

**DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES RECYCLING AND RECOVERY**

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P.O. BOX 4025, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812

April 2, 2012

Mr. Ron Stassi  
Utilities Director  
City of Lompoc  
P.O. Box 8001  
Lompoc, California 93438-8001

Subject: Solid Waste Cleanup Grant for the City of Lompoc Sanitary Landfill – Facility No. 42-AA-0017

Dear Mr. Stassi:

Thank you for inviting me to the meeting on February 15, 2012, and your letter dated February 24, 2012. I understand City of Lompoc staff is interested in applying for a grant funding under CalRecycle's Solid Waste Disposal and Codisposal Site Cleanup Program (Program) to assist with funding a landfill gas collection and control system (system) at the City of Lompoc Sanitary Landfill.

Per the meeting and your letter, I understand the situation is as follows:

1. For the reasons set forth in your letter, the City is required to submit a design plan for the system to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) by September 7, 2012, and install the system within 18 months of approval by the CARB.
2. The City is seeking grant funding as its lowest cost proffered method to co-fund the design and installation of the system in compliance with the CARB requirements.
3. The City is seeking funding assistance for the reasons stated in your letter including, but not limited to, the City's Solid Waste Enterprise Fund not having adequate reserves or generating sufficient funds to fund the project, a decrease in annual tonnage and operating revenue, and a desire by the City Council to not adjust rates at this time.

The Program addresses cleanup of solid waste disposal and codisposal sites where the responsible party either cannot be identified or is unable or unwilling to pay for a timely remediation and where cleanup is needed to protect public health and safety or the environment. Insofar as funding projects on public landfills, the Program has always recognized that local governments bear a financial responsibility for cleaning up public landfill sites.

Partial grants to public entities are limited to public landfills that ceased operation prior to the requirement for closure and postclosure maintenance financial assurances or to sites where the

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public entity is identified as a responsible party or assumes responsibility for a site for which it had no previous responsibility. In these cases, the public entities do not have funds set aside to financially assure cleanup and the sites are not operating and, thus, generating no revenue from which funds may be derived for a necessary remediation. As such, the Program was enacted to financially assist in the timely remediation of those sites while recognizing the obligation of the public responsible party to demonstrate a commitment to the site in the form of partial funding.

With respect to the installation of the system on the City of Lompoc Sanitary Landfill, I understand the lack of immediately available project funds given the CARB requirements. However, as the landfill is currently operating and is therefore obliged under current permitting requirements to fund its operations, either through landfill revenue generation or otherwise, a partial grant would not be an appropriate assistance mechanism. The Program does provide loans at low interest to responsible parties for eligible projects that meet the Program's criteria, and staff would be happy to review the project for eligibility once the specifics are determined.

Thank you for your inquiry. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 341-6320 or at [wes.mindermann@calrecycle.ca.gov](mailto:wes.mindermann@calrecycle.ca.gov) if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Wes Mindermann, PE  
Senior Waste Management Engineer  
Solis Waste and Tire Cleanup Unit  
Engineering Support Branch (MS 10A-18)

Cc. Mr. Brad Wilkie, Management Services Director City of Lompoc  
Ms. Claudia A. Stine, Solid Waste Superintendent, City of Lompoc