volume (less than 0.1%). This level of additional freeway traffic due to the project would be well within the daily fluctuation in existing freeway traffic volumes and as such would not constitute a noticeable increase in freeway traffic. Therefore, traffic flow conditions on I-80 would not be adversely affected. The project would add approximately 12 new peak-hour trips, which would have a less-than-significant impact on peak-hour traffic congestion on I-80.

**Intersection Impacts.** As shown in **Table TR-1**, below, the estimated peak-hour vehicle trips would result in minor changes to the average delay per vehicle under existing plus project conditions; all study intersections in the project vicinity would continue to operate at excellent to very good levels of service.

As such, the proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system (e.g., the Solano County General Plan and the Solano Congestion Management Program), nor would the project conflict with level of service standards and travel demand measures (e.g., the goal of Solano County is to maintain a LOS C on all roads and intersections), and the proposed project's impact would be *less than significant*.

**TABLE TR-1  
LEVELS OF SERVICE (LOS) AND AVERAGE VEHICLE DELAY (SECONDS PER VEHICLE)  
EXISTING VS. EXISTING PLUS PROJECT CONDITIONS**

Study Intersection ( <i>all unsignalized</i> )	Existing				Existing Plus Project			
	AM Peak Hour		PM Peak Hour		AM Peak Hour		PM Peak Hour	
	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS
1. I-80 Westbound Ramps at O'Day Rd.	8.9	A	8.9	A	8.9	A	8.9	A
2. Midway Road at O'Day Road	9.1	A	9.1	A	9.1	A	9.1	A
3. Midway Rd. at I-80 Eastbound Ramps	10.0	A	9.5	A	10.0	A	9.5	A
4. Midway Road at Porter Road	10.0	A	10.1	B	10.0	A	10.1	B
5. Midway Rd. at State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Rd.)	10.9	B	13.4	B	11.0	B	13.4	B
6. State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road) at Hay Road	10.2	B	10.2	B	10.5	B	10.2	B
7. Hay Road at Recology Hay Road Landfill Access	9.1	A	9.1	A	9.1	A	9.1	A

SOURCE: ESA, 2014 (Appendix A)

**Impact TR-2: The proposed project would not substantially increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not alter the design of any roadways. In addition, the project-generated trips would be made by the type of vehicles (trucks) that currently travel on I-80 and on the existing roadways used to haul waste to the Recology Hay Road Landfill (i.e., the project would not introduce vehicles that are incompatible with existing traffic in the area). Lastly, the facility operator would be required by existing permit conditions<sup>28</sup> for the Recology Hay Road Landfill to continue to compensate Solano County annually to pay for pavement repairs necessitated by transfer trucks and trucks used for hauling soil operated by Recology or its contractors over area roadways. For these reasons, the proposed project would not substantially increase traffic hazards, and the impact would be *less than significant*.

<sup>28</sup> Solano County Conditional Use Permit Conditions 14(f) and 31(d).

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**Impact TR-3: The proposed project would not result in inadequate emergency access. (Less than Significant)**

The surrounding road network serving the project site accommodates the movements of emergency vehicles that travel to and through the area. As indicated above, project traffic would have minimal effect on conditions on I-80, and all relevant intersections on Solano County roadways would continue to operate at excellent or very good levels of service. Hence, emergency access would remain unchanged from existing conditions. Therefore, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have a *less-than-significant* impact on emergency vehicle access to the project site or any surrounding sites.

**Impact TR-4: The proposed project would not conflict with any adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill does not include elements that would conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., the Solano Comprehensive Transportation Plan, Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan, and Solano Countywide Pedestrian Plan). In addition, the additional trips on Solano County local roadways associated with the project would have little impact on existing excellent or very good levels of service. For these reasons, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have a *less-than-significant* impact on these programs.

***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for traffic impacts associated with increasing the rate of waste acceptance, focusing, as the analysis above does, on the impact of increased waste-hauling vehicles on freeways and local roadways. The 2012 IS/MND assumed that up to an additional 434 daily vehicle trips could occur (over four times the 100 daily project-generated vehicle trips examined in this document), but determined that this would have a less-than-significant impact on traffic operations at the same intersections analyzed for the proposed project (under existing plus project, and cumulative plus project, conditions).

***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As discussed above, transport of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not result in a substantial adverse impact on traffic. The few additional trips from increased disposal (from increased number of employees and increased equipment and supply deliveries), added to the 100 additional truck trips per day associated with transport of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, would not cause a significant traffic impact. The 2012 IS/MND examined the impacts associated with 434

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additional daily vehicle trips, and found that traffic impacts would be less than significant. Therefore, considered together, transport and disposal would not result in a significant traffic impact.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

#### **Impact C-TR-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects would not result in a substantial contribution to cumulative transportation impacts. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed project would have a duration of up to 15 years. As such, project-generated traffic may no longer exist at the time of traditional cumulative (“horizon year”) conditions (e.g., 2035 or later). Regardless of the project’s limited lifespan, it also is noted that, as described under Impact TR-1, the project would generate about 100 one-way trips per day, with about 12 trips during the a.m. peak hour, and no new trips during the p.m. peak hour.

The proposed AD facility would generate up to 25 round-trip (or 50 one-way) vehicle trips per day (by up to 8 employees, 15 delivery trucks, and up to 2 CNG tube trucks), of which only 10 would be new round trips to the site.

The combined number of vehicle trips from the proposed project, combined with operation of the proposed AD facility and other operations at the Recology Hay Road Landfill and Jepson Prairie Organics cannot exceed the 620 average vehicle trip limit that Solano County has imposed as a condition of its permit for the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Accordingly, the combined number of vehicle trips traveling to and from the landfill would not result in vehicle trip generation in excess of the number of trips that were analyzed in the 2012 IS/MND.

The 2012 IS/MND concluded that full operation of the Recology Hay Road Landfill (including up to 620 average vehicle trips per day) would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative traffic impact through the year 2030 (i.e., the build-out year as defined in the Solano County and City of Dixon General Plans, analyzed in the 2012 IS/MND, and the approximate end date of the proposed project assumed for this Initial Study). The proposed new truck trips evaluated in this Initial Study would represent only a portion of the maximum 620 daily vehicle trips at the landfill evaluated in the 2012 IS/MND. One intersection in the vicinity of the Recology Hay Road Landfill was identified in the 2012 IS/MND as experiencing a potentially significant level of congestion under cumulative traffic conditions in the year 2030 (the intersection of Midway and State Route 113). However, the 2012 IS/MND found that the significant cumulative impact would occur only in the p.m. peak hour, and that the combined traffic from the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to this potential impact.

Given the conclusions of the 2012 IS/MND, together with the analysis in this Initial Study that shows the proposed project is expected to generate only 12 a.m. peak hour trips, and no p.m. peak hour trips, it is concluded that the project would not make a considerable contribution to traffic volumes and intersection performance under cumulative conditions. As a result, the project would be considered to have a *less-than-significant* cumulative impact on area intersections and the surrounding transportation network.

## E.6 Noise

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>6. NOISE—Would the project:</b>					
a) Result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, in an area within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project located in the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Be substantially affected by existing noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

**Impact NO-1: The proposed project would not result in exposure to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, and would not result in a substantial permanent or temporary increase in ambient noise levels, groundborne vibration, or groundborne noise in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project. Nor would the project expose persons residing or working in the project area to excessive levels of aviation noise. (Less than Significant)**

This impact addresses questions 6.a through 6.g from the above list.

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The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in a slight increase in traffic noise and groundborne vibration along the haul route along I-80 between the I-80/I-880/I-580 interchange and the Midway Road exit, and on Midway Road, State Route 113, and Hay Road. However, these are established truck routes, and the addition of approximately 100 truck trips per day would constitute a proportionally small increment of traffic along these routes, which would not substantially increase existing traffic noise or vibration, or substantially increase exposure to noise for people in the vicinity. Therefore, the proposed project would have a *less-than-significant* impact with regard to generation of noise, groundborne noise, and groundborne vibration, and also a *less-than-significant* impact with regard to exposure of people to increased noise levels.

### *Disposal Component of the Project*

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for increasing the rate of waste acceptance to result in a substantial adverse noise impact, focusing both on the potential for increased traffic noise and on increased noise from more intensive landfill operations. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that there would not be a substantial increase in noise levels from increased traffic or from increased disposal operations. The 2012 IS/MND noted that the nearest residence to the Recology Hay Road facility is located more than one mile from the landfill operations area and noise generated from the site is substantially attenuated by this separation.

### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

As discussed above, neither transport nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would result in a substantial adverse noise impact. Because of the distance of the landfill from sensitive receptors, increased operational noise would not combine with increased traffic noise to cause a significant increase in ambient noise levels at the location of sensitive receptors. Therefore, considered together, the transportation and disposal components of the proposed project would not result in a significant noise impact.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-NO-1: The proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulatively significant noise impacts. (Less than Significant)**

A 2011 Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) examining AD facilities located at landfills and other solid waste facilities<sup>29</sup> found that both construction and operation of AD facilities could cause

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<sup>29</sup> CalRecycle, 2011.

significant noise impacts. Noise from construction may include heavy equipment and other machinery operation, construction noise, and construction traffic-related noise. Operations of AD facilities that generate noise may include receiving of materials, preprocessing including sorting and grinding, vehicle circulation, and the operation of mechanical equipment such as stationary pumps, motors, compressors, fans, and generators. Operation of pipelines for conveyance of gas produced would not result in any discernible noise. Some equipment, such as electrical generators, may operate 24-hours a day, creating operational noise during nighttime hours. The PEIR concluded that AD facilities located within 2,000 feet of a sensitive receptor could cause a significant increase in ambient noise levels.

The proposed AD facility would be located within the landfill property, and, like landfill operations that generate noise, would be located over one mile away from the nearest sensitive receptor. At this distance, the slight increase in noise from increased disposal operations, combined with noise levels from the AD facility and the slight increase in noise from increased truck traffic, would not combine to cause a significant increase in ambient noise levels for nearby sensitive receptors, as the distance to the nearest receptors would be more than twice the 2,000 foot threshold described in the PEIR. The proposed project, including permitted disposal and combined with the AD project, would therefore have a *less-than-significant* cumulative noise impact.

## E.7 Air Quality

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>7. AIR QUALITY—Would the project:</b>					
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal, state, or regional ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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## *Introduction*

Under the proposed project, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would occur both in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB) and in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin (SVAB).

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the regional agency with jurisdiction over the SFBAAB, which includes San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties, and portions of Sonoma and Solano Counties. The BAAQMD is responsible for attaining and maintaining air quality in the SFBAAB within federal and state air quality standards, as established by the federal Clean Air Act (CAA) and the California Clean Air Act (CCAA), respectively. Specifically, the BAAQMD has the responsibility to monitor ambient air pollutant levels throughout the SFBAAB and to develop and implement strategies to attain the applicable federal and state standards. The CAA and the CCAA require plans to be developed for areas that do not meet air quality standards, generally. The most recent air quality plan, the Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan (Bay Area 2010 CAP), was adopted by the BAAQMD on September 15, 2010. The Bay Area 2010 CAP updates the Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy in accordance with the requirements of the CCAA to implement all feasible measures to reduce ozone; to provide a control strategy to reduce ozone, particulate matter, air toxics, and greenhouse gases in a single, integrated plan; and to establish emission control measures to be adopted or implemented. The Bay Area 2010 CAP contains the following primary goals:

- Attain air quality standards;
- Reduce population exposure and protect public health in the San Francisco Bay Area; and
- Reduce GHG emissions and protect the climate.

The Bay Area 2010 CAP represents the most current applicable air quality plan for the SFBAAB.

The Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD) is the regional agency with jurisdiction over the portion of the SVAB in which the Recology Hay Road Landfill is located. Every three years, the YSAQMD prepares a Triennial Assessment and Plan Update of its Clean Air Plan, detailing how the District will expeditiously achieve the California air quality standards. The latest update was published in April of 2013.<sup>30</sup> The Final 2013 Triennial Report and Update for YSAQMD builds upon improvements accomplished from the previous plans, and aims to incorporate all feasible control measures while balancing costs and socioeconomic impacts.

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<sup>30</sup> YSAQMD, 2013. Triennial Assessment and Plan Update. April. Available at: <http://www.ysaqmd.org/documents/plans/Triennial%20Plan%202012%20DRAFT.pdf>. Assessed February, 2015.

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Consistency with these two plans, the Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan and the YSAQMD Triennial Assessment and Plan Update, serves as the basis for determining whether the proposed project would conflict with or obstruct implementation of air quality plans.

#### Criteria Air Pollutants

In accordance with the CAA and CCAA, air pollutant standards are identified for the following six criteria air pollutants: ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter (PM), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and lead. These air pollutants are termed criteria air pollutants because they are regulated by developing specific public health and welfare-based criteria as the basis for setting permissible levels. In general, the SFBAAB and SVAB experience low concentrations of most pollutants when compared to federal or state standards. The SFBAAB is designated as either in attainment<sup>31</sup> or unclassified for most criteria pollutants with the exception of ozone, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub>, for which these pollutants are designated as non-attainment for either the state or federal standards. The SVAB is either in attainment or unclassified for criteria pollutants except for the State 24-hour and annual PM<sub>10</sub> standards and the state and federal 8-hour ozone standards. By its very nature, regional air pollution is largely a cumulative impact in that no single project is sufficient in size to, by itself, result in non-attainment of regional air quality standards. Instead, a project's individual emissions contribute to existing cumulative air quality impacts. If a project's contribution to cumulative air quality impacts is considerable, then the project's impact on air quality would be considered significant.<sup>32</sup>

The proposed project may contribute to regional criteria air pollutants during the operational phase. **Table AQ-1**, on page 49, identifies the air quality significance thresholds used in this Initial Study air quality analysis. Projects that would result in criteria air pollutant emissions below these significance thresholds would not violate an air quality standard, contribute substantially to an air quality violation, or result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in criteria air pollutants. The rationale used for establishing these thresholds is discussed below.

BAAQMD adopted updated *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines*, including new thresholds of significance, in June 2010, and revised them in May 2011. The Air Quality Guidelines advise lead agencies on how to evaluate potential air quality impacts, including establishing quantitative and qualitative thresholds of significance. The BAAQMD resolutions adopting and revising the significance thresholds in 2011 were set aside by the

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<sup>31</sup> "Attainment" status refers to those regions that are meeting federal and/or state standards for a specified criteria pollutant. "Non-attainment" refers to regions that do not meet federal and/or state standards for a specified criteria pollutant. "Unclassified" refers to regions where there is not enough data to determine the region's attainment status.

<sup>32</sup> BAAQMD, 2009. Revised Draft Options and Justification Report, California Environmental Quality Act Thresholds of Significance, October 2009, p. 33.

**TABLE AQ-1**  
**AIR QUALITY THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Pollutant	Operational Thresholds for use within the SFBAAB	
	Average Daily Emissions (lbs. /day)	Maximum Annual Emissions (tons/year)
ROG	54	10 <sup>a</sup>
NO <sub>x</sub>	54	10 <sup>a</sup>
PM <sub>10</sub>	82 <sup>b</sup>	15
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	54	10
Fugitive Dust	Not Applicable	
CO	CO concentrations of 9.0 ppm (8-hour average) and 20.0 ppm (1-hour average) as estimated by roadway vehicle volumes exceeding 44,000 vehicles per hour at any intersection.	

<sup>a</sup> Also applicable within the SVAB.

<sup>b</sup> YSAQMD significance threshold for PM<sub>10</sub> is 80 lbs. /day.

SOURCE: BAAQMD, 2009; YSAQMD, 2007.

Alameda County Superior Court on March 5, 2012.<sup>33</sup> In May of 2012, BAAQMD updated its CEQA Air Quality Guidelines to continue to provide direction on recommended analysis methodologies, but without recommended quantitative significance thresholds.<sup>34</sup>

The air quality analysis below uses the previously-adopted 2011 thresholds of the BAAQMD to determine the potential impacts of the project. These thresholds are based on substantial evidence identified in BAAQMD's 2009 *Justification Report*<sup>35</sup> and are therefore used within this document. Because the SFBAAB is in non-attainment for ozone and particulate matter, significance thresholds are identified for ROG and NO<sub>x</sub> (ozone precursors) and, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> (particulate matter), as shown in Table AQ-1.

YSAQMD has adopted thresholds for annual NO<sub>x</sub> and ROG, and daily PM<sub>10</sub>.<sup>36</sup> YSAQMD has no PM<sub>2.5</sub> threshold; it also has no daily thresholds for ROG or NO<sub>x</sub>, nor an annual threshold for PM<sub>10</sub>. The YSAQMD thresholds, noted in Table AQ-1, are applicable to emissions that would occur in the SVAB.

<sup>33</sup> The thresholds BAAQMD adopted were called into question by a minute order issued January 9, 2012, in California Building Industry Association v. BAAQMD, Alameda Superior Court Case No. RGI0548693. The minute order states that "The Court finds [BAAQMD's adoption of thresholds] is a CEQA Project, the court makes no further findings or rulings." The claims made in the case concerned the CEQA impacts of adopting the thresholds, particularly, how the thresholds would affect land use development patterns. Petitioners argued that the thresholds for Health Risk Assessments encompassed issues not addressed by CEQA.

<sup>34</sup> On August 13, 2013, the First District Court of Appeal ordered the trial court to reverse the judgment and upheld the BAAQMD's CEQA thresholds. The appellate court judgment has been suspended pending review by the California Supreme Court (Supreme Court Case No. S213478), and thus BAAQMD has not re-instated the thresholds.

<sup>35</sup> BAAQMD, 2009.

<sup>36</sup> YSAQMD, 2007. Handbook for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts. Adopted July 11, 2007.

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**Ozone Precursors.** As discussed previously, the SFBAAB is currently designated as non-attainment for ozone. The SVAB is also in non-attainment for ozone. Ozone is a secondary air pollutant produced in the atmosphere through a complex series of photochemical reactions involving reactive organic gases (ROG) and oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>). The potential for a project to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in criteria air pollutants, which may contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation, are based on the CAA and CCAA emissions limits for stationary sources. To ensure that new stationary sources do not cause or contribute to a violation of an air quality standard, BAAQMD Regulation 2, Rule 2 requires that any new source that emits criteria air pollutants above a specified emissions limit must offset those emissions. For ozone precursors ROG and NO<sub>x</sub>, the offset emissions level is an annual average of 10 tons per year (or 54 pounds (lbs.) per day).<sup>37</sup> These levels represent emissions below which new sources are not anticipated to contribute to an air quality violation or result in a considerable net increase in criteria air pollutants. Although BAAQMD Regulation 2, Rule 2 applies to stationary sources, these standards can also be applied to projects that would emit ozone precursors and can be used to determine whether the project would have the potential to contribute to a violation of the ozone standard.

**Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>).**<sup>38</sup> The federal New Source Review (NSR) program was created by the federal CAA to ensure that stationary sources of air pollution are constructed in a manner that is consistent with attainment of federal health-based ambient air quality standards. Projects that increase and/or redirect vehicle trips can increase PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions and concentrations, thus the emissions limit in the NSR can be used to determine whether the project would contribute to a violation of particulate matter standards. For PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, the emissions limit under NSR is 15 tons per year (82 lbs. per day) and 10 tons per year (54 lbs. per day), respectively. These emissions limits represent levels at which a source is not expected to have an impact on air quality.<sup>39</sup> However, the YSAQMD has adopted a PM<sub>10</sub> threshold of 80 lbs/day, slightly lower than the emissions limit under NSR. Thus, this Initial Study utilizes the more stringent 80 lb/day standard for PM<sub>10</sub>.

**Health Risk.** The proposed project requires the use of heavy-duty diesel vehicles and equipment, which emit diesel particulate matter (DPM). The California Air Resources Board (ARB) identified DPM as a toxic air contaminant (TAC) in 1998, based on evidence demonstrating cancer effects in humans.<sup>40</sup> The exhaust

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<sup>37</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, page 17.

<sup>38</sup> PM<sub>10</sub> is often termed “coarse” particulate matter and is made of particulates that are 10 microns in diameter or smaller. PM<sub>2.5</sub>, termed “fine” particulate matter, is composed of particles that are 2.5 microns or less in diameter.

<sup>39</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, page 16.

<sup>40</sup> California Air Resources Board, 1998. Fact Sheet: The Toxic Air Contaminant Identification Process: Toxic Air Contaminant Emissions from Diesel-fueled Engines. October 1998. Available online at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/dieseltac/factsht1.pdf>, accessed February 27, 2012. This document is also available for review at the Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, in Case File No. 2004.0093E.

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from diesel engines includes hundreds of different gaseous and particulate components, many of which are toxic. Mobile sources such as trucks and buses are among the primary sources of diesel emissions, and concentrations of DPM are higher near heavily traveled highways. Projects that require a substantial amount of heavy-duty diesel vehicles and equipment, would result in emissions of DPM and possibly other TACs that may affect nearby sensitive receptors.

Both YSAQMD and BAAQMD have developed significance thresholds for health risks. YSAQMD has adopted a cancer risk significance threshold of 10 in one million, and an acute and chronic hazard index significance threshold of 1.0 for the maximally exposed individual (MEI). However, YSAQMD's thresholds apply only to stationary sources. YSAQMD's guidance clearly states that these thresholds do not apply to mobile sources.<sup>41</sup> Consequently, this analysis uses the BAAQMD's previously adopted 2011 thresholds to determine the potential health risk impacts of the project. Similar to the BAAQMD's air quality significance thresholds adopted in 2011, BAAQMD's health risk thresholds are not currently recommended for use by BAAQMD. However, BAAQMD's 2011 health risk thresholds are based on substantial evidence identified in BAAQMD's 2009 Justification Report and described below and are therefore used in this document.

***Excess Cancer Risk and Hazard Index.*** Similar to criteria pollutant thresholds identified above, the BAAQMD Regulation 2, Rule 5 sets cancer risk limits for new and modified sources of TACs at the maximally exposed individual (MEI). In addition to cancer risk, some TACs pose non-carcinogenic chronic and acute health hazards. Acute and chronic non-cancer health hazards are expressed in terms of a hazard index, or HI, which is a ratio of the TAC concentration to a reference exposure level (REL), a level below which no adverse health effects are expected, even for sensitive individuals.<sup>42</sup> In accordance with Regulation 2, Rule 5, the BAAQMD Air Pollution Control Officer shall deny any permit to operate a source that results in an increased cancer risk of 10 per million or an increase chronic or acute HI of 1.0 at the MEI. This threshold is designed to ensure that the source does not contribute to a cumulatively significant health risk impact.<sup>43</sup>

***Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>).*** Particulate matter, primarily associated with mobile sources (vehicular emissions) is strongly associated with mortality, respiratory diseases, and impairment of lung development in children, and other endpoints such as hospitalization for cardiopulmonary disease. Based on toxicological and epidemiological research, smaller particles and those associated with traffic appear

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<sup>41</sup> YSAQMD, 2007.

<sup>42</sup> YSAQMD, 2007, p. D-35.

<sup>43</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 54.

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more closely related to health effects.<sup>44</sup> Therefore, estimates of PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from a new source can be used to approximate broader potential adverse health effects. The United State Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed a Significant Impact Level (SIL) for PM<sub>2.5</sub>. For developed urban areas, including much of San Francisco, the EPA has proposed a SIL of between 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 0.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The SIL represents the level of incremental PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions that represents a significant contribution to regional non-attainment.<sup>45</sup> The lower range of the EPA recommended SIL of 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> is an appropriate threshold for determining the significance of a source's PM<sub>2.5</sub> impact.

In determining the potential distance that emissions from a new source may affect nearby sensitive receptors, a summary of research findings in the ARB's *Land Use Compatibility Handbook* suggest that air pollutants from high volume roadways are substantially reduced or can even be indistinguishable from upwind background concentrations at a distance of 1,000 feet downwind from sources such as freeways and large distribution centers.<sup>46</sup> This radius is also consistent with Health and Safety Code Section 42301.6 (Notice for Possible Source Near School).

In summary, potential health risks and hazards from new sources on sensitive receptors are assessed within a 1,000-foot zone of influence and risks and hazards from new sources that exceed any of the following thresholds at the MEI are determined to be significant: excess cancer risk of 10 per one million, chronic or acute HI of 1.0, and annual average PM<sub>2.5</sub> increase of 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

**Cumulative Health Risk.** The United State Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has established an excess cancer risk standard of 100 per one million persons (100 excess cancer risk) for conducting air toxic analyses and making risk management decisions at the facility and community-scale level.<sup>47</sup> As described by the BAAQMD, the USEPA considers a cancer risk of 100 per million to be within the "acceptable" range of cancer risk. Furthermore, in the 1989 preamble to the benzene National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) rulemaking,<sup>48</sup> the USEPA states that it "...strives to provide maximum feasible protection against risks to health from hazardous air pollutants by (1) protecting the greatest number of persons possible to an individual lifetime risk level no higher than approximately one in one million and (2) limiting to no higher than approximately one in ten thousand

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<sup>44</sup> San Francisco Department of Public Health, 2008. Assessment and Mitigation of Air Pollutant Health Effects for Intra Urban Roadways: Guidance for Land Use Planning and Environmental Review. May 2008, p.5.

<sup>45</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 65.

<sup>46</sup> ARB, 2005. Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: a Community Health Perspective. Available online at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/handbook.pdf>

<sup>47</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 67.

<sup>48</sup> 54 Federal Register 38044, September 14, 1989.

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[100 in one million] the estimated risk that a person living near a plant would have if he or she were exposed to the maximum pollutant concentrations for 70 years.”

In terms of non-carcinogenic chronic and acute health hazards associated with TACs, a project would have a significant cumulative impact if the total of all past, present, and foreseeable future sources within a 1,000 foot radius (or beyond where appropriate) from the fence line of a source, or from the location of a receptor, plus the contribution from the project, exceeds a chronic hazard index (HI) greater than 10.0 for TACs.<sup>49</sup>

With respect to incremental annual average PM<sub>2.5</sub> threshold, a PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard of 0.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> is used for cumulative sources within the 1,000-foot evaluation zone because the USEPA is proposing a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) of 0.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> as a cumulative threshold for all PM<sub>2.5</sub> sources.<sup>50</sup> This threshold is used as the basis for determining cumulative health risk impacts for this project.

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

#### **Impact AQ-1: The proposed project would not conflict with, or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plans. (Less than Significant)**

In determining consistency with the Bay Area 2010 CAP, this analysis considers whether the transportation of San Francisco’s MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would: (1) support the primary goals of the Bay Area 2010 CAP, (2) include applicable control measures from the Bay Area 2010 CAP, and (3) avoid disrupting or hindering implementation of control measures identified in the Bay Area 2010 CAP.

The primary goals of the Bay Area 2010 CAP are to: (1) Reduce emissions and decrease ambient concentration of harmful pollutants; (2) Safeguard the public health by reducing exposure to air pollutants that pose the greatest risk; and (3) Reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To meet the primary goals, the Bay Area 2010 CAP recommends specific control measures and actions. These control measures are grouped into various categories and include 18 stationary and area source measures, 10 mobile source measures, 17 transportation control measures, six land use measures, and four energy and climate measures.

Of the 10 mobile source measures included in the Bay Area 2010 CAP, only two apply to heavy-duty on-road vehicles: 1) MSM B-1 Fleet Modernization for Medium- and Heavy-Duty On-Road Vehicles and

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<sup>49</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p.68.

<sup>50</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p.67.

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2) MSM B-2 – Low NOx Retrofits in Heavy-Duty On-Road Vehicles. Under MSM B-1, BAAQMD will provide incentives for the purchase of new trucks that meet 2010 emission standards for heavy-duty engines. Under MSM B-2, BAAQMD will provide incentives for the installation of ARB-verified abatement equipment to reduce NOx emissions from existing on-road heavy-duty truck engines. The proposed project would not hinder or interfere with either measure.

Of the 17 transportation control measures included in the Bay Area 2010 CAP, one could potentially apply to the Project: Measure TCM B-4, Goods Movement Improvements and Emission Reduction Strategies. TCM B-4 will improve goods movement and heavy-duty truck emission reductions by providing incentive funding for diesel equipment owners to purchase cleaner-than-required vehicles and equipment. The proposed project, which already uses LNG and biodiesel-powered trucks, would not interfere with TCM B-4 as the project already includes cleaner-than-required vehicles.

Examples of a project that could cause the disruption or delay of Clean Air Plan control measures are projects that would preclude the extension of a transit line or bike path or projects that propose excessive parking beyond City parking requirements. The proposed project would increase haul route distance for San Francisco's MSW, but would not include any elements that could hinder implementation of the 2010 CAP.

Impact GG-2 in Section E-8, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, discusses the proposed project's consistency with GHG reduction measures in the Bay Area 2010 CAP, and concludes that the proposed project would be consistent with these measures. Impact GG-1 in Section E-8 concludes that GHG emissions of the proposed project would be less than significant.

Based on this assessment, the project would not interfere with the Bay Area 2010 CAP.

YSAQMD's 2012 Triennial Assessment and Plan Update discusses the progress the YSAQMD has made towards improving the air quality in its jurisdiction since its last Triennial Plan Update. The Plan also identifies control measures needed to make further progress towards achieving the State ozone standard. These include measures to reduce emissions from area, stationary, agricultural, and mobile sources. The mobile source measures focus primarily on ways to improve transit, bicycle, and pedestrian travel. The 2012 Triennial Assessment and Plan Update does not include any specific control measures for on-road trucks. The Project's increase in haul route distance and rerouting of truck trips would add only marginally to the SVAB air emissions and would not interfere with the 2012 Triennial Assessment and Plan Update.



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Since the proposed project would not interfere with implementation of the Bay Area 2010 CAP or YSAQMD's 2012 Triennial Assessment and Plan Update, this impact would be *less than significant*.

**Impact AQ-2: During project operations, the proposed project would result in emissions of criteria air pollutants, but not at levels that would violate an air quality standard, or that would contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation. (Less than Significant)**

This impact addresses checklist questions 7.b and 7.c. Cumulative impacts are discussed below, under Impact C-AQ-1.

The emissions increases attributable to the transport of San Francisco's MSW would be from the increase in distance required to haul San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill compared to current conditions under which San Francisco's MSW is hauled to the Altamont Landfill. Because the Recology Hay Road Landfill is farther from the Points of Origin, emissions from hauling would be higher. Some of the increase in emissions would occur in the SFBAAB, and new emissions would occur in the SVAB. Project air emissions were calculated using emission rates provided by ARB's EMFAC2011 for the SFBAAB and SVAB, and biodiesel adjustment factors, LNG emission rates, and CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission factors provided by the ARB. Vehicle information and haul route details were provided by Recology. Trip length was estimated using Google maps. Out of a total of 51 vehicles in the haul fleet, 40 are B20 biodiesel-powered and 11 are LNG-powered.

The proposed project is not expected to result in an increase in the number of daily truck trips, which would remain at approximately 50 round trips per day. The data regarding the number of truck trips, trip lengths and haul routes were used with the EMFAC2011 emission factors for heavy heavy-duty tractor-trailer trucks (T7 Tractor) to determine the maximum annual emission increase as well as average daily emission increases. Since the truck fleet is an average of six years old, EMFAC2011 emission rates for vehicle model year 2008 were selected. Average haul truck speed was assumed to be the EMFAC2011 aggregate average throughout the trip length, so emission rates at this speed were used to conduct the emissions calculations. All of the above assumptions and calculations are detailed in the project-specific Air Quality Technical Report.<sup>51</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> Environmental Science Associates (ESA), 2015. Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County Project, Air Quality Technical Report. January, 2015. This document is available for review as part of Case File No. 2014.0653E at the SF Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, 94103.

Criteria pollutant emissions from the anticipated project-related operational sources are quantified in **Tables AQ-2 and AQ-3**, below. As shown, the project would not exceed significance thresholds for criteria air pollutants within each air basin. Furthermore, the combined emissions in both the SFBAAB and the SVAB would not exceed the significance thresholds for either air basin. Therefore, the project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

**TABLE AQ-2  
INCREMENTAL INCREASE IN AVERAGE DAILY OPERATIONAL EMISSIONS FOR THE  
PROPOSED PROJECT**

Source	ROG	NOx	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
<b>Average Daily Emissions (pounds/day)</b>				
SFBAAB Emissions	<u>1,391.11</u>	<u>17,2513.39</u>	<u>1,009.74</u>	<u>0,449.34</u>
Significance Thresholds for the SFBAAB	54	54	82	54
<b>Exceeds Thresholds?</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
SVAB Emissions	<u>1,141.09</u>	<u>15,5414.92</u>	<u>1,051.00</u>	<u>0,419.39</u>
YSAQMD Significance Thresholds	N. A.	N. A.	80	N. A.
<b>Exceeds YSAQMD Thresholds?</b>	<b>N. A.</b>	<b>N. A.</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N. A.</b>
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b><u>2,532.20</u></b>	<b><u>32,7928.31</u></b>	<b><u>2,041.74</u></b>	<b><u>0,850.73</u></b>
<b>Exceeds Either set of Thresholds?</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>

N. A.: Not applicable for YSAQMD

SOURCE: ESA, 2015; BAAQMD 2009, YSAQMD 2007.

**TABLE AQ-3  
INCREMENTAL INCREASE IN MAXIMUM ANNUAL OPERATIONAL EMISSIONS FOR THE  
PROPOSED PROJECT**

Source	ROG	NOx	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
<b>Maximum Annual Emissions (tons/year)</b>				
SFBAAB Emissions	<u>0,229.17</u>	<u>2,702.09</u>	<u>0,160.12</u>	<u>0,070.05</u>
Significance Thresholds for the SFBAAB	10	10	15	10
<b>Exceeds Thresholds?</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
SVAB Emissions	<u>0,189.17</u>	<u>2,432.33</u>	0.16	0.06
YSAQMD Significance Thresholds	10	10	N. A.	N. A.
<b>Exceeds YSAQMD Thresholds?</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N. A.</b>	<b>N. A.</b>
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b><u>0,409.34</u></b>	<b><u>5,134.43</u></b>	<b><u>0,320.27</u></b>	<b><u>0,130.11</u></b>
<b>Exceeds Either set of Thresholds?</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>

N. A. Not applicable for YSAQMD

SOURCE: ESA, 2015; BAAQMD 2009; YSAQMD 2007.

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**Impact AQ-3: During project operations, the proposed project would result in emissions of carbon monoxide, but not at levels that would violate an air quality standard, or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation. (Less than Significant)**

This is the first of two impact statements that correspond to Checklist Question 7d. Cumulative impacts are discussed below, under Impact C-AQ-1. Emissions from traffic at congested intersections can, under certain circumstances, cause a localized build-up of CO concentrations. Regional ambient air quality monitoring data demonstrate that CO concentrations are well below the applicable standards, despite long-term upward trends in vehicle miles traveled. This monitoring data confirms that the potential for localized increases in CO concentrations from increased traffic has been greatly reduced in recent years. Improvements in motor vehicle exhaust controls since the early 1990s and the use of oxygenated fuels have substantially reduced CO emissions from motor vehicles.

Elevated concentrations of localized CO from congested traffic would not have the potential to cause a violation of ambient air quality standards because the following three criteria would be met:

- The project is consistent with an applicable congestion management program established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways, regional transportation plan, and local congestion management agency plans. The proposed project would be consistent with these regional plans, since (as described Section E.5, Transportation and Circulation) the project-generated 100 daily trips (which would be re-directed to the Recology Hay Road Landfill from the Altamont Landfill) would not represent a substantial increase in daily traffic volume on affected roadways (less than 0.1%), and traffic flow conditions would not be adversely affected. Plans include the Congestion Management Program adopted by the San Francisco County Transportation Authority in December 2011 and the Plan Bay Area adopted by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission on July 18, 2013. The proposed project would not substantially increase daily traffic volume on affected roadways and therefore, the project would comply with this criterion.
- Project traffic would not increase traffic volumes at affected intersections to more than 44,000 vehicles per hour.<sup>52</sup> There would be no additional traffic at intersections along the haul routes within San Francisco, and, as described in Section E.5, Transportation and Circulation, intersections in Solano County along the haul route would have less than 44,000 vehicles per hour under existing plus project and cumulative conditions.
- The project traffic would not increase traffic volumes at affected intersections where vertical and/or horizontal mixing is substantially limited (e.g., tunnel, parking garage, bridge underpass, natural or urban street canyon, below-grade roadway).

Because each of the criteria would be met, elevated concentrations of localized CO from congested traffic would not cause a violation of ambient air quality standards, and the transportation of San Francisco's

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<sup>52</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 37.

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MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not be expected to result in localized concentrations of CO at unhealthful levels. Therefore, CO impacts would be *less than significant*.

**Impact AQ-4: During project operations, the proposed project would generate toxic air contaminants, including diesel particulate matter, but would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial air pollutant concentrations. (Less than Significant)**

This is the second of two impact statements that correspond to Checklist Question 7d. Cumulative impacts are discussed below, under Impact C-AQ-1.

Estimated emissions from MSW haul trucks traveling between San Francisco and the Recology Hay Road landfill were evaluated to determine whether they would result in significant health risks associated with diesel emissions. Since the project would relocate MSW haul truck trips, it would also relocate any associated health risks to the I-80 corridor and Solano County roads leading to and from the Hay Road Landfill. The project-related increase in the number of truck trips on I-80 and on Solano County roads would equal 50 round trips per day. A screening level analysis was used to estimate the increase in ambient pollutant concentrations resulting from these additional trips. These concentrations were then converted to health risks using procedures recommended by the BAAQMD and the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA).<sup>53,54</sup> The YSAQMD has not developed any specific health risk guidance for mobile sources.<sup>55</sup>

The CALINE4 model was used to estimate ambient concentrations of DPM. DPM is the primary toxic air pollutant of concern from diesel trucks. The CALINE4 model is a line source air quality model developed by the California Department of Transportation specifically to assess air quality impacts of CO, nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), and suspended particles such as PM<sub>10</sub> near roadways. The model can predict pollutant concentrations for receptors located within 500 meters of a roadway. CALINE4 was used to estimate the increase in ambient pollutant concentrations that would be emitted by the increase in trucks traveling on I-80 and on the local roads from I-80 to the landfill. Concentrations were estimated at varying distances from the edge of the roadway. CALINE4 was run using the worst-case wind angle option, which estimates the maximum 1-hour concentration that could occur at each sensitive receptor using worst-case meteorology.

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<sup>53</sup> BAAQMD, 2012. Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards. Version 3.0. May, 2012.

<sup>54</sup> California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), 2014. Air Toxics Hot Spots Program Risk Assessment Guidelines, The Air Toxic Hot Spots Program Guidance Manual for Preparation of Health Risk Assessments. June, 2014. Review Draft.

<sup>55</sup> YSAQMD, 2007.

Using the results of the CALINE4 model, the project's health risks are shown in **Table AQ-4**, below. The maximum cancer risk of ~~1.62~~44 per million is less than the 10 per million significance thresholds discussed above. The chronic hazard index of ~~0.0006~~0.0009 is less than the chronic hazard index of one significance threshold discussed above. Using CALINE4's modeled concentration of DPM as a surrogate for PM<sub>2.5</sub>, the maximum annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration is estimated at ~~0.0029~~0.0045 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, which is substantially below the significance threshold of 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

**TABLE AQ-4**  
**PROJECT SPECIFIC HEALTH RISKS<sup>a</sup>**

	Cancer Risk	Chronic Hazard Index	Annual PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Project Specific Increase in Risk to Sensitive Receptors Near Freeway	<del>1.62</del> <u>44</u> per million	<del>0.0006</del> <u>0.0009</u>	<del>0.0029</del> <u>0.0045</u>
Significance Thresholds	10 per million	1	0.3 <sup>b</sup>
Exceed Threshold?	No	No	No

NOTES:

<sup>a</sup> Risks are based on exposure to DPM.

<sup>b</sup> This threshold has only been suggested within BAAQMD jurisdiction.

SOURCE: ESA, 2015

OEHHA has not established an acute REL for DPM. However, many of the speciated components of DPM (i.e., the different chemicals making up DPM) do have established acute RELs. Given that the DPM emissions associated with the proposed project are relatively low with respect to cancer risk and chronic HI, the acute HI would not be exceeded when assessing the acute HI for each of the speciated components of DPM. Therefore, no acute health risk is shown in Table AQ-4.

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would therefore result in a *less-than-significant* impact with respect to exposing sensitive receptors to substantial levels of toxic air contaminants.

**Impact AQ-5: The proposed project would not create objectionable odors that would affect a substantial number of people. (Less than Significant)**

Transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in longer waste hauling trips and an increase in the number of trucks hauling MSW on I-80 and Solano County local roads compared to existing conditions. Waste-hauling vehicles have the potential to generate odors. However, the haul route that would be used under the proposed project is already used by waste-hauling vehicles and MSW trucks hauling waste would be covered. The addition of approximately 50 waste-hauling vehicles per day, spread out over the course of a day and night, would not substantially increase

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odor for receptors along the roadways. The proposed project would have a *less than significant* impact with regard to generation of substantial odors.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined air quality impacts associated with both transportation and operations-related air emissions related to the then-proposed increase in the rate of waste acceptance. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that there was the potential for significant increases in criteria air pollutants emissions, particularly NO<sub>x</sub> and PM-10, from increased generation of landfill gas, increased use of off-road equipment, and increased emissions from haul trucks. The 2012 IS/MND included the following mitigation measures to reduce this impact to less than significant:

#### **Mitigation Measure 2**

The facility operator shall implement the following dust control mitigation measures during implementation of the proposed project and during ongoing site operations:

- The project applicant shall implement the Best Available Control Technologies (BACT), including using water trucks to reduce PM10 from dust emissions at the project site, consistent with current operations.
- Project PM10 emissions from stationary sources shall be offset by the acquisition of emission offsets during the permitting process, if determine necessary by the YSAQMD, consistent with YSAQMD Regulation 3-4.

#### **Mitigation Measure 3**

The facility operator shall implement the following mitigation measure prior to implementation of the proposed project:

- The project applicant shall control additional landfill gas generations through modifications to the landfill gas collection and treatment system and shall implement any required offsets, consistent with the YSAQMD Rule 3-4.

These measures were included as conditions in the amended CUP as conditions 29a, 29b, and 29c.

The 2012 IS/MND noted that the Recology Hay Road Facility has been the object of numerous odor complaints, but points out that these complaints focus on the existing Jepson Prairie Composting operation. The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for increased acceptance of waste for landfilling to increase odors, and found that existing environmental controls are sufficient; the 2012 IS/MND concluded that landfilling up to 2,400 tons per day would result in a less-than-significant odor impact.

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The 2012 IS/MND also concluded that the proposed increase in the rate of waste acceptance would not result in a substantial increase in health risk, nor would it result in a violation of an adopted air quality plan.

### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

The air quality analysis contained in the 2012 IS/MND considered emissions from multiple sources, including haul vehicles, equipment operations, and fugitive landfill gas.<sup>56</sup> The analysis concluded that the project being examined could result in a significant increase in criteria air pollutants (NO<sub>x</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>), but that the mitigation measures specified would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels. The calculated increase in haul vehicle emissions in the 2012 IS/MND was greater than that calculated for the proposed project (the 2012 IS/MND assumed that all increased vehicle emissions would be within the SVAB); therefore, when using the lower values calculated for the current project, the combined impact of all sources considered in the 2012 IS/MND would also be less than significant with the inclusion of the mitigation measures specified in the 2012 IS/MND, which have been adopted by Solano County as conditions in the CUP. Therefore, the combined impact of Transportation and Disposal would be less than significant.

The Health Risk Assessment (HRA) performed for the 2012 IS/MND included an assessment of health risks from the then-proposed increase in disposal. The HRA considered TAC emissions from several sources, including DPM emissions from landfill equipment and diesel-powered haul vehicles, as well as other TACs contained in landfill gas. The HRA assumed that the most exposed individuals would be residents within one mile of the landfill.<sup>57</sup> The HRA concluded that the increased cancer risk from all disposal and transport sources combined would be less than the 10 additional cases per million, and that the increase in both chronic and acute HI would be less than 1.0. Therefore, the 2012 IS/MND already considered the health risks for exposed individuals within vicinity of the landfill from both disposal and from transportation, and found that the combined health risk of transportation and disposal would be less than significant.

Because of the distance to sensitive receptors, transportation-related odor emissions would not be expected to combine with disposal-related odor emissions to cause a significant odor impact.

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<sup>56</sup> 2012 IS/MND, Appendix A, Table ES-4.

<sup>57</sup> 2012 IS/MND, Appendix A, Section 4.

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## *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-AQ-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the project area would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to cumulative air quality impacts. (Less than Significant)**

As discussed above, regional air pollution is by its very nature largely a cumulative impact. Emissions from past, present, and future projects contribute to the region's adverse air quality on a cumulative basis. No single project by itself would be sufficient in size to result in regional nonattainment of ambient air quality standards. Instead, a project's individual emissions contribute to existing cumulative adverse air quality impacts.<sup>58</sup> The project-level thresholds for criteria air pollutants are based on levels by which new sources are not anticipated to contribute substantially to an air quality violation or result in a considerable net increase in criteria air pollutants.

As discussed above, project-related criteria pollutant emissions within the SFBAAB would be less than significant; therefore, emissions within the SFBAAB would not be cumulatively considerable. Also as discussed above, project-related transportation emissions within the SVAB would be less than significant, and therefore would not be cumulative considerable. With respect to emissions from disposal of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the 2012 IS/MND examined the impacts of increased emissions of criteria air pollutants from increased disposal together with anticipated increases in transportation-related emissions, and concluded that after application of mitigation measures, the project then being examined would have a less-than-significant air quality impact within the SVAB. The 2012 IS/MND therefore concluded that the increased rate of disposal then being examined would not make a considerable contribution to cumulative impacts within the SVAB.

With regard to cumulative health risks, as discussed above, the cumulative health risk significance thresholds used in this analysis are 100 per million for cancer risk, 10.0 for chronic HI, and 0.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> for PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration. As noted above, the 2012 IS/MND calculated health risks associated with the then-proposed increase in waste acceptance, including health risks from increased emissions of diesel equipment, diesel haul trucks, and landfill gas, and found that the resulting health risks would be below the individual project significance thresholds of 10 additional cancer cases per million exposed, and also below the chronic and acute HI of 1.0. The 2012 IS/MND also examined the combined health risks of the then-proposed increase in waste acceptance, in combination with health risks from the ongoing landfill operation, and

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<sup>58</sup> BAAQMD, 2009. p. 33.



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found that, together, cancer, chronic, and acute health risks would also be below the individual project significance thresholds stated above, and therefore also below the cumulative significance thresholds. No other sources of TACs have been identified within close proximity to the Recology Hay Road landfill. Therefore, the increased rate of disposal would not make a considerable contribution to cumulative health risks.

Health risks from Recology vehicles transporting San Francisco's waste between San Francisco and the Recology Hay Road landfill would combine with health risks from other sources, including roadways, industrial sources, and other sources. Using the BAAQMD's health risk screening tools (Highway Screening Analysis Tool and Stationary Source Analysis Tool), the cumulative health risks along the I-80 corridor were estimated and compared to the cumulative thresholds discussed above. The cumulative health risks were estimated by combining:

- the increase in health risk from the project's waste haul trucks traveling on I-80,
- existing health risks from traffic traveling on I-80 (identified using BAAQMD's Highway Screening Analysis Tool), and
- stationary source health risks from sources located near I-80 (identified using BAAQMD's Stationary Source Analysis Tool).

The cumulative health risks for the project, in combination with the other sources cited above, would be as follows: cancer risk of 77.7 per million; chronic HI of 0.1; and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration of 0.6 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Each of these risk levels is lower than the applicable cumulative health risk threshold, which are 100 per million for cancer risk, 10.0 for chronic HI, and 0.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> for PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration. Therefore, the proposed project's contribution to cumulative health risks would be less than significant.

Finally, MSW trucks would not contribute to a cumulative odor impact while in transit or while at the Hay Road Landfill. Although an AD facility is proposed for the landfill, a significant cumulative odor impact resulting from odors generated by waste hauling and anaerobic digester operation is unlikely given the landfill's location in a rural area with few residences nearby. Therefore, the proposed project's contribution to cumulative regional and localized air quality impacts would be *less than significant*.

## E.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS— Would the project:</b>					
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Approach to Analysis*

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are analyzed in the context of their contribution to the cumulative effects of climate change, since a single land use project could not generate enough GHG emissions to noticeably change the global average temperature.

Sections 15064.4 and 15183.5 of the *CEQA Guidelines* address the analysis and determination of significant impacts from a proposed project's GHG emissions. Factors to be considered include: 1) the extent to which GHG emissions would increase or decrease as a result of the proposed project; 2) whether or not a proposed project exceeds a threshold that the lead agency determines applies to the project; and 3) demonstrating compliance with plans and regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing or mitigating GHG emissions.

The GHG analysis provided below includes a quantitative assessment of GHG emissions that would result from the proposed project. However, neither the BAAQMD nor the YSAQMD has an adopted significance threshold for project operations. BAAQMD adopted updated *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines*, including new thresholds of significance, in June 2010, and revised them in May 2011. The BAAQMD resolutions adopting and revising the significance thresholds in 2011 were set aside by the Alameda County Superior Court on March 5, 2012.<sup>59</sup> In May of 2012, BAAQMD updated its *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines* to continue to provide direction on recommended analysis methodologies, but without recommended quantitative significance thresholds.

<sup>59</sup> The thresholds BAAQMD adopted were called into question by a minute order issued January 9, 2012, in *California Building Industry Association v. BAAQMD*, Alameda Superior Court Case No. RGI0548693. The minute order states that "The Court finds [BAAQMD's adoption of thresholds] is a CEQA Project, the court makes no further findings or rulings." The claims made in the case concerned the CEQA impacts of adopting the thresholds, particularly, how the thresholds would affect land use development patterns. Petitioners argued that the thresholds for Health Risk Assessments encompassed issues not addressed by CEQA.

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The significance thresholds adopted by BAAQMD in 2011 are based on substantial evidence identified in BAAQMD's 2009 Justification Report<sup>60</sup> and are therefore used within this document. For operational emissions, this threshold is 1,100 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) per year.<sup>61</sup> BAAQMD determined that this threshold would achieve aggregate emissions reduction of 1.6 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2020, which is the SFBAAB's fair share of mandated GHG emission reductions needed from new land use projects to comply with the AB 32 Scoping Plan (see below).

The analysis presented below also evaluates the project's consistency with plans and regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. Three greenhouse gas reduction plans -- the AB 32 Scoping Plan, BAAQMD's 2010 CAP, and the Solano County Climate Action Plan<sup>62</sup> -- are all intended to reduce GHG emissions below current levels, and are all applicable to the current project. Therefore, the analysis below examines the project's consistency with relevant components of these three plans. The following provides a brief description of each of the three plans.

#### AB 32 Scoping Plan and Update

Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32, Statutes of 2006, Chapter 488) declares that global warming poses a serious threat to the economic well-being, public health, natural resources, and environment of California and charges the ARB with "monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases that cause global warming in order to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases." AB 32 provided initial direction on creating a comprehensive multi-year program to limit California's GHG emissions at 1990 levels by 2020 and initiate the transformations required to achieve the State's long-range climate objectives. One specific requirement is to prepare a "scoping plan" for achieving the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective GHG emission reductions by 2020. ARB is required to update the plan for achieving the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions in GHG emissions at least once every five years.

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<sup>60</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 38.

<sup>61</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>e, or carbon dioxide equivalency, is a quantity that describes, for a given mixture and amount of greenhouse gas, the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> that would have the same global warming potential (GWP), when measured over a specified timescale (generally, 100 years). Carbon dioxide equivalency thus reflects the time-integrated radiative forcing of a quantity of emissions, expressed in terms of the GWP of the most common and abundant GHG, CO<sub>2</sub>. The carbon dioxide equivalency for a gas is obtained by multiplying the mass and the GWP of the gas. For example, the currently-accepted GWP for methane over 100 years is 25. This means that emissions of 1 metric tonne of methane is equivalent to emissions of 25 metric tons of carbon dioxide.

<sup>62</sup> Solano County, 2011, County of Solano Climate Action Plan. Adopted June 7, 2011.

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The Scoping Plan was approved in 2008, as required by AB 32, and reapproved in 2011.<sup>63</sup> The Scoping Plan contained a mix of recommended strategies that combined direct regulations, market-based approaches, voluntary measures, policies, and other emission reduction programs calculated to meet the 2020 statewide GHG emission limit and initiate the transformations needed to achieve the State's long-range climate objectives. The passage of AB 32, and its ongoing implementation, has put California on a path to continually reduce GHG emissions by adopting and implementing regulations and other programs to reduce emissions from cars, trucks, electricity production, fuels, and other sources.

This First Update to the Scoping Plan<sup>64</sup> (Scoping Plan Update) was developed by the ARB in collaboration with the State's Climate Action Team and reflects the input and expertise of a range of state and local government agencies. The Scoping Plan Update, which was adopted by the ARB in 2014, reflects public input and recommendations from business, environmental, environmental justice, and community-based organizations provided in response to the release of prior drafts of the Scoping Plan Update. The Update highlights California's success to date in reducing its GHG emissions and lays the foundation for establishing a broad framework for continued emission reductions beyond 2020, on the path to the target of 80 percent reduction in GHG emissions below 1990 levels by 2050.

The Scoping Plan Update covers a range of topics, including the following:

- An update of the latest scientific findings related to climate change and its impacts, including short-lived climate pollutants.
- A review of progress-to-date, including an update of Scoping Plan measures and other state, federal, and local efforts to reduce GHG emissions in California.
- Potential technologically feasible and cost-effective actions to further reduce GHG emissions by 2020.
- Recommendations for establishing a mid-term emissions limit that aligns with the State's long-term goal of an emissions limit 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.
- Sector-specific discussions covering issues, technologies, needs, and ongoing State activities to significantly reduce emissions throughout California's economy through 2050.
- Priorities and recommendations for investment to support market and technology development and necessary infrastructure in key areas.

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<sup>63</sup> ARB.2008. Climate Change Scoping Plan, a Framework for Change, Adopted December, 2008. Available online: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/document/scopingplandocument.htm>

<sup>64</sup> ARB, 2014. First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan: Building on the Framework. Adopted May, 2014. Available online: [http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/2013\\_update/first\\_update\\_climate\\_change\\_scoping\\_plan.pdf](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/2013_update/first_update_climate_change_scoping_plan.pdf)

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- A discussion of the ongoing work and continuing need for improved methods and tools to assess economic, public health, and environmental justice impacts.

#### BAAQMD 2010 Clean Air Plan

The Bay Area 2010 CAP<sup>65</sup> was adopted by the BAAQMD on September 15, 2010. The Bay Area 2010 CAP updates the *Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy* in accordance with the requirements of the CCAA to implement all feasible measures to reduce ozone; to provide a control strategy to reduce ozone, particulate matter, air toxics, and greenhouse gases in a single, integrated plan; and to establish emission control measures to be adopted or implemented. The Bay Area 2010 CAP contains the following primary goals:

- Attain air quality standards;
- Reduce population exposure and protect public health in the San Francisco Bay Area; and
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the climate.

The Bay Area 2010 CAP represents the most current applicable air quality plan for the SFBAAB. The Bay Area 2010 CAP performance objective for GHGs is to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and 40% below 1990 by 2035. This corresponds with GHG reduction goals established by the State of California and contained in the AB 32 Scoping Plan. The Bay Area 2010 CAP includes numerous “control measures” intended to reduce GHG emissions. Some would directly reduce GHG emissions; many other measures are aimed at reducing criteria pollutants and TACs, but would also provide GHG reductions as a co-benefit.

#### Solano County Climate Action Plan

In 2008, the Solano County General Plan recognized the threat of global climate change and the need to take local action to reduce communitywide GHG emissions and the likelihood of negative climate change effects on the County. The Solano County Climate Action Plan,<sup>66</sup> adopted in 2011, recognizes that climate change is a global problem, but states that many strategies are best developed locally to adapt to a changing climate and to reduce GHG emissions. The Climate Action Plan establishes a community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal of 20 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. To achieve that goal, the Climate Action Plan includes several categories of reduction measures that include agriculture, energy and efficiency, transportation and land use, waste reduction and recycling, and water conservation.

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<sup>65</sup> BAAQMD, 2010.

<sup>66</sup> Solano County, 2011.

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### *Transportation Component of the Project*

#### **Impact GG-1: The proposed project would generate greenhouse gas emissions, but not at levels that would result in a significant impact on the environment. (Less than Significant)**

Common GHGs resulting from human activity associated with decisions by local government agencies are CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>O. Individual projects contribute to the cumulative effects of climate change by directly or indirectly emitting GHGs during construction and operational phases.

The GHG emissions increases attributable to the transport of San Francisco's MSW would be from the increase in distance required to haul San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill compared to current conditions under which San Francisco's MSW is hauled to the Altamont Landfill. Because the Recology Hay Road Landfill is farther from the Points of Origin, emissions from hauling would be higher. The proposed project's GHG emissions were calculated using emission rates provided by ARB's EMFAC2011 for the SFBAAB and SVAB, and biodiesel adjustment factors, LNG emission rates, and CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission factors provided by the ARB. Vehicle information and haul route details were provided by Recology. Trip length was estimated using Google maps. Out of a total of 51 vehicles in the haul fleet, 40 are B20 biodiesel-powered and 11 are LNG-powered.

The proposed project is not expected to result in an increase in the number of daily truck trips, which would remain at approximately 50 round trips per day. The data regarding the number of truck trips, trip lengths and haul routes were used with the EMFAC2011 emission factors for heavy heavy-duty tractor-trailer trucks (T7 Tractor) to determine the maximum annual emission increase as well as average daily emission increases. All of the above assumptions and calculations are detailed in the project-specific Air Quality Technical Report.<sup>67</sup>

The proposed project would increase emissions produced by trucks hauling San Francisco MSW because the trip from the Points of Origin to the Recology Hay Road Landfill that would occur under the proposed project is longer than the trip from the Points of Origin to the Altamont Landfill that occurs under current conditions. The longer vehicle trip length in the proposed project would generate GHG emissions. GHG emissions of the proposed project were estimated based on the types and number of trucks that would be used to transport San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, miles traveled, and emission factors from ARB's EMFAC2011 database and other sources. **Table GG-1**, below, compares the incremental increase in GHG emissions resulting from the proposed project (i.e., the difference between

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<sup>67</sup> Environmental Science Associates (ESA), 2015.

existing emissions and the emissions that would occur under the proposed project) and compares these to the significance threshold of 1,100 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e discussed above.

**TABLE GG-1  
MAXIMUM ANNUAL OPERATIONAL GHG EMISSIONS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT  
(INCREMENTAL INCREASE IN GHG EMISSIONS OVER BASELINE)**

Source	CO <sub>2</sub> e (metric tons)
San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin	<del>281</del> 415
Sacramento Valley Air Basin	<del>519</del> 541
<b>Total</b>	<b><del>800</del>956</b>
<b>Significance Threshold</b>	<b>1,110</b>

Given that GHG emissions of the proposed project would not exceed the significance threshold, the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact with respect to GHG emissions.

**Impact GG-2: The proposed project would not conflict with any policy, plan, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. (Less than Significant)**

As discussed above, three greenhouse gas reduction plans – the ARB’s AB 32 Scoping Plan Update, BAAQMD’s 2010 CAP, and the Solano County Climate Action Plan -- are all intended to reduce GHG emissions below current levels, and are all applicable to the current project. Consistency of the proposed project with relevant objectives and measures contained within these plans is discussed below.

Consistency with AB 32 Scoping Plan Update

The AB 32 Scoping Plan and Scoping Plan Update include four transportation-related strategies for reduction of GHGs and criteria pollutants: (1) improve vehicle efficiency and develop zero emission technologies, (2) reduce the carbon content of fuels and provide market support to get these lower-carbon fuels into the marketplace, (3) plan and build communities to reduce vehicular GHG emissions and provide more transportation options, and (4) improve the efficiency and throughput of existing transportation systems. The Scoping Plan Update specifically addresses GHG emissions from heavy-duty trucks. The Scoping Plan Update notes that ARB recently approved a regulation establishing GHG emission reduction requirements for all medium- and heavy-duty vehicles and engines manufactured for use in California. For Class 8 heavy-duty vehicles (the class of vehicles used by Recology to transport San Francisco’s waste), this “Phase I” GHG standard will reduce new vehicle emissions by an estimated four to five percent per year from 2014–2018.

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ARB is working with U. S. EPA on Phase 2 GHG standards for heavy-duty vehicles to continue these reductions beyond 2018. U. S. EPA is planning to finalize Phase 2 standards in 2016. ARB believes additional annual improvements of around five percent through 2025 can be achieved from Class 8 heavy-duty vehicles using commercially available technologies and advanced transmissions, hybridization, improved trailer aerodynamics, and other technologies.

The Scoping Plan Update states that the Phase 2 standards will be an important next step in reducing GHG emissions from heavy-duty trucks, but that significantly greater reductions will be needed to meet California's climate change goals. To continue reducing emissions, zero and near-zero emission technologies will need to be deployed in large numbers. For heavy, long-range applications where electrification is not practical, low-carbon sources of energy, such as renewable fuels and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, will be necessary.

Most of Recology's transfer fleet currently runs on B-20 biodiesel (that is, diesel fuel that is derived from 20 percent vegetable or animal fats and 80 percent petroleum). Currently, eleven trucks in the fleet run on liquefied natural gas (LNG), and Recology is in the process of phasing in additional transfer vehicles that run on LNG or compressed natural gas (CNG). All of these fuels produce lower GHG emissions than conventional diesel. The proposed project is therefore consistent with the Scoping Plan Update's emphasis on reducing GHG emissions from heavy-duty trucks. Furthermore, because the proposed project's GHG emissions would be below the quantitative significance threshold of 1,100 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year (see Greenhouse Gas Emissions Approach to Analysis and Impact GG-1, above), the proposed project would contribute to meeting the SFBAAB's fair share of emission reductions for the year 2020, as set in the AB 32 Scoping Plan and determined in the BAAQMD's Justification Report.<sup>68</sup>

#### Consistency with the BAAQMD 2010 CAP

With regard to GHGs, the Bay Area 2010 CAP performance objective is to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and 40% below 1990 by 2035. This corresponds with GHG reduction goals established by the State of California. The CAP includes numerous "control measures" intended to reduce GHG emissions. Some would directly reduce GHG emissions; many other measures are aimed at reducing criteria pollutants and TACs, but would also provide GHG reductions as a co-benefit. Two control measures intended to reduce criteria pollutants, TACs, and GHGs are directly applicable to the Transportation component of the proposed project:

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<sup>68</sup> BAAQMD, 2009, p. 3.



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#### *MSM B-1 - Fleet Modernization for Medium- and Heavy-Duty On-Road Vehicles*

Under this measure, the BAAQMD will directly provide and encourage incentives for the purchase of new trucks that meet the ARB's 2010 emission standards for heavy-duty engines. This program is designed to assist truck owners/operators to replace pre-2003 heavy-duty diesel trucks with new diesel-fueled or natural gas-fueled trucks in advance of requirements of ARB's in-use truck regulation.

Recology's truck fleet has an average age of 6 years; many of the trucks in the fleet already meet ARB's 2010 emission standards. Several of the trucks in the fleet run on LNG, with plans to phase in more that run on LNG or CNG. Thus, the proposed project is consistent with the intent of Measure MSM B-1.

#### *TCM B-1 - Freeway and Arterial Operations Strategies*

TCM B-1 will improve the performance and efficiency of freeway and arterial systems through operational improvements. These improvements include implementing the Freeway Performance Initiative (FPI), the Bay Area Freeway Service Patrol (FSP), and the Arterial Management Program. This measure will reduce emissions by improving the efficiency of existing freeways and roadways throughout the Bay Area.

Recology manages departure of vehicles from its San Francisco facilities to avoid periods of heavy traffic congestion. This contributes to the intent of Measure TCM B-1, by reducing congestion and improving the performance and efficiency of the freeway system.

#### *Consistency with the Solano County Climate Action Plan*

Solano County's Climate Action Plan establishes a community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal of 20 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. To achieve that goal, the Climate Action Plan includes several categories of reduction measures that include agriculture, energy and efficiency, transportation and land use, waste reduction and recycling, and water conservation. The Transportation and Land Use measures have the objective of supporting a transportation system and land use pattern that promotes carpooling, walking, biking, and using public transit. Measures and actions do not address waste transport within the County, nor emissions from heavy-duty trucks. There are no measures or policies within the Climate Action Plan that are relevant to the Transportation component of the proposed project. Consistency of the Disposal component of the proposed project with Climate Action Plan is discussed below.

In summary, the proposed project would not conflict with plans, policies, or regulations associated with the AB32 Scoping Plan and Scoping Plan Update, nor with the BAAQMD's 2010 Clean Air Plan, nor with Solano County's CAP. This impact would therefore be *less than significant*.

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### *Disposal Component of the Project*

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for the then-proposed increase in waste acceptance to result in a substantial increase in GHG emissions. The 2012 IS/MND found that there would be an increase in GHG emissions from increased equipment operation and increased emissions of landfill gas. However, the 2012 IS/MND also concluded that increased waste acceptance would result in a greater volume of material placed in the landfill where it would not decompose, and therefore the carbon contained in that material would not be emitted as CO<sub>2</sub> or CH<sub>4</sub>. When accounting for this form of “carbon sequestration,” the 2012 IS/MND concluded that the proposed increase in waste acceptance would result in a net decrease in GHG emissions. The 2012 IS/MND also concluded that the project then being examined would not conflict with any plans or policies intended to reduce GHG emissions.

The ARB’s Scoping Plan Update describes the status of several landfill methane control measures that were proposed in the original Scoping Plan. In the Scoping Plan, reducing methane emissions from landfills was identified as an early action item. Subsequently, ARB approved the Landfill Methane Control Measure, which became effective in 2010. The measure requires the installation of landfill gas<sup>69</sup> collection and control systems at certain municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills, requires landfills to meet stringent emission standards for landfill gas, and requires monitoring, reporting, and where necessary, corrective action to demonstrate and achieve these standards. The Scoping Plan Update includes several “key recommended actions for the waste sector,” including several that are relevant to the Disposal component of the proposed project. These include the following:

- the development of program(s) to eliminate disposal of organic materials at landfills.
- identifying and recommending actions to address cross-California agency and federal permitting and siting challenges associated with composting and anaerobic digestion.
- explore and identify opportunities for additional methane control at new and existing landfills, and increase the utilization of captured methane for waste already in place as a fuel source for stationary and mobile applications.
- if determined appropriate, amend the Landfill Methane Regulation and/or move landfills into the Cap-and-Trade Program.

The Recology Hay Road Landfill has implemented the applicable provisions of the Landfill Methane Control Measure and is in compliance with the new landfill gas emission standards. If and when implemented, Recology would comply with any new requirements of key recommended actions contained

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<sup>69</sup> Landfill gas consists of approximately 50% methane.

in the Scoping Plan Update. The Project therefore would not conflict with any aspects of the Scoping Plan or the Scoping Plan Update.

The Solano County Climate Action Plan includes measures for reducing GHGs through Waste Reduction and Recycling. Included among these measures is Measure W-4. Methane Capture. The intent of this measure is to facilitate implementation of ARB's Landfill Methane Control Measure. As noted above, the Recology Hay Road Landfill has implemented the applicable provisions of the Landfill Methane Control Measure and is in compliance with the new standards for landfill gas emissions. The proposed project would therefore not conflict with any provisions of the Solano County Climate Action Plan.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

As described above, the 2012 IS/MND concluded that the then-proposed increase in the rate of waste disposal would result in a net decrease in GHG emissions. When added to the calculated increase in emissions associated with transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, the net emissions of GHGs would be less than the GHGs associated with transportation alone. Therefore, the combined impact of transportation and disposal would be less than significant.

### ***Cumulative Impacts***

#### **Impact C-GG-1: The proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulative significant effects related to emissions of greenhouse gases. (Less than Significant)**

Given that all GHG impacts are cumulative, and that the 1,100 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year significance threshold represents a threshold for determining whether a project makes a cumulatively considerable contribution, which the proposed project's emissions do not exceed, the proposed project's impacts related to cumulative emissions of GHGs would be *less than significant*.

## **E.9 Wind and Shadow**

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>9. WIND AND SHADOW—Would the project:</b>					
a) Alter wind in a manner that substantially affects public areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create new shadow in a manner that substantially affects outdoor recreation facilities or other public areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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## *Transportation*

### **Impact WS-1: The proposed project would not alter wind in a manner that substantially affects public areas. (No Impact)**

Wind impacts are generally caused by large building masses extending substantially above their surroundings, and by buildings oriented such that a large wall catches a prevailing wind, particularly if such a wall includes little or no articulation. Given that the proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill involves no new or altered buildings, transportation does not have the potential to alter wind, and there would be *no impact* of this kind.

### **Impact WS-2: The proposed project would not create new shadows in a manner that substantially affects outdoor recreation facilities or other public areas. (No Impact)**

Planning Code Section 295 restricts new shadow on public spaces under the jurisdiction of the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) by any structure exceeding 40 feet in height, unless the Planning Commission finds the impact to be less than significant. Because the proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not include the construction or alteration of any building, it does not have the potential to create new shadows. There would therefore be *no impact* of this kind.

## *Disposal Component of the Project*

Examination of potential effects of a project on wind and shadows is not a required part of a CEQA analysis, though it is standard practice for the City and County of San Francisco. Solano County does not include examination of wind and shadow impacts in their standard IS checklist. The 2012 IS/MND did not examine wind and shadow impacts. However, the disposal of San Francisco's MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would result in no new buildings or other structures that could alter wind or cast shadows. The project examined in the 2012 IS/MND, like the current project, would not result in a change to the final height or mass of the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Therefore, the increased rate of disposal does not have potential to result in a substantial adverse effect on wind and shadows.

## *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

As discussed above, neither the transportation nor the disposal component of the proposed project would alter wind or cast shadows. There would be no combined effect of transportation and disposal on wind or shadows.

## Cumulative Impacts

**Impact C-WS-1: The proposed project, in combination with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would not result in significant cumulative wind and shadow impacts. (No Impact)**

Because the proposed project does not have the potential to impact wind or shadow, it also lacks the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact on wind or shadow; there would be *no cumulative impact* of this kind.

## E.10 Recreation

Topics:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Not Applicable
<b>10. RECREATION— Would the project:</b>					
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Physically degrade existing recreational resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Transportation Component of the Project

**Impact RE-1: The proposed project would not result in a substantial increase in the use of existing neighborhood parks or other recreational facilities, physically degrade existing recreational resources, or require the construction of recreational facilities that may have a significant effect on the environment. (No Impact)**

This impact addresses questions E.10a, E.10b, and E.10c from the checklist above.

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would add approximately nine to ten full time equivalent drivers. This small number of new employees would not increase demand for recreational activities, require the construction of new recreational facilities, or physically degrade existing recreational resources. There would be *no impact* of this kind.

### Disposal Component of the Project

The 2012 IS/MND found that the proposal to increase the rate of waste acceptance would not result in increased demands on local parks or other recreational facilities, and would not require the construction

of new or expansion of existing recreational facilities. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that increasing the rate of waste acceptance would therefore have *no impact* on recreation.

### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

As discussed above, neither the transportation nor the disposal component of the proposed project would have an impact on recreation. There could therefore be no combined effect of transportation and disposal on recreation.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-RE-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future project, would not contribute considerably to a significant recreational impact in the project site vicinity. (No Impact)**

Because the proposed project would not increase demand for recreational activities, require the construction of new recreational facilities, or physically degrade existing recreational resources, it would not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact on recreational facilities. There would be *no cumulative impact* of this kind.

## E.11 Utilities and Service Systems

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>11. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS—</b>					
<b>Would the project:</b>					
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supply available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or require new or expanded water supply resources or entitlements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that would serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

**Impact UT-1: The proposed project would not significantly exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the RWQCB or affect wastewater collection and treatment facilities, would not require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, and would not require expansion or construction of new water supply or treatment facilities. (No Impact)**

This impact statement addresses questions E.11a through E.11e from the above checklist.

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not necessitate any new or expanded water supply or wastewater treatment facilities, and would not affect existing stormwater drainage facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on these public utilities.

**Impact UT-2: The proposed project would be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would replace the current practice of transporting and disposing of the City's MSW at the Altamont Landfill in Alameda County. The project would result in the transportation and disposal of 5 million tons of San Francisco MSW at the Recology Hay Road Landfill, which would be expected to occur over a 15-year period beginning in 2016. As discussed in the Project Description, the Recology Hay Road Landfill is permitted to accept up to 2,400 tons of waste per day, and, at this maximum rate of waste acceptance, the landfill has permitted capacity to continue to receive waste approximately through the year 2034. At the estimated rate of waste disposal of about 1,851 tons per day, closure would be in approximately 2041.<sup>70</sup> Therefore, the Recology Hay Road Landfill has sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.

<sup>70</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2015.

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Over the past two years, between June, 2012 and June, 2014 Recology Hay Road Landfill received on average about 651 tons of waste per day.<sup>71</sup> Waste from San Francisco would average about 1,200 tons per day; therefore, on average, the combined amount of existing waste and San Francisco MSW hauled to the Recology Hay Road Landfill, about 1,851 tons per day, would be within the Landfill's permit limit of 2,400 tons of waste per day.

In sum, the proposed project would have a *less-than-significant impact* on landfill capacity.

**Impact UT-3: The proposed project would follow all applicable statutes and regulations related to solid waste. (No Impact)**

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) requires municipalities to adopt an Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP) to establish objectives, policies, and programs relative to waste disposal, management, source reduction, and recycling. Reports filed by the San Francisco Department of the Environment show that the City generated approximately 870,000 tons of waste material in 2000. By 2010, that figured decreased to approximately 455,000 tons. Waste diverted from landfills is defined as recycled or composted material. San Francisco has a goal of 75 percent landfill diversion by 2010, and 100 percent by 2020. As of 2012, 80 percent of San Francisco's solid waste was being diverted from landfills, and the City had met the 2010 diversion target.<sup>72</sup> The proposed project would not alter or interfere with the City's efforts to comply with AB939 and its own landfill diversion goals.

The facilities where waste would be shipped from and to, i.e., Recology San Francisco Transfer Station, Recycle Central, and Recology Hay Road Landfill, are all permitted by State and local agencies. The proposed project would not result in any changes to operations at any of these facilities that would result in an inconsistency or violation of permit conditions at any of these facilities.

Based on the foregoing discussion, the proposed project would follow all applicable statutes and regulations related to solid waste, and would have *no impact* of this kind.

***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined potential impacts on utilities and service systems associated with increasing the rate of waste acceptance and found that there would be *no impact* of this kind.

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<sup>71</sup> Merrill, Erin (Recology), 2015.

<sup>72</sup> San Francisco Department of the Environment, 2012. "Mayor Lee Announces San Francisco Reaches 80 Percent Landfill Waste Diversion, Leads All Cities in North America". October 5, 2012. Available online at <http://www.sfenvironment.org/news/press-release/mayor-lee-announces-san-francisco-reaches-80-percent-landfill-waste-diversion-leads-all-cities-in-north-america>



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### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

As discussed above, neither transportation to nor disposal at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have an impact on utilities and service systems. There could therefore be no combined effect of transportation and disposal on utilities and service systems.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-UT-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the site vicinity, would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant utilities or service systems impact. (Less than Significant)**

Even with the addition of 5 million tons of San Francisco MSW over an assumed period of 15 years, the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have sufficient capacity to continue accepting waste through at least 2034. Therefore, the contribution of the proposed project to any cumulative effect on permitted landfill capacity would not be considerable.

In terms of other impacts related to utilities and service systems, the proposed project would have no impact, and therefore would not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact related to this topic.

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## E.12 Public Services

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>12. PUBLIC SERVICES—Would the project:</b>					
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any public services such as fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, or other services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

**Impact PS-1: The proposed project would not increase the demand for police or fire protection service, other governmental service, or new schools, such that new or physically altered facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, would be required in order to maintain acceptable levels of service. (No Impact)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not add a substantial number of employees or develop new structures that would require an increase in police or

fire protections services, or other governmental services such as libraries, community centers, or other public facilities. Likewise, the proposed project would not increase school enrollment and would not require new schools. Therefore, the proposed project would not require the construction of new or alteration of existing governmental facilities which could cause significant environmental effects, and there would be *no impact* of this kind.

### *Disposal Component of the Project*

The 2012 IS/MND examined potential impacts on utilities and service systems associated with increasing the rate of waste acceptance and found that there would be *no impact* of this kind.

### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

As discussed above, neither transportation to nor disposal at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have an impact on utilities and service systems. There could therefore be no combined effect of transportation and disposal on utilities and service systems.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-PS-1: The proposed project, combined with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the vicinity, would not have a substantial cumulative impact to public services. (No Impact)**

Because the proposed project would have no impact on public services, it would not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impacts of this kind.

## E.13 Biological Resources

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>13. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES—Would the project:</b>					
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

**Impact BI-1: The proposed project would not directly or indirectly impact special status plant or animal species or sensitive natural community including wetlands and riparian areas; would not interfere with the movement of native resident or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance, and would not conflict with an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. (No Impact)**

This discussion addresses questions 13.a through 13.f from the checklist above.

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would involve the transport of waste on existing roadways, along existing truck routes. The small increase in daily truck traffic on I-80 and Solano County local roadways would not directly or indirectly impact sensitive species or habitat, and therefore would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances, or adopted habitat conservation plans or other conservation plans. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on biological resources.

### *Disposal Component of the Project*

The 2012 IS/MND examined potential impacts on biological resources associated with increasing the rate of waste acceptance. The 2012 IS/MND found that, because the project then being examined would not disturb any previously undisturbed areas and would not disturb any sensitive habitat or species, it would have *no impact* on biological resources.

## Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project

As discussed above, neither transportation to nor disposal at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would have an impact on biological resources. There could therefore be no combined effect of transportation and disposal on biological resources.

## Cumulative Impacts

**Impact C-BI-1: The proposed project, in combination with other past, present or reasonably foreseeable projects, would not result in a considerable contribution to cumulative impacts on biological resources. (No Impact)**

Because the proposed project would have no impact on biological resources, it would not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact on biological resources.

## E.14 Geology and Soils

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>14. GEOLOGY AND SOILS—Would the project:</b>					
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:					
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in the San Francisco Building Code, creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Change substantially the topography or any unique geologic or physical features of the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### ***Transportation Component of the Project***

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not require the use of a septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems; therefore, question 14. e from the above checklist is not applicable to the proposed project.

**Impact GE-1: The proposed project would not result in exposure of people and structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, expansive soils, seismic ground-shaking, liquefaction, lateral spreading, or landslides. (No Impact)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill involves the transport of waste on existing streets and highways and includes no new or altered structures, and therefore would not increase exposure of people or structures to risk of loss, injury, or death due to geologic hazards. There would be *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact GE-2: The proposed project would not result in substantial loss of topsoil or erosion, and would not be located on a geologic unit or soil (including expansive soil) that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project (No Impact)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill involves the transport of waste on existing streets and highways and includes no new or altered structures, and therefore would not cause an increase in the loss of topsoil or erosion; neither would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil type that is unstable or that would become unstable as a result of the project. Therefore, there would be *no impact* of this kind.

**Impact GE-3: The proposed project would not change the topography of the project site in a manner that would result in a significant impact to geologic or physical features of the site. (No Impact)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not result in any alteration of topography, and so could not have a significant impact on geologic or physical features. There would be *no impact* of this kind.

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### *Disposal Component of the Project*

The 2012 IS/MND examined potential impacts related to geology and soils associated with increasing the rate of waste acceptance. The 2012 IS/MND found that the increased rate of waste acceptance would not increase the height of the landfill, modify landfill slopes, or make any other changes that could increase the potential for damage due to shaking ground rupture or failure, landslides, soil loss or erosion. The 2012 IS/MND furthermore found that previously-imposed mitigation measures were adequate to prevent environmental impacts associated with development of on-site sewage disposal systems. The 2012 IS/MND noted that soils underlying the landfill contain varying amounts of clay, which could exhibit shrink-swell characteristics in localized areas. However, the shallow clay materials had previously been characterized as having a low plasticity, and the area of expansive soils would likely be limited in extent. Therefore, the potential for expansive soils to adversely affect the project site was determined to be low and the potential impact resulting from expansive soils was considered less than significant.

### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

Because transportation and disposal of San Francisco's waste would take place in different locations, they would not have the potential to combine to cause a significant impact with regard to geology and soils.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-GE-1: The proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulative significant effects related to geology or soils. (No Impact)**

As discussed above, the transportation component of the proposed project would have no impact related to geology and soils, and the disposal component would have only a less-than-significant impact related to expansive soils. The development of the proposed AD facility could also be affected by expansive soils. However, design of the facility, including design to meet Building Code requirements in response to any identified geotechnical issues, would avoid or minimize potential effects of expansive soils. Therefore, the cumulative effect related to expansive soils would be less than significant.

## E.15 Hydrology and Water Quality

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>15. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – Would the project:</b>					
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other authoritative flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not place housing or other structures within a 100-year floodplain. Therefore, questions 15.g and 15.h from the above checklist are not applicable to the transportation component of the proposed project.

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**Impact HY-1: The proposed project would not violate water quality standards or otherwise substantially degrade water quality, would not alter or interfere with drainage patterns or drainage systems, and would not deplete groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge. (No Impact)**

This impact addresses questions 15.a through 15.f from the above checklist.

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not result in the alteration of land or water bodies, and would have no effect on natural or built drainage structures or systems or on groundwater or groundwater recharge. The proposed project would not result in increased runoff, erosion, or water pollution. The proposed project would therefore have no impact on the quality of surface water or groundwater; would not affect, drainage patterns, and would not affect groundwater supplies; it would have *no impact* on hydrology and water quality.

**Impact HY-2: The proposed project would not expose people, housing, or structures to substantial risk of loss due to flooding, would not impede or redirect flood flows, and would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. (Less than Significant)**

This impact addresses checklist questions 15.i and 15.j.

While some of the roadways involved in the proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill may be susceptible to flooding or inundation by seiche (a seiche is an oscillation of a water body, such as a bay, that may occur due to a landslide or earthquake, and that may cause local flooding), tsunami, or mudflow, the project would not alter this risk or expose substantial numbers of people to these risks. Therefore, this impact would be *less than significant*.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for increased acceptance of waste for landfill (2,400 tons per day) to adversely affect water quality, and found that, because the landfill would continue to be required to comply with the site's Waste Discharge Requirements (conditions required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board to protect surface and ground water quality) and with the requirements of the facility's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, operation of the landfill would not result in violation of any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

### ***Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project***

Because transportation and disposal of San Francisco's waste would take place in different locations, they would not have the potential to combine to cause a significant impact with regard to hydrology and water quality.



## Cumulative Impacts

### Impact C-HY-1: The proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulative significant effects related to hydrology or water quality. (Less than Significant)

The proposed project could have an insubstantial, less-than-significant impact by exposing persons (i.e., the drivers of the trucks used to haul waste) to risk of loss, injury, or death due to a natural disaster, such as a seiche, tsunami, mudflow, or flood inundating one of the roadways at the time and place where waste was being transported. Such risks already exist in association with the transportation of waste from the City of San Francisco to the Altamont Landfill. This risk would be about the same with and without the project, though some of the roadways involved would change. Therefore, the proposed project would not make a substantial or considerable contribution to the general cumulative risks of this kind that people in the San Francisco Bay Area are already exposed to.

The 2012 IS/MND concluded that disposal would have no impact on hydrology and water quality, and therefore could not contribute to a cumulative impact of this kind.

The AD project would take place within the landfill footprint. It, too, would be subject to regulations and permits for prevention of flooding and for protection of surface water, groundwater, and waterways. With adherence to regulatory requirements, the AD facility would not combine with landfill disposal to cause a significant cumulative impact on water quality.

## E.16 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Topics:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Not Applicable
<b>16. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS— Would the project:</b>					
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

**Impact HZ-1: The proposed project would not create a significant hazard through routine transport, use, disposal, handling, or emission of hazardous materials, or through reasonably foreseeable upset or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. (Less than Significant)**

This impact addresses questions 16.a, 16.b, and 16.c from the above checklist.

Disposal of hazardous waste with municipal solid waste is illegal. The San Francisco Department of the Environment and Recology conduct public education campaigns promoting the proper handling and disposal of hazardous wastes from households and small quantity commercial generators. Recology maintains load checking programs at the San Francisco Transfer Station and Recycle Central facility, to detect, sequester, and properly dispose of any hazardous waste that inadvertently or illegally arrives in loads of MSW or recycled materials.

Despite efforts to prevent, detect, and remove hazardous materials from disposed municipal solid waste, small quantities of these materials are present, and would be present in the loads of waste being transported under the proposed project. There is some risk of emission of small amounts of volatile substances, or leak or spill of hazardous substances during routine transport of waste, or in the event of an accident involving waste transport vehicles. The route that would be taken by vehicles under the proposed project passes through heavily urbanized areas, including the cities of San Francisco, Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley, Richmond, San Pablo, Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo, Crockett, Vallejo, and Fairfield.

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Along these corridors are located numerous sensitive receptors, including residences, schools, day care facilities, hospitals, and nursing homes, including numerous instances of such receptors located within one quarter mile of the roadway. A spill of hazardous materials along U.S. 101 or I-80 corridors could pose a health and safety risk to many people, including especially sensitive individuals such as the elderly and school children. However, the risk of spills, leaks, and upset is small, and MSW is not classified as hazardous waste. Furthermore, MSW is solid waste, and contains little free liquid or gases that could spread beyond the location of a spill. If a spill, leak, or accident were to occur, any release of hazardous waste from MSW loads would be very small and localized, and would not be expected to adversely impact nearby sensitive receptors.

As previously indicated, the proposed project would represent no change in operations between the points of origin and the east end of the Bay Bridge. The proposed project would change the route of haul trucks from the east end of the Bay Bridge to the landfill destination, but both routes (existing route to Altamont and proposed route to Hay Road landfill) consist primarily of freeway segments through both urban and rural areas, as well as shorter segments on less-traveled roads through rural areas. As the existing and proposed routes are similar in nature, the proposed project is not expected to change or increase the potential for accidents or spills. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that there would be no significant hazardous materials impact with respect to the transport of MSW to Hay Road Landfill. Therefore, the proposed project would have only a *less-than-significant* impact of this kind.

**Impact HZ-2: The project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment as a result of being located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (No Impact)**

The transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would take place on existing roadways, and would not require any new construction or alteration of these roadways. Therefore, transportation would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment from disturbance or development of a site included on one of the hazardous materials site list. Therefore, transportation would have *no impact* with respect to the potential to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment as a result of being located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

**Impact HZ-3: The proposed project would not result in a safety hazard for people working in proximity to a public airport, public use airport, or private airstrip. (No Impact)**

This impact addresses questions 16. e and 16. f from the checklist above.

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Airports and airstrips within 2 miles of the haul route that would be used to transport San Francisco MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill include the Nut Tree Airport, located west of I-80 in Vacaville, the Maine Prairie airstrip, just west of State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road) north of the Recology Hay Road Landfill, and Travis Air Force Base, the closest point of which is about one and a half miles southwest of the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The routine transport of MSW over public roadways would not in any way affect operations at any of these airports and air strips, nor would it pose a safety hazard for people living or working in proximity to them. Therefore, the project would have *no impact* with regard to airport and airfield safety hazards.

**Impact HZ-4: The proposed project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving fires, nor interfere with the implementation of an emergency response plan. (No Impact)**

This impact addresses questions 16.g and 16.h from the checklist above.

Transportation of waste under the proposed project would not increase fire risk, and so would not increase the risk of loss, injury or death involving fires. Neither would transportation interfere with implementation of an emergency response plan. There would be *no impact* of this kind.

### ***Disposal Component of the Project***

The 2012 IS/MND examined the potential for increased acceptance of waste for landfilling (2,400 tons per day) to increase aviation safety hazards. The 2012 IS/MND noted that the facility currently implements bird deterrence measures in order to limit potential bird hazards to aircraft. The deterrence program includes the training of selected landfill staff in firearm safety and Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) strategies; use of deterrent measures including “screamers” (shells fired from a hand-held pistol); implementation of a regular falconer program; and use of blank shotgun shells as a scare device. As part of the existing bird deterrence program, wildlife biologists visit the site on a quarterly basis to record conditions and make observations regarding the effectiveness of control measures. The 2012 IS/MND concluded that the increased landfill operations would not increase the attraction of birds to the site above current peak conditions and would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.

The 2012 IS/MND also concluded that increasing the rate of waste acceptance would cause no impact with respect to other hazards or hazardous materials.

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### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

Because transportation and disposal of San Francisco's MSW would take place in different locations, they would not have the potential to combine to cause a significant impact with regard to hazards and hazardous materials.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-HZ-1: The proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulative significant effects related to hazards or hazardous materials. (Less than Significant)**

Because the proposed project would have no impact with regard to increasing risk of loss, injury, or death involving fires, or interfering with the implementation of an emergency response plan, the proposed project does not have the potential to contribute to a cumulative effect of this kind. Also, because the project would have no impact with regard to listed hazardous materials sites and aircraft safety, it could not contribute to a cumulative impact of these kinds.

As noted in the discussion of Impact HZ-1, the slight risk of hazardous materials emissions or spills associated with transport of MSW would be little different from the existing, baseline condition. The same amount of waste would be transported on public roadways with and without implementation of the project. The additional travel distance for waste-hauling vehicles under the proposed project would slightly increase the risk of spill or upset associated with transport of materials containing MSW, which is not hazardous waste, but which may contain incidental amounts of hazardous waste. This risk would combine with the cumulative risk of upset and spill posed by existing and future transport of hazardous materials on public roads. However, as noted in the discussion of Impact HZ-1, the amount of hazardous materials present in San Francisco's MSW is very small, the risk of upset is also small, and the types of hazardous materials likely present in San Francisco's MSW would be unlikely to spread beyond the location of a spill. For these reasons, the contribution of the project to cumulative impacts associated with accidental hazardous materials emissions or spills on public roadways is very small, and not considered cumulatively considerable. The cumulative impact would therefore be *less than significant*.

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## E.17 Mineral and Energy Resources

Topics:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Not Applicable
<b>17. MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES—</b>					
<b>Would the project:</b>					
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Encourage activities which result in the use of large amounts of fuel, water, or energy, or use these in a wasteful manner?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

#### **Impact ME-1: The proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource or a locally important mineral resource recovery site. (No Impact)**

Because the proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve development of new or expanded structures, it does not have the potential to interfere with or result in the loss of availability of any known mineral resource or mineral resource recovery site. Thus, the project would have *no impact* on mineral resources.

#### **Impact ME-2: Implementation of the proposed project would not encourage activities that would result in the use of large amounts of fuel, water, or energy, or use these in a wasteful manner. (Less than Significant)**

The proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would consume energy in the form of transportation fuel to accomplish the essential municipal task of transporting waste for disposal. The proposed project would result in an increase of about 40 miles roundtrip traveled by waste-hauling vehicles. These vehicles have a fuel consumption rate of about four miles per gallon. Therefore, each roundtrip would consume about 10 gallons of fuel more than the existing haul to the Altamont Landfill. With about 50 roundtrips per day, this totals about 500 gallons of fuel per day, or about 156,000 gallons per year (six days per week). This is equivalent to about one-fifth (1/5) of a gallon per capita (San Francisco's population served by Recology is about 837,000 people, not including businesses) per year, which is a reasonable expenditure of energy for the essential municipal function of waste disposal. Furthermore, the City and County of San Francisco has an ambitious and successful waste diversion program that minimizes the amount of waste that must be disposed of through landfilling. Also, some of the trucks in Recology's long-haul fleet are fueled with a biofuel blend derived

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partially from renewable vegetable oil, and others are fueled with LNG, an efficient fuel with relatively low emissions. Therefore, the transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not result in the use of, or encourage activities that would result in the use of large amounts of fuel, water, or energy, or use these in a wasteful manner. The small increase in the use of transportation fuels would be considered a *less-than-significant* impact.

### *Disposal Component of the Project*

The 2012 IS/MND states that there are no known mineral resources within the footprint of the Recology Hay Road Landfill. Furthermore, the then-proposed increase in waste acceptance would not change the landfill's footprint or extent. Therefore, the IS/MND concludes that the increase in waste acceptance would have no impact on mineral resources.

### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal Components of the Project*

Because neither transportation nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would impact mineral resources, they would not have the potential to combine to cause a significant impact with regard to mineral resources.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-ME-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the site vicinity, would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant energy and minerals impact. (Less than Significant)**

As described above, the proposed project would not have the potential to interfere with or result in the loss of availability of any known mineral resource or mineral resource recovery site. Thus, the project would not have the potential to contribute to any cumulative impact on mineral resources. As noted in the discussion of impact ME-2, the increase in use of transportation fuels is reasonable given that the increase is relatively small for the population served, that the project would provide an essential municipal service, and that types of fuels used are partly derived from renewable resources. Therefore, the increase in use transportation fuels would not constitute a considerable contribution to the cumulative use of energy resources. The AD project would result in the production of renewable fuel which may potentially be used for this project. Therefore, the combination of the project with the AD project would not result in a cumulative impact on energy resources.

## E.18 Agriculture and Forest Resources

<b>Topics:</b>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>18. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES:</b> In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.					
<b>Would the project:</b>					
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)) or timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### *Transportation Component of the Project*

**Impact AF-1: The proposed project would not result in the conversion of farmland or forest land to non-farm or non-forest use, nor would it conflict with existing agricultural or forest use or zoning. (No Impact)**

This impact addresses questions 18. a through 18. e from the above checklist.

Because the proposed transportation of San Francisco's MSW to the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not involve development of structures or facilities, it would not convert any prime farmland, unique farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use, and would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural land use or a Williamson Act contract, nor would it involve any changes to the environment that could result in the conversion of farmland or forest land. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on agricultural or forest resources.



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### *Disposal Component of the Project*

The 2012 IS/MND stated that the then-proposed increase in waste acceptance at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would not convert any farmland to non-agricultural uses, nor would it conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or with an existing Williamson Act contract. Therefore, the IS/MND concluded that the increase in waste acceptance would have no impact on agricultural resources. The landfill is not located in a forested area, and therefore the increased acceptance of waste would not adversely impact forest resources.

### *Combined Impact of Transportation and Disposal*

Because neither transportation nor disposal of San Francisco's MSW would impact agriculture or forest resources, they would not have the potential to combine to cause a significant impact with regard to agriculture or forest resources.

### *Cumulative Impacts*

**Impact C-AF-1: The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development in the site vicinity, would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant agriculture and forest resources impact. (No Impact)**

Because the proposed project would have no impact on agricultural or forest resources, it could not contribute to a cumulative impact on these resources: *No cumulative impact* would occur.

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## E.19 Mandatory Findings of Significance

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<b>19. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE— Would the project:</b>					
a) Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
b) Have impacts that would be individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**E.20. a)** As discussed in section E.13, Biological Resources and section E.4, Cultural Resources, the proposed project would have no impact on biological resources or cultural resources. Therefore, the proposed project would not degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal. Neither would the proposed project eliminate any examples of major periods of California history or prehistory.

**E.20. b)** The potential for the proposed project to make a considerable contribution to a cumulative impact is considered in each topical section above. In all instances, the conclusion reached is that the proposed project would not make a considerable contribution to any cumulative impact.

**E.20. c)** The project's potential to cause significant human health risks due to emission of diesel particulate matter is evaluated in section E.7, Air Quality, and found to be less than significant. The potential for the project to result in emission, leak, or spill of hazardous materials, to increase the risk of loss through fire, and to result in increased safety risk involving aircraft is evaluated in section E.16, Hazardous Materials, and is also found to be less than significant. Therefore, the proposed project would not cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

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## F. MITIGATION MEASURES AND IMPROVEMENT MEASURES

No mitigation measures are identified in the foregoing discussion; none are necessary, since no potentially significant impacts are identified.

## G. PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT

The Planning Department prepared and distributed a Notification of Project Receiving Environmental Review for the project on June 27, 2014. The notice was mailed to Solano County, other public agencies, and interested parties. Comments received during the 30-day period following issuance of the Notification were considered during the preparation of this document. These comments raised concerns regarding the potential for the proposed project to increase the intensity of landfill operations and possibly cause environmental impacts. In particular, concerns were raised about the possibility of increased odor, increased noise, increased traffic, increased bird nuisance, adverse effects on water quality, and increased litter. Each of these issues is addressed in the Initial Study under the specific topic headings.

Several comments stated that the acceptance of waste from San Francisco at the Recology Hay Road Landfill would violate Solano County Measure E, a ballot initiative passed by the voters of Solano County in 1984, which limited the amount of out-of-county waste that could be disposed of in landfills within the county. However, in August, 2013, The California Court of Appeal ruled that Measure E is invalid and no longer in effect. The court stated: "Measure E is preempted by Assembly Bill No.845, which expressly prohibits counties from discriminating against solid waste importation based on place of origin. (Pub. Resources Code, § 40059.3, subd. (a).) Assembly Bill No.845 therefore renders Measure E void and unenforceable." Therefore, the project's consistency with Measure E is not considered in this Initial Study.

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## H. DETERMINATION

On the basis of this Initial Study:

- ☒ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, no further environmental documentation is required.

DATE

March 4, 2015



Sarah B. Jones  
Environmental Review Officer  
for  
John Rahaim  
Director of Planning

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## **I. LIST OF PREPARERS**

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# **APPENDIX A**

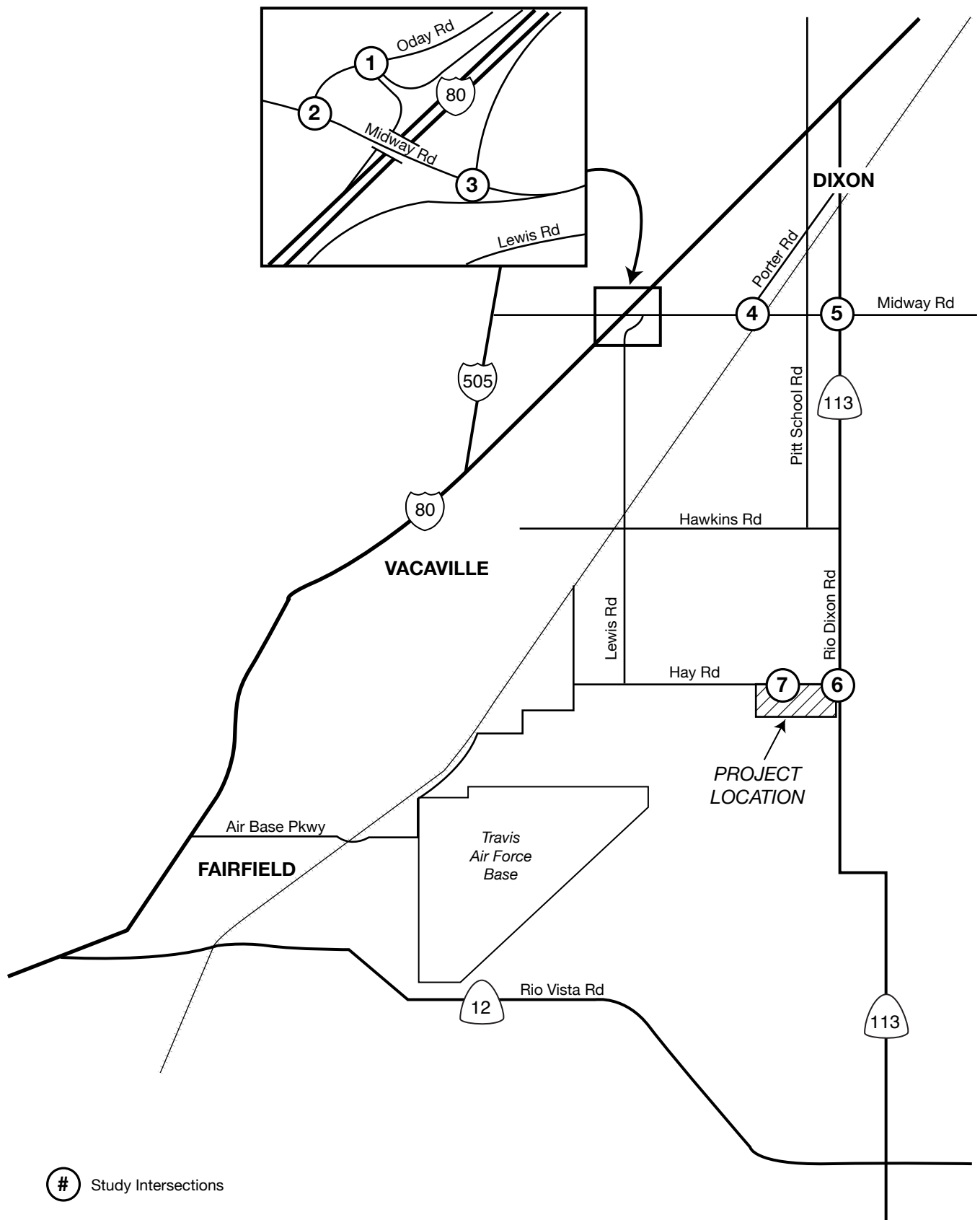
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## **Traffic Technical Appendix Intersection LOS Calculation Sheets**

1. **Figure TR-1. Traffic Study Area**
2. **Existing Conditions**
3. **Existing Plus Project Conditions**







SOURCE: ESA












San Francisco Waste Transport for Disposal at Recology Hay Road Landfill . 210655

**Figure TR-1**  
Traffic Study Area



1: O'Day Road & I-80 WB Off-Ramp  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis






Existing AM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	61	1	5	136	4	4
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84
Hourly flow rate (vph)	73	1	6	162	5	5
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None		None	
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	20	6			168	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	20	6			168	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	93	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	993	1077			1410	
Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1	
Volume Total	73	1	6	162	10	
Volume Left	73	0	0	0	5	
Volume Right	0	1	0	162	0	
cSH	993	1077	1700	1700	1410	
Volume to Capacity	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	
Queue Length 95th (ft)	6	0	0	0	0	
Control Delay (s)	8.9	8.3	0.0	0.0	3.8	
Lane LOS	A	A			A	
Approach Delay (s)	8.9		0.0		3.8	
Approach LOS	A					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			2.8			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			18.4%		ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)			15			

## 2: Midway Rd & O'Day Rd HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis


















Existing AM Peak



Movement	EBL	EBT	WBT	WBR	SBL	SBR
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	6	97	35	124	38	31
Sign Control		Free	Free		Stop	
Grade		0%	0%		0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90
Hourly flow rate (vph)	7	108	39	138	42	34
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type		None	None			
Median storage veh						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	177				160	39
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	177				160	39
tC, single (s)	4.1				6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	2.2				3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %	100				95	97
cM capacity (veh/h)	1399				827	1033
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	SB 1	SB 2	
Volume Total	114	39	138	42	34	
Volume Left	7	0	0	42	0	
Volume Right	0	0	138	0	34	
cSH	1399	1700	1700	827	1033	
Volume to Capacity	0.00	0.02	0.08	0.05	0.03	
Queue Length 95th (ft)	0	0	0	4	3	
Control Delay (s)	0.5	0.0	0.0	9.6	8.6	
Lane LOS	A			A	A	
Approach Delay (s)	0.5	0.0		9.1		
Approach LOS				A		
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			2.1			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			20.0%		ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)			15			

### 3: I-80 EB Off-Ramp/I-80 EB On-Ramp & Midway Road HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis











Existing AM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	66	102	0	0	159	22	16	2	55	0	0	0
Sign Control		Free			Free			Stop			Stop	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86
Hourly flow rate (vph)	77	119	0	0	185	26	19	2	64	0	0	0
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type		None			None							
Median storage (veh)												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	210			119			457	483	119	522	457	185
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	210			119			457	483	119	522	457	185
tC, single (s)	4.1			4.1			7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	2.2			2.2			3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3
p0 queue free %	94			100			96	99	93	100	100	100
cM capacity (veh/h)	1360			1469			492	456	933	413	472	857
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2							
Volume Total	195	185	26	21	64							
Volume Left	77	0	0	19	0							
Volume Right	0	0	26	0	64							
cSH	1360	1700	1700	488	933							
Volume to Capacity	0.06	0.11	0.02	0.04	0.07							
Queue Length 95th (ft)	4	0	0	3	6							
Control Delay (s)	3.4	0.0	0.0	12.7	9.1							
Lane LOS	A			B	A							
Approach Delay (s)	3.4	0.0		10.0								
Approach LOS				B								
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			3.1									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			30.7%		ICU Level of Service				A			
Analysis Period (min)			15									

#### 4: Porter Rd & Midway Rd



















#### HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing AM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	90	1	41	0	0	75
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76
Hourly flow rate (vph)	118	1	54	0	0	99
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None			None
Median storage veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	153	54			54	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	153	54			54	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	86	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	839	1013			1551	
Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	SB 1		
Volume Total	118	1	54	99		
Volume Left	118	0	0	0		
Volume Right	0	1	0	0		
cSH	839	1013	1700	1700		
Volume to Capacity	0.14	0.00	0.03	0.06		
Queue Length 95th (ft)	12	0	0	0		
Control Delay (s)	10.0	8.6	0.0	0.0		
Lane LOS	A	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.0		0.0	0.0		
Approach LOS	A					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			4.4			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			15.6%	ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)			15			










5: SR 113 & Midway Rd  
HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing AM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	22	13	19	8	22	10	24	51	17	7	72	83
Sign Control		Stop			Stop			Free			Free	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84
Hourly flow rate (vph)	26	15	23	10	26	12	29	61	20	8	86	99
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type								None			None	
Median storage (veh)												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	295	290	135	261	329	71	185			81		
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	295	290	135	261	329	71	185			81		
tC, single (s)	7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2	4.1			4.1		
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3	2.2			2.2		
p0 queue free %	96	97	98	99	95	99	98			99		
cM capacity (veh/h)	615	604	914	649	575	992	1390			1517		
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1	SB 2						
Volume Total	64	48	29	81	8	185						
Volume Left	26	10	29	0	8	0						
Volume Right	23	12	0	20	0	99						
cSH	691	659	1390	1700	1517	1700						
Volume to Capacity	0.09	0.07	0.02	0.05	0.01	0.11						
Queue Length 95th (ft)	8	6	2	0	0	0						
Control Delay (s)	10.7	10.9	7.6	0.0	7.4	0.0						
Lane LOS	B	B	A		A							
Approach Delay (s)	10.7	10.9	2.0		0.3							
Approach LOS	B	B										
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			3.6									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			27.9%		ICU Level of Service		A					
Analysis Period (min)			15									

# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis 6: SR 113 & Hay Rd

Existing AM Peak

						
Movement	EBL	EBR	NBL	NBT	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	8	6	15	175	120	18
Sign Control	Stop			Free	Free	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Hourly flow rate (vph)	9	7	17	199	136	20
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type				None	None	
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	380	147	157			
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	380	147	157			
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2	4.1			
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3	2.2			
p0 queue free %	99	99	99			
cM capacity (veh/h)	615	900	1423			
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	NB 1	SB 1			
Volume Total	16	216	157			
Volume Left	9	17	0			
Volume Right	7	0	20			
cSH	712	1423	1700			
Volume to Capacity	0.02	0.01	0.09			
Queue Length 95th (ft)	2	1	0			
Control Delay (s)	10.2	0.7	0.0			
Lane LOS	B	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.2	0.7	0.0			
Approach LOS	B					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay		0.8				
Intersection Capacity Utilization		30.8%		ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)		15				



# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

## 7: RHR Access & Hay Rd












Existing AM Peak

	→	↘	↙	←	↖	↗
Movement	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	NBL	NBR
Lane Configurations	↗		↘	↗	↘	
Volume (veh/h)	8	31	28	9	23	9
Sign Control	Free			Free	Stop	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Hourly flow rate (vph)	9	35	32	10	26	10
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type	None			None		
Median storage veh						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume			9		101	27
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol			9		101	27
tC, single (s)			4.1		6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)			2.2		3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %			98		97	99
cM capacity (veh/h)			1611		880	1049
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1		
Volume Total	44	32	10	36		
Volume Left	0	32	0	26		
Volume Right	35	0	0	10		
cSH	1700	1611	1700	922		
Volume to Capacity	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.04		
Queue Length 95th (ft)	0	2	0	3		
Control Delay (s)	0.0	7.3	0.0	9.1		
Lane LOS		A		A		
Approach Delay (s)	0.0	5.5		9.1		
Approach LOS				A		
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			4.6			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			18.2%	ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)			15			



1: O'Day Rd & I-80 WB Off-Ramp  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis






Existing PM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	76	3	4	96	1	5
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85
Hourly flow rate (vph)	89	4	5	113	1	6
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None		None	
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	13	5			118	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	13	5			118	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	91	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	1005	1079			1471	
Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1	
Volume Total	89	4	5	113	7	
Volume Left	89	0	0	0	1	
Volume Right	0	4	0	113	0	
cSH	1005	1079	1700	1700	1471	
Volume to Capacity	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	
Queue Length 95th (ft)	7	0	0	0	0	
Control Delay (s)	8.9	8.3	0.0	0.0	1.2	
Lane LOS	A	A			A	
Approach Delay (s)	8.9		0.0		1.2	
Approach LOS	A					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			3.8			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			15.9%		ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)			15			

## 2: Midway Rd & O'Day Rd HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis


















Existing PM Peak



Movement	EBL	EBT	WBT	WBR	SBL	SBR
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	19	79	43	105	26	59
Sign Control		Free	Free		Stop	
Grade		0%	0%		0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Hourly flow rate (vph)	22	90	49	119	30	67
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type		None	None			
Median storage veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	168				182	49
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	168				182	49
tC, single (s)	4.1				6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	2.2				3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %	98				96	93
cM capacity (veh/h)	1409				795	1020
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	SB 1	SB 2	
Volume Total	111	49	119	30	67	
Volume Left	22	0	0	30	0	
Volume Right	0	0	119	0	67	
cSH	1409	1700	1700	795	1020	
Volume to Capacity	0.02	0.03	0.07	0.04	0.07	
Queue Length 95th (ft)	1	0	0	3	5	
Control Delay (s)	1.6	0.0	0.0	9.7	8.8	
Lane LOS	A			A	A	
Approach Delay (s)	1.6	0.0		9.1		
Approach LOS				A		
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			2.8			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			21.9%		ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)			15			

### 3: I-80 EB Off-Ramp/I-80 EB On-Ramp & Midway Rd HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis











Existing PM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	42	64	0	0	131	89	20	1	141	0	0	0
Sign Control		Free			Free			Stop			Stop	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95
Hourly flow rate (vph)	44	67	0	0	138	94	21	1	148	0	0	0
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type		None			None							
Median storage veh												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	232			67			294	387	67	443	294	138
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	232			67			294	387	67	443	294	138
tC, single (s)	4.1			4.1			7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	2.2			2.2			3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3
p0 queue free %	97			100			97	100	85	100	100	100
cM capacity (veh/h)	1336			1534			642	529	996	435	597	910
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2							
Volume Total	112	138	94	22	148							
Volume Left	44	0	0	21	0							
Volume Right	0	0	94	0	148							
cSH	1336	1700	1700	635	996							
Volume to Capacity	0.03	0.08	0.06	0.03	0.15							
Queue Length 95th (ft)	3	0	0	3	13							
Control Delay (s)	3.2	0.0	0.0	10.9	9.2							
Lane LOS	A			B	A							
Approach Delay (s)	3.2	0.0		9.5								
Approach LOS				A								
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			3.8									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			25.9%		ICU Level of Service				A			
Analysis Period (min)			15									

#### 4: Porter Rd & Midway Rd



















#### HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing PM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	63	0	101	0	0	61
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80
Hourly flow rate (vph)	79	0	126	0	0	76
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None			None
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	202	126			126	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	202	126			126	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	90	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	786	924			1460	
Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	SB 1		
Volume Total	79	0	126	76		
Volume Left	79	0	0	0		
Volume Right	0	0	0	0		
cSH	786	1700	1700	1700		
Volume to Capacity	0.10	0.00	0.07	0.04		
Queue Length 95th (ft)	8	0	0	0		
Control Delay (s)	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Lane LOS	B	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.1		0.0	0.0		
Approach LOS	B					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			2.8			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			15.5%		ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)			15			










5: SR 113 & Midway Rd  
HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing PM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	12	27	11	80	24	14	24	83	48	22	89	26
Sign Control		Stop			Stop			Free			Free	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85
Hourly flow rate (vph)	14	32	13	94	28	16	28	98	56	26	105	31
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type								None			None	
Median storage (veh)												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	356	382	120	368	369	126	135			154		
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	356	382	120	368	369	126	135			154		
tC, single (s)	7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2	4.1			4.1		
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3	2.2			2.2		
p0 queue free %	97	94	99	83	95	98	98			98		
cM capacity (veh/h)	549	530	931	538	539	925	1449			1426		
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1	SB 2						
Volume Total	59	139	28	154	26	135						
Volume Left	14	94	28	0	26	0						
Volume Right	13	16	0	56	0	31						
cSH	591	567	1449	1700	1426	1700						
Volume to Capacity	0.10	0.25	0.02	0.09	0.02	0.08						
Queue Length 95th (ft)	8	24	1	0	1	0						
Control Delay (s)	11.8	13.4	7.5	0.0	7.6	0.0						
Lane LOS	B	B	A		A							
Approach Delay (s)	11.8	13.4	1.2		1.2							
Approach LOS	B	B										
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			5.5									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			33.8%	ICU Level of Service					A			
Analysis Period (min)			15									

# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis 6: SR 113 & Hay Rd

Existing PM Peak











						
Movement	EBL	EBR	NBL	NBT	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	17	13	11	130	156	3
Sign Control	Stop			Free	Free	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90
Hourly flow rate (vph)	19	14	12	144	173	3
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type				None	None	
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	344	175	177			
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	344	175	177			
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2	4.1			
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3	2.2			
p0 queue free %	97	98	99			
cM capacity (veh/h)	647	868	1399			
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	NB 1	SB 1			
Volume Total	33	157	177			
Volume Left	19	12	0			
Volume Right	14	0	3			
cSH	727	1399	1700			
Volume to Capacity	0.05	0.01	0.10			
Queue Length 95th (ft)	4	1	0			
Control Delay (s)	10.2	0.7	0.0			
Lane LOS	B	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.2	0.7	0.0			
Approach LOS	B					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay		1.2				
Intersection Capacity Utilization		25.9%		ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)		15				



# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

## 7: RHR Access & Hay Rd












Existing PM Peak

						
Movement	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	NBL	NBR
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	14	20	17	9	43	17
Sign Control	Free			Free	Stop	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90
Hourly flow rate (vph)	16	22	19	10	48	19
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type	None			None		
Median storage veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume			16	74		27
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol			16	74		27
tC, single (s)			4.1	6.4		6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)			2.2	3.5		3.3
p0 queue free %			99	95		98
cM capacity (veh/h)			1602	918		1049
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1		
Volume Total	38	19	10	67		
Volume Left	0	19	0	48		
Volume Right	22	0	0	19		
cSH	1700	1602	1700	952		
Volume to Capacity	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.07		
Queue Length 95th (ft)	0	1	0	6		
Control Delay (s)	0.0	7.3	0.0	9.1		
Lane LOS			A	A		
Approach Delay (s)	0.0	4.8			9.1	
Approach LOS				A		
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			5.6			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			17.7%		ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)			15			



1: O'Day Road & I-80 WB Off-Ramp  
 HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis






Existing + Project AM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	61	1	5	142	4	4
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84
Hourly flow rate (vph)	73	1	6	169	5	5
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None			None
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	20	6			175	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	20	6			175	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	93	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	993	1077			1401	
Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1	
Volume Total	73	1	6	169	10	
Volume Left	73	0	0	0	5	
Volume Right	0	1	0	169	0	
cSH	993	1077	1700	1700	1401	
Volume to Capacity	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	
Queue Length 95th (ft)	6	0	0	0	0	
Control Delay (s)	8.9	8.3	0.0	0.0	3.8	
Lane LOS	A	A			A	
Approach Delay (s)	8.9		0.0		3.8	
Approach LOS	A					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			2.7			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			18.8%		ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)			15			

## 2: Midway Rd & O'Day Rd HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis


















Existing + Project AM Peak



Movement	EBL	EBT	WBT	WBR	SBL	SBR
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	6	97	35	130	38	31
Sign Control		Free	Free		Stop	
Grade		0%	0%		0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90
Hourly flow rate (vph)	7	108	39	144	42	34
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type		None	None			
Median storage veh						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	183				160	39
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	183				160	39
tC, single (s)	4.1				6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	2.2				3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %	100				95	97
cM capacity (veh/h)	1392				827	1033
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	SB 1	SB 2	
Volume Total	114	39	144	42	34	
Volume Left	7	0	0	42	0	
Volume Right	0	0	144	0	34	
cSH	1392	1700	1700	827	1033	
Volume to Capacity	0.00	0.02	0.08	0.05	0.03	
Queue Length 95th (ft)	0	0	0	4	3	
Control Delay (s)	0.5	0.0	0.0	9.6	8.6	
Lane LOS	A			A	A	
Approach Delay (s)	0.5	0.0		9.1		
Approach LOS				A		
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay		2.0				
Intersection Capacity Utilization		20.2%		ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)		15				

### 3: I-80 EB Off-Ramp/I-80 EB On-Ramp & Midway Road HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis











Existing + Project AM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	66	102	0	0	165	22	16	2	61	0	0	0
Sign Control		Free			Free			Stop			Stop	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86
Hourly flow rate (vph)	77	119	0	0	192	26	19	2	71	0	0	0
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type		None			None							
Median storage (veh)												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	217			119			464	490	119	536	464	192
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	217			119			464	490	119	536	464	192
tC, single (s)	4.1			4.1			7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	2.2			2.2			3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3
p0 queue free %	94			100			96	99	92	100	100	100
cM capacity (veh/h)	1352			1469			486	452	933	401	467	850
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	NB 2							
Volume Total	195	192	26	21	71							
Volume Left	77	0	0	19	0							
Volume Right	0	0	26	0	71							
cSH	1352	1700	1700	482	933							
Volume to Capacity	0.06	0.11	0.02	0.04	0.08							
Queue Length 95th (ft)	5	0	0	3	6							
Control Delay (s)	3.4	0.0	0.0	12.8	9.2							
Lane LOS	A			B	A							
Approach Delay (s)	3.4	0.0		10.0								
Approach LOS				B								
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			3.1									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			31.0%		ICU Level of Service				A			
Analysis Period (min)			15									

#### 4: Porter Rd & Midway Rd



















#### HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing + Project AM Peak

						
Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	96	1	41	0	0	75
Sign Control	Stop		Free			Free
Grade	0%		0%			0%
Peak Hour Factor	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76
Hourly flow rate (vph)	126	1	54	0	0	99
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type			None			None
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	153	54			54	
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	153	54			54	
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2			4.1	
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3			2.2	
p0 queue free %	85	100			100	
cM capacity (veh/h)	839	1013			1551	
Direction, Lane #	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1	SB 1		
Volume Total	126	1	54	99		
Volume Left	126	0	0	0		
Volume Right	0	1	0	0		
cSH	839	1013	1700	1700		
Volume to Capacity	0.15	0.00	0.03	0.06		
Queue Length 95th (ft)	13	0	0	0		
Control Delay (s)	10.0	8.6	0.0	0.0		
Lane LOS	B	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.0		0.0	0.0		
Approach LOS	B					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			4.6			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			15.9%	ICU Level of Service		A
Analysis Period (min)			15			










5: SR 113 & Midway Rd  
HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis

Existing + Project AM Peak

												
Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Volume (veh/h)	22	13	25	8	22	10	30	51	17	7	72	83
Sign Control		Stop			Stop			Free			Free	
Grade		0%			0%			0%			0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84
Hourly flow rate (vph)	26	15	30	10	26	12	36	61	20	8	86	99
Pedestrians												
Lane Width (ft)												
Walking Speed (ft/s)												
Percent Blockage												
Right turn flare (veh)												
Median type								None			None	
Median storage veh)												
Upstream signal (ft)												
pX, platoon unblocked												
vC, conflicting volume	309	304	135	282	343	71	185			81		
vC1, stage 1 conf vol												
vC2, stage 2 conf vol												
vCu, unblocked vol	309	304	135	282	343	71	185			81		
tC, single (s)	7.1	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.2	4.1			4.1		
tC, 2 stage (s)												
tF (s)	3.5	4.0	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.3	2.2			2.2		
p0 queue free %	96	97	97	98	95	99	97			99		
cM capacity (veh/h)	599	590	914	620	561	992	1390			1517		
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	NB 1	NB 2	SB 1	SB 2						
Volume Total	71	48	36	81	8	185						
Volume Left	26	10	36	0	8	0						
Volume Right	30	12	0	20	0	99						
cSH	697	643	1390	1700	1517	1700						
Volume to Capacity	0.10	0.07	0.03	0.05	0.01	0.11						
Queue Length 95th (ft)	9	6	2	0	0	0						
Control Delay (s)	10.8	11.0	7.7	0.0	7.4	0.0						
Lane LOS	B	B	A		A							
Approach Delay (s)	10.8	11.0	2.3		0.3							
Approach LOS	B	B										
Intersection Summary												
Average Delay			3.8									
Intersection Capacity Utilization			28.2%		ICU Level of Service				A			
Analysis Period (min)			15									

# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis 6: SR 113 & Hay Rd











Existing + Project AM Peak

						
Movement	EBL	EBR	NBL	NBT	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	14	6	15	175	120	24
Sign Control	Stop			Free	Free	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Hourly flow rate (vph)	16	7	17	199	136	27
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type				None	None	
Median storage (veh)						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume	383	150	164			
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol	383	150	164			
tC, single (s)	6.4	6.2	4.1			
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)	3.5	3.3	2.2			
p0 queue free %	97	99	99			
cM capacity (veh/h)	612	896	1415			
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	NB 1	SB 1			
Volume Total	23	216	164			
Volume Left	16	17	0			
Volume Right	7	0	27			
cSH	677	1415	1700			
Volume to Capacity	0.03	0.01	0.10			
Queue Length 95th (ft)	3	1	0			
Control Delay (s)	10.5	0.7	0.0			
Lane LOS	B	A				
Approach Delay (s)	10.5	0.7	0.0			
Approach LOS	B					
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay		1.0				
Intersection Capacity Utilization		31.1%		ICU Level of Service	A	
Analysis Period (min)		15				



# HCM Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis 7: RHR Access & Hay Rd

Existing + Project AM Peak

						
Movement	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	NBL	NBR
Lane Configurations						
Volume (veh/h)	8	31	34	9	23	15
Sign Control	Free			Free	Stop	
Grade	0%			0%	0%	
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Hourly flow rate (vph)	9	35	39	10	26	17
Pedestrians						
Lane Width (ft)						
Walking Speed (ft/s)						
Percent Blockage						
Right turn flare (veh)						
Median type	None			None		
Median storage veh						
Upstream signal (ft)						
pX, platoon unblocked						
vC, conflicting volume			9		114	27
vC1, stage 1 conf vol						
vC2, stage 2 conf vol						
vCu, unblocked vol			9		114	27
tC, single (s)			4.1		6.4	6.2
tC, 2 stage (s)						
tF (s)			2.2		3.5	3.3
p0 queue free %			98		97	98
cM capacity (veh/h)			1611		861	1049
Direction, Lane #	EB 1	WB 1	WB 2	NB 1		
Volume Total	44	39	10	43		
Volume Left	0	39	0	26		
Volume Right	35	0	0	17		
cSH	1700	1611	1700	927		
Volume to Capacity	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.05		
Queue Length 95th (ft)	0	2	0	4		
Control Delay (s)	0.0	7.3	0.0	9.1		
Lane LOS		A		A		
Approach Delay (s)	0.0	5.8		9.1		
Approach LOS				A		
Intersection Summary						
Average Delay			4.9			
Intersection Capacity Utilization			18.6%		ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)			15			



## Existing plus Project PM Peak-Hour LOS

- Same as Existing PM Peak-Hour LOS  
(*no Project-generated PM peak-hour trips*)



## **APPENDIX B**

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### Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for Recology Hay Road Landfill



# **RECOLOGY HAY ROAD LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATION NO. U-11-09 MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (ADOPTED 2005, UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2012)**

When an agency makes a finding that potentially significant impacts have been mitigated to less than significant levels, the agency must also adopt a program for reporting on or monitoring the efficacy of the mitigation measures that were adopted (Public Resources Code 21081.6). This document consists of a proposed Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09. The monitoring and reporting measures included in this program are the responsibility of the Project Sponsor, Recology Hay Road.

The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program includes the confirmation of, or review and approval of, the implementation of specific mitigation actions in the form of reports, surveys, and plans. It also includes monitoring of project construction and continued operational monitoring by the Solano County Local Enforcement Agency (LEA). The mitigation measures included in this monitoring program will be completed at various stages of the Project, including future document submittals for Building and Grading Permit approvals, actions or approvals linked to other Responsible Agencies including the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD), CalRecycle, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), as well as during project construction and implementation. Solano County will provide documentation that the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program has been fully adhered to and completed. This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program applies to all activities evaluated by the Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Initial Study.

Solano County remains responsible for ensuring that the implementation of these mitigation measures occurs to the extent noted in this Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program and, where it is noted, Solano County will be responsible for reviewing and monitoring the required mitigation measures to ensure compliance (CEQA Guidelines 15097).

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program includes the original mitigation measures adopted in 2005 when the County certified the March 2005 Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report for the Norcal Waste Systems, Inc. Hay Road Landfill Project. This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program has been updated to include the new mitigation measures that were identified in the Initial Study for the Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09. The new mitigation measures are identified as **bold underline** text.

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<b>Air Quality</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Air-1a:</b> The Applicant shall mitigate or reduce the ROG emissions of the proposed Project to a level that does not exceed the YSAQMD ROG threshold.	Recology Hay Road	YSAQMD		Less than significant
<b>Mitigation Measure Air-1b:</b> The applicant should maintain records of all materials composted (either in terms of volume or weight by material type) and submit them to the YSAQMD in addition to complying with all other applicable YSAQMD rules, regulations and permit conditions. This will enable the YSAQMD to calculate estimated ROG emissions from the composting operation so that emissions reductions can be claimed if specific controls are implemented in the future. The YSAQMD also can use the information in preparing emissions inventories that form the basis of plans developed to achieve attainment of state and national ozone standards.	Recology Hay Road	YSAQMD		Less than significant
<b>Mitigation Measure Air-2:</b> The existing odor source and management techniques (Table 4.2-8 of the 2005 Subsequent EIR) shall be continued and expanded to handle the larger volume of processed material. In addition, the Applicant shall comply with the following complaint response protocol: COMPLAINT RESPONSE PROTOCOL  1. Site receives complaint either verbally (phone call) or in written form. 2. During regular business hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM), the Solano County Department of Resource Management will be notified as soon as an odor complaint is received at (707) 784-6765. 3. After business hours, odor complaints will be forwarded as soon as they are received by landfill personnel to the Department of Resource Management 24-hour complaint number (1-866-329-0932). The phone call then will be routed to a Department of Resource Management staff member for disposition. 4. Odor complaints can also be logged in	Recology Hay Road	Solano County LEA	Continue to inspect the site and monitor adherence to odor complaint response protocols.	Less than significant



Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p><a href="http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/RM/environmental_health/solid_waste_complaint.asp">http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/RM/environmental_health/solid_waste_complaint.asp</a>.</p> <p>5. Odor investigations will be conducted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Determine if odor is detectable by site personnel at off-site complaint location. If not detectable, complete investigation by submitting Odor Complaint Report to the Solano County Department of Resource Management within 24 hours of receiving the complaint.</li> <li>b. If detectable at the complainant's site, determine the source. Determine if source and nature of odor is short term or long term duration.</li> <li>c. If short term, take appropriate action to abate the source of odors. Complete investigation by submitting Odor Complaint Report to the Solano County Department of Resource Management within 24 hours of receiving the complaint. Submittal will outline the odor source and steps being taken to abate the odors. Continue to monitor and take steps to abate source of odors.</li> <li>d. If odors reoccur and become a long-term consistent problem, determine extent and nature of offsite odors. If odor source is related to weather or operations, abate the problem by taking appropriate adjustments to storage, process control, and facility improvements. Submit Odor Complaint Report to the Solano County Department of Resource Management within 24 hours of receiving the complaint outlining the odor source and steps being taken to abate the odors. Continue to monitor and take steps to abate source of odors.</li> </ul> <p>6. To mitigate long term consistent odors, the LEA may require an odor abatement system to be employed. The system would consist of either a vapor phase counteractant system during sludge drying operations or the use of topical applicants as an odor neutralizer during sludge spreading or harrowing operations. The</p>				

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>vapor phase counteractant system would consist of an automated pumping system that delivers a high-pressure distribution hose that is equipped with misting nozzles. The system produces a fog downwind of the odor area that mixes with the odor and masks or counteracts its nuisance effects. A topical applicant would consist of a potassium permanganate solution applied to wet sludge as topical odor neutralizer.</p> <p>7. Alternately, the LEA may request that the receipt of the odor source be discontinued or drying operations cease. In the event odor impacts continue, the LEA may require the existing, on-site source of the odor to be land filled and covered with soil. Upon odor remediation, the site may resume operations that have implemented odor remediation strategies to the acceptance of the LEA.</p>				
<p><b>Mitigation Measure 2 (Air Quality - PM<sub>10</sub>):</b> The facility operator shall implement the following dust control mitigation measures during implementation of the proposed project and during ongoing site operations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project applicant shall use water trucks to reduce PM<sub>10</sub> from dust emissions, which is considered Best Available Control Technologies (BACT) for dust control at the project site, consistent with current operations.</li> <li>2. Project PM<sub>10</sub> emissions from stationary sources shall be offset by the acquisition of emission offsets during the permitting process, if determine necessary by the YSAQMD, consistent with YSAQMD Regulation 3-4.</li> </ol>	Recology Hay Road	YSAQMD	Review and enforce through air permit compliance procedures.	Less than significant
<p><b>Mitigation Measure 3 (Air Quality - NO<sub>x</sub>):</b> The facility operator shall implement the following mitigation measure prior to implementation of the proposed project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project applicant shall control additional landfill gas generation through modifications to the landfill gas collection and treatment system and shall implement any</li> </ol>	Recology Hay Road	YSAQMD	Review and enforce through air permit compliance procedures.	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
required offsets, consistent with the YSAQMD Rule 3-4.				
<b>Biological Resources</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Bio-1:</b> The landscaping plant palette for the landfill support facility shall not include any invasive exotic plants listed by the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) in their “Exotic Pests Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in California” including all A1, B, or red alert listed species ( <a href="http://www.cal-ipc.org">http://www.cal-ipc.org</a> ).	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Building and Safety Division	Review the landscaping plan to ensure that the plant palette does not include invasive species listed by the Cal-IPC.	Less than significant
<b>Geology and Soils</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Geo-1:</b> A site evaluation report, prepared in conformance with the Solano County Site Evaluation requirements for On-site Sewage Disposal Systems, shall be submitted to the Solano County Environmental Health Services (EHS) Division for the proposed on-site sewage disposal system. The proposed septic system must incorporate all necessary design measures as required by the EHS Division to prevent impacts to surface or groundwater. If the EHS Division determines that the land proposed for sewage disposal has severe limitations, then a holding tank sewage disposal system shall be incorporated into the proposed project in lieu of a septic tank system. The holding tank system shall be similar in design and function to the existing on-site holding tank.	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Environmental Health Services Division	Review the site evaluation report and assure compliance with the Site Evaluation Requirements for on-site sewage disposal.	Less than significant
<b>Hazards and Hazardous Materials</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-1:</b> The Recology Hay Road’s existing Load Checking Program shall be modified to include site surveillance and load inspection protocols to identify the presence of hazardous waste in the recyclables loading area waste stream. All hazards shall be removed, stored in a contained area and disposed of at a qualified hazardous waste facility.	Recology Hay Road	Solano County LEA	Review the modified Load Checking Program to assure that appropriate surveillance and inspection protocols for the Recyclables loading area have been incorporated.	Less than significant
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-2a:</b> The Recology Hay Road landfill shall ensure proper labeling, storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials at the landfill support facility in accordance with best management practices, including applicable California	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Environmental Health Services Division	Periodically inspect the landfill support facility to ensure compliance with the proper usage and handling of	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
Fire Codes and California Department of Industrial Relations (Cal-OSHA) pursuant to Title 8 CCR including ensuring that employees are properly trained in the use and handling of these hazardous materials and that each material is accompanied by a Material Safety Data Sheet. Recology shall ensure employees are trained on Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) regulations (8CCR, Section 5192). Recology shall also comply with California Health and Safety Code, Chapters 6.5, 6.67, 6.95 and their associated regulations in the California Code of Regulations (CCR) that regulates the legal management and disposal hazardous materials and hazardous waste.			hazardous materials, and OSHA HAZWOPER regulations.	
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-2b:</b> The following construction-related Best Management Practices (BMPs) shall be implemented as a condition of Solano County grading and building permits in order to minimize the potential negative effects to groundwater and site soils from accidental releases of hazardous materials. <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The manufacturer's recommendations on use, storage and disposal of chemical products used in construction shall be strictly adhered to;</li><li>2. Construction equipment and vehicle gas tanks shall not be overtopped during fueling;</li><li>3. Grease and oils shall be properly contained and removed during routine maintenance of construction equipment;</li><li>4. Discarded containers of fuels and other chemicals shall be properly disposed of; and</li><li>5. Accidental spills of construction-related hazardous materials shall be cleaned-up consistent with the Recology Hay Road Hazardous Materials Management and Emergency Response Plans.</li></ol>	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Building and Safety Division	Periodically inspect the project site throughout the construction process to ensure compliance with grading and construction BMPs.	Less than significant
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-3a:</b> Recology and JPO shall continue implementation of the existing bird deterrence program and BASH strategies. Bird deterrence measures shall be adjusted as warranted to address any increased bird activity at the sit including the periodic use of lethal methods, such as a depredation approach where the remains of one bird is laid out	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Resource Management Department	Monthly site inspections by the LEA will verify use of proper bird control measures and their effectiveness. Any modification to BASH strategies will require Solano	Less than significant

<b>Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09            Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>Party Responsible for Implementation</b>	<b>Party Responsible for Monitoring</b>	<b>Monitoring Action</b>	<b>Significance After Mitigation</b>
each day as a deterrence. Bombs, whistles, or other screamer devices should be deferred when aircraft are overhead.			County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) and TAFB review.	
<p><b>Mitigation Measure Haz-3b:</b> Recology shall develop and implement a program for coordination among Recology, the County Department of Resource Management and Travis Air Force Base (TAFB) to exchange information on conditions associated with the presence of ambient bird population associated with Recology, and to identify the process for developing and implementing bird control strategies to avoid or mitigate potential bird impact to TAFB and lands bordering Recology to the south.</p> <p>The program will require each entity to assign a liaison and shall identify a method of formal contact among the participating entities. Written records of discussions and coordination efforts shall be prepared and kept on file.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Recology Hay Road Landfill shall employ the services of a qualified individual to perform the duties of “Bird Coordinator” for Recology.</li> <li>b. Recology Hay Road Landfill shall develop a log that will be used to document current conditions associated with bird activity within and adjacent to Recology. A preliminary document shall be prepared for review by the County Department of Resource Management and TAFB and will be finalized by Recology Hay Road Landfill pending input from these entities. The document shall include:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project area (i.e., the boundaries of areas controlled by Recology and TAFB) and its relationship to surrounding land uses.</li> <li>2. Project area land uses that may attract birds or provide permanent and seasonal habitats.</li> <li>3. General bird use characteristics of the project area.</li> <li>4. Protocols for tracking bird species, behavior and occurrence within the project area.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Resource Management Department	Monthly site inspections by the LEA will verify use of proper bird control measures and their effectiveness. Any modification to BASH strategies will require Solano County ALUC and TAFB review.	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>c. Recology Hay Road Landfill shall develop and implement a Bird Control Program (BCP) that includes supplemental measures to be implemented dependent upon ambient bird behavior observed and reported by the County Department of Resource Management, TAFB, and Recology. At a minimum, the BCP shall include the following provisions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Maintenance of the landfill active face to smallest practical size.</li><li>2. Protocols for coordination among Recology, the County Department of Resource Management, and TAFB to exchange information and conditions associated with the presence and nuisance of the ambient bird population associated with the Recology and to identify the process for developing bird control strategies as may be necessary;</li><li>3. Protocols for establishing an ongoing monitoring and reporting program for use in identifying bird use activities and pest behavior;</li><li>4. Protocols for developing and implementing strategies to address observed pest behavior; and</li><li>5. Protocols for monitoring and reporting the implementation and effectiveness of control strategies. Such protocols should include input from TAFB aircrews using methods agreed to and approved by the TAFB liaison.</li><li>6. Recology Hay Road Landfill shall obtain falconry services of a qualified firm or individual to implement the BCP. Falconry services would be retained on the basis of BCP implementation requirements and may require full-time (40 hours/week) falconry services with overtime on an as needed basis. Falconry services may not be necessary on a year-round basis.</li><li>7. Any request to change or discontinue falconry services once initiated must be with the concurrence of TAFB and Solano County Department of</li></ol>				

<b>Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09            Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>Party Responsible for Implementation</b>	<b>Party Responsible for Monitoring</b>	<b>Monitoring Action</b>	<b>Significance After Mitigation</b>
<p>Resource Management, after appropriate coordination, and only after a successful test and trial period agreed to in advance by both TAFB and Solano County Department of Resource Management.</p> <p>8. Recology Hay Road Landfill shall develop and distribute quarterly reports assessing the effectiveness of the BCP. These reports shall include data and observations compiled for the quarter, as well as any concerns from TAFB that may have been identified and reported. The Bird Coordinator shall produce these quarterly reports with concurrence of TAFB and forward them to the County Department of Resource Management. At a minimum, these reports shall include: the adequacy of the adopted abatement measures; the appropriateness of the abatement measures; and the need for new, modified, or different mitigation measures.</p> <p>If substantive issues or suggestions are identified in any of the quarterly reports or otherwise identified through meetings and discussions with TAFB and/or the County through the coordination protocols, Recology staff shall conduct focused studies of these subjects and develop additional control strategies as necessary. These control strategies will be presented to the Bird Coordinator for consideration at a subsequent meeting with the County Department of Resource Management and TAFB. Any such additional control strategies shall be implemented as soon as practicable, pending concurrence by the County and TAFB.</p>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-4a:</b> To facilitate emergency response, the landfill support facility shall have a separate address from the existing buildings at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Building and Safety Division	A complete set of landfill support facility building plans shall be provided to the Dixon	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
address shall be constructed of reflective material with numbering which is a minimum of four inches in height. In addition, the landfill support facility shall be equipped with fire sprinklers, a fire pump, a fire hydrant, and a fire alarm system, or other fire suppression equipment as required by the Dixon Fire Department and Solano County Fire Marshall.			Fire Department and the Building and Safety Division of the Solano County Department of Resource Management for review and approval prior to building permit issuance. The Building and Safety Division would oversee the issuance of a separate address for the support facility as part of the building permit process (Ramos, 2002), and conduct inspections of the building site to ensure compliance with permitted conditions.	
<b>Mitigation Measure Haz-4b:</b> The project sponsor shall review and update the facility's Hazardous Materials Management Plan and Emergency Response Plan as necessary to ensure that use of hazardous materials and materials potentially encountered as a result of the proposed project are adequately addressed.	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Resource Management Department	Review the updated plan to ensure compliance.	Less than significant
<b>Hydrology and Water Quality</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Hydro-1:</b> A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) shall be prepared and implemented to reduce potential impacts to surface water quality through the construction of the project. The SWPPP must be prepared in accordance with RWQCB Phase II storm water regulations and shall include the following components: a. BMPs to address construction-related pollutants shall include practices to minimize the contact of construction materials, equipment, and maintenance supplies (e.g., fuels, lubricants, paints, solvents, adhesives) with storm water. The SWPPP shall specify properly designed centralized storage areas that keep these materials out of the rain. Designated fueling areas with containment	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Building and Safety Division	Ensure that a SWPPP has been prepared to the satisfaction of the RWQCB prior to approval of the grading plan. The SWPPP must be maintained on the site and made available to RWQCB staff upon request.	Less than significant



<b>Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09</b> <b>Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>Party Responsible for Implementation</b>	<b>Party Responsible for Monitoring</b>	<b>Monitoring Action</b>	<b>Significance After Mitigation</b>
<p>systems for runoff would be created.</p> <p>b. An erosion control plan that may include, but not be limited to, a combination of temporary sediment basins, hydroseeding of unprotected erodible soils, temporary water bars and berms across roads and level building pad areas, silt fences, straw wattles, jute netting, and erosion control mats. Side casting of soil would be prohibited. Slash and other sources of organic material would be collected and directed into the existing composting facility.</p> <p>c. To educate on-site personnel and maintain awareness of the importance of storm water quality protection, site supervisors shall conduct regular tailgate meetings to discuss pollution prevention. The frequency of the meetings and required personnel attendance list shall be specified in the SWPPP.</p> <p>d. The SWPPP shall specify a monitoring program to be implemented by the construction site supervisor, and must include both dry and wet weather inspections. In addition, monitoring would be required during the construction period for pollutants that may be present in the runoff that are not visually detectable in runoff.</p>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Hydro-2:</b> Implementation of Mitigation Measure Geo-1 shall assure that impacts to groundwater, soils, and surface water contamination associated with improper installation are avoided.	Recology Hay Road	Solano County LEA	Ensure that a SWPPP has been prepared to the satisfaction of the RWQCB prior to approval of the grading plan. The SWPPP must be maintained on the site and made available to RWQCB staff upon request.	Less than significant
<b>Noise</b>				
<b>Mitigation Measure Noi-1:</b> The office portion of the landfill support facility maintenance building shall be constructed to attenuate exterior noise level by 30 dBA within the TAFB 75-80 dBA CNEL, reducing the interior noise level within associated enclosed employee spaces to 45 dBA. Submitted building plans	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Building and Safety Division	A complete set of landfill support facility building plans shall be provided to the Building and Safety Division of the Solano County	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>shall depict attenuation measures where appropriate such as insulation, double window glazing and other measures, and shall include signature by a certified acoustician verifying conformance with interior CNEL standards.</p> <p>In addition, noise shall be monitored to ensure working environments meet the Cal-OSHA standards for hearing protection within shops, office and other exterior and interior workplaces within the landfill support facility. Appropriate hearing protection will be provided consistent with a standard hearing protection program.</p>			<p>Department of Resource Management for review and approval prior to building permit issuance.</p> <p>Compliance is voluntary. Cal-OSHA to respond to employee complaints.</p>	
<b>Aesthetics</b>				
<p>Mitigation Measure 1 (Aesthetics): The facility operator shall implement the following litter control mitigation measures following implementation of the proposed project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The maximum size of the working face shall be limited to 200 feet by 75 feet or smaller.</li><li>2. Use portable fencing in the immediate vicinity of the landfill's working face and downwind of the working face to contain litter.</li><li>3. Fencing along the site boundary should be high enough to contain litter from migrating off-site.</li><li>4. Adequate staffing shall be on site to remove litter immediately from the property boundary in the event of a sudden change in wind speed or direction. Similarly, additional litter collection crews shall be deployed following such high wind events to remove litter from parcels adjacent to the landfill. The facility operator shall establish site access agreements with the adjacent property owners within 90 days of issuance of the use permit. .</li><li>5. Litter control shall be the responsibility of the facility compliance officer and shall be monitored by the LEA to ensure compliance with State Minimum Standards. A plan for litter control, by means of fencing, crews,</li></ol>	Recology Hay Road	Solano County LEA	Regularly review litter control to ensure compliance.	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>adjustment of the size of working face and use of soil cover shall be detailed in the Litter Management Plan.</p> <p>6. On a weekly basis, or more frequently if needed, the facility operator shall check for and pick up litter along adjacent properties, and along Burke Lane south of Hay Road, Dally Road north and south of Hay Road, Box R Ranch Road, Binghampton Road between SR 113 and Pedrick Road, Main Prairie Road between SR 113 and Pedrick Road, Brown Road between SR 113 and Pedrick Road, Pedrick Road between Brown Road and Binghampton Road, and along the following major haul routes: Fry Road between Leisure Town Road and SR 113, Lewis Road between Fry Road and Hay Road, Hay Road between SR 113 and Meridian Road, Meridian Road between McCrory Road and Fry Road. The site, offsite properties, and roads listed above shall be kept as litter free as possible depending upon weather conditions. The County shall not be charged for disposal of litter or trash pickup during these activities.</p> <p>7. If waste is hauled by the facility operator or its contractors over the following roads, the operator shall check for and pick up litter, on a weekly basis, or more frequently if needed, on the following roads: Vanden Road from Peabody Road to Canon Road, Canon Road from Vanden Road to North Gate Road, North Gate Road from Canon Road to McCrory Road, McCrory Road from North Gate Road to Meridian Road, Meridian Road from McCrory Road to Hay Road, Hay Road from Meridian Road to Lewis Road, Lewis Road from Midway Road to Fry Road, and Midway Road from Interstate 80 to State Route 113. Within 90 days of the issuance of the use permit, the facility operator shall execute an agreement with Solano County regarding reimbursement to the County for the cost of removing trash and materials dumped along the above mentioned County roads, should County employees be required to assist in the removal of trash associated with</p>				

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
<p>the use of the landfill in the event that Recology does not timely remove the litter, pursuant to the last paragraph below.</p> <p>8. The facility operator shall construct a permanent 25 foot tall litter-control fence along the entire length of the southerly site boundary.</p> <p>9. If Solano County personnel identify litter on roads used by Recology, Solano County shall immediately notify Recology and request that it be removed. Recology shall respond and remove such litter within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving notification from Solano County under this provision.</p>				
<b>Traffic</b>				
<p>The facility operation shall mitigate traffic impacts associated with trucks operated by the facility operator or its contractors by implementing the following measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Local soil hauling trucks shall be restricted to routes approved by the Solano County Department of Resource Management.</li><li>2. The facility operator shall construct a northbound left-turn pocket on State Route 113 at Hay Road within three years of the issuance of the Use Permit, if approved by the California Department of Transportation.</li><li>3. The facility operator shall make every effort to restrict acceptance of waste material from outside Solano County during the a.m. peak hour in order to avoid peak-hour congestion on Interstate 80 through Fairfield and Vacaville.</li><li>4. Within 90 days of issuance of the use permit, the facility operator and the Department of Resource Management shall enter into a new road damage agreement, or a modification of the existing road damage agreement for the facility, to mitigate impacts to the County road system resulting from increased tonnage entering the landfill. The road damage impact fee shall be based on the reported tonnage (waste, green waste, food waste,</li></ol>	Recology Hay Road	Solano County Public Works Division	Regularly review facility traffic patterns to ensure compliance.	Less than significant

Recology Hay Road Land Use Permit Application No. U-11-09 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program				
Mitigation Measures	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Action	Significance After Mitigation
soil, recyclables, etc.) entering the landfill and the mileage of the haul roads in the County regularly used by the facility operator and its contractors to transport waste to the landfill. The new road damage agreement shall provide an annual escalation factor consistent with ENR's Construction Cost Index and allows the road impact fee to be adjusted every two years, in even numbered years, within 90 days after the facility operator submits its annual compliance report to the Department of Resource Management pursuant to Condition 12A.				

## **EXHIBIT C**

### **Department of Environment Memorandum**

- August 25, 2015 Memorandum from Jack Macy to Paul Maltzer



**SF Environment**

**Our home. Our city. Our planet.**

A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

Edwin M.  
Lee  
Mayor

Deborah O.  
Raphael  
Director

TO: Paul Maltzer, Senior Planner, Planning Department  
FROM: Jack Macy, Senior Zero Waste Coordinator, Department of the Environment  
RE: Response to Appeal on Negative Declaration for Sending Trash to Hay Road Landfill  
DATE: August 25, 2015

On July 22, 2015, the San Francisco Department of the Environment (Department) entered into an Agreement titled "Landfill Disposal Agreement between The City and County of San Francisco and Recology San Francisco" to send the City's refuse to Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County. As originally analyzed in the Preliminary Negative Declaration ("PND") published on March 4, 2015 and upheld by the Planning Commission on May 21, 2015, the draft Agreement provided for the disposal of 5 million tons of trash at the Recology Hay Road Landfill. The PND estimated that the original draft Agreement would have a term of 13 – 15 years. On July 15, 2015 the draft Agreement was revised. The term of the revised Agreement is 9 years, or until 3.4 million tons of trash have been deposited in the Recology Hay Road Landfill, whichever comes first. The City has an option to renew the Agreement for a period of 6 years, or until an additional 1.6 million tons of trash have been deposited in the landfill, whichever comes first. The revised Agreement also limits the annual average number of round-trip truck trips transporting trash to the landfill to 50 round-trip truck trips per day, based on a six-day work week.

The Department has determined that (1) the revisions to the Agreement are consistent with the environmental impact analysis in the PND, (2) on the basis of the record before it, there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project will have a significant effect on the environment, and (3) the Negative Declaration reflects San Francisco's independent judgment and analysis. The Department adopted the Final Negative Declaration ("FND") and entered into the Agreement between San Francisco and Recology to authorize the proposed disposal site.

This memo addresses a concern raised in the Solano County Orderly Growth Committee's (SCOGC) appeal, dated August 19, 2015, to the FND. The appeal raises a concern that with population and economic growth the amount of trash disposed over the term of the agreement will increase such that it will require more than the 50 round-trip truck trips per day to send trash to Hay Road Landfill that is assumed in the analysis of the FND.

As the appeal acknowledges, the Agreement sets a new annual average limit of 50 round-trip truck trips (trips) per day based on a 6 day work week. The number of trips on any given day would exceed 50 trips, as occurs under existing conditions, due to peak fluctuation in trash stream flows, such as early in a week that then subsequently would drop below 50 later in the week. For example, it is not unusual for Recology to utilize more than 50 trips on a Tuesday, with substantially less than 50 trips on a Saturday, such that the annual average is 50 trips per day over a six day week. On rare occasion, the peak number of trips on a single day has been as high as nearly double the daily average. Usually the peak number of trips is 70 or fewer on a single day.<sup>1</sup> The result of this fluctuation will be an annual average of no more than 50 trips per day over a 6 day work week, and will not exceed the level that was assumed and analyzed in the FND.

The appeal argues, however, that the amount of trash disposed will inevitably increase with increasing population and economic growth, and that this will require more truck trips than what was assumed in the FND. To support this claim the appeal presents their "SWAPE" consultant report that includes erroneous information. The errors in this report include improperly drawing conclusions from data presented in the first column of a table on page 5 showing disposal numbers from 2008 to 2013 that include disposal from San Francisco in many different landfills and by many other entities than Recology (such as from generator self-haul or construction and demolition debris facilities). These overly broad numbers are not applicable for this Agreement since the broad numbers include more material streams than what Recology disposes under the current landfill contract with Altamont landfill and what Recology will dispose at Hay Road landfill under the new Agreement.

It is uncontested that San Francisco has experienced a strong decade-long trend of decreasing disposal while the City's population and economy grew. However, SWAPE focuses on just one year's anomaly of increased disposal on page 6 of their report. The SWAPE report was generally right about the trend of decreasing disposal from 2001 to 2012, but incorrect about increased disposal of San Francisco trash at the Altamont Landfill from 2012 to 2013 as there was no increase of disposal by Recology at the Altamont landfill in 2013 over 2012. The SWAPE report was also wrong about increasing per capita disposal since 2011, there was no increase in per capita disposal of trash during that period. Attached under Tab 1 is a figure showing tons of trash hauled by Recology to the Altamont landfill and the corresponding trend of population growth and disposal during this period of 2001 to 2013. These data clearly show both decreasing per capita disposal as well as total disposal during this period.

The Department and Recology agreed to include the annual average of 50 trips per day limit in the Agreement because it was determined that it will be more than sufficient for Recology to transport all the trash from the city for disposal during the term of the contract. This determination

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<sup>1</sup> During a 12 month period from August 2014 through July 2015, the highest number of trips on a single day was 94. The number of trips exceeded 80 only five times during this same period.



that 50 trips will be sufficient over the term of the agreement is based on several factors, they include:

1. Trends since 2000, with the beginning of the rollout of the City's three stream collection system, show that amounts of trash disposed do not necessarily correlate with increasing population or economic growth in San Francisco.
2. Experience has shown that implementation of progressive policies, programs, outreach and incentive tools (for example, San Francisco creates pricing incentives for diversion of waste as part of its rate structure), and processing technologies along with a changing material stream, such as less paper and glass and more plastic containers, has been more of a driver of disposal than population or economic growth. Further, San Francisco and Recology can, and must under the Agreement, take steps to ensure that diversion of recyclable and composting materials away from landfills outpaces population growth.
3. The Department and Recology are implementing more tools designed to reduce landfill disposal. Measures such as those described below show great promise in increasing source separation and decreasing disposal, especially since more than half of the current trash stream can be put in the green composting or blue recycling bins.
4. The Department and Recology are continuing to implement new collection programs to divert more materials from the trash stream, such as textiles, which comprise a significant part of the trash stream. San Franciscans send approximately 19,000 tons of textiles to the landfill annually. Recology has expanded its "Recycle My Junk" program to allow residential customers to have as many textile appointments per year free of charge as they needed. In the first six months of the program, Recology had over 1,500 appointments for textile collection.
5. Recology recently conducted field studies testing several potential new measures, such as providing smaller trash bins and biweekly trash collection, to place more in recycling and composting bins and less in the trash bins. Some tests reduced trash tonnage by 40%. The Department and Recology intend to implement such a collection change citywide, which would significantly reduce trash sent to landfill.
6. Recology has procured and received state CalRecycle grant funding to install and start-up, before the Agreement term starts, proven trash processing technology to recover organics and recyclables from the trash stream. This technology includes pressing organics from trash that has been demonstrated to recover at least 30% of the material it presses. Recovered organics will be sent to East Bay Municipal Utility District to be digested into biogas energy and used for electricity or vehicle fuel. With this technology Recology will recover an additional 60-80 tons per day of organics alone from the trash stream, which will eliminate 2-3 trips per day to the landfill. Building on the anticipated success of this program, additional presses could be acquired to further increase organics diversion and eliminate additional trips to the landfill during the term of the Agreement. See documentation of the performance of similar equipment in Kaiserslautern, Germany and Recology's successful grant application to CalRecycle under Tab 2.

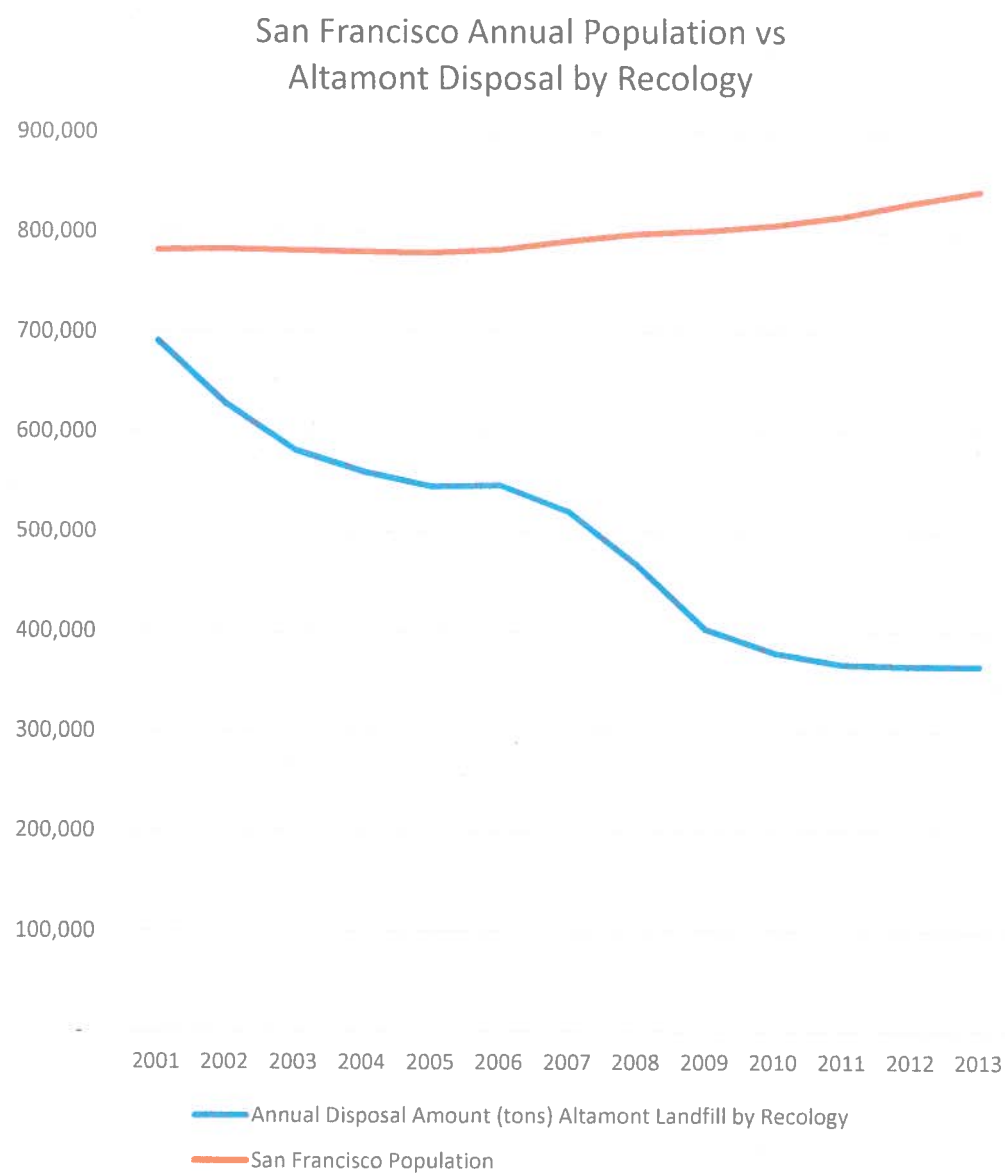
7. Recology has identified new processing technology, including optical sorters, for use at its Recycle Central facility, which have been proven to recover at least an additional 20-30 tons per day of Recology's current unrecoverable recyclables at that facility. Recology anticipates installing this equipment within the next 6 months, which will eliminate 1-2 trips per day to the landfill.
8. Recology has procured new transfer trailers that increase the payload per truck from 24.5 to at least 25.5 tons for more than half of all trash trips to Hay Road landfill starting at the beginning of the Agreement, which will eliminate 1-2 trips per day to the landfill. Within the first 3 years of the term of the Agreement, all the trucks hauling trash to Hay Road will use these new larger payload transfer trailers, which will further reduce trips per day. The new trailers can be attached to Recology's existing truck tractor fleet. The trailers are lighter weight than current trailers, such that the overall weight of the fully loaded truck will not increase compared to existing conditions even though the tonnage of waste per truck increases.
9. The Department is dedicated to continue to be a world leader in making progress toward the City's zero waste goal. Recology has strong financial incentives through the refuse rates structure to strive every year toward lower disposal targets set by the City. Those incentives have been a key to Recology's ability to invest technology that enables increasing diversion from the landfill. The Department is working with Recology to develop facilities to process all the trash by 2020 with an expected recovery of at least 50% from the trash stream.

The processing technologies and new transfer trailers described above that are to be implemented within 6 months will eliminate 4-7 trips per day to the landfill. As a result of all these initiatives we are confident that the transportation of trash to Hay Road will not only never exceed the annual average of 50 trips per day, but rather will decrease to well below that number during the term of the Agreement. Finally, the Department did consider the effect of its decision on greenhouse gas emissions, as documented in the FND, and determined that the Project is not inconsistent with the City's Climate Action Plan.

TAB 1

Reporting Year	Annual Disposal Amount (tons) Altamont Landfill by Recology*
2008	467,218
2009	402,774
2010	379,362
2011	367,332
2012	365,924
2013	365,787

\* Recology Reports provided to City of San Francisco



TAB 2



<b>Name of Project:</b>	Kaiserslautern
<b>Location of Project:</b>	Kapital 1 67657, Kaiserslautern, Germany
<b>Project Owner:</b>	ZAK Kaiserslautern
<b>Contact Details:</b>	Mr. Deubig +49 631 34117-0 <a href="mailto:Jan.deubig@zak.kl.de">Jan.deubig@zak.kl.de</a>
<b>Description of Project:</b>	<p>The plant in is fed with approximately 40,000 MTPY of mixed solid waste, but it has the capacity to treatment up to 60,000 MTPY in the event more waste becomes available. Municipal waste is unloaded in the reception area and directly fed into the hopper of the Organic Extrusion Press (OEP) by means of a grab bucket (see photo above). The OEP separates the input waste into two fractions: a dry and a wet fraction.</p> <p>The dry fraction, which has 75-80% solids concentration and a calorific value of 11,000 - 13,000 kJ/kg is sent directly sent to energy from waste plants. The wet fraction with 35-40% solids concentration is conveyed to an anaerobic digestion plant.</p>
<b>Relevance:</b>	The plant in Kaiserslautern uses the OEP to extract organics from mixed municipal solid waste. This is the first version of the OEP and continues to operate today.
<b>Years the Project has been Operational:</b>	Commissioned in 2006 with the last changes in 2012. Future expansion planned for 100,000 MTPY.

<b>Respondent Team Members Role(s) on project (if applicable):</b>	This project was executed by Anaergia's waste equipment company, dB Technologies, the manufacturer of the Organics Extrusion Press (OEP).
<b>Performance:</b>	<p>The plant operates with follow specifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rated Capacity: 60,000 MTPY</li> <li>• Operational Availability: 96% (includes downtime for maintenance)</li> <li>• Waste Type: Mixed Municipal Solid Waste</li> <li>• Organic Fraction Extracted: 24,000 MTPY @ 35% Dry solids = <b>40%</b></li> <li>• Volatile Organic Fraction: 22,800 MTPY @ 35% Dry Solids</li> </ul>
<b>Other Information:</b>	<p>The Organics Extrusion Press is part of an overall MRF Facility that can processes 60,000 MTPY of Mixed Municipal Waste. In addition to the organics that is extracted and digested to produce bio-energy, the facility also recovers recyclable materials in the following quantities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ferrous Metals: 750 MTPY representing 93% recovery</li> <li>• Non-Ferrous Metals: 100 MTPY representing 90% recovery</li> <li>• Other Metals: 100 MTPY representing 85% recovery</li> </ul>



<b>Name of Project:</b>	Vereco SIA
<b>Location of Project:</b>	Ganibu Street 8 LV 3601 Ventspils, Latvia
<b>Project Owner:</b>	Dzintas Avots

<b>Contact Details:</b>	Dzintas Avots Tel. +371 292 18823
<b>Description of Project:</b>	<p>The Vereco project in Latvia uses the Organics Extrusion Press (OEP) and the Polisher to extract and clean organics from mixed solid waste.</p> <p>Key operational data is provided below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rated Capacity: 50,000 MTPY</li> <li>• Operational Availability: 95% (includes downtime for maintenance)</li> <li>• Substrates: Mixed Solid Waste</li> <li>• Organic Fraction Extracted: 25,000 MTPY @ 30% Dry solids</li> <li>• Volatile Organic Fraction: 22,000 MTPY @ 30% Dry Solids</li> </ul>
<b>Relevance:</b>	<p>This project uses the OEP and OPS pre-treatment technologies. The OEP is the second generation and the Polisher is the first generation.</p> <p>The OEP and OPS pre-treatment technology can handle yard and kitchen comingled wastes as well as highly contaminated mixed solid waste.</p>
<b>Years the Project has been Operational:</b>	Commissioned in 2013
<b>Respondent Team Members Role(s) on project (if applicable):</b>	This project was executed by Anaergia's waste equipment company, dB Technologies, the manufacturer of the Organics Extrusion Press (OEP) and the Polisher.
<b>Performance:</b>	<p>Key operational data is provided below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rated Capacity: 50,000 MTPY</li> <li>• Operational Availability: 95% (includes downtime for maintenance)</li> <li>• Substrates: Mixed Solids Waste</li> <li>• Organic Fraction Extracted: 25,000 MTPY @ 30% Dry solids = 50%</li> <li>• Volatile Organic Fraction: 22,000 MTPY @ 30% Dry Solids</li> </ul>
<b>Other Information:</b>	<p>The Organics Extrusion Press is part of an overall MRF Facility that processes 30,000 MTPY of Mixed Solids Waste. In addition to the organics that is extracted and digested to produce bio-energy, the facility also recovers recyclable materials in the following quantities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ferrous Metals: 350 MTPY representing 93% recovery</li> <li>• Non-Ferrous Metals: 70 MTPY representing 90% recovery</li> <li>• Other Metals: 50 MTPY representing 85% recovery</li> <li>• Plastics: 200 MTPY representing 85% recovery</li> <li>• Production of RDF: 800 MTPY</li> </ul>





<b>Name of Project:</b>	San Carlo SRL Frazione Loreto 9/1
<b>Location of Project:</b>	12045 Fossano CN, Italy
<b>Project Owner:</b>	San Carlo
<b>Contact Details:</b>	San Carlo Tel. 0033172637340
<b>Description of Project:</b>	<p>The Fossano project uses the Organics Extrusion Press (OEP) and the Polisher to extract and clean organics from mixed solid waste.</p> <p>Key operational data is provided below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rated Capacity: 50,000 MTPY</li> <li>• Operational Availability: 95% (includes downtime for maintenance)</li> <li>• Substrates: Mixed Solid Waste</li> <li>• Organic Fraction Extracted: 32,000 MTPY @ 28% Dry solids</li> <li>• Volatile Organic Fraction: 29,000 MTPY @ 28% Dry Solids</li> </ul>
<b>Relevance:</b>	This project uses the second generation OEP and first generation Polisher pre-treatment technologies. This particular system is operating on mixed solids waste.
<b>Years the Project has been Operational:</b>	Commissioned in 2010
<b>Respondent Team Members Role(s) on project (if applicable):</b>	This project was executed by Anaergia's waste equipment company, dB Technologies, the manufacturer of the Organics Extrusion Press (OEP).

<b>Performance:</b>	<p>The plant operates with follow specifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rated Capacity: 50,000 MTPY</li> <li>• Operational Availability: 95% (includes downtime for maintenance)</li> <li>• Substrates: Mixed Solids Waste</li> <li>• Organic Fraction Extracted: 25,000 MTPY @ 28% Dry solids = 50%</li> <li>• Volatile Organic Fraction: 24,000 MTPY @ 28% Dry Solids</li> </ul>
<b>Other Information:</b>	<p>The Organics Extrusion Press is part of an overall MRF Facility that processes 30,000 MTPY of Mixed Solids Waste.</p> <p>The organics are extracted and digested to produce biogas for energy generation.</p>

<b>Name of Project:</b>	Alessandria
<b>Location of Project:</b>	Sede via Mazzini 46, Italy
<b>Project Owner:</b>	ARAL Alessandria
<b>Contact Details:</b>	Mr. Bocchio +39 131 586010 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Ara12-spa@liberton.it">Ara12-spa@liberton.it</a>
<b>Description of Project:</b>	<p>This project uses the OEP to extract organics from mixed municipal solid waste. Key operational data is provided below.</p> <p>Rated Capacity: 100,000 MTPY Operational Availability: 94% (includes downtime for maintenance) Substrates: Mixed Municipal Solid Waste Organic Fraction Extracted: 40,000 MTPY @ 35% Dry solids Volatile Organic Fraction: 38,000 MTPY @ 35% Dry Solids Organic Fraction COD: 720 mg/L Organic Fraction BOD: 315 mg/L Volatile Fraction: 75%</p>
<b>Relevance:</b>	This project uses the organics extrusion press which is the second generation to process MSW. The wet processed material is used to feed the anaerobic digestion system with the residuals from the digestion process being used for composting.
<b>Years the Project has been Operational:</b>	Commissioned in 2007
<b>Respondent Team Members Role(s) on project (if applicable):</b>	This project was executed by Anaergia's waste equipment company, dB Technologies, the manufacturer of the Organics Extrusion Press.
<b>Performance:</b>	<p>The plant operates with follow specifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rated Capacity: 100,000 MTPY</li> <li>• Operational Availability: 94% (includes downtime for maintenance)</li> <li>• Substrates: Mixed Municipal Solid Waste</li> <li>• Organic Fraction Extracted: 38,000 MTPY @ 30% Dry solids = <b>38%</b></li> <li>• Volatile Organic Fraction: 38,000 MTPY @ 35% Dry Solids</li> <li>• Volatile Fraction: 75%</li> </ul>
<b>Other Information:</b>	<p>The Organics Extrusion Press is part of an overall MRF Facility that processes 100,000 MTPY of Mixed Municipal Waste. In addition to the organics that are extracted and digested to produce bio-energy, the facility also recovers recyclable materials in the following quantities:</p> <p>Ferrous Metals: 3,000 MTPY representing 70% recovery Non-Ferrous Metals: 900 MTPY representing 90% recovery Other Metals: 500 MTPY representing 80% recovery</p>





## Grants System Application

Generated By: Stanley Uyeda

Generated On: 12/10/2014

### Application Information

Applicant: Recology East Bay Organics

Cycle Name: Organics Grant Program

Cycle Code: ORG1

Grant ID: 15621

Grant Funds Requested: \$ 3,000,000.00

Matching Funds: - (if applicable)

Awarded Funds: \$3,000,000.00

Application Due Date: 7/1/2014

Secondary Due Date: 7/31/2014

**Project Summary:** Recology East Bay Organics (REBO), with strong support from the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), proposes to install and operate an innovative, first-in-the-nation preprocessing system that will leverage existing but underutilized infrastructure to achieve permanent, annual, and measureable reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the handling and landfilling of green and food wastes, while significantly increasing the tonnage of California-generated organic wastes diverted from landfills to anaerobic digestion.

### BACKGROUND

San Francisco and Oakland are two of the nation's most progressive and forward-thinking cities, especially in the areas of waste prevention and management. Both cities have already made significant progress toward reaching their goals of zero waste by 2020. San Francisco has achieved an 80-percent waste diversion rate and Oakland, which began the process much later than San Francisco, has already achieved a 60-percent diversion rate.

Much still, however, remains to be done, especially in the area of organic waste diversion. Recology began offering an organics collection program, which co-mingles food scraps with yard trimmings, in 1996. In 2009, San Francisco implemented a Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance that requires residents to separate their recyclables, compostables, and municipal solid waste (MSW) into Recology-serviced blue, green, and black carts, respectively. Through public education and a close partnership with the San Francisco Department of the Environment (SFDOE), the three-cart system has been an immense success.

Recent waste characterization studies performed by Recology have found, however, that on some routes approximately 30 to 36 percent of the landfill-destined MSW stream is actually composed of organic waste suitable for composting or anaerobic digestion. Until recently, there has been no cost-effective means of extracting this organic content from the MSW stream. As a result, this intermingled organic waste has been and still is trucked from Recology San Francisco to Waste Management's Altamont Landfill.

In 2004, EBMUD began a pilot, with Recology's assistance and cooperation, to evaluate the potential for anaerobic digestion of food scraps at the Main Waste Water Treatment Plant (MWWTP). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency subsequently provided technology evaluation support. In 2008, it was concluded that EBMUD, using its patented processing system, could produce approximately 2 megawatts of power from 200 tons per day of commercial food scraps, and develop a soil amendment.

### THE PROPOSED PROJECT

On the proposed phase-I project, Recology seeks \$3 million (M) to help purchase an Organics Extrusion Press (OEXP) and associated equipment at its Recology San Francisco (RSF) transfer station and an Organics Polishing System (OPS) at the REBO Preprocessing Facility, located directly adjacent to the existing EBMUD anaerobic digesters on property leased by REBO from EBMUD at the EBMUD MWWTP in Oakland.

The OEXP is designed to extract organic material intermingled with MSW so that it can be diverted from the landfill and anaerobically digested. The OPS further prepares MSW-derived organic waste for anaerobic digestion by significantly reducing remaining amounts of glass, stones, and plastics that can build up in the digester and negatively impact energy production or cause potential equipment damage. The OPS will also "polish" commercial source-separated food waste that is collected in Alameda County and processed onsite in a DODA® Bio-Separator.

The proposed preprocessing system will extract approximately 75 tons per day (TPD) of organic material from MSW collected in San Francisco; transfer the organic material to REBO; combine it with approximately 25 TPD of commercial source-separated food waste collected in Alameda County; "polish" these organic materials in the OPS; and pump the resulting ~100 TPD of slurry to the adjacent EBMUD anaerobic digesters (Supplemental Information—Appendix 1). Contaminants from the preprocessing system will go the landfill (quantities may vary widely).

EBMUD will convert this incoming organic waste stream into biomethane, which will be used to power the EBMUD wastewater treatment plant. Surplus power will be sold by EBMUD to the Port of Oakland under an existing five-year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).

The proposed project leverages considerable prior investment by Recology and is CEQA-compliant and shovel-ready, with the final Addendum to an Environmental Impact report completed in December 2013 (State Clearinghouse Number



# Application

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Generated On: 12/10/2014

2009112073). The only remaining permits are an Authority to Construct and Permit to Operate from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, for which Recology submitted applications on June 20, 2014.

## THE BENEFITS

Locating these food waste facilities at the same site would help support a sustainable, long-term approach to continued on-site renewable energy production. Locally-generated food waste would not need to be sent to more distant locations for preprocessing. Processing of all incoming raw material through an on-site facility also ensures that a higher and more consistent quality of food waste feedstock is generated for use at the EBMUD facility. Food waste digestion is an important component of EBMUD's renewable energy generation program.

In planned future phases, the food waste associated with this project could generate 2.5 MW of power or more, which is enough renewable electricity to power 3,700 California households. In addition, digestion of food waste would assist local Bay Area cities and counties in meeting landfill waste diversion goals. It would also reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) production by turning food waste into electricity rather than sending this material to landfills where it would degrade and release methane (a highly potent GHG). Methane produced through anaerobic digestion would instead be captured, used for electricity production and emitted as carbon dioxide, which has a global warming potential that is 25 times less than methane.

A \$3M grant by CalRecycle would leverage significant prior investment by Recology, as well as \$1,923,947 in match funding for the proposed project. When complete, the project will annually divert 20,389 (23,464 original number submitted with application) tons per year of organic waste from the landfill and, through collaboration with EBMUD, help reduce GHG emissions by 12,714 (12,241 original number submitted with application) metric tons (MT) of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e) per year. By 2025, the proposed phase-I project will have diverted 214,849 (247,350 original number submitted with application) tons of organic waste from the landfill and reduced GHG emissions by 133,979 (129,041 original number submitted with application) MTCO<sub>2</sub>e at a cost of 22.39 (\$23.25 original amount submitted with application) grant dollars per metric ton of total CO<sub>2</sub>e reduction. On an annual basis, the project will also eliminate the emission of 458,953 pounds of volatile organic compounds (VOC) and 140,879 pounds of ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>).

The proposed project will also deliver significant environmental and economic benefits to disadvantaged communities in California, including Oakland, which received a score of 40.3 on CalEnviroScreen 1.1 and in the 91-100th percentile. Other communities that will benefit include the San Francisco ZIP code 94134, Livermore ZIP code 94551—the site of the Altamont Landfill and where most of the project's positive environmental impacts will occur—and the 95356 ZIP code near Modesto.

In Oakland, Recology has partnered with Civicorps, a green-jobs program for at-risk youth. On the proposed project, Recology has committed to hiring 50 percent of the new employees for the Oakland-based preprocessing facility from several disadvantaged Oakland zip codes.

The REBO Preprocessing Facility will create seven temporary jobs during the eight-week construction and installation phase at the Oakland site. All employees will be union members. In addition, the project will generate four new permanent, full-time jobs to support operations at the RSF and REBO sites. Each site will hire one loader and one assistant. These will be full-time positions in a 100-percent employee-owned company and will come with a variety of benefits, including an employee stock-ownership plan, 401(k) plans, full health benefits for employees and dependents, and competitive wages. The average wage for these jobs will start at \$24 per hour.

## THE FUTURE

The proposed preprocessing system represents phase I of a multi-phase project. In phase II, planned for 2016, Recology intends to double the tonnage of organic waste extracted from the MSW stream and diverted from the landfill to the EBMUD anaerobic digesters from 75 TPD to 150 TPD. Therefore, on an annual basis, the phase-II facility would divert 46,928 tons per year of organic waste from the landfill and reduce GHG emissions by 24,482 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e per year, in addition to eliminating the emission of 917,906 pounds of VOCs and 281,758 pounds of NH<sub>3</sub> per year.

In early phases, EBMUD will co-digest the organic wastes from Recology with sludge from the wastewater treatment process. In future phases—after the daily tonnage received passes approximately 250 TPD—EBMUD intends to devote one or more digesters to the digestion of organic wastes, which would allow EBMUD to deliver a higher-value, nutrient-rich product suitable for use as compost. Higher tonnages also mean that by 2020, EBMUD could sell twice as much electricity as it uses onsite, making this project a model for the almost 140 other wastewater treatment plants in California that utilize anaerobic digestion.

### Applicant/Participant

**Name:** Recology East Bay Organics**Lead:** X**Federal Tax ID:** 94-3078867**Jurisdiction:** Oakland**County:** Alameda



## Grants System Application

Generated By: Stanley Uyeda

Generated On: 12/10/2014

### Contacts

		Prime	Second	Auth	Cnslt
<b>Mark Filimonov</b>	Title: Senior Vice President				X
1201 K Street, Suite Suite 1200 Sacramento, CA 95814	Phone: 5302633127 Fax: Email: mark@thegrantfarm.com				
<b>Elizabeth Smith</b>	Title: Proposal Writer		X		
50 California St., 24th floor San Francisco, CA 94111	Phone: 4158751258 Fax: Email: esmith@recology.com				
<b>Mark Lomele</b>	Title: Executive VP and CFO			X	
50 California St. 24th Floor San Francisco, CA 94111	Phone: 4158751000 Fax: Email:				
<b>Minna Tao</b>	Title: General Manager		X		
2400 Engineer Road Oakland, CA 94607	Phone: 5102670850 Fax: Email: mtao@recology.com				
<b>Meghan Butler</b>	Title: Technology and Processing Program Manage	X			
250 Executive Park Blvd., Suite 2100 San Francisco, CA 94134	Phone: 4155726116 Fax: Email: mbutler@recology.com				

### Budget

Category Name	Amount
Admin Costs	-
Construction/Application	-
Equipment	\$ 3,000,000.00
Materials	-
Personnel	-

### Site Information

#### Recology East Bay Organics Preprocessing Facility

2400 Engineer Road  
Oakland, CA 94607

Site Type: Food Waste  
County: Alameda  
Budget Amount: 1200000.0000

#### Recology San Francisco Transfer Station

501 Tunnel Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94134

Site Type: Other  
County: Alameda  
Budget Amount: 1800000.0000

#### EBMUD Waste Water Treatment Plant

2020 Wake Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94607

Site Type: Anaerobic Digester (AD)  
County: Alameda  
Budget Amount: 0.0000

Documents	Document Title	Received Date
<b>Required</b>		
Application Certification	Application Certification_REBO	06/26/2014
Budget	Budget_REBO	06/23/2014
Economic/Environmental Benefits and Impacts to Disadvantaged Communities	Disadvantaged Communities_ REBO	06/23/2014
Financial Information	Financials 3yr Recology Confidential_REBO	06/25/2014



## Grants System Application

Generated By: Stanley Uyeda

Generated On: 12/10/2014

General Checklist of Business Permits Licenses and Filings	General Checklist of Business Permits, Licenses, and Filings	06/26/2014
Narrative Proposal	Narrative Proposal_REBO	06/25/2014
Project Readiness and Permits	Project Readiness and Permits_REBO	06/23/2014
Summary of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions	Summary of GHG Emission Reductions_REBO	06/23/2014
Tons of Organic Material Composted, Digested, or Source Reduced	Tons of Organic Material_REBO	06/23/2014
Work Plan	Work Plan_REBO	06/23/2014

### Required By Secondary Due Date

Resolution/Letter of Commitment	Signed Resolution Letter_REBO	06/18/2014
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### Other Supporting Document(s)

Draft Resolution		
EPPP Notification		
Joint Powers Agreement		
Letter of Authorization/Resolution		
Letter of Designation	Letter of Designation_REBO	06/23/2014
Letter of Support	Letters of Support_REBO	06/26/2014
Tax Return		

### Resolution

Check the following, as applicable. See Application Guidelines and Instructions for more information and examples.

- ☒ Applicant acknowledges that a Resolution is uploaded in the application. The Resolution must be approved by its governing body, which authorizes submittal of the application and designates a signature authority. If applicable, applicant has uploaded a Letter of Designation (LOD) designating an additional signature authority(ies).

### EPPP

Does your organization have an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing and Practices (EPPP) Policy?

- ☒ Yes, our organization has an EPPP Policy. Organization refers to the entire city or county applicant, not an individual office or sub-unit of the larger entity.



## **EXHIBIT D**

### **Planning Commission Motion Affirming Decision to Issue Negative Declaration**

- Planning Commission Motion No. 19376, adopted May 21, 2015, affirming decision to issue Negative Declaration



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## Planning Commission Motion No. 19376

HEARING DATE: May 21, 2015

*Case No.:* 2014.0653E  
*Project Title:* Agreement for Disposal of San Francisco Municipal Solid Waste at Recology Hay Road Landfill in Solano County  
*Zoning:* N/A – Agreement citywide in scope  
*Block/Lot:* N/A – Agreement citywide in scope  
*Project Sponsor:* Jack Macy – (415) 355-3751  
Department of Environment  
*Staff Contact:* Paul Maltzer – (415) 575-9038  
paul.maltzer@sfgov.org

1650 Mission St.  
Suite 400  
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CA 94103-2479

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**415.558.6378**

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Planning  
Information:  
**415.558.6377**

### **ADOPTING FINDINGS RELATED TO THE APPEAL OF THE PRELIMINARY NEGATIVE DECLARATION, CASE NUMBER 2014.0653E, FOR THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT FOR DISPOSAL OF SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL WASTE AT RECOLOGY HAY ROAD LANDFILL IN SOLANO COUNTY.**

MOVED, that the San Francisco Planning Commission (hereinafter "Commission") hereby AFFIRMS the decision to issue a Negative Declaration, based on the following findings:

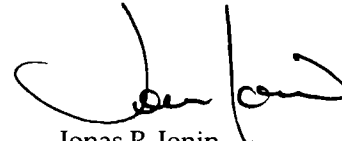
1. On April 21, 2014, pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), the State CEQA Guidelines, and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, the Planning Department ("Department") received an Environmental Evaluation Application form for the Project, in order that it might conduct an initial evaluation to determine whether the Project might have a significant impact on the environment.
2. On March 4, 2015, the Department determined that the Project, as proposed, could not have a significant effect on the environment.
3. On March 4, and March 5, 2015, two notices of determination that a Negative Declaration would be issued for the Project were duly published in newspapers of general circulation in the City and in Solano County, respectively, and the Negative Declaration posted in the Department offices, and distributed all in accordance with law.
4. On April 3, 2015, an appeal of the decision to issue a Negative Declaration was timely filed by Solano County Orderly Growth Committee.
5. A staff memorandum, dated May 14, 2015, addresses and responds to all points raised by appellant in the appeal letter. That memorandum is attached as Exhibit A and staff's findings as to those points are incorporated by reference herein as the Commission's own findings. Copies of that memorandum

have been delivered to the City Planning Commission, and a copy of that memorandum is on file and available for public review at the San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400.

6. The Planning Department is proposing that amendments be made to the Preliminary Negative Declaration, as per the attached amended Preliminary Negative Declaration, with amendments shown in strikethrough and double underline. The amendments update the calculation of air quality impacts for the project. Those updated calculations indicate a slight increase in emissions from the project, relative to those reflected in the Preliminary Negative Declaration published on March 3, 2015, but all such emissions remain below all thresholds of significant impact. Such amendments do not include new, undisclosed environmental impacts and do not change the conclusions reached in the Preliminary Negative Declaration. The changes do not require "substantial revision" of the Preliminary Negative Declaration, and therefore recirculation of the Preliminary Negative Declaration is not required.
7. On May 18, 2015, the Planning Department received a comment letter from David Pilpel, commenting on the Preliminary Negative Declaration. On May 20, 2015, the Planning Department completed a response memorandum, responding to the issues raised in the May 18, 2015 comment letter. That response memorandum was distributed to the Planning Commission and to the commenter on May 21, 2015.
8. On May 19, 2015, the Planning Department received a comment letter from Joshua N. Levine, of Dongell Lawrence Finney LLP, on behalf of the appellant, Solano County Orderly Growth Committee. That letter commented on the Planning Department's Response Packet to the appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration, which was distributed on May 14, 2015. Responses to that May 19, 2015 letter were provided orally by Planning Department staff and the Department of Environment at the May 21, 2015 Planning Commission hearing.
9. On May 21, 2015, the Commission held a duly noticed and advertised public hearing on the appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration, at which testimony on the merits of the appeal, both in favor of and in opposition to, was received.
10. All points raised in the appeal of the Preliminary Negative Declaration at the May 21, 2015, City Planning Commission hearing have been responded to either in the Memorandum, in the Planning Department response memorandum dated May 20, 2015, or orally at the public hearing.
11. After consideration of the points raised by appellant, both in writing and at the May 21, 2015 hearing, the San Francisco Planning Department reaffirms its conclusion that the proposed project could not have a significant effect upon the environment.
12. In reviewing the Preliminary Negative Declaration and amended Preliminary Negative Declaration issued for the Project, the Planning Commission has had available for its review and consideration all information pertaining to the Project in the Planning Department's case file.
13. The Planning Commission finds that Planning Department's determination on the Negative Declaration, as amended, reflects the Department's independent judgment and analysis.

The City Planning Commission HEREBY DOES FIND that the proposed Project, could not have a significant effect on the environment, as shown in the analysis of the Negative Declaration, as amended, and HEREBY DOES AFFIRM the decision to issue a Negative Declaration, as prepared by the San Francisco Planning Department.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was ADOPTED by the City Planning Commission on May 21, 2015.



Jonas P. Ionin  
Commission Secretary

AYES: Fong, Wu, Antonini, Hillis, Johnson, Moore, Richards  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ADOPTED: May 21, 2015

