REVISED NOTICE OF PREPARATION

OF A SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Toland Optimization Plan (TOP)

LEAD AGENCY:

Ventura Regional Sanitation District 1001 Partridge Drive, Suite 150 Ventura, California 93003

Contact:
Chris Theisen
General Manager
Email: ChrisTheisen@vrsd.com | Phone: (805) 658-4600

September 2019

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REVISED NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

for

Toland Road Landfill: Toland Optimization Plan 3500 Toland Road, Santa Paula, CA 93060

Ventura Regional Sanitation District
September 13, 2019

Lead Agency:

Ventura Regional Sanitation District (VRSD) 1001 Partridge Drive, Suite 150 Ventura, California 93003

Lead Agency Contact:

ChrisTheisen@vrsd.com

Chris Theisen General Manager Ventura Regional Sanitation District 1001 Partridge Drive, Suite 150 Ventura, California 93003 Telephone: (805) 658-4600

Consulting Firm:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. 180 South Ashwood Avenue Ventura, California 93003

Consulting Firm Contact:

Jennifer Haddow, PhD
Principal
Rincon Consultants, Inc.
Telephone: (805) 644-4455
jhaddow@rinconconsultants.com

This Revised Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify agencies and interested parties that Ventura Regional Sanitation District (VRSD) will serve as the Lead Agency and responsible party, consistent with Public Resources Code Section 21002 and Section 15021 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15000 et seq.), in preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (Supplemental EIR) for the Toland Optimization Plan (the proposed project). The proposed project includes a request for a Minor Modification to County of Ventura issued and approved Conditional Use Permit No. 3141.

VRSD is soliciting the views of interested persons and agencies as to the scope and content of the environmental information to be studied in the Supplemental EIR for the proposed project. No impacts to the surrounding natural resources, residential uses, or agricultural operations would occur as part of the proposed project. Therefore, the Supplemental EIR will address the potential physical environmental effects of the proposed project pursuant to the thresholds established in CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G and the County of Ventura Initial Study Assessment Guidelines.

In accordance with Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines, this NOP is being sent to the Office of Planning and Research, Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, and other interested parties. Agencies are requested to review the project description provided in this NOP and provide comments on environmental issues related to their respective statutory responsibilities. If you are an authorized representative of a Responsible Agency, or a Trustee Agency, a transportation planning agency, agency with transportation facilities that may be affected, or a Federal agency involved in approving or funding the proposed project, VRSD encourages you to express the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the Supplemental EIR for this proposed project if it will consider a permit or other approval for the proposed project. In responding, please also provide the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the contact person for your agency. NOP comments on the Supplemental EIR should focus on discussing possible

impacts of the proposed project on the physical environment, ways in which potential adverse effects might be feasibly mitigated, and feasible alternatives to the proposed project in light of the Supplemental EIR's purpose to provide useful and accurate information about such factors.

Project Location: The project site, also referred to as Toland Road Landfill (TRL), is located at 3500 Toland Road between the cities of Santa Paula and Fillmore in an unincorporated area of Ventura County. TRL is approximately 3.5 miles northeast of the City of Santa Paula and approximately 3.0 miles west of the City of Fillmore, approximately 1.2 miles north of State Highway 126, and approximately 750 feet west of O'Leary Creek. See attachment for a site plan and vicinity map of the project location.

Project Applicant: Ventura Regional Sanitation District, 1001 Partridge Drive, Suite 150, Ventura, California 93003

Project Description: The proposed project involves a modification to the existing conditional use permit (CUP) No. 3141 for TRL, originally approved by Ventura County Board of Supervisors in 1996. The Toland Optimization Plan (TOP) is a request for a Minor CUP Modification, which includes the following elements:

- 1. Eliminate the maximum permitted daily tons of 1,500 tpd (CUP Condition 3.j) and replace it with a condition that allows a maximum daily Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) tonnage based on the MSW capacity of 152 heavy truck trips per day as evaluated in the 1996 Final EIR for the current CUP
- 2. Eliminate the 2027 closure date (Condition 5.a.2.b)
- 3. Eliminate the 15-million-ton lifetime cap (Condition 5.a.2.c)
- 4. Allow TRL to be filled to its maximum elevation of 1,435 feet above mean sea level as set forth in the CUP
- 5. Modify the CUP Conditions of Approval related to the decommissioned biosolids facility

TOP will not modify the approved final grades of the landfill, the equipment used on site, the days and hours of operation, nor the type of waste accepted. No impacts to the surrounding natural resources, residential uses, or agricultural operations would occur as part of the proposed project. There are no physical improvements or operational changes required at the landfill as part of TOP. CUP Condition 5.a.2.a, limiting the acceptance of waste to the existing designated elevations and contours, will remain in effect.

Because VRSD does not propose any physical improvements or operational changes to TRL as part of this CUP modification request, CUP Condition 5.a.2.a that limits the acceptance of total MSW to the existing designated elevations and contours will remain in effect. This also means that the current CUP conditions that place a lifetime cap of 15 million tons of MSW to be buried at TRL (Condition 5.a.2.c) and the 2027 landfill closure date (Condition 5.a.2.b) are not necessary and are proposed for deletion because they do not reflect current landfill engineering and operational realities.

Because the 1996 Final EIR for the current CUP previously evaluated potential environmental impacts associated with the delivery and deposit of MSW contained in 152 heavy truck trips per day to TRL, the current CUP limit of 1,500 tpd of MSW can and should be deleted in favor of a CUP condition that is consistent with the 1996 Final EIR assessment of the delivery and deposit of a maximum daily MSW tonnage at TRL that is equal to or less than the MSW capacity of 152 heavy truck trips per day to TRL. The current daily limit of 1,500 tpd of MSW at TRL is an artificial restriction on TRL operations which fails to recognize and allow for daily fluctuations in MSW tonnage in the Western Ventura County wasteshed and advances in MSW compaction at TRL.

Potential Environmental Effects:

Potentially significant environmental impacts have been identified in the following issue areas: Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Noise and Transportation/Traffic. In addition, alternative development scenarios, including a "no project" alternative, will be examined as part of the Supplemental EIR.

A Revised Initial Study has been prepared and is attached to this NOP. The Initial Study is also available for review at the Ventura Regional Sanitation District Office located at 1001 Partridge Drive, Suite 150, Ventura, CA, during normal business hours and is available for download at https://www.vrsd.com/.

Public Scoping Meeting:

VRSD will hold a public scoping meeting to provide an opportunity for the public and representatives of public agencies to address the scope of the Supplemental EIR. The Scoping Meeting for the Supplemental EIR for the project is scheduled for Wednesday, October 2, 2019 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at VRSD headquarters, located at 1001 Partridge Drive, Suite 150, Ventura, CA.

Thirty-Day Comment Period: Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice. The NOP comment period begins on September 13, 2019 and ends on October 14, 2019. Please send your comments by email no later than 5PM on October 14, 2019 to: Chris Theisen, General Manager, ChrisTheisen@vrsd.com.

Please send comments by mail to the following address:

Ventura Regional Sanitation District 1001 Partridge Drive, Suite 150 Ventura, CA 93003

Attn: Chris Theisen, General Manager

Revised Notice of Preparation Toland Optimization Plan

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