



Lompoc City Council Agenda Item

City Council Meeting Date: February 7, 2006

TO: Gary P. Keefe, City Administrator

FROM: Claudia A. Stine, Solid Waste Superintendent
cstine@ci.lompoc.ca.us

SUBJECT: ADDITION OF LANDFILL COORDINATOR TO MANAGE
THE WORKLOAD REQUIRED BY THE NEW APPLIANCE
RECYCLING AND UNIVERSAL WASTE REGULATIONS

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that City Council:

- A) Approve the addition of one Landfill Coordinator to the Solid Waste Division in order to manage the workload required by the new appliance recycling and universal waste regulations.
- B) Approve the additional appropriation to fund Landfill Coordinator as shown on attached Exhibit 1.

BACKGROUND:

Appliance Recycling: Public Resource Code, chapter 3.5, section 42160 et seq., and California Health and Safety Code, chapter 6.5, section 25221 et seq., are the specific statutory requirements established by Assembly Bill 2277 (2004). This law requires that beginning January 1, 2006, anyone who handles a major appliance after it is no longer used must remove materials that require special handling, and dispose of those materials properly prior to the appliance being crushed, baled, shredded, sawed or sheared apart, disposed of, or otherwise processed in a manner that could result in the release or prevent the removal of these materials.

The Department of Toxic Substances (DTSC) lists materials that require special handling to include:

- Mercury, found in switches and temperature control devices.
- Used oil, from compressors and transmissions.
- Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), and other non-CFC replacement refrigerants injected in air-conditioning/refrigerant units.
- All metal-encased capacitors and any parts that contain encapsulated polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) or Di-ethylhexylphthalate (DEHP).
- Any other material that is a regulated hazardous waste.

The DTSC list of major appliances that contain materials requiring special handling includes washers, dryers, refrigerators, trash compactors, water heaters, space heaters, furnaces, boilers, air-conditioners, dehumidifiers, trash compactors, ovens, stoves, microwaves, and any other appliance containing materials that are a regulated hazardous waste.

At the present time, the Landfill Coordinators remove oil, refrigerants, and capacitors from approximately 300 appliances per month including air-conditioners, washers, dryers, refrigerators, and freezers. With the passing of AB2277, staff anticipates the number of appliances requiring special handling will nearly double. The DTSC estimates the time required to remove a mercury flame sensor alone may take between 10 - 60 minutes per oven. Calculating approximately 30 minutes per appliance for the removal of all hazardous materials from 300 additional appliances will require an additional 150 personnel-hours per month. Once all hazardous materials are removed, the appliances are given to the metal recycler to be baled for shipment.

February 7, 2006

**Subject: Addition Of Landfill Coordinator To Manage The Workload Required
By The New Appliance Recycling And Universal Waste Regulations**

Page 2

Universal Waste: Effective February 8, 2006, the DTSC has determined that households and small businesses are no longer allowed to put universal waste items into the regular trash. The DTSC definition of universal waste consists of several items including electronic devices. The current list of electronic devices tested by the DTSC to contain hazardous materials includes televisions, computer monitors, computers, printers, radios, microwave ovens, VCRs, cell phones, cordless phones, and telephone answering machines. This list will expand as the DTSC continues to test additional electronic items. Currently, televisions and computer monitors, those items with Cathode Ray Tubes (CRTs), are collected at the Landfill. The CRTs are dropped off by the public and placed, by the Landfill Coordinators, into a 40 cubic yard roll-off container for shipment to the recycle processor. The electronic waste will be handled in a similar manner. The public will drop off the electronic items and the Landfill Coordinators will properly load the waste into the roll-off container for shipping. The Landfill Coordinator is also required, through the load check program, to remove electronic devices found in the trash pile and place them in the roll-off container. Staff estimates approximately one hour per day will be required for a Landfill Coordinator to properly manage the items listed under the universal waste requirements.

Currently, there are four full-time and two job-share Landfill Coordinator positions. Two of the full-time Landfill Coordinators work Monday through Friday. The remaining two full-time Landfill Coordinators and the two job-share Landfill Coordinators are required to work weekends, leaving two days during the week with only three Landfill Coordinators on site. During the week, the job duties of the Landfill Coordinators include, coordinating at the trash pile, grinding wood and greenwaste, operating the water truck, and recycling appliances and electronic devices.

SUMMARY:

The estimated additional hours to manage the new appliance recycling and universal waste regulations is approximately 170 hours per month or the equivalent of one full-time Landfill Coordinator. The cost to fund a full-time Landfill Coordinator for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2005-06 is \$12,749, and for Fiscal Year 2006-07 is \$59,241. This position will be funded out of current Solid Waste operating revenue; account number 59500-59399.

Claudia A. Stine, Solid Waste Superintendent

Attachment: Exhibit 1

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

Larry Bean, Public Works Director

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Gary P. Keefe, City Administrator