

Guidance: Reduced Collection Frequency Proposals and the EA's Role

[14 CCR, Section 18984.11\(a\)\(3\)](#) discusses an option for the jurisdiction to waive generators from weekly collection of blue (recycling) or gray (trash) containers in a two- or three-container collection system. However, implementation of this collection frequency waiver should be coordinated with any applicable Enforcement Agency (EA) to determine whether a less frequent collection would cause solid waste facilities or operations receiving the material to violate applicable state minimum standards. Jurisdictions may also want to consult with local health authorities to ensure that the proposed schedule does not create propagation of vectors or other health and safety concerns.

For more information regarding jurisdictional waiver requirements, visit the [Jurisdictional Q&A webpage](#). Additional information regarding collection frequency (see General #25) can be found at the [Commercial Organics Q&A webpage](#).

Although EAs are not required to formally approve less frequent collection, EAs will benefit from analyzing any potential impacts associated with the less frequent collection and providing feedback to the jurisdiction. Below is a list of suggested questions for jurisdictions:

Solid Waste Collection

- What is the frequency of organic waste collection?
- Is food waste collected weekly or bi-weekly with yard waste or in a separate container?
- Does the reduced collection frequency include multi-family residential or commercial waste generators?
- What potential impacts at the point of collection have been identified? What mitigation measures are in place to address these impacts? How will the jurisdiction monitor progress on mitigating these impacts?

Vectors, Odors, and Nuisances

- How might seasonal temperatures and weather impact the proposed collection frequency?
- Do containers have effective closing lids to reduce vectors and odors? Are the bins leak proof? What steps will be taken to repair or replace bins that are in disrepair?
- Will measures be enacted to ensure the wastes will not cause a nuisance?

- What mechanisms are in place if the controls to prevent potential impacts are not effective?
- What would trigger the cessation of the reduced collection frequency if problems were identified and could not be mitigated?
- Has a study or pilot project been conducted to identify and analyze potential impacts less frequent collection may have on managing vectors, odors, and nuisances?

Education & Outreach

- Jurisdictions are required to conduct education and outreach for organic waste collection services to residents and businesses. How will the jurisdiction specifically educate the public on the changing frequency of bin collection?
- What methods will the jurisdiction be using to monitor the effectiveness of educational tools and the information provided to the public? (e.g., route reviews, waste evaluations)

Solid Waste Facility Impacts

For Landfill Disposal Facilities

- Has the change been discussed with the affected landfill(s)?
- Will landfills receiving waste that is more than one week old need to implement additional or new measures to control for vectors, odors, or free liquids?
- Does the landfill have suitable cover materials available?

For Composting and In-Vessel Digestion Facilities and Operations

- Will composters or in-vessel digesters be impacted by the less frequent collection? If so, what measures will be placed to ensure potential impacts are mitigated?

For Transfer and Processing Facilities and Operations

- Will the jurisdiction be in communication with the receiving transfer/processing facilities and operations to ensure potential impacts are mitigated?
- Will transfer and processing facilities and operations receiving waste that is more than one week old need to implement additional or new measures to control for vectors, odors, or free liquids?

If the EA receives any information or responses to these questions from the jurisdiction, the EA could provide feedback on potential impacts to local facilities, given their unique perspective and knowledge of solid waste facility regulatory requirements. The EA may choose to respond to the jurisdiction that the less frequent collection will not cause

receiving solid waste facilities or operations to be in violation of their applicable state minimum standards.

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