



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: January 15, 2008
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Scott McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Mark Schleich, Public Works Deputy Director, 882-3603

**SUBJECT: Conversion Technology Goals & Criteria
Supervisorial Districts 1, 2, and 3**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: No

Recommended Actions:

Set Hearing for January 22, 2008 to:

1. Approve:
 - a. Proposed conversion technology (CT) project goals (Attachment 1); and
 - b. Proposed criteria to screen potential technologies for suitability and ability to meet project goals (Attachment 2).
2. Direct staff to return in April 2008 to present the final conversion technology feasibility report prepared by Alternative Resources, Inc.

Summary Text:

In October 2007, your Board approved a contract with Alternative Resources, Inc. (ARI) to evaluate the feasibility of constructing a conversion technology facility to service South Coast ratepayers. The facility would most likely be located at the Tajiguas Landfill. The study conducted by ARI is a collaborative effort between the County and the City of Santa Barbara and is in response to recent developments that would allow the production of valuable products, including green energy, from waste currently being landfilled and provide a long-term option for solid waste management.

Over the last two months, ARI has built upon work that had previously been done by the Conversion Technology Subgroup of the Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Task Group (MJSWTG). The work included project goals as well as evaluation criteria for screening potential technologies to be used on the South Coast. ARI, working with select County and City of Santa Barbara elected officials and staff,

have prepared updated goals and evaluation criteria including information gleaned from efforts conducted in other jurisdictions as well as feedback from community stakeholders. These proposed goals and evaluation criteria are included as Attachments 1 and 2.

Staff is seeking Board approval of the proposed goals and evaluation criteria for the project. Upon approval of these goals and criteria, ARI will solicit information from potential vendors and complete their feasibility study in April 2008. Once the study is complete, staff will return to your Board with ARI's findings.

Background:

The Board has requested that Public Works Staff work together with the City of Santa Barbara in evaluating the feasibility of CT to be used as an alternative to standard disposal through burial at the Tajiguas Landfill. Your Board also directed staff to hire an independent consultant with expertise in this area.

In May 2007, the Public Works Department issued a request for proposals (RFP) soliciting consulting services for a review of conversion technologies. In June 2007, the Public Works Departments of both the City and County of Santa Barbara created a selection committee to review the responses to the RFP. Participating jurisdictions included: the County of Santa Barbara, the City of Santa Barbara, the City of Goleta and the Montecito Sanitation District. The selection committee determined Alternative Resources Incorporated (ARI) to be the best qualified consultant for this project.

In October of 2007, the City Council of Santa Barbara and the County Board of Supervisors approved the hiring of ARI to proceed with the evaluation of CT to be established at the Tajiguas Landfill. In the past few months, ARI, working with select County and City of Santa Barbara elected officials and staff, has drafted goals that will be used as guiding principles in the evaluation process. ARI has also drafted evaluation criteria that will be used to screen potential technologies for suitability at the Tajiguas Landfill while considering the goals of our community. In developing the proposed goals and criteria, ARI has based its work on the October 2003 MJSWTG CT Subgroup Report. ARI has refined and updated this work with input from staff and experience gained from similar efforts undertaken in other jurisdictions.

During this same time period, staff from the County and City of Santa Barbara has conducted a comprehensive outreach campaign speaking directly to over 20 community organizations, agencies, and jurisdictions including the City Councils of Goleta, Buellton and Solvang. This campaign will continue until all interested parties have been updated on the project. The purpose of the campaign is to make the community more aware of the current rates of waste generation and the need for a long-term management plan and how conversion technology may fit in the plan. In addition, the potential benefits of further processing recyclables and converting waste to an energy source are explained. Staff is soliciting feedback from the community on the draft goals and has encouraged interested parties to continue to track the progress of the project.

If your Board approves the proposed goals and evaluation criteria, ARI will solicit additional information from existing conversion technology vendors and complete a study highlighting the technologies and vendors able to meet our community criteria. This report is projected to be completed and shared with your Board in April 2008.

Performance Measure:

None.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative: Establishment of Goals and Criteria to be used for the evaluation of conversion technologies will have no fiscal impact to the County. As the evaluation process proceeds, potential fiscal impacts will be discussed in the future.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

Special Instructions:

Minute order to be sent to the Department of Public Works, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, attn: Carlyle Johnston.

Attachments:

1. Proposed Project Goals
2. Proposed Project Evaluation Criteria

Authored by: Carlyle A. Johnston, Resource Recovery & Waste Management, ext. 3617