



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

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COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED SOLID WASTE RATE INCREASE

Dear Property Owners and Tenant-Customers:

This notice is intended to inform you that the San Luis Obispo County ("County") Board of Supervisors ("Board of Supervisors") will hold a public hearing regarding the solid waste disposal rate increases ("Proposed Rate Increase") proposed by Mission Country Disposal ("Mission Country") for properties and customers receiving solid waste services within the areas surrounding the Los Osos Community Services District ("District"). The Proposed Rate Increase will be considered by the Board of Supervisors at the date, time and location specified below. Consistent with the requirements of Proposition 218, this notice also provides you with the following information:

- The Date, Time, and Place of the Public Hearing;
- The Majority Protest Procedures;
- The Basis of and Reason for the Proposed Rate Increase; and
- The Proposed Rate Increase Amounts

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing on the Proposed Rate Increase within the areas surrounding the District will be held on:

Date: March 22, 2016

Time: 9:00 AM or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard

**Place: San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors Chambers,
1055 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo, CA**

At the Public Hearing, the Board of Supervisors will consider all public comment in support of and in opposition to the Proposed Rate Increase and whether or not a Majority Protest exists pursuant to the California Constitution and the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act (below). If approved, the Proposed Rate Increase would become effective April 1, 2016.

BASIS FOR THE PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

The Proposed Rate Increase of 10.37% for each category of service is based on the following cost increases incurred by Mission Country:

1. 5.76% of the Proposed Rate Increase is based on increased costs for fuel, vehicles and increased labor costs;
2. 0.61% of the Proposed Rate Increase is based on a \$2.25 per ton increase in the cost of landfill disposal; and
3. 4.00% of the Proposed Rate Increase is based on the implementation of an Organics Program.

In addition, commencing on January 1, 2017 and January 1, 2018, all the rates shall be increased based on the following:

1. Increase, *if any*, in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index for Urban Consumers based on the All U.S. City Average, Bureau of Labor Statistics for the month of June 2016 for January 1, 2017 and June 2017 for January 1, 2018; and
2. Increase of 0.59% for 2017 and 0.57% for 2018 for increase in the cost of landfill disposal.

A copy of the 2016 Base Year Rate Adjustment Application, which provides additional information on the Proposed Rate Increase, is available at the County Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector's office located at 1055 Monterey Street Room D290, San Luis Obispo, CA 93408.

REASON FOR THE PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

The Proposed Rate Increase (amounting to an increase of 10.37% for each category of service) is necessary for Mission Country to continue to provide safe, environmentally sound and reliable solid waste removal, transportation and disposal services to the citizens of the areas surrounding the District. The increases requested are due to increasing operational costs. Several factors have contributed to these increased costs, including, but not limited to: the rising costs associated with the operation of a garbage company, rising costs associated with operation and fuel for vehicles, increased labor costs, increased landfill rates, and costs associated with the implementation of an Organics Program as mandated by Assembly Bill 1826 (2014), which requires local jurisdictions across the State to develop a recycling program to divert organic waste from landfills to an authorized composting facility. Organic waste is food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous food waste, and food-soiled paper waste that is mixed in with food waste.

MAJORITY PROTEST

Pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII D of the California Constitution and Government Code Section 53755, the following persons may submit a written protest against the Proposed Rate Increase to the County Clerk-Recorder before the close of the Public Hearing referenced above.

- An owner(s) of property (parcel(s)) receiving solid waste service within the areas surrounding the District's boundary. If the person(s) signing the protest, as an owner, is not shown on the last equalized assessment roll as the owner of the parcel(s), then the protest must contain or be accompanied by written evidence that such person(s) signing the protest is the owner of the parcel(s) receiving the solid waste services; and
- A tenant(s) whose name appears on Mission Country's records as the customer of record for the corresponding parcel receiving solid waste service within the areas surrounding the District's boundary (tenant-customer).

A valid written protest must contain a statement that you protest the increase in solid waste rates, the address and the Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) of the parcel or parcels which receive solid waste service and must be signed by either the owner or the tenant-customer of the parcel or parcels. One written protest per parcel shall be counted in calculating a majority protest to the Proposed Rate Increase subject to the requirements of Section 6 of Article XIII D of the California Constitution and Government Code Section 53755. Written protests will not be accepted by e-mail or facsimile. Verbal protests will not be counted in determining the existence of a majority protest. To be counted, a protest must be received in writing by the County Clerk-Recorder before the close of the Public Hearing referenced above.

Written protests regarding the Proposed Rate Increase may be mailed or personally delivered to:

County of San Luis Obispo Clerk-Recorder's Office
Attn: Clerk of the Board
1055 Monterey St. Suite D120
San Luis Obispo CA, 93408

If valid written protests are presented by a majority of owners and/or tenant-customers of parcels receiving solid waste services in the areas surrounding the District's boundaries, then the County will not adjust/increase the solid waste rates. Only one protest per parcel will be counted in determining whether or not a majority protest exists.