



Tim Reed 09-6-3
KERN COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

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Mr. Richard Boyd
California Air Resources Board
Stationary Source Division
1001 I Street
Sacramento CA 95812

RE: Comments on the Proposed Draft Regulations for the Control of Methane Emissions from Municipal Sanitary Landfills (Version 3/18/09)

Dear Mr. Boyd:

The Kern County Waste Management Department (KCWMD) appreciates the opportunity to provide written comments on the most recent draft regulations for the control of methane emissions from municipal sanitary landfills. We have provided comments to you on past drafts and greatly appreciate your efforts to address our concerns. Based on our review of the current draft of the regulations, we have prepared a few comments and suggestions to clarify the language of the regulations.

§95463 Determination for Installing a Gas Collection and Control System

- Instantaneous surface emission monitoring equipment is subject to false positive measurements. KCWMD recommends that the wording in §95463(c)(2)(B)(1) be revised to include provisions for false positive readings that are already included in the instantaneous surface methane emission limit requirements in §95465(a)(1). Therefore the text could be revised as follows:

"If there is any measured concentration of methane of 200 ppmv or greater from the surface of an active, inactive, or closed MSW landfill, other than non-repeatable, momentary readings, comply with Sections 95464 through 95477;"

- It is KCWMD's interpretation that a landfill that meets the requirements of §95463(c)(2)(B) would not be required to perform the integrated monitoring required in §95469. If this interpretation is correct, specific language should be added that exempts these landfills from the requirement for integrated monitoring.

§ 95464 Gas Collection and Control System Requirements

- It is not possible to collect an effluent sample from an open flare. Open flares should be exempt from the source testing requirements. The requirements for source testing specified in §95464(b)(4) and §95471(f) should state that they are not applicable to open flares.
- If an open flare is operating at a closed landfill where methane concentrations are continuing to decline, it would be impractical and cost prohibitive to install an enclosed flare or other combustion technology that may only operate for a few additional years. When the landfill gas heat input is less than 3.0 MMBtu/hr and declining, KCWMD believes a closed landfill should be exempt from operating a gas collection system under §95463. Therefore, the criteria for continued operation of an open flare should be whether there is sufficient heat input to operate any other type of control device that combusts the methane. KCWMD recommends that the language in §95464(b)(2)(B)(2) be revised as follows:

“Operation of an open flare on or after January 1, 2018, may be allowed if the owner or operator can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Executive Officer that the landfill gas heat input capacity is less than 3.0 MMBtu/hr pursuant to section 95471(b) ~~and is or will be~~ insufficient to support the continuous operation of an enclosed flare or other gas control device.”

The Executive Officer should have the discretion to allow the continued operation of an open flare past the January 1, 2018 cut-off date if methane concentrations are close to the point where combustion will no longer be practical by any other means.

§ 95476 Definitions

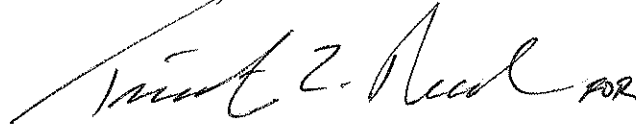
- The definitions for “Closed MSW Landfill” and “Inactive MSW Landfill” should include individual Waste Management Units within the landfill Facility Boundary. Many landfills have discrete Waste Management Units that have met the definition of a Closed or Inactive MSW landfill. Since these units will not receive any additional waste, they should not require the same monitoring frequency as an active portion of the landfill. The term “Waste Management Unit” has a specific definition under Title 27 CCR, Division 2, Chapter 2, Article 1, §20164, and should be added to the list of definitions in §95476. Suggested wordings for the definitions for Closed and Inactive MSW Landfills are as follows:

““Closed MSW Landfill” means that a MSW landfill or Waste Management Unit, that is no longer accepting solid waste for disposal...”

““Inactive MSW Landfill” means that a MSW landfill or Waste Management Unit, that is no longer accepting solid waste for disposal...”

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written comments on the draft regulations. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact Tim Reed at (661) 862-8855.

Sincerely,



Eric J. Greenwood, P.E., P.G., C.H.G.
Supervising Engineer