

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Governor's Office of Land Use and
Climate Innovation - State
Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth St, Suite 222
Sacramento, CA 95814-5502
and
Orange County Clerk-Recorder,
County Administration South
601 N. Ross Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701

From: South Coast Air Quality Management
District (South Coast AQMD)
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with Public
Resources Code Section 21152 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15096(i)

Project Title: Orange County Waste and Recycling (OCWR) Frank R Bowerman
(FRB) Landfill Project

State Clearinghouse No: 2005071102

**Project Applicant and
Project Location:** OCWR FRB
South Coast AQMD Facility ID No. 069646
11002 Bee Canyon Access Road, Irvine, CA 92602

Lead Agency: Orange County Board of
Supervisors through OCWR
601 N. Ross Street, 5th Floor
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Responsible Agency: South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

**Lead Agency
Contact:** Leila Barker
(714) 834-4013

**Responsible Agency
Contact:** Sina Taghvaei, Ph.D.,
(909) 396-2192

**Date of Project
Approval by
Lead Agency:** August 15, 2006

**Date of Project
Approval by
Responsible Agency:** July 21, 2026

**Project
Description:**

The Orange County Board of Supervisors, as the lead agency for the OCWR FRB Landfill Project, certified the Final Environmental Impact Report No. 604 for the Regional Landfill Options for Orange County (RELOOC) Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation (Final EIR No. 604), which was prepared by OCWR (formerly named as Orange County Integrated Waste Management Department) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) on August 15, 2006.

Final EIR No. 604 evaluated the potential environmental impacts associated with phased vertical and horizontal expansions of the OCWR FRB Landfill refuse footprint within the existing property boundary, an increase to the landfill's permitted capacity and extension of its operational life to approximately 2053, an increase to the maximum permitted disposal rate to 11,500 tons per day, temporary disturbance of areas outside the property boundary to remediate on-site landslides through slope stabilization, implementation of a Soil Management Plan to preserve adjacent canyons, and measures to protect plant and animal habitats on the landfill property.

The OCWR FRB Landfill Project implements a portion of the RELOOC improvements previously analyzed for the OCWR FRB Landfill in Final EIR No. 604. OCWR FRB submitted permit applications to: 1) replace two existing landfill gas (LFG) Flares I-1 and I-2 with two new enclosed LFG-fired Flares I-1a and I-2a, 2) install a new integrated LFG treatment system common to all flares, 3) make administrative changes such as separating out Flares I-1 to I-5 which are currently listed under one permit into their own individual permits, 4) update permits to reflect connections to the new LFG treatment system, and 5) update the sulfur oxide (SOx) and total sulfur (as hydrogen sulfide or H₂S) emission limits in the permit conditions for Flares I-3 through I-5 to Best Available Control Technology (BACT) standards for consistency and without changing the quantity of LFG flared because these BACT limits did not exist at the time these flares were installed. The project applicant submitted the following: 1) South Coast AQMD Application Number (A/N) 652135 seeking to modify the Permit to Construct (PC) issued for the existing flare system (under A/N R-610010 which lists Flares I-1 to I-5) by removing Flares I-1 through I-4 from the existing permit, such that the revised PC will only list Flare I-5; 2) A/Ns 652136 and 652137 to administratively separate Flare I-3 and Flare I-4, respectively, from the existing flare system permit (currently listed under A/N R-610010) and establish Flare I-3 and Flare I-4 under their own permits; 3) A/N 652138 seeking to modify the PC issued for Flare I-6 (currently listed under A/N 614468) to add a connection to a new LFG sulfur removal system as a supplement to its current dedicated LFG treatment system; 4) A/N 652139 seeking change of conditions to the PC issued for the existing LFG treatment system (under A/N 621901) to reflect the connection to Flare I-6; 5) A/Ns 652140 and 652141 seeking PCs for two new enclosed LFG-fired Flares I-1a and I-2a (Perennial Energy Model No. FL-150-48-EN) which will replace existing Flares I-1 and I-2 (both currently listed under A/N R-610010),

respectively; 6) A/N 652142 seeking a PC for a new integrated LFG treatment system common to all flares (i.e., Flares I-1a, I-2a, and I-3 through I-6); and 7) A/N 652143 seeking a Significant Title V Permit Revision.

The Orange County Board of Supervisors adopted Findings, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and a Statement of Overriding Considerations, as set forth in the Resolution No. 06 of the Board of Supervisors of Orange County, California, and certified the Final EIR No. 604 for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation.

This is to advise that the South Coast AQMD, as the Responsible Agency, has considered the Final EIR No. 604 for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation as set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15096(i), approved the above-described OCWR FRB Landfill Project and made the following determinations:

1. The Final EIR No. 604 for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation was prepared by OCWR (formerly named as Orange County Integrated Waste Management Department), and was certified by the Orange County Board of Supervisors, as Lead Agency for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Project, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
2. The Orange County Board of Supervisors adopted mitigation measures which were made a condition of the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Project approval.
3. The Orange County Board of Supervisors adopted Findings, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and a Statement of Overriding Considerations.
4. The Final EIR No. 604 for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation concluded significant and unavoidable impacts after mitigation is applied for the environmental topic areas of: 1) aesthetics, 2) air quality, and 3) biological resources.
5. The Final EIR No. 604 for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation concluded less than significant impacts after mitigation is applied for the environmental topic areas of: 1) cultural and scientific resources, 2) geology and soils, 3) hydro-geology and water quality, 4) surface water hydrology, and 5) transportation and circulation.
6. The South Coast AQMD has determined that the OCWR FRB Landfill Project: 1) is within the scope of the analysis conducted in the previously certified Final EIR No. 604 for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation; and 2) does not meet the conditions that would require the preparation of a subsequent EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15162.
7. The South Coast AQMD has determined that the OCWR FRB Landfill Project is a subset of the larger project evaluated in the Final EIR No. 604 for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation, and the environmental impacts of the OCWR FRB Landfill Project are within the scope of the analysis presented in Final EIR No. 604 such that no changes to the conclusions in the Final EIR No. 604 are necessary.

8. All previously adopted mitigation measures in the Final EIR No. 604 for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation will remain in full effect for the OCWR FRB Landfill Project and are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of other public agencies to implement. The South Coast AQMD is not revising or adopting new mitigation measures or Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the OCWR FRB Landfill Project.
9. Because no new or substantially worsened significant impacts were identified for the OCWR FRB Landfill Project, a Statement of Overriding Considerations as set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15093 is not required and was not prepared for the OCWR FRB Landfill Project.
10. The South Coast AQMD, after reviewing and considering the Final EIR No. 604, the Findings, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Statement of Overriding Considerations adopted by Orange County Board of Supervisors for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Project, and other supporting documentation, adopted its own Findings as required by CEQA Guidelines Section 15096(h) concerning the significant impacts identified in the Final EIR No. 604 for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation relative to the OCWR FRB Landfill Project.
11. These Responsible Agency determinations for the OCWR FRB Landfill Project reflect the independent judgment of the South Coast AQMD.

This is to certify that the following documents are available to the public and may be examined at South Coast AQMD located at 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765: 1) the Final EIR No. 604 for the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Implementation, the Findings, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Statement of Overriding Considerations adopted by Orange County Board of Supervisors; 2) supporting materials and the record associated with the RELOOC Strategic Plan – Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Project approval by Orange County Board of Supervisors; 3) the South Coast AQMD's adoption of its own Findings as Responsible Agency; 4) other supporting documentation; and 5) the record of Project approval by the South Coast AQMD.

Date Received for Filing: _____

Signature: _____

 July 21, 2026

Barbara Radlein
Planning and Rules Manager, CEQA
Planning, Rule Development, and
Implementation



Approved as to form, Nicholas Dwyer
Senior Deputy District Counsel July 21, 2026