

# NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

## Landfill-Gas-to-Energy Project Merced County, California

**PROJECT OVERVIEW AND LOCATION:** The Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority (MCRWMA) is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) (CEQA) and has prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Landfill-Gas-to-Energy Project (project) in Merced County, California. The project site extends between the Highway 59 Landfill (7040 North Highway 59, Merced, CA 95348) and the University of California, Merced (UC Merced) Central Plant (5200 North Lake Road, Merced, CA 95343) and is located within portions of the unincorporated county, the City of Merced, and UC Merced.

At the Highway 59 Landfill, equipment would be installed adjacent to the existing landfill flare related to the transfer and treatment of landfill gas (LFG) prior to transmission to UC Merced. Within the UC Merced campus, up to four microturbines (800 kilowatts per microturbine) and associated heat utilization equipment would be installed within an approximately 80 feet by 80 feet enclosure that would be constructed adjacent and attached to the existing Central Plant. Between the facilities at the landfill and UC Merced, a 10-inch pipeline would be installed connecting the two. The pipeline route would leave the landfill property, head south on State Route 59 (SR 59), travel east on Bellevue Road, travel north on Lake Road, travel east on Ranchers Drive, then south on Ansel Adams Road and east on Mineral King Road. The pipeline would be installed within existing rights-of-way of these roadways.

In accordance with CEQA, MCRWMA prepared an initial study (IS) to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the project. Based on the findings of the IS, it is determined that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment with implementation of mitigation measures that would be required as conditions of project approval. Therefore, MCRWMA intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the project.

**COMMENT PERIOD** The public review period for the Draft IS/MND begins on **June 14, 2019** and closes on **July 16, 2019**. All comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on **July 16, 2019**. Please send your written or electronic comments, with the name of your agency contact person, to the following address:

Jerry Lawrie, Environmental Resource Manager  
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7040 N. Highway 59  
Merced, CA 95348  
(209) 723-4481  
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**AVAILABILITY:** The DEIR is available for public review online at: <http://www.mcagov.org> and at the following locations:

Merced County Regional Waste  
Management Authority  
7040 North Highway 59  
Merced, California 95348

Merced County Library  
2100 O Street  
Merced, CA 95340