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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
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SCOTT D. MCGOLPIN
Director

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

PUBLIC NOTICE OF SCOPING MEETING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON TAJIGUAS LANDFILL RECONFIGURATION AND BARON RANCH RESTORATION PROJECT

PUBLICATION DATE: February 7, 2008

FROM: Mr. Mark Schleich, Deputy Director
County of Santa Barbara
Public Works Department
Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division
130 East Victoria Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report
(Draft Supplemental EIR to the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project EIR [01-
EIR-05 SCH #98041003] certified August 13, 2002).

PROJECT NAME: Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project

The Santa Barbara County Public Works Department, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division (RRWMD) is the Lead Agency responsible for preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project in Santa Barbara County. In accordance with Section 15082 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, a Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared for the Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project. This NOP is a request for comment on the scope of environmental issues that you or your organization believes should be addressed in the Supplemental EIR regarding the proposed reconfiguration and restoration project.

Attached is a "scoping paper" which describes the issues currently anticipated to be addressed in the Supplemental EIR. Various Santa Barbara County decision makers (i.e., Board of Supervisors), County agencies (i.e., Environmental Health Services Division as the Local Enforcement Agency [LEA]), and responsible agencies (i.e., Regional Water Quality Control Board - Central Coast Region [RWQCB], California Integrated Waste Management Board [CIWMB], Army Corps of Engineers [ACOE], United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]), will need to use the Supplemental EIR prepared by the County Public Works Department when considering the issuance of permits or other actions related to the proposed project.

AA /EEO Employer

Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Director
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Dacé B. Morgan, Deputy Director
Michael B. Emmons, County Surveyor
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Mark A. Schleich, Deputy Director

Project Description (Summary): The Tajiguas Landfill is an existing County-owned and operated municipal solid waste disposal facility located in a coastal canyon known as the Cañada de la Pila, located approximately 26 miles west of the City of Santa Barbara, and 1,600 feet north of U.S. Highway 101, Santa Barbara County. The Santa Barbara County Public Works Department, (RRWMD) is the owner and permitted operator of the landfill. In 2002/2003, the County obtained all the necessary approvals and permits to expand the landfill both vertically and laterally.

The Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project involves a redesign of a portion of the permitted waste footprint at the Tajiguas Landfill and biological restoration activities on the adjacent Baron Ranch. The proposed waste footprint design change (reconfiguration) would not modify any of the existing operational parameters (e.g., refuse capacity, hours of operation, personnel requirements, waste handling procedures, etc.) but would involve physical changes to the approved location of the waste footprint and associated disturbances for construction and equipment operations in the back canyon area of the site. The project components include:

- ◆ Removal of the in-channel sedimentation basins;
- ◆ Reconfiguration of the waste footprint and associated disturbance to extend the waste footprint west across Pila Creek and Cañada de la Pila;
- ◆ Reconfiguration of the waste footprint on the east side of Pila Creek in the back canyon area;
- ◆ Drainage modifications within Pila Creek upstream of, and around, the reconfigured waste footprint; and
- ◆ Preparation and implementation of a Restoration Plan along Arroyo Quemado Creek and preparation and implementation of a comprehensive relocation and habitat enhancement plan for the California red-legged frog on Baron Ranch.

The additional disposal capacity provided by crossing Cañada de la Pila would be offset by reductions in disposal capacity that was to be provided in the back canyon area on the east side of Pila Creek under the Expansion Project. Therefore, no change in total design (permitted) capacity is proposed. The reconfiguration of the permitted waste footprint would allow RRWMD to more effectively address sediment control from the landfill, reduce grading and grading-related impacts, improve long term site conditions, such as the overall stability of the refuse fill, and provide significant cost savings during operations and throughout the post-closure maintenance.

Potential Environmental Effects: A Supplemental EIR will be prepared to evaluate the changes in environmental impacts that this proposed project might cause. Issue areas proposed to be evaluated in the Supplemental EIR include: Geology, Water Resources, Air Quality, Biology, Cultural Resources, Noise, and Land Use. Alternatives to the proposed project will also be evaluated in the Supplemental EIR. A more detailed description of the proposed reconfiguration and restoration project and potential environmental effects are provided in the attached Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project, Notice of Preparation Scoping Paper.

Written Comments: In accordance with the time limits established by CEQA, **your response to this NOP must be received at the address underlined below at the earliest possible date, but not later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday March 7, 2008** (30 days after the issuance of this notice). Your response should include your name, your agency's or organization's name, your address, and if applicable, the name of the specific contact person in your agency or organization. Comments should be mailed, e-mailed or hand delivered to: County of Santa Barbara, Public Works Department, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division, 130 E. Victoria Street, Santa Barbara, California 93101. Attention: Ms. Joddi Leipner. E-mail Address JLeipner@COSBPW.NET

Public Scoping Meeting: A public Scoping Meeting will also be held to accept testimony regarding issues of concern that should be evaluated in the Supplemental EIR. The purpose of the Scoping Meeting is to provide the public and other affected government agencies with a formal opportunity to comment on the environmental issues that should be analyzed in the Supplemental EIR. The Scoping Meeting will focus on gathering public input on the environmental document and on feasible ways in which project impacts may be mitigated to reduce or eliminate the significance of the impact.

Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2008
Time: 6:30-8:30 pm
Location: Santa Barbara County Planning Commission Hearing Room
123 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Please contact Ms. Joddi Leipner at (805) 882-3614, if you have any comments or questions regarding the Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project.

Respectfully,



Mark A. Schleich
Deputy Director – Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division

Attachment A: Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project, Revised Notice of Preparation
Scoping Paper

c: Clerk of the Board (please post for 30 days)

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15163, The County of Santa Barbara (County), Public Works Department, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division (RRWMD) will be the Lead Agency for the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to the certified Tajiguas Landfill Expansion EIR (01-EIR-005; SCH# 1998041003). The Supplemental EIR will evaluate a proposed reconfiguration of the waste footprint for the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project (Expansion Project) and addendum analyzed in 01-EIR-05 and approved by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors in August 2002 and December 2006 respectively. The Supplemental EIR will also evaluate a proposed Restoration Project on Baron Ranch. The proposed project would not modify any of the operational parameters (e.g., refuse capacity, operating hours, etc.) reviewed in 01-EIR-05.

In accordance with Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines, this Notice of Preparation (NOP) Scoping Paper has been prepared to provide an overview of the proposed Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project and the potential environmental effects of the project. This supplemental information is provided to assist responsible and trustee agencies, County and local agencies, interested groups and members of the public in identifying additional environmental information that should be addressed in the Supplemental EIR, including significant environmental issues, reasonable alternatives, and mitigation measures.

PROJECT LOCATION AND SURROUNDING LAND USES

The reconfiguration of the approved Expansion Project would be located at the Tajiguas Landfill (Tajiguas), which is an existing County-owned and operated municipal solid waste disposal facility. The restoration activities would be located on the County-owned Baron Ranch which is located immediately east of Tajiguas. Tajiguas is located in a coastal canyon known as Cañada de la Pila and Baron Ranch in Arroyo Quemado, approximately 26 miles west of the City of Santa Barbara. Tajiguas is approximately 1,600 feet north of U.S. Highway 101. The locations of Tajiguas and Baron Ranch are shown on the Regional Location Map (Figure 1) and on the Site Vicinity Map (Figure 2).

U.S. Highway 101, the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, and the Pacific Ocean are located south of the landfill as shown on Figure 2. Properties that are adjacent to the landfill site are used primarily for agriculture or open space. The residential community of Arroyo Quemada is located on the coast, approximately 2,000 feet southeast of the landfill.

PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Background and Introduction

Tajiguas has been in operation since 1967 for disposal of municipal solid waste. The original landfill predates adoption of the California Environmental Quality Act (1970) and the Coastal Act, which designated Coastal Zones in California in 1976. On August 13, 2002, the Board of Supervisors certified an EIR for, and approved, the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project (Front Canyon Expansion) (01-EIR-05). This project consists of the horizontal and vertical expansion

of the landfill outside of the Coastal Zone, providing 8.2 million cubic yards of additional capacity (Figure 3).

RRWMD is proposing to reconfigure a portion of the approved expansion boundary (Figure 4). The reconfiguration would not increase the limits of the waste footprint nor increase the permitted airspace. A comparison between the disturbance areas associated with the permitted and proposed project is provided in Figure 5. Cross-sections of the permitted and proposed reconfiguration are shown in Figures 6 and 7. Specifically, RRWMD is proposing to reconfigure the Phase II and III refuse fill limits to the west while eliminating the Phase IV area to the north and maintaining the permitted waste footprint at 118-acres. The reconfigured waste fill would eliminate a reinforced soil buttress fill¹ required to construct the approved design. Concurrently, RRWMD is proposing to restore portions of Arroyo Quemado Creek and tributaries on the County-owned Baron Ranch adjacent to Tajiguas.

Overall the reconfiguration allows RRWMD to maintain/improve water quality and maximize the use of existing air space rather than creating new air space through extensive on site excavations. The project also addresses information regarding soil management needs and feasible sediment control options obtained by RRWMD since the Expansion Project was approved in 2002.

Benefits of the Proposed Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration Project

The proposed reconfiguration of the Tajiguas Landfill waste footprint would provide a number of environmental, design, and cost benefits over the current design, including:

- ◆ Reduced grading and grading-related air quality impacts (dust and construction emissions) and noise impacts due to the reduction of soil excavation in the back canyon;
- ◆ Improved downstream water quality, due to the ability to construct and maintain a larger out-of-channel sedimentation basin;
- ◆ Improved groundwater quality due to elimination of subsurface water migration into the existing unlined waste area from water impounded adjacent to the existing landfill within the southern in-channel sedimentation basin
- ◆ Long term preservation and restoration of the Arroyo Quemado watershed on Baron Ranch containing known breeding populations of the California red-legged frog;
- ◆ Increased stability of the reconfigured refuse footprint due to a wider base of the waste prism and use of the adjacent canyon wall;
- ◆ Improved refuse configuration for the disposal operations due to larger deck areas and less slope filling;

¹ A buttress is an engineered fill usually constructed of soil and/or inert materials to provide increased stability of a given mass bearing force in particular direction.

- ◆ Estimated cost saving of 6 million dollars due to elimination of the engineered reinforced soil buttress, reduced excavation, reduced earth moving, and reduced closure and post-closure maintenance costs; and
- ◆ No change to the permitted capacity of the landfill.

Project Objectives

The specific objectives of the Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration Project include:

- ◆ Continue to meet the project objectives and waste disposal needs of southern Santa Barbara County and the Santa Ynez and Cuyama Valleys as set forth in Certified Final EIR for the approved Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project;
- ◆ Provide a landfill design that responds to information obtained since 2002 regarding soil management requirements and feasible sediment control options for the landfill;
- ◆ Eliminate impounded water within Pila Creek upstream of the historic unlined portion of the landfill;
- ◆ Construct and operate a project that results in a net environmental benefit by providing for the long-term conservation and restoration of the Arroyo Quemado watershed on Baron Ranch which currently supports a breeding population of California red-legged frogs;
- ◆ Promote restoration, enhancement, and management practices in the Arroyo Quemado watershed on Baron Ranch to benefit native habitats and sensitive species which includes the California red-legged frog; and
- ◆ Reduce costs associated with construction of the approved Expansion Project.

Overview of the Project

The Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration Project involves a redesign of a portion of the permitted waste footprint at the Tajiguas Landfill (Figure 4). The proposed waste footprint design change (reconfiguration) would not modify any of the existing operational parameters (e.g., refuse capacity, hours of operation, personnel requirements, waste handling procedures, etc.) but would involve physical changes to the approved location of the waste footprint and associated disturbances for construction and equipment operations in the back canyon area of the site. The project components include:

- ◆ Removal of the in-channel sedimentation basins;
- ◆ Reconfiguration of the waste footprint and associated disturbance to extend the waste footprint west across Pila Creek and Cañada de la Pila;
- ◆ Reconfiguration of the waste footprint on the east side of Pila Creek in the back canyon area;
- ◆ Drainage modifications within Pila Creek upstream of, and around, the reconfigured waste footprint; and

- ◆ Preparation and implementation of a Restoration Plan along Arroyo Quemado Creek and preparation and implementation of a comprehensive relocation and habitat enhancement plan for the California red-legged frog on Baron Ranch.

The additional disposal capacity provided by crossing Cañada de la Pila would be offset by reductions in disposal capacity that was to be provided in the back canyon area on the east side of Pila Creek under the Expansion Project. Therefore, no change in total design (permitted) capacity is proposed.

Removal of the In-channel Sedimentation Basins

To facilitate the reconfiguration of the landfill across Pila Creek, the existing in-channel sedimentation basins would be filled in. These two basins were constructed in the early 1980s to control naturally generated sediment from the undisturbed upper watershed area of Cañada de la Pila and have been subsequently used as a source of water for dust control. The basins would be drained/dewatered (if water is present) and would then be excavated to remove alluvial material or fractured bedrock and then backfilled with low permeability soil. Placement of waste would then occur above the backfilled area.

Reconfiguration of the Waste Footprint

Under the proposed reconfiguration the reinforced buttress proposed to be constructed east of the in-channel sedimentation basins would be eliminated and waste would instead be placed across Cañada de la Pila in a canyon fill configuration. An access road and concrete lined trapezoidal drainage channel would extend along the western edge of the landfill toe. Waste would also be placed on the east side of Pila Creek but excavation and waste placement in this area would be reduced as compared to the approved configuration. Waste would be placed to the currently permitted maximum elevation of 620 feet above msl.

The proposed reconfiguration would reduce the amount of soil excavated by approximately 1.7 million cubic yards. Due to the reduced volume of soil excavation required, the disturbance footprint of the North Slope Borrow/Stockpile area would be reduced by approximately 7 acres.

Pila Creek Drainage Modifications

To control drainage above the reconfigured waste footprint an approximate 1,000 foot long section of Pila Creek and an approximate 300 foot section of a tributary to Pila Creek would need to be modified. Fill would be placed in the creek along these sections and adjacent areas to create a consistent slope of approximately 0.4%. Through this section, Pila Creek would be diverted into an 8-foot wide and 6-foot deep concrete-lined trapezoidal channel. The size and gradient of the trapezoidal channel is expected to allow the channel to also function as a sedimentation basin for sediment to replace the sediment control functions previously provided by the in-channel basins. South of the reconfigured waste footprint the trapezoidal channel would discharge into the two existing subsurface 48" storm drains. Modifications to the storm drain system below the existing 48" storm drains may also be necessary to address the loss of storm water detention currently provided by the in-channel basins.

Baron Ranch Restoration Plan

The proposed project includes implementation of a comprehensive Restoration Plan on the County-owned Baron Ranch to offset the effects of the proposed action on the California red-legged frog and compensate for the loss of native habitats on Tajiguas. Because Tajiguas is an operational landfill, off-site mitigation is proposed as conditions within the landfill property are generally unsuitable for wildlife and restoration activities. Costs savings from the reconfiguration would specifically allow RRWMD to implement this comprehensive restoration plan. The Restoration Plan includes:

- ◆ Permanent protection of 30+ acres of the Arroyo Quemado Watershed and occupied California red-legged frog breeding habitat through a conservation easement;
- ◆ Restoration of degraded areas of the Arroyo Quemado riparian corridor and tributaries;
- ◆ Enhancements within the riparian corridor to benefit California red-legged frogs as well as other wildlife;
- ◆ Creation of a new mixed riparian buffer adjacent to Arroyo Quemado Creek;
- ◆ Replacement of barren orchard areas within an approximate 100 foot buffer of the Arroyo Quemado Creek riparian corridor with coast live oak and conversion of existing orchards to coast live oak woodland;
- ◆ Invasive plant removal within and adjacent to the riparian buffer; and
- ◆ Implementation of a California red-legged frog management and monitoring plan to ensure restoration, enhancement, and management activities in the Arroyo Quemado Watershed lead to habitat benefits for the California red-legged frog. A research study would be incorporated into the plan to better understand movement patterns of relocated frogs (e.g., metapopulation dynamics, upland movement patterns, etc.).

Additional details of this plan will be presented in the Draft Supplemental EIR. The conceptual restoration plan for Arroyo Quemado is shown on Figure 8.

Other Project Description Elements

As noted previously the permitted landfill capacity and operations would not change with the Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project. In addition, no changes are proposed to the following project description elements.

- ◆ Utilities
- ◆ Site Access and Traffic
- ◆ Landfill Operations
- ◆ Environmental Protection and Monitoring Systems
- ◆ Nuisance Monitoring and Controls
- ◆ Closure, Post Closure, and Financial Assurance
- ◆ Closure and Post Closure Funding

These elements of the project would be incorporated by reference from the Final EIR for the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project and would continue to be implemented for the reconfigured project.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The proposed reconfiguration of the permitted landfill footprint and restoration activities at Baron Ranch would have the potential to affect the environment in ways not previously anticipated in 01-EIR-05 and may change the magnitude of some impacts while reducing the magnitude of others. The level of significance of the potential impacts will be assessed in the EIR based upon specific "significance thresholds" for each environmental topic. Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and Santa Barbara County's *Environmental Thresholds Guidelines Manual* will be used to establish the criteria on which the potential impacts will be assessed in the Supplemental EIR to determine their significance.

A preliminary overview of the project's potential environmental impacts that could result from the proposed landfill reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration that are proposed to be evaluated in the EIR follows.

Geology

The proposed Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration would allow RRWMD to maximize the use of existing airspace by extending the waste footprint across a portion of Cañada de la Pila rather than creating new air space through extensive on site excavations. The proposed project would also eliminate the need for an engineered reinforced buttress to be constructed east of the in-channel sedimentation basins to hold the waste in place and would improve the overall waste slopes and associated slope stability. These are considered to be beneficial geologic effects of the project. The reconfiguration would however eliminate the in-channel sedimentation basins which predominantly capture sediment from areas of the Pila Creek watershed that are not disturbed by landfilling operations. The elimination of the basins could result in increased sedimentation from natural slope erosion. Thus, the Supplemental EIR will analyze erosion and sedimentation impacts of the proposed project; all other geologic impacts are expected to remain unaffected by the proposed project and adequately disclosed in 01-EIR-05.

Water Resources

The proposed reconfiguration project is expected to result in beneficial ground water quality effects by reducing water seepage into the unlined portion of the historic landfill that results from water impounded in the in-channel sedimentation basins upgradient of the landfill. The project would also have a beneficial effect on surface water quality due to the ability to retain and expand the existing out-of-channel sedimentation basin which captures sediment from the active landfill area.

The project would however result in additional modifications to Pila Creek and further alter on-site drainage characteristics. The project would also eliminate storm water and sediment storage capacity currently provided by the in-channel basins. The potential effects of a 100-year storm

event to the drainage facilities and potential flooding at the site will be evaluated in the Supplemental EIR.

The reconfiguration is expected to result in a reduced construction related water demand due to the reduction in site disturbance and grading and a related reduction in water needed for dust control and construction. However, reconfiguration of the waste footprint across Cañada de la Pila would eliminate one existing water supply well and the water which periodically ponds in the in-channel sedimentation basins. The potential changes in demand and availability of water for dust control and other uses at the landfill will be evaluated in the Supplemental EIR.

Air Quality

The proposed reconfiguration would better utilize existing air space significantly reducing new excavations associated with the permitted expansion. The reduction in earth moving activities associated with the reconfiguration is expected to reduce air quality emissions associated with gasoline and diesel-powered heavy-duty equipment use and dust and PM₁₀ emissions from ground disturbance. The Supplemental EIR will evaluate reductions in air quality emissions resulting from the reconfiguration.

Biology

The proposed reconfiguration would result in the removal of the in-channel sedimentation basins and would impact approximately 1,300 linear feet (~ 6 acres) of the Pila Creek riparian corridor and associated tributary in the northern portion of site. Pila Creek is an ephemeral drainage and the creek has been significantly disturbed by historic landfill operations and construction of US 101 and the Southern Pacific railroad corridor. The reconfiguration would affect wetlands and waters under the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Game, and County designated wetlands, riparian habitats and adjacent upland habitat areas. The reconfiguration project may result in new impacts to sensitive plant species and additional impacts to sensitive wildlife species, and impacts to birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Removal of the in-channel basins would permanently eliminate breeding and upland habitat for the federally threatened California red-legged frog and potentially impact individuals. Reduced excavation and stockpiling requirements would however allow retention of areas of oak woodland and chaparral habitats previously proposed for disturbance under the permitted Expansion Project.

The proposed project also includes restoration and protection of over 30 acres of high quality riparian habitat (containing known breeding populations of California red-legged frog and potential southern steelhead habitat) on the adjacent, County-owned Baron Ranch. The project will also include implementation of a California red-legged frog relocation plan prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to minimize impacts to this species.

The Supplemental EIR will include biological surveys of the additional riparian and upland areas impacted by the reconfiguration to quantify additional biological impacts to habitat and species, including the California red-legged frog. The Supplemental EIR will include a delineation of jurisdictional wetlands and waters of the U. S. under the Army Corps of Engineers, California

Department of Fish and Game and County criteria and an assessment of wetland impacts. The Supplemental EIR will identify acreages of habitats impacted as well as identify numbers and types of native trees impacted by the proposed drainage modification. The Supplemental EIR will evaluate the use of the riparian corridor for wildlife movement and the loss of open water associated with the removal of the in-channel basins. The Supplemental EIR will also evaluate benefits of, and potential impacts associated with, implementation of the Baron Ranch Restoration Project.

Cultural Resources

The reconfiguration is within the area of the landfill surveyed for cultural resources in 1988. According to this survey information no significant pre-historic or historic resources are present. Past and present cultural surveys of the landfill will be reviewed in the Supplemental EIR to determine their adequacy with respect to proposed reconfiguration project. Additional surveys will be performed if determined necessary and any impacts identified.

Noise

Noise levels associated with truck traffic accessing the site would remain the same under the proposed reconfiguration since there would be no change in operation and capacity. Construction related noise impacts would be reduced due to the significant reduction in soil excavation and stockpiling requirements associated with the reconfigured footprint. The Supplemental EIR will provide a discussion of the expected reduction in construction related noise associated with the reconfiguration.

Land Use

The Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project was found to be consistent with all applicable policies of the County's Comprehensive Plan and Local Coastal Plan and consistent with the provisions of the Inland Zoning Ordinance (Article III).

The proposed reconfiguration would be located outside the coastal zone. The Supplemental EIR would include an evaluation of the project's consistency with County Comprehensive Plan policies applicable to the inland areas for the reconfiguration and Coastal Plan policies pertinent to the restoration activities on Baron Ranch.

Other Environmental Issue Areas

The previous EIR, 01-EIR-05, disclosed that the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project would result in significant and unavoidable (Class I) visual resource impacts due to the visibility of the site and changes to the visual characteristics of the site, significant but mitigable (Class II) visual resource impacts due to the visibility of security lighting and from visibility certain viewpoints during operation, significant but mitigable (Class II) nuisance related impacts, significant but mitigable (Class II) and less than significant (Class III) health and safety impacts, and adverse but less than significant (Class III) impacts, to traffic and traffic safety. Impacts to these environmental issue areas would not change as a result of the reconfiguration and 01-EIR-05

remains adequate to disclose impacts for these issue areas. The Supplemental EIR will incorporate the analyses of these issue areas in 01-EIR-05 by reference.

ALTERNATIVES

Based on the Final EIR (01-EIR- 05) analysis, the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project, Front Canyon configuration was identified as the environmentally superior alternative which met the basic project objective of providing 15 years of disposal capacity for Santa Barbara County. All necessary permits and approvals were obtained for the Expansion Project and waste filling is occurring within the expansion area.

The Supplemental EIR will incorporate by reference the expansion alternatives analysis contained in 01-EIR-05. Additional project specific alternatives to achieve the objectives of the reconfiguration will be analyzed in the Supplemental EIR. The objective of this analysis will be to identify and evaluate a range of reasonable alternatives that have the potential to accomplish the basic objectives of the reconfiguration project while eliminating or reducing potential significant environmental impacts associated with the project.

Alternatives that will be considered in the Supplemental EIR include the following:

- ◆ Reconfiguration with subsurface pipeline for upstream drainage control;
- ◆ Reconfiguration with expanded aboveground upstream drainage control;
- ◆ Increased maintenance of the in-channel sedimentation basins;
- ◆ Expanded Northern In-Channel Sedimentation Basin or New Upper Pila Creek Sedimentation Basin; and
- ◆ The No Project Alternative.