los angeles county solid waste management plan map

DESCRIPTIVE NOTE

This policy map enumerates existing transfer stations and landfill facilities. As one site fills, refuse collectors will move to other sites based upon economics and the proximity to their respective collection areas. Future transfer station sites have not been shown because they can be located in many industrial areas, and do not necessarily constitute long-term uses. The Map also approximates the location of a projected resource recovery facility.

Potential landfill sites were identified on the Map on the basis of their incorporation in the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Plan (CoSWMP), as adopted by the Board of Supervisors on October 25, 1977. A symbol reflecting the specific potential class of landfill has been affixed only where the text of the CoSWMP has indicated a class. Sites not specifically identified are shown as Potential Class II or III. Other potential sites may exist. Intermediate or combination class sites will not be permitted and a site will be classified only Class I, or Class II or Class III. Class I sites may accept Group 2 and 3 materials and Class II may accept Group 3 materials. No disposal site will be changed to a more hazardous class without conducting the same studies required for that higher level facility at a new site. The CoSWMP, by State law, must be reviewed and updated at not more than three year intervals. Sites may be added or deleted during such revisions.

These potential facilities have not been subject to extensive evaluation and analysis regarding possible impacts. It cannot be determined whether these sites are feasible until a thorough investigation of each site can be completed. A comprehensive geologic study of each site shall be required for the protection of water quality. All Class I facilities shall be located away from existing or potential residential areas. Class II and III facilities to be sited near existing or potential residential areas must be reviewed to consider the effects on the community before project approval.

The provisions of the Zoning Ordinance (Los Angeles County Ordinance No. 1494, as amended) are applicable in the unincorporated territories of the County. The Ordinance prohibits landfills or waste disposal facilities in Zones B-1, B-2, MPD, P-R, and SR-D. Subject to a Conditional Use Permit (CUP), the use may be permitted in all other zones. It is the intent that the Zoning Ordinance be reviewed as to the appropriateness of waste disposal facilities in certain zones and to establish specific review criteria, especially for Class I Landfills.

In considering a CUP application for a waste disposal facility, the Regional Planning Commission is guided by the technical expertise of agencies such as the County Engineer-Facilities, the County Flood Control District, and the County Health Department as well as the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, the State Air Resources Board, the South Coast Air Quality Management District, and others appropriate to the individual case. The criteria to be applied by the Commission in considering an application include the regional and local need for the specific waste disposal facility as well as the potential impacts the use will have upon the community. These impacts include but are not limited to noise, odor, visual, circulation/traffic, air and water quality, seismic safety and safety. Regional need should not outweigh the impact on the community. Potential hazards should be given greater consideration than the regional need.

In addition, it is appropriate for the Commission to consider the criteria of other federal, State and local agencies. An example would be the geological requirements of the California Administrative Code, summarized as follows:

Class I Landfill

Natural geological barriers must exist that would prevent hazardous liquids from percolating down to usable ground waters. Similar barriers must exist to prevent the runoff of hazardous wastes to surface water except that these barriers may be artificial. Protection for ground and surface waters must be for all time.

Class II Landfill

The geological requirements for Class II sites are similar to those for Class I. The principal differences are that the barriers may be artificial rather than natural, and surface waters are protected against the 100 year flood.

Class III Landfill

Location, construction and operation must prevent erosion of wastes.

The Commission must also conduct a public hearing which shall be in the community closest to the proposed site to receive testimony relating to the application. Following a public hearing, the Commission may approve the application subject to conditions regulating the landscaping, maintenance and operating hours as well as the regulation and mitigation of nuisance factors such as noise, smoke, dust, dirt, odors, gases, noxious matter and such other conditions as will allow the use in accordance with the General Plan.

Because of the special risks associated with Class I Landfills, extraordinary procedures are appropriate in considering approval of conditional use permits for such sites. Public hearings in the community closest to the proposed site will be conducted by the entire Commission rather than the Zoning Board. Moreover, in addition to the other criteria recited above, the Commission will be required to compare the proposed site with other available sites to meet the identified need.

After making such a comparison, the Commission must find that the proposed site is so removed from other development as to impose virtually no risk to the public health, safety and welfare.

If the Commission determines that the use is in conflict with the General Plan or that the use will adversely affect the public health, safety, or general welfare, the Commission shall deny the application.

In summary, five types of facilities are shown. These are: 1) Class I landfills, which will accept non-radioactive hazardous waste; 2) Class II landfills, accommodating the largest amounts of waste including non-hazardous liquid waste; 3) Class III landfills, the most restrictive, accepting inert materials only; 4) transfer stations where waste is transferred from the collection vehicle to another conveyance; and 5) resource recovery facilities where, through such methods as incineration or pyrolysis, waste is converted to energy. Group 3 materials are accepted at Class II landfills and Group 2 and 3 materials are accepted at Class I sites.