



Upper Valley Waste Management Agency Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Steven Lederer - Manager
Upper Valley Waste Management Agency

REPORT BY: Steven Lederer, Director, Public Works - 259-8228

SUBJECT: Clover Flat Landfill; Request Board Approval to Accept Fire Debris in Excess of Franchise Limits

RECOMMENDATION

CLOVER FLAT LANDFILL; REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ACCEPT FIRE DEBRIS IN EXCESS OF THE FRANCHISE LIMITS

REQUESTED ACTION: Approval to allow CFL to accept:

- | To extend the end date to which Clover Flat Landfill can accept fire debris, from March 19, 2018 to June 30, 2018, while keeping the total amount of waste which can be accepted the same, at 160,000 tons.
- | The Board may choose to shorten or lengthen this amount of time by formal action at future meetings.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

See Background.

FISCAL IMPACT

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Is there a Fiscal Impact? | Yes |
| Is it currently budgeted? | No |
| What is the revenue source? | The Agency will receive \$4.75/ton on Fire Debris accepted for recycling or disposal at the landfill. |
| Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? | Discretionary |
| Discretionary Justification: | Waste disposal from the fires is on the critical path for many property owners to be able to rebuild their homes. CFL is capable of assisting in this effort due to its location. The Company and the Agency can also use funds generated for valuable future waste management projects. |

Is the general fund affected? No

Future fiscal impact: It is expected all funds from this effort will be received in this fiscal year; unspent funds will carry over to future years as fund balance.

Consequences if not approved: CFL will not be able to assist in the cleanup effort.

Additional Information:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Consideration and possible adoption of a Categorical Exemption Class 1: Since this activity is for a limited period of time, and since the Landfill will continue to operate within its permitted limits, It has been determined that this type of project does not have a significant effect on the environment and is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. [See Class 1 ("Existing Facilities") which may be found in the guidelines for the implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act at 14 CCR §15301; see also Napa County's Local Procedures for Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act, Appendix B.]

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

In October, 2017, three large wild fires, known as the Atlas, Nunns, and Tubbs Fires, destroyed over 700 homes and numerous other structures in Napa County, and many thousands more in Sonoma County. A critical step in the recovery process for those land owners and the County as a whole is removal of the debris from those sites. Clover Flat Landfill (CFL) is in a unique position to assist in that effort as a disposal site, due to its location and available capacity, though in order to do so the acceptance of such materials requires the approval of this Board, as the Franchise agreement limits "out of area" waste to 5% of the highest last 3 years tonnage received (i.e. about 1800 tons per year).

On November 22, 2017, the Company requested of the Agency Manager the ability to commence taking in fire related waste from both Napa and Sonoma Counties. Given the location of the burn areas, essentially all fire related debris is considered "out of area" waste. The Agency Manager, after notifying the Board, and in the interest of supporting recovery efforts, chose not to inhibit the Company's ability to accept this waste, pending convening of the full Board for a more complete discussion and a formal decision. Subsequently, at its December 18th meeting, the Board authorized the Company to accept 120,000 tons of out of area fire debris for the period of November 27, 2017 to February 19, 2018. At the Board's February 10th meeting, the Board authorized the Company to accept an additional 40,000 tons, for a total of 160,000 tons, up to March 19, 2018.

From November 27th to March 26, the landfill received 138,227 tons of fire-related debris; 88% of this waste (Ash and Trash) required landfill disposal, while the remainder (concrete, metal, and green waste) was recycled. Since the beginning of March, waste flows have dropped dramatically, from nearly 10,000 tons per week to about 1,500 tons per week. While the vast majority of the cleanup is done, some additional waste may continue to dribble in over the next months.

Based on current flows, the Agency Manager recommends the Board approve an extension of time to June 30, 2018 for accepting out of area fire debris, with no change to the 160,000 ton overall limit.

The Agency Manager supports this request for the following reasons:

- | Recovery from the Fire is a critical community goal, and the landfill is in a unique position to assist in this effort;
- | Based on the total debris expected, it is clear that other landfills are also "doing their part;"
- | The Board has the ability to revisit this request at future meetings if it desires to make a change at a later date;
- | This waste will have the coincidental benefit of filling in a portion of the landfill that will allow for the creation of more flat space, which will assist in our medium term goal of increasing organics recycling;
- | While not the primary driver for this decision, the influx of waste will generate significant revenue for the Company, which will be used in part to fund the front gate improvements as well as to construct a new landfill cell. While these projects are already the financial responsibility of the Company, this revenue will accelerate these important projects;
- | While not the primary driver for this decision, the influx of waste will generate significant revenue for the Agency which will be used in part to fund future diversion efforts and other projects at the Board's discretion.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Steven Lederer