



Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead



Richard J. Bruckner
Director

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

DATE: November 21, 2011

PROJECT TITLE: CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL MASTER PLAN REVISION
PROJECT NO. R2004-00559-(5)
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 200400042
ENVIRONMENTAL CASE NO. 200400039

PROJECT APPLICANT: Chiquita Canyon Landfill LLC.
29201 Henry Mayo Drive
Castaic, CA 91384
(661) 257-3655

The County of Los Angeles is the lead agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project identified below. In compliance with Section 15082 of the State of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the County of Los Angeles is distributing the Notice of Preparation (NOP) to the Office of Planning and Research, each responsible agency, interested parties, and federal agencies, involved in approving the project and to trustee agencies responsible for natural resources affected by the project. Within 30 days after receiving the NOP, each agency shall provide the County of Los Angeles with specific written details about the scope and content of the environmental information related to the agency's area of statutory responsibility.

The purpose of this NOP is to solicit the views of your agency as to scope and content of the environmental information germane to your agency's statutory authority with respect to the proposed project. Your agency may need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering approval of applicable permits and other approvals for the project.

PROJECT LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING: The Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL), located in the northwestern portion of unincorporated Los Angeles County, is approximately three miles west of the Interstate 5 and State Route 126 (SR-126) intersection (Figure 1). The site is located in Section 15, Township 4 North, Range 17 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. The site latitude and longitude are 34°25'N and 118°39'W, respectively.

Much of the area surrounding CCL consists of undeveloped open space as a result of steep topography. Surrounding land uses include mostly open lands to the north; rural residential development is located to the west and northwest along Chiquito Canyon Road and in the Val Verde area, respectively. Relatively new suburban residential areas are located to the northeast. The closest of these residential dwellings is located approximately 500 feet from the northwest site boundary corner and 1,200 feet from the current landfill footprint;

intervening topography prevents residential views of the operating landfill from these locations. Industrial/commercial uses are located to the northeast, east, and southeast. The United States Postal Service has a general mail facility adjacent to the eastern edge of the landfill property boundary. The property immediately west and south of the landfill is owned by the Newhall Land and Farming Company (NLF) and is currently either vacant or is used for agricultural activities. Oil extraction fields and associated storage areas are located less than one mile from the landfill to the west and south. Valencia Travel Village, a short- and long-term campground, is located approximately one mile east of the landfill on the south side of SR-126.

PROJECT SUMMARY: The CCL Master Plan Revision (Proposed Project) would allow the existing landfill to continue operations with a new grant term, as well as extend the waste footprint at CCL within the existing site boundary, better utilize the landfill's remaining and potential disposal capacity, and allow for the disposal of all non-hazardous wastes acceptable at a Class III solid waste disposal landfill. The Proposed Project would also include the continued diversion of such materials as green waste, asphalt/concrete and metal through ongoing landfill waste diversion programs on which numerous jurisdictions depend to comply with state-mandated waste diversion goals.

ENTITLEMENT REQUIREMENTS AND DISCRETIONARY APPROVALS: The applicant, Chiquita Canyon LLC, is requesting a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to authorize the continued operation, maintenance and expansion of an existing waste disposal facility located in the A-2 (Heavy Agricultural) zone. A CUP is required for the operation of a waste disposal facility in the A-2 zone pursuant to Section 22.24.150 of the Los County Code (Zoning Ordinance).

POTENTIAL PROJECT IMPACTS:

Based on the Initial Study, an EIR is necessary for the proposed Project. Based on a preliminary assessment of potential environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the proposed Project (Attachment 2, Draft Initial Study), the environmental issues to be addressed in the Chiquita Canyon Landfill Master Plan Revision would include at least the following:

Potential Hazards

Geology/Soils
Hazards/Hazardous Materials
Noise

Potential Impacts to Resources

Hydrology/Water Quality
Air Quality
Biological Resources
Cultural Resources
Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Potential Impact to Services

Transportation/Traffic

Utilities/Services

NOTICE OF PREPARATION REVIEW AND COMMENTS: The review period for the Notice of Preparation will be from November 28, 2011 to January 12, 2012. As a result of the time limits mandated by state law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than January 4, 2012. Please direct all written comments to the following address. In your response, please include the name of a contact person in your agency.

Rob Glaser
Zoning Permits North Section
Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
320 W. Temple Street, Room 1348
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tel: (213) 974-6443
Fax: (213) 626-0434
E-mail: rglaser@planning.lacounty.gov

SCOPING MEETING: To assist in local participation, a Scoping Meeting will be held to present the proposed Project and to solicit suggestions from the public and responsible agencies on the content of the Draft EIR. The Scoping Meeting will be held at the Val Verde Community Regional Park Facility, located at 30300 West Arlington Street, Val Verde, on **Tuesday December 6, 2011 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

Attachment:
Draft Initial Study