

Monterey Regional Waste Management District

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR ACCEPTANCE OF REGIONAL WASTE

September 16, 2005
(Rev. 11/16/07)

The “Guiding Principles for the Acceptance of Regional Waste” were developed to address the parameters for offering certain limited, excess landfill capacity to public agencies for the disposal of regional (“out-of-District”) waste at the Monterey Peninsula Landfill. Three potential buyers of this excess landfill capacity include the City of Watsonville, the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority (SVSWA) and the County of Santa Cruz. The purpose of the sale of excess capacity is to stabilize disposal rates to the Monterey Regional Waste Management District (MRWMD) member agencies, provide funding for future expansion of the MRWMD’s diversion and recycling programs, and to permit the City of Watsonville, the SVSWA and the County of Santa Cruz adequate time to identify and develop additional long-term disposal capacity within their respective jurisdictions.

Guiding Principles for Acceptance of Regional (Out-Of-District) Waste

1. Regional waste received will be from public agencies only, by written agreement.
2. The primary need of the public agency will be for short to intermediate-term landfill space while they work to find a long-term solution to their solid waste disposal needs.
3. The sale of the MRWMD excess landfill capacity will be subject to a contract approved by the MRWMD Board of Directors.
4. A “reserve landfill capacity” shall be established to provide an initial 75 year landfill life which will serve projected waste streams generated by the MRWMD member agencies to at least the year 2080. In other words, the amount of regional waste to be accepted will not reduce the MRWMD’s certified landfill capacity below 75 years (to 2080). Certified landfill capacity exceeding 75 years would be considered to be “excess landfill capacity”, which could be made available for sale to public agencies, such as the County of Santa Cruz and the SVSWA.
5. The regional waste brought to the MRWMD will have been subject to recycling and diversion programs acceptable to meet the State-mandated diversion goals.
6. The MRWMD will have the ability to shorten the contract term should the public agency not demonstrate adequate progress in meeting its long-term solution to solid waste disposal.
7. The acceptance of regional waste will utilize only MRWMD landfill operations and airspace. The regional waste will not require the use of any of the following MRWMD services: materials recovery facility, public recycling drop-off facility, Last Chance Mercantile reuse facility, household hazardous waste collection program, composting facility, and public awareness program.
8. The negotiated landfill disposal fee will include an escalation clause to compensate the MRWMD for future annual increases in costs. The regional waste will be transported to the MRWMD in either large transfer-trailer type trucks or waste collection packer trucks to minimize the impact on public roads and maximize the efficiency of transportation and landfill operations.



Memorandum

MONTEREY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

DATE: December 10, 2004
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: General Manager
SUBJECT: Guiding Principles as Revised on October 15, 2004

At the October 15, 2004 meeting the Board agreed on the following Guiding Principles that were proposed by the MRWMD AdHoc Advisory Task Force which met this summer.

- **District Governance Structure**

Maintain existing governance structure. Do not expand current District boundaries or increase the size of the current nine-member Board of Directors.

- **Labor Policy**

Continue to operate District facilities with District staff. Do not use outside contractors to provide primary District services.

- **Reserve Policy and Debt Service Ratios**

Maintain District policy of retaining 25% of the operating expense budget in reserve. Maintain debt service ratios as required in bond covenant.

- **Range of Waste Management Services and Recycling/Diversion Rates**

Continue to provide existing recycling and landfill services, while maintaining diversion rates of at least 50% for member agencies. Service levels could be increased if additional revenue becomes available and additional programs, such as food waste composting, could be added.

- **Landfill Capacity and Service Area**

Consider a policy establishing a minimum 75 to 80 year landfill life to serve projected wastestreams exclusively generated by the MRWMD member agencies. Certified landfill capacity exceeding the 75 to 80 years would be considered excess capacity, which could be considered for sale to the County of Santa Cruz and the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority (SVSWA) at "market rates". The purpose of the sale of the excess capacity is to mitigate further rate increases to the MRWMD member agencies and to permit the SVSWA and the County of Santa Cruz adequate time to identify and develop additional long-term landfill capacity within their respective jurisdictions. The Board authorized staff to meet with the SVSWA and the County of Santa Cruz to discuss the parameters for the possible acceptance of additional waste.

- **Rate Policies**

The Board discussed rate policies including a \$3-5 per ton increase in 2005 with an annual increase thereafter of \$1/ton to ensure fiscal solvency and financing of the ongoing range of waste and recycling services provided by the District. Staff was asked to provide additional information regarding rate increase options for the Board at their November meeting.

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