



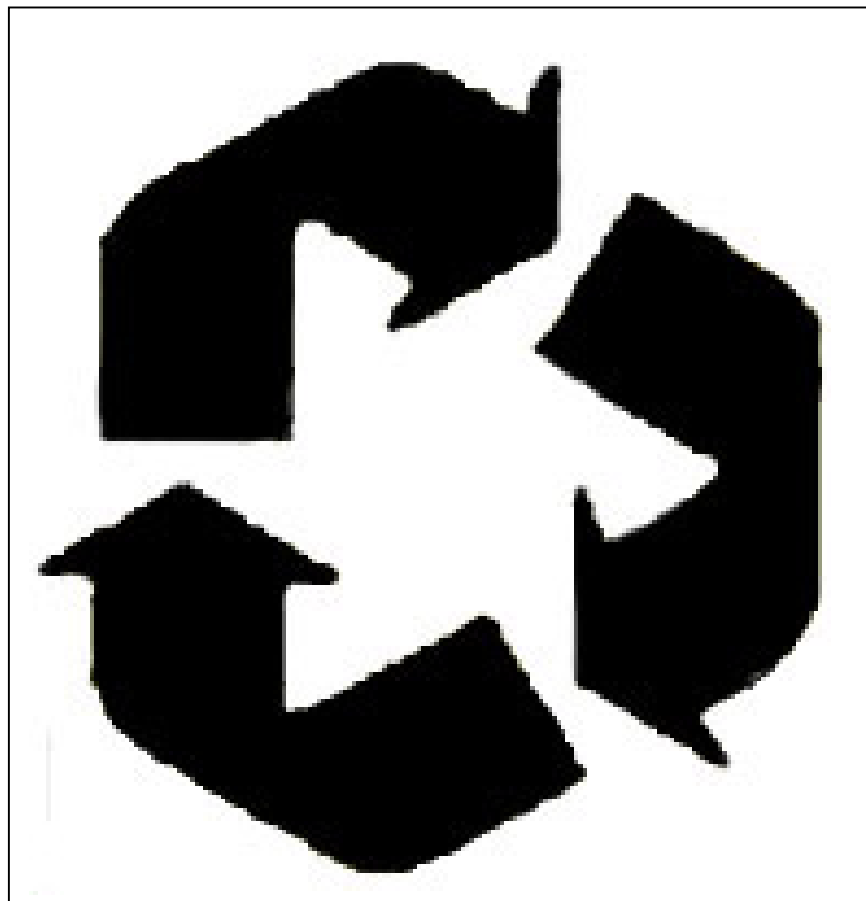
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Planning and Development

Final Negative Declaration

Santa Barbara Regional Recycling and Market Development Zone

November 2005



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1.0 REQUEST/PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The County of Santa Barbara and the Cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Lompoc, and Santa Maria have jointly applied to the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) for re-designation as a Recycling Market Development Zone (referred to in this document as RMDZ or Zone). As the Santa Barbara Regional RMDZ, these jurisdictions would comprise one of forty (40) zones statewide. The State zoning designation will overlie, not replace, existing zoning within the five jurisdictions.

The purpose of the Recycling Market Development Zone Program is to expand the market for recyclable and reusable materials within the State of California. Within the Santa Barbara RMDZ, expanded markets for these materials will increase economic activity in addition to assisting with achievement of state-mandated waste diversion goals. Paper, glass, plastic and other materials recovered through local recycling programs in the Santa Barbara region are industrial raw materials used as feed stocks in the manufacturing of intermediate and finished products. Businesses that manufacture these products in the Zone are eligible for state sponsored low interest loans, technical assistance, and local assistance such as streamlined regulation, breaks on local fees, siting assistance and marketing assistance.

The Zone Market Development Plan, a major component of the application to the state for zone designation, is fundamentally the project description. The plan includes seven sections. The first two, "Zone Administration and Budget" and "Feedstock Analysis" describe staff expertise and budget commitment to the program and the types of materials (feed stocks) available through the Zone for use by manufacturers. The third section "The Zone Marketing Plan" describes the plan for retaining existing reuse and recycling-based manufacturing businesses, recruiting new businesses, and converting businesses currently using virgin materials to secondary feed stocks. This includes specific promotion, education, outreach and direct assistance activities. The "Incentives" and "Financial Support" sections describe the local incentives committed to the program by each jurisdiction, (i.e. expedited permitting and waiving/reduction of fees) and the types of local and state financial assistance available, including loan packaging and block grant funds. The "Available Properties and Buildings" section provides examples of commercial and industrial areas that are available for recycling and reuse based businesses. The "Existing and Planned Infrastructure" section describes the infrastructure support that will benefit the Zone, such as water supply, highway, railroad and airport access and transit systems. It should be noted that all of the planned infrastructure improvements to solid waste/recycling management systems. It should be noted that all of the planned infrastructure improvements would take place without the designation of the Zone, and are only included in the market development plan because they happen to benefit the Zone.

The types of projects resulting from the success of the Zone program could be characterized as the equivalent of four new businesses locating in the Santa Barbara region over the next five years. Since the focus of the program is on retention/expansion of the existing businesses and conversion to secondary materials, all four "new" businesses most likely would not be "new".

The types of businesses that could be expected to benefit from the Zone program are: a plastics processing firm (primary candidate for conversion), which is smaller than a resin manufacturing firm, as more than half of the primary candidate for expansion/retention), which usually employs fewer than 30 people and could involve a range of operations from simple yard and wood waste chipping to various levels of composting; a molded-pulp products manufacturer (candidate for attraction) to produce wall board, nursery pots, animal bedding, and other products; and a glass manufacturer (candidate for attraction) to produce glass bricks, house wares, tiles, and other items. These businesses are identified as potential recipients of assistance offered through the RMDZ program, however, the fluctuation in market demand for recyclable materials and changing legislation can influence the types of manufacturing that will prove successful over time. Therefore the number and description of businesses that will benefit from the Zone is somewhat speculative.

The Zone was first established in 1995 and included the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County and the incorporated areas of the City of Carpinteria, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, and Santa Maria. The establishment of the Zone was reviewed under 95-ND-34 and information contained in 95-ND-34 is herein incorporated by reference. The City of Goleta was created in 2003 resulting in a reduced area encompassed by the unincorporated area of the County and the City of Carpinteria has opted out of the Zone. This negative declaration updates information and analysis associated with changes in participating jurisdictions associated with the Zone.

2.0 PROJECT LOCATION

Santa Barbara is a coastal county of approximately 2,750 square miles located approximately 330 miles south of San Francisco and 90 miles north of Los Angeles. The County is bordered to the north by San Luis Obispo County and a small portion of Kern County, to the east by Ventura County and to the south and west by the Pacific Ocean (Figure 1). The proposed Recycling Market Development Zone lies entirely within the boundaries of the County of Santa Barbara and includes the unincorporated area of Santa Barbara County and the cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Santa Maria and Lompoc (Figure 2). All five of the County's Supervisorial Districts are represented in the Zone. The specific location and size of the proposed RMDZ project within the County is as follows: City of Santa Barbara - 49 square miles, City of Goleta - 26 square miles, City of Santa Maria - 20 square miles, City of Lompoc - 12 square miles.

2.1 Site Information	
Comprehensive Plan Designation	<i>The Recycling Market Development Zone applies to the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County and the incorporated areas of the Cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Santa Maria and Lompoc.</i>
Zoning District, Ordinance	<i>The RMDZ applies to coastal and inland areas of the five jurisdictions. Primary areas targeted for coordinated activities and/or potential future development within these jurisdictions are in areas currently zoned commercial or industrial.</i>
Site Size	<i>Gross: Approximately 2,406 square miles Net (currently zoned commercial or industrial): Approximately 7,737 acres.</i>
Present Use & Development	<i>Activities and development contemplated in the RMDZ Program involve existing feedstock suppliers (curbside, buy-back and drop-off recycling programs), businesses that currently use secondary (recycled) materials as a feedstock, new secondary materials-based businesses, and existing manufacturers with potential to become secondary materials-based all or in part.</i>
Transportation (Access)	The Zone and RMDZ Program propose to make use of the existing network of roads, highways, railways and airports serving the five participating jurisdictions. Major transportation corridors designated in the RMDZ application include US Highway 101, State Highway 1, 166 and 246. Santa Maria and Santa Barbara airports and Southern Pacific Railroad.
Public Services	Adequate services are available in most areas in which RMDZ related businesses are expected to locate or expand.

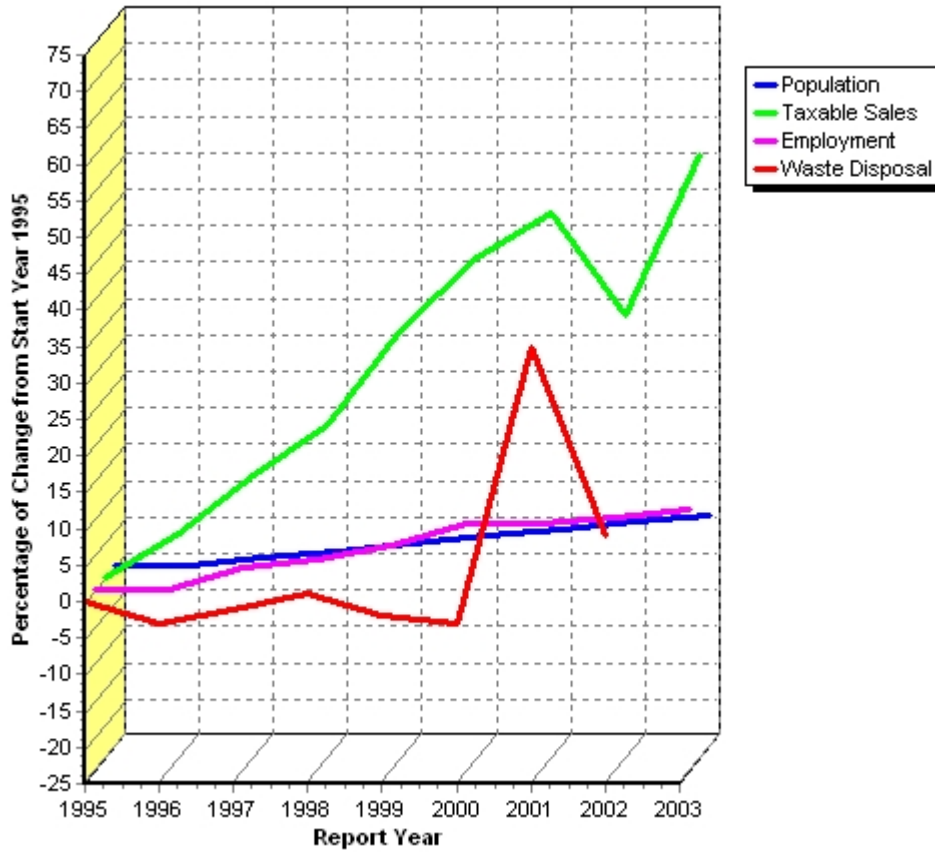
3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

As stated above, the Zone applies to coastal and inland areas of the five jurisdictions in their entirety. Primary areas targeted for coordinated activities and/or potential future development within these jurisdictions are in areas currently zoned commercial or industrial.

There are four landfills operating in the County of Santa Barbara, three of which are located within the Zone. The County operates one landfill, serving the South Coast and Santa Ynez Valley. The remaining two landfills are operated within the City of Lompoc and the City of Santa Maria, serving the cities and their surrounding unincorporated areas. A Waste Generation Study conducted in 2000 concluded that 446,329 tons of waste were generated during that year by the County in its entirety (including the recently formed City of Goleta). The waste diverted from landfills in 2000 for the City of Santa Barbara was 25-49% and for Santa Barbara County (that included the City of Goleta) and the two remaining Cities were over 50%

(California Integrated Waste Management Board, 2005). The diversion rate has continued to increase with the growth in recycling and source reduction programs. A graph depicting waste disposal trends for Santa Barbara County is shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3
Countywide Trends for Santa Barbara County
(California Integrate Waste Management Board, 2005)



4.0 POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS CHECKLIST

The following checklist indicates the potential level of impact and is defined as follows:

Potentially Significant Impact: A fair argument can be made, based on the substantial evidence in the file, that an effect may be significant.

Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation: Incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from a Potentially Significant Impact to a Less Than Significant Impact.

Less Than Significant Impact: An impact is considered adverse but does not trigger a significance threshold.

No Impact: There is adequate support that the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to the subject project.

Reviewed Under Previous Document: The analysis contained in a previously adopted/certified environmental document addresses this issue adequately for use in the current case and is summarized in the discussion below. The discussion should include reference to the previous documents, a citation of the page(s) where the information is found, and identification of mitigation measures incorporated from the previous documents.

4.1 AESTHETICS/VISUAL RESOURCES

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. The obstruction of any scenic vista or view open to the public or the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?			X		X
b. Change to the visual character of an area?			X		X
c. Glare or night lighting which may affect adjoining areas?			X		X
d. Visually incompatible structures?			X		X

Impact Discussion:

The RMDZ Program encourages recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert or locate within the Zone, but is not precluded from environmental review for development. Any proposed development resulting from the program would be reviewed for impacts. Preliminary analysis of the potential impacts to scenic areas or visual character is highly speculative. Since the Program continues to encourage the use of available buildings through access to databases of commercial and industrial properties, it remains unlikely that impacts to visual resources resulting from the development of new structures would occur. Assisted businesses would be sited in commercial and industrial areas containing similar land uses and would be in the vicinity of visually compatible operations.

Mitigation and Residual Impact:

No mitigation is required. No residual impacts would occur.

4.2 AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
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Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Convert prime agricultural land to non-agricultural use, impair agricultural land productivity (whether prime or non-prime) or conflict with agricultural preserve programs?			X		X
b. An effect upon any unique or other farmland of State or Local Importance?			X		X

Impact Discussion: The RMDZ Program encourages the expansion and location of recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses in areas with compatible existing land use. Compatible land uses include commercial/industrial activities. Current Agricultural zoning prohibits such operations on agriculturally zoned land. Therefore, agricultural resources would not be affected by the proposed Zone.

Mitigation and Residual Impact:

No mitigation is required. No residual impacts would occur.

4.3 AIR QUALITY

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. The violation of any ambient air quality standard, a substantial contribution to an existing or projected air quality violation including, CO hotspots, or exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations (emissions from direct, indirect, mobile and stationary sources)?			X		X
b. The creation of objectionable smoke, ash or odors?			X		X
c. Extensive dust generation?			X		X

Impact Discussion: The RMDZ Program continues to encourage recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert, or locate within the Zone and does not preclude environmental review for development. The Program would not directly affect air quality; however, indirectly, air quality could be enhanced by the reduction in transportation of materials to distant markets. In addition, the number and types of businesses encouraged by the RMDZ program and their distribution throughout the County would be expected to result in less than significant impacts on air quality.

Mitigation and Residual Impact:

No mitigation is required. No residual impacts would occur.

4.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
Flora					
a. A loss or disturbance to a unique, rare or threatened plant community?			X		X
b. A reduction in the numbers or restriction in the range of any unique, rare or threatened species of plants?			X		X
c. A reduction in the extent, diversity, or quality of native vegetation (including brush removal for fire prevention and			X		X

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
flood control improvements)?					
d. An impact on non-native vegetation whether naturalized or horticultural if of habitat value?			X		X
e. The loss of healthy native specimen trees?			X		X
f. Introduction of herbicides, pesticides, animal life, human habitation, non-native plants or other factors that would change or hamper the existing habitat?			X		X
Fauna					
g. A reduction in the numbers, a restriction in the range, or an impact to the critical habitat of any unique, rare, threatened or endangered species of animals?			X		X
h. A reduction in the diversity or numbers of animals onsite (including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish or invertebrates)?			X		X
i. A deterioration of existing fish or wildlife habitat (for foraging, breeding, roosting, nesting, etc.)?			X		X
j. Introduction of barriers to movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species?			X		X
k. Introduction of any factors (light, fencing, noise, human presence and/or domestic animals) which could hinder the normal activities of wildlife?			X		X

Existing Plant and Animal Communities/Conditions:

The RMDZ Program participants are expected to be developed with new businesses in existing industrial space as opposed to encouraging new development on undeveloped sites.

Impact Discussion:

The RMDZ Program continues to encourage recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert, or locate within the Zone and does not preclude environmental review for development. Biological resources are not expected to be significantly impacted as the RMDZ focuses on existing businesses and businesses attraction efforts are geared toward linking new businesses with available buildings in existing industrial space. It is unlikely that the few businesses developed as a result of the RMDZ Program would be located at commercially or industrially zoned sites which have significant and sensitive biological resources. Thus no significant impacts are anticipated.

Mitigation and Residual Impact:

No mitigation is required. No residual impacts would occur.

4.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
Archaeological Resources					
a. Disruption, alteration, destruction, or adverse effect on a recorded prehistoric or historic archaeological site (note site number below)?			X		X
b. Disruption or removal of human remains?			X		X
c. Increased potential for trespassing, vandalizing, or sabotaging archaeological resources?			X		X

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
d. Ground disturbances in an area with potential cultural resource sensitivity based on the location of known historic or prehistoric sites?			X		X
Ethnic Resources					
e. Disruption of or adverse effects upon a prehistoric or historic archaeological site or property of historic or cultural significance to a community or ethnic group?			X		X
f. Increased potential for trespassing, vandalizing, or sabotaging ethnic, sacred, or ceremonial places?			X		X
g. The potential to conflict with or restrict existing religious, sacred, or educational use of the area?			X		X

Impact Discussion:

The RMDZ Program continues to encourage recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert, or locate within the Zone and does not preclude environmental review for development. Cultural resources are not expected to be significantly impacted as the few new commercial/industrial facilities that would be built in developed commercial/industrial areas of the Zone. Business attraction activities would include matching recycling-based businesses with existing available buildings in commercial/industrial zoned areas. Thus, in many cases there would be no new ground disturbance with associated potential to adversely affect cultural resources. Thus no significant impacts are anticipated.

Mitigation and Residual Impact:

No mitigation is required. No residual impacts would occur.

4.6 ENERGY

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Substantial increase in demand, especially during peak periods, upon existing sources of energy?				X	X
b. Requirement for the development or extension of new sources of energy?				X	X

Impact Discussion:

The RMZD Program encourages recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert or locate within the Zone. The assistance and incentives offered do not preclude environmental review for development of the businesses. Based on the size, type and number of businesses expected to result from the program, there would not be a significant impact on existing sources of energy or a need for the development of new energy sources.

Mitigation and Residual Impact:

No mitigation is required. No residual impacts are expected.

4.7 FIRE PROTECTION

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Introduction of development into an existing high fire hazard area?			X		X
b. Project-caused high fire hazard?			X		X
c. Introduction of development into an area without adequate water pressure, fire hydrants or adequate access for fire fighting?			X		X
d. Introduction of development that will hamper fire prevention techniques such as controlled burns or backfiring in high fire hazard areas?			X		X
e. Development of structures beyond safe Fire Dept. response time?			X		X

Impact Discussion:

The RMDZ Program encourages recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert or relocate within the Zone, and does not preclude environmental review for development. The Program is unlikely to create high fire hazards and would not significantly impact fire protection resources due to the fact that standard regulations requiring separation of certain materials, fire suppression and prevention measures would be enforced.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None.

4.8 GEOLOGIC PROCESSES

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Exposure to or production of unstable earth conditions such as landslides, earthquakes, liquefaction, soil creep, mudslides, ground failure (including expansive, compressible, collapsible soils), or similar hazards?			X		X
b. Disruption, displacement, compaction or overcovering of the soil by cuts, fills or extensive grading?			X		X
c. Permanent changes in topography?			X		X
d. The destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic, paleontologic or physical features?			X		X
e. Any increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site?			X		X
f. Changes in deposition or erosion of beach sands or dunes, or changes in siltation, deposition or erosion which may modify the channel of a river, or stream, or the bed of the ocean, or any bay, inlet or lake?			X		X
g. The placement of septic disposal systems in impermeable soils with severe constraints to disposal of liquid effluent?			X		X
h. Extraction of mineral or ore?			X		X
i. Excessive grading on slopes of over 20%?			X		X
j. Sand or gravel removal or loss of topsoil?			X		X
k. Vibrations, from short-term construction or long-term operation, which may affect adjoining areas?			X		X
l. Excessive spoils, tailings or over-burden?			X		X

Impact Discussion: The RMDZ Program encourages recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert or relocate within the Zone, and does not preclude environmental review for development. Geologic processes would be evaluated during project review. It is anticipated that most of the RMDZ assisted development would occur at existing, developed or commercially or industrially designated sites. Geologic hazards would likely not be exacerbated by a change in use or by initial development of such sites. The activities proposed through the RMDZ Program are not expected to result in significant impacts to geologic processes.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None

4.9 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/RISK OF UPSET

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. In the known history of this property, have there been any past uses, storage or discharge of hazardous materials (e.g., fuel or oil stored in underground tanks, pesticides, solvents or other chemicals)?			X		X
b. The use, storage or distribution of hazardous or toxic materials?			X		X
c. A risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances (e.g., oil, gas, biocides, bacteria, pesticides, chemicals or radiation) in the event of an accident or upset conditions?			X		X
d. Possible interference with an emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan?			X		X
e. The creation of a potential public health hazard?			X		X
f. Public safety hazards (e.g., due to development near chemical or industrial activity, producing oil wells, toxic disposal sites, etc.)?			X		X
g. Exposure to hazards from oil or gas pipelines or oil well facilities?			X		X
h. The contamination of a public water supply?			X		X

Impact Discussion: The RMDZ Program encourages recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert or relocate within the Zone, and does not preclude environmental review for development. The types of businesses that the program would ultimately assist are speculative; however, they are not expected to create a significant risk of upset or generate significant amounts of hazardous materials. The RMDZ Program includes assistance to comply with permit requirements (i.e. hazardous waste generators permit) so that recycling based businesses maintain compliance with applicable regulations. The majority of businesses that are expected to benefit from the program do not handle hazardous materials; however, businesses handling hazardous materials would be subject to state regulations (CCR, Title 22) and would be required to describe the handling of such materials in a hazardous materials business plan. Based on standard regulatory oversight by County Fire, no significant impacts are anticipated.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None.

4.10 HISTORIC RESOURCES

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Adverse physical or aesthetic impacts on a structure or property at least 50 years old and/or of historic or cultural significance to the community, state or nation?			X		X
b. Beneficial impacts to an historic resource by providing rehabilitation, protection in a conservation/open easement, etc.?			X		X

Impact Discussion:

The RMDZ Program encourages recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert or relocate within the Zone, and does not preclude environmental review for development. It is unlikely that businesses assisted by the RMDZ Program would build in areas with unique historic resources. The program would not be expected to impact historic resources as its focus is to match businesses with existing commercially- or industrially-zoned buildings.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None.

4.11 LAND USE

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Structures and/or land use incompatible with existing land use?			X		X
b. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			X		X
c. The induction of substantial growth or concentration of population?			X		X
d. The extension of sewer trunk lines or access roads with capacity to serve new development beyond this proposed project?			X		X
e. Loss of existing affordable dwellings through demolition, conversion or removal?			X		X
f. Displacement of substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?			X		X
g. Displacement of substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?			X		X
h. The loss of a substantial amount of open space?			X		X

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
i. An economic or social effect that would result in a physical change? (i.e. Closure of a freeway ramp results in isolation of an area, businesses located in the vicinity close, neighborhood degenerates, and buildings deteriorate. Or, if construction of new freeway divides an existing community, the construction would be the physical change, but the economic/social effect on the community would be the basis for determining that the physical change would be significant.)			X		X
j. Conflicts with adopted airport safety zones?			X		X

Impact Discussion: The RMDZ Program encourages the expansion and location of recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses in areas with compatible land use. The business assistance offered by the program would not likely result in significant growth or concentration of population, or conflict with existing land use policies. Thus impacts would be considered less than significant.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None.

4.12 NOISE

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Long-term exposure of people to noise levels exceeding County thresholds (e.g. locating noise sensitive uses next to an airport)?					
b. Short-term exposure of people to noise levels exceeding County thresholds?					
c. Project-generated substantial increase in the ambient noise levels for adjoining areas (either day or night)?					

Impact Discussion: The RMDZ Program encourages recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert or relocate within the Zone, and does not preclude environmental review for development. Potential noise impacts resulting from recycling-based manufacturing operations would be assessed at the time that the proposed project undergoes environmental review. The businesses assisted by the RMDZ Program are expected to be involved with conversions of existing manufacturing processes at existing facilities. These facilities would be located in commercial/industrial areas distributed throughout the County. Therefore, the businesses would not be expected to create significant noise impacts.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None.

4.13 PUBLIC FACILITIES

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. A need for new or altered police protection and/or health care services?			X		X
b. Student generation exceeding school capacity?			X		X

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
c. Significant amounts of solid waste or breach any national, state, or local standards or thresholds relating to solid waste disposal and generation (including recycling facilities and existing landfill capacity)?			X		X
d. A need for new or altered sewer system facilities (sewer lines, lift-stations, etc.)?			X		X
e. The construction of new storm water drainage or water quality control facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			X		X

Impact Discussion: The RMDZ Program would have a beneficial impact on the amount of solid waste disposed at landfills. By using secondary materials as feed stocks for producing intermediate or finished products, businesses assisted by the Program would help reduce the local waste stream. No significant impacts to other types of public facilities would likely result from the Program.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None.

4.14 RECREATION

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Conflict with established recreational uses of the area?			X		X
b. Conflict with biking, equestrian and hiking trails?			X		X
c. Substantial impact on the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities (e.g., overuse of an area with constraints on numbers of people, vehicles, animals, etc. which might safely use the area)?			X		X

Impact Discussion: The RMDZ Program encourages recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert or relocate within the Zone, and does not preclude environmental review for development. The businesses resulting from the Program would be located in commercial/industrial areas, not recreational areas, and therefore would not be likely to impact recreational resources.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None.

4.15 TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement (daily, peak-hour, etc.) in relation to existing traffic load and capacity of the street system?			X		X
b. A need for private or public road maintenance, or need for new road(s)?			X		X
c. Effects on existing parking facilities, or demand for new parking?			X		X

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
d. Substantial impact upon existing transit systems (e.g. bus service) or alteration of present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods?			X		X
e. Alteration to waterborne, rail or air traffic?			X		X
f. Increase in traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists or pedestrians (including short-term construction and long-term operational)?			X		X
g. Inadequate sight distance?			X		X
ingress/egress?			X		X
general road capacity?			X		X
emergency access?			X		X
h. Impacts to Congestion Management Plan system?			X		X

Impact Discussion: The RMDZ Program encourages recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert or relocate within the Zone, and does not preclude environmental review for development. The RMDZ Program is intended to assist in creating local markets for recyclable materials. Local markets for recyclable materials can reduce transportation distances for materials, thereby enhancing traffic conditions. Due to the number and types of businesses encouraged, their gradual establishment and distribution throughout the County, the RMDZ Program would not be expected to significantly impact transportation systems.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None.

4.16 WATER RESOURCES/FLOODING

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Changes in currents, or the course or direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh waters?			X		X
b. Changes in percolation rates, drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface water runoff?			X		X
c. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body?			X		X
d. Discharge, directly or through a storm drain system, into surface waters (including but not limited to wetlands, riparian areas, ponds, springs, creeks, streams, rivers, lakes, estuaries, tidal areas, bays, ocean, etc) or alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, or thermal water pollution?			X		X
e. Alterations to the course or flow of flood water or need for private or public flood control projects?			X		X
f. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding (placement of project in 100 year flood plain), accelerated runoff or tsunamis?			X		X
g. Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of groundwater?			X		X
h. Change in the quantity of groundwater, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations or recharge interference?			X		X
i. Overdraft or over commitment of any groundwater basin? Or, a significant increase in the existing overdraft or over commitment of any groundwater basin?			X		X

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
j. The substantial degradation of groundwater quality including saltwater intrusion?			X		X
k. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies?			X		X
l. Introduction of storm water pollutants (e.g., oil, grease, pesticides, nutrients, sediments, pathogens, etc.) into groundwater or surface water?			X		X

Impact Discussion: The RMDZ Program encourages recycling-based manufacturing and reuse businesses to expand, convert or relocate within the Zone. Incentives and assistance offered to those businesses do not exempt projects from environmental review for development. Water resources and flooding issues would be addressed during project review. Based on County land use policies, RMDZ projects would not be approved without an adequate water supply. Standard flood control regulations would address flood hazards. In general, the business activities encouraged by the RMDZ Program would not be expected to have significant impacts on water resources because industrial water demand is usually less than that of residential or agricultural uses. In any case, impacts to water resources and flooding are expected to be less than significant.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None.

5.0 INFORMATION SOURCES

5.1 County Departments Consulted

Police, Fire, Public Works, Flood Control, Parks, Environmental Health, Special Districts,
Regional Programs, Other : _____

5.2 Comprehensive Plan

_____	Seismic Safety/Safety Element	_____	Conservation Element
_____	Open Space Element	_____	Noise Element
_____	Coastal Plan and Maps	_____	Circulation Element
_____	ERME	_____	

5.3 Other Sources

_____	Field work	_____	Ag Preserve maps
_____	Calculations	_____	Flood Control maps
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other technical references (reports, survey, etc.)
_____	Traffic studies	_____	Planning files, maps, reports
_____	Records	_____	Zoning maps
_____	Grading plans	_____	Soils maps/reports
_____	Elevation, architectural renderings	_____	Plant maps
_____	Published geological map/reports	_____	Archaeological maps and reports
_____	Topographical maps	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other –Source Reduction & Recycling Element of the Solid Waste Management Plan

6.0 PROJECT SPECIFIC (*short- and long-term*) AND CUMULATIVE IMPACT SUMMARY

No significant or potentially significant impacts have been identified for the proposed project. No mitigation measures are recommended as no potentially significant impacts have been identified for the RMDZ Program project.

7.0 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Will the proposal result in:	Poten. Signif.	Less than Signif. with Mitigation	Less Than Signif.	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
1. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?			X		X
2. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals?			X		X
3. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects and the effects of probable future projects.)			X		X
4. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			X		X
5. Is there disagreement supported by facts, reasonable assumptions predicated upon facts and/or expert opinion supported by facts over the significance of an effect which would warrant investigation in an EIR ?			X		X

8.0 PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

If potentially significant, adverse unmitigable impacts would result; identify potential project alternatives to minimize these effects (reduced project, alternative use, alternative site location, etc.)

N/A. The project is not expected to have significant impacts.

9.0 INITIAL REVIEW OF PROJECT CONSISTENCY WITH APPLICABLE SUBDIVISION, ZONING AND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REQUIREMENTS

Designation of the RMDZ would be consistent with waste reduction goals as stated in the Source Reduction and Recycling Elements (SRRE) for each of the five applicant jurisdictions. The SRRE’s discuss each jurisdiction’s commitment to maximizing the diversion of reusable and recyclable materials from its waste stream. The goals of the RMDZ are also consistent with the SRRE’s intent to increase local use of recycled feed stocks. The Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan identifies the RMDZ designation as an integral part of the overall integrated waste management strategy for the five applicant jurisdictions within the County of Santa Barbara.

The projects located within the unincorporated areas of the County which would result from the RMDZ Program would be evaluated for consistency with County Comprehensive Plan/Local Coastal Plan policies and Zoning Ordinance. The following Comprehensive Plan policies would apply to most projects encouraged by the RMDZ Program:

1. Land Use Element; Hillside and Watershed Protection Policies 1-7; Flood Hazard Area policies 1 and 2; Visual Resources policies 1, 3 and 4.
2. Various Circulation Element policies.
3. Similar policies contained in the Local Coastal Plan, applicable to projects proposed in the Coastal Zone.

The projects located within a City would be subject to that City's general plan or local coastal plan and zoning ordinances.

10.0 RECOMMENDATION BY P&D STAFF

On the basis of the Initial Study, the staff of Planning and Development:

XX Finds that the proposed project WILL NOT have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, recommends that a Negative Declaration (ND) be prepared.

_____ Finds that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures incorporated into the REVISED PROJECT DESCRIPTION would successfully mitigate the potentially significant impacts. Staff recommends the preparation of an ND. The ND finding is based on the assumption that mitigation measures will be acceptable to the applicant; if not acceptable a revised Initial Study finding for the preparation of an EIR may result.

_____ Finds that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and recommends that an EIR be prepared.

_____ Finds that from existing documents (previous EIRs, etc.) that a subsequent document (containing updated and site-specific information, etc.) pursuant to CEQA Sections 15162/15163/15164 should be prepared.

Potentially significant unavoidable adverse impact areas:

_____ With Public Hearing XX Without Public Hearing

PREVIOUS DOCUMENT: 95-ND-34.

PROJECT EVALUATOR: Kathy Kefauver, Sr. Engineering Environmental Planner DATE: 8/23/05

11.0 DETERMINATION BY ENVIRONMENTAL HEARING OFFICER

_____ I agree with staff conclusions. Preparation of the appropriate document may proceed.

_____ I DO NOT agree with staff conclusions. The following actions will be taken:

_____ I require consultation and further information prior to making my determination.

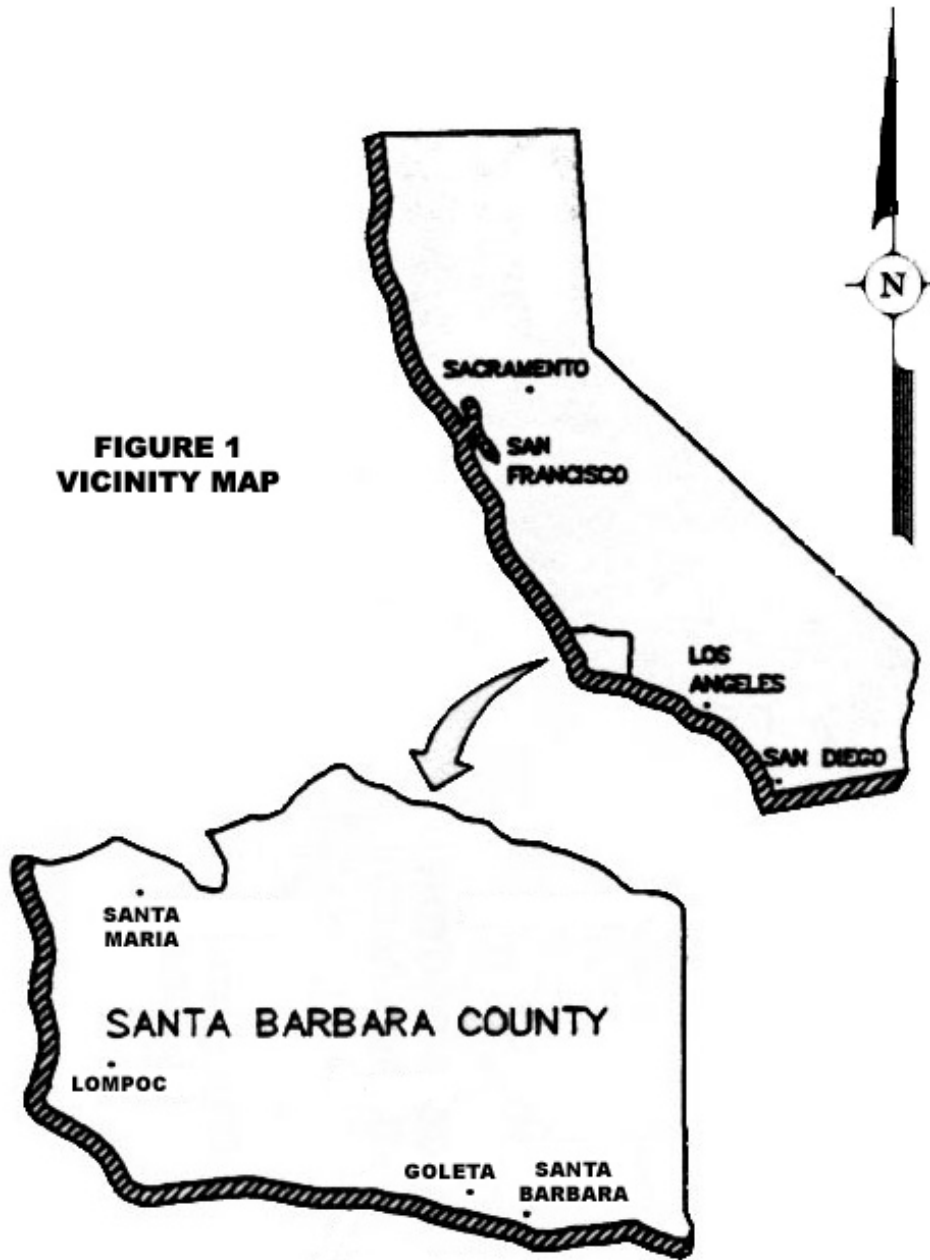
SIGNATURE: _____ INITIAL STUDY DATE: _____

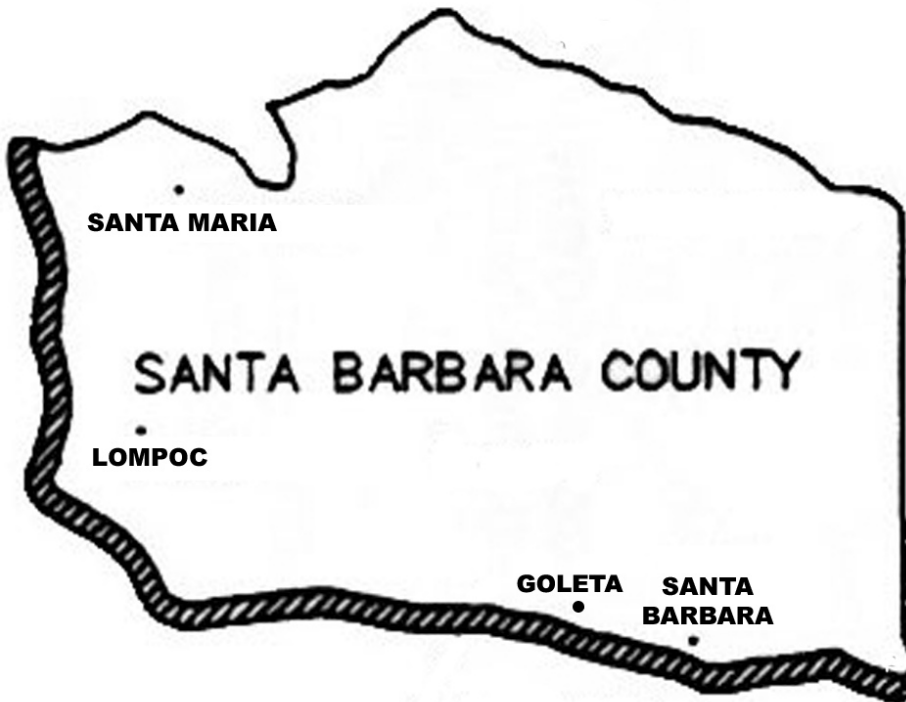
SIGNATURE: _____ NEGATIVE DECLARATION DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ REVISION DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ FINAL NEGATIVE DECLARATION DATE: _____

**FIGURE 1
VICINITY MAP**





**FIGURE 2
PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS**