

**CHICAGO GRADE LANDFILL
PROPOSED VERTICAL EXPANSION
ADDENDUM EIR
ED 03-438
DRC 2003-00026**

Prepared for:

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
Planning and Building Department
County Government Center
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Prepared by:

DOUGLAS WOOD & ASSOCIATES, INC.
1461 Higuera Street
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

October 25, 2016

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE.....	1
II. ADDENDUM EIR SUMMARY	4
III. EXISTING SETTING AND LANDFILL OPERATIONS.....	13
IV. PROJECT DESCRIPTION.....	27
V. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS.....	32
VI. REFERENCES	78

LIST OF FIGURES

<u>Figure</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. REGIONAL MAP.....	14
2. SITE VICINITY	15
3. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH	16
4. SITE AND SURROUNDING PROPERTY	18
5. EXISTING SITE PLAN.....	19
6. LANDFILL BOUNDARIES AND PROPOSED EXTENSION AREA.....	26
7. EXCAVATION AND LINER PLAN.....	28
8. PHOTO KEY MAP	36
9A. VIEWS FROM SOUTH EL POMAR ROAD.....	37
9B. VIEWS FROM SOUTH EL POMAR ROAD.....	39
10A. VIEWS FROM 2995 TEMPLETON ROAD.....	40
10B. VIEWS FROM 2995 TEMPLETON ROAD.....	41
11A. VIEWS FROM 2475 TEMPLETON ROAD.....	43
11B. VIEWS FROM 2475 TEMPLETON ROAD.....	44
12A. VIEWS FROM LANDFILL ENTRANCE.....	45
12B. VIEWS FROM LANDFILL ENTRANCE	47

LIST OF TABLES

1. TOTAL WASTE TONS ACCEPTED	21
2. CHICAGO GRADE LANDFILL HOURS.....	23

I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

A. Environmental Procedures and Format

This Addendum Environmental Impact Report (or "Addendum EIR") has been prepared to introduce technical changes and additions to the Final Environmental Impact Report ("Final EIR") for the Chicago Grade Landfill Expansion Development Permit (State Clearinghouse No. 20044071092). The Final EIR was certified by the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors on February 27, 2007.

The previously certified Final EIR (ED03-438) was based upon a Conditional Use Permit (DRC 2003-00026) that allowed an expansion of the disposal area of the Chicago Grade Landfill from 38.44 acres to 76.40 acres, an increase of 37.96 acres. The approval created capacity for disposal of approximately 3,098,775 additional tons of waste. This expansion of the disposal area extended the service life of the landfill to the year 2039.

The currently proposed changes or additions (to be referred to herein as the "currently proposed project" or the "proposed vertical expansion") involve: 1) increasing the currently permitted maximum height of solid waste including final cover material from elevation 1360 to elevation 1386 over an area of approximately four acres and 2) allowing site preparation, that being placement of a soil liner within areas outside the original landfill boundary established in 1970 but not into the expanded solid waste disposal area that was approved in 2007. The currently proposed project will create approximately 166,500 cubic yards of additional solid waste storage or approximately eight additional months of solid waste storage operations at this location. These actions will be implemented through a modification of the approved Conditional Use Permit (DRC 2003-00026) including modified conditions of approval.

This document has been prepared in accordance with procedures adopted by the County of San Luis Obispo as Lead Agency relative to the California Environmental Quality Act as well as the CEQA Guidelines (Section 15120 et. seq.). According to the CEQA Guidelines (Section 15162(a)), An Addendum EIR can be prepared when "minor technical changes or additions to a previously certified EIR are necessary, if no substantial changes to the proposed project or to circumstances surrounding the project occur and if there are no new or more severe project impacts or significantly different mitigation measures or project alternatives from those in the previously certified Final EIR". Section 15164 of the CEQA Guidelines specifically states:

- (a) The lead agency or responsible agency shall prepare an addendum to a previously certified EIR if some changes or additional are necessary.

Attachment 6 - Addendum EIR

(b) An addendum to an adopted negative declaration may be prepared if only minor technical changes or additions are necessary.

(c) An addendum need not be circulated for public review but can be included in or attached to the Final EIR or adopted negative declaration.

(d) The decision making body shall consider the Addendum with the Final EIR or adopted Negative Declaration prior to making a decision on the project.

The County of San Luis Obispo, as Lead Agency, determined that the currently proposed project required an Addendum EIR since only minor technical changes or additions to the to the previously-certified Final EIR were necessary. No substantial changes to the previously-proposed project or to circumstances surrounding the previously-proposed project occurred. No new or more severe project impacts or significantly different mitigation measures from those in the previously certified Final EIR were identified.

This Addendum EIR will focus on its analysis on the impacts and mitigation measures associated with the currently proposed project. This Addendum EIR will specifically focus its analysis of project impacts and mitigations to those associated with the currently proposed vertical expansion thereby not involving or affecting the previously certified Final Environmental Impact Report for the Chicago Grade Landfill Expansion. However, if this Addendum EIR is accepted by the County of San Luis Obispo, it becomes part of and an attachment to the previously-certified Final EIR for the overall Chicago Grade Landfill Expansion. Data from the previously-certified Final EIR will also serve as an environmental baseline for the consideration of the impacts and mitigations associated with the currently proposed vertical expansion.

This Addendum EIR begins with Section I. Introduction and Purpose which provides an introductory discussion of the purpose and scope of the document. Section II. Addendum EIR Summary summarizes the impacts associated with the currently proposed project and any required mitigation measures as they pertain specifically to the currently proposed project. Section III. Existing Setting and Landfill Operations provides background relative to the existing environmental conditions both within and in the area adjacent to the existing landfill as well as the current operations of the Chicago Grade Landfill. Section IV. Project Description identifies and describes in detail the proposed project which involves the increase in the permitted maximum height of solid waste and the placement of a soil liner within areas outside the original landfill boundary.

Section V. Environmental Analysis of this Addendum EIR will analyze the proposed project in relation to a full range of environmental issues in order to determine whether there are any additional significant impacts or revised mitigation measures associated with the currently proposed project that were not addressed within the

Chicago Grade Landfill Expansion Development Permit Final Environmental Report. This range of environmental issues include aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, water, noise, public services/utilities, and transportation/circulation. The issues of land use and planning, population and housing and recreation were determined to be not relevant to both the previously-approved project as well as the current proposal. Section VI. References cites the various documents which were used during the preparation of this Addendum EIR.

This Addendum EIR is intended to provide the County of San Luis Obispo, as Lead Agency, with a document that will identify potentially significant environmental impacts, if any, and/or mitigation measures associated with the currently proposed project within the topic areas noted above which were not fully analyzed in the previously certified Final EIR. Data from the previously certified Final EIR will also serve as an environmental baseline for the consideration of the impacts and mitigations associated with the currently proposed project.

This Addendum EIR will provide a full and fair discussion of the potential environmental impacts of the currently proposed project which involves the increase in the permitted maximum height of solid waste and the placement of a soil liner within areas outside the original landfill boundary at the Chicago Grade Landfill. In preparing this Addendum EIR, the County of San Luis Obispo decision-makers, staff and any involved responsible agencies and members of the public will be fully informed as to the impacts and mitigation measures associated with the proposed project.

Pursuant to the California Public Resources Code 21082.1, the County of San Luis Obispo has independently reviewed and analyzed the information contained in this Addendum Environmental Impact Report prior to its consideration by the County. The conclusions and discussions contained herein reflect the independent judgment of the County as to those issues at the time of publication.

B. CEQA Topics Location

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Environmental Procedures and Format	Section I
Addendum EIR Summary	Section II
Existing Setting and Landfill Operations	Section III
Project Description	Section IV
Environmental Analysis	Section V
References	Section VI

II. ADDENDUM EIR SUMMARY

Project Summary

The currently proposed project is intended to gain additional, short-term capacity in module 3 and a portion of module 4 of the landfill. This additional capacity will be created with the following proposed actions: (1) increase the currently approved 1,360 foot elevation limit to a 1,386 foot elevation over approximately four acres within module 3 and a portion of module 4 and (2) allow site preparation (i.e., placement of liner) within areas outside the approved 1970 landfill boundary but not into the modules 6 or 7 that were established in 2007 with the County's approval of a Conditional Use Permit (DRC 2003-00026).

These actions create approximately 166,500 cubic yards of additional waste storage space or eight additional months of storage operations at the landfill. After completion of landfill operations associated with the proposed vertical expansion to elevation 1,386, the four acre area within module 3 and a portion of module 4 will be covered with low permeability clay soils and revegetated.

Although the 2007 Conditional Use Permit issued by the County allows expansion into modules 6 and 7, the landfill operators are not ready to proceed with expansion of landfill operations into these modules due to the unexpected increase in solid waste volume received at the landfill. This circumstance has generated the need for the currently proposed project (see Section IV.A., Proposed Project).

Environmental Summary

The impacts associated with the currently proposed project are listed by environmental issue below. These impacts do not significantly differ from nor do they exceed the impacts identified in the previously certified (2007) Final EIR (ED03-438) which addressed the 44.3 acre expansion of the Chicago Grade Landfill.

The mitigation measures assigned to the current project proposal and listed below are similar to and do not exceed those mitigation measures associated with the County's approval of CUP 2003-00026. These mitigation measures have been revised in order to more accurately apply to the current project proposal. Mitigation measures identified in the previously certified Final EIR were incorporated into the previous project as conditions of approval of the Conditional Use Permit (DRC 2003-00026). In order to accommodate the current project, modifications to mitigation measures were necessary.

All residual impacts associated with the current project proposal are identified as either Class II impacts (potentially significant impacts which have been reduced to a level of insignificance or avoided entirely with the implementation of proposed mitigation measures) or Class III impacts (impacts which are found to be insignificant).

A. Aesthetics

Project Impacts

The visual character of the currently proposed vertical expansion area would change marginally as a result of the currently proposed project. The approximately four acre area is currently composed of a roughly level, manufactured terrace, with a manufactured 2:1 fill slope below it on the north and west sides, and a 2:1 cut slope face behind and above it on the east. The ridge behind it extends to an elevation of approximately 1,400 feet. The vertical expansion area does not currently have any significant native vegetation and is used as a staging area for sorting green waste. Under existing approvals, fill would be placed to elevate the existing bench to 1,360 feet; under the requested vertical expansion, fill would be placed to elevate the bench to 1,386 feet. The 2:1 fill slope face along the north and west margins of the vertical expansion area would be carried up to the ultimate elevation of 1,386 feet. The ridge behind the area would remain higher than the fill surface. There are no unique visual features within the currently proposed expansion area that would be impacted by project activities. The fill slope would be distinguishable from adjacent natural areas due to the lighter color of the fill soil until revegetation occurs. Revegetation will serve to visually blend the currently proposed expansion area with the surrounding landscape. The following mitigation measure would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measures

Since the currently proposed project results in a change to the visual character of the currently proposed vertical expansion area, Mitigation #1 as provided below applies to the currently proposed project.

1. The applicant shall prepare a complete engineered grading plan and revegetation plan to State standards for the currently proposed vertical expansion area for review and enforcement by the LEA/EA and the Lead Agency. The grading plan must illustrate how the proposed fill will be contoured to blend in with existing adjacent topographical forms and features. The revegetation plan shall also be prepared using species that are consistent with adjacent grassland and scrub habitat types. The plan must be consistent with related Title 27 erosion control standards and is subject to review and approval by the County Planning and Building Department.

Residual Impacts

All potentially significant adverse aesthetic impacts associated with the currently proposed project can be reduced to a level of insignificance or avoided entirely with the implementation of a revised version of the previously adopted Mitigation Measure #1 noted above (Class II Impact).

B. Agricultural Resources

Project Impacts

The currently proposed project is confined to module 3 and a portion of module 4 and areas outside modules 6 and 7 and therefore does not create a conflict with the existing Williamson Act contract. The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts upon agricultural resources.

Mitigation Measures

Given the lack of any potentially significant adverse impacts to agricultural resources, no additional mitigation measures are required.

Residual Impacts

Impacts to agricultural resources associated with the currently proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

C. Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Project Impacts

The currently proposed project is confined to module 3 and a portion of module 4 and areas outside modules 6 and 7 and does not involve the operation of the LFG flare. Landfill operations within a four acre area are considered to have an insignificant impact upon regional air pollutant generation. The currently proposed project does not result any potentially significant air quality or greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts.

Mitigation Measures

Given the lack of any potentially significant air quality or greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts, no additional mitigation measures are required.

Residual Impacts

Air quality and greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts associated with the currently proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

D. Biological Resources

Project Impacts

The currently proposed project is confined to module 3 and a portion of module 4 and areas outside modules 6 and 7 which are highly disturbed due to ongoing landfill operations and therefore does not have the potential to remove existing oak trees or established non-native plants. Landfill operations within a four acre area are considered to have an insignificant impact upon downstream water quality. The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts upon biological resources.

Mitigation Measures

Given the lack of any potentially significant impacts to biological resources, no additional mitigation measures are required.

Residual Impacts

Impacts to biological resources associated with the currently proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

E. Cultural Resources

Project Impacts

The currently proposed project is confined to module 3 and a portion of module 4 and areas outside modules 6 and 7 which are highly disturbed due to ongoing landfill operations and therefore does not have the potential to unearth and/or damage cultural resources. The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts upon cultural resources.

Mitigation Measures

Given the lack of any potentially significant impacts to cultural resources, no additional mitigation measures are required.

Residual Impacts

Impacts to cultural resources associated with the proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

F. Geology and Soils

Project Impacts

Landfill operations within a four acre area are considered to represent an insignificant impact upon downstream water quality. The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts upon geology and soils.

Mitigation Measures

Given the lack of any potentially significant impacts to geology and soils, no additional mitigation measures are required.

Residual Impacts

Impacts to soils and geology associated with the currently proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

G. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Project Impacts

The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts due to hazards and hazardous materials.

Mitigation Measures

Given the lack of any potentially significant impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials, no additional mitigation measures are required.

Residual Impacts

Impacts due to hazards and hazardous materials associated with the currently proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

H. Water

Project Impacts

The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts due to the degradation of surface and groundwater quality.

Mitigation Measures

Given the lack of any potentially significant impacts related to water, no additional mitigation measures are required.

Residual Impacts

All potentially adverse water impacts associated with the currently proposed project are insignificant (Class III Impact).

I. Noise

Project Impacts

The currently proposed project results in potentially significant noise impacts due to the stockpiling of solid waste to an elevation of 1,386 feet. This potentially significant impact is similar to but does not exceed the potential noise impacts associated with the previously approved project. Implementation of the following mitigation measure would reduce this potential impact to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measures

Since the currently proposed project involves landfill activities to an elevation of 1,386 feet, Mitigation #12 as provided below applies to the currently proposed project.

12. To reduce potential noise impacts on off-site residences, the applicant shall implement one of the two following mitigation options:

- a. Limit the hours of operation for material recycling grinding equipment to the hours of 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and provide all residents living within 500 feet of all road segments that are located within a ¼ mile radius of the landfill boundary with a contact number for the landfill manager for which complaints can be reported regarding noise. In the event that corrective action is inadequate, a second contact number shall also be provided for the environmental monitor for which unresolved noise complaints can be reported; or
- b. Place fill in the low points of surrounding ridges. The environmental monitor shall monitor compliance quarterly.

Residual Impacts

All potentially significant adverse noise impacts associated with the currently proposed project can be reduced to a level of insignificance or avoided entirely with the implementation of a revised version of the previously adopted Mitigation Measure #12 noted above (Class II Impact).

J. Public Services/Utilities

Project Impacts

The currently proposed project results in potentially significant solid waste impacts due to the litter nuisance along roadways adjacent to the landfill. This potentially significant impact is similar to but does not exceed the potential solid waste impacts associated with the previously approved project. Implementation of the following mitigation measure would reduce this potential impact to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measures

Since the currently proposed project results in an incremental contribution to off-site litter generation and required litter control, Mitigation Measure #14 as provided below applies to the currently proposed project. No additional mitigation measures are required.

14. The applicant shall prepare a litter control plan for review and approval by the County Public Works Department and the County Public Health Department which reduces littering of local roadways resulting from transport of uncovered loads to the landfill and litter blowing off the landfill site. The environmental monitor shall review the litter control program and upon initial commencement of the project,

conduct quarterly site visits to verify that it has been implemented. The plan shall include, but not be limited to the following components:

- a. Issue a written "one-time" warning and provide education material to the driver of any vehicle with an uncovered load;
- b. Post signage at the landfill entrance and/or scale house stating this policy;
- c. Provide weekly removal of trash and litter on the sections of Homestead Road, South El Pomar Road, El Pomar Road and Templeton Road located within one mile of the landfill entrance; and
- d. Provide all residents living within 500 feet of all road segments that are located within a 1/4 mile radius of the landfill boundary with a contact number for the on-site landfill manager for which complaints can be reported regarding trash on these roadways. In the event that corrective action is inadequate, a second contact number shall also be provided for the environmental monitor for which unresolved litter complaints can be reported.

Implementation of the plan shall be monitored through the contact agency noted in item "d" of this mitigation with corrective action to be taken by that agency for violations of this mitigation measure.

The plan must be reviewed and approved by the County Public Works Department and the County Public Health Department prior to exceeding the currently permitted solid waste elevation of 1,360 feet in module 3 and a portion of module 4 or prior to placement of a soil liner within areas outside the original landfill boundary established in 1970.

Residual Impacts

All potentially significant adverse impacts to public services/utilities associated with the currently proposed project can be reduced to a level of insignificance or avoided entirely with the implementation of a revised version of the previously adopted Mitigation Measure #14 noted above (Class II Impact).

K. Transportation and Circulation

Project Impacts

The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant transportation and circulation impacts.

Mitigation Measures

Since the currently proposed project does not generate any additional traffic travelling to and from the landfill, this mitigation measure does not apply to the currently proposed project. No additional mitigation measures are required.

Residual Impacts

All potentially adverse transportation and circulation impacts associated with the proposed project are insignificant (Class III Impact).

III. EXISTING SETTING AND CURRENT LANDFILL OPERATIONS

A. Existing Setting

1. On-Site Conditions

The Chicago Grade Landfill (also referred to as the “landfill”) is located at 2290 Homestead Road in the Atascadero-Templeton area in northern San Luis Obispo County. (See Figure 1, Regional Map). The landfill is east of the City of Atascadero and 22 miles north of the City of San Luis Obispo. U.S Highway 101 is approximately two miles to the west and State Route 41 is approximately one mile to the south of the landfill as shown in Figure 2, Site Vicinity.

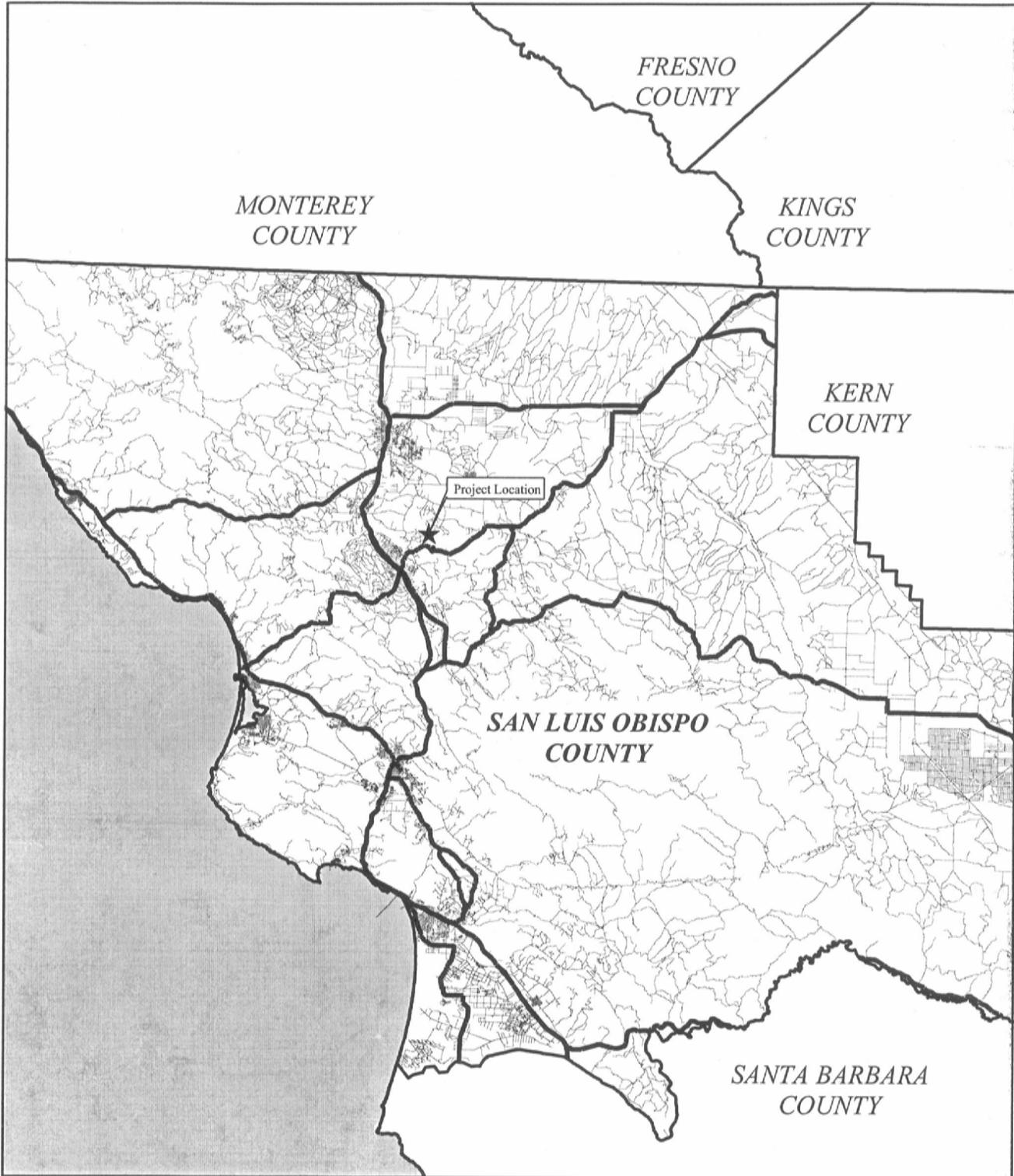
The landfill is situated in a rural hilly area on the east side of the valley formed by the Salinas River. The Salinas River is approximately one and one-half mile to the west. The landfill is situated in a small east-west trending canyon, which merges immediately north of the landfill with a larger east-west trending unnamed canyon. Site elevation ranges between 1,000 and 1,500 feet above mean sea level (MSL). Figure 3, Aerial Photograph, depicts features on the project site and on surrounding properties.

The landfill is located within a 45.4 acre parcel identified as APN 034-212-006. The parcel is owned and operated by Chicago Grade Landfill and Recycling, LLC. Landfill disposal activities are currently permitted only on 76.4 acres. An adjacent 142.6-acre parcel under the same ownership is currently under a Williamson Act contract. The entire landfill facility is 188 acres.

Primary access to the Chicago Grade Landfill is provided via Homestead Road. Homestead Road is a rural, two-lane paved road that extends between State Route 41 on the south and South El Pomar Road on the north. All traffic traveling to and from the landfill uses either State Route 41, a two-lane roadway located to the south, or South El Pomar Road, a two-lane rural County road located to the north. Both roadways lead to Homestead Road and the entrance to the landfill.

San Luis Obispo County is in a Mediterranean climate regime. Average temperatures range from the 70’s during the summer, and the 50’s during the winter. Average annual precipitation is approximately 16 inches. The rainy season usually occurs from November to April.

The principal geologic feature in the vicinity of the landfill is the Rinconada Fault. The Rinconada Fault is located approximately one mile west of the landfill, which is estimated to have a maximum magnitude of 7.3. The Hosgri and San Andreas faults are located 24 miles west and east of the landfill, respectively.



***Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion***



***Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion***

FIGURE 3
Aerial Photograph



Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion

Addendum Environmental Impact Report

Douglas Wood & Associates, Inc.

The landfill is located within the Salinas Hydrologic Unit east of, and approximately 400 feet above, the Salinas River floodplain. Drainage from the landfill and surrounding canyons flows westerly to the Salinas River. The landfill is not located within a flood hazard area.

Topography is relatively level near the landfill entrance on the west with elevations increasing to the east. Figure 4, Site and Surrounding Topography, illustrates general topographic conditions at the landfill and on surrounding properties. The Chicago Grade Landfill property is comprised largely of non-native annual grassland. On-going cattle and horse grazing activities in the area have degraded the biological value of the native grassland. Most of the vegetation consists of non-native annual grasses and forbes.

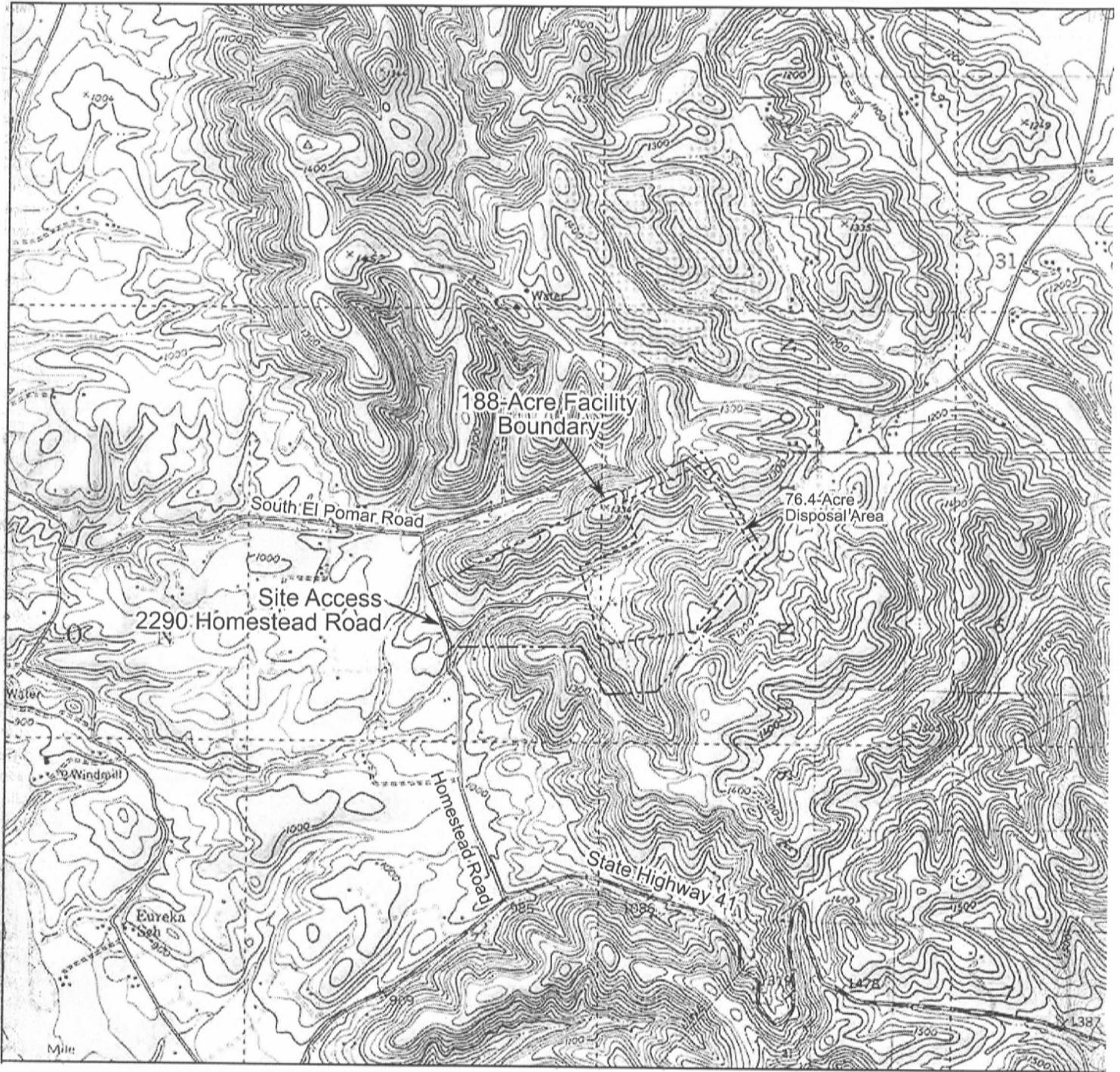
2. Surrounding Land Uses

Land uses within a one-quarter mile radius of the landfill consist primarily of low-density rural residential, agricultural (primarily grazing) and undeveloped open space areas. Approximately 11 single-family residences are located along Homestead Road west of the landfill and have direct access to Homestead Road. In addition, a total of approximately 25 homes are located to the west of the landfill along Black Hawk, Red Fox, Bluebird Hill, and Trails End Roads. These homes also have access to Homestead Road. Most of these homes to the west also have access to Templeton Road, which is located to the west, via Bluebird Hill Road. Agricultural and open space uses are generally located to the north of the landfill. Rural density residential uses are located to the south, west, and northeast. Figure 3, Aerial Photograph, illustrates surrounding land uses as well as the County of San Luis Obispo General Plan land use designations that apply to these areas.

A 500-foot buffer has been established within a separate parcel on property also owned by the Chicago Grade Landfill. This buffer area surrounds the existing Chicago Grade Landfill and provides a separation between the landfill operations and surrounding land uses (See Figure 5, Existing Site Plan).

B. Current Landfill Operations

The Chicago Grade Landfill began operations in 1970. Since that time, the facility has served self-hauled public and commercial customers and transfer trailers. The facility's service area has historically extended from northern Santa Barbara County to southern Monterey County, including all of San Luis Obispo County. Between 1970 and 2015, approximately 4,270,959 cubic yards of solid waste have been placed in the landfill. This total includes both solid waste and daily cover. The annual average tonnage of waste delivered to the landfill has varied over time. From 1976 to 1986, the annual tonnage delivered generally increased from about 10,000 tons to about 38,000 tons per year in 1986. From 1986 to 1994, annual



LEGEND

- Approximate Location of 76.4-Acre Disposal Area
- Property Line

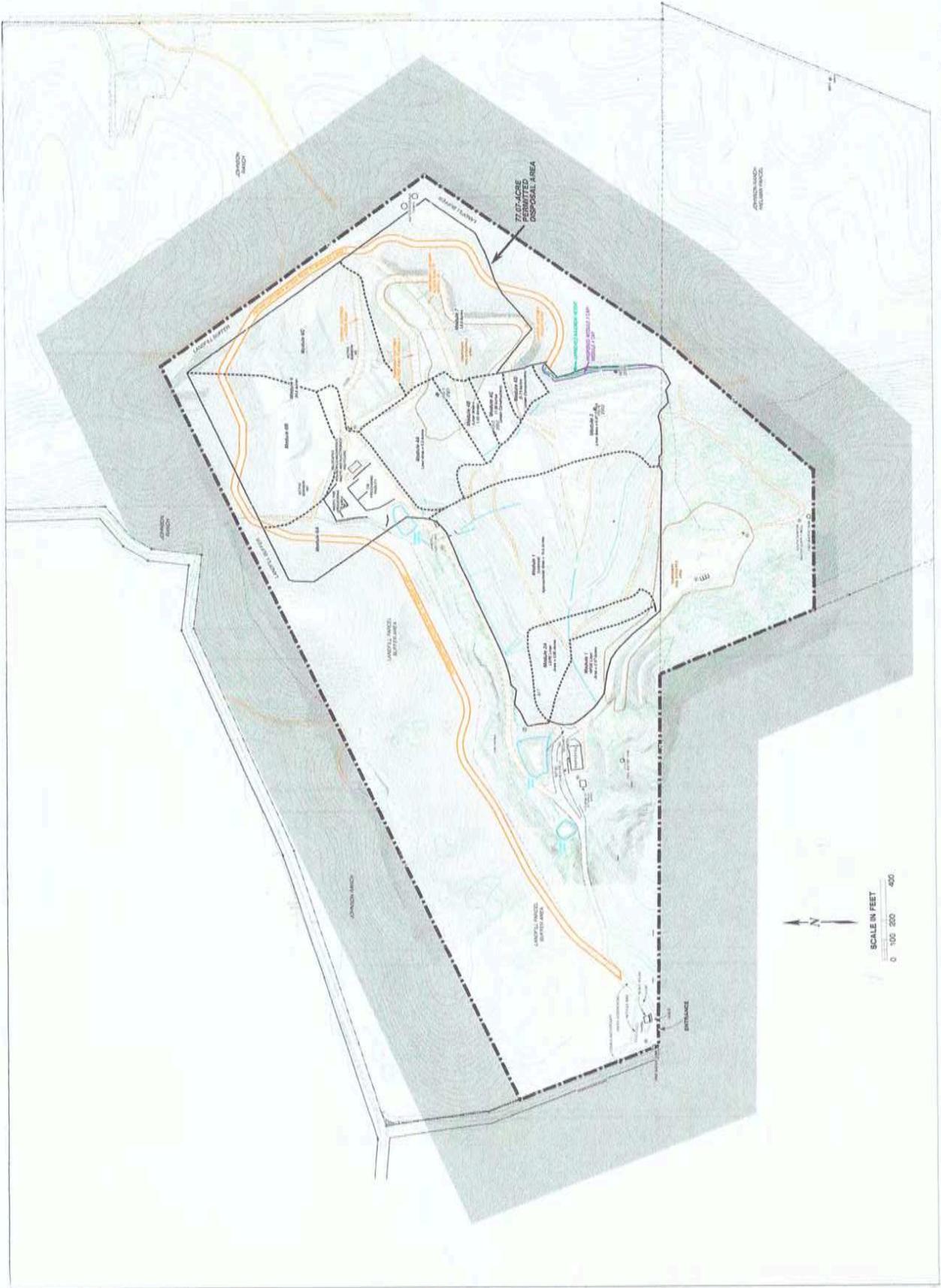


SCALE IN FEET



Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion

FIGURE 5
Existing Site Plan



*Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion*

Addendum Environmental Impact Report

Douglas Wood & Associates, Inc.

tonnage volumes decreased from 38,000 tons in 1986 to a low of 10,000 tons in 1994. Since 1994, annual tonnage has steadily increased. In 2003, the landfill handled 83,393 tons of waste. By 2010, the landfill handled 59,199 tons of solid waste with additional tonnage being recycled. Since 2010, the landfill has handled an increase of solid waste volumes to 93,483 tons of solid waste in 2015 (not including recycled tonnage). This increase in solid waste volume is due to several factors, including the increase of rates at other landfills serving the Central Coast and the overall economic recovery (see Table 1, Total Waste Tons Accepted).

The number of vehicles entering and leaving the site generally mirrors the historic trends in solid waste disposal. From 1976 to 1986, the number of annual vehicle trips increased from approximately 38,000 vehicle trips to a high of about 86,000 in 1986. Vehicle trips declined to about 28,000 in 1994. By 2003, annual vehicle trip totals had increased to approximately 49,592 annual trips. The annual vehicle trips totaled 55,179 trips in 2005 and 39,582 annual trips in 2010. By 2015, annual vehicle trips totaled approximately 49,100 vehicle trips. Of these totals, commercial haulers accounted for 7,868 vehicle trips while public vehicle traffic accounted for 41,232 vehicle trips.

1. Solid Waste Facility Permits

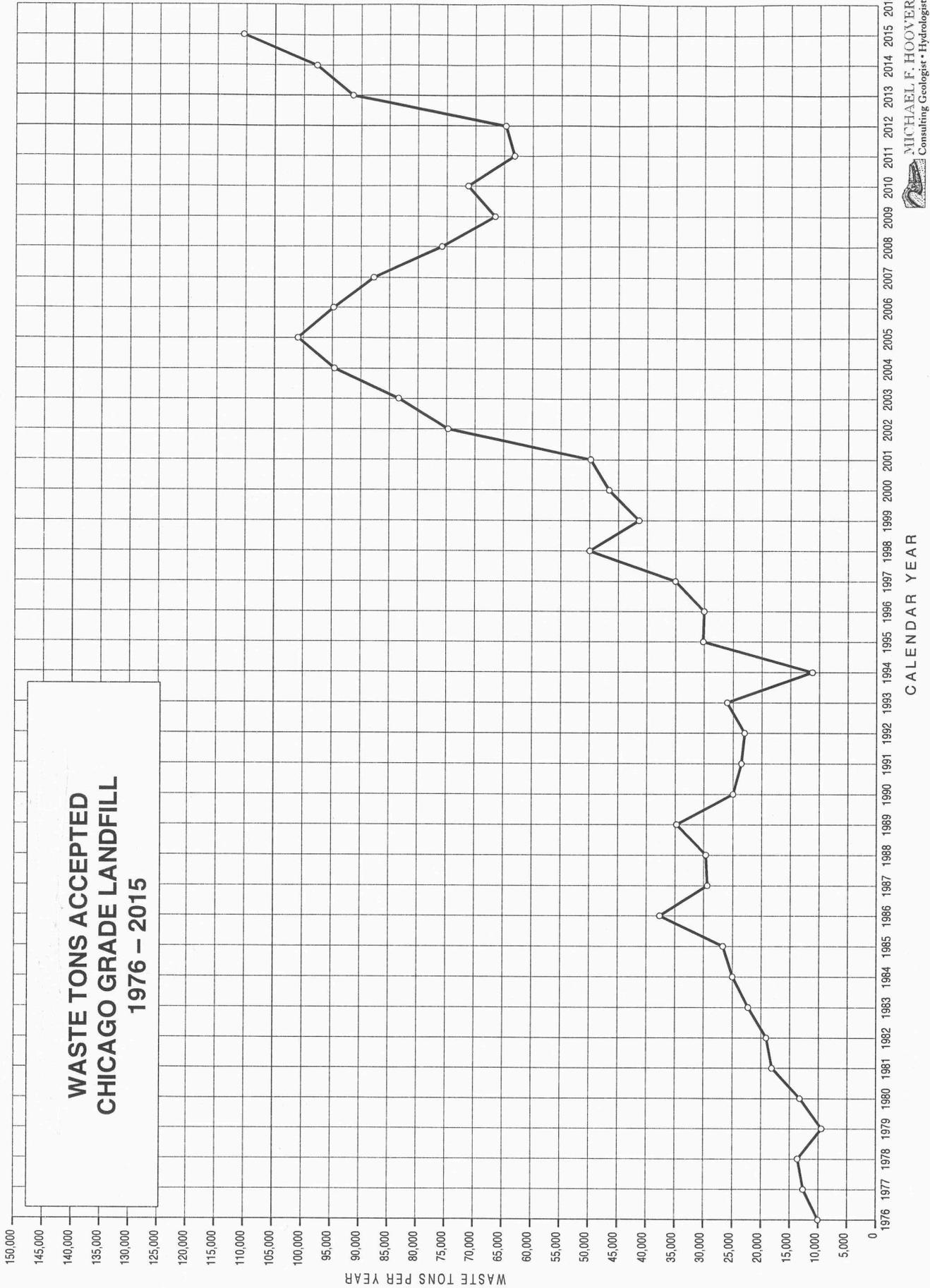
The Chicago Grade Landfill is classified by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (CCRWQCB) as a Class III landfill approved for discharge of non-hazardous solid waste. The landfill is operated by Chicago Grade Landfill, Inc. under a California Solid Waste Facilities Permit (SWFP). The current SWFP was issued by CalRecycle in 2012. The Chicago Grade Landfill has a total permitted acreage of 188 acres of which 76.4 acres can be used for disposal activities. Solid waste is currently placed within a 38.44 acre waste disposal area that is within the 76.4 acre permitted area. The waste disposal area is divided into modules 1 through 5. The location of the existing permitted waste disposal area, the location of the existing permitted modules and other site features are shown on Figure 5, Existing Site Plan.

In addition to the existing SWFP permit, the Chicago Grade Landfill holds three permits from the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (SLOAPCD). These permits include: Permit to Operate No. 547-1 for the landfill gas flare; Permit to Operate No. 648-2 for the tire shredder and Permit to Operate No. 548-2 for an on-site bio fuel generator. The CCRWQCB also has discretionary review authority for landfill operations through its Waste Discharge Requirements.

2. Facilities and Structures

Ancillary facilities at the Chicago Grade Landfill include administrative offices, yard waste drop off area, maintenance facilities, environmental monitoring and control facilities, a wood waste grinder and a scale-house structure. (See Figure 5, Existing Site Plan.) Wastewater is disposed through an on-site septic system. Non-potable

TABLE 1



MICHAEL F. HOOVER
Consulting Geologist • Hydrologist

FIGURE 1

water is provided by on-site wells. The water is piped to four interconnected 10,000-gallon storage tanks.

3. Waste Disposal Process

Customers enter the landfill via Homestead Road and stop at the landfill scale-house. At the scale-house, loads are weighed and inspected for potential hazardous content and geographic location of origin. Random load checks and segregation of recyclables occur at the disposal areas. Waste compaction activities generally begin an hour after the gate opens and continue throughout the day. Soil or an alternative daily cover is transported to the disposal area on an intermittent basis. Metal, wood, tires and household hazardous waste pulled from the waste stream are temporarily stockpiled near the disposal area and are hauled to the materials storage areas. On-site roads are watered with non-potable water and/or leachate as required for dust control. Concurrent with these activities, workers may be grading new modules or placing liners on modules already excavated.

As of January, 2016, the landfill capacity is approximately 3,005,888 tons or 4,268,361 cubic yards of solid waste. The landfill currently accepts up to 500 tons of solid waste per day. The facility currently accepts commercial and self-hauled household waste, yard (green) waste, and construction demolition waste, as well as solid waste in compactor trucks, roll-off boxes, and transfer trailers. Waste tires are recycled both on-site and off-site while segregated metals are generally hauled off-site. Wood/green waste is generally shredded or ground on-site and then shipped off-site. Tire chips may be used on-site for cover or may be hauled off-site. Municipal sewage sludge is accepted on a case-by-case basis. Recycle bins are used by the public on a voluntary basis.

The landfill is not permitted to accept hazardous waste, however, the County Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA) accepts household hazardous wastes such as paint, oil, cleaning products, etc. at its Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Facility (PHHWF), which is located within the landfill property.

Solid waste is currently being placed in modules 3 and 4. There is a borrow pit in the modules 3 and 4 from which soil is excavated to provide daily cover for the disposal waste. Under the applicant's current operating plans, a portion of the borrow materials needed for daily cover for permitted modules 3 and 4 would be excavated from an area located outside the permitted disposal footprint. As a result of current landfill operations, modules 3 and 4 are reaching their capacity. Once capacity is reached within these modules, the entire 38.44 acre waste disposal area covered by the original 1970 permit will have also reached capacity. Although the 2007 Conditional Use Permit issued by the County allows expansion into modules 6 and 7, the landfill operators are not ready to proceed with expansion of landfill operations into these modules due to the unexpected increase in solid waste volume received at the landfill.

Up to 240 vehicles per day are permitted into the landfill facility each weekday, not including employees and maintenance vehicles. This equates to a total of 480 daily vehicle trips into and out of the facility. On weekends, a daily maximum of 280 vehicles are permitted into the facility, not including employees and maintenance vehicle trips. This equates to 560 total vehicle trips in and out of the facility. The vehicles include both commercial and private haul vehicles.

Chicago Grade Landfill is open to the public from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sundays. At approximately 3:00 p.m., the last public and commercial customers are allowed to enter the facility and the entry gates are closed. Shortly thereafter, final waste compacting activities begin followed by placement of cover. Between 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., transfer trailers may deposit waste concurrent with daily cover and compacting efforts. The daily waste area is compacted and covered between 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

A more detailed landfill schedule is provided in Table 2, Chicago Grade Landfill Hours.

TABLE 2

Chicago Grade Landfill Hours

	Monday Friday	thru	Saturday	Sunday
Open to Public & Commercial Haulers	7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.		7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Facility Waste Staff	7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.		7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Facility Recycle Staff	6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.		6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Transfer Trailers	7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.		7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.	Closed to Transfer Trailers
Household Hazardous Waste Facility	Closed		11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Closed

4. Environmental Controls/Monitoring Systems

The Chicago Grade Landfill currently implements environmental controls and monitoring systems to prevent potential adverse environmental impacts on groundwater and surface water quality, soils, air quality, and public health and safety from leachate, landfill methane gas, and soil erosion.

Leachate Control - Leachate control systems are regulated by CalRecycle. Leachate is contaminated liquid created when moisture percolates through a mass of solid waste. As moisture percolates through the waste, it picks up pollutants contained in the waste. Leachate that has percolated to the bottom of a landfill module is prevented from percolating through the soil below the module by a liner system. Liner systems typically consist of geotextiles and/or plastics that overlie a layer of compacted clay along the bottom and sides of a landfill. Liners are designed to prevent liquids (leachate) from leaving the landfill and impacting off-site groundwater resources.

Leachate that is contained above the liner is collected via a series of pipes that direct the leachate into an on-site storage tank. When the tank is full, the leachate is transferred to an on-site water truck and may be applied on-site for dust control. Leachate may only be applied for dust control on waste modules that are underlain by an approved liner system, which prevents percolation of leachate into soil or groundwater. The leachate is applied at locations and during times when it would be least likely to come into contact with members of the public. Leachate that cannot be utilized on site is delivered to the local wastewater treatment plant.

Storm Water and Sediment Control - A storm water collection and sedimentation control system is currently in place at the site. A series of corrugated metal pipes have been installed at the base of the existing landfill modules and within other portions of the site to collect storm water runoff. Runoff is directed to one of two existing sediment basins. Within these basins, particulates and other materials contained in the runoff settle out of the water and the remaining water is discharged to the existing intermittent stream channel that traverses a portion of the site. The landfill operator currently implements a range of measures to reduce erosion potential. These include placement of sludge on slopes, hydroseeding and slope revegetation, and placement of wood chips on soil.

Groundwater Monitoring - The Chicago Grade Landfill currently utilizes a series of wells to monitor groundwater quality and detect any contaminants that may have leaked into the groundwater system. There are three existing monitoring wells on site.

Landfill Gas System - Landfill gas (LFG) is typically created in a closed landfill module as a by-product of the decomposition of solid waste, especially organic wastes. LFG is typically highly flammable and explosive. The existing gas collection system consists of a series of vertical and horizontal collection pipes installed in the landfill. The pipes collect and direct LFG to an existing, approved and permitted landfill gas flaring unit where the gas is burned off. Gas monitoring wells are installed at the periphery of the permitted landfill footprint to detect potential migration of LFG to areas outside of the landfill modules.

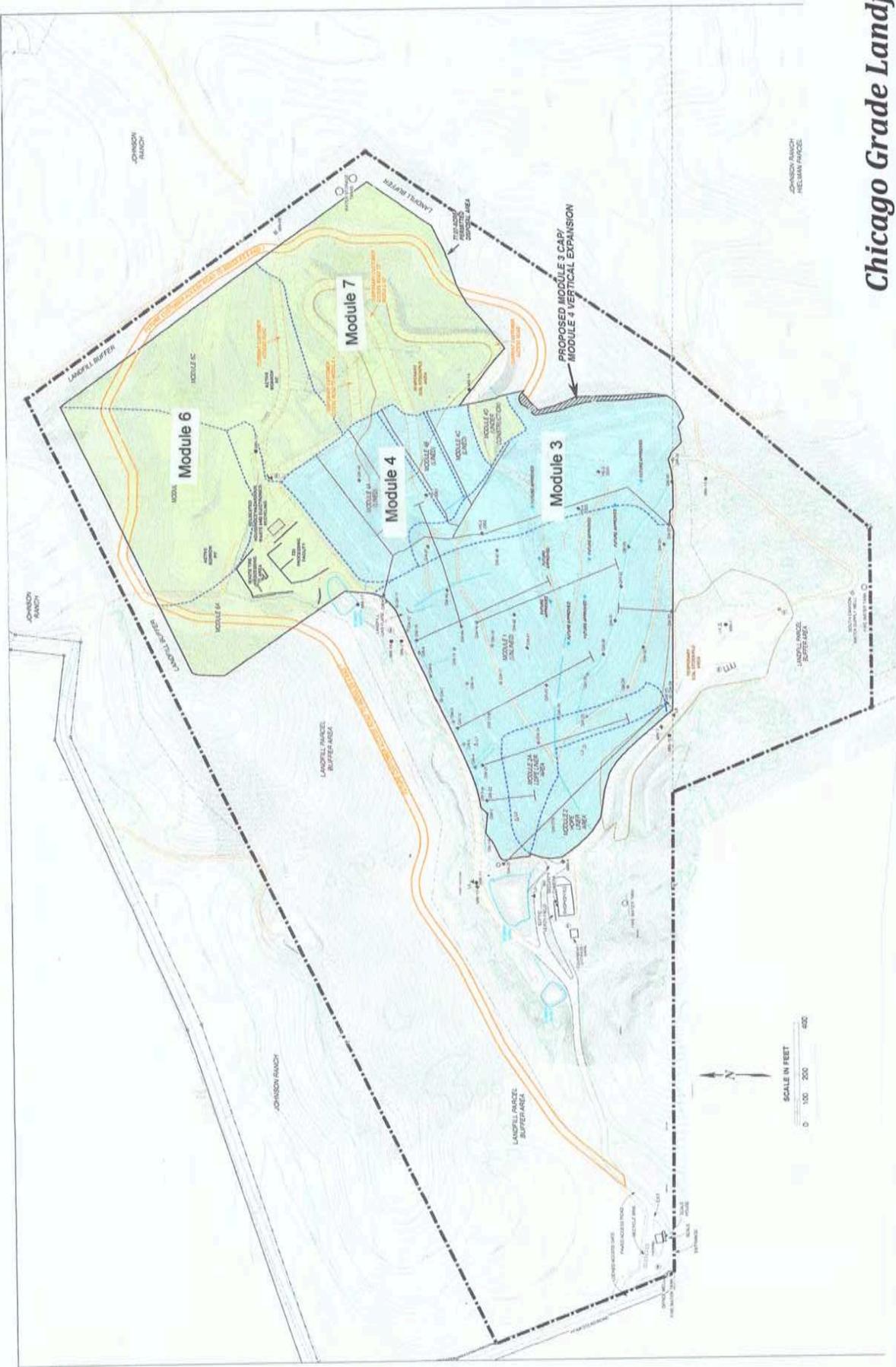
C. 2007 County Approval

The County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors on February 27, 2007 approved an expansion of the landfill to include modules 6 and 7, which were previously outside the 1970 landfill boundary. The County approved a Conditional Use Permit (DRC 2003-00026) that expanded the permitted solid waste disposal area from 38.44 acres to 82.74 acres, an increase of 44.30 acres. The expansion area proposed at that time involved the addition of modules 6 and 7 with a specific elevation limitation of 1,360 feet applicable to all future disposal modules within the landfill. The approved State Solid Waste Facilities Permit issued by the California Integrated Waste Management Board also includes a 1,360 elevation limitation. The approved Conditional Use Permit also identified a specific point, that being when a liner is placed beyond the original 1970 solid waste disposal area boundaries, where the conditions of approval within the 2007 Conditional Use Permit take affect.

Figure 6, Landfill Boundaries and Proposed Expansion Area, indicates the location of the approved expansion area comprised of modules 6 and 7. Module 6 contains 24.8 acres while module 7 comprises 12.6 acres. The approved Conditional Use Permit creates capacity for disposal of an additional 3,098,775 tons of solid waste in these modules. At a projected two percent annual growth in demand for disposal capacity, the service life of the landfill would be extended by approximately 29 years to the year 2045. Module 6 would be constructed and filled first with module 7 to follow. Module 6 is anticipated to have a service life of approximately 15 years while module 7 would have an additional 14 years of service life under the currently-approved Conditional Use Permit. The new modules would include a liner system, leachate collection system, storm drainage collection and treatment system, a groundwater monitoring system and a methane gas collection system consistent with existing improvements installed in the previously-permitted modules 2, 3, and 4. As a result of the applicant's proposal to lower the permitted maximum height of landfill operations from an elevation of 1,400 feet to 1,360 feet, module 5 was eliminated from the long-range landfill operating plans. The approved Conditional Use Permit also: 1) allowed the placement of fill material along the northern boundary of module 6 and the northeastern boundary of modules 6 and 7 to provide a better visual screen of landfill operations from off-site vantage points, and 2) created an additional 100-foot wide buffer at the periphery of the expansion area into modules 6 and 7. In combination with the existing 500-foot buffer, a total buffer of 600 feet between modules 6 and 7 and the nearest existing residences would be created.

Approval of the Conditional Use Permit did not result in any changes to the prior landfill operations consistent with the State permit. No changes to the daily peak and annual volumes of accepted solid waste would result. The peak daily number of vehicle trips into and out of the landfill, those being 480 total vehicle trips on weekdays and 560 total vehicle trips on weekends remained unchanged.

FIGURE 6
Landfill Boundaries and Proposed Expansion Area



Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion
Addendum Environmental Impact Report

IV. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Proposed Project

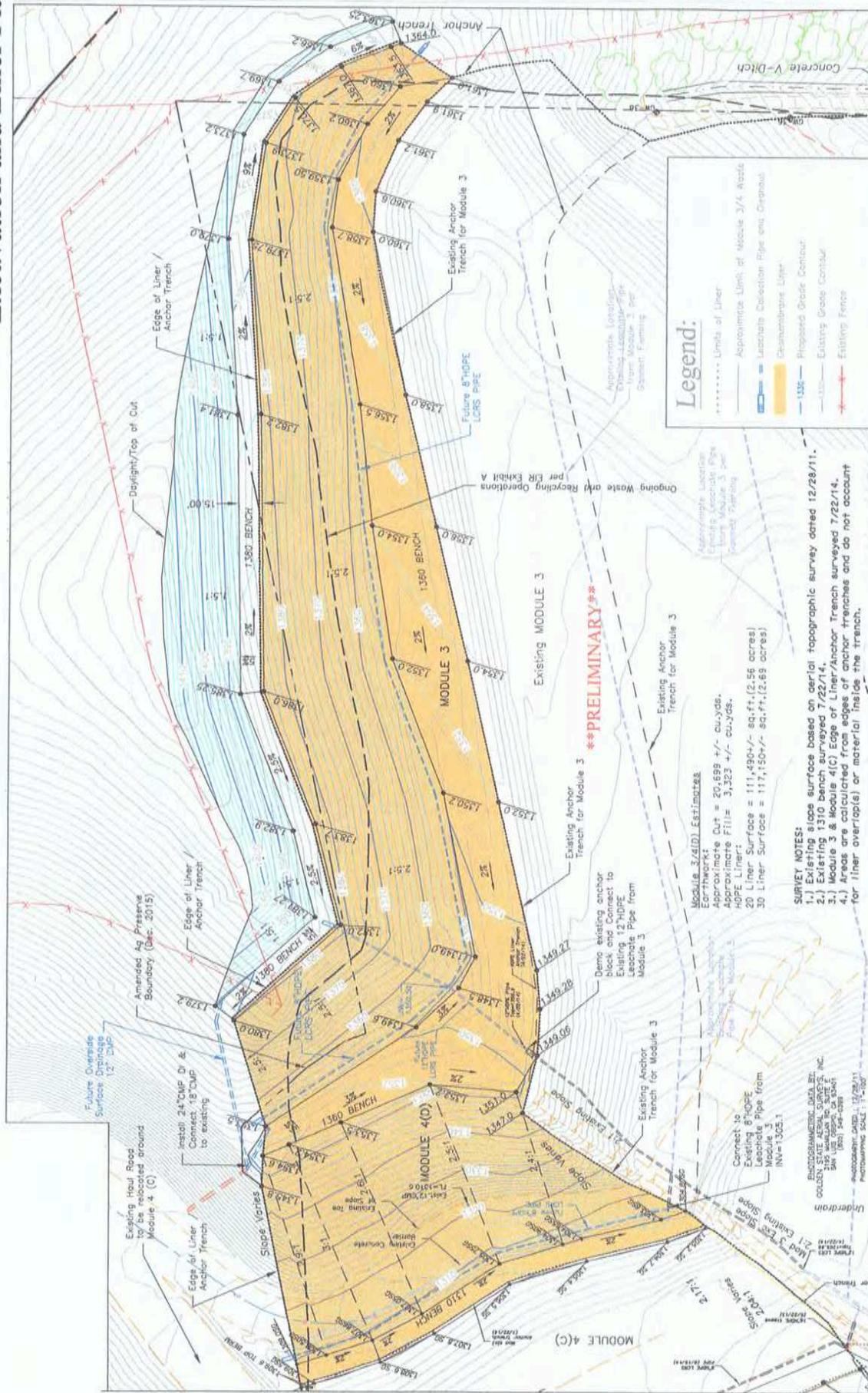
As previously noted, ongoing landfill operations in landfill modules 3 and 4, are currently reaching capacity. Once capacity is reached within these modules, the entire 38.44 acre waste disposal area covered by the original 1970 California Solid Waste Facilities Permit will have also reached capacity. Although the 2007 Conditional Use Permit (DRC 2003-00026) issued by the County allows expansion into modules 6 and 7, the landfill operators are not ready to proceed with expansion of landfill operations into these modules due to the unexpected increase in solid waste volume received at the landfill. As previously noted, the Chicago Grade Landfill has experienced a significant increase in solid waste volume due to several factors including the increase of rates at other landfills serving the Central Coast and the overall economic recovery (see Table 1, Total Waste Tons Accepted). This circumstance has generated the need for the currently proposed project vertical expansion.

The currently proposed vertical expansion is intended to gain additional, short-term capacity in module 3 and a portion of module 4 of the landfill. This additional capacity will be created with the following proposed actions: (1) increase the currently approved 1,360 foot elevation limit to a 1,386 foot elevation over approximately four acres within module 3 and a portion of module 4 and (2) allow site preparation (i.e., placement of liner) within areas outside the approved 1970 landfill boundary but not into the modules 6 or 7 that were established in 2007 (See Figure 7, Excavation and Liner Plan). These actions will be implemented through a modification of the approved Conditional Use Permit (DRC 2003-00026) including modified conditions of approval.

The currently proposed vertical expansion will create approximately 166,500 cubic yards of additional waste storage space or eight additional months of storage operations at the landfill. After completion of landfill operations associated with the proposed vertical expansion to elevation 1386, the four acre area within module 3 and a portion of module 4 will be covered with low permeability clay soils and revegetated.

Once these modules reach capacity within the proposed vertical expansion to the 1386 foot elevation, solid waste operations will then shift to module 6. This will result in the implementation of the conditions of approval associated with the 2007 County approval (DRC 2003-00026) for landfill expansion into modules 6 and 7. With approval of the currently proposed vertical expansion, this transfer of waste operations from the 38.44 acre disposal area to modules 6 and 7 is anticipated to occur in 2017 or 2018.

FIGURE 7
Excavation and Liner Plan



Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion
Addendum Environmental Impact Report

Legend:

- Limits of Liner
- Approximate Limit of Module 3/4 Abutts
- Leachate Collection Edge and Contour
- Leachate Collection Edge and Contour
- Approximate Limit of Module 3/4 Abutts
- Existing Grade Contour
- Existing Fence

Legend:

- Limits of Liner
- Approximate Limit of Module 3/4 Abutts
- Leachate Collection Edge and Contour
- Leachate Collection Edge and Contour
- Approximate Limit of Module 3/4 Abutts
- Existing Grade Contour
- Existing Fence

MODULE 3/4(C) ESTIMATES
Earthwork:
Approximate Cut = 20,699 +/- cu.yds.
Approximate Fill = 3,223 +/- cu.yds.
20 Liner Surface = 111,490 +/- sq.ft. (2.56 acres)
30 Liner Surface = 117,150 +/- sq.ft. (2.69 acres)

SURVEY NOTES:
1.) Existing slope surface based on aerial topographic survey dated 12/28/11.
2.) Existing 1310 bench surveyed 7/22/14.
3.) Module 3 & Module 4(C) Edge of Liner/Anchor Trench surveyed 7/22/14.
4.) Areas are calculated from edges of anchor trenches and do not account for liner overlap(s) or material inside the trench.

The currently proposed vertical expansion will not result in any increase in customer traffic to and from the landfill. A maximum of 240 vehicles on weekdays and 280 vehicles on weekends currently enter and depart the landfill each day. Similarly, the proposed project will not result in any change in the annual waste tonnage inflow or in the hours of landfill operations.

According to the project applicant, these proposed actions are necessary in order to allow adequate time to prepare module 6 for future (2017 or 2018) expansion of landfill operations. Approval of the proposed vertical expansion will delay access into module 6 for an additional year in order to complete final site preparation.

B. Project Objectives

The basic objective of the currently proposed project is to provide additional landfill capacity in module 3 and a portion of module 4 of the landfill in order to allow adequate time to prepare modules 6 and 7 of the landfill for future expansion of landfill operations. In so doing, the currently proposed project will also achieve the following objectives:

- 1) increase the ability of the Chicago Grade Landfill to serve increasing demands for solid waste disposal in San Luis Obispo County;
- 2) allow landfill operations to continue within module 3 and a portion of module 4 thereby insuring the uninterrupted provision of solid waste disposal services and
- 3) increase short-term landfill capacity without changing the landfill operations, creating the need for additional on-site infrastructure facilities or generating any additional significant environmental impacts.

C. Project Timing

As previously noted, the currently proposed project will provide adequate time to prepare landfill module 6 for expansion of future landfill operations. Introduction of additional solid waste into module 3 and a portion of module 4 up to an elevation of 1,386 feet will proceed immediately upon approval of the proposed actions by the County of San Luis Obispo and the State of California (see Section IV.D., Required Approvals and Applicable Regulations). Future expansion into module 6 is anticipated to occur in the year 2017 or 2018.

D. Required Approvals and Applicable Regulations

The currently proposed vertical expansion will be implemented through the modification of the previously approved (2007) Conditional Use Permit (DRC 2003-00026) with modified conditions of approval. In order to approve the currently proposed vertical expansion, the County of San Luis Obispo will also be required to certify as complete pursuant to the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (Sections 1500 et. seq.) this Addendum EIR.

Acting as the Lead Agency, several County of San Luis Obispo agencies are expected to also be involved in the consideration of the currently proposed project. These agencies include the County Building and Planning Department, as well as the Environmental Health Division of the County Health Department, the County Public Works Department and the County Air Pollution Control District. Other involved agencies include, but may not be limited to, the Central California Regional Water Quality Control Board, the County of San Luis Obispo Integrated Waste Management Authority and CalRecycle.

Several State regulations from the California Code of Regulations are applicable to the Chicago Grade Landfill. These regulations relate to the future closure of the landfill and include:

Title 27, Subchapter 2, Article 3, Section 21190(b).

The site design shall consider one or more proposed uses of the site toward which the operator will direct its efforts or shall show development as open space, graded to harmonize with the setting and landscaped with native shrubs or low maintenance ground cover.

Title 27, Subchapter 2, Article 3, Section 21090(a)(3)(A) 1.

Closed landfills shall be provided with an uppermost cover layer consisting of erosion resistance via a vegetative layer consisting of not less than one foot of soil.

Title 27, Subchapter 2, Article 3 Section 20190(a)(4)(D).

The landfill will provide a final layer of erosion-resistant vegetation. In order to insure adequate maintenance for this vegetative cover, a plan shall be developed which addresses plant fertilization, irrigation, elimination of species that violate the rooting depth limit, replanting and irrigation system maintenance.

It should be noted, however, that modules 1 through 4 of the landfill are not required to be closed. In the short term, these modules will have intermediate cover placed over them.

E. Consistency with Local and Regional Plans

CEQA Guidelines Section 15125(d), states that an EIR shall discuss any inconsistencies between the currently proposed project and applicable general plans and regional plans. The local and regional plans that include the project site or issues relating to the currently proposed project include the following: San Luis Obispo County General Plan and Land Use Ordinance; CalRecycle policies; Regional Water Quality Control Board policies; the Clean Air Plan; the Regional Transportation Plan and the North County Area Plan/South El Pomar-Estrella subarea.

The currently proposed vertical expansion is consistent with all of the above noted local and regional plans.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

As indicated in Section I. Introduction and Purpose, this Addendum EIR has been prepared to introduce technical changes and additions to the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Chicago Grade Landfill Expansion Development Permit (ED03-438). The Final EIR for the project was certified by the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors on February 27, 2007. This Addendum EIR addresses changes and additions that were not analyzed in the previously certified Final EIR for the Chicago Grade Landfill Expansion. The currently proposed changes or additions (to be referred to herein as the “currently proposed project” or the “currently proposed vertical expansion”) involve: 1) increasing the currently permitted maximum height of solid waste from elevation 1,360 to elevation 1,386 over an area of approximately four acres, and 2) allowing site preparation, that being placement of a soil liner within areas outside the original landfill boundary established in 1970 but not into the expanded solid waste disposal area that was approved in 2007. These additional actions will create approximately 132,000 cubic yards of additional solid waste storage or approximately eight additional tons of solid waste storage operations at this location.

This Addendum EIR analyzes the impacts of the currently proposed project in terms of the following environmental issues: aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, water, noise, public services/utilities, and transportation/circulation. The discussion of each environmental issue within this section adheres to the format noted below:

1. Existing Conditions – The existing environment within and in the vicinity of the project site is discussed from both a local and regional perspective.
2. Project Impacts – The nature and extent of project impacts relative to the issue areas noted above are analyzed in this section. This section will also designate all impacts as significant, potentially significant but mitigable, insignificant or beneficial pursuant to the previously identified thresholds of significance. Two categories of project impacts are summarized within each environmental issue. Impacts that pertain to the previously approved (2007) project are summarized under the heading “Previously Identified Impacts.” The impact assessments of the previously approved project are based upon the County’s CEQA thresholds of significance for each issue. In most cases, these impacts apply to the entire Chicago Grade Landfill area and operations. Any additional impacts associated with the currently proposed project that are in addition to the previously identified project impacts are listed under the heading “Additional Project Impacts.”
3. Mitigation Measures – For many environmental issues, mitigation measures are provided in order to reduce potential environmental impacts to a level of

insignificance. Two categories of mitigation measures are provided in this Addendum EIR for each environmental issue. Mitigation measures that pertain to the previously approved (2007) project are summarized under the heading "Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures." In most cases, these mitigation measures apply to the entire Chicago Grade Landfill area and operations. Any revised mitigation measures associated with the currently proposed project are listed under the heading "Revised Mitigation Measures" and are shown in italics. Mitigation measures identified in the previously certified Final EIR were incorporated into the previous project as conditions of approval of the Conditional Use Permit (DRC 2003-00026). In order to accommodate the current project, modifications to mitigation measures were necessary.

4. Residual Impacts - After evaluation of the identified project impacts and proposed mitigation measures, the residual (or remaining) significant impacts are identified. The residual impacts are classified according to the following criteria:

- Class I Impact - Significant adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated to a level of insignificance.
- Class II Impact - Potentially significant adverse impacts which can be reduced to a level of insignificance or avoided entirely with the implementation of proposed mitigation measures.
- Class III Impact - Adverse impacts which are found not to be significant.
- Class IV Impact - Project impacts which are considered to be positive or of benefit to the site or the adjacent environment.

The following environmental analysis is intended to: 1) identify any additional impacts associated with the currently proposed project; 2) identify any additional measures to mitigate these additional impacts and 3) provide a summary of the impacts and mitigation measures discussed within the previously certified Final EIR for the Chicago Grade Landfill Expansion Development Permit certified in 2007. This information is intended to provide the opportunity to compare project impacts and mitigation measures associated with the previously certified Final EIR as the environmental baseline with the impacts and mitigations associated with the currently proposed project. Having information presented in this manner provides the reader with a clear delineation of the nature and extent of the impacts of the prior approval as compared to the impacts of the currently proposed project.

A. Aesthetics

The following discussion of aesthetic impacts of the currently proposed project is based upon the “Chicago Grade Landfill Vertical Expansion, Visual Impact Assessment” (dated May 23, 2016) prepared by Dudek Associates.

1. Existing Conditions

In accordance with County guidelines, visual impacts of a project are based upon views from public vantage points. The Chicago Grade Landfill is located approximately two miles east of U.S. Highway 101 and approximately one mile north of State Route 41. The landfill is not visible from either of these public roadways. The landfill is one and one-half mile east of the Salinas River and represents a very minor element of the background views or scenic vistas from the areas west of the landfill. The landfill is located within a low rolling hill system characterized by numerous hills, canyons and ridgelines. These topographic features effectively block a large portion of the views from outside the landfill.

The currently proposed vertical expansion area consists of a relatively level bench forward from the placement of solid waste and cover in module 3 and a portion of module 4. There is currently no vegetation within the level bench area. Below the bench area is a 2:1 slope oriented in a west and northwest direction which appears light brown in color due to the lack of a vegetative cover. East of and above the bench area is an upward slope which extends to a ridge at an elevation of 1,410 feet. The face of this ridge was previously graded to a 2:1 slope and currently contains introduced grasses.

Portions of the Chicago Grade Landfill as well as the currently proposed vertical expansion area are visible from public roads in the vicinity of the landfill, including South El Pomar Road and Templeton Road. Views from Homestead Road are obscured by intervening landforms and trees. The visible portions of the currently proposed vertical expansion area currently appear lighter in color than undisturbed area due to ongoing grading activities associated with current landfill operations.

The nearest scenic corridor to the Chicago Grade Landfill is State Highway 41 located approximately one mile to the south. The landfill is not visible from State Route 41 and is not within the scenic corridor of this roadway.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion did not create an aesthetically incompatible

site open to public view; introduce a use within a scenic view open to public view; change the visual character of an area; create glare or night lighting which may affect surrounding areas or impact unique geological or physical features. However, the approved expansion of landfill activities results in a change in the visual character of the areas proposed for surface grading and excavation activities.

b. Additional Project Impacts

The visual character of the currently proposed vertical expansion area would change marginally as a result of the currently proposed project. The approximately four acre area is currently composed of a roughly level, manufactured terrace, with a manufactured 2:1 fill slope below it on the north and west sides, and a 2:1 cut slope face behind and above it on the east. The ridge behind it extends to an elevation of approximately 1,400 feet. The vertical expansion area does not currently have any significant native vegetation and is used as a staging area for sorting green waste. Under existing approvals, fill would be placed to elevate the existing bench to 1,360 feet; under the requested vertical expansion, fill would be placed to elevate the bench to 1,386 feet. The 2:1 fill slope face along the north and west margins of the vertical expansion area would be carried up to the ultimate elevation of 1,386 feet. The ridge behind the area would remain higher than the fill surface. There are no unique visual features within the currently proposed expansion area that would be impacted by project activities. The fill slope would be distinguishable from adjacent natural areas due to the lighter color of the fill soil until revegetation occurs. Revegetation will serve to visually blend the currently proposed expansion area with the surrounding landscape. The revised Mitigation Measure #1 discussed below under "Revised Mitigation Measures" would reduce this potential impact to a less than significant level.

In order to depict the potential visual impacts of the proposed project, four visual photo simulations were prepared. These simulations illustrate whether or not the proposed vertical expansion area would be visible and whether the proposed vertical expansion would be a dominant or subordinate component of the entire visual field of the observer. Viewpoints were selected where views of the existing permitted landfill area were considered the "worst case" along public roadways closest to the project site. The viewpoints are located on South El Pomar Road, Templeton Road, and Homestead Road and are illustrated in Figure 8, Photo Key Map.

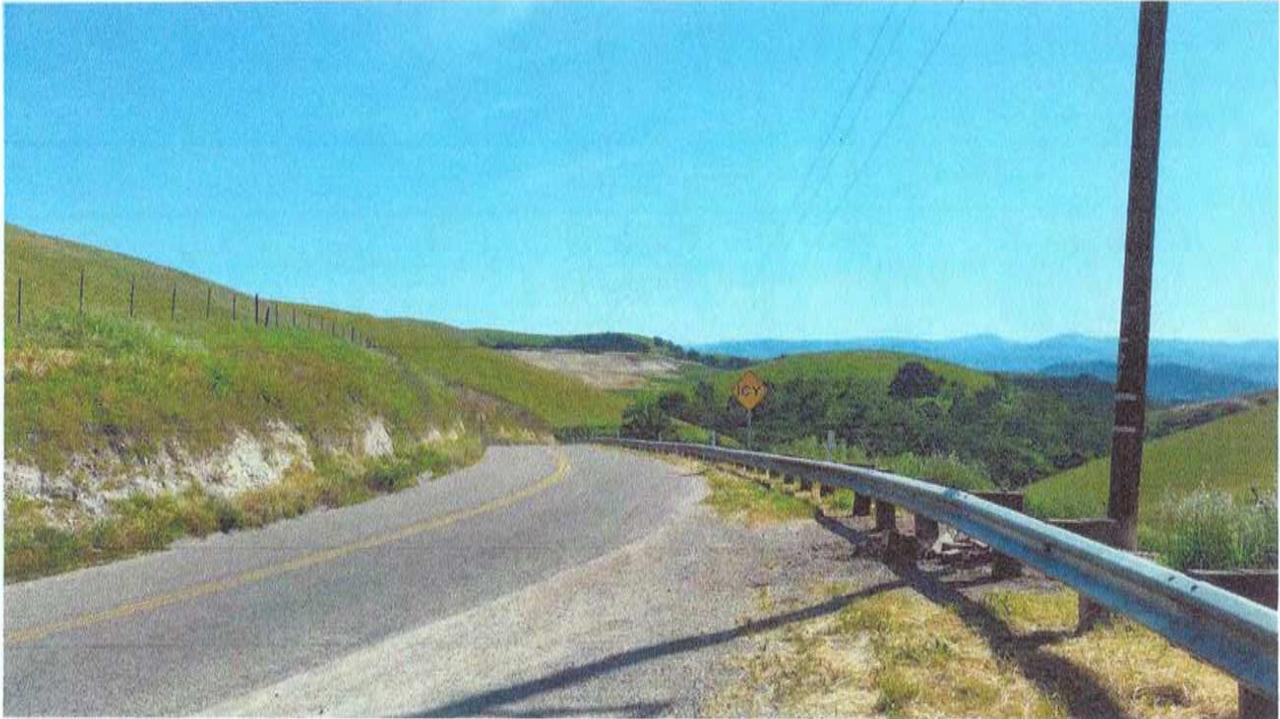
View from South El Pomar Road

Near the intersection of South El Pomar Road and Summit Road, existing permitted landfill operations are visible through a saddle between two hills as shown in the upper photograph of Figure 9A labeled "Existing View". The operations remain visible as one travels southwest along South El Pomar Road until an intervening

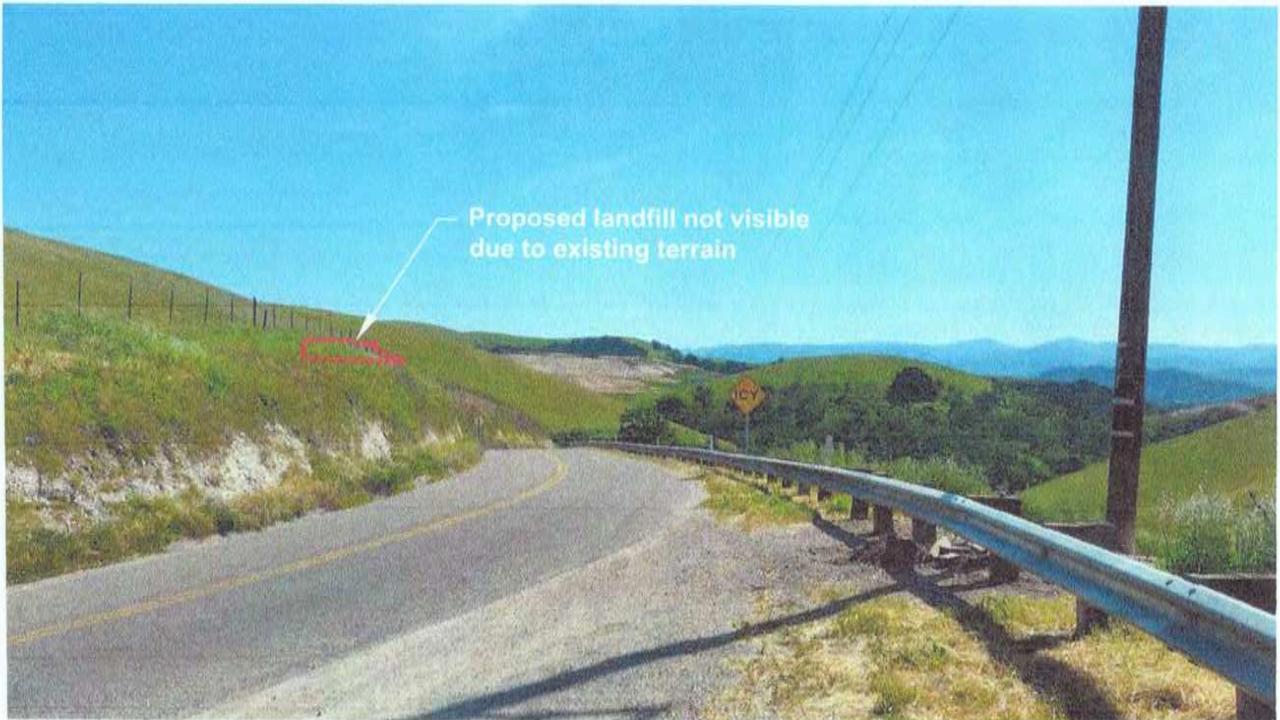
FIGURE 8
Photo Key Map



***Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion***



Existing View



Approved Maximum Elevation 1360

***Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion***

ridge blocks views of the landfill. The visible area of existing landfill operations is denoted by light brown soils, approximately centered in the photo.

The second photograph in Figure 9A depicts fill to the currently approved height of 1,360 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area. The dashed outline of a fill area "behind" the intervening ridge indicates that this element would not be visible in this view shed. Because of an intervening ridge, fill placed up to the approved elevation of 1,360 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area would not be visible to a traveler along South El Pomar Road.

The first photograph in Figure 9B depicts fill to the proposed height of 1,386 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area. Because of the intervening ridge, fill placed up to the proposed elevation of 1,386 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area would still not be visible to a traveler along south El Pomar Road.

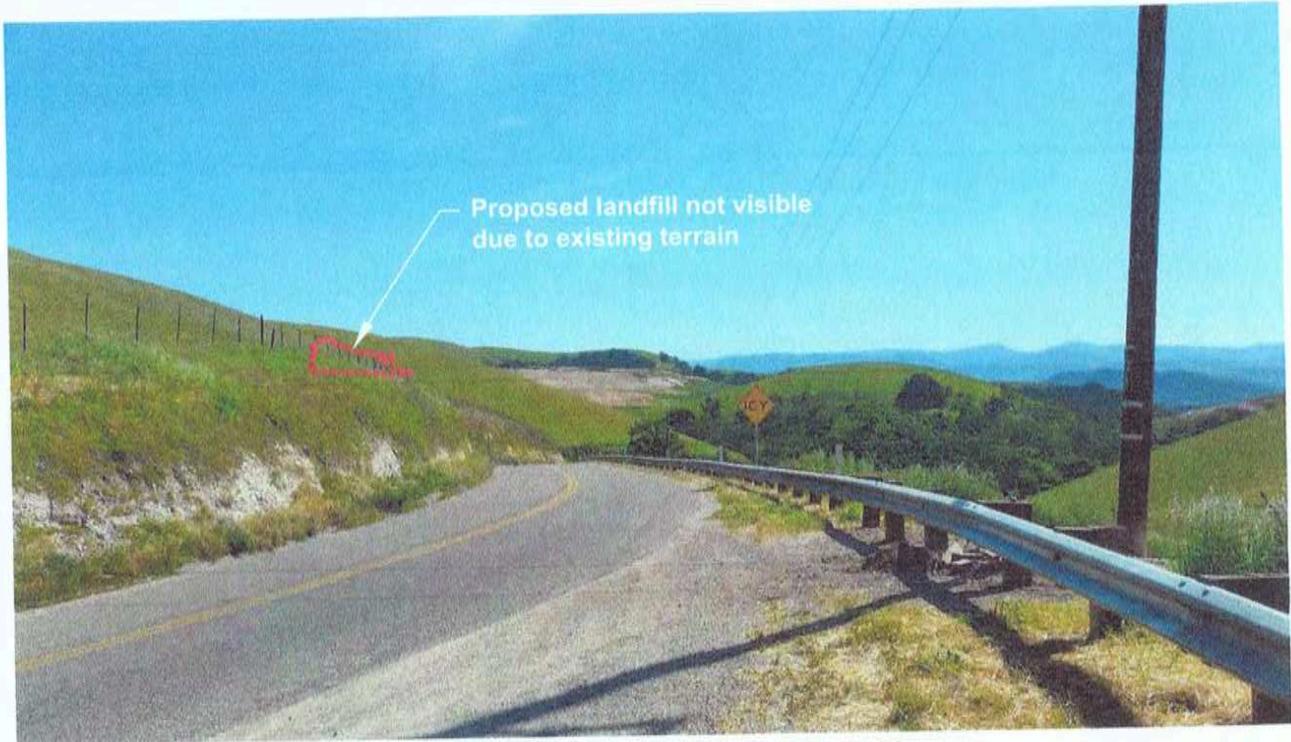
The second photograph in Figure 9B depicts the "mitigated condition". This condition would result from adherence to the following mitigation measure which requires revegetation of all landfill areas as part of final reclamation activities. In this photograph, the previous brown colored slope visible from South El Pomar Road would be covered with introduced grasses and herbs to match the groundcover in adjacent slope areas.

View from 2995 Templeton Road

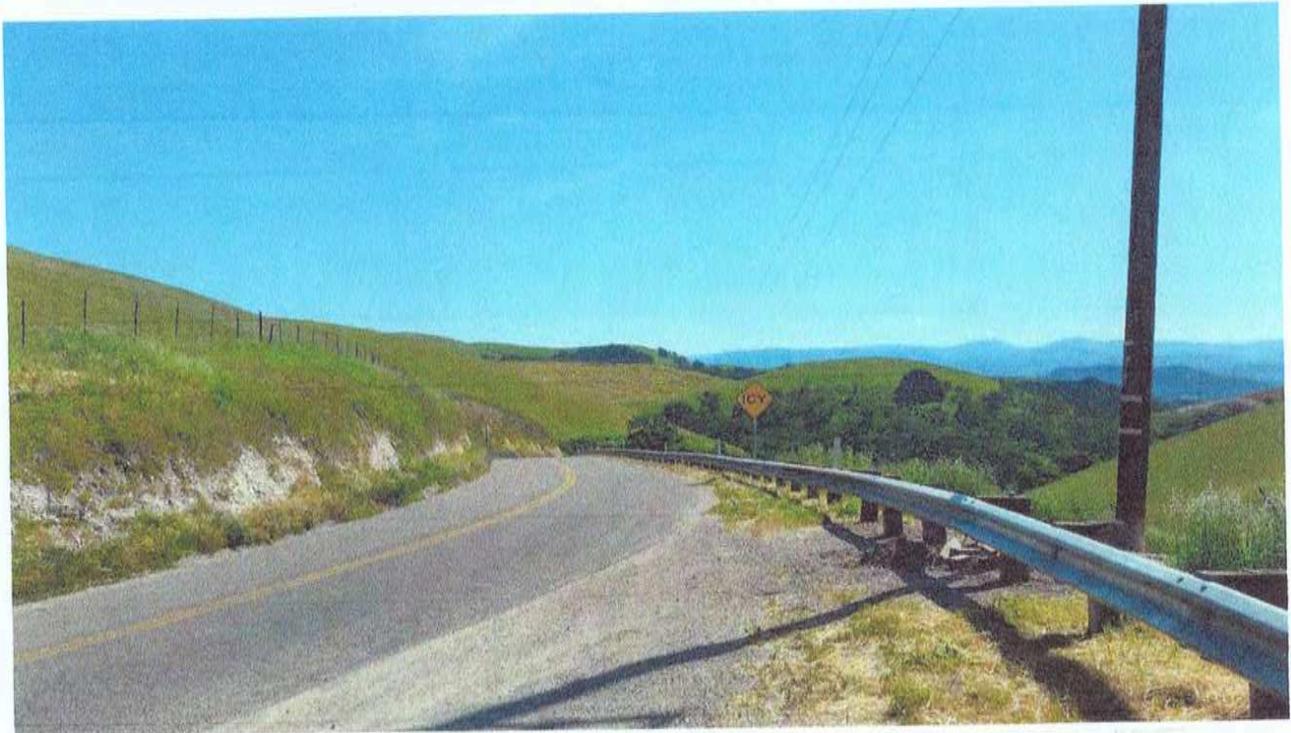
The viewpoint at 2995 Templeton Road is approximately 1.5 miles west of the existing landfill. As shown in the top photograph of Figure 10A, Existing View, existing landfill operations are barely visible on the horizon in the center of the photo. The existing landfill operations appear as a thin buff-colored horizontal stripe, above which is a thinner light green stripe, above which sits a line of clouds. From this vantage point, the existing landfill operations are a subordinate feature in the background, made unobtrusive by trees in the mid-field range of the photograph.

The second photograph in Figure 10A depicts fill to the approved height of 1,360 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area. The green stripe above the fill area is imperceptibly thinner, as compared to the existing view photograph. The average observer would likely not notice the visual alteration of the landfill operations area with fill to the approved elevation of 1,360 as compared to the existing view.

The first photograph in Figure 10B depicts fill to the proposed height of 1,386 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area. In this photograph, the thin green stripe above the existing operations area is replaced with a light brown stripe, depicting the new elevation of fill which replaces the currently vegetated slope face at the upper elevations of the proposed vertical expansion area. The vertical expansion area is a subordinate element in the background from this vantage point.

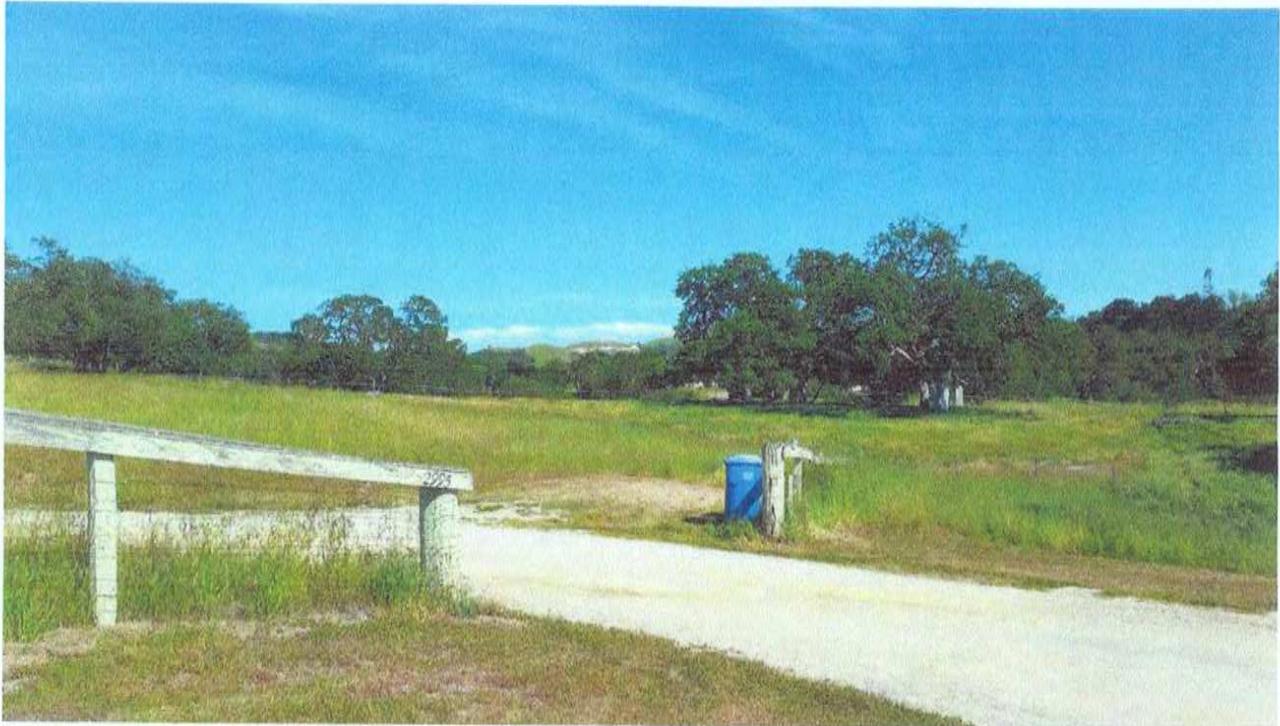


Proposed Maximum Elevation 1386

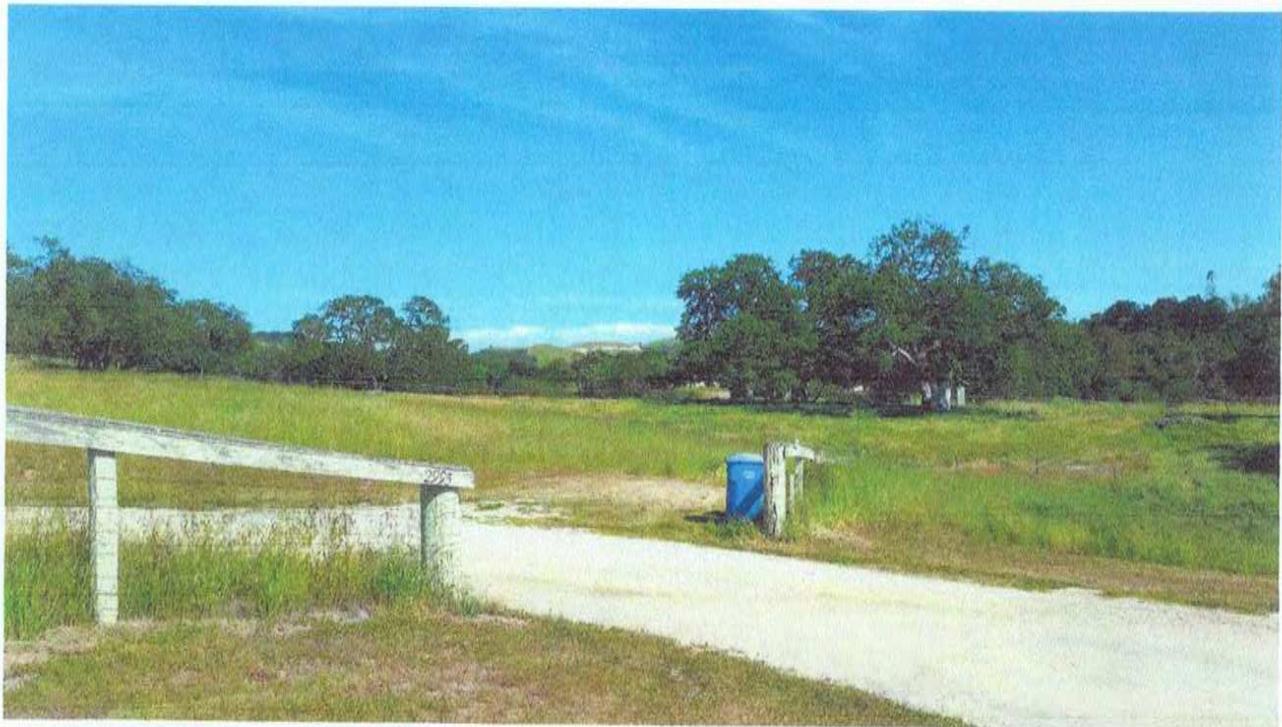


Landfill with Mitigation

***Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion***

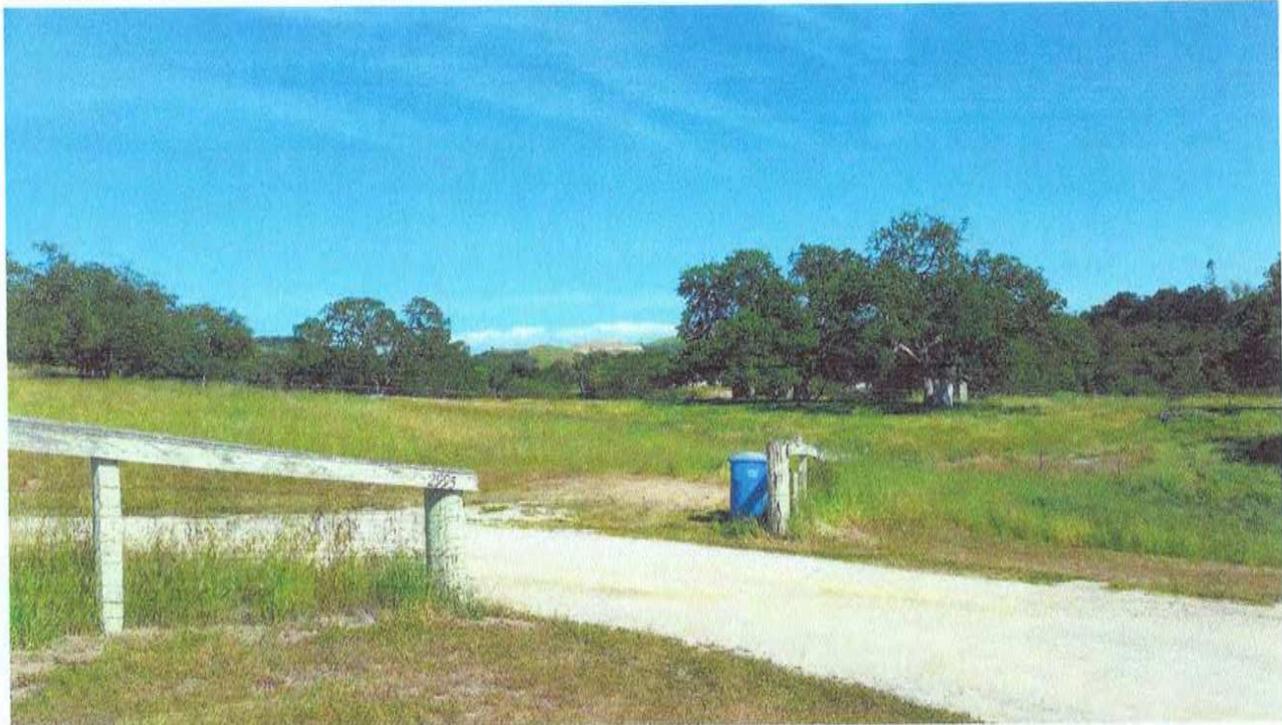


Existing View



Approved Maximum Elevation 1360

***Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion***



Proposed Maximum Elevation 1386



Landfill with Mitigation

***Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion***

The second photograph in Figure 10B depicts the “mitigated condition”. This condition would result from adherence to the following mitigation measure which requires revegetation of all landfill areas as part of final reclamation activities. In this photograph, the previous light brown colored slope visible from 2995 Templeton Road would be covered with introduced grasses and herbs to match the groundcover in adjacent slope areas.

View from 2475 Templeton Road

The viewpoint at 2475 Templeton Road is approximately 2.3 miles west of the existing landfill. As shown in the top photograph of Figure 11A, Existing View, existing landfill operations are a barely distinguishable feature on the horizon, in the center of the photograph. The existing landfill operations appear as a thin buff-colored horizontal stripe, above which appears to be an equally thin stripe of green; the visible landfill area accounts for only 5% to 6% of the total horizon, rendering it a substantially subordinate element not likely to be noticed by the average observer. A grassy ridge and trees in the mid-range dominate the view, with trees along the horizon being a secondary element from this vantage point.

The second photograph in Figure 11A depicts fill to the approved height of 1,360 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area. Alterations to the visible portion of the vertical expansion area of the landfill with fill to the approved elevation of 1,360 would be indistinguishable from the existing view from this vantage point.

The first photograph in Figure 11B depicts fill to the proposed height of 1,386 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area. The thin green stripe above the existing operations area is replaced with a light brown stripe. From this vantage point, an observer may be able to discern the visual alteration of the vertical expansion area, with fill placed to the 1,386 elevation. The visual change to this subordinate visual component on the horizon to a moving traveler would in all likelihood not be noticed, given the dominant near field and mid-field visual components including grassy ridge and trees.

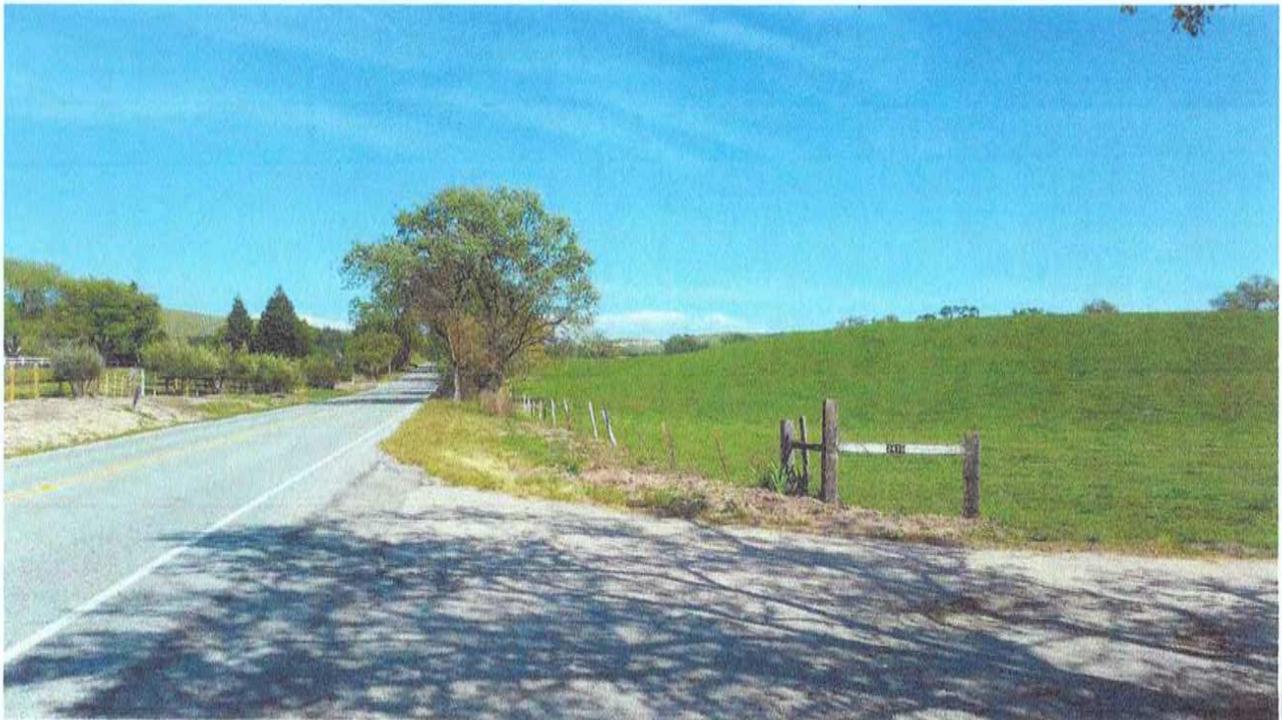
The second photograph in Figure 11B depicts the “mitigated condition”. In this photograph, the previous light brown colored slope barely distinguishable on the horizon from the 1995 Templeton Road vantage point would be covered with introduced grasses and herbs to match the ground cover in adjacent slope areas.

View from Landfill Entrance (Homestead Road)

At the intersection of Homestead Road and the entry to the Chicago Grade Landfill, existing permitted landfill operations are visible through a saddle between two hills as shown in the upper photograph of Figure 12A. The visible area of existing landfill operations is denoted by light brown soils, just to the right of center in the

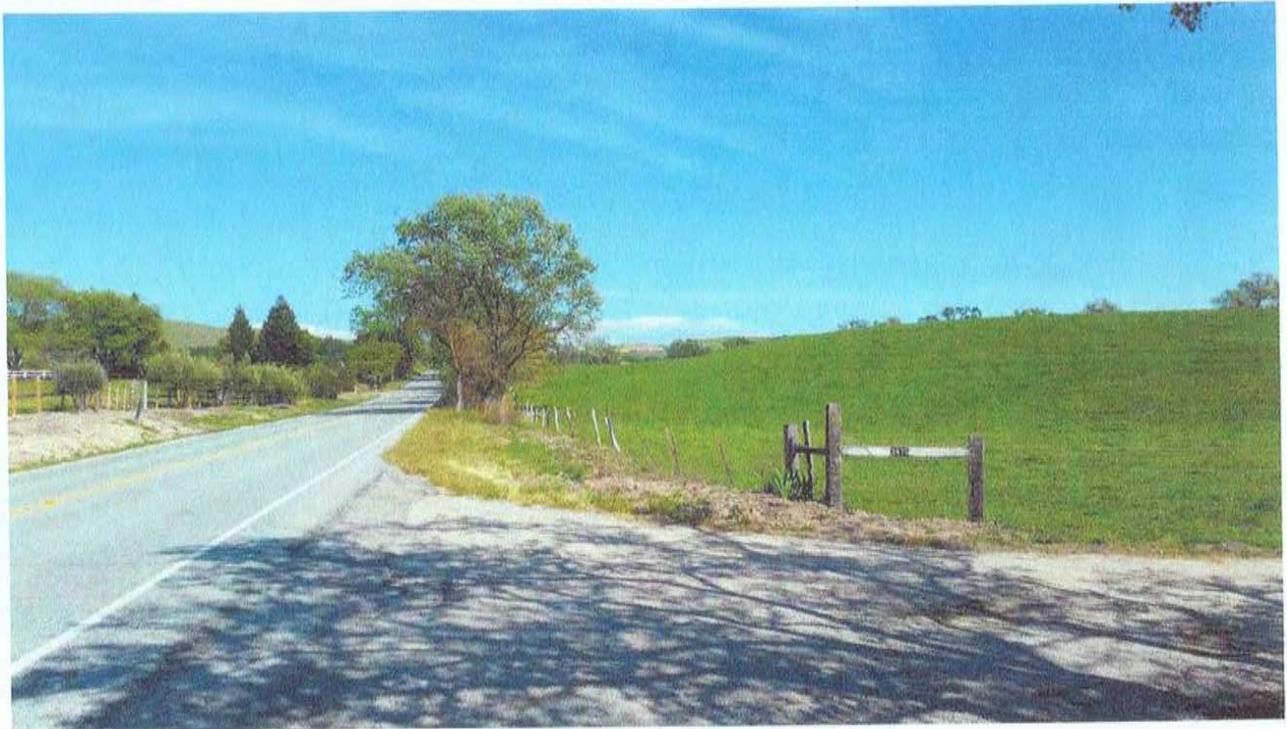


Existing View

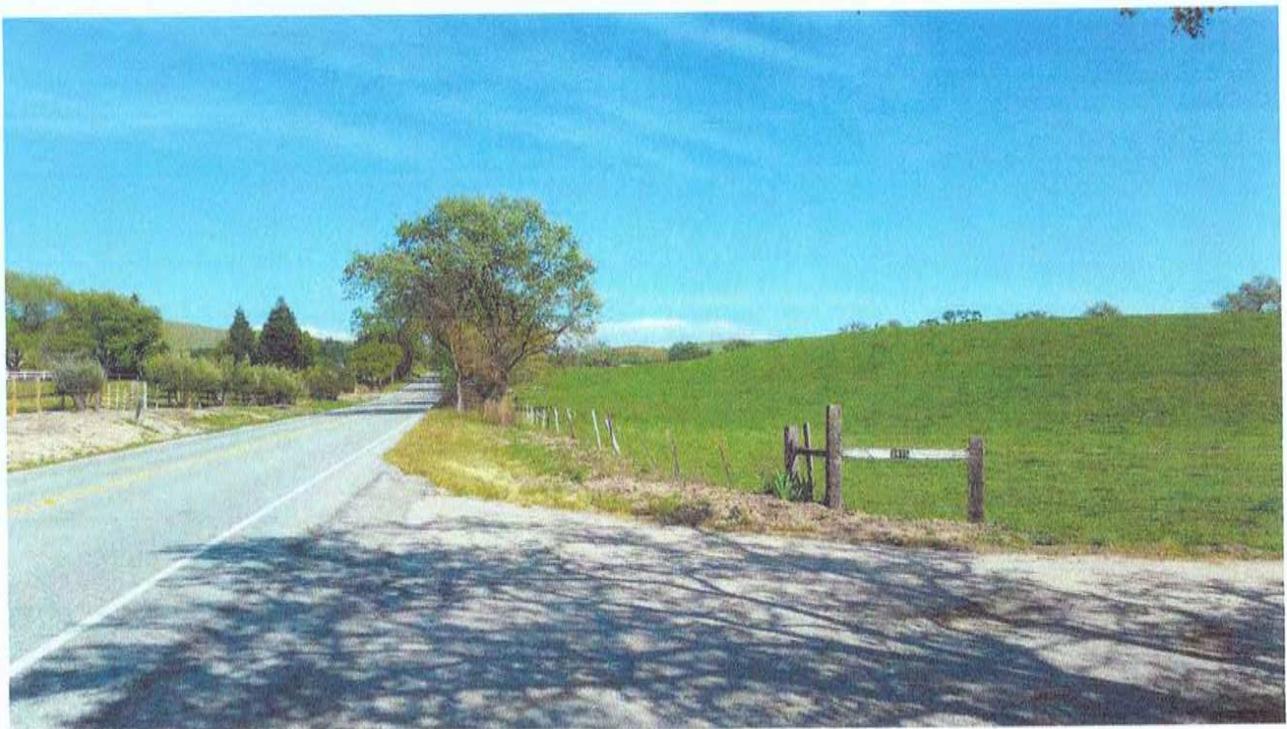


Approved Maximum Elevation 1360

***Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion***



Proposed Maximum Elevation 1386

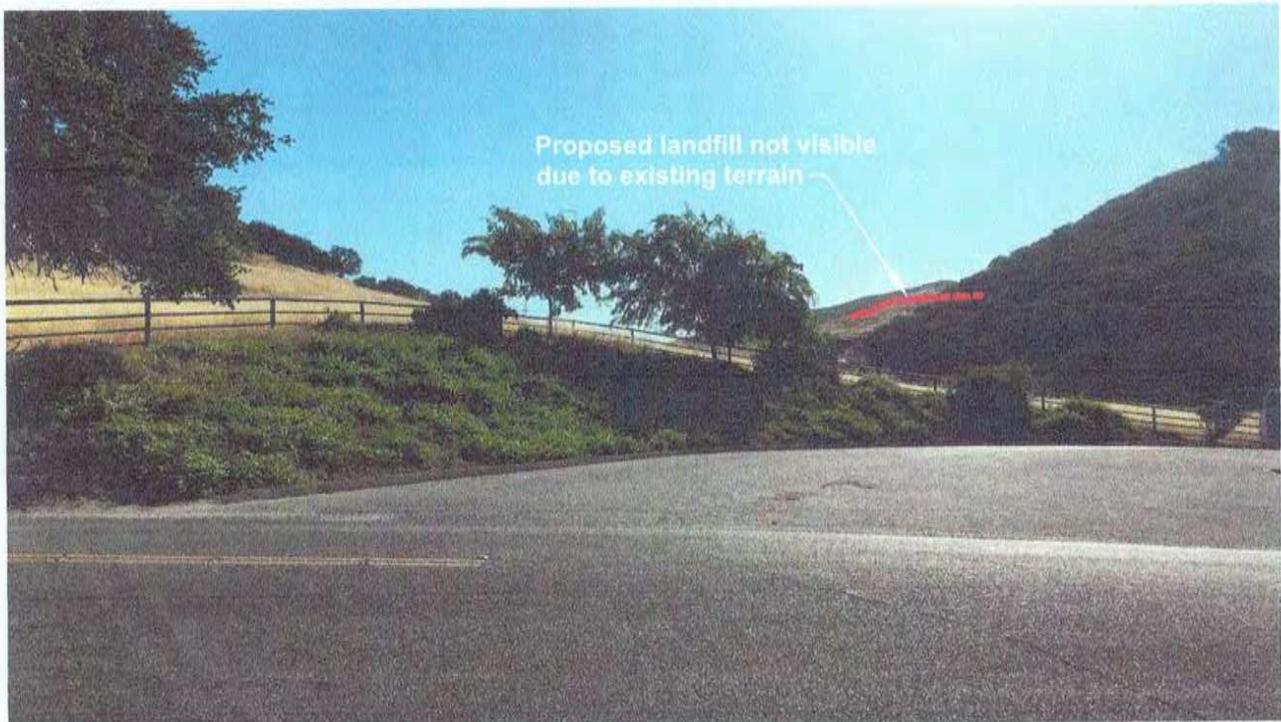


Landfill with Mitigation

*Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion*



Existing View



Approved Maximum Elevation 1360

***Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion***

photograph to the right of the existing trees partially behind the dark green slope on the right.

The second photograph in Figure 12A depicts fill to the approved height of 1,360 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area. The dashed red outline indicates the fill area “behind” the intervening ridge. Because of an intervening ridge, fill placed up to the approved elevation of 1,360 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area would not be visible to a traveler along Homestead Road. The first photograph in Figure 12B depicts fill to the proposed height of 1,386 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area. The dashed red outline of the fill area “behind” the intervening ridge indicates that fill placed up to the proposed elevation of 1,386 feet within the proposed vertical expansion area would still not be visible to a traveler along Homestead Road.

The second photograph in Figure 12B depicts the “mitigated condition”. This condition would result from adherence to the following mitigation measure which requires revegetation of all landfill areas as part of final reclamation. In this photograph, the previous brown colored slope visible from Homestead Road would be covered with introduced grasses and herbs to match the ground cover in adjacent slope areas.

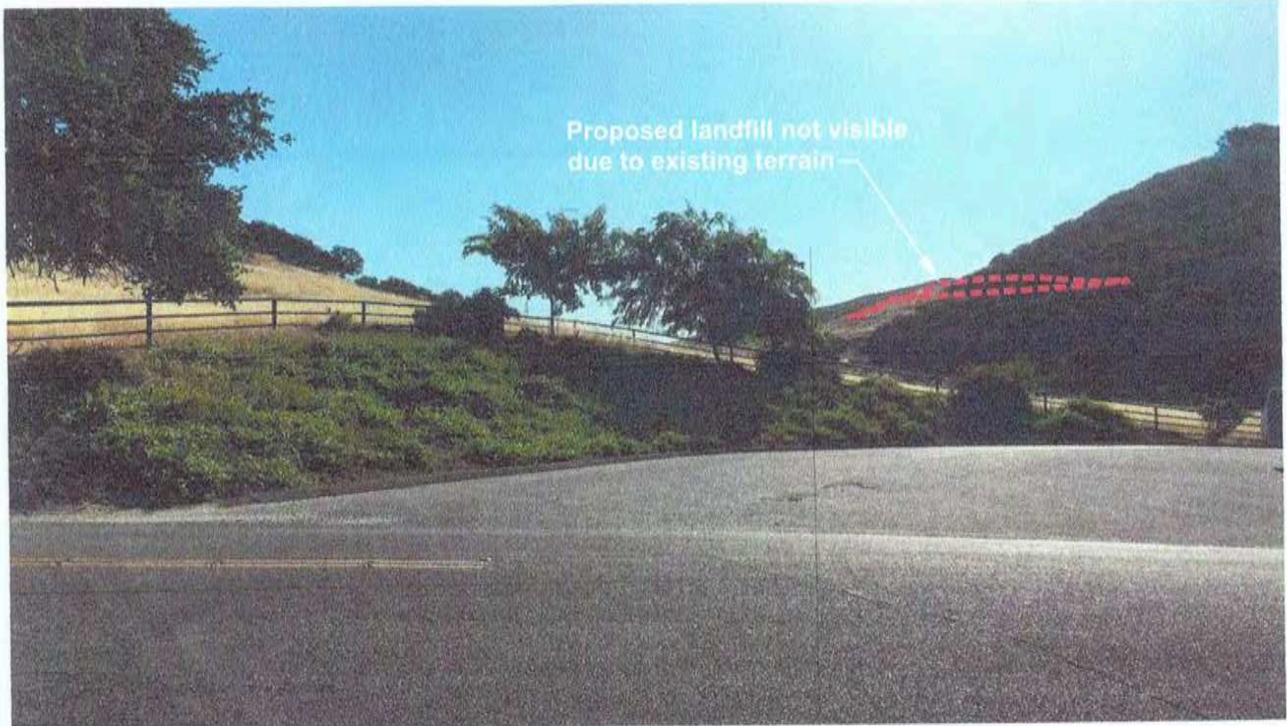
Visibility from Salinas Valley

The proposed vertical expansion area will not be highly visible from public vantage points in the Salinas Valley. Intervening landforms would block most views to the proposed vertical expansion area. In addition, from vantage points located at greater distances in the Salinas Valley, any visible change created by the proposed vertical expansion area would be smaller in scale than from closer locations. Once the expansion area is closed, any change in landform that may be visible from the Salinas Valley would not be obtrusive relative to surrounding topographical features and revegetation should help the expanded vertical fill area better blend with the tone of the surrounding landscape.

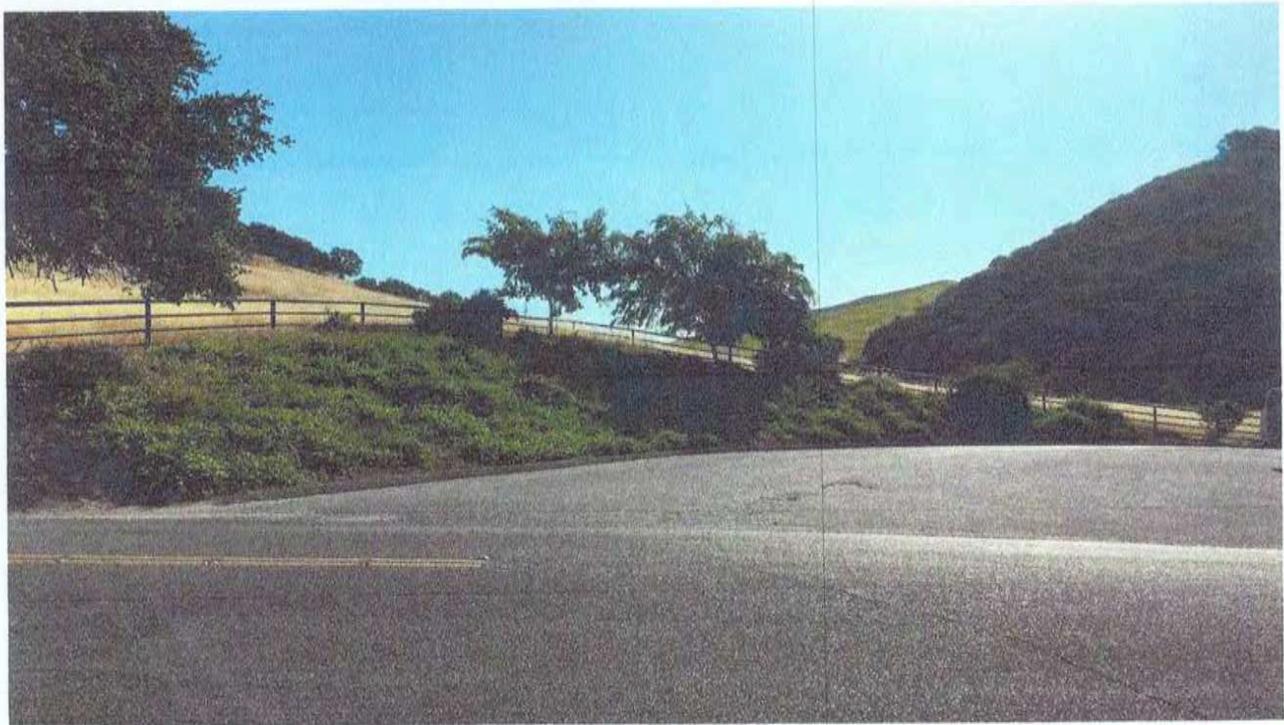
3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

1. The applicant shall prepare a complete engineered grading plan and revegetation plan to State standards for the proposed ridge fill for review and enforcement by the LEA/EA and the RWQCB. The grading plan must illustrate how the proposed fill will be contoured to blend in with existing adjacent topographical forms and features. A revegetation plan shall also be prepared using plant species that are consistent with adjacent grassland and scrub habitat types. The plan must be consistent with related



Proposed Maximum Elevation 1386



Landfill with Mitigation

***Chicago Grade Landfill
Proposed Vertical Expansion***

Title 27 erosion control standards and is subject to review and approval by the County Planning and Building Department.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The previously adopted Mitigation Measure #1 noted above applies to the previously approved project but does not directly apply to the currently proposed project. Since the currently proposed project results in a change to the visual character of the currently proposed vertical expansion area, a revised version of Mitigation #1 as provided below applies to the currently proposed project. No additional mitigation measures are required.

Revised Mitigation Measure #1:

The applicant shall prepare a complete engineered grading plan and revegetation plan to State standards for the currently proposed vertical expansion area for review and enforcement by the LEA/EA and the Lead Agency. The grading plan must illustrate how the proposed fill will be contoured to blend in with existing adjacent topographical forms and features. The revegetation plan shall also be prepared using species that are consistent with adjacent grassland and scrub habitat types. The plan must be consistent with related Title 27 erosion control standards and is subject to review and approval by the County Planning and Building Department.

4. Residual Impacts

All potentially significant adverse aesthetic impacts associated with the currently proposed project can be reduced to a level of insignificance or avoided entirely with the implementation of a revised version of the previously adopted Mitigation Measure #1 noted above (Class II Impact).

B. Agricultural Resources

1. Existing Conditions

The Chicago Grade Landfill property is located on parcel 034-212-005 which was once part of the adjacent Johnson Ranch and has been used for limited livestock grazing since the landfill opened in 1970. This parcel is currently within a Williamson Act agricultural preserve. The parcel may be removed from its Williamson Act contract with a Notice of Partial Non-renewal or other special approval from the County.

In February, 2016, the Williamson Act contract was amended by the County Board of Supervisors (Resolution 2016-51) to remove portions of the landfill area including the proposed vertical expansion area from the Williamson Act agricultural parcel. The overall Williamson Act contract expires in February, 2018.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion: did not convert prime farmland, unique farmland or farmland of statewide importance to non-agricultural use; did not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use and did not involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use. The prior project was also found not to have a significant effect on the conversion of prime farmland either directly or indirectly.

However, the approved expansion of landfill activities creates a potential conflict while the parcel is bound under a Williamson Act contract. This conflict represents a potentially significant impact.

b. Additional Project Impacts

The currently proposed project is confined to module 3 and a portion of module 4 and areas outside modules 6 and 7 and therefore does not create a conflict with the existing Williamson Act contract. The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts upon agricultural resources.

3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

2. The landowner shall file a Notice of Partial Non-Renewal with the County of San Luis Obispo for that portion of the parcel under Williamson Act contract that would be converted from an agricultural use. In addition, the landowner shall identify an amount of land equal to that proposed for non-renewal that has been reclaimed to a level deemed acceptable to the County to replace the portion removed from the Williamson Act contract. The replacement land shall be placed under the same Williamson Act contract such that the total land within the existing contract remains constant. No grading or other land disturbance shall be permitted on the land subject to partial non-renewal until the Williamson Act contract is terminated (or approximately 10 years from the date the partial notice of non-renewal is filed with the County). The request for partial non-renewal shall be subject to review and approval by the County Agricultural Preserve Review Committee and the Board of Supervisors.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The currently proposed vertical expansion is confined to module 3 and a portion of module 4 and areas outside modules 6 and 7, all of which is surrounded by the existing landfill. As such, the previously adopted Mitigation Measure #2 noted above applies to the previously approved project but does not apply to the current project. Given the lack of any potentially significant adverse impacts to agricultural resources, no revised mitigation measures are required.

4. Residual Impacts

Impacts to agricultural resources associated with the currently proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

C. Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Emissions

1. Existing Conditions

The regional climate is characterized as Mediterranean with warm, dry summers and cooler, relatively damp winters. The Templeton area has summer high temperatures averaging approximately 90 degrees and winter low temperatures in the low 20's. The project site is approximately 15 miles from the Pacific Ocean, and located in the Upper Salinas River Valley meteorological region of the County. This region has historically experienced the highest ozone and particulate levels in the County.

Air quality readings in the region tend to vary, due to the effects of coastal winds and warm inland climates on air circulation. The project site is located in the Upper Salinas River Valley, which encompasses the northern one-third of the county, and contains 25 percent of the County's population. The Upper Salinas River Valley is characterized by plains and low rolling hills bound by the Santa Lucia Range in the west, and the Cholame Hills in the east. The nearest air emissions monitoring to the project site is in Atascadero. This station monitors for carbon monoxide and particulates.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion: did not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations and did not create or subject individuals to objectionable odors.

However, the previously approved expansion of landfill activities results in: the violation of PM₁₀ (particulate matter) emission standards from the extension of project operations in these two new modules; the violation of PM₁₀ emission standards due to the ongoing operation of the LFG flare and the continued generation of construction phase emissions. This latter impact does not violate any emissions standards but does contribute to regional non-attainment of air pollutant standards.

b. Additional Project Impacts

The currently proposed project is confined to module 3 and a portion of module 4 and areas outside modules 6 and 7 and does not involve the operation of the LFG

flare. Landfill operations within a four acre area are considered to have an insignificant impact upon regional air pollutant generation.

Since the prior approval of the 2007 Conditional Use Permit, CEQA requirements have been amended to require an analysis of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions attributed to the proposed project. In the case of the currently proposed vertical expansion, two potential sources of GHG emissions are: 1) increased motor vehicle use and 2) additional stationary source emissions from the currently proposed vertical expansion. The currently proposed project will not result in any increase in customer traffic to and from the landfill. Similarly, the proposed project will not result in a significant change in the annual waste tonnage inflow or in the hours of landfill operations. Landfill gas (LFG) is typically created in a closed landfill module as a by-product of the decomposition of solid waste, especially organic wastes. The Chicago Grade Landfill is equipped with a gas collection system consisting of a series of vertical and horizontal collection pipes installed in the landfill. The pipes collect and direct LFG to an existing approved and permitted landfill gas flaring unit where the gas is totally burned off. Gas monitoring wells are installed at the periphery of the permitted landfill footprint to detect potential migration of LFG to areas outside of the landfill modules.

Given these circumstances, the currently proposed project does not result any potentially significant air quality or greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts.

3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

3. The applicant shall install a total of three (3) Diesel Oxidation Catalysts or other SLOAPCD approved best available control technology devices on the equipment that will be used to operate and construct the new landfill modules. The applicant shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the SLOAPCD that such devices will be installed. The applicant shall contact the SLOAPCD to coordinate the implementation of this mitigation. This mitigation shall be implemented prior to the occurrence of the first of the following activities: (a) earth disturbance outside the 45.4 acre area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations"; (b) placement of liner outside the area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations" or (c) placement of waste material outside approved modules 1 through 4. The only exceptions to the above are grading for agricultural operations allowed by the County Grading Ordinance, grading required for the acquisition of daily cover for waste burial in modules 1 through 4, or waste to be buried within approximately one acre of module 7 adjacent to the boundary of module 4 which lies within the Area of Ongoing Operations. The applicant shall provide an annual estimate of the anticipated location and volume of grading to occur under the exceptions. Grading activities shall be subject to monthly monitoring funded by the applicant. The applicant shall also provide records that indicate the location and volume of grading

that has occurred under these exceptions in prior years in order in order to assist this monitoring.

4. The applicant shall pave the currently unpaved portion of the on-site haul road to a point at close as possible to the working area of modules 6 and 7. The applicant shall prepare a map of the segment of the haul road to be paved and present the map to the SLOAPCD for review and approval. The haul road shall be paved prior to the occurrence of the first of the following activities: (a) earth disturbance outside the 45.4 acre area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations"; (b) placement of liner outside the area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations"; or (c) placement of waste material outside approved modules 1 through 4. The only exceptions to the above are grading for agricultural operations allowed by the County Grading Ordinance, grading required for the acquisition of daily cover for waste burial in modules 1 through 4, or waste to be buried within approximately one acre of module 7 adjacent to the boundary of module 4 which lies within the Area of Ongoing Operations. The applicant shall provide an annual estimate of the anticipated location and volume of grading to occur under the exceptions. Grading activities shall be subject to monthly monitoring funded by the applicant. The applicant shall also provide records that indicate the location and volume of grading that has occurred under these exceptions in prior years in order in order to assist this monitoring.

5. The applicant shall prepare a PM₁₀ construction emissions mitigation plan to implement measures to reduce construction phase generation of PM₁₀ during excavation, grading, soil movement, and stockpiling activities. The following measures shall be included in the PM₁₀ construction emissions mitigation plan as required by the SLOAPCD. The applicant's plan must be submitted to the SLOAPCD for review and approval prior to the SLOAPCD approving an extension of Permit 547-2, Landfill Gas Collection and Flaring System for the proposed project.

- a. Reduce the amount of the disturbed area where possible;
- b. Use of water trucks or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 mph. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible;
- c. All dirt stockpiles should be sprayed daily as needed;
- d. Permanent dust control measures identified in the approved project revegetation and landscape plans should be implemented as soon as possible following completion of any soil disturbing activities;
- e. Exposed ground areas that are planned to be reworked at dates greater than one month after initial grading should be sown with a fast germinating native grass seed and watered until vegetation established;

- f. All disturbed soil areas not subject to revegetation should be stabilized using approved chemical soil binders, jute netting, or other methods approved in advance by the SLOAPCD;
- g. All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, etc. to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used;
- h. Vehicle speed for all construction vehicles shall not exceed 15 mph on any unpaved surface at the site;
- i. All trucks hauling soil or other loose material off-site should cover the material or maintain at least two feet of freeboard in accordance with California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 23114; and
- j. Install wheel washers where vehicles enter and exit unpaved roads onto streets, or wash off trucks and equipment leaving the site; and
- k. Sweep streets at the end of the day if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent paved roads. Water sweepers with reclaimed water should be used where feasible.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The currently proposed vertical expansion is confined to module 3 and a portion of module 4 and areas outside modules 6 and 7 all of which is surrounded by the existing landfill and does not involve the operation of the LFG flare. Landfill operations within a four acre area are considered to have an insignificant impact upon regional air pollutant generation, As such, the previously adopted Mitigation Measures #3, #4 and #5 noted above apply to the previously approved project but do not apply to the current project. Given the lack of any potentially significant air quality or greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts, no revised mitigation measures are required.

4. Residual Impacts

Air quality and greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts associated with the currently proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

D. Biological Resources

1. Existing Conditions

A majority of the Chicago Grade Landfill has been modified to accommodate existing permitted waste disposal facilities. Although oak woodland, coastal scrub and riparian woodland plant communities are present on the landfill property, the entire undeveloped, but highly disturbed areas along the periphery of the landfill are classified as annual grassland. Ongoing cattle and horse grazing activities have provided a continuous disturbance to the vegetation thereby limiting the recolonization of native plants. Disturbed areas that have been affected by previous landfill activities or livestock grazing support a mixture of ruderal (weedy) species, dominated by the non-native annual grasses and forbs. These ruderal areas provide marginal wildlife habitat, but some of the more extensive open areas could support populations of lizards and small mammals, which provide a prey source for raptors, snakes, and other predators. Runoff from the upstream portions of the landfill flows towards the west and is collected in minor drainages within the existing landfill boundary. These drainages have been disturbed by ongoing landfill activities, grazing, and other land uses, however, some oak woodland and riparian vegetation remain. Near the western boundary of the landfill, the lower reach of the intermittent stream contains riparian plants such as willow. Upstream of this area, the number and quality of these plants diminishes. The majority of the vegetation within the remainder of the landfill site consists of blue oak, holly leaf cherry and coast live oak with an understory of annual grasses.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion did not introduce barriers to the movement of resident fish or wildlife species. However, the approved expansion of landfill activities results in: the potential degradation of surface water quality and wetland /riparian habitat; the loss of habitat and removal of oak trees and the establishment of non-native plants.

b. Additional Project Impacts

The currently proposed project is confined to module 3 and a portion of module 4 and areas outside modules 6 and 7 which are highly disturbed due to ongoing landfill operations and therefore does not have the potential to remove existing oak trees or established non-native plants. Landfill operations within a four acre area are considered to have an insignificant impact upon downstream water quality. The

currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts upon biological resources.

3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

6. A qualified biologist shall survey areas within the footprint of the proposed ridge fill locations, access roads, and staging areas that may be affected by vehicles or heavy equipment during the placement of the proposed ridge fill for special status species and protected trees. If special status species or protected trees are located during the survey: 1) the ridge fill and access roads or staging areas must be redesigned to avoid the species and/or habitat and protected trees, or 2) the applicant will follow the required County, CDFG, or USFWS mitigation as appropriate for impacts to special status species and protected trees. Consultation with CDFG or USFWS may be required. Results of the survey, proposed mitigation measures, and proposed mitigation implementation actions must be reviewed and approved by the County Planning and Building Department. The survey and any design measures needed to avoid species and habitat shall be completed prior to the occurrence of the first of the following activities:(a) earth disturbance outside the 45.4 acre area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations"; (b) placement of liner outside the area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations or (c) placement of waste material outside approved modules 1 through 4. The only exceptions to the above are grading for agricultural operations allowed by the County Grading Ordinance, grading required for the acquisition of daily cover for waste burial in modules 1 through 4 or waste to be buried within approximately one acre of module 7 adjacent to the boundary of module 4 which lies within the Area of Ongoing Operations. The applicant shall provide an annual estimate of the anticipated location and volume of grading to occur under the exceptions. Grading activities shall be subject to monthly monitoring funded by the applicant. The applicant shall also provide records that indicate the location and volume of grading that has occurred under these exceptions in prior years in order to assist this monitoring.

7. In order to prevent the spread of invasive non-native species, the following shall be included in the erosion control and revegetation plans:

- a. An eradication plan for plants listed in the *Exotic Pest Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in California* (CalIPPC October 1999) and currently growing on the project site;
- b. Use of plants listed in the County brochure *Exotic Pest Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in California* shall be prohibited and
- c. Plant materials used in landscaping, erosion control, or habitat restoration shall consist of appropriate native California plants as identified by a qualified biologist.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The previously adopted Mitigation Measures #6 and #7 noted above apply to the previously approved project. Given the lack of significant native vegetation within the highly disturbed proposed vertical expansion area, these mitigation measures do not apply to the currently proposed project. Given the lack of any potentially significant impacts to biological resources, no revised mitigation measures are required.

4. Residual Impacts

Impacts to biological resources associated with the currently proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

E. Cultural Resources

1. Existing Conditions

The project area has a moderate potential of archaeological sensitivity. The project site is located along a hilltop. Hilltops and major ridgelines can be locations of small sites such as shrines, collecting locations, camps, and trail stops. At the time of early Spanish exploration in this area, several Chumash villages were located within a few miles of the landfill. The nearest Chumash village was Scele, located several miles to the west along the Salinas River. Previously conducted Phase I archaeological surveys determined that there are no potentially important archaeological or other cultural resources known to exist within the landfill boundaries. The potential for unknown buried cultural resources to exist in the area of the landfill is considered to be moderate. These conclusions were made based upon a records search and walkover surveys.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion did not disturb any known pre-historic, historic or paleontological resources. However, the approved expansion of landfill activities will result in the disturbance of surface or subsurface soils from grading and excavation activities which could potentially unearth and/or damage cultural resources were they to exist within these areas.

b. Additional Project Impacts

The currently proposed project is confined to module 3 and a portion of module 4 and areas outside modules 6 and 7 which are highly disturbed due to ongoing landfill operations and therefore does not have the potential to unearth and/or damage cultural resources. The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts upon cultural resources.

3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

8. If archaeological resources or human remains are unearthed during activities within modules 6 and 7, work shall be halted within 50 meters (165 feet) of the find until it can be investigated by a qualified professional archaeologist. In the event that human remains are unearthed or otherwise discovered, the County Coroner

must be contacted so the finds can be properly identified and evaluated. If the find is determined to be significant, appropriate mitigation measures shall be formulated and implemented.

9. The landfill operator shall train all landfill employees on the appropriate procedures to follow when/if archaeological resources are unearthed within the proposed expansion area. Each employee shall be trained: (a) at least once per year and (b) within the first two weeks of accepting employment at the landfill. Each employee shall sign a form that identifies the trainer, date of training, and that training was completed. The form shall be kept on file for the duration of the each employee's employment at the landfill. All existing employees shall be trained prior to issuance of a revised SWFP. The forms shall be subject to inspection by the Department of Building and Planning.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The previously adopted Mitigation Measures #8 and #9 noted above apply to the previously approved project. Since the currently proposed vertical expansion area is highly disturbed, these mitigation measures do not apply to the currently proposed project. Given the lack of any potentially significant impacts to cultural resources, no revised mitigation measures are required.

4. Residual Impacts

Impacts to cultural resources associated with the proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

F. Geology and Soils

1. Existing Conditions

The Chicago Grade Landfill is located within the La Panza range of hills that border the eastern side of the southern Salinas Valley. The landfill is situated on the westerly slopes of the La Panza Range, and on the east side of a small north-south trending bowl shaped canyon. This canyon merges immediately north of the landfill with a larger east-west trending canyon. A granitic basement rock from the Franciscan Complex is exposed on the La Panza Range, located to the south of the landfill. A relatively thick sequence of sedimentary rocks from the Monterey and Paso Robles formations overlies the basement complex rocks.

Project site soils are comprised primarily of Linne-Calodo Complex. Two other soil types occur on site including Lockwood Shaly Loam and Lockwood-Concepcion Complex. These soils are generally very poor to moderately drained with percolation potential (or permeability) being slow with a moderate to high potential for soil erodibility. The majority of the soil types at the landfill are considered not well drained and have low permeability. Such soils are favorable for use for liners and landfill cover materials as they reduce the potential for rainwater to percolate through solid waste or to percolate through a liner system into the groundwater below. Exposure of these soils to erosion is typically highest when soils are disturbed during and immediately after grading and construction activities take place.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion did not: result in the exposure to seismic hazards or unstable earth conditions; change rates of soil absorption; locate structures on expansive soils; change drainage patterns and did not involve activities within a 100 year flood zone. However, the approved expansion of landfill activities results in: the potential for substantial erosion and sedimentation into downstream water bodies and the potential degradation of downstream riparian habitats.

b. Additional Project Impacts

Landfill operations within a four acre area are considered to represent an insignificant impact upon downstream water quality. The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts upon geology and soils.

3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

10. The project applicant shall prepare an erosion control plan prepared by a registered engineer that meets both the LUO Section 22.05.034 requirements and requirements of CCRWQCB Order No. 94-80. Since the proposed project would disturb an area greater than one acre, the erosion control plan must be part of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan as required for compliance with NPDES Storm Water Discharge General permits. The erosion control must be reviewed and approved by the County Planning and Building Department prior to the occurrence of the first of the following activities: (a) earth disturbance outside the 45.4 acre area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations"; (b) placement of fill liner outside the area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations" or (c) placement of waste material outside approved modules 1 through 4. The only exceptions to the above are grading for agricultural operations allowed by the County Grading Ordinance, grading required for the acquisition of daily cover for waste burial in modules 1 through 4, or waste to be buried within approximately one acre of module 7 adjacent to the boundary of module 4 which lies within the Area of Ongoing Operations. The applicant shall provide an annual estimate of the anticipated location and volume of grading to occur under the exceptions. Grading activities shall be subject to monthly monitoring funded by the applicant. The applicant shall also provide records that indicate the location and volume of grading that has occurred under these exceptions in prior years in order to assist this monitoring.

The erosion control plan should include but not be limited to the following best management practices:

- a. Temporary mulching, seeding or other suitable stabilization measures to protect exposed erodible areas during construction;
- b. Earth or paved interceptors and diversions installed at the top of cut or fill slopes where there is a potential for erosive surface runoff;
- c. Erosion and sediment control devices for all grading and filling. Control devices and measures could include, but are not limited to energy absorbing structures or devices to reduce the velocity of runoff water;
- d. Within thirty days after completion of grading, all surfaces disturbed by vegetation removal, grading, haul roads, or other construction activity that alters natural vegetative cover, should be revegetated to control erosion, unless covered with impervious or other improved surfaces authorized by approved plans. Erosion controls may include any combination of mechanical or vegetative measures,

including but not limited to those described in USDA Soil Conservation Service Bulletin 347 and

e. Grading operations shall be conducted to prevent damaging effects of erosion, sediment production and dust on the site and on adjoining properties.

11. The applicant shall prepare an erosion control plan to be implemented at the proposed ridge fill locations. The plan must be consistent with related the Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan standards contained in the LUO. The plan shall be subject to the review and approval of the County Planning and Building Department prior to the occurrence of the first of the following activities: (a) earth disturbance outside the 45.4 acre area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations"; (b) placement of liner outside the area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations" or (c) placement of waste material outside approved modules 1 through 4. The only exceptions to the above are grading for agricultural operations allowed by the County Grading Ordinance, grading required for the acquisition of daily cover for waste burial in modules 1 through 4, or waste to be buried within approximately one acre of module 7 adjacent to the boundary of module 4 which lies within the Area of Ongoing Operations. The applicant shall provide an annual estimate of the anticipated location and volume of grading to occur under the exceptions. Grading activities shall be subject to monthly monitoring funded by the applicant. The applicant shall also provide records that indicate the location and volume of grading that has occurred under these exceptions in prior years in order in order to assist this monitoring.

The erosion control plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following measures: indigenous or site adapted species shall be used for revegetation to increase the probability for success; seedbeds shall be prepared to control unwanted vegetation and provide rapid infiltration (e.g., loose, irregular surface); any broadcast seeds shall be planted at an appropriate depth to ensure their success. Larger seeds shall be planted deeper, smaller seeds shallower; revegetation and/or seeding shall occur when moisture and temperature conditions are most favorable to provide the longest possible period for germination and early growth; seedlings shall be protected from grazing for at least two growing seasons; contour furrows or trenches shall be constructed to break slope length, provide depression storage for surface runoff and hold water in place until it infiltrates the soil to assist with vegetation establishment. Pitting may also be used to create depressions for establishing clustered vegetation and any channelization that occurs due to surface waters cutting vertical paths into the slope shall be repaired to prevent gullies and further severe erosion.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The previously adopted Mitigation Measures #10 and #11 noted above apply to the previously approved project. The four acre proposed vertical expansion area, due to

its size and upstream location, represents an insignificant impact to erosion and downstream water quality. Therefore, these mitigation measures do not apply to the currently proposed project. Given the lack of any potentially significant impacts to geology and soils, no revised mitigation measures are required.

4. Residual Impacts

Impacts to soils and geology associated with the currently proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

G. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

1. Existing Conditions

To prevent groundwater contamination and release of hazardous chemicals from existing landfill operations, the Chicago Grade Landfill currently has environmental monitoring and control systems in place. These systems include a liner, leachate collection and groundwater monitoring. The landfill also utilizes a landfill gas and groundwater monitoring well network.

According to Cal Fire, the landfill is located within a wildland area that may contain substantial forest fire risks and hazards.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion did not: result in a risk of explosion or release of hazardous substances (e.g. oil, pesticides, chemical, radiation) or exposure of people to hazardous substances; interfere with an emergency response or evacuation plan; expose people to safety risk associated with airport flight pattern; increase fire hazard risk or expose people or structures to high fire hazard conditions or create any other health hazard or potential hazard. However, the landfill is located in a high wildland fire hazard area.

b. Additional Project Impacts

The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts due to hazards and hazardous materials.

3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

As noted in Section J. Public Services/ Utilities, Mitigation Measure #13 will require preparation of a fire safety plan per the requirements of the County Land Use Ordinance that must be approved by Cal Fire. This plan will reduce potential impacts from wildland fire hazards to a less than significant level.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The previously adopted Mitigation Measure #13 noted above applies to the previously approved project. Given the isolated location of the currently proposed vertical expansion area which is surrounded by the existing landfill, this mitigation measure does not apply to the currently proposed project. Given the lack of any potentially significant impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials, no revised mitigation measures are required.

4. Residual Impacts

Impacts due to hazards and hazardous materials associated with the currently proposed project are considered to be insignificant (Class III Impact).

H. Water

1. Existing Conditions

Surface runoff from the existing landfill drains towards an unnamed, intermittent creek that traverses the Chicago Grade Landfill property. Surface runoff drains into the creek and eventually through a series of other downstream creeks to the Salinas River. There are no other existing natural surface water features located within the landfill.

Surface water runoff from areas within the area is controlled by a storm water management infrastructure. Drainage terraces and culverts direct storm water runoff away from the active disposal area and toward one of four sediment basins. The sediment basins are designed to control surface water discharge from the site and to prevent sedimentation of downstream surface water bodies or properties. The drainage facilities are designed and sized to carry 100-year storm volumes. The types of soils located within the landfill and their erodability characteristics are discussed in Section F., Geology and Soils. Soils within the landfill have moderate to high erodability. Exposure of soils to erosion is typically highest when soils are disturbed during and immediately after grading and construction activities. During typical landfill operations, soils are constantly being disturbed and exposed through grading, excavations and placement of daily cover.

The Chicago Grade Landfill uses water for dust control and for potable use. Dust suppression activities demand approximately 15,000 gallons per day (gpd) of water. There are three wells on site that provide the source for this water. Groundwater is found in the Paso Robles Formation northeast of the site, which is the main aquifer of the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion did not: result in any violation of any water quality standards; change the quantity or movement of available surface or groundwater or adversely affect a community water service provider. However, the approved expansion of landfill activities into modules 6 and 7 results in the potential for surface and groundwater quality degradation due to ongoing landfill operations.

b. Additional Project Impacts

The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant impacts due to the degradation of surface and groundwater quality.

3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

As noted in Section F. Geology and Soils, Mitigation Measures #10 and #11 will require preparation of erosion control plans consistent with the requirements of the Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan standards contained in the County Land Use Ordinance. This plan would reduce the potential impact from degradation of surface and groundwater quality to a less than significant level.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The previously adopted Mitigation Measures #10 and #11 noted above apply to the previously approved project. The four acre vertical expansion area will be subject to grading and erosion control measures on a daily basis. These ongoing activities combined with the size and upstream location of the vertical expansion area result in an insignificant contribution to downstream soil erosion. As such these mitigation measures do not apply to the current project. Given the lack of any potentially significant impacts related to water, no revised mitigation measures are required.

4. Residual Impacts

All potentially adverse water impacts associated with the currently proposed project are insignificant (Class III Impact).

I. Noise

1. Existing Conditions

The ongoing existing sources of man made noise in the vicinity of the landfill include landfill operations and traffic on roads, which include refuse trucks and private customers approaching and leaving the landfill. Areas of the landfill where operations generate the greatest noise include the disposable waste area located in module 1 and the recycling area located in the northeast part of the landfill. Noise is also generated on-site from vehicles traveling on internal roads in the landfill. Noise generated on site is not transmitted a significant distance to off-site areas due to surrounding topographic barriers. Noise is also generated off-site from vehicles on the surrounding roadways, especially Homestead Road and South El Pomar Road. Vehicular noise is noticeable at existing residences along or in the vicinity of these roadways. These residences are setback from these roadways from 40 to 200 feet or greater.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion did not: result in exposure of persons to severe noise or vibration. However, the approved expansion of landfill activities could expose residences located to the north and west of the landfill to noise levels that exceed County standards and result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels for the adjoining areas above levels existing without the project. Construction and operations activities that occur above elevation 1,250 feet could result in transmission of noise to several of these residences that have the potential to exceed County standards. However, placement of fill within ridgeline depressions would provide topographic noise barriers that would reduce noise transmission to within County standards.

b. Additional Project Impacts

The currently proposed project results in potentially significant noise impacts due to the stockpiling of solid waste to an elevation of 1,386 feet. This potentially significant impact of the currently proposed project is similar to but does not exceed the potential noise impacts associated with the previously approved project. The revised Mitigation Measure #12 discussed below under "Revised Mitigation Measures" would reduce this potential impact to a less than significant level.

3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

12. To reduce potential noise impacts on off-site residences located north and east of the expansion area, the applicant shall implement one of the two following mitigation options:

a. limit the hours of operation for material recycling grinding equipment to the hours of 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and provide all residents living within 500 feet of all road segments that are located within a ¼ mile radius of the landfill boundary with a contact number for the landfill manager for which complaints can be reported regarding noise. In the event that corrective action is inadequate, a second contact number shall also be provided for the environmental monitor for which unresolved noise complaints can be reported; or b. place fill in the low points of surrounding ridges as proposed by the applicant. Fill must be placed at a higher elevation than waste within the expansion area at all times. The environmental monitor shall monitor compliance quarterly.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The previously adopted Mitigation Measure #12 noted above applies to the previously approved project but does not directly apply to the currently proposed project. Since the currently proposed project involves landfill activities to an elevation of 1,386 feet, a revised version of Mitigation #12 as provided below applies to the currently proposed project. No additional mitigation measures are required.

Revised Mitigation Measure #12:

To reduce potential noise impacts on off-site residences, the applicant shall implement one of the two following mitigation options:

a. Limit the hours of operation for material recycling grinding equipment to the hours of 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and provide all residents living within 500 feet of all road segments that are located within a ¼ mile radius of the landfill boundary with a contact number for the landfill manager for which complaints can be reported regarding noise. In the event that corrective action is inadequate, a second contact number shall also be provided for the environmental monitor for which unresolved noise complaints can be reported; or

b. Place fill in the low points of surrounding ridges. The environmental monitor shall monitor compliance quarterly.

4. Residual Impacts

All potentially significant adverse noise impacts associated with the currently proposed project can be reduced to a level of insignificance or avoided entirely with the implementation of a revised version of the previously adopted Mitigation Measure #12 noted above (Class II Impact).

J. Public Services/ Utilities

1. Existing Conditions

Landfill operations that are of most concern to fire protection services involve the use and storage of flammable materials and the explosion and fire hazard related to the generation, management and flaring of landfill gas. The use of heavy equipment and vehicles in an area of high fire hazard where such use can create sparks that ignite fires is also a source of concern. The landfill currently receives fire protection services from the CDF Meridian Station (Station #30), located at 2510 Ramada Drive in Paso Robles, approximately eight miles north of the landfill. Response time to the site is approximately ten minutes.

According to the CDF, the landfill is located is within a wildland area that may contain substantial forest fire risks and hazards. Fire hydrants are located on site to aid in fire suppression efforts if needed. According to CalFire, the landfill has sufficient on-site water to suppress fires.

Activities associated with the existing landfill operations generally do not require police protection services at a rate or frequency that places undue burden on those services relative to other activities in the rural portions of the County. The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement services for the landfill and surrounding areas out of its North station located in Templeton at 65 South Main Street, approximately five miles northwest of the project site. If a deputy is located at the station, response time from the station to the landfill would be approximately ten minutes. However, actual response times depend upon the location of the deputy at the time of the call.

Solid waste transported to the landfill by commercial and private haulers can blow out of vehicles resulting in litter along the roadways in route to the landfill, particularly South El Pomar Road and Homestead Road. Prior to processing, solid waste and recycling materials at the landfill may be blown off-site by winds. Where litter falls onto or is blown to roadways or other areas, it can create a public nuisance.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion did not: result in the need for new or altered public services in the areas of law enforcement, schools, roadways or other public facilities. However, the approved expansion of landfill activities could impact fire protection services and solid waste services relative to nuisance from litter.

b. Additional Project Impacts

The currently proposed project results in potentially significant solid waste impacts due to the litter nuisance along roadways adjacent to the landfill. This potentially significant impact of the currently proposed project is similar to but does not exceed the potential solid waste impacts associated with the previously approved project. The revised Mitigation Measure #14 discussed below under "Revised Mitigation Measures" would reduce this potential impact to a less than significant level.

3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

13. The applicant shall prepare a fire safety plan consistent with LUO Section 22.05.082. The plan must be prepared and approved by the CDF prior to the occurrence of the first of the following activities: (a) earth disturbance outside the 45.4 acre area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations"; (b) placement of liner outside the area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations" or (c) placement of waste material outside approved modules 1 through 4. The only exceptions to the above are grading for agricultural operations allowed by the County Grading Ordinance, grading required for the acquisition of daily cover for waste burial in modules 1 through 4 or waste to be buried within approximately one acre of module 7, adjacent to the boundary of module 4 which lies within the Area of Ongoing Operations. The applicant shall provide an annual estimate of the anticipated location and volume of grading to occur under the exceptions. Grading activities shall be subject to monthly monitoring funded by the applicant. The applicant shall also provide records that indicate the location and volume of grading that has occurred under these exceptions in prior years in order to assist this monitoring.

14. The applicant shall prepare a litter control plan which reduces littering of local roadways resulting from transport of uncovered loads to the landfill and litter blowing off the landfill site. The environmental monitor shall review the litter control program and upon initial commencement of the project, conduct quarterly site visits to verify that it has been implemented. The plan shall include, but not be limited to the following components:

- a. Issue a written "one-time" warning and provide education material to the driver of any vehicle with an uncovered load;
- b. Post signage at the landfill entrance and/or scale house stating this policy;
- c. provide weekly removal of trash and litter on the sections of Homestead Road, South El Pomar Road, El Pomar Road and Templeton Road located within one mile of the landfill entrance and
- d. Provide all residents living within 500 feet of all road segments that are located within a 1/4 mile radius of the landfill boundary with a contact number for the on-site landfill manager for which complaints can be reported filed regarding trash on

these roadways. In the event that corrective action is inadequate, a second contact number shall also be provided for the environmental monitor for which unresolved litter complaints can be reported.

Implementation of the plan shall be monitored through the contact agency noted in item "d" of this mitigation with corrective action to be taken by that agency for violations of this mitigation measure.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The previously adopted Mitigation Measures #13 noted above applies to the previously approved project. Given the isolated location of the currently proposed vertical expansion area which is surrounded by the existing landfill, this mitigation measure does not apply to the currently proposed project. The previously adopted Mitigation Measure #14 noted above applies to the previously approved project but does not directly apply to the currently proposed project. Since the currently proposed project results in an incremental contribution to off-site litter generation and required litter control, a revised version of Mitigation Measure #14 as provided below applies to the currently proposed project. No additional mitigation measures are required.

Revised Mitigation Measure #14

14. The applicant shall prepare a litter control plan for review and approval by the County Public Works Department and the County Public Health Department which reduces littering of local roadways resulting from transport of uncovered loads to the landfill and litter blowing off the landfill site. The environmental monitor shall review the litter control program and upon initial commencement of the project, conduct quarterly site visits to verify that it has been implemented. The plan shall include, but not be limited to the following components:

- a. Issue a written "one-time" warning and provide education material to the driver of any vehicle with an uncovered load;*
- b. Post signage at the landfill entrance and/or scale house stating this policy;*
- c. Provide weekly removal of trash and litter on the sections of Homestead Road, South El Pomar Road, El Pomar Road and Templeton Road located within one mile of the landfill entrance; and*
- d. Provide all residents living within 500 feet of all road segments that are located within a 1/4 mile radius of the landfill boundary with a contact number for the on-site landfill manager for which complaints can be reported regarding trash on these roadways. In the event that corrective action is inadequate, a*

second contact number shall also be provided for the environmental monitor for which unresolved litter complaints can be reported.

Implementation of the plan shall be monitored through the contact agency noted in item "d" of this mitigation with corrective action to be taken by that agency for violations of this mitigation measure.

The plan must be reviewed and approved by the County Public Works Department and the County Public Health Department prior to exceeding the currently permitted solid waste elevation of 1,360 feet in module 3 and a portion of module 4 or prior to placement of a soil liner within areas outside the original landfill boundary established in 1970.

4. Residual Impacts

All potentially significant adverse impacts to public services/utilities associated with the currently proposed project can be reduced to a level of insignificance or avoided entirely with the implementation of a revised version of the previously adopted Mitigation Measure #14 noted above (Class II Impact).

K. Transportation and Circulation

1. Existing Conditions

Roadways serving the Chicago Grade Landfill and other adjacent areas include State Route 41, Homestead Road, South El Pomar Road and Templeton Road. State Route 41, a two-lane rural highway, provides access to Homestead Road from the Atascadero area and to areas west of Homestead Road. Homestead Road is a two-lane rural road that extends from State Route 41 on the south to South El Pomar Road on the north. Homestead Road is the primary access roadway to the landfill. Homestead Road also serves the rural residential land uses that border it. There are several low speed horizontal curves as well as several vertical curves with limited sight distance that function as natural constraints to travel speed on this roadway, which is reflected in the 35 mile per hour (MPH) speed limit. South El Pomar Road is a two-lane rural road located approximately one-quarter mile north of the landfill that also provides access to the landfill via Homestead Road. Templeton Road is a two-lane roadway. It generally runs in a northwest/southeast direction and is located one mile to the west of the landfill and provides access to the landfill via South El Pomar Road or via State Route 41 to Homestead Road.

2. Project Impacts

a. Previously Identified Impacts

The previously certified Final EIR for the 2007 Conditional Use Permit determined that the approved landfill expansion did not: increase vehicle trips to the local or area wide circulation system; reduce existing Levels of Service on public roadway(s); create traffic safety concerns in combination with existing and future anticipated development; result in inadequate emergency access; result in inadequate parking capacity; result in inadequate internal traffic circulation; conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation modes (e.g., pedestrian access, bus turnouts, bicycle racks, etc.) or result in change in air traffic patterns that may result in substantial safety risks. However, the approved expansion of landfill activities could create unsafe conditions on public roadways (e.g., limited access, design features, sight distance or slow vehicles) due to the existing configuration of the landfill entrance.

b. Additional Project Impacts

The currently proposed project does not result in any potentially significant transportation and circulation impacts.

3. Mitigation Measures

a. Previously Adopted Mitigation Measures

15. In the event that the current configuration of the landfill entrance does not comply with County requirements as determined by the County Public Works Department, the applicant shall prepare a landfill entrance reconfiguration plan detailing the improvements necessary to address the safety issues at the existing entrance. The improvement plan shall be prepared to County specifications, which include the following:

- a. Driveway shall meet Homestead Road at a 90 degree angle;
- b. Driveway throat shall extend 50 feet into the site, measured from the edge of Homestead Road, before making any turns;
- c. Driveway corners shall have radii to accommodate California Design Vehicle with no need to cross into an opposing lane on Homestead Road;
- d. Driveway location shall comply with County Standard A-11 for sight distance and
- e. Driveway construction shall comply with County Standard B-2-2.

The plan shall be subject to review and approval by the County Public Works Department prior to the occurrence of the first of the following activities: (a) earth disturbance outside the 45.4 acre area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations"; (b) placement of liner outside the area of "Ongoing Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations"; or (c) placement of waste material outside approved modules 1 through 4. The only exceptions to the above are grading for agricultural operations allowed by the County Grading Ordinance, grading required for the acquisition of daily cover for waste burial in modules 1 through 4, or waste to be buried within approximately one acre of module 7 adjacent to the boundary of module 4 which lies within the Area of Ongoing Operations. The applicant shall provide an annual estimate of the anticipated location and volume of grading to occur under the exceptions. Grading activities shall be subject to monthly monitoring funded by the applicant. The applicant shall also provide records that indicate the location and volume of grading that has occurred under these exceptions in prior years in order to assist this monitoring.

b. Revised Mitigation Measures

The previously adopted Mitigation Measure #15 noted above applies to the previously approved project. Since the currently proposed project does not generate any additional traffic travelling to and from the landfill, this mitigation measure does not apply to the currently proposed project. No revised mitigation measures are required.

4. Residual Impacts

All potentially adverse transportation and circulation impacts associated with the proposed project are insignificant (Class III Impact).

VI. REFERENCES

Associated Traffic Engineers. *Traffic Analysis for the Chicago Grade Landfill Project, County of San Luis Obispo*. 2004.

Chicago Grade Landfill and Recycling, Inc. *Various documents containing project information, 2016*.

California Department of Fish and Game, *California Natural Diversity Data Base, Templeton, and Creston Quadrangles*. 2004.

California Native Plant Society *California Native Plant Society Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California*. 2001.

Dudek, *Chicago Grade Landfill Vertical Expansion, Visual Impact Assessment*, May 23, 2016

EMC Planning Group, *Draft Environmental Impact Report, Chicago Grade Landfill Expansion Development Permit*, July, 2005

EMC Planning Group, *Final Environmental Impact Report, Chicago Grade Landfill Expansion Development Permit*, certified January, 2007

San Luis Obispo County. *North County Area Plan, El Pomar-Estrella Sub Area*. September 2003.

San Luis Obispo County. *North County Area Plan, El Pomar-Estrella Sub Area, Updated Environmental Impact Report*. September 2003.

San Luis Obispo County. Department of Planning and Building, *Land Use Ordinance: Title 22 of the San Luis Obispo County Code*.

San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District. *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines*.

San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District. *2001 Clean Air Plan*.

Spanne, Laurence W., MA. , *Phase I Archaeological Survey Report for Chicago Grade Landfill Project*. Lompoc, California. December 2002.