TRANSCRIPT OF THE CALRECYCLE MONTHLY PUBLIC MEETING

OCTOBER 16, 2024

Video:

Making a waste free future happen together. Your partner for change, CalRecycle, is advancing world leading reforms to cut waste and build circular use systems for all materials. CalRecycle managed grids Launch the next phase of clean up to return clean safe properties to wildfire survivors. Plus new funding for businesses to help California turn more empty beverage containers into new products and to restoring tribal lands that have been overrun by illegal dumping. Join California's climate fight and shift to a circular use economy. CalRecycle’s monthly public meeting starts now.

End Video

Maria West: Good morning, everyone. Thanks for joining us for CalRecycle's October 2024 Public Meeting, where we share important progress and updates as we work together to build a circular system that cuts waste and reuses all materials and products. Before we begin, here is a safety message and language access message.

Video

In the event of a fire alarm, we are required to evacuate. Take your valuables and use the exit signs.

Do not use the elevators. If you cannot use the stairs, you will be directed to a protective vestibule inside a stairwell.

If relocated, exercise caution while crossing the street. Language shouldn't be a barrier when it comes to protecting our air, water and land. CalRecycle is simulcasting this meeting in both English and Spanish.

Click the public meeting banner at the top of CalRecycle.ca.gov for a link to our webcasts in English and Spanish.

If you're attending this meeting in person in Byron Share Auditorium, we have Spanish interpretation devices available.

Let our team on the left-hand side of the dais know if you need one

(Message repeated in Spanish)

End Video

Maria West: To help our Spanish language live interpreter, during this meeting, we will briefly pause after each item to give our interpreters time to relay the information and to respond to your requests, we have changed our order starting a couple of months ago. We will give you a chance to give live public comments throughout the meeting on each topic instead of taking all comments at the end of the meeting. So, we don't want to take comments for agenda items that haven't happened yet. So, if you're calling in with a comment or question on a specific agenda item, we will let you know it's time to call in right before the agenda item. I hope that makes sense. So please do not call in before your agenda item begins.

Thank you. Here's a little bit more about public comments.

Video:

California wants your input on recycling and trash pollution issues. Join CalRecycle's decision making process by making a live public comment on any of today's monthly public meeting agenda items in person or by phone. Microphones are available for those of you in the room with in-person comments. If you're joining remotely, you can call in with your comment. Just click the public meeting banner at the

top of our website and click the public comments button for step-by-step caller instruction.

End Video

Maria West: Let's see. So please call in now if you have comments on the upcoming items: the director's report includes the including the newly passed laws and disaster debris recovery operations, and California's plastic pollution prevention and packaging producer responsibility at law.

I think that's a little bit of a tongue twister but. So our first agenda item today is the director's report CalRecycle Director Zoe Heller is here with updates. Good morning, Zoe.

Zoe Heller: Good morning, Maria, and good morning, everybody. Happy Autumn. Nice to see you all. We have a lot to get through today, so I'll keep the remarks relatively short.

We're very excited that we published a draft of the SB 54 regulations yesterday. I'll also say the tongue twister that Maria just said, the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act. So this is a 15 day comment period. We published them yesterday, so it'll be open through the 29th.

Please visit our website for more information. And just want to acknowledge that I heard from several people that there's some challenges accessing some parts of our website this morning. We're working on that. It seems to be across CalEPA and hopefully that will be up and going again very, very soon.

A reminder that the SB 54 Advisory Board will meet October 25th and November 1st from 10 to 4, and there's more information as to how

you can participate on our CalRecycle Events page, which you can find on our homepage.

Mindy McIntyre is going to go over our the new legislation that that passed this past year that just passed that the governor just signed. And I just want to thank Mindy for also in her role as chief deputy. She's been acting as our legislative director in this interim time. And yesterday, the governor announced the appointment of a new legislative director for CalRecycle. Allegra Curiel who was formerly with the department will be starting with us in a couple of weeks. And when she joins we'll have her come up at our at our next public meeting and provide a little bit more on her background. I'm very excited to announce another new addition to our team today. I'd like to welcome Jennifer Hogan who just joined last week and Jennifer is our new or Jen rather is our new deputy for disaster debris recovery operations. So relatively new but very important office within CalRecycle and critical given the need for ensuring that we have safe and efficient debris removal after most commonly wildfires in California, but other disasters as well. So welcome, Jen. So Jen joins us from the California Earthquake Authority, where she served as the mitigation director. Prior to that, she was with the California Office of Emergency Services as assistant director for Hazard Mitigation Assistance and State and state Hazard mitigation officer. I won't go through Jen's entire resumé, but she has a deep experience in emergency response and recovery, and we couldn't be more excited to welcome her to the CalRecycle executive team. So welcome, Jen.

applause

Jennifer Hogan: All right, that's me. So thank you very much, Zoe. I appreciate it. For disaster debris recovery operations. CalRecycle has been mission tasked by CalOES to oversee disaster cleanup operations in both northern, northern and southern California. Our incident management teams are deployed to Chico and Bakersfield to clear debris from more than 500 properties that were destroyed by the Park, Thompson, Borel and Boyles Fires.

Assessment and Monitoring Contractors are actively assessing properties enrolled in the Consolidated Debris Removal program to verify site conditions and disaster debris and hazard tree removal currently out for solicitation and physical debris removal operations are expected to begin before the end of the month. That's it.

Zoe Heller: Thank you, Jen. And we're hearing that some people are unable to access the call in number to provide public comment from the website right now. So, Maria, do you have that number?

Maria West: Yes, they're getting it to me and I will share it momentarily.

So we're having an issue with our website with PDFs downloading. Our I.T. crew is working diligently to resolve it.

And I will give you the number in just a few minutes. But in the meantime, California lawmakers advanced exciting new circular economy reforms this season, this session, including the nation's first extended producer responsibility program for textiles and apparel. Chief Deputy director Mindy McIntyre is here with an overview of newly signed laws that impact CalRecycle and its mission.

Mindy McIntyre: Thank you, Maria. First, I'd like to thank our legislative affairs team who did a stellar job this year, including

Anthony, Reggie, Lana, Delina, Andrea and Delina. Sorry about that. For some reason I just all of a sudden got names mixed up. Okay, so the legislature had a number of bills this year in our area. And I would also like to thank Erin Rodriguez, who's a fantastic leg director, really looking forward to Allegra coming on as well. But we had a number of bills. 11 were signed into law, including new EPR programs. This year, just one new EPR program, and that's textiles SB 707, which creates a new extended producer responsibility program for apparel and textiles. Two other bills relating to EPR are AB 863, which made a number of changes to the carpet stewardship program and SB 1143, which expands the Paint Stewardship program to include architectural paint, non-industrial coatings and paint and other paint related products.

Under consumer products, we have SB 1053 which will require retailers to sell only paper bags at the point of sale and no longer allowed for the sale of reusable plastic or other plastic bags at the point of sale. SB 1280 requires propane cylinders to be reusable or refillable after 2028. AB 2346 is relating to 1383 increases the flexibility for jurisdictions to meet their procurement requirements for recovered organic products. AB 2902 extends rural exemptions from organics recycling requirements and includes bear bins and excludes fare bins from meeting colored lid requirements. SB 1046 directs CalRecycle to develop programmatic EIR for small and medium size composting facilities

Under beverage container only three this year. AB 2511 extends the sunset date for the Plastic Market Development program. SB 1113 extends the sunset and repeal date of the Beverage Container Pilot

program to 2034. And then SB 551 allows manufacturers of plastics CRV containers to submit consolidated reports to meet recycled content requirements.

That's all for this year. Thanks Maria.

Maria West: Thank you so much. And just to get back to the technical issues that we're having today, we're having trouble on our website with downloading PDFs. So usually when you call in, all the instructions are on a PDF because that phone number changes every month. So this month and I will give the number as we go through the meeting today. But the number to call in if you have comments and you can do that when you're when right after we talk about each of the subjects or at the very end the number is (669)900-9128. That phone number again is (669)990-9128. And the meeting ID unfortunately, is a little long. It's 813 4851 8939 that's 81348518939. And then the passcode is 83 58 62, that's 83 58, 62. And if you didn't get that, you may be able to rewind the broadcast. But also I will give the number again.

So I'm moving along to keep California up to date on new law implementation. CalRecycle published today, a new Responsible Textile Recovery Act of 2024 Web page, and you can check out the page for progress updates on regulation, development, implementation management and enforcement of producer stewardship programs. Its general Overview At this time, as we just began implementation, California is building a comprehensive circular strategy to reduce and reuse all materials. And to that end, a new web page has also been published on California's Zero Waste Plan with development updates and an implementation timeline.

So now to public comments. Again, the number is (669)900-9128, (669)900-9128.

Meeting I.D. 813 4851 8939.

Just have to bear with us today. 813 is meeting I.D. 813 4851 8939 and the passcode is 83 58 62 again 83 58 62 and pound after each of the meeting I.D. and the passcode. So now to public comments.

Do we have any public comments on the director's report, legislative updates or disaster debris removal in the room right now?

Doesn't look like anyone's moving to come to the front. If you have one, you can come to the microphone up here.

Okay. And then do we have any callers calling in at this time?

Lance Klug: No.

Maria West: Okay. So again, you will have an opportunity if you have been unable to get a hold of us so far, you will have an opportunity at the end of the meeting to address any of the agenda items. And so now we will move on. And looking ahead, let's see if please call in now if you have comments on upcoming items which include the Mattress Recycling Council's 2023 annual report and 2025 annual budget, approval of MED-project's proposed changes to its stewardship plan for home generated sharps waste or the annual biomass conversion reporting.

And bear with me again, if you need to call in its (669)900-9128, (669)900-9128 and oh they've, they've added it to our they've added it to our slideshow, which is really helpful. I think everyone will agree. And we do have a caller was it is a caller for the end now. Right. And we can take that call.

Lance Klug: Thanks for the last four digits of 1109. Please go ahead and unmute yourself and go ahead and make your comment.

Heidi Sanborn: All right. This is Heidi Sanborn and can you hear me?

Lance Klug: We can.

Maria West: Yes.

Heidi Sanborn: Okay. Oh, great. Thank you. I just wanted to thank you for the update, um, and request that because as before is so important and we have not been able to download these regulations off the website and yesterday for some of us it was Indigenous Indigenous Peoples Day and we were off. We would ask that there be a one-day delay and the comment period which is already extremely tight for regulations that are so important. So we just wanted to make that comment. Thank you so much.

Zoe Heller: Thank you, Heidi. We'll take that under consideration.

Maria West: Any more call callers?

Lance Klug: No.

Maria West: Okay. So we're going to move on to the Mattress Recycling Council, top topic, MED-Project and annual biomass conversion reporting. And you can see the phone number, meeting I.D. and and the hashtag. That's well it was on the webpage, the slideshow. And then there it is. So if you're going to call, grab those. All right.

So now we're going to welcome environmental program manager Cynthia Dunn to provide updates on our extended producer responsibility programs.

Good morning.

Cynthia Dunn: Thank you. Good morning. Would you like to give the phone number one more time? No, I'm just teasing. I think we're all going to know it by heart

Maria West: No everyone wants me to do that.

Cynthia Dunn: We have two mattress stewardship program updates today, so I'll just get into it. On September 30th, the director approved Mattress Recycling Council's 2023 Annual Report and 2025 Program Budget. Mattress Recycling Council MRC reported achieving all statewide and program goals in 2023 and collected 1.4 over 1.4 million program units, recovered 61 million pounds of mattress materials and increased program convenience for California residents and businesses.

As part of its 2025 budget, MRC did determine that it needed to increase the mattress recycling charge for the first time to fund its program in a prudently in a prudent and fiscally responsible manner, which it's required to do by statute. So starting January 1, 2025, the mattress recycling charge will increase from $10.50 to $16 per unit.

Next, for a home generated Sharps Waste Stewardship Update. On August 23rd, MED-Project notified CalRecycle of proposed changes to its stewardship plan regarding local agencies. So the change allows med project to arrange for the removal of home generated sharps waste from a local household hazardous waste facility unless it elects to reimburse the local agency for transportation and disposal costs, both consistent with statute. MED-Project’s plan previously only described the reimbursement to local agencies for transportation and disposal costs.

On September 20th, the director approved MED-Project's proposed changes. And for more information on either of these items, you can find links in today's agenda and also to receive updates directly on these or any of the other EPR programs, you can subscribe to the work of delivery, the surf. That's all I have. Back to you.

Maria West: Thank you. Thank you, Cynthia. So, again, we'll take comments after the biomass conversion topic. But next on the agenda is the Environmental Program Manager, Dan Brown, who joins us with CalRecycle's annual update on California biomass facilities.

Good morning Dan.

Dan Brown: Good morning. Okay, so biomass conversion facilities turn materials like wood waste and nut shells into electricity. SB 498 requires annual reporting on the amounts, types and sources of biomass conversion in California. Next slide, please.

California has 24 active biomass conversion facilities. Back in the 1980s, there were more than 50 in the state. The decline is due in part to cheaper sources of energy, like natural gas and solar, the cheap costs of landfilling as an alternative to biomass, and fluctuations in subsidies for these facilities.

Next slide, please. For 202,3 facilities reported on material accepted from four source categories.

More than 800,000 tons came from agriculture, 900,000 tons from in-forestry, over 800,000 tons came from mill residue, and finally over 600,000 tons from urban sources.

Next slide, please. Overall, the amount accepted by biomass facilities decreased by about 400,000 tons or 11% from 2022 to 2023.

Agricultural sources decreased by 4%, in-forestry increased by 10%.

This increase in in-forestry is a small step in dealing with all of our dead and dying trees, but only addresses about 1% of the amount that needs to be dealt with. Mill residue decreased by about 21%, and finally urban decreased by 24%. Next slide, please.

So taking a look at this chart and to see how these tonnages have decreased by about a million tons over the last eight years, we see in-forestry with an upward trend with all other sources on a slight decline.

So feel free to email questions to biomass reporting at calrecycle.ca.gov.

Maria West: Thank you, Dan. And so now to public comment so it looks like we have that number on the screen with the meeting ID on the screen and the passcode on the screen and press six to unmute yourself, do we have any callers or actually we have someone in the room. So I'll take first eight comments in the room.

Public Commenter: A quick clarification on mattresses. What happens to them, I'm assuming? Are they reprocessed? What what happens to the mattresses?

Cynthia Dunn: Thank you for your question. Yeah, the mattresses are collected from the Mattress Recycling Council’s collection system and they're taken and some are renovated and the others are that are able to be which most of them are, there, they're dismantled and the materials are then sent to other markets for, for recycling.

Yeah. Yeah.

Maria West: Thank you so much Cynthia. And did we have any callers online?

Lance Klug: No calls.

Maria West: Okay. So now we will see. We will look ahead on the next section for those who may call in or speak in the room.

We are now going to move on to the Beverage Container Recycling Program and Grants and Loans. So if you have any comments on the beverage container recycling program grants and loans, including eligible eligibility criteria for Beverage Container Loan Program, awards for the Tire Incentive Grant Program, or awards for the Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program. Please call in now and your call will be taken after we give our updates. So now, Beverage Container Recycling Program Deputy Director Amy Cameron has some program updates to share. Good morning, Amy.

Amy Cameron: Good morning, Maria. Good morning, everyone. We're excited to announce some upcoming workshops and new resources available to beverage retailers and other program participants. These are part of the Beverage Container Recycling Program reforms to make redemption easier for consumers and get more recycled materials to manufacturers to make new products. Beverage dealer registration is now available online.

Reforms require beverage dealers in convenience zones to register with CalRecycle. In 2025 stores less than 5000 square feet or less than $1.5 million in annual sales, excluding fuel, will be exempt from redemption requirements.

Larger stores in unserved convenience zones must choose to either redeem, in-store or join the dealer cooperative system. We encourage

dealers in California to register now through the Dreams Portal System on our website. We have step by step registration instructions available on the CalRecycle YouTube channel.

CalRecycle is hosting a series of workshops and webinars in the coming weeks. On October 29th, we will host an informal, hybrid workshop for new beverage container types starting at 10 a.m..

The 2025 rate hearing for co-mingled and segregated beverage containers is set for October 31st at 1:30 p.m.

Maria West: Hold on for a moment we're having feedback in the room. This is our Oh, there we go. Okay, go ahead, Amy. Thanks.

Amy Cameron: Thanks for the beat.

Maria West: I feel like they were doing a phone number beat, and I should make a song out of that.

Amy Cameron: Back to workshops for beverage container. We will host another Dealer Register Registration webinar on November 20th, and that will be on Zoom. So please register. You can find registration information on our website or are welcome to join us in person for all of the October events.

Last but not least, we are also planning an informal workshop in Southern California to share concepts on a new methodology for handling fees. We are finalizing the details, but the workshop will happen in the second or third week of November and you will also be able to participate by Zoom. Please sign up to the beverage container recycling program's LISTSERV for instant updates. Back to you, Maria.

Maria West: Thanks, Amy. And just an aside for the retailers whom we call dealers in California to register through the Dream System, you can go to our home page at CalRecycle.ca.gov and there is an

orange banner across the page right under all of our progress numbers on recycling that gives you a link to register and also a link to more information on dealer cooperative redemption options. So we're trying to make that as easy for you to find and and do as possible. So let us know if you need any assistance.

So now, CalRecycle funding is available to help boost recycling businesses in California and Division of the Circular Economy Deputy Director Michelle Martin has a new loan and grant announcements to share.

Good morning, Michelle.

Michelle Martin: Thanks, Maria. Good morning, everybody. We're happy to announce the new Beverage Container Recycling Loan Program.

It will provide low interest loans to build new certified beverage container processing facilities that buy empty beverage containers from certified recyclers, drop offer collection community service and curbside programs, and prepare these recyclable materials for sale to end users where recyclable materials are turned into new products.

The program will prioritize funding for projects in underserved areas in California. The total allocation for this program is $30 million, with a maximum loan amount of 10 million and minimum of 3 million. Loan terms are typically up to ten years with a 4% interest rate. Loan applications will be accepted continuously and awarded subject to available of available program funds.

For more details, please see the public notice on our website. Public comments on this item will be taken through October 27th and please send any of those comments to loans@calrecycle.ca.gov.

And next. Today we're announcing $2.35 million entire incentive program grant awards to turn nearly 1.5 million waste tires into new products. The six grantees will help California cut pollution in landfilling by turning waste tires into things like rubber tiles for gym flooring, patio flooring and roofing shingles.

And next. Since 1997, CalRecycle has awarded over 13 million in Farm and Ranch Grants to clear over 1000 sites of tires, appliances, vehicles, construction debris and other trash.

Let's watch a quick video on the difference. Grant funded cleanups are making in communities.

Video:

Narrator: A peach orchard is flourishing again in the heart of Yuba County after a $154,000 CalRecycle funded illegal dumping cleanup.

DJ Baker: I would say there's easily debris out here dumped at least once a month.

Narrator: The piles of trash grew so much in this orchard and neighboring properties in the Central Valley community of Olivehurst that they were visible from Highway 70. Yuba Sutter County Resource Conservation District says it has been able to remove over 100 tons of waste to date.

DJ Baker: We've had anything from tires, sofas and couches, refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, wood scrap.

Narrator: Illegal dumping with slowing down operations at the peach orchard, threatening employee safety and raising concerns about fires and toxic contamination.

DJ Baker: All of those waterways within orchards and next to the levee systems, it can contaminate the fish habitat, wildlife habitat and go into the river and on downstream.

Narrator: Grant funded gates. Signs and surveillance cameras are now in place to keep illegally dumped trash from spoiling the harvest, giving the land back to farmers to feed Californians.

End Video

Michelle Martin: We're announcing $250,000 in farm and ranch cleanup grants to Kings County and Pit River Tribe.

The tribal cleanup project will work to clear and prevent future dumping on six sites with a history of agricultural use.

Thank you. And back to you Maria.

Maria West: Thanks so much, Michelle. And now we're going to go back to public comments. So as you can see, the slide on screen has the number meeting ID and passcode. And we will now take public comments on the Beverage Container Recycling Program updates or the Grant and Loan announcements.

First we'll take any comments from the public present in our Sacramento, CalEPA headquarters meeting room today and looks like we have a commenter.

Good morning.

Public Commenter: Hey again. I'm from Nevada County Solid Waste Commission and stuff and you know CRV is one of my projects, one of my pet projects and trying to get it going, I want to clarify is what you're offering for the stores, because it's my understanding that the stores are paying like $100 a day fine for not doing anything. And then so now you're going to do make something available so that

there's there's a way for the stores to be able to make money or at least break even on taking these in, because we have we have nothing. You know, we have the facility is 25 minutes away from just about everything. And we do have Save Mart putting in one of those reverse vending machines, which is really cool. But because I want to I'm working with the supervisors next week and I want to find out what is this for the dealers? How do we get to those guys? I mean, it's stores, you know.

Zoe Heller: Yeah. Great question and thanks for asking it. We also are very interested in getting more convenience throughout the state in ways that make sense for those geographies within the state. So starting January 1st, dealers are required to either redeem in store or join a new program called the Dealer Cooperative.

And we're developing the regulations right now for those dealer cooperatives. And what those are are essentially a nonprofit. We'll start a program working with various dealers in California to come up with a solution for convenient redemption so it can look like more of those reverse vending machines or backdrop or mobile recycling to be able to best serve that community.

Okay, so we'll be wrapping up those regulations soon. We'll probably start seeing some applications coming in in the new year that will identify where there's interest in in sighting these dealer cooperatives throughout the state.

But in the meantime, there are some entities that have received some grant funding for us to put in some of these new technologies throughout the state, like the one that you mentioned to provide that additional level of convenience.

Amy, did you want to fill in any any gaps there?

Amy Cameron: No, I think you have it covered. But just to confirm, you are correct, beginning January 1st, 2025, dealers will no longer have the opportunity to pay the $100 of fee to not participate in our program. They will either have to redeem in person or join the dealer.

Commenter: And that's starting January 25.

Amy Cameron: Yes, January 1st, 2025. For dealers that are over 5000 square feet and have more than $1.5 million in annual sales.

Public Commenter: Okay. So Danner, Ward Danner, always gets a name backwards word there. He's he's our representative I think for Nevada County. You turned me on to him before. And would he be the person that we would talk to to bring in to help the dealers and get help, help the county and the supervisors to start setting this up? I don't mean like if I'm just one person, right?

Yeah, right. How do we get some connection?

Zoe Heller: Yeah. You know, Ward works on our local assistance team, so he's a great contact for you. But if you specifically want to talk about some of these in the beverage container program, you can always follow up with Amy and her team, but we'll all we'll make sure that you're connected to the right person regardless of who you reach out to.

Public Commenter: Yeah I feel like I don't really know where to go, but we want to and we think it's important. We know it's important to our people. You know, I'm a retailer. My career, you know, I care about the customer. And the customer is going I'm not going 25 minutes

to take 25, $0.25 back, you know, and but it adds up. We have one. I have to tell you about this real fast Penn Valley is near us.

And there's a guy there that started about four years ago to get citizens who care. They all pick up Wildwood like Wildwood area. And every month he takes a load to a recycler because he can't take it to the facility. Because the facility says it's too much for us. He takes it to a recycler somewhere, Rocklin whatever. And this last month, he got $900 back.

He donates that to the Interfaith Ministry. Now, to me, this is, this is it. This is where I'm at is let them get that money and give it to good use in the community. Okay? Yeah. All right. So what am I doing? Amy Okay.

Zoe Heller: Thank you.

Maria West: Are there any other comments in the room? Okay, so now we will take any comments by phone. Are there any callers?

Lance Klug: None by phone, No.

Maria West: All right. So we will now move on and now we will. If you are interested in commenting, please call in now for the topics of approval of the Grover Hot Springs Burn Dump Remediation under the Solid Waste Disposal and Co-Disposal Site Cleanup Program and the Solid Waste Facility Permit and Waivers updates.

So let's get right to the latest Solid Waste Disposal on Co-Disposal Site Cleanup Project. Approved sites may be eligible for CalRecycle funding when the responsible party is or unable

to pay for actions needed to protect public health and the environment. Our deputy director, Mark De Bie joins us now with this item. Good morning, Mark.

Mark De Bie: Good morning, Maria. The Grover Hot Springs Burn Dump site will be remediated as a CalRecycle led cleanup project. It is about a quarter of an acre and it's in Alpine County and it is located within Grover Hot Springs State Park near Markleeville.

CalRecycle is working with the U.S. Forest Service on this project and it will be mostly removing metals from the surface of an old burn dump and then placing additional soil on top as much as two feet.

The work is being performed during this month and the estimated cost is $62,000 and that funds funds are coming out of the solid waste cleanup program.

And moving on to facility permits and emergency waivers. Here's a quick overview of California facility standards and a statewide facility permit update from the environmental program manager, Pauline Lawrence.

Video:

Narrator: Protecting the health of Californians and their land, Food, water and air is a big job. Local State and federal agencies play different roles to enforce public health and environmental safety standards. In California, solid waste local enforcement agencies process applications, issue, and enforce permits for solid waste facilities. These include landfills, transfer stations, compost facilities, or similar operations.

CalRecycle must verify permits are consistent with state requirements. Permits can only address areas within the authority of local enforcement agencies and CalRecycle. Check out the link below for more detailed information.

Emergency waivers allow temporary changes to solid waste permit requirements in response to local or state disasters. Local enforcement agencies may approve the waivers, which are good for up to 120 days and may be extended. CalRecycle must review approved waivers and can condition limit, suspend or terminate them. Check out the link for more detailed information.

For waste tire facilities, CalRecycle processes applications, issues and enforces waste tire permits. These include requirements to make tires are stored and processed in a way that reduces potential threats from fire and disease carrying vectors like mosquitoes. Check out the link for more detailed information.

Pauline Lawrence: Since last month's public meeting, the department concurred or issued on for Sacramento County. The department issued on October 4th, 2024, a new minor waste hire facility permit for Rubicon Logistics. Action was needed December 7, 2024. For the City of Los Angeles., the department concurred on October 8, 2024, a modified solid waste facility's permit for Crown RecyclingSservices. Action was needed October 15, 2024.

Continuing on this month's agenda for Kern County, U.S. Borax Inc. This is a modified solid waste facilities permit. Action is needed. December 31st, 2024. For Riverside County, Coachella Valley Compost. This is a revised solid waste facilities permit. Action is needed October 23rd, 2024.

For Madera County, USA Tire Recycling. This is a new minor waste tire facility permit. Action is needed February 19th, 2025.

Orange County, Rainbow Disposal Co, Inc or Rainbow Transfer Recycling, Inc. This is a modified solid waste facilities permit. Action is needed. October 28, 2024.

For Monterey County, Madison Lane Material Recycling Center. This is a new minor waste tire facility permit. Action is needed February 26, 2025.

For Merced County, Highway 59 Landfill. This is a revised solid waste facilities permit. Action is needed November 9th, 2024.

New to this month's agenda, for Monterey County Converted Organics, LLC. This is a modified solid waste facilities permit. Action is needed Nov 17, 2024.

Preliminary review of the permit package indicates the following proposed changes: modifying current solid waste facilities permit from a compost activity to an in-vessel digestion activity.

Also for Monterey County, AgroThrive Inc. This is a revised solid waste facilities permit. Action is needed November 17th, 2024.

Preliminary review of the permit package indicates the following proposed changes: Updates of the solid waste facilities permit from a compost activity to an in-vessel digestion activity, an increase in the maximum daily tonnage from 71.4 tons to 350 tons, an expansion of the facility from one acre to six acres and an increase in the maximum traffic volume per day from 15 vehicles to 16 vehicles per day.

For San Luis Obispo County, B. Goodrow Inc. This is a revised compostable materials handling facility Permit action is needed. December 13, 2024. CalRecycle is a designated enforcement agency for this jurisdiction. Preliminary review of the permit package indicates the following changes. Increase to the permitted maximum tonnage from

200 tons per day to 300 tons per day. Increase to the design capacity from 50,000 cubic yards to 50,000 tons, which is approximately 100,000 cubic yards.

End Video

Mark De Bie: So you can see that we've been very busy or paulina's group has been very busy. And in fact there's some additional items that came to us after the agenda was put together. So Paulina's here to tell us about those items.

Paulina Lawrence: Thank you, Mark. So we have two additional items we want to add in. For Imperial County, we have Salton City Solid Waste site. This is a modified solid waste facilities Permit action is needed. December 8, 2024.

Preliminary review of the permit indicates the following proposed change: Remove the remaining capacity and replacing it with the permitted capacity. And then we received one waiver from Ventura County. This is for Simi Valley Landfill and Recycling Center. On October 8, 2024, Ventura County Resource Management Agency, local enforcement agency, issued a stipulated agreement that allows a temporary waiver of solid waste facility permit terms 4C and 17BC excuse me 17B5 pertaining to the permitted maximum tonnage until December 31st, 2024, due to a temporary emergency. Thank you.

Maria West: Thanks Paulina. So before we move on to the final comments segment, I just want to let you know that you can find more information on any of today's agenda items just go to CalRecycle's home page at CalRecycle.ca.gov and click on either the public meeting web banner at the top of the home page or if you're watching the

webcast live or if you're watching the recording, you can find it halfway down CalRecycle's home page with a link to all things for that meeting, including the agenda and associated public notices. So now it is time for the final public comments. And we before we ask for comments in the room again, you can see the number on the screen just for ADA compliance, I'll read it one more time. I'm sure you're all excited about that. The number is (669)900-9128. That's (669)900-9128. The meeting ID is 813 4851 8939 pound symbol or what we now call hashtag symbol. And then again 813 4851 8939 pound symbol and then the passcode is 83 58 62 pound and then again 83, 58, 62 pound or the hash tag symbol.

And so now we will ask, are there any comments on the most recent agenda items or any other topic in the room today?

Looks like we have one.

Same Public Commenter: This is why I drove down from Grass Valley so I could talk to you. Grass Valley, Nevada County is delayed in the 1383 process, but that January there there are new facilities ready and they should be starting it. So we're in the process of all the all the little things and they reviewed that process with on solid waste commission the other day and I have some some questions like the first thing that that I wonder about is that waste management said we're required to buy all new bins, right? And so I went, Oh yeah, oh yeah. And they have to have decals or they have to be imprinted with whatever new, new things is that right. Okay. I mean, anyway, that's what, that's what they said. It was their requirement. I'm challenging their requirement. Okay. And so my brain says, Oh really? And what are

they going to do with the old ones? Because they're plastic and they're methane. And, well, like, did anybody think about this?

Zoe Heller: Yes. Thank you for that question. And we'll get back to you on the the specifics and the regulations.

Commenter: The fix?

Zoe Heller: Well, with the specifics and the regulations.

Commenter: Oh specifics I thought you were going to fix it for me:

Zoe Heller: But my understanding is that the existing bins can go through there, their lifespan before the new bins have to be purchased. But I want to make sure that I am correct on that and get back to you at the specifics.

Commenter: That's important.

Zoe Heller: Or Mark, you're here. Yeah, Yeah.

Mark De Bie: Yes. There is an option to continue using old bins and there are some nuances to it and my understanding is a number of jurisdictions that have changed out bins have found ways to recycle the old bins so they don't just throw them in the landfill. Some people might, but there are options to recycle the use bins.

Public Commenter: Okay, I think I need to know the options. I have a card I can give it to you on how I can be here.

Maria West: And we do have our MMLA deputy director on Zoom right now.

Commenter: Oh good.

Maria West: Cara Morgan, if you are able to unmute, did you want to address.

Cara Morgan: Yeah!

Maria West: Great.

Cara Morgan: I would be happy to. Thank you so much for being here. I always appreciate your engagement and involvement. And yes. To Zoe and Mark's point, the regulations do allow for phasing in the containers. So what I'd like to do is set up a follow up meeting with you and probably the jurisdiction folks and maybe the hauler to talk through, maybe I'm not exactly sure what's going on there. Maybe they misunderstood or maybe there's, you know, kind of a different plan. But the regulations do allow up until 2036, if a container is still, you know, useful, it it can be replaced up until then, if the container, if it's life, needs to be ended and replaced, then there can be a phased in approach to the containers. Any new container that is provided, however, must be the required color as well as have the correct labeling. So there's a lot of flexibility and I'd love to set up a conversation and let's work through this and then figure out what's good and provide some good guidance.

Public Commenter: Okay? Okay, Perfect. Thank you. Well, I have one other thing on 1383, I'm just you know, I live in Grass Valley. I'm just a homeowner, you know, just posted x amount of things. Well, they're telling me that there is a requirement that I must have three bins and and pay for three bins. And of course, the fees have gone up significantly. And, you know, I compost, you know, I send all my plastic to TerraCycle. I have this much trash once a week that that I take over to my neighbor's bin with his permission. And and now they're telling me I have to have these three bins, whether you want them or not, and I have to pay for them even if I don't get them. Now this is, and so I said this to the commission and they said, well,

you're out. You're a high achiever. I get I get punished for being a high achiever. You know, I mean, we're about circular economy and zero waste and this is not compatible. Okay.

Cara Morgan: Yeah. Yeah. And thank you for that. And I so appreciate that you are a high achiever. I think that is great. And I think again, we could have some conversations. The regulations do provide flexibility to jurisdictions that want to allow for some self-help options for residential customers. So I think again, we should have a conversation specific to Grass Valley and explore what the options are, the regulations don't allow a specific waiver for residential, but they do allow for self-help. So again, let's set up a follow up and and work through some of these and and get our team together with the Grass Valley team to work through some of the questions that are coming both from you and other residents.

Public Commenter: Okay. Good. Yes. I say we should be rewarding people who want to do what we want them to do is zero waste, not punish them.

But thank you. Okay. And who was the voice in the room?

Zoe Heller: Cara Morgan, our deputy director for Materials Management and Local Assistance

Commenter: Maybe I can check in with one of you and get some input. Thanks.

Zoe Heller: Thank you.

Maria West: Great. And are there any other comments in the room today? Okay. It doesn't look like it. So are there any comments commentors on the phone? And if you're on the phone when your number, that's four digits of your number is called, you'll need to unmute

yourself with the start by pressing star six. Are there any other callers?

Lance Klug: Yes, we have four callers first caller the last four is 43571. Please unmute and go ahead.

Kristina Brown: Four, three, five, seven.

Lance Klug: You're on. Yes, go ahead.

Kristina Brown: Okay, great. Hi, this is Kristina Brown. I live in the Antelope Valley. I had a solid waste facility, put next door to my home, 160 acres. First it was hundreds and hundreds and hundreds and hundreds, thousands of tons of C&D dumped there. Then it is now mulch that's just strewn with litter. It's so far past what your regulations are in Title 14 that there's there's trash pickers multiple times per week coming and taking trash out of the top top layer of it. I just wanted to say I think that there's like a lot of greenwashing happening with 1383. I think also the fact that you guys even have an environmental justice meeting is a complete sham because we are being just buried in waste out in the Antelope Valley because of your regulations. There was a there was a a meeting with the between the LEA and CalRecycle asking our LEA asked for clarification on the applicability of PRC 44000.5, which is a person shall not dispose of solid waste, caused solid waste to be disposed of, arrange for the disposal of solid waste, transport solid waste for purposes of disposal, or accept solid waste for disposal, except that a solid waste disposal facility for which a solid waste facilities permit has been issued pursuant to this chapter, or as otherwise authorized pursuant to this division and the regulations adopted by the Board pursuant to this division. I have emailed Dorcas Hanson Lugo several

times asking her how this is supposed to work if only the landowner is on, you know, on the hook for all of this solid waste being dumped out by us because of 1383.

So I'm just confused about like who is in charge of the haulers and who is in charge of the generators and nobody's giving me an answer on that. So I'm calling you during this meeting and I'd like somebody to answer this for me. We've also put in a PRA request to get some information about this meeting that was had because none of this is making sense and you guys are just dumping solid waste on us.

Zoe Heller: Hi, Kristina. Thank you for reaching out and for calling and for sharing the concerns and the acknowledging the challenges with the various entities that are responsible for various components of implementation of of 1383. I think it would be helpful if we had a follow-up discussion to take a little bit of a deeper dive into some of the conversations that have happened. Our intent with implementation of 1383 to avoid this exact scenario that that you're talking about. So it's certainly something that that we take seriously and want to explore and see where there's options for resolution. I'm just looking over at my colleague Mark to see if he's familiar with the conversations between the LEA and the Department.

Mark De Bie: Yeah so

Kristina Brown: I would also like to ask if I hold on one second, please. I'd like to ask if there's anyone at CalRecycle that truly believes that anything agronomically beneficial about dumping mulch six feet, 12 feet, 20 feet high in the high desert where there's no water where nobody's overseeing anything, if that's going to actually do anything. Because what it just seems like is that it's a horizontal

landfill. I mean, you guys are trying to save Chiquita and, you know, do this greenwashing of California, where zero waste, which is total B.S. and you're just dumping it sideways all around our homes. And there is something there is something called inverse condemnation, where that's everybody in the Antelope Valley that's experiencing this should sue you guys for creating this thing that you've absolutely taken no responsibility for on the back end. And every single department keeps shifting blame over and my home is ruined. I have trucks going at one a.m., 2 a.m., 3 a.m., 4 a.m., 5 a.m. They're dumping the. And it's not just next door to me. It's all over these giant, giant facilities that are completely unregulated. There's no swift permitting, there's no permitting of anything at all. And we're doing it on top of a bunch of poor and and middle income people that have no way to fight back. I think that this like I would really like a meeting with you and I think somebody from CalRecycle should come and talk to our community because I can't get our supervisor to come and look at any of this, any of these things. And I've spent three days down, you know, trying to give comments at the supervisors meeting and they're finally going to try to do something about it. But this is horrific. It's horrific. You guys are very quickly just obliterating certain areas on the map. Is anybody familiar with what I'm talking about?

Mark De Bie: Yes, This is Mark De Bie, deputy director that oversees a program here at CalRecycle that works with local law enforcement agency in their efforts to enforce solid waste law. And I am familiar that our staff have been consulting with the local enforcement agency, Los Angeles County, on a number of illegal

disposal activities and in your area. And my understanding is that the local enforcement agency has taken initial enforcement action against a number of landowners and are working through their enforcement process to resolve the issues. I also understand that there are, as you're indicating, a number of sites and the LEA is endeavoring to get ahead of many of those sites and begin action against any of the sites that are illegally disposing of the solid waste. Just very quickly, you mentioned an interest in knowing of who oversees haulers and generators and the responsibility for collecting waste from generators and hauling waste is primarily with local jurisdictions, cities and counties. The state does not have any responsibility in that area, but we do have a responsibility to address what happens to the waste in terms of how it's processed. And its final deposition should be if it's waste in the landfill and not on private property. And if it is considered to be illegal dumping. And I know that the LEA has made those determinations on a number of sites that and action will be taken to remediate those sites and it will be at the responsibility of the landowner to engage on that. Unlike hazardous waste law, responsibility for the generator and the hauler is not part of the non-hazardous solid waste law. So our ability to address issues with them is as limited, if not existent. So we struggle with the tools we have and but I can assure you that steps are being taken and I and my staff would be open in talking more in-depth about your experience and letting you know what we're doing in assisting the local enforcement agency.

Lance Klug: Thank you, Mark. I did take down her contact information, so I'll pass that along to the leadership after the meeting.

Um next. We have a caller with last four digits, 0922. Go ahead and unmute your mic by pressing star six and then go ahead, make your comment.

Katie: Hello, my name is Katie. Can you hear me?

Lance Klug: We can.

Katie: Okay, Great. I'm calling about the SB 54, the CMC report. So that report indicates that number five DP plastic is potentially recyclable and that is a bit confusing to me.

The other CalRecycle data indicates that that is not accurate. There was a public records request into CalRecycle's Recycling and Disposal Report System. The RDRS data was found that only 2.7% of California's number five rigid plastic waste was even sorted in quarter 1 to 3 of 2023.

If you also look at the CalRecycle 2023 processing fee final report, it indicates that they use the calculated change in number 2 HDPE to determine that the cost per ton to recycle plastics, number three to number seven because they made up less than 5% of the total number of containers recycled. This is the seventh cost survey that the cost per ton for plastics, number three to number seven were based off the percentage change in HDPE Number two,

I'm just confused about why then if that data indicates that the plastic number five is actually not recyclable, why that why it was placed on that CMC list as potentially recyclable and if Cal

recyclable, if CalRecycle will be publishing the data they relied on in order to make that determination.

Zoe Heller: Hi Katie, Thanks so much for calling in and really great question. Acknowledging that there's a number of different datasets that Cal Recycle looks at to make determinations for different parts of our our programs. And one of the things that we're looking at as a whole for California and for CalRecycle is ways in which we can align that data better so there's more clarity around the data that we have and how it's used for different determinations. So I just to acknowledge that. Specific to the covered material categories and those determinations of potential recyclability and composability, those determinations were made on Jan one of last year.

And what we utilized per our statutory responsibility, and I think I'm getting this right, but looking out at the team in case I say anything that's not quite right, is the criteria that were a part of Senate Bill 343 that look at collection of certain covered material categories at the jurisdiction level and then how those material are processed at large volume transfer processors. And through that data, that's how we made those determinations of potential recyclability and compostability. Not going to remember the exact percentages off the top of my head, but it's in the 60% as far as residential collection and sorting out those large volume transfer processors, and that's specific to that covered material category so that that category of that package of support for polypropylene, for example, it may have said like a polypropylene take out container or something along those lines or a bin like a you know what I'm trying to like thinking of like a yogurt container or like something along those lines. So that

was the data that was used. In Jan 1 we're going to be updating those determinations of recyclability and composability for the covered material categories list based on any new data that we've collected or analyzed from last year to this year. So as it relates to the other data sets, those are those are collected differently. That data is collected differently for different outcomes. And our packaging team responds to each question that comes in and will lay out those different ways in which we collect data and how it's utilized. But at a high level, that's how those determinations were made for the covered material category list and how we're going to update them in the beginning of the year.

Lance Klug: Thank you. And yeah, have a caller can email packaging@calrecycle.ca.gov and we can speak to more of the specifics on that.

The next caller with the last four digits, five, four, seven, eight. Go ahead and unmute your mic by pressing star six and go ahead with your comment.

Cher: Hi, can you hear me?

Lance Klug: Yes.

Cher: Awesome, thanks. Hi I'm Cher community of Cyclei. What we're looking at is essentially helping to build out reuse infrastructure and the way we're doing that is starting with curbside collection of reusable packaging. We are about to pilot curbside collection of reusable packaging in the city of Berkeley. But we have a question as we are planning on collecting and returning wine bottles for resale, as there are a couple wineries that are willing to take back and resell their wines. But I also know that wine bottles have

been added to the CRV. So my question is, I'm not sure if CalRecycle has kind of thought through the reuse cycle of, you know, CRV associated bottles and how that would work.

So, you know, would we have to be added to some processing list and, you know, how would all of that CRV get refunded when we bring it to winery bottles who are reusing it and not really breaking it down? I'm just trying to understand, you know, where I can find more information on this and maybe who I would be able to talk to just to understand what the right process is for this.

Amy Cameron: Hi. Thank you so much for calling. This is Amy Cameron, and I am happy to set up a meeting with you offline so we can talk about this a little bit more. But yes, in essence, you would need to become a certified processor with our program. And we have specific regulations that we did as a result of AB 962 and they were finalized last year for processors who are in the reusable bottle space but happy again to reach out and have a meeting with you to talk a little bit more about this. Thank you.

Lance Klug: Thank you. And we have one more caller with the last four digits, 3606. Go ahead and ask you to unmute by pressing star six and then go ahead with your comment.

Jose Centeno: Hi, everyone. This is Jose Centeno. I'm calling from the Association of Rural Town Councils. So we are mainly out in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County and I'm calling with regards to the issue that the prior caller called in about and this is with regard to illegal waste dumping in the unincorporated area, particularly with the issue of mulch being disguised as being disguised as mulch. So throughout the Antelope Valley, there's illegal

dumping that's happening and where to call it in in amounts that are unbelievable to be seen. I recently attended a meeting about that near the community of Neenach, Antelope Acres and Three Points, and there were over 90 people who spoke on this issue and how this is affecting their health, meaning that they have piles of waste and this has been happening since 2020 on that they been recording this. So now to the point where you have a there's a few spots where they're literally running a landfill or a complete waste disposal. I've seen it with my own eyes, but the deputy spoke earlier with regards to L.A. County addressing the issue, but it has not been addressed for the urgency that it requires. The last update was that there is they're trying to allocate funds, they're trying to do an ordinance, but this is going to take months, if not years. The last thing that they did was they were trying to assign two people from the health department of Los Angeles County. They have no idea who those people were. There is no real plan of action. So when earlier it was stated that CalRecycle is responsible for it where illegal waste ends up. This is where it's ending up. And it's we don't know exactly where it's coming from. Meaning, that it could also come from construction waste, from other facilities. So it's the communities are being devastated by what's going on and we're not getting straight answers. I live on the opposite end of the Antelope Valley where the problem is not that big, but it's also starting to happen on our end. The goes all the way from the 15, all the to the 14 where this is happening. So we truly wish that at least CalRecycle can demand or at least get a true, accurate update of what's really going on from LA County if it's possibly we can provide with pictures videos of everything that's going on as

proof. But it is frustrating that all these communities are suffering. They've been suffering for months and years. And there is no immediate action. So I'm not sure you guys can this on your agenda for the next meeting so we can provide more input. But something has to happen.

Zoe Heller: Yeah. Thank you for your call and for sharing with us what you're experiencing. You know, Mark shared, some details with the previous caller about our process here and where where our authority lies. But as he stated and similarly, we're we're happy to meet with to discuss more details specific to what you're saying and what you're facing and see where there's an opportunity for us to convene with the other regulatory agencies to identify a resolution or a path towards resolution. So if you could leave your or your contact information with Lance, we'll follow up with you and explore further to see where there's additional options.

Kristina Brown: Hi, this is Kristina Brown again, and I just unmuted myself because I was muted before. I just wanted to say that Los Angeles is pointing its finger at you and saying they can't help us because of your laws and you guys are I don't know what you're doing, but I mean, you're guiding the LEA as far as the materials that we're seeing. And so if you could guide them in a different direction to actually take some initiative to help us, stop what's happening right next to all of our homes, that would be really helpful. And there has not been a clear answer about who's in charge of anyone else but the landowners. And it's just a big gaping hole. And I'm wondering if anybody needs my contact information in order to have a meeting about this.

Lance Klug: Hi Kristina, I got your contact information earlier, and I'm passing that along to the deputy directors.

Kristina Brown: Okay. Because, like, we just we can't keep going on like this. It's it's absolutely it's just it's devastating. It's devastating.

Lance Klug: All right. Thank you. And so we'll follow up with you on that. We do have one more caller, and I'm going to go ahead and ask you to unmute your mic with the last four digits.

Kristina Brown: Thank you

Lance Klug: Three, Four, Eight, Three. Three, four, eight, three. Thank you.

Ashley Mroz: Hello? Can you hear me?

Lance Klug: Yes

Ashely Mroz: Hi. My name is Ashley Mroz and I also live here in the Antelope Valley, surrounded by the devastation of illegal, hazardous solid waste dumping. We really, truly are watching the destruction of the natural environment by deliberate and negligent human action. And I just really I think my community, all of us want to know who is letting this unregulated, solid hazardous waste dumping continue, who can be held accountable for hiding their noncompliance by dumping this hazardous waste in a secluded which is us, rather than paying for it, be taken to a treatment facility? Our community is experiencing injustice that is affecting our health and wellness due to the toxins and airborne chemicals from this boiler fuel which is right down the street from me and many others, quality of life is gone. The smell after these mulch fires, mind you, they combust all the time burns your throat and eyes immediately. It smells so

disgusting. That induces nausea, headaches, bloody noses and respiratory issues all of us are experiencing. This criminal activity. Not if, but when the next most fire happens -- mind you, these trucks are dumping day in and day out all night-- and there's more damage to surrounding homes, livestock or worse, bodily injury or fatality, the blood will be on the hands of the people behind this. It has become unbearable, inhumane and pure evil. This is just a glimpse of our daily life since it started. It's not just people suffering at the hands of greed due to this illegal dumping. It's changing our entire ecosystem here. We need environmental justice and put this to an end. I just want to know who is who is responsible for this doing this to our community.

Zoe Heller: Ashley, thank you for the call. And, you know, as we've we've stated

Kristina Brown: I just wanted to add one more thing after Ashley, two of our neighbors' homes just burnt down from combustion, from combusting mulch that was dumped there. It just completely burnt down. And I just think we're at a level now where we need you guys to actually look at this area and what 1383 and the other four laws about aversion have have done, have done and has if there's going to be any enviro environmental impact report done on just the area in general and over mulchification and what that looks like because we just we can't handle it it's just nonstop trucks and L.A. is not moving fast enough. And they keep pointing fingers at you guys saying that you guys are in charge and then you're, you know, not I just we help.

Zoe Heller: Yeah, well, we'll prioritize getting a meeting.

Kristina Brown: That's, that's all I'll add. Thanks for your time.

Zoe Heller: With you guys as soon as possible so that we can explore this further and bring the other regulatory agencies in as well.

Thank you.

Lance Klug: Thank you. So we do have the contact information for that last caller. We will follow up and send it back to you. Maria, no additional calls.

Maria West: Okay. Thank you so much, Lance. And we do have one additional comment in the room, maybe a couple of them. So go ahead, Nick.

Nick Lapis: Good morning. Nick Lapis of Californians Against Waste. I wanted to comment on the Antelope Valley situation, but almost more broadly than that, I think it warrants us having a new set of conversations about illegal land app. I mean, seeing the photos from the Antelope Valley, it is really staggering. Like we hear illegal dumping and we assume it's a pickup truck load of material that somebody dumps. But this is, you know, dozens of transfer trailer trucks arriving every day with that are taller than the people in the photos and just so clearly in violation of the Title 14 regulations, which you updated about a decade ago specifically to address this issue. The requirement previously had been that you can't apply mulch beyond agronomic grade, and that had never been defined. And you all took on this issue and put specific parameters that you can visually see from the photos are being completely ignored. If nothing else, the one-foot depth is clearly being ignored. But this isn't just an

Antelope Valley issue and it is a systemic issue. And whether it's, you know, just enforcing the existing regulations, further updating Title 14, maybe you're relooking at 901 in some of the reporting there. You know, this was an area that I personally don't think was handled sufficiently 901. There's a broader conversation needs to happen here. I think we're very open to supporting legislation on this if necessary. But it's it is staggering if you've seen the photos and it's not unpredictable there.

Thank you.

Maria West: Thank you. And we have one more caller or one more person in the room.

Evan Edgar: Evan Edgar, California Compost Coalition. It is staggering. It's inhumane. What's going on out in the high desert is bigger than what you can even imagine. It's miles long of levees 15 feet high piled 6 to 10 feet deep. And you do have current regulations on this. We don't need to have another ordinance or another law. We have all the tools in the toolbox today. There's no reason why this is not being handled today. I rest assured none of my California Compost Coalition members are doing this. What we are doing for a land application. We take Title 14 compost from a permitted facility and we take it out to the ranches and you be hearing more about it in 2025 where we're developing carbon credits because we take Title 14 compost to a quarter inch to a half inch, lay it out and do the do the science, do the math. We have all types of carbon projects. We have four ranches that will begin carbon credits through their certification process, which is robust. And what is going on in upper desert is anywhere near that is unproductive ag land. It is maybe zone

ag, but it's unproductive agland without any water, any treatment. Everything heard on a on a phone from the residents of Antelope Valley is true, seen the pictures and at the local level the LEA says they don't have the tools and they want to pass an ordinance or they point up here to Sacramento. But they're the local enforcement agency local. You guys are the enforcement agency, the EA that needs to take this very seriously. And it's it's it's a sham going on in L.A. with Chiquita Canyon crisis impacting folks coupled with the closure. Alpha Olinda, we have a new landfill crisis coming in in L.A. and the crisis going on right now with these horizontal landfills. So we don't need another stinking law to enforce the laws we have today. Do your job, please. Thank you.

Maria West: Are there any other comments in the room? Okay. If there's nothing else on the phone, we can end the session today and just let you know that you can find the recordings in both English and Spanish of today's October Monthly Public Meeting posted on YouTube as soon as possible, and then please follow us on social media platforms and govdelivery email lists for updates. Thanks to everyone who participated in today's public meeting, we do expect that our PDFs will be available as a few minutes after this meeting ends because we have to reboot our reboot the entire system, including the one that was broadcasting this meeting. So we're expecting the PDFs will be downloadable after that time. If there's any other issues, please let us know. Have a great day and we will see you next month. Thank you.