

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

DATE: June 15, 2026

TO: County Clerk, County of Riverside (County)

PROJECT CASE NO/TITLE: NOE 26-04: On-Call Gas Collection Systems Construction Project

PROJECT LOCATION: Badlands Landfill, located at 31125 Ironwood Avenue, Moreno Valley, CA; and, Lamb Canyon Landfill, located at 16411 Lamb Canyon Road, Beaumont, CA.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed Project involves the County of Riverside (County) approving contract documents for an on-call contract to provide necessary construction enhancements to gas collection systems at the Badlands Landfill and Lamb Canyon Landfill.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT: County of Riverside (County)

PROJECT SPONSORS: Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR)

The Project is exempt from the provisions of CEQA, specifically by the State CEQA Guidelines as identified below. The Project will not result in any specific or general exceptions to the use of categorical exemptions as detailed under State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2. The Project will not cause any impacts to scenic resources, historic resources, or unique sensitive environments. Further, no unusual circumstances or potential cumulative impacts would occur that may reasonably create a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical environmental impact.

EXEMPT STATUS:

- ☐ Ministerial
- ☐ Declared Emergency
- ☐ Emergency Project
- ☐ Statutory Exemption:
- ☒ Categorical Exemption

Section 15301, Existing Facilities; 15302, Replacement and Reconstruction; 15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures; 15304, Minor Alterations to Land
Section 15061(b)(3), General Rule Exemption

- ☒ Other Exemption:

REASONS FOR EXEMPTION:

Section 15061(b)(3) - General Rule Exemption

The activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.

This project is exempt under Section 15061(b)(3) because:

The Project proposes necessary construction enhancements to gas collection systems on an on-call basis at the Badlands Landfill and Lamb Canyon Landfill. The Badlands and Lamb Canyon landfills gas collection systems are an integral part of the RCDWR's efforts to comply with landfill air quality regulations. The RCDWR is responsible for the construction and installation of gas collection systems that enable effective and efficient gas collection. Furthermore, the proposed contract work is located within permitted landfill disturbance areas. The Project would not have a direct, indirect, or cumulatively significant effect on the environment or environmental resources. As such, the Project meets the scope and intent of Section 15061(b)(3), General Rule Exemption.

This determination is an issue of fact and sufficient evidence exists in the record that the activity will not have a significant effect on the environment. As such, the exemption applies and no further evaluation under CEQA is required. See *Muzzy Ranch Co. v. Solano County Airport Land Use Comm'n* (2007) 41 Cal. 4th 372.

Section 15301, Existing Facilities

Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

This project is exempt under Section 15301 because:

The Project proposes to provide construction enhancements to gas collection systems of existing facilities on an on-call basis at the Badlands Landfill and Lamb Canyon Landfill. As such, the Project is found not to affect any environmental resources; therefore, the Project meets the scope and intent of Section 15301, Categorical Exemption.

Section 15302, Replacement and Reconstruction

Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

This project is exempt under Section 15302 because:

The Project proposes to provide construction enhancements to gas collection systems of existing facilities on an on-call basis at the Badlands Landfill and Lamb Canyon Landfill. Construction enhancements include new and replacement gas collection wells, gas collection piping, gas condensate drain piping, and perimeter monitoring probes. Construction enhancements at the Lamb Canyon and Badlands Sanitary Landfills will occur within an existing permitted area. Therefore, the Project as proposed meets the scope and intent of the Class 2 Categorical Exemption.

15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

Class 3 consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure.

This project is exempt under Section 15303 because:

The Project proposes to request on-call construction enhancements to gas collection systems at the Badlands Landfill and Lamb Canyon Landfill where repairs or new construction is required to enable effective and efficient gas collection. Construction enhancements would include new and replacement gas collection wells, gas collection piping, gas condensate drain piping, and perimeter monitoring probes. This work would not have a direct, indirect, or cumulatively significant effect on the environment. The Project as proposed meets the scope and intent of the Class 3 Categorical Exemption.

15304, Minor Alterations to Land

Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes.

This project is exempt under Section 15304 because:

The Project proposes to request on-call construction enhancements to gas collection systems that may require trenching, backfilling and compacting which may result in minor alterations to existing land conditions within and existing permitted area. Due to the previous disturbance and current use of the site, no healthy, mature, scenic trees are present in the Project area. Therefore, the Project as proposed meets the scope and intent of the Class 4 Categorical Exemption.

FINDINGS:

1. Based upon the identified exemptions and justifications above, the RCDWR, on behalf of the County, hereby concludes that no physical environmental impacts are anticipated to occur and the Project as proposed is exempt under CEQA. No further environmental analysis is warranted.
2. The proposed Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3), and categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15301, 15302, 15303, and 15304.
3. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that this Project would have a direct, indirect, or cumulatively significant effect on the environment; therefore, the activity is exempt under CEQA as previously identified.

If there are any questions regarding the above matter, I can be reached at (951) 486-3200.

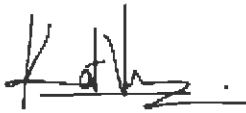
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Date: June 15, 2026

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