

**Permitting & Assistance Branch Staff Report**

New Solid Waste Facilities Permit for  
PreZero US Plastics Recycling Facility

SWIS No. 33-AA-0378

March 9, 2022

**Background Information, Analysis, and Findings:**

This report was developed in response to the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health, Local Enforcement Agency's (LEA) request for the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (Department) concurrence on the issuance of a proposed new Solid Waste Facilities Permit (SWFP) for PreZero US Plastics Recycling Facility, SWIS No. 33-AA-0378, located in the city of Jurupa Valley and owned and operated by PreZero US. A copy of the proposed SWFP is attached. This report contains Permitting & Assistance Branch (PAB) staff's analysis, findings, and recommendations.

The proposed SWFP was initially received on February 1, 2022. New proposed SWFPs were received on February 2, 2022, and February 7, 2022. Action must be taken on this SWFP no later than April 8, 2022. If no action is taken by April 8, 2022, the Department will be deemed to have concurred with the issuance of the proposed new SWFP.

The following are the key design parameters of the proposed project:

Parameter	Proposed SWFP
Name and Street Address of Facility	PreZero US Plastics Recycling Facility 4388 Serrano Drive Jurupa Valley, CA 91752
Name and Mailing Address of Operator	PreZero US 4388 Serrano Drive Jurupa Valley, CA 91752
Name and Mailing Address of Owner	PreZero US 2301 East 7 <sup>th</sup> Street, Suite A-337 Los Angeles, CA 90023
Permitted Operation	Transfer/Processing Facility (MRF)
Permitted Hours of Operation	Receipt of Materials / Load Out: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week Ancillary Operations/Maintenance Operating Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week Facility Closed on the Following: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day

Parameter	Proposed SWFP
Permitted Maximum Tonnage	200 Tons per Day
Permitted Traffic Volume	72 Vehicles per Day
Permitted Area (in acres)	6.34 acres
Design Capacity	500 TPD
Waste Types	Polypropylene and high-density polyethylene (PP/HDPE) plastics

### **Background:**

The PreZero Jurupa Valley Industrial Park was a project in September 2016 where the City of Jurupa Valley approved a parcel map to subdivide an 18.7-acre site into three separate parcels, and the construction of three industrial buildings for office, warehousing, and manufacturing purposes. The PreZero US Plastics Recycling Facility is a new PP/HDPE plastics recycling facility located on parcel 2 (building 2) of the industrial park. The facility's receiving, staging, and processing area is approximately 27,600 square feet and located inside of building 2, which is located between building 1 (planned Black Solider Fly operation) and building 3 (planned recycling operation).

### **Findings:**

Staff recommends concurrence in the issuance of the proposed new SWFP. All of the required submittals and findings required by Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (27 CCR), Section 21685, have been provided and made. Staff has determined that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements have been met to support concurrence. The findings that are required to be made by the Department when reaching a determination are summarized in the following table. The documents on which staff's findings are based have been provided to the Branch Chief with this Staff Report and are permanently maintained by the Waste Permitting, Compliance, and Mitigation Division.

27 CCR Sections	Finding
21685(b)(1) LEA Certified Complete and Correct Report of Facility Information	Acceptable: The LEA provided the required certification in their permit submittal letter dated February 2, 2022.
21685(b)(2) LEA Five Year Permit Review	Acceptable: This is a new facility and a Permit Review Report is not required.

27 CCR Sections	Finding
21685(b)(3) Solid Waste Facilities Permit	Acceptable: Staff received a proposed Solid Waste Facilities Permit on February 7, 2022.
21685(b)(4)(A) Consistency with Public Resources Code (PRC) 50001	Acceptable: The LEA provided a finding in the proposed SWFP received on February 7, 2022 that the facility is consistent with PRC 50001. Waste Evaluation & Enforcement Branch (WEEB) staff in the Jurisdiction Compliance Unit found the facility is identified in the Nondisposal Facility Element, as described in their memorandum dated March 8, 2022.
21685(b)(8) Operations Consistent with State Minimum Standards	Acceptable: PAB staff have determined that the design and operations described in the submitted Transfer/Processing Report (TPR) will allow the proposed facility to comply with State Minimum Standards. See Compliance History below for details.
21685(b)(9) LEA CEQA Finding	Acceptable: The LEA provided a finding in their permit submittal package received on February 2, 2022, that the proposed SWFP is consistent with and supported by the existing CEQA documentation. See Environmental Analysis below for details.
21650(g)(5) Public Notice and/or Meeting, Comments	Acceptable: A Public Informational Meeting was held by the LEA on March 26, 2021. No written or oral comments were received by LEA or Department staff. See Public Comments below for details.
CEQA Determination to Support Responsible Agency's Findings	Acceptable: The Department is a responsible agency under CEQA with respect to this project. PAB staff has determined that the CEQA record can be used to support the Branch Chief's action on the proposed new SWFP.

### **Compliance History:**

PAB staff have determined that the design and operations described in the submitted Transfer/Processing Report (TPR) will allow the proposed facility to comply with State Minimum Standards.

### **Environmental Analysis:**

Under CEQA, the Department must consider, and avoid or substantially lessen where possible, any potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed SWFP before the Department concurs in it. In this case, the Department is a Responsible Agency under CEQA and must utilize the environmental document prepared by the City of Jurupa Valley, Planning Department, acting as Lead Agency, absent changes in the project or the circumstances under which it will be carried out that justify the preparation of additional environmental documents and absent significant new information about the project, its impacts and the mitigation measures imposed on it.

The proposed parameters that be authorized by the issuance of the proposed SWFP include: the operation of a large volume transfer/processing facility that will receive PP/HDPE plastics; permitted hours of operation of 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; permitted maximum tonnage of 200 tons per day; permitted traffic volume of 72 vehicles per day; permitted acreage of 6.34 acres; and design capacity of 500 tons per day. These parameters are supported by the following environmental document.

A Supplemental Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), State Clearinghouse No. 2021090587, was circulated for a 30 day comment period from September 30, 2021 to October 29, 2021. The project analysis concluded that any physical environmental impacts caused by the project could be mitigated to less than significant levels with the implementation of the mitigation measures included in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. The MND, together with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, was approved by the Lead Agency on November 24, 2021. A Notice of Determination was filed with the State Clearinghouse on December 1, 2021.

The LEA has provided a finding that the proposed new SWFP is consistent with and supported by the cited environmental document.

Staff recommends that the Department, acting as a Responsible Agency under CEQA, utilize the MND as prepared by the Lead Agency in that there are no grounds under CEQA for the Department to prepare a subsequent or supplemental environmental document or assume the role of Lead Agency for its consideration of the proposed new SWFP. Department staff has reviewed and considered the CEQA record and recommends the MND is adequate for the Branch Chief's approval of the proposed project for those project activities which are within the Department's expertise and/or powers, or which are required to be carried out or approved by the Department.

The administrative record for the decision to be made by the Department includes the administrative record before the LEA, the proposed new SWFP and all of its components and supporting documentation, this staff report, the MND adopted by the Lead Agency, and other documents and materials utilized by the Department in reaching its decision on concurrence in, or objection to, the proposed new SWFP. The custodian of the Department's administrative record is Ryan Egli, Legal Office, Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, P.O. Box 4025, Sacramento, CA 95812-4025.

### **Public Comments:**

The project document availability, hearings, and associated meetings were noticed consistent with the SWFP requirements. The LEA held a public informational meeting on March 26, 2021, utilizing Microsoft Teams platform. No members of the public were in attendance. No oral comments were received during the meeting. No written comments were received by the LEA or Department staff.

Department staff provided an opportunity for public comment during the CalRecycle Monthly Public Meeting on February 15, 2022. No comments were received by Department staff.

Attachment: Proposed New SWFP