


**MEMORANDUM
WESTERN PLACER WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

TO: **WPWMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
FROM: **KEN GREHM / ERIC ODDO** 
SUBJECT: **WASTE ACTION PLAN UPDATE**

DATE: **MAY 21, 2020**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

None. This report is for information purposes only.

BACKGROUND:

The following provides an update on the WPWMA's *Renewable Placer: Waste Action Plan* project including development of the environmental document and continued stakeholder engagement.

Environmental Impact Report Progress Overview

Jacobs is continuing to make progress on the preparation of the Waste Action Plan draft environmental impact report (DEIR). The current focus of their efforts is centered on clearly defining existing conditions at the facility and the anticipated changes associated with the two project concepts as well as development of the air quality analysis methodology as noted below. To provide a clear and up-to-date understanding of the project schedule, a high-level project status matrix is attached which identifies anticipated completion dates for key milestones and the relative progress on the major elements of the DEIR. Staff will provide an updated matrix in subsequent Waste Action Plan updates to your Board.

Technical Air Group

After conducting an initial meeting with the Placer County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) in late 2019, staff and Jacobs have been working to develop a comprehensive methodology for conducting the necessary air quality analysis for the two project concepts. As part of this effort, a thorough analysis of current operations, equipment usage and customer traffic patterns (delineated by vehicle size and emissions potential) was prepared to establish reasonable and defensible baseline emissions information. Following this effort, each project concept was analyzed to identify the timing and extent of possible changes to air emissions to determine the estimated peak day construction and operational air emissions.

Jacobs is nearing completion of the preliminary draft of the air analysis methodology and staff anticipate providing the draft methodology to the APCD for their review and comment in June. After meeting with and receiving concurrence from APCD on the methodology, Jacobs will move forward with completing the air analysis.

Consultation with Native American Tribes

WPWMA initiated the consultation process with the United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC) consistent with the provisions of AB 52 in May 2019 and held a preliminary

meeting with UAIC representatives in mid-November 2019 to discuss UAIC's participation in a site-wide archaeological reconnaissance survey.

Jacobs' Senior Archaeologist and two representatives from the UAIC performed the site reconnaissance survey, which involved a walking survey of the WPWMA's eastern and western properties as well as select portions of the existing facility site, on December 4th, 5th, 6th and 11th. Two cultural resources, consisting of chert flakes, were identified during the reconnaissance survey. The flakes are likely not eligible for inclusion and listing in either the California Register of Historical Resources or the National Register of Historic Places. Jacobs is nearing completion of the survey report which will be provided to UAIC for their information and ultimately become part of the DEIR.

A December 2019 search of Cultural Resource and Tribal Cultural Resource inventories maintained by the California Historical Resources Information System – North Central Information Center suggested that there are no significant Native American cultural resources on the site.

Stakeholder Engagement

Staff continue to identify targeted audiences and appropriate engagement and media opportunities to inform the public about the Waste Action Plan. Prior to CEQA initiation, staff presented the Waste Action Plan to Member Agency councils and the Board of Supervisors as well as local Chambers of Commerce and other interested groups. Staff intends to present an update to these groups later this year as the project continues to develop. To assist in these discussions and help interested parties better understand the WPWMA's plans, staff is working with Jacobs to develop an on-line, interactive visualization tool that depicts what the facility may look like under each plan concept at key points in the future. The tool is built on a Google Earth-style platform that will allow the user to pan and zoom from defined viewpoints, and informational tags will provide details about the individual project components. Staff will be presenting a preliminary version of this tool to your Board for review and comment as part of this staff report.

Engagement with Sacramento State and the Carlsen Center

A key to the success of the Waste Action Plan will be collaboration with both private technology firms and colleges and universities to assist in vetting technologies and research and development of solid waste system improvements.

A partnership between the City of Phoenix and Arizona State University (ASU) has demonstrated the success of this collaborative model. Over the past several months, WPWMA and Jacobs staff have been communicating with the City of Phoenix and ASU to learn from their experiences. At the same time, WPWMA and Jacobs staff have been in contact with representatives of Sacramento State University (CSUS) and the Carlsen Center regarding the potential to replicate a similar partnership. Staff are in the process of scheduling further meetings with ASU, CSUS and the Carlsen Center and believe participation by one or more members of your Board will be beneficial.

Impact of Nortech's Proposal

While the long-term proposal put forth by Nortech (which will be discussed as a separate item on this agenda) is in-line with the overall goals of the Waste Action Plan, some of the details differ from those currently being analyzed as part of the DEIR. Depending on the direction your Board ultimately takes regarding Nortech's proposal, the agreement with Jacobs may need to be amended so that the DEIR properly addresses and discusses Nortech's proposed facility modifications. Staff will return to your Board at a future meeting with an amendment to the Jacobs agreement should it be determined to be necessary.

ATTACHMENT: WASTE ACTION PLAN STATUS MATRIX

WPWMA Waste Action Plan EIR Status Matrix											
Description	Percent Complete				Completion Date (est./actual)	Notes					
	5	15	25	35			45	55	65	75	85
Notice of Preparation						April 2019					
Draft EIR											
Ch 1 - Introduction						Est. May 2020					Provides a robust overview of current site operations
Ch 2 - Executive Summary						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 3 - Project Description						Est. Jun 2020					Incorporating complementary/programmatic elements
Ch 4 - Approach						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 5 - Aesthetics						Est. Dec 2020					Fieldwork completed October 2019; draft visual simulations being prepared
Ch 6 - Air Quality & Odors						Est. Dec 2020					Initiated emissions calculations and preliminary modeling
Methodology						Est. Jun 2020					Targeting late-May methodology meeting with PCAPCD
Emission Inventory Development						Est. Sep 2020					
Health Risk Assessment						Est. Nov 2020					
Ch 7 - Biological Resources						Est. Dec 2020					Fieldwork completed during Phase 1
Ch 8 - Cultural and Tribal Resources						Est. Dec 2020					ABS2 consultation initiated; reconnaissance surveys conducted with UAIC
Ch 9 - Geology, Soils, & Paleontology						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 10 - GHG Emissions & Climate Change						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 11 - Hazards, Hazardous Materials, & Wildfire						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 12 - Hydrology & Water Quality						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 13 - Land Use & Planning						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 14 - Noise						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 15 - Population & Housing						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 16 - Public Services						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 17 - Transportation & Traffic						Est. Dec 2020					
Ch 18 - Utilities & Energy						Est. Dec 2020					
Administrative Draft for Internal Review						Est. Dec 2020					
Draft EIR for Public Review						Est. Feb 2021					
Respond to Comments on Draft EIR						Est. Apr-Jun 2021					
Administrative Final for Internal Review						Est. Aug 2021					
Final EIR						Est. Sep 2021					
Board Certification of EIR and Approval of Project						Est. Oct 2021					