

# Lyons Canyon Ranch Draft Environmental Impact Report

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## 5.15 SOLID WASTE

This section analyzes the solid waste impacts of the project and recommends mitigation measures to reduce the amount of solid waste going to landfills. Specifically, this section compares the solid waste generation of the proposed project with the capacity of the existing landfills operating within Los Angeles County that accept waste from municipalities and unincorporated areas.

### 5.15.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

#### STATE PLANS AND POLICIES FOR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

##### California Integrated Waste Management Act

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) requires every city and county in the state to prepare a Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) to its Solid Waste Management Plan, that identifies how each jurisdiction will meet the mandatory state waste diversion goals of 25 percent by the year 1995 and 50 percent by the year 2000. The purpose of AB 939 is to “reduce, recycle, and re-use solid waste generated in the state to the maximum extent feasible.” Noncompliance with the goals and timelines set forth within AB 939 can result in fines up to \$10,000 per day on jurisdictions (cities and counties) not meeting the recycling and planning goals.

The term “integrated waste management” refers to the use of a variety of waste management practices to safely and effectively handle the municipal solid waste stream with the least adverse impact on human health and the environment. AB 939 established a waste management hierarchy as follows:

- ◆ Source Reduction;
- ◆ Recycling;
- ◆ Composting;
- ◆ Transformation; and
- ◆ Disposal.

As of January 2003, neither the California Integrated Waste Management Board nor the State Legislature has introduced new legislation to set diversion requirements beyond 2000.

#### REGIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES FOR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

##### Los Angeles Countywide Siting Element

In 1997, the County of Los Angeles prepared a countywide siting element that estimates the amount of solid wastes generated in the County and proposes various diversion and alternate disposal options.

The Los Angeles Countywide Siting Element identifies the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW) as the responsible agency to develop plans and strategies to manage

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and coordinate the solid waste generated (including hazardous waste) in the County unincorporated areas and address the disposal needs of Los Angeles County as a whole. The Siting Element is based upon the traditional practice of simply collecting solid waste and disposal of at landfills in the local vicinity. Therefore, currently many jurisdictions (such as the County of Los Angeles) are stating that existing local landfill space may reach capacity in the very near future.

### LOCAL PLANS AND POLICIES FOR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

Three private haulers are franchised by the City of Santa Clarita Department of Field Services to collect residential, commercial and industrial waste in the City of Santa Clarita. These haulers operate under two franchise systems: one for commercial/industrial uses and one for residential uses.

In 2003, approximately 182,720 tons of solid waste was generated by uses in the City of Santa Clarita (refer to Table 5.15-1, *Landfills Summary*).<sup>1</sup> Approximately 85 percent (156,035 tons) of Santa Clarita's solid waste is sent to the Chiquita Canyon Sanitary Landfill. The Chiquita Canyon Landfill has been approved for expansion resulting in the extension of its closure date to 2019, assuming a maximum daily tonnage of 6,000 tons of solid waste. This landfill is classified as a major landfill, which is defined as a facility that receives more than 50,000 tons of solid waste per year. Additionally, the Chiquita Canyon Landfill is classified as Class III since it is permitted to accept only non-hazardous wastes. It should be noted that in the future, nearly all of the solid waste from the City will be transferred to the Antelope Valley Public Landfill. The 14 landfills serving Santa Clarita have a total permitted capacity of 210.8 million tons and a remaining capacity of approximately 810.7 million tons.

**Table 5.15-1  
City of Santa Clarita Landfills Summary**

Facility	Amount Disposed from Loma Linda (tons/year) <sup>1</sup>	Permitted Throughput (tons/day) <sup>2</sup>	Permitted Capacity (cubic yards)	Remaining Capacity (cubic yards)
Arvin Sanitary Landfill	13	800	11,464,719	2,246,339
Bakersfield SLF	8	4,500	53,000,000	2,985,888
CWMI-B18 Nonhazardous Codisposal	11	8,000	10,700,000	6,000,000
Antelope Valley Public Landfill	10,743	1,400	6,480,000	2,978,143
Azusa Land Reclamation Company, Inc.	740	6,500	66,670,000	34,100,000
Lancaster Landfill and Recycling Center	4,481	1,700	22,645,000	22,645,000
Chiquita Canyon Sanitary Landfill	156,035	6,000	45,889,550	26,024,360
Puente Hills Landfill #6	8,895	13,200	106,400,000	58,800,000
Commerce Refuse-To-Energy Facility	1	1,000	1,000 tons/day	N/A
Sunshine Canyon SLF County Extension	2,793	6,600	23,720,000	16,000,000
Bradley Landfill West and West Extension	8,405	10,000	38,600,000	4,725,968
Frank R., Bowerman Facility LF	8	8,500	127,000,000	98,179,886

<sup>1</sup> *Jurisdiction Disposal and ADC by Facility*, Integrated Waste Management Board, 2004, [www.ciwmb.ca.gov](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov).

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El Sobrante Landfill	8	10,000	184,930,000	3,674,267
Simi Valley Landfill-Recycling Center	372	3,000	43,500,000	9,473,131
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>191,513</b>	<b>84,700</b>	<b>810,700,269</b>	<b>287,832,982<sup>1</sup></b>

Sources:

1. *Jurisdiction Disposal and ADC by Facility*, Integrated Waste Management Board, [www.ciwmb.ca.gov](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov) and LA County Sanitation District written Correspondence dated March 16, 2006.
2. *Solid Waste Information System (SWIS)*, Integrated Waste Management Board, [www.ciwmb.ca.gov](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov).

## 5.15.2 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLD CRITERIA

Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines* contains the Initial Study Environmental Checklist form used during preparation of the project Initial Study, which is contained in Appendix A of this EIR. The Initial Study includes questions relating to solid waste disposal. The issues presented in the Initial Study Checklist have been utilized as thresholds of significance in this Section. Accordingly, a project may create a significant environmental impact if one or more of the following occurs:

- ◆ Would be served by a landfill with insufficient capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.

## 5.15.3 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

### CONSTRUCTION-RELATED IMPACTS

- ◆ ***CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT WOULD GENERATE SOLID WASTE, WHICH WOULD INCREMENTALLY DECREASE THE CAPACITY AND LIFESPAN OF LANDFILLS.***

***Level of Significance Prior to Mitigation:*** Significant Impact.

***Impact Analysis:*** Site preparation (vegetation removal and grading activities) and construction activities would generate a total of approximately 9,428 tons, or an average of approximately 4,714 tons per year of construction wastes over the two year buildout of the project assuming no recycling.<sup>2</sup> However, implementation of the recommended mitigation measure would require the reduction of construction-related solid waste, which assuming a 50 percent reduction, would reduce the amount of construction-related solid waste to 4,712.5 total tons. These waste materials are expected to be typical construction debris, including wood, paper, glass, plastic, metals, cardboard, and green wastes.

Construction activities could also generate hazardous waste products. The wastes generated would result in an incremental and intermittent increase in solid waste disposal at landfills and other waste disposal facilities within Los Angeles County.

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<sup>2</sup> Assumes a generation rate of 90 tons per acre of construction waste. Project gross developable acreage is 104.76 Refer to 3.0, Project Description.

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Implementation of the recommended mitigation measure would result in the generation of approximately 4,712.5 tons of construction-related solid waste, which equals approximately two (2) percent of the annual waste generated within the City of Santa Clarita. In addition, this impact would be short-term and cease upon project completion. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

### **Mitigation Measure:**

- SW1 The project applicant/individual project applications shall adhere to all source reduction programs for the disposal of construction materials and solid waste, as required by the County of Los Angeles. Prior to issuance of building permits, a source reduction program shall be prepared and submitted to the Director of Public Works for each future structure constructed on the subject properties to achieve a minimum 50 percent reduction in waste disposal rates, including green waste.

*Level of Significance After Mitigation:* Less Than Significant Impact.

### **OPERATION-RELATED IMPACTS**

- ◆ ***OPERATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT WOULD GENERATE SOLID WASTE WHICH WOULD INCREMENTALLY DECREASE THE CAPACITY AND LIFESPAN OF LANDFILLS.***

*Level of Significance Prior to Mitigation:* Significant Impact.

**Impact Analysis:** Buildout of the proposed project is estimated to require approximately two years. At buildout, the project would generate approximately 1,695 pounds of solid waste per day, or 309 tons per year, as shown in Table 5.15-2, *Daily Projected Solid Waste Generation for Project (No Recycling)*. This quantity represents the proposed project's solid waste generation under a worst-case scenario without any recycling activities in place. Under County requirements, however, the uses within the proposed project would be required to provide adequate areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials in concert with Countywide efforts and programs to reduce the volume of solid waste entering landfills.

Although the proposed project would generate approximately 309 tons per year it can also be assumed that the project would meet the current recycling goals of the community and in actuality only generate approximately 154.5 tons per year due to County diversion rates and a mandate to divert at least 50 percent of potential waste disposal.

Regardless, as a consequence of the finite resources associated with solid waste disposal, and despite the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, long-term operational impacts would be significant.

**Table 5.15-2**  
**Daily Projected Solid Waste Generation for Project (No Recycling)**

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Land Use	Units	Generation Factor (lbs/day) <sup>1</sup>	Total Waste Generation (lbs/day)	Total Waste Generation (tons/year)
Single-family Residential	100 du	11.18	1,118	204
Multi-Family Residential	90 du	6.41	577	105
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,695</b>	<b>309</b>

**Notes:**

du = dwelling units

s.f. = square feet

- The solid waste generation rates are derived from the Ventura County Solid Waste Management Department's Guidelines for the Preparation of Environmental Assessments for Solid Waste Impacts. The Los Angeles County solid waste generation factor of 11 pounds/capita/day was not used in this analysis because it is very general and may not yield an accurate solid waste generation analysis for the project. These factors do not reflect any recycling activities.

### Mitigation Measures:

#### General

- SW2 Project will provide recycling/separation areas in close proximity to dumpsters for non-recyclables, elevators, loading docks, and primary internal and external access points.
- SW3 The location of recycling/separation areas shall not be in conflict with any applicable federal, state or local laws relating to fire, building, access, transportation, circulation, or safety.
- SW4 The location of recycling/separation areas shall be convenient for those persons who deposit, collect, and load the recyclable materials.
- SW5 Recycling containers/bins shall be located so that they do not block access to each other.
- SW6 Vegetation in common area landscaping shall consist of low maintenance species that are also drought-tolerant and native to the area. The use of plant species for landscaping that require low maintenance and are drought-tolerant and native will reduce yard waste by requiring less pruning and maintenance when compared to irrigated ornamental landscaping.

#### Residential

- SW7 Kitchen, garage or garden design shall accommodate trash and recyclable components to assist in the County's recycling efforts.
- SW8 Property buyers shall receive educational material on the County's or local waste management efforts.

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- SW9 The applicant shall comply with all applicable state and Los Angeles County regulations and procedures for the use, collection and disposal of solid and hazardous wastes.

*Level of Significance After Mitigation:* Significant and Unavoidable Impact.

### 5.15.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- ◆ ***DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT AND RELATED PROJECTS WOULD INCREASE THE DEMAND FOR LANDFILL DISPOSAL CAPACITY.***

*Level of Significance Prior to Mitigation:* Significant Impact.

***Impact Analysis:*** Development associated with the proposed project and related projects would generate approximately 100.68 tons of solid waste per day, or 36,748 tons per year.<sup>3</sup> This quantity represents cumulative solid waste generation under a worst-case scenario without any recycling activities occurring. However, the proposed project and related projects would be required to comply with recycling requirements, in support of Countywide efforts and programs to reduce the volume of solid waste entering landfills.

Although the proposed project and related projects would generate approximately 36,748 tons per year, it is anticipated that the proposed project and related projects would meet the current recycling goals. As such, it is assumed that only approximately 18,374 tons per year of cumulative solid waste would require landfill disposal.

The proposed project and related development projects within the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan planning area would not produce an amount of solid waste that exceeds available landfill capacity or trash hauler service capabilities in the short term. However, future effects of regional growth and the corresponding increase in solid waste disposal needs within the County of Los Angeles would contribute to a significant adverse cumulative impact on solid waste disposal capacity. According to the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element (1995), a landfill shortfall will ultimately occur within Los Angeles County within the 15-year planning period (ending in 2010) unless all proposed landfills become operational and all Class III landfills are expanded (this includes expansions of the Antelope Valley, Chiquita Canyon, Lancaster, Scholl Canyon and Sunshine Canyon landfills). However, based on past and current experience in siting new or expanded capacity, it must be recognized that many (or all) of new or expanded landfill sites may encounter strong opposition during the permitting process, and that not all new sites or expansion plans may be approved. Therefore, cumulative solid waste impacts are considered significant and unavoidable.

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<sup>3</sup> The factors for single family dwellings (11.18) and multiple family dwelling (6.41) multiplied times the cumulative list of 16,740 SFD's and 2688 MFD's produce a total of 100.68 tones per day. Tons per year equal 100.68 times 365 or 36,748 tons per year

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**Mitigation Measures:** Refer to Mitigation Measures SW1 through SW9. No additional mitigation measures are required.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** Significant and Unavoidable Impact.