

GLENN COUNTY
Planning & Community Development Services Agency

225 North Tehama Street
Willows, CA 95988
530.934.6540
www.countyofglenn.net



Donald Rust, Director

STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 21, 2020
TO: Glenn County Planning Commission
FROM: John Lanier, Assistant Planner
SUBJECT: Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, AMMD 2020-001, Compost Solutions, Inc.

Attachments:

1. Conditions of Approval
2. Request for Review, Application, and Comments
3. Site Plan
4. Mitigated Negative Declaration, Vicinity Notice
5. Initial Study
6. Previous Staff Reports

1 PROJECT SUMMARY

Compost Solutions, Inc. has applied for an amendment to Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, AMMD 2020-001. The amendment will include the following. The addition of a 12-acre parcel located to the east of the project site for a revised total of 40 acres, approximately 9 additional acres of compost working surface (for summer use only), an approximately 2.5 acre retention pond to contain onsite stormwater, removal of and filling of the previous filter strip, and drainage revisions to the current working face. The annual tonnages, trucking, feedstocks will not change, except for the elimination of biosolids from the compost. Compost Solutions, Inc. will use manure waste (primarily from dairies) and green waste (primarily from cities and orchards) to create compost to serve the agricultural industry. The site is not open to the public. Composting facilities are an allowed use with an approved Conditional Use Permit (Glenn County Code §15.330.040.B). The parcel is 45.89± acres. Approximately 40± acres are proposed for the composting operation, with 5.89± acres for the compost windrows; Additional information is included in the application and plot plans.

This parcel (APN 024-030-031) is zoned "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36-acre minimum parcel size) and is designated "Intensive Agricultural" in the General Plan.

This project is located on the northeast corner of County Roads 27 and N, south of County Road 25, west of County Road P, approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the City of Orland, in the unincorporated area of Glenn County, California.

1.1 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Planning & Community Development Services Agency recommends that the Planning Commission grant Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, AMMD 2020-001 a Mitigated Negative Declaration with the Findings as stated in the Staff Report. The Planning & Community Development Services Agency also recommends that the Planning Commission approve Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, AMMD 2020-001 with the Findings as stated in the Staff Report and the Mitigation Monitoring Program and Conditions of Approval as attached.

2 ANALYSIS

The proposed composting facility expansion is consistent with surrounding intensive agricultural land uses and is consistent with similar projects in the area. This area of Glenn County is a productive agricultural area. Composting offers an efficient, environmentally safe, and cost-effective method to divert materials from the waste stream. The proposed project will not be detrimental to the health, safety, or general welfare of persons residing or working in the vicinity.

2.1 MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

A copy of the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study is attached. The Initial Study is a detailed discussion of the project and a discussion of the project's potential environmental impacts as required by the California Environmental Quality Act

(CEQA). The Initial Study concludes that this project will result in no Potentially Significant Impacts to the environment with implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, conditions of approval, adopted best management practices, and applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations. Therefore, a Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared for adoption by the Planning Commission.

2.2 GENERAL PLAN AND ZONING CONSISTENCY

The site is designated “Intensive Agriculture” in the Glenn County General Plan and is zoned “AE-40” (Exclusive Agricultural District). This project is within an area of existing agricultural uses and is permitted with an approved Conditional Use Permit in the “AE-40” zone (Glenn County Code Chapter 15.330).

The project is consistent with the surrounding land uses because the area consists of agricultural uses. The proposal will not adversely affect the General Plan.

“AE-40” Exclusive Agricultural District (Glenn County Code Chapter 15.330):

Purpose (Glenn County Code §15.330.010)

This zoning classification is established for the following purposes:

- A. To preserve the maximum amount of the limited supply of agricultural land which is necessary in the conservation of the County’s economic resources and vital for a healthy agricultural economy of the County;*
- B. To eliminate the encroachment of land uses which are incompatible with the agricultural use of land;*
- C. To prevent the unnecessary conversion of agricultural land to urban uses;*
- D. To provide areas for both intensive and extensive agricultural activities.*

Uses Permitted With a Conditional Use Permit (Glenn County Code §15.330.040)

Fertilizer manufacturing or processing for resale is an allowed use in the AE-40 zoning district (§15.330.040(B)).

2.3 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (GLENN COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 15.560)

The Glenn County Code performance standards apply to all development proposals. The proposed changes are not anticipated to exceed applicable performance standards. All of the applicable performance standards were discussed in the staff report for Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, and subsequently met in the development process.

3 GENERAL PROVISIONS

The project site is located Flood Zone “X” (shaded) according to Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) No. 06021C 040D, dated August 5, 2010, issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Flood Zone “X” (shaded) is a moderate flood hazard area and consists of areas between the limits of the base flood and the 0.2-percent annual chance (or 500-year) flood.

4 **COMMENTS**

A Request for Review requesting comments on the proposal was sent on May 11, 2020, with preliminary commenting closing June 1, 2020. The Glenn County Environmental Health Department and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submitted comments regarding this proposal.

The Glenn County Environmental Health Department commented that they reviewed the project information and the comments are attached.

The Pacific Gas and Electric Company was provided the project information and their comments are attached.

5 **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

There is a ten (10) calendar day appeal period following Planning Commission action on this conditional use permit (Glenn County Code §15.050.020).

The appeal made to the Glenn County Board of Supervisors must be made in accordance with §15.050.020 of the Glenn County Code. The Board of Supervisors will hear the appeal as outlined by this code. The decision of the Board of Supervisors may then be challenged in court.

An approved conditional use permit expires one (1) year from the date of granting unless substantial physical construction and/or use of the property in reliance on the permit has commenced prior to its expiration. An approved conditional use permit may be extended by the director for an additional sixty (60) calendar days provided that the applicant/owner submits a written request for extension to the director at least twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the expiration date. Only one (1) extension shall be allowed for each permit (Glenn County Code §15.090.100.A).

The necessary permits shall be secured in all affected federal, state, and local agencies. It is the responsibility of the applicant/operator to make certain all requirements are met and permits are obtained from all other agencies.

In addition to the Conditions of Approval, the applicant's and his/her technical or project management representative's attention is directed to the project comments from other agencies reviewing the application. The items noted are a guide to assist the applicant in meeting the requirements of applicable government codes. Project comments may also note any unusual circumstances that need special attention. The items listed are a guide and not intended to be a comprehensive summary of all codified requirements or site-specific requirements.

6 **FINDINGS**

6.1 **NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

6.2 **FINDINGS FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT**

According to Glenn County Code Sections 15.220.010 and 15.220.030, the following Findings listed in Glenn County Code 15.220.020 shall be made prior to recommending approval of a conditional use permit:

A. Negative Declaration:

Finding 1.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on aesthetics because there are no scenic resources in the area and the adopted standards for construction and lighting will minimize any future impacts from development. Additionally, General Plan standards for Composting Facilities will reduce adverse impacts.

Finding 2.

That the project will have no significant adverse impacts on agricultural resources because the zoning and use of the land is agricultural and no significant change in land use will result.

Finding 3.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effects on air quality because the project will not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to any existing air quality violation. Standards, codes, and mitigation measures reduce any potential impact to less than significant. Additionally, the project is not near any sensitive receptors.

Dust is a potential impact to air quality. The Applicant and Glenn County Air Pollution Control District have recommended mitigation measures and conditions of approval to mitigate any impact to less than significant. The following dust control plan will reduce impacts to less than significant:

The applicant shall water driveways and loading areas at a minimum frequency of two times per day (once in the morning, once in the afternoon, and more often as needed) when the driveways and loading areas are being utilized. The applicant shall suspend hauling and turning operations during high wind conditions of 25 miles per hour and higher. The applicant shall ensure that all trucks entering and exiting the facility maintain a minimum free board space of six inches. If fugitive material is found to be exiting the trucks during transport, the applicant shall ensure that the truck loads are covered.

The applicant submitted an Odor Control Plan to minimize odors in the vicinity of the site. The Odor Control Plan includes the following:

Our compost format is derived from the Lubke system of composting. This uses several methods to help control odor while increasing the compost value by trapping stinky ammonia and converting it to a usable form of nitrogen. These methods are:

- 1) *Use of clay with its negative charges to attract the positive charges of ammonium. We will be adding 10% clay to our mix.*
- 2) *A correct C:N, will sequester stinky ammonia, limiting odor.*
- 3) *The addition of organic microbes and stimulants will also aid in the odor control. If the clay, correct C:N and microbe stimulants do not suppress odors sufficiently, the following measures will be utilized.*
- 4) *As a first measure, high carbon wood ash will help control odor.*
- 5) *As a second measure, oxidizing agents such as potassium permanganate are used to prevent the formation of hydrogen sulfide, which causes odor.*
- 6) *As a third measure, odor neutralizing agents, such as Essential Oils can be sprayed into foul odor airstreams to neutralize odor.*
- 7) *As a final measure, biofilters will be used to filter foul odor on-site. When wind is blowing in the direction towards any residence within .5 miles we will only turn rows when absolutely needed. We will track odor complaints and work with residents to solve problems.*

Finding 4.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on biological resources because there are no sensitive habitats or natural communities as defined by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Finding 5.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on cultural resources because it is in an area of low to moderate sensitivity for prehistoric, protohistoric, and historic cultural resources.

Cultural Resources (New Mitigation)

In the event that any prehistoric or historic subsurface cultural resources are discovered during ground disturbing activities, all work within 100 feet of the resources shall be halted and the applicant/operator shall consult with the County and a qualified archaeologist (as approved by the County) to assess the significance of the find per CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. The qualified archaeologist shall determine the nature of the find, evaluate its significance, and, if necessary, suggest preservation or mitigation measures. Appropriate mitigation measures, based on recommendations listed in the archaeological survey report, will be determined by the Glenn County Planning and Community Development Services Agency Director. Work may proceed on other parts of the project site while mitigation for historical resources or unique archaeological resources is carried out. All significant cultural materials recovered shall be, at the discretion of the consulting archaeologist, subject to scientific analysis, professional museum curation, and documented according to current professional standards.

Timing/Implementation: During construction/excavation activities

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Planning & Community Development Services Agency

Finding 6.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on geology and soils concerning the capacity of the soils. No on-site sewage disposal is needed for the project. There are no geologic hazards in the area and the Building Code will require any new construction to meet standards for soils.

Finding 7.

The project will not have a significant impact on global climate change as a result of greenhouse gas emissions. The project is not in conflict with existing guidelines or standards. The project will not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. The project will not create significant changes in GHG emissions.

Finding 8.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on hazards and hazardous materials because the project does not involve the use of hazardous materials either directly or indirectly. In addition, the project will not interfere with any adopted emergency response plan nor expose people to risk of loss, injury or death.

Finding 9.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on hydrology and water quality because the project does not place any structures within a 100-year flood plain and will not significantly alter the drainage pattern of the area. The Applicant will need to meet the requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board prior to commencing operations.

Permits required to the Regional Board, who has jurisdiction over waste discharge, will mitigate potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level. The Applicant plans on compacting the surface to 90% to minimize leachate, use a 2 foot levee around the site to eliminate run-off, and install a 2.75 acre filter strip to mitigate potential impacts from stormwater.

The Glenn County Environmental Health Department has recommended the following Mitigation Measure to reduce the impact to water quality to less than significant:

That the operator shall cover all compost feedstock stored onsite with a tarp prior to the onset of the rain season, or between October 31 and April 1, to minimize leachate into the groundwater.

Finding 10.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on land use and planning because the project area is designated "Intensive Agriculture" in the General Plan and is zoned "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size).

The proposed use meets the requirements of the Glenn County Code and General Plan with an approved Conditional Use Permit.

Finding 11.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on mineral resources. Aggregate, gas, oil, and geothermal resources are not known to exist at the project site.

Finding 12.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on noise because the project is not within the vicinity of a public or private airstrip. Any future construction is required to meet the established standards prescribed by the County Code. Additionally, this project would not expose people to excessive noise levels or ground borne vibration.

Finding 13.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on population and housing because the project will not displace any housing or construct any new housing. This project would not induce substantial population growth.

Finding 14.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on public services because adequate fire protection, police protection, schools, parks and any other public facilities is available to serve this project.

Finding 15.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on recreation because it would not significantly increase the use of existing recreational facilities nor does the project include any such facilities.

Finding 16.

That the proposed Conditional Use Permit Amendment (CUP 2006-006, AMMD 2020-001) will not have a significant adverse impact on transportation/circulation, nor will it have a substantial impact on parking or traffic related hazards in the area.

That the applicant shall enter into a Road Maintenance Agreement with the County of Glenn Public Works Division prior to commencement of any operations covered in this Conditional Use Permit. Said agreement shall be for the maintenance of all County roads adversely affected by this permit and operations thereof.

Finding 17.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse impact on utilities and septic systems because the project does not include solid waste. Potential liquid waste generated at the site is under the jurisdiction of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Permits from the Regional Board are required for operation.

Finding 18.

That there is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record that the project (CUP 2006-006, AMMD) may have a significant impact on the environment either cumulatively or individually with mitigation measures.

The following Noxious Weed and Weed Seed Control Plan will mitigate any impact to less than significant related to invasive species, noxious weeds, and weed seeds:

Truckloads believed to contain noxious weed and/or weed seed will be covered with tarps to minimize dispersal of weeds and seeds. The compost turning system heats the compost to a temperature that kills weed seed.

The Applicant submitted a Vector Control Plan to mitigate any potential impacts to a less than significant level. The following Plan is recommended:

- 1) *There will be no standing water on the site related to the composting facility.*
- 2) *Weeds and grasses will be chopped to limit rodent habitat.*
- 3) *Manure and other fly-attracting materials will be tarped.*
- 4) *Manure will be brought on-site and mixed into the windrows just prior to commencement of the composting system.*
- 5) *The compost turning system will heat windrows to 140 + degrees, which will kill fly larvae.*

The proposed Noxious Weed and Weed Seed and Vector Control Plan will mitigate potential impacts to native plant species and human health to a less than significant level.

B. Conditional Use Permit 2006-06, AMMD 2020-001:

Finding A (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.A).

That the proposed use at the particular location is necessary or desirable in providing a service or facility which will contribute to the general well-being of the public. The proposed compost facility will divert waste from landfills, provide dairy operators a local disposal option, and will create fertilizer for the local agriculture industry.

Finding B (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.B).

That such use will not, under the circumstances of the particular case, be detrimental to the health safety or general welfare of persons residing or working on the vicinity, or injurious to property or improvements in the vicinity. The proposed project will not have adverse effects on nearby residents or the public in general.

Finding C (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.C).

That the site for the proposed use is adequate in size and shape to accommodate said use and to accommodate all of the yards, setbacks, wall or fences, and other features required herein or by the planning commission.

Finding D (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.D).

Except in the case of the expansion of a nonconforming use, that the granting of the permit will not adversely affect the general plan or any area plan of the county. The proposed project is not an expansion of a non-conforming use and conforms to the County Code and General Plan.

7 SAMPLE MOTIONS

Environmental Determination

I move that the Planning Commission find that on the basis of the Initial Study for Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 AMMD 2020-001, prepared by the Planning and Community Development Services Agency, that the proposed Conditional Use Permit, as applied for by Compost Solutions, Inc., will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment because the codified County standards, Conditions of Approval, and Mitigation Measures (Air Pollution, Hydrology and Water Quality, Transportation/Traffic, and Mandatory Findings of Significance) shall reduce impacts to a less than significant level. Therefore, a Mitigated Negative Declaration shall be granted with the Findings listed in the Staff Report.

Conditional Use Permit

I (further) move that the Planning Commission approve Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 AMMD 2020-001, as applied for by Compost Solutions, Inc., on Assessor's Parcel Number: 024-030-031 and that the Planning Commission has reviewed, analyzed, and considered the Mitigated Negative Declaration that was recommended for this project and the Conditional Use Permit to be approved with the Findings as presented in the Staff Report and the Mitigation Measures and Conditions of Approval as attached.

**MITIGATION MONITORING PROGRAM AND
CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

Conditional Use Permit #2006-006, Amendment 2020-001

Compost Solutions, Inc.

APN: 024-030-031

Mitigation Monitoring Program – During Development

Cultural Resources (New Mitigation)

1. That the following Cultural Resources Plan shall be implemented:

In the event that any prehistoric or historic subsurface cultural resources are discovered during ground disturbing activities, all work within 100 feet of the resources shall be halted and the applicant/operator shall consult with the County and a qualified archaeologist (as approved by the County) to assess the significance of the find per CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. The qualified archaeologist shall determine the nature of the find, evaluate its significance, and, if necessary, suggest preservation or mitigation measures. Appropriate mitigation measures, based on recommendations listed in the archaeological survey report, will be determined by the Glenn County Planning and Community Development Services Agency Director. Work may proceed on other parts of the project site while mitigation for historical resources or unique archaeological resources is carried out. All significant cultural materials recovered shall be, at the discretion of the consulting archaeologist, subject to scientific analysis, professional museum curation, and documented according to current professional standards.

Timing/Implementation: During construction/excavation activities

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Planning & Community Development Services Agency

Mitigation Monitoring Program – Ongoing

Air Pollution

2. That the following Dust Control Plan shall be implemented:

*The applicant shall water driveways and loading areas at a **minimum** frequency of two times per day (once in the morning, once in the afternoon, and more often as needed) when the driveways and loading areas are being utilized. The applicant shall suspend hauling and turning operations during high wind conditions of 25 miles per hour and higher. The applicant shall ensure that all*

trucks entering and exiting the facility maintain a minimum free board space of six inches. If fugitive material is found to be exiting the trucks during transport, the applicant shall ensure that the truck loads are covered.

Timing/Implementation: In Perpetuity

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Air Pollution Control District

3. That the following Odor Control Plan shall be implemented:

Our compost format is derived from the Lubke system of composting. This uses several methods to help control odor while increasing the compost value by trapping stinky ammonia and converting it to a usable form of nitrogen. These methods are:

- 1) Use of clay with its negative charges to attract the positive charges of ammonium. We will be adding 10% clay to our mix.*
- 2) A correct C:N, will sequester stinky ammonia, limiting odor.*
- 3) The addition of organic microbes and stimulants will also aid in the odor control. If the clay, correct C:N and microbe stimulants do not suppress odors sufficiently, the following measures will be utilized.*
- 4) As a first measure, high carbon wood ash will help control odor.*
- 5) As a second measure, oxidizing agents such as potassium permanganate are used to prevent the formation of hydrogen sulfide, which causes odor.*
- 6) As a third measure, odor neutralizing agents, such as Essential Oils can be sprayed into foul odor airstreams to neutralize odor.*
- 7) As a final measure, biofilters will be used to filter foul odor on-site. When wind is blowing in the direction towards any residence within .5 miles we will only turn rows when absolutely needed. We will track odor complaints and work with residents to solve problems.*

Timing/Implementation: In Perpetuity

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Air Pollution Control District

Hydrology and Water Quality

4. That the operator shall cover all compost feedstock stored onsite with a tarp prior to the onset of the rain season, or between October 31 and April 1, to minimize leachate into the groundwater.

Timing/Implementation: In Perpetuity

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Environmental Health Department

Transportation/Traffic

5. That the applicant shall enter into a Road Maintenance Agreement with the Glenn County Public Works Division prior to commencement of any operations covered in this Conditional Use Permit. Said agreement shall be for the maintenance of all County roads adversely affected by this permit and operations thereof.

Timing/Implementation: Prior to commencing operations

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Public Works Agency

Mandatory Findings of Significance

6. That the following Vector Control Plan shall be implemented:

1. *There will be no standing water on the site related to the composting facility.*
2. *Weeds and grasses will be chopped to limit rodent habitat.*
3. *Manure and other fly-attracting materials will be tarped.*
4. *Manure will be brought on-site and mixed into the windrows just prior to commencement of the composting system.*
5. *The compost turning system will heat windrows to 140 + degrees, which will kill fly larvae.*

Timing/Implementation: In perpetuity

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Environmental Health, Glenn County
Air Pollution Control District

Conditions of Approval

7. That the area in operation shall be confined to those areas as delineated in Exhibit "A" as filed with the Glenn County Planning Division.
8. The applicant/landowner shall provide to the Glenn County Planning Division proof that all necessary permits from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board have been obtained prior to commencement of the uses permitted with Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, Amendment 2020-001.
9. That the applicant/landowners shall file a signed copy of the Conditional Use Permit Conditions of Approval with the Planning Division within 10 days of approval, or this Conditional Use Permit shall be void.
10. That no more than 40,000 cubic yards of feedstock, active compost, finished compost, and other agricultural materials shall be on site at any one time.
11. To meet *Glenn County General Plan Standards 6.12 (Standards for Landfills, Recycling and Composting Facilities)*, landscaping shall be planted prior to

commencing operations. Landscaping along County Road 27 shall be at least five feet in height and create a continuous barrier within 18 months of approval of this Permit. Landscaping along County Road N shall be at least five feet in height and create a continuous barrier within 36 months of approval of this Conditional Use Permit. Landscaping shall be maintained in a healthy condition; unhealthy plants shall be replanted.

12. That the Applicant(s) and/or successor(s) in interest shall defend, hold harmless and indemnify Glenn County from any claim, action or proceeding against Glenn County and/or its agents, officers and employees, to attack, set aside, void or annul the approval(s) granted by Glenn County concerning this proposal/project or any action relating to or arising out of such approval. The Applicant(s) and/or successor(s) in interest shall further indemnify Glenn County and/or its agents, officers and employees from liability for any award, damages, costs and fees, including but not limited to legal fees and costs, incurred by the County and/or awarded to any plaintiff in any action challenging the validity of this permit or any environmental or other documentation related to approval of this permit. Applicant(s) and/or successor(s) in interest further agree to provide a defense for the County in any such action.
13. That the applicant shall deposit an annual nonrefundable fee of two-hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars for the purpose of Mitigation Monitoring. The first deposit shall be made within ten (10) working days from the date of approval of the Conditional Use Permit and by June 1 of each successive year.
14. That the County has submitted a certificate of Fee Exemption for a De Minimus Impact upon Fish and Wildlife Resources. In the event the Department of Fish and Wildlife disagrees with the County, the applicant shall be responsible for all required Fish and Wildlife fees.
15. If upon approval of this Conditional Use Permit any health or safety hazard arises due to the operation allowed by this Permit; the Planning Commission shall hold a Public Hearing to hear comments and consider whether Conditions of Approval need to be revised, added, or revoked.
16. That Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, Amendment 2020-001, shall expire ten (10) years from the date of approval. The applicant shall apply for a Conditional Use Permit Extension at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration date. The operation shall cease if an extension is not granted.

I hereby declare that I have read the foregoing conditions; that they are in fact the conditions that were imposed upon the granting of this **Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, Amendment 2020-001**, and that I agree to abide fully by said conditions. Additionally, I have read the Staff Report and I am aware of codified County, State, and/or Federal standards and regulation that shall be met with the granting of this permit.

Date: _____

Applicant – Compost Solutions/Gary Foster

Date: _____

Landowner – Road 27 Limited Partnership

GLENN COUNTY Planning & Community Development Services Agency

225 North Tehama Street
Willows, CA 95988
530-934-6540
www.countyofglenn.net



Donald Rust, Director

REQUEST FOR REVIEW

COUNTY DEPARTMENTS/DISTRICTS

- Glenn County Agricultural Commissioner
- Glenn County Air Pollution Control District/CUPA
- Glenn County Assessor
- Glenn County Building Inspector
- Glenn County Public Works Agency
- Glenn County Environmental Health Department
- Glenn County Sheriff's Department
- Glenn County Board of Supervisors
- Glenn County Counsel
- Glenn County Planning Commission
- Glenn LAFCO

FEDERAL AGENCIES

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation - Willows

OTHER

- California Water Service Co. (Chico)
- Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge
- City of Willows
- Comcast Cable (Chico Office)
- Community Services District:
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)
- Fire Protection District: Artois
- Glenn County Resource Conservation District
- School District: Orland Unified

STATE AGENCIES

- Central Valley Flood Protection Board
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
- State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water
- Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC)
- Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection
- Department of Conservation, Office of Mine Reclamation (OMR)
- Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Department of Food and Agriculture
- Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire)
- Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)
- Department of Public Health
- Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
- Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
- Department of Water Resources (DWR)
- Office of the State Fire Marshall
- CalRecycle

- Northeast Center of the California Historical Resources Information System
- Grindstone Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki
- Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians
- Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria
- Colusa Indian Community Council Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians
- Railroad: Southern Pacific
- Orland-Artois Water District
- Sacramento-San Joaquin Draining District:
- Special District:
- Irrigation District: Orland-Artois

DATE: May 11, 2020

PROJECT: Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, AMMD 2020-001
Compost Solutions, Inc.

PLANNER: John Lanier, Assistant Planner; ilanier@countyofglenn.net

APPLICANT: Compost Solutions, Inc.
6840 County Road 27
Orland, CA 95963

LANDOWNER: Foster, Gary L. and Marcia Trust
4446 County Road N
Orland, CA 95963

ENGINEER: Susan Goodwin, P.E. C61687
VESTRA Resources, Inc.
5300 Aviation Drive
Redding, CA 96002

PROPOSAL: Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, AMMD 2020-001

The applicant is requesting an Amendment to existing Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 to build a lined retention pond and expand the composting area. Please refer to the attached application and plot plan for additional information.

LOCATION: The project site is located at 6840 County Road 27, on the north side of County Road 27, on the east side of County Road N, west of County Road P, and south of County Road 25, approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the City of Orland, in the unincorporated area of Glenn County, California.

ZONING: AE-40 (36-acre minimum) Exclusive Agriculture

GENERAL PLAN: Intensive Agriculture

APN: 024-030-031

FLOOD ZONES: Flood Zone "X" (unshaded) according to Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) No. 06021C0400D, dated August 5, 2010, issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Flood Zone "X" (unshaded) is an area of minimal flood hazard area outside of the 0.2-percent annual chance (or 500-year) flood zones.

The Glenn County Planning Division is requesting comments on this proposal for determination of completeness, potential constraints, and/or proposed conditions of approval. If comments are not received by **Monday, June 1, 2020**, it is assumed that there are no specific comments to be included in the analysis of the project. Comments submitted by e-mail are acceptable. Thank you for considering this matter.

AGENCY COMMENTS:

Please consider the following:

1. Is the information in the application complete enough to analyze impacts and conclude review?

2. Comments may include project-specific code requirements unique to the project. Cite code section and document (i.e. General Plan, Subdivision Map Act, etc.).

3. What are the recommended Conditions of Approval for this project and justification for each Condition? When should each Condition be accomplished (i.e. prior to any construction at the site, prior to recording the parcel map, filing the Final Map, or issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy, etc.)?

4. Are there significant environmental impacts? What mitigation(s) would bring the impacts to a less than significant level? When should mitigation(s) be accomplished (i.e. prior to recording parcel map, filing Final Map, or Certificate of Occupancy, etc.)?

CUP 2006-006, AMMD2020-001

GLENN COUNTY
PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
777 North Colusa Street
WILLOWS, CA 95988
(530) 934-6540
FAX (530) 934-6533
www.countyofglenn.net

APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

NOTE: FAILURE TO ANSWER APPLICABLE QUESTIONS AND REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS COULD DELAY THE PROCESSING OF YOUR APPLICATION.

1. Applicant(s):

Name: Compost Solutions, Inc.

Address: 6900 County Rd 27, Orland, CA 95963

Phone: (Business) 530-624-3206 (Home) _____

Fax: 530-865-4446 E-mail: scottnikkif@gmail.com

2. Property Owner(s):

Name: Foster, Gary L. and Marcia Trust

Address: 4446 County Rd N, Orland, CA 95963

Phone: (Business) 530-521-1616 (Home) _____

Fax: 530-865-4446 E-mail: fosgar@aol.com

3. Engineer/Person who Prepared Site Plan (if applicable):

Name: Susan Goodwin, P.E. C61687 / VESTRA Resources, Inc.

Mailing Address: 5300 Aviation Dr, Redding, CA 96002

Phone: (Business) 530-223-2585 (Home) N/A

Fax: 530-223-1145 E-mail: sgoodwin@vestra.com

4. Name and address of property owner's duly authorized agent (if applicable) who is to be furnished with notice of hearing (Section 65091 California Government Code).

Name: Scott Foster

Mailing Address: 6900 County Rd 27, Orland, CA 95963

5. Request or Proposal: Addition of pond and expansion of facility.

6. Address and Location of Project: 6840 County Rd 27, Orland, CA 95963

7. Current Assessor's Parcel Number(s): 024-030-031

8. Existing Zoning: AE-40

9. Existing Use of Property: Agricultural Cropland/ Compost Facility

10. Provide any additional information that may be helpful in evaluating this request: Attachment A: Current Use Permit; Attachment B: Technical Report (RWQCB),

Attachment C: Title Report and Parcel Map

DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

(Must be signed by Applicant(s) and Property Owner(s))
(Additional sheets may be necessary)

The Applicant(s) and/or Property Owner(s), by signing this application, shall be deemed to have agreed to defend, indemnify, release and hold harmless the County, its agents, officers, attorneys, employees, boards and commissions from any claim, action or proceeding brought against the foregoing individuals or entities, the purpose of which is to attack, set aside, void or null the approval of this development entitlement or approval or certification of the environmental document which accompanies it, or to obtain damages relating to such action(s). This indemnification agreement shall include, but not be limited to, damages, costs expenses, attorney fees or expert witness fees that may be asserted by any person or entity, including the applicant, arising out of or in connection with the approval of the entitlement whether or not there is concurrent passive or active negligence on the part of the County.

Applicant(s):

Signed: _____



Print: Scott Foster

Date: _____

9/15/2020

Address: 6900 County Road 27, Orland, CA 95963

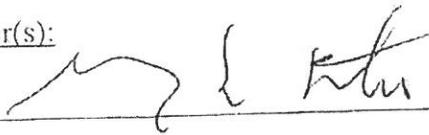
I am (We are) the owner(s) of property involved in this application and I (We) have completed this application and all other documents required.

X I am (We are) the owner(s) of the property involved in this application and I (We) acknowledge the preparation and submission of this application.

X I (We) declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Property Owner(s):

Signed: _____



Print: Gary Foster

Date: _____

9/15/20

Address: 4446 County Rd N, Orland, CA 95963

Case CUP 2006-006, AMMD2020-001

GLENN COUNTY
PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
777 North Colusa Street
WILLOWS, CA 95988
(530) 934-6540
FAX (530) 934-6533
www.countyofglenn.net

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM

To be completed by applicant or engineer

Use extra sheets if necessary

This list is intended to meet the requirements of State of California Government Code Section 65940.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Name: Compost Solutions, Inc.
Address, City, State, Zip: 6900 County Rd 27, Orland, CA 95963
Telephone: 530-624-3206 Fax: 530-865-4446
E-mail: scottnikkif@gmail.com
2. Name: Scott Foster
Address, City, State, Zip: 6900 County Rd 27, Orland, CA 95963
Telephone: 530-624-3206 Fax: 530-865-4446
E-mail: scottnikkif@gmail.com
3. Address and Location of Project: 6840 County Rd 27, Orland, CA 95963
4. Current Assessor's Parcel Number(s): 024-030-031
5. Existing Zoning: AE-40
6. Existing Use: Agricultural Cropland/ Compost Facility
7. Proposed Use of Site (project for which this form is prepared): Compost Facility
8. Indicate the type of permit(s) application(s) to which this form pertains: Current Use Permit
Solid Waste Facility Permit
RWQCB Notice of Intent (Order WQ-2015-0121-DWQ)

9. If the project involves a variance, conditional use permit, or rezoning application, state this and indicate clearly why the application is required:

Compost Operation

10. List and describe any other related permit(s) and other public approvals required for this project, including those required by city, regional, state, and federal agencies:

Composting General Order (RWQCB) WO-2015-0121-DWQ

Solid Waste Facility Permit (LEA)

11. Have any special studies been prepared for the project site that are related to the proposed project including, but not limited to traffic, biology, wetlands delineation, archaeology, etc? No

II. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING:

1. Describe in detail the project site as it exists before the project, including information on topography, soil stability, plants and animals (wetlands, if any), different crops, irrigation systems, streams, creeks, rivers, canals, water table depth, and any cultural historical or scenic aspects. Describe any existing structures on the site, and the use of the structures. Attach photographs of the site. Snapshots or Polaroid photos will be accepted.

See attached Technical Report

2. Describe the surrounding properties, including information on plants, animals, and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Indicate the type of land use (residential, commercial, agricultural, etc.), intensity of land use (one-family, apartment houses, shops, department stores, dairy, row crops, orchards, etc.) Attach photographs of the vicinity. Snapshots or Polaroid photos will be accepted.

North: Agricultural Land (walnut/almond orchards)

East: Agricultural Land (walnut/almond orchards)

South: Agricultural Land (walnut/almond orchards)

West: Agricultural Land (walnut/almond orchards)

3. Describe noise characteristics of the surrounding area (include significant noise sources): Rural farm area, farm equipment, diesel engines, some airport noise

III. SPECIFIC ITEMS OF IMPACT:

1. Drainage:

Describe how increased runoff will be handled (on-site and off-site): _____
Collected in pond

Will the project change any drainage patterns? (Please explain): _____
Water to be conveyed to pond

Will the project require the installation or replacement of storm drains or channels? If yes, indicate length, size, and capacity: _____
Yes; new drainage channel approximately 10 feet wide and 700 feet long

Are there any gullies or areas of soil erosion? (Please explain): No

Do you plan to grade, disturb, or in any way change swales, drainages, ditches, gullies, ponds, low lying areas, seeps, springs, streams, creeks, river banks, or other area on the site that carries or holds water for any amount of time during the year? No

If yes, you may be required to obtain authorization from other agencies such as the Army Corps of Engineers or California Department of Fish and Game.

2. Water Supply:

Indicate and describe source of water supply (domestic well, irrigation district, private water company): Irrigation well 800 feet to the north;
Domestic water supply is bottled

Will the project require the installation or replacement of new water service mains? No

3. Liquid Waste Disposal:

Will liquid waste disposal be provided by private on-site septic system or public sewer?: No

If private on-site septic system, describe the proposed system (leach field or seepage pit) and include a statement and tests explaining percolation rates, soil types, and suitability for any onsite sewage disposal systems: N/A

Will any special or unique sewage wastes be generated by this project other than normally associated with resident or employee restrooms? Industrial, chemical, manufacturing, animal wastes? (Please describe) Contact water from compost will be collected in the pond per RWQCB General Waste Discharge Requirements for Compost Facilities (Order WQ-2015-0121-DWQ)

Should waste be generated by the proposed project other than that normally associated with a single family residence, Waste Discharge Requirements may be required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

4. Solid Waste Collection:

How will solid waste be collected? Individual disposal, private carrier, city? Waste will be placed in receptacle onsite and taken to landfill by operator

5. Source of Energy:

What is the source of energy (electricity, natural gas, propane)?: No power - diesel generators only

If electricity, do any overhead electrical facilities require relocation? Is so, please describe: None required

If natural gas, do existing gas lines have to be increased in size? If yes, please describe: N/A

Do existing gas lines require relocation? If yes, please describe: N/A

6. Fire Protection:

Indicate number and size of existing and/or proposed fire hydrants and distance from proposed buildings: None

Indicate number and capacity of existing and/or proposed water storage facilities and distance from proposed buildings: Orland-Artois water outlet 800 feet to the north approximately 200 gallons/minute

IV. FOR ZONE CHANGE, ZONE VARIANCE, AND SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION:

1. Number and sizes of existing and proposed structures: No existing or proposed permanent structures

Square footage (structures) _____ S.F.; _____ S.F.
(New) (Existing)

2. Percentage of lot coverage: Negligible

3. Amount of off-street parking provided: 1/2 acre

4. Will the project be constructed in phases? If so, please describe each phase briefly: No

5. If residential, include the number of units, schedule of unit sizes, range of sale prices or rents, and type of household size expected: N/A

6. If commercial, indicate type, estimated employment per shift, days and hours of operation, estimated number of daily customers/visitors on site at peak time, and loading facilities: Current: 6 employees/shift, 40-hr work week; no change anticipated

7. If industrial, indicate type, estimated employment per shift, and loading facilities: N/A

8. If institutional, indicate the major function, estimated employment per shift, estimated occupancy, loading facilities, and community benefits to be derived from the project: N/A

9. List types and quantities of any hazardous or toxic materials, chemicals, pesticides, flammable liquids, or other similar product used as a part of the operation and storage container sizes:

Diesel fuel for equipment filled from trucks; no other hazardous materials onsite

Submit Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for any proposed hazardous materials. If hazardous materials are proposed, it is recommended that the applicant contact the Air Pollution Control District/CUPA for permitting requirements.

10. Describe any earthwork (grading) to be done and dust control methods to be used during construction: Pond excavation and area compacting; water truck will be used to suppress dust
11. Describe any potential noise or vibration sources associated with the project (i.e. compressor, machine noise, heavy equipment). Screens and loaders will be used to move compost (as current). During pond construction, excavator/loaders will be used.
12. Describe source, type, and amount of air pollutant emissions (smoke, odors, steam, gases, water vapor, dust, chemicals) from the project. Describe what methods would be used to reduce emissions: No new emissions anticipated

V. CERTIFICATION:

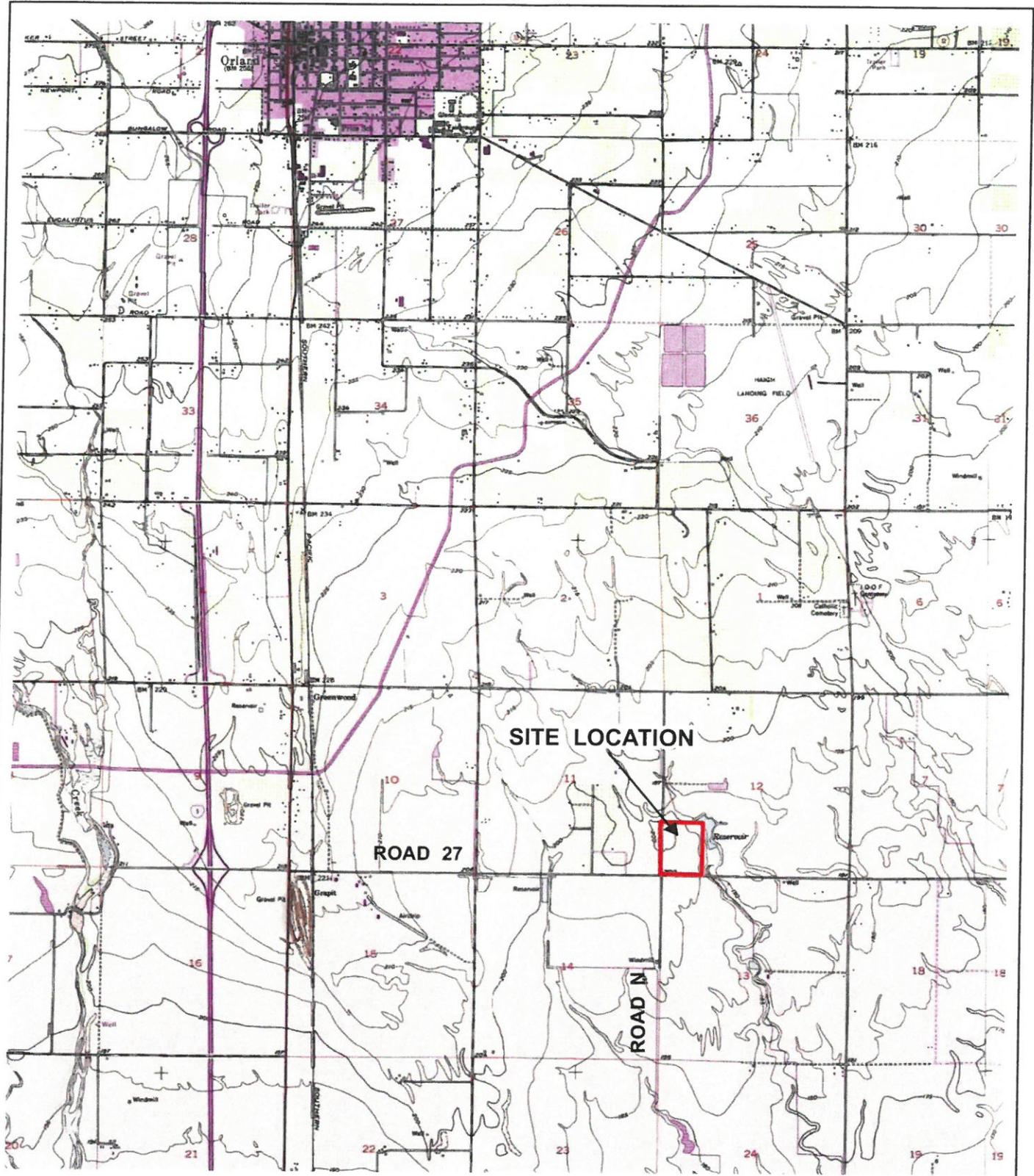
I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability, and that the facts, statements and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date: 4/15/20 Signature: 

For: CSI

According to Section 65943 for the California Government Code, your application will be reviewed within 30 days and you or your agent will receive written notice regarding the completeness of your application. Any reviewing agency may, in the course of processing the application, request the applicant to clarify, amplify, correct, or otherwise supplement the information required for the application.

According to Section 65944 (C), additional information may be requested in order to comply with Division 13 of the State of California Public Resources Code.

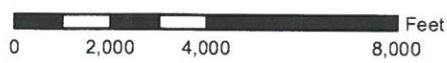


SITE LOCATION

ROAD 27

ROAD N

 Site Location



SOURCE: USGS 7.5' TOPOGRAPHIC MAP, ORLAND QUADRANGLE

FIGURE 1
GENERAL SITE LOCATION
 COMPOST SOLUTIONS, INC.
 GLENN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

GLENN COUNTY

Planning & Community Development Services Agency

777 N. Colusa Street
P.O. Box 1070
Willows, CA 95988
530.934.6540 Fax 530.934.6533
www.countyofglenn.net



DONALD RUST, Director

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: John Lanier, Assistant Planner
Planning & Community Development Services Agency

FROM: John H Wells, Environmental Health Specialist
Environmental Health

RE: CUP 2006-006 (Amendment) – Compost Solutions (024-030-031)

DATE: September 9, 2020

Our office has reviewed the Conditional Use Permit amendment application to expand the facility footprint from 28 to 40 acres as well as to install a lined retention pond at the facility. Our office has the following comment:

The Proposed CUP Amendment Will Require CEQA Review

The proposed change will require a revision to the Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) for the facility. Any change in acreage/footprint always requires a permit revision. When CalRecycle reviews the permit application for completeness a few months later in the approval process, their staff will confirm that the SWFP is consistent with CEQA before concurring with the SWFP application package.

Both the 2010 Initial Study and the 2012 Notice of Determination posted on the state clearinghouse website (SCH# 2010082023) specify the facility will be 28 acres in size. Any change to the facility footprint will also require changes to CEQA.

The applicant should begin the CEQA process at their earliest convenience, to prevent undue delays in revising the SWFP.

Please contact our office if you have any questions pertaining to this matter.



May 12, 2020

John Lanier
County of Glenn
225 N Tehama St
Willows, CA 95988

Ref: Gas and Electric Transmission and Distribution

Dear John Lanier,

Thank you for submitting the 6840 County Rd 27 plans for our review. PG&E will review the submitted plans in relationship to any existing Gas and Electric facilities within the project area. If the proposed project is adjacent/or within PG&E owned property and/or easements, we will be working with you to ensure compatible uses and activities near our facilities.

Attached you will find information and requirements as it relates to Gas facilities (Attachment 1) and Electric facilities (Attachment 2). Please review these in detail, as it is critical to ensure your safety and to protect PG&E's facilities and its existing rights.

Below is additional information for your review:

1. This plan review process does not replace the application process for PG&E gas or electric service your project may require. For these requests, please continue to work with PG&E Service Planning: https://www.pge.com/en_US/business/services/building-and-renovation/overview/overview.page.
2. If the project being submitted is part of a larger project, please include the entire scope of your project, and not just a portion of it. PG&E's facilities are to be incorporated within any CEQA document. PG&E needs to verify that the CEQA document will identify any required future PG&E services.
3. An engineering deposit may be required to review plans for a project depending on the size, scope, and location of the project and as it relates to any rearrangement or new installation of PG&E facilities.

Any proposed uses within the PG&E fee strip and/or easement, may include a California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) Section 851 filing. This requires the CPUC to render approval for a conveyance of rights for specific uses on PG&E's fee strip or easement. PG&E will advise if the necessity to incorporate a CPUC Section 851 filing is required.

This letter does not constitute PG&E's consent to use any portion of its easement for any purpose not previously conveyed. PG&E will provide a project specific response as required.

Sincerely,

Plan Review Team
Land Management



Attachment 1 – Gas Facilities

There could be gas transmission pipelines in this area which would be considered critical facilities for PG&E and a high priority subsurface installation under California law. Care must be taken to ensure safety and accessibility. So, please ensure that if PG&E approves work near gas transmission pipelines it is done in adherence with the below stipulations. Additionally, the following link provides additional information regarding legal requirements under California excavation laws: <https://www.usanorth811.org/images/pdfs/CA-LAW-2018.pdf>

1. **Standby Inspection:** A PG&E Gas Transmission Standby Inspector must be present during any demolition or construction activity that comes within 10 feet of the gas pipeline. This includes all grading, trenching, substructure depth verifications (potholes), asphalt or concrete demolition/removal, removal of trees, signs, light poles, etc. This inspection can be coordinated through the Underground Service Alert (USA) service at 811. A minimum notice of 48 hours is required. Ensure the USA markings and notifications are maintained throughout the duration of your work.
2. **Access:** At any time, PG&E may need to access, excavate, and perform work on the gas pipeline. Any construction equipment, materials, or spoils may need to be removed upon notice. Any temporary construction fencing installed within PG&E's easement would also need to be capable of being removed at any time upon notice. Any plans to cut temporary slopes exceeding a 1:4 grade within 10 feet of a gas transmission pipeline need to be approved by PG&E Pipeline Services in writing PRIOR to performing the work.
3. **Wheel Loads:** To prevent damage to the buried gas pipeline, there are weight limits that must be enforced whenever any equipment gets within 10 feet of traversing the pipe.

Ensure a list of the axle weights of all equipment being used is available for PG&E's Standby Inspector. To confirm the depth of cover, the pipeline may need to be potholed by hand in a few areas.

Due to the complex variability of tracked equipment, vibratory compaction equipment, and cranes, PG&E must evaluate those items on a case-by-case basis prior to use over the gas pipeline (provide a list of any proposed equipment of this type noting model numbers and specific attachments).

No equipment may be set up over the gas pipeline while operating. Ensure crane outriggers are at least 10 feet from the centerline of the gas pipeline. Transport trucks must not be parked over the gas pipeline while being loaded or unloaded.

4. **Grading:** PG&E requires a minimum of 36 inches of cover over gas pipelines (or existing grade if less) and a maximum of 7 feet of cover at all locations. The graded surface cannot exceed a cross slope of 1:4.
5. **Excavating:** Any digging within 2 feet of a gas pipeline must be dug by hand. Note that while the minimum clearance is only 12 inches, any excavation work within 24 inches of the edge of a pipeline must be done with hand tools. So to avoid having to dig a trench entirely with hand tools, the edge of the trench must be over 24 inches away. (Doing the math for a 24 inch



wide trench being dug along a 36 inch pipeline, the centerline of the trench would need to be at least 54 inches [$24/2 + 24 + 36/2 = 54$] away, or be entirely dug by hand.)

Water jetting to assist vacuum excavating must be limited to 1000 psig and directed at a 40° angle to the pipe. All pile driving must be kept a minimum of 3 feet away.

Any plans to expose and support a PG&E gas transmission pipeline across an open excavation need to be approved by PG&E Pipeline Services in writing PRIOR to performing the work.

6. Boring/Trenchless Installations: PG&E Pipeline Services must review and approve all plans to bore across or parallel to (within 10 feet) a gas transmission pipeline. There are stringent criteria to pothole the gas transmission facility at regular intervals for all parallel bore installations.

For bore paths that cross gas transmission pipelines perpendicularly, the pipeline must be potholed a minimum of 2 feet in the horizontal direction of the bore path and a minimum of 12 inches in the vertical direction from the bottom of the pipe with minimum clearances measured from the edge of the pipe in both directions. Standby personnel must watch the locator trace (and every ream pass) the path of the bore as it approaches the pipeline and visually monitor the pothole (with the exposed transmission pipe) as the bore traverses the pipeline to ensure adequate clearance with the pipeline. The pothole width must account for the inaccuracy of the locating equipment.

7. Substructures: All utility crossings of a gas pipeline should be made as close to perpendicular as feasible ($90^\circ \pm 15^\circ$). All utility lines crossing the gas pipeline must have a minimum of 12 inches of separation from the gas pipeline. Parallel utilities, pole bases, water line 'kicker blocks', storm drain inlets, water meters, valves, back pressure devices or other utility substructures are not allowed in the PG&E gas pipeline easement.

If previously retired PG&E facilities are in conflict with proposed substructures, PG&E must verify they are safe prior to removal. This includes verification testing of the contents of the facilities, as well as environmental testing of the coating and internal surfaces. Timelines for PG&E completion of this verification will vary depending on the type and location of facilities in conflict.

8. Structures: No structures are to be built within the PG&E gas pipeline easement. This includes buildings, retaining walls, fences, decks, patios, carports, septic tanks, storage sheds, tanks, loading ramps, or any structure that could limit PG&E's ability to access its facilities.

9. Fencing: Permanent fencing is not allowed within PG&E easements except for perpendicular crossings which must include a 16 foot wide gate for vehicular access. Gates will be secured with PG&E corporation locks.

10. Landscaping: Landscaping must be designed to allow PG&E to access the pipeline for maintenance and not interfere with pipeline coatings or other cathodic protection systems. No trees, shrubs, brush, vines, and other vegetation may be planted within the easement area. Only those plants, ground covers, grasses, flowers, and low-growing plants that grow unsupported to a maximum of four feet (4') in height at maturity may be planted within the easement area.



11. Cathodic Protection: PG&E pipelines are protected from corrosion with an “Impressed Current” cathodic protection system. Any proposed facilities, such as metal conduit, pipes, service lines, ground rods, anodes, wires, etc. that might affect the pipeline cathodic protection system must be reviewed and approved by PG&E Corrosion Engineering.

12. Pipeline Marker Signs: PG&E needs to maintain pipeline marker signs for gas transmission pipelines in order to ensure public awareness of the presence of the pipelines. With prior written approval from PG&E Pipeline Services, an existing PG&E pipeline marker sign that is in direct conflict with proposed developments may be temporarily relocated to accommodate construction work. The pipeline marker must be moved back once construction is complete.

13. PG&E is also the provider of distribution facilities throughout many of the areas within the state of California. Therefore, any plans that impact PG&E’s facilities must be reviewed and approved by PG&E to ensure that no impact occurs which may endanger the safe operation of its facilities.

Attachment 2 – Electric Facilities

It is PG&E's policy to permit certain uses on a case by case basis within its electric transmission fee strip(s) and/or easement(s) provided such uses and manner in which they are exercised, will not interfere with PG&E's rights or endanger its facilities. Some examples/restrictions are as follows:

1. Buildings and Other Structures: No buildings or other structures including the foot print and eave of any buildings, swimming pools, wells or similar structures will be permitted within fee strip(s) and/or easement(s) areas. PG&E's transmission easement shall be designated on subdivision/parcel maps as **"RESTRICTED USE AREA – NO BUILDING."**
2. Grading: Cuts, trenches or excavations may not be made within 25 feet of our towers. Developers must submit grading plans and site development plans (including geotechnical reports if applicable), signed and dated, for PG&E's review. PG&E engineers must review grade changes in the vicinity of our towers. No fills will be allowed which would impair ground-to-conductor clearances. Towers shall not be left on mounds without adequate road access to base of tower or structure.
3. Fences: Walls, fences, and other structures must be installed at locations that do not affect the safe operation of PG&E's facilities. Heavy equipment access to our facilities must be maintained at all times. Metal fences are to be grounded to PG&E specifications. No wall, fence or other like structure is to be installed within 10 feet of tower footings and unrestricted access must be maintained from a tower structure to the nearest street. Walls, fences and other structures proposed along or within the fee strip(s) and/or easement(s) will require PG&E review; submit plans to PG&E Centralized Review Team for review and comment.
4. Landscaping: Vegetation may be allowed; subject to review of plans. On overhead electric transmission fee strip(s) and/or easement(s), trees and shrubs are limited to those varieties that do not exceed 15 feet in height at maturity. PG&E must have access to its facilities at all times, including access by heavy equipment. No planting is to occur within the footprint of the tower legs. Greenbelts are encouraged.
5. Reservoirs, Sumps, Drainage Basins, and Ponds: Prohibited within PG&E's fee strip(s) and/or easement(s) for electric transmission lines.
6. Automobile Parking: Short term parking of movable passenger vehicles and light trucks (pickups, vans, etc.) is allowed. The lighting within these parking areas will need to be reviewed by PG&E; approval will be on a case by case basis. Heavy equipment access to PG&E facilities is to be maintained at all times. Parking is to clear PG&E structures by at least 10 feet. Protection of PG&E facilities from vehicular traffic is to be provided at developer's expense AND to PG&E specifications. Blocked-up vehicles are not allowed. Carports, canopies, or awnings are not allowed.
7. Storage of Flammable, Explosive or Corrosive Materials: There shall be no storage of fuel or combustibles and no fueling of vehicles within PG&E's easement. No trash bins or incinerators are allowed.



8. Streets and Roads: Access to facilities must be maintained at all times. Street lights may be allowed in the fee strip(s) and/or easement(s) but in all cases must be reviewed by PG&E for proper clearance. Roads and utilities should cross the transmission easement as nearly at right angles as possible. Road intersections will not be allowed within the transmission easement.

9. Pipelines: Pipelines may be allowed provided crossings are held to a minimum and to be as nearly perpendicular as possible. Pipelines within 25 feet of PG&E structures require review by PG&E. Sprinklers systems may be allowed; subject to review. Leach fields and septic tanks are not allowed. Construction plans must be submitted to PG&E for review and approval prior to the commencement of any construction.

10. Signs: Signs are not allowed except in rare cases subject to individual review by PG&E.

11. Recreation Areas: Playgrounds, parks, tennis courts, basketball courts, barbecue and light trucks (pickups, vans, etc.) may be allowed; subject to review of plans. Heavy equipment access to PG&E facilities is to be maintained at all times. Parking is to clear PG&E structures by at least 10 feet. Protection of PG&E facilities from vehicular traffic is to be provided at developer's expense AND to PG&E specifications.

12. Construction Activity: Since construction activity will take place near PG&E's overhead electric lines, please be advised it is the contractor's responsibility to be aware of, and observe the minimum clearances for both workers and equipment operating near high voltage electric lines set out in the High-Voltage Electrical Safety Orders of the California Division of Industrial Safety (<https://www.dir.ca.gov/Title8/sb5g2.html>), as well as any other safety regulations. Contractors shall comply with California Public Utilities Commission General Order 95 (http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/gos/GO95/go_95_startup_page.html) and all other safety rules. No construction may occur within 25 feet of PG&E's towers. All excavation activities may only commence after 811 protocols has been followed.

Contractor shall ensure the protection of PG&E's towers and poles from vehicular damage by (installing protective barriers) Plans for protection barriers must be approved by PG&E prior to construction.

13. PG&E is also the owner of distribution facilities throughout many of the areas within the state of California. Therefore, any plans that impact PG&E's facilities must be reviewed and approved by PG&E to ensure that no impact occurs that may endanger the safe and reliable operation of its facilities.

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

CASE: **Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, Amendment 2020-001,
Compost Solutions, Inc.**

APPLICANT: Compost Solutions, Inc.
Gary Foster
4446 County Road N
Orland, CA 95963

LANDOWNER: Road 27 Limited Partnership
4446 County Road N
Orland, CA 95963

PROPOSAL: The applicant is requesting an Amendment to existing Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 to expand the composting area to 40 acres, including 9 additional acres of summer only composting, a 2.5-acre retention pond to contain onsite storm water, drainage revisions and removal of biosolid composting.

APN: 024-030-031 (45.89± acres)

LOCATION: The site is located on the north side of County Road 27, south of County Road 25, on the east side of County Road N, west of County Road P; southeast of the City of Orland, in the unincorporated area of Glenn County, California.

ZONING: "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size)

GENERAL PLAN: "Intensive Agriculture"

FLOOD ZONE: Flood Zone "X" according to Federal Flood Insurance Rate Map No. 06021C0400D, dated August 5, 2010. Flood Zone "X" (unshaded) is an area of minimal flood hazard area outside of the 0.2-percent annual chance (or 500-year) flood zones.

FINDINGS FOR NEGATIVE DECLARATION:

Finding 1.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on aesthetics because there are no scenic resources in the area and the adopted standards for construction and lighting will minimize any future impacts from development. Additionally, General Plan standards for Composting Facilities will reduce adverse impacts.

Finding 2.

That the project will have no significant adverse impacts on agricultural resources because the zoning and use of the land is agricultural and no significant change in land use will result.

Finding 3.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effects on air quality because the project will not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to any existing air quality violation. Standards, codes, and mitigation measures reduce any potential impact to less than significant. Additionally, the project is not near any sensitive receptors.

Dust is a potential impact to air quality. The Applicant and Glenn County Air Pollution Control District have recommended mitigation measures and conditions of approval to mitigate any impact to less than significant. The following dust control plan will reduce impacts to less than significant:

The applicant shall water driveways and loading areas at a minimum frequency of two times per day (once in the morning, once in the afternoon, and more often as needed) when the driveways and loading areas are being utilized. The applicant shall suspend hauling and turning operations during high wind conditions of 25 miles per hour and higher. The applicant shall ensure that all trucks entering and exiting the facility maintain a minimum free board space of six inches. If fugitive material is found to be exiting the trucks during transport, the applicant shall ensure that the truck loads are covered.

The applicant submitted an Odor Control Plan to minimize odors in the vicinity of the site. The Odor Control Plan includes the following:

Our compost format is derived from the Lubke system of composting. This uses several methods to help control odor while increasing the compost value by trapping stinky ammonia and converting it to a usable form of nitrogen. These methods are:

Negative Declaration

CUP 2006-006, AMMD 2020-001 Compost Solutions, Inc.

- 1) *Use of clay with its negative charges to attract the positive charges of ammonium. We will be adding 10% clay to our mix.*
- 2) *A correct C:N, will sequester stinky ammonia, limiting odor.*
- 3) *The addition of organic microbes and stimulants will also aid in the odor control.*

If the clay, correct C:N and microbe stimulants do not suppress odors sufficiently, the following measures will be utilized.

- 4) *As a first measure, high carbon wood ash will help control odor.*
- 5) *As a second measure, oxidizing agents such as potassium permanganate are used to prevent the formation of hydrogen sulfide, which causes odor.*
- 6) *As a third measure, odor neutralizing agents, such as Essential Oils can be sprayed into foul odor airstreams to neutralize odor.*
- 7) *As a final measure, biofilters will be used to filter foul odor on-site.*
When wind is blowing in the direction towards any residence within .5 miles we will only turn rows when absolutely needed. We will track odor complaints and work with residents to solve problems.

Finding 4.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on biological resources because there are no sensitive habitats or natural communities as defined by the Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Finding 5.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on cultural resources because there are no known resources in the area.

Cultural Resources (New Mitigation)

In the event that any prehistoric or historic subsurface cultural resources are discovered during ground disturbing activities, all work within 100 feet of the resources shall be halted and the applicant/operator shall consult with the County and a qualified archaeologist (as approved by the County) to assess the significance of the find per CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. The qualified archaeologist shall determine the nature of the find, evaluate its significance, and, if necessary, suggest preservation or mitigation measures. Appropriate mitigation measures, based on recommendations listed in the archaeological survey report, will be determined by the Glenn County Planning and Community Development Services Agency Director. Work may proceed on other parts of the project site while mitigation for historical resources or unique archaeological resources is carried out. All significant cultural materials recovered shall be, at the discretion of the consulting archaeologist, subject to scientific analysis, professional museum curation, and documented according to current professional standards.

Negative Declaration
CUP 2006-006, AMMD 2020-001 Compost Solutions, Inc.

Timing/Implementation: During construction/excavation activities
Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Planning & Community Development Services Agency

Finding 6.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on geology and soils concerning the capacity of the soils. No on-site sewage disposal is needed for the project. There are no geologic hazards in the area and the Building Code will require any new construction to meet standards for soils.

Finding 7.

The project will not have a significant impact on global climate change as a result of greenhouse gas emissions. The project is not in conflict with existing guidelines or standards. The project will not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. The project will not create significant changes in GHG emissions.

Finding 8.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on hazards and hazardous materials because the project does not involve the use of hazardous materials either directly or indirectly. In addition, the project will not interfere with any adopted emergency response plan nor expose people to risk of loss, injury or death.

Finding 9.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on hydrology and water quality because the project does not place any structures within a 100-year flood plain and will not significantly alter the drainage pattern of the area. The Applicant will need to meet the requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board prior to commencing operations.

Permits required to the Regional Board, who has jurisdiction over waste discharge, will mitigate potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level. The Applicant plans on compacting the surface to 90% to minimize leachate, use a 2 foot levee around the site to eliminate run-off, and install a 2.75 acre filter strip to mitigate potential impacts from stormwater.

The Glenn County Environmental Health Department has recommended the following Mitigation Measure to reduce the impact to water quality to less than significant:

That the operator shall cover all compost feedstock stored onsite with a tarp prior to the onset of the rain season, or between October 31 and April 1, to minimize leachate into the groundwater.

Finding 10.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on land use and planning because the project area is designated "Intensive Agriculture" in the *General Plan* and is zoned "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size). The proposed use meets the requirements of the Glenn County Code and General Plan with an approved Conditional Use Permit.

Finding 11.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on mineral resources. Aggregate, gas, oil, and geothermal resources are not known to exist at the project site.

Finding 12.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on noise because the project is not within the vicinity of a public or private airstrip. Any future construction is required to meet the established standards prescribed by the *County Code*. Additionally this project would not expose people to excessive noise levels or ground borne vibration.

Finding 13.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on population and housing because the project will not displace any housing or construct any new housing. This project would not induce substantial population growth.

Finding 14.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on public services because adequate fire protection, police protection, schools, parks and any other public facilities is available to serve this project.

Finding 15.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on recreation because it would not significantly increase the use of existing recreational facilities nor does the project include any such facilities.

Finding 16.

That the proposed Conditional Use Permit (CUP #2006-006) will not have a significant adverse impact on transportation/circulation, nor will it have a substantial impact on

parking or traffic related hazards in the area. Glenn County Public Works recommended the following mitigation measure to reduce impacts to County Roads:

That the applicant shall enter into a Road Maintenance Agreement with the County of Glenn Public Works Division prior to commencement of any operations covered in this Conditional Use Permit. Said agreement shall be for the maintenance of all County roads adversely affected by this permit and operations thereof.

Finding 17.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse impact on utilities and septic systems because the project does not include solid waste. Potential liquid waste generated at the site is under the jurisdiction of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Permits from the Regional Board are required prior to commencing operations.

Finding 18.

That there is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record that the project may have a significant impact on the environment either cumulatively or individually with mitigation measures.

The following Noxious Weed and Weed Seed Control Plan will mitigate any impact to less than significant related to invasive species, noxious weeds, and weed seeds:

Truckloads believed to contain noxious weed and/or weed seed will be covered with tarps to minimize dispersal of weeds and seeds. The compost turning system heats the compost to a temperature that kills weed seed.

The Applicant submitted a Vector Control Plan to mitigate any potential impacts to a less than significant level. The following Plan is recommended:

- 1) *There will be no standing water on the site related to the composting facility.*
- 2) *Weeds and grasses will be chopped to limit rodent habitat.*
- 3) *Manure and other fly-attracting materials will be tarped.*
- 4) *Manure will be brought on-site and mixed into the windrows just prior to commencement of the composting system.*
- 5) *The compost turning system will heat windrows to 140 + degrees, which will kill fly larvae.*

The proposed Noxious Weed and Weed Seed and Vector Control Plan will mitigate potential impacts to native plant species and human health to a less than significant level.

Negative Declaration
CUP 2006-006, AMMD 2020-001 Compost Solutions, Inc.

The project cannot, or will not, have a significant effect on the environment. Negative Declaration Status is therefore granted for this project and an Environmental Impact Report is thereby not necessary.

Review by Planning Commission: _____
Date: October 21, 2020

Review by Director: _____
Donald Rust, Director
Date: October 21, 2020

Glenn County Planning and Community Development Services Agency
225 North Tehama Street, Willows, CA 95988
530.934.6540
email: planning@countyofglenn.net

**INITIAL STUDY
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 2006-006,
AMENDMENT 2020-001**

**COMPOST SOLUTIONS, INC.
GLENN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2010082023**

Prepared for

Compost Solutions, Inc.

Prepared by



VESTRA Resources Inc.
5300 Aviation Drive
Redding, California 96002

JUNE 2020

**INITIAL STUDY
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 2006-006,
AMENDMENT 2020-001**

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71801

JUNE 2020

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Project Title: Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, Amendment

Lead Agency: Glenn County Planning & Community Development Services
Agency
225 North Tehama Street
Willows, CA 95988

Contact Person: John Lanier, Assistant Planner
(530) 934-6540
jlanier@countyofglenn.net

Project Location: The project site is located on the north side of County Road 27, on the east side of County Road N, west of County Road P, south of County Road 25, approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the City of Orland, in the unincorporated area of Glenn County, California (see Figure 1).

APN: 024-030-031 (45.89± acres)

Project Sponsors: **Applicant**
Compost Solutions, Inc.

Mailing Address
6900 County Road 27
Orland, CA 95963

Physical Address
6840 County Road 27
Orland, CA 95963

Property Owner
Foster, Gary L. and Marcia Trust
4446 County Road N
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(530) 865-2993 Home
(530) 521-1616 Cell
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Operations Manager
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Engineer

Susan Goodwin, P.E.
VESTRA Resources, Inc.
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Redding, CA 96002
(530) 223-2585 Office
(530) 223-1145 Fax
sgoodwin@vestra.com

General Plan: “Intensive Agriculture”

Zoning: “AE-40” (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36-acre minimum parcel size)

Project Summary:

Compost Solutions, Inc., is an existing compost facility located approximately four miles south of the town of Orland in Glenn County, California. The site address was recently changed and is 6840 County Road 27. The facility began operating in the summer of 2007 under individual Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Order R5-2007-0088. A full Solid Waste Facility Permit (11-AA-0034) was issued for the facility by Glenn County Environmental Health Department in July 2012.

In December 2016, WDR Order R5-2007-0088 was rescinded and Compost Solutions is now regulated by the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations, Order WQ 2015-0121-DWQ (General Order), adopted on August 4, 2015. The Solid Waste Facility Permit was last updated in April 2019.

The facility is located approximately four miles south of the town of Orland in Glenn County. It is situated on 28 acres in the northeast quadrant of the intersection of County Road N and County Road 27 (see Figure 1). This property is in Section 12 of R. 3W, T. 21N, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM). The Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN) for the site is 024-030-031. The longitude and latitude of the site are 122.1537 and 39.6841, respectively.

The property is owned by the Gary L. and Marcia Foster Trust (see Figure 2).

The 28-acre operation currently contains parking and storage areas, 4 acres of vegetated area to act as a filter strip, and 21 acres of compost-turning area. This revision includes:

- The addition of a 12-acre parcel located to the east for a revised total of 40 acres
- Approximately 9 additional acres of compost working surface (summer use only)
- Approximately 2.5 acres of retention pond to contain onsite stormwater
- Removal of and filling of previous filter strip
- Drainage revisions on current working face
- Removal of biosolid composting

The revised site layout is shown on Figure 3.

The annual tonnages, trucking, and feedstocks (excepting biosolids) will not change.

Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

North,

East, &

West: "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36-acre minimum parcel size)

South: "FS-80" (Farmland Security Zone, 72-acre minimum parcel size)

Land use within one mile of the facility is agricultural and low density rural residential. All parcels within 1.75 miles of the project site are zoned for agricultural uses. Almond orchards are located on adjacent properties to the north, south, and west. The adjacent property east of the facility is farmed for annual crops and is owned and occupied by the applicant. This is the proposed expansion area. Other crops grown within a mile of the site include walnuts, corn, olives, and prunes. Seven residences are located within 0.5 mile of the facility boundary and three dairies and one feedlot are found within 3 miles of the facility boundary.

The project is located southeast of the City of Orland within the valley. Surface water near the facility consists mainly of irrigation ponds and ditches. A large seasonal pond is located at the northeastern corner of the site. Runoff flows across the property to its south end and into a roadside ditch, which then flows into a swale about 300 feet to the east of the property. The swale drains to the south through a culvert under County Road 27 and continues to the south through several small reservoirs until it reaches the Colusa Drain, 10 miles to the south.

Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required:

The Project may require review and/or discretionary approvals and permits from several agencies. A list of the potential agency reviews and approvals required to implement the Project are listed below:

- **Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) issued by the Glenn County Environmental Health Department with concurrence from both the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (Cal Recycle) and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).** The addition of acreage and the pond will

require the facility to upgrade its existing *Agricultural Material Composting Operation* permit to a *Compostable Material Handling Facility* permit as required by California Code of Regulations Title 14. The updated permit will require an updated Report of Composting Site Information (RCSI) and Odor Impact Management Plan (OIMP). The Glenn County Environmental Health Department acts as the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) on behalf of Cal Recycle.

- **Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).** The facility is currently regulated under General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations (Order No. WQ 2015-0121-DWQ). The pond is being constructed to obtain compliance with the General Order. A revised Technical Report has been submitted to the RWQCB per the General Order.

Other agencies may require permits that were not specifically listed or have yet to be recognized through the initial study and Glenn County permitting process. It is the responsibility of the applicant/agent to recognize and acquire any/all necessary permit approvals.

2.0 GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Introduction

This Initial Study has been prepared for the proposed amendment to Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, Amendment 2020-001, as applied for by Compost Solutions, Inc. This Initial Study has been prepared by the County of Glenn to identify potential impacts on the environment that could result from the proposed project and to identify any mitigation measures that will reduce, offset, minimize, avoid, or otherwise compensate for significant environmental impacts. This Initial Study has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County's rules to implement CEQA.

2.2 Project Location and Boundaries

The project site is located on the north side of County Road 27, on the east side of County Road N, west of County Road P, south of County Road 25, approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the City of Orland, in the unincorporated area of Glenn County, California. The site is approximately 2.4 miles east of Interstate 5. The project is located on land owned by Road 27 Limited Partnership. The APN for the site is 024-030-031 and the site lies within the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 12 in Township 21 North, Range 3 West, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (USGS Orland Quadrangle Map) (Figure 1). The 45.89± acre property is roughly square in shape. The existing facility occupies approximately 28 acres of the parcel (Figure 3). The existing footprint will be expanded with this project to include 40 acres of the parcel. All onsite activities will be located within the existing project boundary. Elevations on the property range from about 190 to 200 feet above mean sea level (MSL).

2.3 General Environmental Setting

Land use within one mile of the facility is agricultural and low density rural residential. All parcels within 1.75 miles of the project site are zoned for agricultural uses. Almond orchards are located on adjacent properties to the north, south, and west. The adjacent property east of the facility is farmed for annual crops and is owned and occupied by the applicant. Other crops grown within a mile of the site include walnuts, corn, olives, and prunes.

There are a total of seventeen residences within one mile of the compost facility boundary (Figure 4). Out of the seventeen residences, seven of them are located within 0.5 mile of the facility boundary as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Residences within 0.5 Miles of Facility Boundary

Distance from Facility Boundary	APN
0.40 miles west	024-030-011
0.40 miles northwest	024-030-005
0.25 miles east	024-030-032
0.35 miles east	024-030-023
0.35 miles southeast	024-040-010
0.20 miles southeast	024-040-013
0.20 miles southeast	024-040-013

Three dairies and one feedlot are located within 3 miles of the facility boundary as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Dairies and Feedlots within 3 Miles of Facility Boundary

Distance from Facility Boundary	Facility/Owner Name	Herd Size	APN
1.6 miles southwest	Mission Livestock	Greater than 1,000	024-100-017
1.5 miles southeast	Poldervaart Farms	Greater than 1,000	024-050-010
3 miles southeast	Goedhart	Greater than 1,000	023-240-015
3.1 miles east	Jongsma	Less than 1,000	023-160-005 & 023-160-002

The project is located southeast of the City of Orland within the valley. The property is currently graded to a flat plain draining 0.1 percent to the east and 0.2 percent to the south. Surface water near the facility consists mainly of irrigation ponds and ditches. A large seasonal pond is located at the northeastern corner of the site. Runoff flows across the property to its south end and into a roadside ditch, which then flows into a swale about 300 feet to the east of the property. The swale drains to the south through a culvert under County Road 27 and continues to the south through several small reservoirs until it reaches the Colusa Drain, 10 miles to the south.

The site is the high point compared to adjacent parcels, ranging from one to 10 feet above the surrounding terrain, which means that no runoff enters the property. Drainage on the portion of the property used for composting has been directed to the south and east sides which have a minimum 20-foot wide grassed buffer strip to filter runoff before it is discharged from the site.

The proposed project benefits from its location because of the following characteristics:

- Nearby access to a major highway (Interstate 5, approximately 2.4 miles west);
- Size and generally flat topography that facilitate design and construction of stormwater control features; and
- Proximity to main agricultural compost users.

2.4 Basics of a Composting Process and the Project

Compost Solutions, Inc. has proposed to further develop their existing composting facility within the existing 28-acre project boundary. The facility currently composts agricultural waste and green waste. Incoming materials currently include manure from dairies, harvest waste from almond and walnut production, green waste, animal bedding, and rice straw. Green materials are any plant material that is separated at the point of generation, contains no greater than 1.0 percent of physical contaminants by weight, and meets the requirements of the State of California (as defined by Cal Recycle in Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 3.1, Article 1, Section 17852.5 of the California Code of Regulations). Green material includes, but is not limited to, yard trimmings, untreated wood wastes, natural fiber products, and construction and demolition wood waste. Green material does not include food material, biosolids, mixed solid waste, material processes from commingled collection, wood containing lead-based paint or wood preservative, mixed construction, or mixed demolition debris.

Composting is the controlled decomposition of organic materials by microorganisms. The result of this decomposition process is compost, a crumbly, earthy-smelling, soil-like material. The objectives of composting are to reduce pathogens to below detectable levels, degrade volatile (smelly) solids and to produce a useable product. Pathogen reduction is a function of time and temperature. The end product is usually a humus-like material (referred to as Class A compost) that can be applied as a soil conditioner and fertilizer to gardens, crops, and rangelands. Compost provides organic matter and nutrients (such as nitrogen and potassium) to the soil, and improves soil texture--characteristics of a good soil amendment. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Cal Recycle have determined that Class A compost is safe to use and generally has a high degree of acceptability by the public.

2.5 Goals and Objectives

The main goal of the project is to continue to provide local, cost-efficient compost for the County of Glenn and other surrounding counties that complies with applicable federal, state and local requirements for safely handling these materials.

The project has the following objectives:

- Comply with RWQCB General Order WQ-2015-0121-DWQ;
- Conduct the composting operation in a cost-effective manner; and
- Produce and provide local and regional agricultural and nursery customers with high-quality composted products.

The organic material and water retention properties of compost can improve the agricultural productivity of soils. The compost can be used in nursery and landscaping operations, erosion control, and similar uses.

2.6 Approval Actions

The current facility operates under Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 issued by Glenn County and General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations (Order No. WQ-2015-0121-DWQ) issued by the Central Valley Water Board. The RWQCB's General Order requires Compost Solutions to retain all stormwater onsite. The proposed addition of the pond is to retain stormwater. The addition of the 9 acres for specialty composting in the summer will require an updated Report of Composting Site Information (RCSI), Odor Impact Minimization Plan (OIMP) describing in detail proposed composting activities, and amendment to the RWQCB-required Technical Report associated with Order WQ 2015-0121-DWQ. The Glenn County Environmental Health Department regulates the facility as an Agricultural Materials Composting Operation.

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

3.1 Existing Facility

Compost Solutions, Inc. currently composts up to 100,000 cubic yards of various agricultural and municipal waste streams per year using an open air windrow composting system. Daily operations at the site consist of receiving and composting feedstock, turning active compost, material screening, material blending, and loading of finished compost for delivery. Currently, the composting process utilizes cow manure sourced from local dairies which is mixed with agricultural waste generated from harvest activities, green waste from local municipalities, animal bedding, and rice straw.

The existing composting operation utilizes 28 acres of a 45.89± acre parcel (APN 024-030-031). The facility includes a 3-acre parking and storage area, 4 acres of vegetated area which acts as a filter strip, and a 21-acre compost-turning area. The 21-acre compost turning area makes up 75 percent of the total site and is located on the north side of the site.

Details of the current composting facility are located in the revised RWQCB Technical Report dated 15 May 2020, Report of Compost Site Information dated May 2020, and Conditional Use Permit Amendment application dated 24 April 2020.

3.2 Proposed Amendment

Compost Solutions, Inc. has applied for an amendment to Conditional Use Permit 2006-006. The proposed changes to current operations include:

- The addition of a 12-acre parcel located to the east for a revised total of 40 acres
- Approximately 9 additional acres of compost working surface (summer use only)
- Approximately 2.5 acres of retention pond to contain onsite stormwater
- Removal of and filling of previous filter strip
- Drainage revisions on current working face
- Removal of biosolid composting

The following composting feedstocks, bulking agents, and compost additives are proposed for collection and processing at the compost facility:

1. Green Materials
2. Animal Manure
3. Commercial Fertilizers
4. Agricultural Waste
5. Drilling Mud (non-hazardous)
6. Biomass Ash

The agricultural materials composting utilizes the aerobic windrow process. The rows are up to 8 feet high and 18 feet wide. The rows are mixed and aerated by a self-propelled

turning machine commercially built for this purpose.

3.3 Hours of Operation and Staff

The facility will operate year-round up to 7 days a week. Generally, hours of operation will not be more than one hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset. The site is not open to the general public. Up to six employees will work a standard 40-hour week. During peak periods in the spring and fall, a seven-day work week may be necessary.

3.4 Project Time Table

The anticipated time for completion of the pond and compliance with the RWQCB General Order is 2022.

3.5 Feedstocks, Bulking Agents, and Additives

3.5.1 General

The following composting feedstocks, bulking agents, and compost additives with estimated daily maximum tonnages can be received daily at the composting facility. These daily tonnages for green material, manure, and agricultural waste are extreme and represent worst-case scenario for receiving of feedstocks.

Compost Solutions, Inc. controls the shipment of most of the incoming raw materials. These are summarized in Table 3. Usually, only one commodity is shipped on any given day. The agricultural-grade compost produced by Compost Solutions, Inc. is processed in two annual batches. The inputs are hauled for only a few weeks in the spring and a few weeks in the late summer.

Table 3: Feedstock List

Feedstock	Pounds/Cubic Yard	Est. Annual Tons
Yard Waste/Greenwaste	200-1,500	1,000-15,000
Almond Byproducts	400-1,000	5,000
Walnut Byproducts	800-1,500	12,000
Wood Chips	400	500
Ash/Biochar	600	400
Rice Hulls/Straw	200	250
Small-Grain Straw	500-1,000	1,500
Clay	2,000-3,000	500
Manure	1,200	10,000
Ammonium Sulfate	1,800	100
Potassium Sulfate	1,800	100
Phosphate Fertilizer	1,500	50
Micro Nutrients	1,000-3,000	10
Rinse Water	1,700-1,800	4,000
Feed Waste	1,200-1,500	500

3.5.2 High Liquid Waste

Drilling mud will be off-loaded onto a bed of dry feedstocks or a storage tank and mixed into compost windrows in an appropriate ratio.

3.6 Descriptive Statement of Operations

3.6.1 Waste Handling

The majority of the feedstocks brought to the facility are offloaded directly onto a windrow and distributed with a front loader as needed to attain the desired mix ratios. No additional processing is generally needed before composting begins. The green material is ground offsite by an independent contractor. Load tags are generated by the freight company and cross-referenced by facility employees to ensure volume accuracy. Each load is approximately 25 tons net weight.

3.6.2 Agricultural Waste

Agricultural waste windrows are constructed by placing the 25-ton truck loads in a predetermined spacing along the windrow as they are delivered. The feedstocks are combined in windrows with a loader to attain a 25:1 Carbon: Nitrogen ratio. The windrows are then mixed or turned with the compost turner. Moisture levels in the compost are monitored and managed to attain a 50 to 60 percent content within the compost row. Water is added as necessary using an overhead boom before turning. The water boom is operated independent of the turner and allows for a more efficient application of water. A well is the source of most of the process water.

The Agricultural waste compost operations comply with the composting regulations, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Div 7, Chapter 3.1. Windrows are initially turned every other day and slow to once per week as the compost finishes over a ninety-day period. Temperatures are initially monitored twice a week and slow to once per week as the compost finishes. Moisture levels are monitored when temperatures are taken. The Agricultural waste compost is sold as “organic” and is required to have temperatures above 131 degrees F for fifteen consecutive days in a windrow system.

As the compost feedstocks decompose, the volume will be reduced to approximately 60 percent of the original size. Two rows may be combined together in order to maintain proper temperatures and moisture levels. One large row has less surface area per unit of volume than two smaller rows. Rows with lower surface to volume ratios are easier to manage with respect to moisture and temperature levels.

The composting process continues for up to 90 days. At this point the compost is screened to remove foreign materials and large uncomposted organics. The finished compost is piled in large rows and will await delivery. These large piles of finished compost may serve as curing piles. Garbage materials such as plastic film and general refuse are removed by a vacuum system attached to the screen. The removed material is taken to the local landfill

as needed. Rocks and gravel that are screened is given away and used to control dust on dirt roads. Uncomposted organics are reused in the biosolids compost.

Commercial fertilizers may also be received and blended with compost as per customer request. Generally this is done just prior to shipping. The commercial fertilizers may include: urea, potassium, agricultural calcium, and micro nutrients. The fertilizers are generally not stored onsite.

Receiving and operating areas are compacted soils on a minimum of 0.1 percent slope. Due to surrounding topography, there is no precipitation run on and all run off must pass through a 2.5-acre filter strip before leaving the facility.

3.6.3 Capacity

At 30 days, the compost is moved to a windrow system for moisture management and to cure the compost. Water will be added as needed and the compost turned to mix the water into the row.

3.6.4 High-Quality Finished Compost

Compost and soil amendments provide a source of organic matter (humus), nitrogen, phosphate and potassium, as well as calcium, magnesium, sulfur and other important trace elements. Finished compost is manufactured specifically for each customer and the technical requirements for their individual application. Golf courses, agriculture, nurseries, and homeowners all require a different blend of the finished compost. Soil treated with compost better retains and conserves nutrients and water, is more capable of resisting pests and diseases, and produces healthier crops and better yields. Adding humus-rich compost improves soil structure and texture, enhances moisture retention and drainage, and reduces compaction.

The finished compost will be screened onsite. The size of the finished compost that will be produced varies based on the customer.

3.7 Facility Drawings and Improvements

Detailed maps for the overall facility are located in the Technical Report.

The proposed additions to the facility are shown as “Proposed Improvements” on the site layout (Figure 3) and are described as follow:

- A lined stormwater collection pond will be installed to collect both leachate and rainwater.
- 9-acre area for specialty summer composting.

3.8 Composting Facility Controls

3.8.1 Basic Environmental Controls

The facility is designed and Best Management Practices (BMPs) are employed and reviewed with the goal of limiting environmental impacts to the greatest extent.

New employees and current management will be provided copies of the Report of Composting Site Information (RCSI), the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), Odor Impact Minimization Plan (OIMP), and county use permit to familiarize themselves with the regulations of all regulatory agencies.

Descriptions of the proposed methods used to monitor and control leachate, groundwater, drainage, nuisance, dust, vector, litter, noise, odor, and traffic are described as follow:

Stormwater Control: The compost facility is located in the Northern Sacramento Valley and has an average potential evapotranspiration rate of 52.08 inches. Evapotranspiration rate is taken from California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) Station #61, located 0.5 miles northeast of the facility. The high evapotranspiration rate in combination with proper compost moisture management will reduce the generation of leachate. The site is situated on a soil pad with 5×10^{-6} cm/sec permeability on a 0.1 percent slope. The RWQCB General Order requires all stormwater generated onsite to be retained. The new pond will bring the facility into compliance with this requirement.

Drainage Control: The facility does not lie within a 100-year flood hazard area according to Federal Flood Insurance Rate Map No. 06021C 0400D, dated August 5, 2010. The site lies within Flood Zone "X" which consists of areas determined to be outside the 0.2 percent annual chance floodplain. See Figure 5.

Due to surrounding topography, no run-on to the facility is expected. On the north and east sides of the facility, the surrounding property is eight feet lower in elevation. County roads on the south and west sides prevent run-on from those directions. Run-off will be directed to the new pond.

Nuisance Control: The compost facility is located in a rural area surrounded by compatible land uses. The immediate properties are used for almond production or field crops such as corn, wheat, and alfalfa. The closest residence is located approximately 0.2 miles to the southeast. A vegetative fence borders the facility to the south and west.

Dust Control: The compost moisture content of approximately 50 percent minimizes dust from compost turning and screening activities. Fugitive dust from vehicle traffic is controlled by using a water truck as needed. Prevailing winds are away from residences in the immediate area.

Vector Control: Due to the feedstock used at the facility, birds and rodents generally do not cause problems. Feedstock begins the composting process within a few days after

being delivered. In the event that birds or rodents become an issue, the problem will be evaluated and dealt with appropriately. Possible solutions include the use of reflective tape or sound guns. Poisons will be used as a last resort.

Fly populations are controlled by frequent turnings of the compost windrows. The turnings do not allow the flies to complete their lifecycles; therefore, populations are minimal. Proper sanitation throughout the facility is required to minimize breeding material for flies. Fly bait stations are maintained throughout the warm months of the year. As a last resort, chemical sprays may be used to reduce fly populations.

Litter Control: The municipal green waste is the only imported feedstock that contains significant quantities of plastic film that can be carried by the wind. Large pieces of film are removed from the feedstock by hand when recognized. Vegetative filter strips and living fences serve as plastic traps to catch most of the fugitive plastic film. After high wind events, fugitive film that has left the facility is picked up by facility employees.

Noise Control: The facility is located in a rural area and is compatible with surrounding land uses. Offsite noise is limited by distance to neighbors and the use of equipment that is in good working order.

Odor Control: Compost Solutions, Inc. has prepared an Odor Impact Minimization Plan (OIMP).

Traffic Control: Compost Solutions, Inc. currently processes 50,000 tons annually. At maximum capacity, truck traffic averages 16 truck trips per weekday in order to both receive feedstock and deliver finished compost. Truck traffic will not change at up to 16 trips per day with this project. Most truck traffic will occur during normal business hours.

Up to six employees are foreseen at maximum facility capacity equaling six small vehicle trips per day. Off-street parking is available for truck traffic and employee needs. The majority of truck traffic is directed east on County Road 27, then north on County Road P to State Highway 32 or west on County Road 27 to Interstate 5. Current vehicle traffic in the area is light and consists of farm vehicles and equipment.

Safety Training: In the event that the operator finds it necessary to hire non-family employees, training regarding the proper and safe operation of compost equipment will be provided. A professional service will be utilized. Proper hand washing technique and disinfecting practices will be reviewed and enforced. The training for the correct use of protective equipment will be provided.

3.8.2 Other Controls

Stand-By Equipment: Compost Solutions proactively maintains its equipment so as to minimize downtime. Local rental companies serve as back up sources for equipment.

Electrical: Electrical power is via equipment that is diesel-powered.

Fire: In the event of a feedstock fire, trained employees will use water from trucks and wheeled loaders to wet the feedstock and smother the fire. Compost has the moisture content to prevent fires. Equipment fires that cannot be extinguished with a fire extinguisher will be left to the local fire department to control. The Artois Volunteer Fire Department is located approximately 6 miles away.

3.9 Maximum and Average Length of Time Compost Material will be Stored

Compostable material is delivered to windrows and begins the composting process as soon as possible. The delivery lag time, 90-day composting, and screening process usually takes approximately 120 days. Finished compost is stored and awaits shipment to customers, usually 30 to 60 days. Compost finished at the end of the season may store for six months. Compost has heavy use seasons in both the spring and fall. It is possible that finished compost and certain feedstock generated only at harvest times may be onsite for up to one year.

3.10 Maximum Compost Storage Capacity

The goal of any business is to match production volume to sales volume. Keeping this goal in mind, the maximum compost stored onsite would be 50,000 tons of agricultural waste compost. In addition, up to 25,000 tons of feedstock may be composting onsite at any given time.

3.11 Compost Equipment

3.11.1 Equipment List

- 1- Scarab Mfg or equivalent, 300-hp diesel power, 18 inches wide, self-propelled windrow turner, 1,000 tons/hour capacity
- 1- Case 521D wheel loader, 4-yard roll out bucket
- 1- Case 621D wheel loader, 3.25-yard general purpose bucket
- 1- Peterson Pacific 7-foot by 25-foot Trommel screen, removes refuse and uncomposted materials from compost
- 1- Frontier water hose reel and overhead water applicator, applies water to windrows
- 1- 4,800-gallon water tanker for dust control

3.11.2 Equipment Maintenance

An offsite repair area is maintained by facility personnel. Equipment is serviced as per manufacturer recommendations. Spare parts are located locally to facilitate repairs. All machinery is of late model and kept in good repair.

3.12 Annual Compost Operation Capacity in Cubic Yards

Compost Solutions is composting an annual limit of 50,000 tons/100,000 cubic yards of

feedstock inputs. This will not change under this order.

3.13 Unusual Peak Loads

The first option for unusual peak loads is to place them into windrows and begin the compost process. A second option would be to place the feedstock in a pile on the 2-acre pad that is in the southwest corner of the facility.

Manure products will not be received if the product cannot be immediately composted. The sources for these inputs have surge capacity to handle peak loads until the manure can be handled at the facility effectively.

3.14 Method for Storage and Final Disposal of Non-Marketable Residues

Compost Solutions separates few materials from municipal sources that require disposal in a landfill.

3.14.1 Waste Removal

A roll-off container is maintained onsite for the collection of non-compostable refuse that is screened from the compost. Trash from a future office and bagging facility would also be put in this container. Rocks and gravel separated from compost is given away or used to control dust on facility roads.

3.14.2 Time Limit and Destination of Refuse

The roll-off container will be emptied at the local landfill on an as-needed basis. This is estimated to be once every two to three months.

3.15 Water Supply for the Facility

A well and booster pump for applying water to compost windrows is located onsite. The same system may be utilized for filling water tanks for dust control. Compost that needs water in its early stages of composting may have collected pond water applied to it. This compost is still hot enough to kill any pathogens that may exist in the biosolids pond water.

3.16 Facility Operations Personnel

The facility is owned and operated by Compost Solutions, Inc.

Mailing Address: 6900 County Road 27, Orland, CA 95963

Physical Address: 6840 County Road 27, Orland, CA 95963

Property Owner: Gary Foster
4446 County Road N, Orland, CA 95963
530-865-2993 Home
530-521-1616 Cell

Operations Manager: Scott Foster
6900 County Road 27, Orland, CA 95963
530-865-9422 Office
530-624-3206 Cell

Equipment Operator: Nikki Foster
6900 County Road 27, Orland, CA 95963
530-865-2253 Home
530-624-2145 Cell

Additional employees will be added as volume levels dictate.

3.17 Site Restoration Post Closure

Site restoration would be performed in accordance with 14 CCR Section 17870. Written notice will be provided to the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) of intent to perform site restoration, at least 30 days prior to beginning site restoration. Site restoration will be completed that is necessary to protect public health, safety, and the environment. Upon site closure, all feedstock and finished compost will be removed from the site. All refuse will be transported to the landfill. Equipment will be cleaned and properly stored or removed from the facility.

The leachate pond will be cleaned to bare soil or pond liner, whichever is most appropriate. If deemed necessary, the liner will be removed and the pond will be filled in. Soil removed from the original pond excavation will be stored onsite in the form of roads and storm drainage berms.

4.0 INITIAL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

4.1 Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” as indicated by the checklist and corresponding discussion on the following pages.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture & Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

4.2 Determination

On the basis of the initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Copies of the Initial Study and related materials and documentation may be obtained at the Planning Division of the Department of Resource Management, 1855 Placer Street, Suite 103, Redding, California 96001. Contact Bill Walker, Senior Planner, at (530) 225-5532.

Signature

Date

John Lanier
Assistant Planner

4.3 Purpose of this Initial Study

This Initial Study has been prepared consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15063, to determine if the project, as proposed, may have a significant effect upon the environment.

I. AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

No Impact. There are no designated scenic vistas on or adjacent to the subject property. The surrounding topography is generally flat. The proposed amendment will allow for the construction of a regulatory-required pond and 9 additional acres of compost pad (summer use only). The project addition, as proposed, is not expected

to obstruct views in the area. As there are no vistas or scenic viewpoints in the area, it is concluded that there will be no impact.

b) Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

No Impact. There are no unique scenic resources or structures located at the project site. The roadways in Glenn County are not listed as Eligible or as Officially Designated Scenic Highways according to the California Department of Transportation. There are no rock outcropping, historic buildings, or other potential scenic resources in the vicinity. This project will be located at an existing facility and the development as proposed will not impact resources in the area. Therefore, it is concluded that the project will have no impact.

c) Would the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

Less Than Significant Impact. All surrounding properties are zoned “AE-40” (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36-acre minimum parcel size) or “FS-80” (Farmland Security Zone, 72-acre minimum parcel size). Properties surrounding the project site consist of agricultural uses consisting primarily of almond orchards and various field crops. Agricultural accessory structures and residences associated with agricultural use are located within the vicinity of the project site.

The site consists of an existing composting operation utilizing windrows up to 18 feet wide, 6 feet deep, and up to 1,400 feet long. New operations will be conducted adjacent to the existing facility boundary. Overall impacts to the visual character are considered less than significant.

The Glenn County General Plan §6.12 sets performance standards for landfills, recycling, and composting facilities regulating noise, visual barriers, air quality standards, water quality standards, traffic accommodations, adjacent zoning designations and land uses. To meet the requirements of the General Plan performance standards, the applicant proposed and implemented a landscaping plan along County Road 27 and County Road N. The landscaping strips are in place and are monitored for compliance by planning staff. The landscaping strips act as a visual screen and sound attenuation. The condition will continue to be implemented under this amendment:

Condition of Approval:

Landscaping along County Road 27 and County Road N shall be at least five feet in height and continue to create a continuous visual barrier. Landscaping shall be maintained in a healthy condition; unhealthy plants shall be replanted.

d) Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

No Impact. The project does not include additional light and glare into an area currently unlit.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

Farmland Mapping: To characterize the environmental baseline for agricultural resources, Important Farmland Maps produced by the California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) were reviewed. Important Farmland maps show categories of Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Local Importance (if adopted by the county), Grazing Land, Urban and Built-up Land, Other Land, and Water. Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance map categories are based on qualifying soil types, as determined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), as well as current land use. These map categories are defined by the Department of Conservation's FMMP as follow:

Prime Farmland: Land which has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for the production of crops. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to current farming methods.

Farmland of Statewide Importance: Land that is similar to *Prime Farmland* but with minor shortcomings, such as greater slopes or less ability to hold and store moisture.

Unique Farmland: Land of lesser quality soils used for the production of specific high economic value crops. It has the special combination of soil quality, location, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high quality or high yields of a specific crop when treated and managed according to current farming methods. It is usually irrigated, but may include non-irrigated orchards or vineyards as found in some climatic zones in California. Examples of crops include oranges, olives, avocados, rice, grapes, and cut flowers.

Farmland of Local Importance: Land of importance to the local agricultural economy, as determined by each county's board of supervisors and local advisory committees. Examples include dairies, dryland farming, aquaculture, and uncultivated areas with soils qualifying for *Prime Farmland* and *Farmland of Statewide Importance*. Butte County has not adopted a definition of Farmland of Local Importance.

Grazing Land: Land on which existing vegetation, whether grown naturally or through management, is suitable for grazing or browsing of livestock.

Urban and Built-up Land: Land used for residential, industrial, commercial, construction, institutional, public administrative purpose, railroad yards, cemeteries, airports, golf courses, sanitary landfills, sewage treatment plants, water control structures, and other development purposes. Highways, railroads, and other transportation facilities are also included in this category.

Water: Water areas with an extent of at least 40 acres.

The project site is identified by the Department of Conservation as containing lands classified as *Grazing Land* and *Other Land*. The majority of the parcel is designated as *Grazing Land*.

Williamson Act: The California Land Conservation Act of 1965, commonly known as the Williamson Act, was established based on numerous State legislative findings regarding the importance of agricultural lands in an urbanizing society. Policies emanating from those findings include those that discourage premature and unnecessary conversion of agricultural land to urban uses and discourage discontinuous urban development patterns, which unnecessarily increase the costs of community services to community residents. The Williamson Act authorizes each County to establish an agricultural preserve. Land that is within the agricultural preserve is eligible to be placed under a contract between the property owner and County that would restrict the use of the land to agriculture in exchange for a tax assessment that is based on the yearly production yield. The contracts have a 10-year term that is automatically renewed each year, unless the property owner or county requests a non-renewal or the contract is cancelled. The project site is not encumbered by a Williamson Act contract.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature that could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) **Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed 9-acre expansion area is a

combination of Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, and Unique Farmland (see Figure 5). The site is not currently irrigated. Conversion to use for composting rows and the pond is temporary and, following completion of the composting, the site will be ripped and returned to farmland. This project will not permanently convert farmland. The 9 acres that will be converted are not irrigated and generally supports a dryland crop.

Composting is an agricultural-related use and the parcel is zoned for agriculture; therefore, this project will have a less-than-significant impact on agricultural resources. Following closure, the land can be returned to agricultural use. There is no permanent loss of farmland.

b) Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?

Less Than Significant Impact. All surrounding properties are zoned “AE-40” (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36-acre minimum parcel size), “AP-80” (Agricultural Preserve Zone, 72-acre minimum parcel size), and “FS-80” (Farmland Security Zone, 72-acre minimum parcel size). Properties surrounding the project site consist of agricultural uses. These uses consist of orchards and various field crops. There are agricultural accessory structures, residences associated with agricultural use, three dairies and one feedlot within the vicinity of the project site. The proposed project is consistent with zoning and existing agricultural uses in the area; therefore, there will be a less-than-significant impact on existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract.

c) Would the project conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?

No Impact. The proposed project will not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production. The project site is not zoned for forest land or timberland nor is it adjacent to land that is zoned for forest land or timberland. The project site is located within the “AE” Exclusive Agricultural Zone (Chapter 15.330 of the Glenn County Code). This zoning category is meant to preserve agricultural uses. The “FA” Foothill Agricultural/Forestry Zone and “TPZ” Timberland Preserve Zone (Chapters 15.320 and 15.450 of the Glenn County Code) are meant to protect timber and forest lands. Areas zoned “FA” and “TPZ” are located within the Mendocino National Forest in the western part of the County. This project is for the amendment of an existing use. The project does not involve rezoning property. Therefore, it is concluded that the project will have no impact.

d) Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No Impact. Forest land is defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g) as

land that can support 10-percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of one or more forest resources, including timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits. This project will not result in the loss of forest land as the project site does not contain forest land. Therefore, there will be no impact as a result of this project.

e) **Would the project involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature that could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?**

No Impact. This project will not involve a change of agricultural-related uses on the project site or surrounding parcels. The project does not include land being converted from farmland to non-agriculture related uses nor does it include land being converted from forest land to non-forest use. Therefore, there will be no impact.

III. AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposal will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of an applicable air quality plan. The Air Quality section of the Glenn County General Plan establishes mitigation measures designed to reduce particulate matter (PM) and ozone precursors in the ambient air as a result of emissions from sources that attract or generate motor vehicle activity.

Air quality standards are set at both the federal and state levels. The Glenn County Air Pollution Control District (GCAPCD) is responsible for the planning and maintenance/attainment of these standards at the local level. The GCAPCD has not identified a potentially significant impact on air quality with this project. The pollutants in Glenn County for which standards have been established include ozone and particulates (PM10). The County has been designated as a non-attainment area for both of these pollutants by the State. Pursuant to the California Clean Air Act of 1988, an updated 2018 *Air Quality Attainment Plan* has been prepared for the Northern Sacramento Valley Planning Area (NSVPA). The NSVPA Districts have committed to jointly prepare and adopt the uniform air quality attainment plan for the purpose of achieving and maintaining healthful air quality throughout the air basin. The 2018 Plan focuses on the adoption and implementation of control measures for stationary sources, area wide sources, and indirect sources, and addresses public education and information programs. The

2018 Plan also addresses the effect that pollutant transport has on the ability of the NSVPA to meet and attain the State standards.

Open air composting releases water vapor, volatile organic compounds, and carbon dioxide (CO₂).

The project would not result in a significant increase in air quality impacts associated with transportation of materials to the facility and the associated emissions from heavy duty diesel trucks as the volume processed is not changing. The area served by the proposed project includes Glenn County and nearby areas in Northern California.

The site will continue to create some dust emissions. Potential sources of dust include construction activities, turning of windrows, loading and unloading, periodic grading of new areas, and operation of onsite equipment. Fugitive dust from vehicle traffic is controlled by using a water truck as needed. Sufficient water for dust control could be obtained from an onsite groundwater well or the new retention pond. Rocks and gravel separated from compost is given away or used to control dust on facility roads. The compost moisture content of approximately 50 percent minimizes dust from compost turning and screening activities. Water is applied to the compost during the turning process which will reduce the amount of dust. With the existing conditional use permit, a Dust Control Plan (DCP) was generated by the applicant and Glenn County Air Pollution Control District (GCAPCD) to reduce impacts from dust. The DCP will continue to be implemented as a part of this project and will reduce impacts from dust to a less-than-significant level. The site operates under a Dust Control Plan requirement from the previous CEQA review.

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

Less Than Significant Impact. See Section III a) above.

c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

Less Than Significant Impact. See Section III a) above.

Each project with emissions falling under regulatory standards must individually comply with the GCAPCD regulations. When adopting the General Plan in 1993, the Glenn County Board of Supervisors adopted a Statement of Overriding Considerations finding that the unavoidable impact to air quality could be overridden because any project would represent a cumulative impact and that the General Plan employed all feasible mitigations. Also, each project would be required to utilize the best available control technology to mitigate impacts to air quality. The project is specifically subject to the regulations outlined in 40 CFR Part 503 and Title 14 CCR, Division 7, Chapter 3.1.

The pollutants in Glenn County for which standards have been established include

ozone and particulates (PM₁₀). The County has been designated as a “moderate nonattainment” area for ozone and “nonattainment” for PM₁₀ by the State. The facility employs a DCP ~~Dust Control Plan~~^[MT1] to manage dust. Given this information, it is concluded that the impact from the proposal is less than significant.

d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Less Than Significant Impact. Air pollutants are generated from composting operations and vehicle emissions from trucks or smaller automobiles transporting materials to the site. There will not be a significant increase in vehicular activity as a result of this project. There are no public facilities within 1.4 miles of the site. The closest public facility is the Orland Catholic Cemetery which is located approximately 1.4 miles northeast of the site. There are no residential areas, churches, schools, or recreation areas within 2 miles of the site.

Land use within one mile of the facility is agricultural and low density rural residential. Almond orchards are located on adjacent properties to the north, south and west. The adjacent property east of the facility is farmed for annual crops. Other crops grown within one mile of the site include almonds, walnuts, corn, and prunes. Seven homes are located within 0.5 miles of the site. The closest of these are three houses about 0.2 miles to the east and southeast of the site. Seventeen homes are located within one mile of the site.

Operation of the composting facility involves diesel equipment. These activities can result in emissions of particulate matter from the diesel exhaust. The GCAPCD requires a Health Risk Analysis specific to diesel particulate matter exhaust when a residence is within 1,000 feet of a project. The project boundary is not located within 1,000 feet of any existing residence; therefore, the project will not require a Health Risk Analysis.

The Odor Impact Minimization Plan discussed in the next section will reduce impacts from odor and volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions on the closest residences.

e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

Less Than Significant Impact. The primary sources of composting-related odors are: (1) feedstock management (e.g., delivery, storage and handling); (2) active composting (e.g., surface emissions, turning windrows, tearing down piles); and (3) curing (e.g., surface emissions, turning windrows, and tearing down piles). Other minor sources of composting-related odor include mixing of feedstocks into windrows; finished product loading; and poor site management conditions (e.g., runoff, leachate, surface ponding, and road spillage).

The compounds that produce odors differ depending on the type of feedstock, condition of the feedstock, and the stage of composting (i.e., pre-processing stage, active composting stage, curing stage). Feedstocks that decompose rapidly are likely to produce odors at higher concentrations than those feedstocks that decompose at a slower rate. In general, grass, green material, manure, and

biosolids produce more odors than woody waste. The delivery, storage, and handling of feedstocks can also greatly affect odors. If incoming feedstocks are not expeditiously processed, they may decay and begin to produce odors.

Windrow turning can result in odor release because some of the organic material within the pile may be in an anaerobic state. Compounds formed under anaerobic conditions and their characteristic odors may include hydrogen sulfide (rotten egg), carbon disulfide (disagreeable sweet), dimethyl sulfide (rotten cabbage) and ammonia (pungent, sharp). Newly formed windrows containing fresh organic material can potentially generate intense odors when turned. Odors produced at this stage are principally the result of the decomposition or breakdown of proteins and fats that contain sulfur and nitrogen compounds. These compounds generally break down during the first 14 days of composting, and odor generation is significantly reduced after this initial stage of decomposition.

Odors are also released from windrow surfaces during non-turning periods. Although surface emissions are the greatest overall source of odors from windrows, turning results in higher short-term spikes in concentration and intensity of odors. The fresher the material in the windrow, the greater the odor potential. Material that has been in the windrow for long periods of time is more stable and tends to be less odorous.

When the windrows are torn down, the potential for odors is considerably lower than for the initial composting process, because the compost has become more stable with time. The rate of decomposition is less and many of the odor-producing compounds have already broken down. The potential for odor generation during the final (curing) stage of composting is less, since organic compounds have already been degraded and curing piles require relatively infrequent turning. In addition, odors from finished compost are usually not considered to be offensive, unlike fresh composting feedstocks.

Odor can be emitted during the mixing process, depending on the feedstock and the time over which feedstock materials have been stored prior to mixing. For example, grass clippings decay rapidly, and if stored prior to mixing, may emit ammonia and other types of sharply odorous compounds. Consequently, it is important for odor control that such feedstock be mixed as soon as possible upon arrival at the site.

Processing, grinding, and conveying the materials to the windrows also have the potential to generate odors, especially for putrescible materials such as grass clippings and food waste. Odors can be carried in the dust generated during the conveyance and grinding processes. Odor levels are generally minimal during final loading of the finished compost product for shipment offsite, and the characteristics of the odor from this process is that of a soil-like material. Odors can also be generated if runoff and leachate remain on the composting facility surface in sufficient amounts to form ponds.

Table III-1 (taken from Epstein, 2004) identifies sources of odors during the composting process and the relative contribution of individual sources in comparison to total odor generation by composting facility operations. The relative odor

contributions are expressed as a percentage of the total odor emissions typically generated.

As shown in Table III-1, the greatest odor source by far is the composting windrows, especially during the first few days of feedstock decomposition.

A total of seventeen residences are located within one mile of the compost facility boundary. A map is included which shows all residences within one mile of the facility. Out of the seventeen residences, seven of them are located within 0.5 miles of the facility boundary. The number of residences was determined by the Assessor Use Code for parcels lying within one mile of the existing facility and was verified via 2017 Aerial Photography.

With the existing conditional use permit, the applicant submitted an **Odor Control Plan** [MT2](OCP) to minimize odors in the vicinity of the site. The OCP will continue to be implemented as a part of this project. The current OCP is included in Appendix A.

Odor Sources & Area Sources	Relative Odor Contribution	Potential Odor Characteristics
Feedstock Storage	4%	Woody
Composting Windrows, 0-6 days old	30%	Stinky, sulfurous, fishy, ammonia
Composting Windrows, 7-11 days old	10%	Stinky, sulfurous
Composting Windrows, 12-27 days old	40%	Earthy, mulch
Curing Windrows, 28-61 days old	11%	Earthy, soil-like
Curing Windrows, 61-90 days old	3%	Earthy, soil-like
Volume Sources	(<2% all sources combined)	
Grinding Operations	<1%	Woody
Feedstock Tipping	<1%	Stinky
Feedstock Mixing	<1%	Stinky
Compost Windrow Building	<1%	Stinky
Compost Windrow Turning	<1%	Ammonia, sulfurous
Compost Windrow Teardown	<1%	Mulch
Curing Windrow Turning	<1%	Mulch, woody
Curing Windrow Teardown	<1%	Earthy, soil-like
Screening	<1%	Woody, mulch
Product Loadout	<1%	Earthy, soil-like

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the CWA (including but not limited to marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Have a substantial effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS?

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will not have a substantial adverse effect on species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species. According to the Glenn County General Plan and the California Department of Fish

and Wildlife Natural Diversity Database, there are no areas within the project or surrounding areas that contain habitat for sensitive species (see Figure 6 and Table IV-1). The nearest species, Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), was sighted approximately 3.4 miles northeast of the site in 2000 and approximately 4.25 miles west of the site in 1993. The tri-colored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) was last sighted approximately 4.25 miles northwest of the site in 1971. The compost facility and proposed additions will likely neither be an attraction or deterrent to either species. Due to (1) the distance of the species sightings from the project site and (2) that the land use will not significantly change with the approval of this project, there will be a less than significant impact on the Swainson's hawk and tri-colored blackbird with the approval of this project.

Table IV-1 CNDDDB OCCURRENCES						
CNAME	SNAME	FEDLIST	CALLIST	GRANK	SRANK	RPLANTRANK
California linderiella	<i>Linderiella occidentalis</i>	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	
Crotch bumble bee	<i>Bombus crotchii</i>	None	Candidate Endangered	G3G4	S1S2	
Pink creamsacs	<i>Castilleja rubicundula</i> var. <i>rubicundula</i>	None	None	G5T2	S2	1B.2
Steelhead-Central Valley DPS	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i> pop. 11	Threatened	None	G5T2Q	S2	
Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	None	Threatened	G5	S3	
Vernal pool tadpole shrimp	<i>Lepidurus packardii</i>	Endangered	None	G4	S3S4	

No habitat for special status wildlife exists at the existing composting facility. Composting operations and vehicular traffic may intensify slightly as a result of the tonnage increase. These changes do not involve a physical expansion of the composting facility which would alter or destroy habitat.

This project does not involve new construction on undisturbed land. No trees will be removed with approval of this project. Bird species will continue to forage within surrounding agricultural fields. No change in land use will occur; therefore, the type of habitat the project site provides will not change. This project does not include activities that would adversely affect fisheries because the site is not located near major water courses.

It is concluded that the project will have a less than significant impact on species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or**

regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less Than Significant Impact. According to Section 2.4.1 of Volume III of the General Plan, riparian communities formerly occupied extensive stands within the County; however, current riparian communities are principally located along the Sacramento River, Willow Creek, and Walker Creek. The project site is not located within the vicinity of these water courses nor is it located within the vicinity of stream courses which feature riparian habitat.

Nearby surface water bodies consist primarily of irrigation ponds and ditches, drainage ditches for roads, surface streams, and a seasonal pond. Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data on riparian habitats created under the Sacramento River Stream Corridor Protection Program, no sensitive natural communities were identified onsite or in the surrounding area.

The project site is not located near the twelve important biological areas defined in Table 2-5 of Volume III of the General Plan. These important biological areas are mostly located within the riparian zones of the Sacramento River. The project site is not located within an area of special biological importance as shown on Figure 3-14 of Volume I of the General Plan.

The project is for the expansion of an existing facility. The area to be used for the pond expansion is farmed (disturbed) annually. The project would not alter or destroy sensitive natural communities. It is concluded that there would be a less than significant impact on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community.

- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?**

Less Than Significant Impact. According to the National Wetlands Inventory of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the facility boundary does not contain wetlands. The proposed pond and expansion area do not support wetlands or other hydrologic features.

A seasonal pond is located beyond the northeast corner of the site that is fed by a drainage ditch. The pond is only full during the rainy season. Runoff flows across the property to its south end and into a roadside ditch. The proposed project would have no impact on the existing seasonal pond. The project will not directly remove, fill, interrupt the hydrology of, or otherwise impact federally protected wetlands. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be a less than significant impact on federally protected wetlands as a result of this project.

- d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?**

Less Than Significant Impact. According to Section 2.4.2 of Volume III of the

General Plan, a large expanse of deer range is located in the western portion of the County next to the Mendocino National Forest. Based on the project site's location within the County, there will be no impact on the existing deer range.

Glenn County is located within the Pacific Flyway; a migratory corridor for birds moving between their winter and summer ranges. Section 2.4.2 states that winter waterfowl habitat is located within and surrounding the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge which is located in the southern part of the County. Many of these birds are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act which prohibits killing, possessing, or trading in migratory birds except in accordance with regulations prescribed by the United States Secretary of the Interior. The project would have no impact on migratory waterfowl and other birds migrating through the region because the project does not include features which would draw migratory fowl to the area.

The project is for the expansion of an existing facility. The project does not involve altering or destroying migratory wildlife corridors. According to Figure 2-7 of Volume III of the General Plan, major migration corridors are located in the western part of the County. The project would not significantly impede any migratory wildlife corridors.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

No Impact. The proposed project would not create a conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources because there are none within the area of the project. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be no impact.

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community, Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

No Impact. The proposed project would not create a conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan because no plans have been adopted for this specific area. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be no impact.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?**
- b) **Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?**

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. In compliance with CEQA Guideline §15064.5 (Determining the Significance of Impacts to Archaeological and Historical Resources), a request for a records search was submitted to the Northeast Information Center (NEIC) at California State University, Chico, a member of the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS), to determine if cultural places are located within the project site. The request for the record search was submitted for the original project (Conditional Use Permit 2006-006). Results from the records search were received from the NEIC on April 14, 2006. The NEIC responded to the request with the following recommendations:

The project is located in an area considered to be of low to moderate sensitivity for prehistoric, protohistoric, and historic cultural resources. Therefore, we do not recommend any further archaeological work at this time.

The project proposes new development in an undeveloped area. Therefore, NEIC was again contacted on June 4, 2020.

Mitigation:

Mitigation Measure CR-1 (Cultural Resources): *In the event that any prehistoric or historic subsurface cultural resources are discovered during ground disturbing activities, all work within 100 feet of the resources shall be halted and the applicant/operator shall consult with the County and a qualified archaeologist (as*

approved by the County) to assess the significance of the find per CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. The qualified archaeologist shall determine the nature of the find, evaluate its significance, and, if necessary, suggest preservation or mitigation measures. Appropriate mitigation measures, based on recommendations listed in the archaeological survey report, will be determined by the Glenn County Planning and Community Development Services Agency Director. Work may proceed on other parts of the project site while mitigation for historical resources or unique archaeological resources is carried out. All significant cultural materials recovered shall be, at the discretion of the consulting archaeologist, subject to scientific analysis, professional museum curation, and documented according to current professional standards.

Timing/Implementation: During construction/excavation activities

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Planning & Community Development Services Agency

c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Less Than Significant Impact. No known paleontological resources or unique geologic features are listed in the mineral element of the General Plan for this area. Refer to the discussion above in regard to accidental discovery of paleontological resources.

d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Less Than Significant Impact. No human remains are likely to be encountered as the project site has not been known to be used as a burial ground. The potential exists during construction to possibly uncover previously unidentified resources. Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code states that if human remains are found during construction activities, all operations are to cease until the County coroner has determined that the remains are not subject to the provisions of law concerning investigation of the circumstances in the manner provided in Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Would the project expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a				

known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

ii) **Strong seismic ground shaking?**

No Impact. According to Section 3.3.1 of the General Plan, Glenn County is in a relatively inactive seismic area. No Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zones are located within the County. During the past 100 years, the County has experienced only minor earthquakes within its boundaries and secondary impacts from earthquakes centered out of the area. Projections of future impacts are low to moderate. Glenn County is in a Seismic Design Load “D” according to the Uniform Building Code (UBC). All construction in the County is required to meet the standard set by the UBC for this area.

According to Section 4.1.4 of the General Plan, the highest historic intensity rating for an earthquake affecting Glenn County is VII as measured by the Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale. The Uniform Building Code (UBC) establishes standards for structures to survive earthquakes of an intensity of VII with little or no damage. The UBC also classifies all of Glenn County as being within a Seismic Risk Zone 3. Seismic risk zones are based, in part, on the distribution of earthquakes and the Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale rating of known earthquakes. A Seismic Risk Zone 3 requires that special precautions be taken, in accordance with the UBC, during construction to avoid or minimize earthquake damage.

The United States Geologic Survey (USGS) and California Geologic Survey (CGS) produced a *Seismic Shaking Hazards in California* map (revised April 2003), which depicts the peak ground acceleration (pga) percentage that has a 10 percent potential of occurring in the next fifty years. Glenn County, as well as areas on the west side of the central valley, are rated as 10 to 30 percent on a scale of 0 to 100 percent. Additionally, no earthquake greater than a magnitude 5.5 has occurred in Glenn County in over 200 years (CGS Map 49, *California Earthquakes, 1800-2000*).

The seismic history of Glenn County shows the area to be generally stable. Glenn County’s stability can be correlated with its location away from tectonic plate boundary convergence/divergence and its location away from major active faults with high slip rates. Given this data, seismic related activities such as rupture of known earthquake faults, strong seismic ground shaking, and ground failure such as liquefaction and landslides would have a less than significant impact on people in the area of the project or on new construction related to the project.

iii) **Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?**

Less Than Significant Impact. Due to the lack of seismic activity in Glenn County, it is unlikely that liquefaction or other ground failure of this type would occur. Liquefaction generally occurs in low lying areas with saturated soils and its effects are commonly observed near water bodies. Soils with a loose structure, such as sand, are more susceptible to liquefaction when saturated. The project site consists of the following soil types:

“HgA” (Hillgate loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, Index rating 54, Soil grade 3)
“Kb” (Kimball loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, Index rating 45, Soil grade 3)
“AoA” (Arbuckle gravelly loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, Index rating 68, Soil grade 2)
“AoB” (Arbuckle gravelly loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes, Index rating 64, Soil grade 2)
“Tm” (Tehama silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, Index rating 72, Soil grade 2)

Depending on the level of saturation, these soil types may be subject to liquefaction during strong shaking in a seismic event. However; since 1800, there have been no recorded earthquakes in Glenn County above a magnitude 5. The Earthquake Shaking Potential for California map published by the California Geologic Survey in 2003 indicates that Glenn County is in an area that only will experience lower levels of ground shaking. Further, the California Geologic Survey does not list Glenn County as an area where seismic activity affects soil stability. It is concluded that there is a less-than-significant impact. See soils on Figure 7.

Also see a) i-ii) above.

iv) **Landslides?**

No Impact. Landslides include phenomena that involve the downslope displacement and movement of material, either triggered by static (gravity) or dynamic (earthquake) forces. Areas susceptible to landslides are typically characterized by steep, unstable slopes in weak soil or bedrock units. The highest potential for landslides exists in the western portion of the County. Figure 4-2 of Volume II of the General Plan depicts the project site as being in an area of least landslide potential. The topography of the site and surrounding area is relatively flat; therefore, it is not susceptible to slope failures and landslides. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be no impact.

Also see Section VI. a) i) above.

b) **Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?**

No Impact. Figure 4-1 of Volume II of the General Plan shows that the project area is not located within an area prone to erosion. The project site is relatively flat and has been leveled in the past to accommodate agricultural practices as well as the existing operation. Severe erosion typically occurs on moderate slopes of sand and steep slopes of clay subjected to concentrated water runoff. These topographic conditions do not exist at the site.

The General Order requires the operator to retain all stormwater onsite. It is concluded that there will be no impact.

c) **Would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?**

No Impact. Soils and the geology of the project site are generally stable because of the area’s seismic stability and low relief. Landslide potential in the County generally correlates with relief. Landslides are not a threat because the site is not

located in an area with a great amount of relief. Figure 4-2 of Volume II of the General Plan shows that the project area is in an area of least landslide potential. Some lateral spreading or soil creep may occur over time, but this would have a less than significant impact on the project site. According to Section 4.1.3 of Volume II of the General Plan, potential subsidence areas occur in the eastern portion of the County where extensive groundwater withdrawals have occurred. Figure 4-3 of this section of the General Plan shows no potential subsidence areas within the project site. There is a low probability for liquefaction and ground collapse to occur because of the area's seismic stability. Based on this information, it is concluded that there will be no impact.

- d) **Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?**

Less Than Significant Impact. Expansive soils are those that shrink or swell with the change in moisture content. The volume of change is influenced by the quantity of moisture, by the kind and amount of clay in the soil, and by the original porosity of the soil. According to Section 4.1.5 and Figure 4-5 of Volume II of the General Plan, most of Glenn County has high expansive soils. According to the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the soil types at this site are classified as having either a low, low to moderate, moderate, or moderate to high shrink-swell potential. Soils containing a high clay content often exhibit a relatively high potential to expand when saturated, and contract when dried out. This shrink/swell movement can adversely affect building foundations, often causing them to crack or shift, with resulting damage to the buildings they support. The soils at the project site do not have a high clay content that would cause adverse effects to building foundations. There would be no substantial risks to life or property from this project because all future development will require compliance with the Uniform Building Code (UBC) to avoid potential unstable earth conditions or changes in geologic substructures. All future building construction must meet the requirements of the UBC and is reviewed for compliance by the Glenn County Building Official. California Building Code compliance reduces potential impacts from expansive soils to less than significant.

- e) **Would the project have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The project site relies solely on the use of septic tanks for the disposal of wastewater as there is no sewer system available in the area of the project. The project site is approximately 45.89 acres in size. The project site has adequate area to support a future onsite sewage disposal system. If a sewage disposal system becomes necessary in the future, the operator will be required to meet the standards set forth in Chapter 07.010 of the Glenn County Code and by the Glenn County Environmental Health Department. The operator will be required to obtain an Individual Disposal System Permit. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be a less-than-significant impact.

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Legislative/Regulatory

The Governor of California signed Executive Order S-3-05 (EO) in June 2005 which established statewide reduction targets for greenhouse gases. The EO states that emissions shall be reduced to 2000 levels by 2010, to 1990 levels by 2020, and by 2050 reduced to 80 percent of the 1990 levels. Assembly Bill 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act, 2006 (AB 32), was signed into law in September 2006. AB 32 finds that global warming poses a serious threat to the economic wellbeing, public health, natural resources, and the California environment. It establishes a state goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020, which would be a 25 percent reduction from forecasted emission levels.

Senate Bill 97 (SB 97) was approved by the Governor of California in August 2007. SB 97 requires the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to prepare, develop, and transmit guidelines to the Resources Agency for the feasible mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions or the effects of greenhouse gas emissions, as required by CEQA. In April 2009, OPR submitted to the Secretary for Natural Resources its proposed amendments to the CEQA Guidelines for greenhouse gas emissions, as required by Senate Bill 97 (Chapter 185, 2007). The Natural Resources Agency conducted formal rulemaking prior to certifying and adopting the amendments, as required by Senate Bill 97. The Natural Resources Agency adopted the proposed amendments, and transmitted the amendments to the Office of Administrative Law on December 31, 2009. The Office of Administrative Law reviewed the Adopted Amendments and the Natural Resources Agency’s rulemaking file. The Adopted Amendments were filed with the Secretary of State and became effective on March 18, 2010.

These CEQA Guidelines amendments provide guidance to public agencies regarding the analysis and mitigation of the effects of greenhouse gas emissions in draft CEQA documents. The greenhouse gas guidelines fit within the existing CEQA framework by amending existing Guidelines to reference climate change.

- a) **Would the project generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?**

Less Than Significant Impact. Greenhouse gases (GHGs), as defined by Health and Safety Code, include but are not limited to water vapor, carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), ozone (O₃), and chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) (Health and Safety Code §38500 et seq.). These gases all act as effective global insulators, reflecting back to earth visible light and infrared radiation.

The project cannot generate enough GHG emissions to influence global climate change on its own. The project participates in potential climate change by its incremental contribution (positive or negative) of GHG emissions that, when combined with the cumulative increase of all other natural and anthropogenic sources of GHGs, impact global climate change. Therefore, global climate change is a type of cumulative impact and the project's participation in this cumulative impact is through its incremental contribution of GHG emissions.

The primary source of GHG emissions associated with the project results from the transportation of materials from the facility and the associated emissions from heavy-duty diesel trucks. The area served by the proposed project includes Glenn County and nearby areas in Northern California. Green waste material will be diverted to the existing facility. As the facility is located close to the source, it will reduce the number of miles traveled by trucks and hence the GHG emissions will decrease.

Methane emissions are commonly associated with various types of composting operations. The fugitive emissions from the decomposition of the green waste will be identical with or without the project; the only difference is the location where the emissions will occur. Because, as discussed previously, they are part of the baseline emissions (existing conditions) they are not considered "project-generated emissions."

The project is consistent with the AB 32 goal of reducing GHG emissions and is not in conflict with existing guidelines or standards. The project will reduce GHG emissions and provide consistency with AB 32. The County has a waste reduction program that diverts green waste and recyclable material out of the municipal landfill waste stream.

Compostable organics make up 30 percent of California's overall waste stream, contributing over 12 million tons annually to California landfills. In landfills, this material undergoes anaerobic decomposition and produces significant quantities of methane, up to 80 percent of which is not captured by a landfill gas system. Composting, on the other hand, is a fundamentally aerobic process, and well managed compost facilities produce little methane. Composting offers an environmentally superior alternative to landfilling organics that eliminates methane production, provides a series of economic and environmental co-benefits, and has a substantial impact on greenhouse gas reduction.

- **Compost can significantly reduce agricultural energy demand.** Plants grown in compost-rich soil require less irrigation because of the increased infiltration and storage capacity of root systems and the reduction of water runoff, evaporation, and water usage by weeds. Research has shown that

the application of compost can reduce the need for irrigation by 30 to 70 percent. Given that approximately 8 percent of the electricity generated in the state is used to run California's massive water supply infrastructure, a substantial decrease in water consumption would significantly reduce energy consumption.

- Composting provides nutrient-rich soils, which multiple studies have shown results **in greater carbon storage in crop biomass**.
- **The application of compost results in a reduced need for GHG producing petroleum-based chemical fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides, and additives.** These chemicals are carbon-intensive in their production and emit large quantities of global-warming pollutants during application and as they decompose in the soil. The use of compost can reduce the need for fertilizers for vegetable crops by 33 to 66 percent.
- **The application of compost greatly increases the amount of carbon sequestered in soil.** Experimental studies have shown that increased carbon sequestration in soil from composting application was 6 to 40 tons of carbon per hectare.

Based on the analysis provided above, it is concluded that the proposed project will have a less-than-significant impact on emissions of GHGs and climate change.

b) Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Less Than Significant Impact. See discussion in section VII a) above. The project is consistent with the AB 32 goal of reducing GHG emissions and is not in conflict with existing guidelines or standards. The project will reduce GHG emissions and provide consistency with AB 32. The project may result in an overall net reduction of greenhouse gas emissions during project operation, which would ensure that the proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation which has been adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. Therefore, impacts associated with this issue would be less than significant.

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport/use/disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project in the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working there?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) **Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport/use/disposal of hazardous materials?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will require the use of petroleum-based products for onsite equipment. These products include oils, diesel fuel, and lubricants, and are classified as potentially hazardous. The facility is currently regulated under RWQCB General Order for Composting Operations, which requires stormwater to be retained onsite. The proposed pond is being constructed in response to this requirement. Onsite refueling is done on the feedstock and equipment storage area and fuel is provided by a portable fuel tank which holds approximately 200 gallons. No fuel will be permanently stored at the site. All used petroleum products will be recycled or properly disposed of at a proper receiving facility.

All hazardous materials such as diesel fuel is stored and managed according to applicable federal, state, and local regulations. All uses involving the storage and handling of hazardous materials are monitored by the Glenn County Air Pollution Control District (GCAPCD) which is the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for Glenn County.

The composting operation will require the green material to reach certain high temperatures adequate for composting and there is the possibility that fire could result in the materials being composted. The GCAPCD has monitored daily row temperature readings from the existing facility. They have stated that the readings are accurate, adequate, and dependable as to prevent the accidental ignition of materials onsite. The project is required to comply with Glenn County Code §15.560.070 which requires that all uses involving the use or storage of combustible, explosive, caustic or otherwise hazardous materials shall comply with all applicable local, state, and federal safety standards and shall be provided with adequate safety devices against the hazard of fire and explosion, and adequate fire-fighting and fire suppression equipment. The project is also required to comply with Glenn County Code §15.560.110(A) which requires all outdoor storage to be maintained in an orderly manner and shall not create a fire, safety, health, or sanitary hazard.

Local, state, and federal regulations for use and handling of hazardous materials associated with the project will reduce impacts to the public and the environment. Therefore, it is concluded that impacts would be less than significant.

b) **Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?**

Less Than Significant Impact.

Refer to subsection VIII a) above.

All uses involving the storage and handling of hazardous materials would be closely monitored by the GCAPCD which is the CUPA for Glenn County. According to the GCAPCD, businesses that handle hazardous materials are required by law to

provide an immediate verbal report of any release or threatened release of hazardous materials, if there is a reasonable belief that the release or threatened release poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health, safety, property, or the environment.

The Hazardous Material Spills and Chemical Fires Emergency Response Plan is the plan which details the concept of operations if there were to be a hazardous materials incident in the County. If an upset or spill of toxic material occurred during future construction or use, this existing plan is in place and would reduce the risk of exposure to a less than significant level.

Local, state, and federal regulations for use and handling of hazardous wastes will reduce impacts to the public and the environment. Therefore, it is concluded that impacts would be less than significant.

- c) **Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?**

No Impact. The proposed project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. No schools are located within one-quarter mile of the project site. The closest school is Plaza School which is located approximately 3 miles to the northeast. No schools are proposed within the vicinity of the project site. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be no impact as a result of this project.

- d) **Would the project be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?**

No Impact. The project site is not in an area included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to California Government Code §65962.5. According to the database of cleanup sites provided through the California Department of Toxic Substance Control, Glenn County has cleanup sites within the City of Willows and Orland. Orland Dry Cleaners is located at 726 Fifth Street in Orland. Orland Dry Cleaners is the apparent source of a groundwater plume that extends approximately 2.5 miles from the source in a southeast direction in the direction of groundwater flow to a depth ranging from approximately 12 to 127 feet below ground surface. The plume is approximately 4,000 feet wide. The project site is not located within the area of the groundwater plume of Orland Dry Cleaners. The project site is located approximately 4.6 miles southeast of Orland Dry Cleaners. Therefore, no hazardous materials sites are located in the area of the project and, as a result, would not create a significant hazard to the public or environment in the area of the project. It is concluded that there will be no impact.

- e) **For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport,**

would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact. The project site is located approximately 2 miles southwest of the Orland Haigh Field Airport. This airport is the closest public use airport to the project site. The project site is not located within the airport land use planning boundary for this airport. This airport would have no impact on the project site and would not create a significant hazard for people residing or working in the project area. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be no impact.

f) **For a project in the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working there?**

No Impact. Based on an analysis of digital aerial photographs from 2009 and 2010 and USGS 7.5 minute quad maps, one private airstrip was identified approximately 1.25 miles southwest of the project site. The airstrip runs in a southeast to northwest direction. The airstrip is located at the Mission Livestock feedlot, which is located south of County Road 27 and east of County Road 99W. Based on studies conducted for the Mission Livestock site (former Greenwood Dairy), the airstrip is no longer being used. If the airstrip is utilized in the future, it would still have no impact on the project site as it is located over one mile away. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be no impact on the project from a private airstrip.

g) **Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?**

No Impact. The project would not interfere with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan. All roads in the area would remain open. The project site is located on private property with adequate access to county roads. The project will not interfere with adjacent roadways that may be used for emergency response or evacuation. Designated emergency evacuation routes in the event of flood or dam failure are listed in Section 3.7 of Volume II of the General Plan. The project site is not located within the vicinity of the designated evacuation routes. The proposed project does not pose a unique or unusual use or activity that would impair the effective and efficient implementation of an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan. Therefore, it is concluded that there is no impact.

h) **Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?**

No Impact. The proposed project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires because there are no wildlands surrounding the project site. The project site is not located within or adjacent to a State Responsibility Area managed by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE); therefore, the site is not ranked by CAL FIRE. Figure 3-2 of Volume II of the General Plan shows a map of fire hazard severity zones. According to this map, the project site is not located within one of the fire hazard zones. The most severe wildland fires occur in the western portion of

the County within the Mendocino National Forest. It is concluded that there will be no impact on the project from wildland fires.

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would:				
1) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4) Impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project will not substantially degrade water quality. Construction activity could expose soils to erosion and could result in the transportation of sediment into local drainages. Additionally, if fuel is accidentally spilled during refueling of heavy equipment during construction or operation of the facility, water quality could be degraded. These impacts would be

mitigated by implementing existing BMPs that are included in the construction SWPPP.

The compost facility is located in the Northern Sacramento Valley. The site has an average potential evapotranspiration rate of 52.08 inches according to the California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) Station #61, located 0.5 miles northeast of the facility. The high evapotranspiration rate in combination with proper compost moisture management will prevent the generation of leachate. The site is situated on a soil pad with a permeability of no faster than 5×10^{-6} cm/sec on a 0.1 percent slope. The project will contain stormwater from the site.

The facility is currently regulated under General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) for Composting Operations. The existing facility has three groundwater monitoring wells that were installed as per historical WDR Order No. R5-2007-0088. The wells are not required under the General WDR for Composting Operations and will be abandoned.

Permits required by the RWQCB, who has jurisdiction over waste discharge, will mitigate potentially significant impacts to a less-than-significant level.

b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge. An irrigation well and booster pump for applying water to compost windrows is located onsite. The same system may be utilized for filling water tanks used for dust control. Compost that needs water in its early stages of composting may have collected pond water applied to it. No additional wells are proposed with this project. According to the Glenn County General Plan, the eastern portion of the County overlies the Sacramento Valley groundwater basin, which contains abundant supplies of high quality groundwater to depths of 800 feet. Existing groundwater resources would be sufficient to serve the project.

Irrigation water is currently used to support agricultural uses in the vicinity of the project. Irrigation water is supplied to this area of the County by the Orland-Artois Irrigation District. Irrigation of agricultural fields has been considered a major contributor to groundwater recharge. Groundwater recharge in the project area will potentially continue to take place as crops are irrigated and residents irrigate lawns and/or gardens. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be a less-than-significant impact.

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would:

1) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

No Impact. The grading and drainage pattern of the project site will not significantly change and the project will collect and retain all stormwater in a pond; therefore, there will be no increase in surface runoff which would result in erosion or siltation on- or off-site.

2) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?

No Impact. See discussion in Section IX. c)1) above. The facility is currently designed to contain runoff. Stormwater runoff from the composting pads will be contained onsite in the new retention pond.

3) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

No Impact. The project contains all stormwater; therefore, it would not exceed the capacity of a stormwater drainage system. There will be no expansion of the existing footprint. As discussed previously, the project site has been graded to accommodate current operations and onsite drainage. The existing facility is designed to contain runoff.

4) Impede or redirect flood flows?

No Impact. The project site is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area according to Federal Flood Insurance Rate Map No. 06021C 0400D, dated August 5, 2010. Therefore, this project would not place housing or structures within a 100-year flood hazard area. In addition, this project does not propose new housing. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be no impact.

d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

No Impact. There would be no impact on the project site from inundation by seiche or tsunami because the project area is not located near large bodies of water that would pose a seiche or tsunami hazard. Intensive mud flows occur in areas with steep terrain, heavy rain, and loose soils. The site is not located near steep terrain, mountains, or steep slopes that would pose a mud flow hazard. The project would not result in a substantial amount of runoff that would exceed the capacity of a stormwater drainage system. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be no impact.

e) Conflict or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

No Impact. No water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan is in effect on the project site; therefore, there will be no impact.

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Would the project physically divide an established community?

No Impact. The proposed project would not physically divide an established community. All proposed onsite activities will be conducted within the existing footprint of the site. The area consists of agricultural and low density residential uses and is not part of a developed community. It is concluded that there will be no impact as a result of this project.

b) Would the project conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

No Impact. The General Plan land use designation for the site is “Intensive Agriculture” and the zoning is “AE-40” (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size). A composting facility is a conditionally permitted use in the “AE” zoning classification (Glenn County Code §15.330.040.B,Y). Section 6.12 of the General Plan lists standards for landfills, recycling, and composting facilities. The project would be developed consistent with the General Plan land use goals and policies and no significant land use impacts will occur. It is concluded that there will be no impact.

c) Would the project conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

No Impact. There are no existing plans in the area of the project; therefore, there will be no impact.

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project?	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?**
- b) **Would the project result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?**

No Impact. According to the Mined Land Classification Map for Concrete-Grade Aggregate Resources Central Glenn County, produced by the Department of Conservation (1997), the project area is not located within an area which contains significant aggregate resources.

The proposed project would have no impact on oil, gas, and geothermal resources. According to the Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Fields in California, 2001 map by the Department of Conservation, Glenn County does not contain oil or geothermal fields but contains several natural gas fields. Additionally, no oil or geothermal resources have been discovered in the County according to Section 2.5 of Volume III of the General Plan. The project site lies on a sedimentary basin within the area of the Greenwood gas fields. One natural gas well was previously drilled at the project site but was plugged and abandoned in 1970. The proposed project is for an amendment to an existing facility. Therefore, it is concluded that the project will have no impact on mineral resources.

XII. NOISE

Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The project site is located in an area of lands zoned for agricultural uses. Agricultural-related operations at this site are exempt from County noise ordinances as stated in Glenn County Code §15.560.100.F8. Section 6.10 of the General Plan supplies noise/land use compatibility guidelines and noise level standards. According to Section 6.10, noise level performance standards do not apply to mobile noise sources associated with agricultural operations on lands zoned for agricultural uses. No significant increase in noise is anticipated as a result of this project after construction. Noise impacts associated with on-site activities and traffic is not anticipated to exceed the area's existing ambient noise levels.

In addition, the property has a vegetative fence or hedge row along County Roads 27 and N. The hedge row is useful as a visual screen and sound attenuation. All equipment to be used is late model and in sound working order with proper sound attenuating mufflers attached. The hedge row will be extended to the pond area.

Based on the aforementioned information, it is concluded that there will be a less than significant impact from project-generated noise.

b) Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project would not generate excessive groundborne vibrations. Vibrations are regulated by Glenn County Code §15.560.130, which states that no use shall generate ground vibrations which are perceptible without instruments beyond the lot line. Ground vibration caused by motor vehicles, aircraft, temporary construction work or agricultural equipment are exempt from the vibration performance standard as stated under Glenn County Code §15.560.130. Sources of noise and vibration associated with the project include equipment, haul trucks, and other vehicles. These sources will not produce excessive groundborne noise or vibration. Future construction work would be temporary and would not cause significant groundborne vibration. It is concluded that there will be a less-than-significant impact.

c) Would the project result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Less Than Significant Impact. Ambient noise in the area is primarily the result of traffic on adjacent roadways and noise generated from nearby agricultural uses. It is anticipated that noise generated as a result of this project will not exceed the area's existing ambient noise levels. No change of use will result with this project, so noise levels will be baseline. No substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity will result. Therefore, impacts are concluded to be less than significant.

Also see Section XII a) above.

d) Would the project result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Less Than Significant Impact. This project does not involve a change of land use. The project is for the expansion of an existing composting facility. There may be temporary or periodic increases in noise during future construction activities. This increase in noise will be sporadic and temporary. Construction-related noises between the hours of 7 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. are exempt from the local noise standards per Glenn County Code §15.560.100(F)(5). Construction-related noise levels at other times are regulated by the above-referenced County Code section.

Truck traffic will not change with the project and will continue to average 16 truck trips per weekday in order to both receive feedstock and deliver finished compost. Therefore, potential impacts are concluded to be less than significant.

Also see Section XII a) above.

- e) **For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?**

No Impact. The project site is located approximately 2 miles southwest of the Orland Haigh Field Airport. This airport is the closest public use airport to the project site. The project site is located outside the airport land use planning boundary for this airport. This airport would not expose people in the project area to excessive noise levels. Therefore, there would be no impact on people working or residing in the project area from noise levels generated from public airports.

- f) **For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?**

No Impact. Based on an analysis of digital aerial photographs from 2009 and 2010 and USGS 7.5 minute quad maps, one private airstrip was identified approximately 1.25 miles southwest of the project site. The airstrip runs in a southeast to northwest direction. The airstrip is located at the former Greenwood Dairy (now Mission Livestock) which is located south of County Road 27 and east of County Road 99W. Based on studies conducted for the dairy, the airstrip is no longer being used. If the airstrip is utilized in the future, it would still have no impact on the project site as it is located over 1 mile away. Therefore, there will be no impact to people working in the project area from excessive noise levels generated by a private airstrip.

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of people or existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Would the project induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project would not induce substantial population growth directly or indirectly. No new residences are being proposed. The project consists of an expansion of an existing composting facility. The facility is currently operated by six individuals. Additional employees will be added as volume levels dictate. Additional employees will have a less-than-significant impact on population growth. Further, although the project will assist communities in meeting their waste diversion obligations, that fact alone will not induce substantial population growth. The project does not include the extension of roads or other infrastructure. Therefore, it is concluded that the project would have a less-than-significant impact on population growth.

- b) **Would the project displace substantial numbers of people or existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?**

No Impact. The proposal would not displace existing housing or people within the area of the project. Construction of replacement housing would not be necessary with this proposal. Future activities associated with this project would not displace people or housing. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be no impact.

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
i) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) **Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:**

i) Fire protection?

Less Than Significant Impact. Glenn County is primarily serviced by volunteer fire protection districts. The community of Hamilton City and the City of Willows are the only areas that have paid firefighter personnel. The project site is serviced by the Artois Volunteer Fire District. It operates two water tenders, two pumpers, two quick-attack four-wheel-drive vehicles, and one rescue unit. The fire station is located approximately 5 miles southwest of the project site. County roads provide adequate transportation routes for the fire department to reach the project site in the event of a fire^[MT3]. Response time would not be affected by the proposed project. The fire district maintains mutual aid agreements with nearby fire districts, including districts in Orland and Willows.

ii) Police protection?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project would have a less than significant impact on law enforcement services provided by the Glenn County Sheriff’s Department. A Sheriff’s Office is located in the City of Willows and substations in the City of Orland and within the unincorporated community of Hamilton City. Transportation routes to the project site are adequate for law enforcement to reach the area in the event of an emergency. Response time would not be affected by the proposed project.

This part of the County is used primarily for agricultural uses. The project will not require the staffing of additional peace officers or purchase of additional equipment to support law enforcement activities. No housing is associated with the proposal and a maximum of two employees are onsite at any time. The proposed project does not require an expansion of the existing facility boundary. Therefore, it is concluded that the impact from the proposal is less than significant.

iii) Schools?

No Impact. The project will not result in an increase in demand on the public schools system. The project site is located within the Orland Unified School District. There are no activities which would require or impact the services of the Orland Unified School District. Therefore, it is concluded that there is no impact from the project.

iv) Parks?

No Impact. The County provides for maintenance and upkeep of the existing parks within the unincorporated area. There are no park facilities located within the vicinity of the project site. There are no activities which would require additional parks or impact existing facilities. Therefore, it is concluded that there is no impact from the project.

v) Other public facilities?

No Impact. Public agencies have reviewed this proposal for impacts to public services and facilities and a potentially significant impact has not been identified for this proposed project. Electrical power will only be used for the scale shack and will be supplied via generator. A well and booster pump for applying water to compost windrows is located onsite. The same system may be utilized for filling water trucks used for dust control.

Compost that needs water in its early stages of composting may have collected pond water applied to it. A portable toilet will be maintained for use onsite. There are no public facilities in the area or in other parts of the County that would be impacted by this proposal. Therefore, there is no impact to other public facilities.

XV. RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion: Based on the related documents listed in the Sources of Documentation for Initial Study Checklist, and staff review of the project and observations on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) **Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?**
- b) **Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?**

No Impact. Approval of this project would not increase the use of existing regional parks and other recreational facilities and no substantial physical deterioration of these facilities would occur or be accelerated. No park facilities are located within the area of the project. The project does not include uses that will attract additional residents to the area, so there will be no need to build additional recreational facilities or expand existing facilities. Therefore, it is concluded that there will be no impact.

XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

Would the project:	Potentiall y Significa nt Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significa nt Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to geometric design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Would the project conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system.

The project site is adjacent to County Roads 27 and County Road N. Traffic in the area of the project is agricultural and residential related. The majority of truck traffic for this project is directed east on County Road 27, north of County Road P to State Highway 32 or west on County Road 27 to Interstate 5. Current vehicle traffic in the area is light and consists of farm vehicles and equipment. Additional vehicle traffic as a result of this project would not have a significant impact on current access roads or nearby connecting roads.

Up to six employees are foreseen at maximum facility capacity equaling six small vehicle trips per day. Off-street parking is available for truck traffic and employee needs.

Composting feedstocks, bulking agents, and compost additives with estimated daily maximum tonnages can be received daily at the composting facility (see previous Table 3). Compost Solutions, Inc. controls the shipment of most of the incoming raw materials. Usually, only one commodity is shipped on any given day. The agricultural-grade compost produced by Compost Solutions is processed in two annual batches. The inputs are hauled for only a few weeks in the spring and a few weeks in the late summer.

Roadways

The additional vehicle trips per day would fall within the expected traffic volumes of County Road 27 and County Road P. The 2010 projection for County Road 27 between the west end and County Road 99W is 1,200 Average Daily Trips (ADT). The 2010 project for County Road 27 between County Road 99W and County Road QQ is 375 ADT. The 2010 projection for County Road P between Highway 162 and County Road 200 is 725 ADT. The 2010 projection for County Road P between County Road 200 and Highway 32 is 1,325 ADT. The additional vehicle trips per day would not have a significant impact on current access roads or nearby connecting roads. The increase is not substantial based on roadway capacity. The project is estimated to generate no additional passenger vehicle or heavy truck trips per day.

Construction activities associated with the project have the potential to generate short-term changes to traffic volumes on the area road network. Daily vehicle trips result from the arrival and departure of construction workers. Heavy truck trips would be required for hauling equipment and materials to and from the construction site. As a result, the proposed project would not cause long-term degradation in, or create substantial impacts to, the operating conditions or level of service on any of the roadways in the project area. Construction activities associated with the proposed project would be temporary, and in compliance with a Glenn County Encroachment Permit, which would require traffic control implementation, if needed.

The increase in traffic will not exceed applicable County standards and guidelines on streets near the site. Consequently, it is concluded that there will be a less-than-significant impact on transportation and traffic.

Public Transit

The “Glenn Ride” provides fixed-route bus and paratransit services in Glenn County. Glenn Ride provides intercity bus connection to Willows, Chico, Artois, and Hamilton City as well as the Tribal Rancherias and casinos. Additional services that are open to the general public include B-Line, which provides transportation from Chico; Plumas Transit, which provides weekly service between Chico and Quincy; and Greyhound and Amtrak bus lines that provide scheduled service to the Glenn County area. The nearest designated bus stop to the project site is in Orland.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation

Bicycle facilities include bike paths (Class I), bike lanes (Class II), and bike routes (Class III). Bike paths are paved trails that are separated from the roadway. Bike lanes are lanes on roadways that are designated for use by bicycles by striping, pavement legends, and signs. Bike routes are roadways that are designated for bicycle use with signs or pavement legends, but do not have additional width for bicycle lanes.

Pedestrian facilities include sidewalks, crosswalks, pedestrian signals, and paved shoulders adjacent to rural roads. Within the vicinity of the project site area, there are no designated pedestrian facilities, including paved shoulders of sufficient width that would be affected by the proposed project.

No existing bike lane facilities are located along the roads in the vicinity of the site.

Airport

Air transportation in Glenn County is served by a number of private and public airfields and heliports serving general aviation and agricultural users. One major aviation facility in Glenn County serves the general public. The Glenn County Airport is the nearest general aviation airport to the project site. It is located approximately 5 miles north from the project site. The airport is privately owned and operated.

Rail Service

The Union Pacific Railroad line runs the entire length of the states of California, Oregon, and Washington, and includes numerous other western states. The nearest railroad segment to the project site is located approximately 2 miles east.

The existing conditional use permit required the applicant to enter into a Road Maintenance Agreement with the Glenn County Public Works Division. The agreement was for the maintenance of all County roads adversely affected by the permit and operations thereof. Glenn County Public Works has recommended that in lieu of a Road Maintenance Agreement, the applicant agree to a funding mechanism with the County to provide a funding source for deterioration of County roads due to truck traffic.

b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?

Less Than Significant Impact. CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3 describes specific considerations for evaluating a project's transportation impacts. Generally, vehicle miles traveled is the most appropriate measure of a project's transportation impacts. Vehicle miles traveled refers to the amount and distance of automobile travel attributable to a project. Other relevant considerations may include the effects of the project on transit and non-motorized travel. Except for roadway capacity transportation projects, a project's effect on automobile delay shall not constitute a significant environmental impact.

According to subdivision (b), for land use projects, vehicle miles traveled exceeding an applicable threshold of significance may indicate a significant impact. Generally, projects within one-half mile of either an existing major transit stop or a stop along and existing high quality transit corridor should be presumed to cause a less than significant transportation impact. Projects that decrease vehicle miles travelled in the project area compared to existing conditions should be presumed to have a less than significant transportation impact.

Glenn County does not have an applicable threshold of significance related to vehicle miles traveled. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research *Technical*

Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA (OPR 2018), includes recommendations regarding significance thresholds for VMT.

The OPR Technical Advisory contains screening thresholds for land use projects and suggests lead agencies may screen out VMT impacts using project size, maps, transit availability, and provision of affordable housing. For small land use projects, absent substantial evidence indicating that a project would generate a potentially significant level of VMT, or inconsistency with a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) or general plan, projects that generate or attract fewer than 110 trips per day generally may be assumed to cause a less-than significant impact.

The project is estimated to generate no additional passenger vehicles or heavy truck trips; therefore, the impact is less than significant.

c) Substantially increase hazards due to geometric design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project would not substantially increase traffic hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses. The project does not include potentially hazardous design features such as sharp curves or dangerous intersections. The project will not render existing features of nearby roadways hazardous. The project will not be incompatible with other uses of nearby roadways. This project does not involve changes to existing access roads. The increase in traffic along access roads will not be significant and should not create conflicts with agricultural equipment in the area. The project proposes to have all parking and loading conducted onsite.

The project will not change the configuration (alignment) of area roadways, and will not introduce types of vehicles that are not already traveling on area roads. Access within the project site is provided by 30-foot wide, all-weather roads. These roads are designed for a relatively level surface, and to accommodate heavy and light vehicles traveling at low rates of speed. Additionally, separate access roads for the general public, accessing the public disposal area, and for the commercial truck traffic, accessing the chipping and grinding area are installed to provide appropriate routes for heavy and light vehicles. Therefore, no hazards from design features of the road, or any incompatibility issues, are anticipated.

d) Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?

No Impact. The project would not result in inadequate emergency access because County Roads 27 and N provide for adequate ingress and egress to the site. Baseline traffic and projected operational traffic volumes will both be low and will not hinder emergency response time. It is concluded that the project would have no impact on emergency access.

XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable RWQCB?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Would the project exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

No Impact. The project will not require the services of a wastewater treatment provider. All onsite wastewater will be contained within a portable sanitation unit for use at the bagging facility. An approved and licensed sanitation hauler will dispose of wastewater. Disposal will take place at an approved offsite facility and will comply with applicable requirements. It is concluded that there will be no impact.

b) Would the project require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

No Impact. The project will not require the services of a wastewater treatment provider. All onsite wastewater will be contained within a portable sanitation unit for use at the bagging facility. An approved and licensed sanitation hauler will dispose of wastewater. No wastewater treatment facilities will need to be constructed or expanded. The project will utilize an onsite irrigation well to supply needed water. The project will not require or result in new or expanded facilities which could cause significant environmental effects. Therefore, it is concluded that there is no impact.

- c) **Would the project require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**

No Impact. The project site has been graded to accommodate the existing composting facility. The construction of new stormwater drainage facilities is not required for this project proposal; therefore, there is no impact.

- d) **Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The project does not require new or expanded entitlements for water supplies. An irrigation well and booster pump for applying water to compost windrows is located onsite. The same system may be utilized for filling water tanks used for dust control. Compost that needs water in its early stages of composting may have collected pond water applied to it. No additional wells are proposed with this project. Existing groundwater entitlements and resources would be sufficient to serve the project. There will be a less than significant impact on water supplies.

- e) **Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?**

No Impact. There is no municipal wastewater treatment provider for the area. Individual sewage disposal systems are currently the only method of providing sewage disposal for the project area. All onsite wastewater will be contained within a portable sanitation unit for use at the bagging facility. An approved and licensed sanitation hauler will dispose of wastewater. No wastewater treatment facilities will need to be constructed or expanded. Therefore, there is no impact.

- f) **Would the project be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?**

Less Than Significant Impact. Composting of organic yard wastes and other materials offers an efficient, environmentally safe and cost-effective method to divert materials from the wastestream. Composting is a proven, viable management alternative that complements landfill disposal, directly resulting in reduced disposal

costs and environmental impacts. The project benefits the landfill by diverting waste. Therefore, the net effect of the project may be to increase landfill capacity.

The municipal greenwaste is the only imported feedstock that contains significant quantities of plastic film that can be carried by the wind. Large pieces of film are removed from the feedstock by hand when recognized. Garbage materials such as plastic film and general refuse are removed by a vacuum system attached to a screen. Vegetative filter strips and living fences serve as plastic traps to catch most of the fugitive plastic film. After high wind events, fugitive film that has left the facility is picked up by facility employees.

A roll-off container is maintained onsite for the collection of non-compostable refuse that is screened from the compost. Trash from a future office and bagging facility would also be put in this container. Rocks and gravel separated from compost is given away or used to control dust on facility roads. The roll-off container [MT4] will be emptied at the local landfill on an as-needed basis. This is estimated to be once every two to three months.

Solid waste disposal is provided at the Glenn County landfill. At this time, waste disposal is not anticipated to be a significant issue. It is concluded that there will be a less than significant impact.

g) Would the project comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

No Impact. The composting process does not generate process waste. Overall, the project site will generate small quantities of solid waste. The project will operate in compliance with all federal, state, and local statutes governing solid waste. As a result, there would be no impact on solid waste regulations.

XVIII. ENERGY

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The State of California requires local governments to address energy conservation and efficiency in new construction. The State Building Standard Code, including Title 24, applies to any new structures, additions to an existing structure, changes to the footprint of a structure, or changes to water and heating systems. In June 2001, amendments to Part 6, Title 24, of the State Administrative Code were enacted mandating more stringent conservation and efficiency requirements for new residential and non-residential construction. In Glenn County, the Building Division, Department of Development Services, is responsible for enforcing the provisions of Title 24. Glenn County has several opportunities to promote energy conservation and reduce energy consumption, mainly through enforcing construction standards and through its own operations.

a) Would the project result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will not consume energy following construction (grading, paving, construction of new structures). Construction activities for the pond and expansion of the operating area will consume energy through the operation of heavy off-road equipment, trucks, and worker traffic required for expansion. Fuel will be required by heavy equipment used for site preparation (grading, paving, building berms) as well as by trucks transporting materials for the new onsite buildings and construction worker trips. Energy use required by the expansion of the facility will be temporary and will not require a substantial amount of fuel.

Operation of the project will not result in long-term energy consumption. State and federal regulatory requirements addressing fuel efficiency are expected to increase fuel efficiency over time as older, less-fuel efficient vehicles are retired, and therefore would reduce fuel energy consumption rates over time. The project would result in a less-than-significant impact related to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during construction and operation with implementation of these measures.

b) Would the project conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable

energy or energy efficiency?

Less Than Significant Impact. Standards and mitigation measures proposed by the applicant in Section 4.3 (Air Quality) and Section 4.8 (Greenhouse Gas Emissions) will increase the energy efficiency of the project. New project structures will be required to meet the State Building Code, including Title 24 which mandates conservation and energy requirements for new residential and non-residential construction. The project will not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

XIX. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Is the project:	Potential y Significa nt Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significa nt Impact	No Impact
a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significant of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

AB 52 was enacted on July 1, 2015, and establishes that “a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment” (Public Resources Code Section 21084.2). It further states that the lead agency shall establish measures to avoid impacts that would alter the significant characteristics of a tribal cultural resource when feasible (PRC Section 21084.3).

Public Resources Code Section 21074 (a)(1)(A) and (B) define tribal cultural resources as “sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe” and meets either of the following criteria: Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying these criteria, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

AB 52 also establishes a formal consultation process for California cities, counties, and tribes regarding tribal cultural resources. Under AB 52, lead agencies are required to “begin consultation with a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project.” Native American tribes to be included in the process are those that have requested notice of projects proposed within the jurisdiction of the lead agency.

- a) **Is the project listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?**
- b) **Is the project a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and**

supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1?

Less Than Significant Impact. There is no evidence of historical resources at the site that are listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources, or a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code. The proposed area of expansion has been farmed for many years and is disturbed. Pursuant to AB 52, project notifications will be mailed by Glenn County to all tribes that have requested notice of projects proposed within the County to invite consultation and avoid potential impacts to tribal cultural resources. Less-than-significant impact

XX. WILDFIRE

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require installation or maintenance of associate infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a-d) No impact. The land across Highway 99 from the project site is a State Responsibility Area recognized by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection as areas where Cal Fire is the primary emergency response agency responsible for fire suppression and prevention. The land across the highway is classified as moderate hazard severity zone (CAL FIRE, 2007). The project site is located in a Local Responsibility Area in an area classified a Non-Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (Butte County CAL FIRE Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in LRA as Recommended by CAL FIRE 5/2008).

Fire control measures that are implemented to reduce fire at the facility are included in Section VIII Hazards and Hazardous Materials. The project site is not located within or near a state responsibility area or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones. There will be no impact.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

Less Than Significant Impact. All impacts associated with the project have been fully identified in this document. Impacts on biological resources and cultural resources were discussed in sections IV and V above. The project would not degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. All impacts have been reduced to a less than significant level through incorporation of mitigation measures and conditions of approval and implementation of adopted best management practices and codified federal, state, and local regulations. Therefore,

all impacts associated with the project would be less than significant.

- b) **Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The project may have cumulative impacts on air quality, soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards, hydrology and water quality, noise, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems; however, impacts will be reduced either through mitigation measures, adopted best practices, or implementation of applicable federal, state, and county standards. See Sections III, VI, VII, VIII, IX, XII, XVI, XVII.

- c) **Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?**

Less Than Significant Impact. Compost can potentially harbor vectors, such as flies, mosquitoes and fleas that can transit pathogens to human hosts. Unlike composting facilities that primarily process food waste, rodents and birds are not attracted to green materials composting operations. These compostable materials are not "food" sources for these pests. Vector control will normally be carried out as a part of the Process for the Further Reduction of Pathogens (PFRP) compost rotation process, and during the screening and grinding process. These activities subject compost and windrow piles to disturbances that will deter species from nesting and breeding within compost material while reducing odors that attract vector species to compost areas.

Green material composting operation has the potential to create a significant vector impact if adequate measures are not taken to control fly breeding at the site. The easiest way to minimize fly breeding at a composting facility is to operate the windrows so that they reach a temperature of at least 130 degrees F as quickly as possible.

Feedstock will be composted within a few days after being delivered. Fly populations are controlled by frequent turnings of the compost windrows. The turnings do not allow the flies to complete their lifecycles and therefore, populations are minimal. Proper sanitation throughout the facility is required to minimize breeding material for flies. Fly bait stations are maintained throughout the warm months of the year. As a last resort, chemical sprays may be used to reduce fly populations.

The existing facility is required to implement a Vector Control Plan as identified in the existing Mitigation Monitoring Program and Conditions of Approval. The existing Vector Control Plan will remain in effect. The existing Vector Control Plan, the proposed vector control measures, and federal regulations identified in 40 CFR Part 503 for vector attraction reduction will reduce impacts to a less-than-significant level.

5.0 REFERENCES

In addition to the resources listed below, Initial Study analysis may also be based on field observations by the staff person responsible for completing the Initial Study. Most resource materials are on file in the office of the Glenn County Planning & Public Works Agency, 777 North Colusa Street, Willows, CA 95988, Phone (530) 934-6540.

Records of, or consultation with, the following:

Artois Fire Protection District

California Department of Conservation, California Geologic Survey

California Department of Fish and Game

California Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (Cal Recycle)

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

California Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region

California State University, Chico, Northeast Information Center (NEIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS)

Glenn County Agricultural Commissioner

Glenn County Air Pollution Control District/Certified Unified Program Agency

Glenn County Environmental Health Department

Glenn County Planning & Public Works Agency, Building Inspection Division

Glenn County Planning & Public Works Agency, Engineering & Surveying Division

Glenn County Planning & Public Works Agency, Solid Waste Division

Glenn County Sheriff's Office

Orland-Artois Water District

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)

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<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/scenic/schwy.htm>
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<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/cc.htm>
- California Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region. 2007. Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2007-0088.
- California State University, Chico. 1998. Geographical Information Center, Sacramento River Stream Corridor Protection Program, Sacramento River Riparian Vegetation (SRRV) GIS data.
- Californians Against Waste. Composting: A Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measure.

<http://www.cawrecycles.org/issues/ghg/compost>

Federal Emergency Management Agency. 2009. Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) Database.

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6.0 CONSULTED AGENCIES

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Health | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Works | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Manager |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> County Counsel | <input type="checkbox"/> LAFCo |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assessor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Durham Unified School District |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality Management District | <input type="checkbox"/> City of Chico | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheriff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City of Gridley | <input type="checkbox"/> City of Oroville | <input type="checkbox"/> Town of Paradise |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CalFire | <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans (Traffic) | <input type="checkbox"/> CA Central Reg. Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Conservation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife | <input type="checkbox"/> Highway Patrol |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Army Corps of Engineers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Commissioner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butte Co. Farm Bureau | <input type="checkbox"/> Paradise Unified School Dist. | <input type="checkbox"/> Feather River Recreation Dist. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> El Medio Fire Department | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEIC | <input type="checkbox"/> LOAPUD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PG&E | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Bell | <input type="checkbox"/> Palermo Union School District |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOAA Fisheries | <input type="checkbox"/> City of Biggs | |

7.0 PROJECT SPONSOR(S) INCORPORATION OF MITIGATION INTO PROPOSED PROJECT

I/We have reviewed the Initial Study for Amendments to Conditional Use Permit (CUP 2006-006, AMMD2020-001) application and particularly the mitigation measures identified herein. I/We hereby modify the applications on file with the Glenn County Planning Department to include and incorporate all mitigations set forth in this Initial Study.

Project Sponsor/Project Agent

Date

Project Sponsor/Project Agent

Date

Figures

Appendix A
Odor Impact Minimization Plan

June 1, 2006

PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, June 21, 2006, 9:00 a.m.

TO: Glenn County Planning Commission

FROM: Daniel A. Obermeyer, Director
Brett Walker, Associate Planner

RE: **Conditional Use Permit #2006-006, Compost Solutions**

Attachments:

1. Mitigation Monitoring Program and Conditions of Approval (Pink)
2. Location Map
3. Exhibit "A"
4. Negative Declaration (Green)
5. Initial Study
6. Request for Review
7. Agency Comments:
 - California Regional Water Quality Control Board
 - Glenn County Agriculture Department
 - Glenn County Air Pollution Control District
 - Glenn County Building Department
 - Glenn County Environmental Health
 - Glenn County Planning Department
 - Glenn County Public Works
 - NEIC
 - Pacific Gas and Electric Company
8. General Plan Section 6.12 Standards for Landfills, Recycling and Composting Facilities
9. County Road Standard S-19 "Private Road Intersection"
10. Public Comments:

- Letter from John and Toni Erickson

1. PROJECT SUMMARY:

Compost Solutions has applied for **Conditional Use Permit #2006-006** to operate a composting facility. The proposed business will use manure waste (primarily from dairies) and green waste (primarily from cities and orchards) to create compost to serve the agricultural industry. The site is not open to the public. Composting facilities are an allowed use with an approved Conditional Use Permit (Glenn County Code §15.330.040.B). The parcel is 45.89± acres. Approximately 28± acres are proposed for the composting operation, with 20-22± acres for the compost windrows; the remaining 17± acres in crop production.

This parcel (APN 024-030-031) is zoned "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size) and is designated "Intensive Agricultural" in the General Plan. This project is located on the northeast corner of County Roads 27 and N, south of County Road 25, west of County Road P, approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the City of Orland, in the unincorporated area of Glenn County, California.

The Planning & Public Works Agency recommends that the Planning Commission grant **Conditional Use Permit #2006-006** a Mitigated Negative Declaration with the Findings as stated in the Staff Report. The Planning & Public Works Agency also recommends that the Planning Commission approve **Conditional Use Permit #2006-006** with the Findings as stated in the Staff Report and the Mitigation Monitoring Program and Conditions of Approval as attached.

2. ANALYSIS:

2.1 Environment:

This section is a discussion of potential environmental impacts from this proposed project as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). A copy of the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for CUP #2006-006 is attached. This will result in no new Potentially Significant Impacts to the environment that cannot be reduced to less than significant levels from this Conditional Use Permit. The environmental checklist is attached and a discussion of impacts is explained below.

2.1.1 Aesthetics

Discussion of Impacts

There will be a less than significant impact to aesthetics from this proposal because it does not contain nor is it located within viewshed of any scenic vistas. There would be a less than significant impact to scenic resources because there are none in the area. The roadways in Glenn County are not listed as Eligible or as Officially Designated Scenic Highways according to the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) list of Scenic Highways on its website. There are no structures proposed. The composting piles consist of windrows that are 5± feet tall, 15± feet wide and 1000± feet long.

There will be a less than significant impact to light and glare because the project does not include additional light and glare into an area currently unlit. There are no proposed structures with this project. Any lighting will be required to meet the standards governed by Glenn County Code §15.560.080, *Performance Standards* for glare and light, which requires that "all exterior lighting accessory to any use shall be hooded, shielded or opaque. No unobstructed beam of light shall be directed beyond any exterior lot line or directed onto adjacent rights-of-way."

The project location is in an area zoned for agricultural uses, and the site is surrounded by compatible agricultural uses. There will be a less than significant impact to aesthetics based on the surrounding land uses and the lack of structures proposed at the site. Glenn County Code §15.790.010.B requires compost piles to be at least 100 feet from the County Road right-of-way; the project is consistent with the code. The site is not within 500 feet of any residential zoning district, school, or high occupancy structure (Glenn County Code §15.790.010.C).

The Glenn County General Plan §6.12 sets performance standards for landfills, recycling and composting facilities. The standard states that:

All facilities shall be completely surrounded and enclosed by walls, fences, or barriers, except for necessary openings. All materials shall be kept and stored behind walls, fences, or barriers.

The applicant has proposed to landscape along County Roads 27 and N to meet the requirements of the General Plan. As a Condition of Approval, the landscaping will need to meet the following standards:

Landscaping shall be planted prior to commencing operations. Landscaping along County Road 27 shall be at least five feet in height and create a continuous barrier within 18 months of approval of this Permit. The required landscaping along County Road N

shall be at least five feet in height and create a continuous visual barrier within 36 months of approval of this Conditional Use Permit. Landscaping shall be maintained in a healthy condition; unhealthy plants shall be replanted.

Land to the north and east is the landowners property and contains an orchard and row crops, which creates a visual barrier from adjacent parcels.

Any future structures will be required to meet the standards of the Glenn County Code. Additionally, expansions will require either a minor amendment or major amendment (requiring environmental review) to the conditional use permit (Glenn County Code §§15.190 & 15.220). Therefore, development consistent with Glenn County Code §§15.330.030, 15.330.040, 15.560.080, & 15.790.010 and General Plan §6.12, would minimize the project's potential adverse impacts to aesthetics, light and glare to adjacent parcels of the project and minimize them to a less than significant level.

2.1.2 Agriculture Resources

This project site is not under a California Land Conservation Act contract (Agricultural Preserve or Farmland Security Zone) but is in the vicinity of a Contracted parcel. The proposed use is agricultural and will have no adverse impact on Contracted parcels. According to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) of the California Resources Agency, the project site is located on land classified as Prime Farmland (P) and Farmland of Statewide Importance (S). This project will not convert farmland to a non-agricultural use.

This Conditional Use Permit will not involve a significant change of use on the parcel. Alfalfa is currently grown at the site. This project does not include any permanent structures. Composting is an agricultural related use and the parcel is zoned for agriculture; therefore this Conditional Use Permit would have no significant impact on agricultural resources.

2.1.3 Air Quality

Discussion of Impacts

The proposal will have a less than significant impact on air quality and would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of any applicable air quality plan. The *Air*

Quality Element of the *Glenn County General Plan* establishes mitigation measures designed to reduce particulate matter (PM) and ozone precursors in the ambient air as a result of emissions from sources that attract or generate motor vehicle activity.

Air quality standards are set at both the Federal and State levels. The Glenn County Air Pollution Control District is responsible for the planning and maintenance/attainment of these standards at the local level. The pollutants in Glenn County for which standards have been established include ozone and particulates (PM10). The County has been designated as a non-attainment area for both of these pollutants by the State. Pursuant to the California Clean Air Act of 1988, an *Air Quality Attainment Plan* for the Northern Sacramento Valley Air Basin has been adopted. The Plan is designed to achieve a reduction in basin-wide emissions and proposed control measures to be adopted to achieve mandatory reduction. The project will have a less than significant impact to air quality impacts during any future construction. Any future development shall comply with the requirements of the Glenn County Air Pollution Control District.

There will be a less than significant impact to cumulatively considerable net increases of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under federal or state ambient air quality standards from this proposal because each future project must individually comply with the GCAPCD regulations and standards.

Dust is a potential impact to air quality. The applicant and Glenn County Air Pollution Control District have recommended mitigation measures and conditions of approval to mitigate any impact to less than significant. The following dust control plan will reduce impacts to less than significant:

*The applicant shall water driveways and loading areas at a **minimum** frequency of two times per day (once in the morning, once in the afternoon, and more often as needed) when the driveways and loading areas are being utilized. The applicant shall suspend hauling and turning operations during high wind conditions of 25 miles per hour and higher. The applicant shall ensure that all trucks entering and exiting the facility maintain a minimum free board space of six inches. If fugitive material is found to be exiting the trucks during transport, the applicant shall ensure that the truck loads are covered.*

The applicant submitted an Odor Control Plan to minimize odors in the vicinity of the site. The Odor Control Plan includes the following:

Our compost format is derived from the Lubke system of composting. This uses several methods to help control odor while increasing the compost value by trapping stinky ammonia and converting it to a usable form of nitrogen. These methods are:

- 1) *Use of clay with its negative charges to attract the positive charges of ammonium. We will be adding 10% clay to our mix.*
- 2) *A correct C:N, will sequester stinky ammonia, limiting odor.*
- 3) *The addition of organic microbes and stimulants will also aid in the odor control. If the clay, correct C:N and microbe stimulants do not suppress odors sufficiently, the following measures will be utilized.*
- 4) *As a first measure, high carbon wood ash will help control odor.*
- 5) *As a second measure, oxidizing agents such as potassium permanganate are used to prevent the formation of hydrogen sulfide, which causes odor.*
- 6) *As a third measure, odor neutralizing agents, such as Essential Oils can be sprayed into foul odor airstreams to neutralize odor.*
- 7) *As a final measure, biofilters will be used to filter foul odor on-site.*

When wind is blowing in the direction towards any residence within .5 miles we will only turn rows when absolutely needed. We will track odor complaints and work with residents to solve problems.

The proposed project would have no impact to sensitive receptors concerning substantial pollutant concentrations because there are none located near this project site. The air pollutants potentially generated by the proposed project would be dust, particulate matter, and odor. Mitigation measures proposed by the Applicant and Air Pollution Control District will minimize any impact to less than significant.

2.1.4 Biological Resources

Discussion of Impacts

According to the *Glenn County General Plan* and the California Department of Fish and Game Natural Diversity Database, there are no areas within the project or surrounding areas that contain habitat for sensitive species. The nearest species, the Swainson's hawk, was sighted approximately 3.4± miles northeast of the site in 2000 and 4.25± miles west of the site in 1993. The tri-colored blackbird was last sighted in 1971 4.25± miles northwest of the site. The compost facility will likely neither be an attraction or deterrent to either species. Due to (1) the distance of the species sightings from the project site, and (2) that the land use will not significantly change with the approval of this project, there will be a less than significant impact on the Swainson's hawk and tri-colored blackbird with the approval of this project.

The current land use of the property will not change. According to the Confined Animal Facilities Element of the Glenn County General Plan, the project is not within an area of special biological importance or within any migratory wildlife corridor. This project will not adversely affect any riparian habitat or sensitive natural community. Additionally, there will be no conflicts with any local, regional, state or federal plans, policies or regulations because there are none for this project site.

According to the State of California Department of Fish and Game California Central Valley Wetlands and Riparian GIS database (July 2, 1997) this project site is not designated as a protected wetland site. Therefore, there will be no impact from this project to federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The proposed project would have no impact nor would it conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources because there are none for this project site.

The proposed project would have no impact nor would it conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan because no plans are adopted for this area.

2.1.5 Cultural Resources

Discussion of Impacts

No impact on cultural resources is expected from the proposed project because the site is not known to have any historical significant or significant characteristics as defined by the criteria within Section 15064.5 of the Public Resource Code. The Northeast Center (NEIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) was contacted conduct a records search for potential historic and/or cultural resources at the project site. The NEIC responded to our request with the following recommendations:

The project is located in an area considered to be of low to moderate sensitivity for prehistoric, protohistoric, and historic cultural resources. Therefore, we do not recommend any further archaeological work at this time.

The existing site does not have any archaeologically significant characteristics as defined by the criteria in Section 15064.5 of the Public Resource Code. No

paleontological resources are known or suspected and no unique geologic features exist on the project site.

There will be no impact to human remains from this proposal. No human remains are known or predicted to exist in the project area. The potential always exists during construction to possibly uncover previously unidentified resources. Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code states that if human remains are found during construction activities, all operations are to cease until the County coroner has determined that the remains are not subject to the provisions of law concerning investigation of the circumstances in the manner provided in Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

2.1.6 Geology and Soils

Discussion of Impacts

According to Section 3.3.1 of *Environmental Setting Technical Paper, Glenn County General Plan, Volume III*, Glenn County is in a relatively inactive seismic area. There are no Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zones within the County. During the past 100 years, the County has experienced only minor earthquakes within its boundaries and secondary impacts from earthquakes centered out of the area. Projections of future impacts are low to moderate (*Glenn County Safety Element of the General Plan, 1974*). Therefore, there will be a less than significant impact from this proposal that would expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking, seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction, and landslides. The United States Geologic Survey (USGS) and California Geologic Survey (CGS) produced *Seismic Shaking Hazards in California* (revised April 2003), which depicts the peak ground acceleration (pga) percentage that has a ten percent potential of occurring in the next fifty years. The project site is rated as 10%–20% on a scale of 0%–100%, quite low. Additionally, no earthquake greater than a magnitude 5.5 have occurred in Glenn County in over 200 years (CGS Map 49, *California Earthquakes, 1800-2000*). These two facts, and the relatively flat slope of the project site, create a less than significant impact regarding risk of damage from earthquakes.

This proposal would have a less than significant impact that would result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil because land disturbance is small in scope. No structures are proposed. Any future construction or grading of the land will be required to meet the requirements of Glenn County Code §15.700. This proposal would have a less than significant impact on unstable soils because all future construction will be

required to meet the requirements of the Uniform Building Code (UBC) to avoid any impacts from construction to unstable soils. No ground failure or liquefaction would occur from this proposal because the site is relatively flat. The ground is level and approval of the project would not expose people to potential landslides.

All future development will require compliance with the UBC to avoid any potential unstable earth conditions or changes in geologic substructures. The soils on this parcel are as follows: Arbuckle gravelly loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (AoA, Index rating 68, Soil grade 2); Arbuckle gravelly loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes (AoB, Index rating 64, Soil grade 2); Hillgate loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (HgA, Index rating 54, Soil grade 3); Kimball loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (Kb, Index rating 45, Soil grade 3); and Tehama silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes (Tm, Index rating 72, Soil grade 2). Arbuckle soils are characterized by deep, well-drained soils that are gravelly. Hillgate loam soil is characterized by slow to very slow permeability and runoff, and erosion is slight or is not a hazard. Kimball loam soil is characterized by very slow permeability and slow runoff. Tehama silt loam is characterized by slow permeability and very slow runoff. Most of the site designated for the composting operation is within AoA (10.8± acres) and Kb (14.7± acres) soils, with smaller areas in AoB (0.37± acres), HgA (0.33± acres), and Tm (2.4± acres). According to the Glenn County Soil Survey (1968), these soils vary from low to high shrink-swell potential. Building Codes minimizes any hazard to a less than significant impact for expansive soils.

This proposal will have no impact regarding soils capacity to support septic tanks. This project does not require a septic system.

Any new sewage disposal systems will be required to meet the standards set forth in Chapter 7.10 of the Glenn County Code and by the Glenn County Environmental Health Department.

As future development occurs on this parcel, the applicant(s) shall meet all local, State and Federal laws and requirements for air quality, construction, roads, drainage, improvements, water supply and sewage disposal.

2.1.7 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Discussion of Impacts

There would be no impact from this proposed project concerning hazardous materials. The proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials

because there are none involved. A significant hazard to the public or the environment would not be created by the proposed project through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. The proposed project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school because there are no schools located within that distance from this project site. There will be no impact because use of hazardous materials is not included in the project proposal the proposed Conditional Use Permit.

The project site is not included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. The project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. According to site visits and aerial photos, the project site is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip and would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan because there is none involved with this proposal. The proposed project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires because this area is not a wildland nor is there a wildland adjacent to the project site. Local, State and Federal regulations regarding hazardous materials and hazardous waste will remain in effect.

2.1.8 Hydrology and Water Quality

Discussion of Impacts

The proposed project will have a less than significant impact, with mitigation measures, on water quality standards and will need to meet Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) standards and Glenn County Environmental Health Standards. As a mitigation measure, the applicant will need to secure the necessary permits from the Regional Board. These permits include, but are not limited to, a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) permit and an Industrial Stormwater Permit. To ensure compliance, the following Condition of Approval is recommended:

The applicant/landowner shall provide proof that all necessary permits from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board have been obtained prior to commencement of the uses permitted with Conditional Use Permit #2006-006.

Permits required to the Regional Board, who has jurisdiction over waste discharge, will mitigate potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level. The Applicant

has proposed to compact the surface to 90% to minimize leachate, use a 2-foot levee around the site to eliminate run-off, and install a 2.75 acre filter strip to mitigate potential impacts from stormwater.

The Glenn County Environmental Health Department has recommended the following Mitigation Measure to reduce the impact to water quality to less than significant:

That the operator shall cover all compost feedstock stored onsite with a tarp prior to the onset of the rain season, or between October 31 and April 1, to minimize leachate into the groundwater.

The proposed project will not substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge. The project site is not within a Groundwater Recharge Area, within a 100-year flood zone, or in an area where surface and groundwater separation is less than ten (10) feet (Glenn County Confined Animal Facilities General Plan Element Figure 3.7). The project does not require well-water. The proposed project will have a less than significant impact, with the preceding mitigation measures, on groundwater supplies.

The proposed project would have no impact on nor would it significantly alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site. There is no stream or river involved with this proposal. The site was laser leveled in 2005, and the Applicant stated that only minor grading or leveling will occur, if any. If land leveling occurs on five acres or more, a land leveling permit shall be obtained from the Public Works Division (GCC §15.700.020). The applicant has not proposed altering the slope of the land or altering any waterways, and therefore would have a less than significant impact on drainage patterns.

The proposed project would have no impact on and would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or the area or increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site because the development associated with this proposal will not create a large impermeable surface and will not alter existing drainage patterns. The proposed soil compacting discussed in paragraph 2 of this section (Section 2.1.8) will have a less than significant impact on drainage because the area designated for compaction will be within the proposed 2-foot levee required by the Regional Board. The project does not place any structures within a 100-year flood plain. Any future land leveling may alter the land grade and must meet the requirements of Glenn County Code §15.700.

The proposed project would have no impact on nor would it create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff because the current land use will not change. Mitigation Measures would reduce any impacts to less than significant related to the degradation of water quality. The project does not require a septic system, and no other additional impacts to water quality are anticipated.

This project is located in Flood Zone “C” according to Federal Flood Insurance Rate Map No. 060057 0375B, dated September 3, 1980. Flood Zone “C” is defined as “areas of minimal flooding”.

The proposed project would have no impact nor would it cause inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflows because the project area is not located near any large bodies of water that would pose a seiche or tsunami hazard. Also, the project area is relatively flat and is not located near any physical or geologic features that would pose a mudflow hazard.

2.1.9 Land Use and Planning

Discussion of Impacts

The proposed project would have no impact on nor would it physically divide an established community. The site is not part of an established community.

The proposed project would not have an impact on nor would it conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. The existing General Plan land use designation is “Intensive Agriculture” and the proposed project would meet the permitted uses and building intensity requirements for this designation. According to the Subdivision Map Act, Section 66473.5, the proposed project is required to be consistent with the adopted General Plan.

The project would have no impact on nor would it conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan because there are no such plans adopted for this area.

2.1.10 Mineral Resources

Discussion of Impacts

The proposed project would have no impact on mineral resources. The *Mineral and Classification Map, Concrete-Grade Aggregate Resources, Central Glenn County (1997)* by the Department of Conservation, does not designate the project site as an area that may contain significant aggregate resources.

The *Oil, Gas and Geothermal Fields in California, 2001* map, produced by the Department of Conservation does not designate the project site as an area within a natural gas field, however it does lie within a “sedimentary basin with oil, gas, or geothermal production.” This project will not interfere with natural gas production. No oil or geothermal resources have been discovered in the County according to the Department of Conservation.

2.1.11 Noise

Discussion of Impacts

This project would have no impact on the exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies. Agricultural operations are exempt from County noise ordinance standards. The site is not adjacent to residential land uses and the nearest residences are approximately 0.4 miles away.

The proposed project would have no impact on nor would it expose persons to generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies.

Ground borne vibration is not anticipated as a result of this project because there are no activities involved that would create ground borne vibration. This proposed project would have no impact nor would it result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project. Any future conditional uses would be required to comply with Chapter 8.5, *Noise Ordinance, General Plan Public Safety Issue Paper*. The area is currently used for agricultural purposes and is surrounded by agricultural land uses. The turning equipment and transport trucks will create noise, but the impact is less than significant. The equipment is similar to other agriculture equipment used in the area.

There will be no impacts from noise from this project because it is not within an airport land use plan or within the vicinity of a private airstrip.

2.1.12 Population and Housing

Discussion of Impacts

The proposed project does not include building or removing housing, therefore the project will not substantially induce population growth directly or indirectly. Additionally, this proposal will not displace any housing because no housing will be removed.

2.1.13 Public Services

Discussion of Impacts

This proposal will have a less than significant impact on fire protection. The operation is small in scope, and no buildings or substantial hazards are associated with the proposal. Response times will not change with this proposal.

This proposal will have a less than significant impact on police protection. No housing is associated with the proposal and a maximum of two employees will be on site at any time.

This proposal would have no impact on schools, parks, or other public facilities because no increase in population will occur with this use.

2.1.14 Recreation

Discussion of Impacts

There would be no impact to recreation from this proposal. The project does not include uses that will attract additional residents to the area, and therefore there will be no need to build additional recreational facilities or expand existing facilities.

2.1.15 Transportation/Traffic

Discussion of Impacts

The proposed project will have a less than significant impact, with mitigation measures, on transportation and traffic. The applicant states that there will be approximately 1,200 truck loads per year, mainly between April and November. Based on truck traffic eight months per year, there will be approximately 15 trips per day. Glenn County Public Works recommended the following mitigation measure to reduce impacts to County Roads:

That the applicant shall enter into a Road Maintenance Agreement with the County of Glenn Public Works Division prior to commencement of any operations covered in this Conditional Use Permit. Said agreement shall be for the maintenance of all County roads adversely affected by this permit and operations thereof.

The proposed project would have a less than significant impact on and would not exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service (LOS) standard established by the County congestion management agency for designated roads or highways. Primary access to the project site will be from County Road 27, which connects to Interstate 5; County Road P, which connects to State Highway 162 and State Highway 32; and County Road M, which connects to County Road 33 to the south. County Road P, from Highway 32 to Highway 162 is currently at a LOS "A". County Road 27, from Interstate 5 to County Road P is currently at a LOS "A". County Roads M and 33 are currently at a LOS "A" on the proposed routes. The projected increase in traffic, averaging 15 trips per day, will not change the current LOS of any local or regional roadways.

The proposed project would have no impact on nor would it result in a change in air traffic patterns that would result in safety risks. This proposal does not include any improvements to airports or change air traffic patterns. Additionally, topographic maps and aerial photos indicate that the project site is not located within 2 miles of a public or private airport.

The proposed project will have a less than significant impact on the incremental increase in traffic hazards. Road improvements will be determined with Encroachment Permit approval and future maintenance will be addressed with the recommended Road Maintenance Agreement (discussed in paragraph 1 of this section).

This proposed project would have no impact on nor would it result in inadequate emergency access because County Roads 27 and N provides for adequate ingress and egress to the site.

The proposed project would have no impact on parking facilities. The applicant has designated adequate space for employee parking and truck loading and parking. The maximum number of employees will be two, requiring two employee parking spaces. The transport trucks will load/unload composting materials between the windrows, requiring minimal extra space for loading. As a precaution for multiple trucks arriving simultaneously, adequate space for two tractor-trailers is recommended. Therefore, approval of this proposal would not result in an inadequate parking supply. The Applicant will need an Encroachment Permit from Glenn County Public Works which

will determine a safe entrance location. The Applicant will be required to construct a driveway to County Road Standard S-19 "Private Road Intersection", except the minimum drive width shall be 24 feet instead of the 12 feet shown thereon, in anticipation of truck traffic to and from the site.

This proposed project would have no impact on nor would it conflict with alternative transportation policies. The proposed project is in an area where no such transportation policies exist.

2.1.16 Utilities/Service Systems

Discussion of Impacts

The proposed project would have no impact on and would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The proposal does not require wastewater treatment facilities.

The proposed project would not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or the expansion of existing facilities because there are no such facilities that serve this area. No wastewater is proposed with this project, therefore there will be no impact to treatment facilities. This project will require a Report of Waste Discharge and Industrial Stormwater Permit from the Regional Board, which is discussed in Section 2.1.8.

An agriculture well exists on the site near the northwest corner of the parcel. No additional wells are proposed with this project. There will be a less than significant impact on water supplies.

This proposal would not require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities. The proposed project is small in scope and creates an insignificant amount of impermeable surfaces. Currently storm waters dissipate through natural drains in the soil. There is no impact to drainage facilities with this project.

The proposed project will have a less than significant impact on the existing landfill. The project will not generate significant amounts of landfill waste. As a result, there would be a less than significant impact on solid waste regulations.

2.1.17 Mandatory Findings of Significance

Discussion of Impacts

Based on the analysis and conditions provided above, there would be no significant potential environmental impacts as a result of this proposed project. No important examples of major periods of California history or prehistory in California were identified. There are no special-status wildlife species, plants, nor habitat identified at the project site. Therefore, there will be no impact on species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The project site does not contain any other biological resources that would be impacted by the proposed project. The proposal will not increase the amount of traffic use within the project area and will not add to cumulative traffic impacts.

The following Noxious Weed and Weed Seed Control Plan will mitigate any impact to less than significant related to invasive species, noxious weeds, and weed seeds:

Truckloads believed to contain noxious weed and/or weed seed will be covered with tarps to minimize dispersal of weeds and seeds. The compost turning system heats the compost to a temperature that kills weed seed.

At the request of the Air Pollution Control District, the Applicant submitted a Vector Control Plan to mitigate any potential impacts to a less than significant level. The following Plan is recommended:

- 1. There will be no standing water on the site related to the composting facility.*
- 2. Weeds and grasses will be chopped to limit rodent habitat.*
- 3. Manure and other fly-attracting materials will be tarped.*
- 4. Manure will be brought on-site and mixed into the windrows just prior to commencement of the composting system.*
- 5. The compost turning system will heat windrows to 140 + degrees, which will kill fly larvae.*

The proposed Vector Control Plan will mitigate potential impacts to human health to a less than significant level.

Based on the analysis provided above, the project as proposed would not have substantial adverse impacts on human beings, either directly or indirectly with existing standards and Conditions of Approval.

3. CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

3.1 General Plan Consistency

The proposed Conditional Use Permit for a composting facility is consistent with the Land Use Designation of "Intensive Agriculture" and the "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size) zoning classification because the proposal will meet the land use and zoning requirements of the *General Plan* and the *Zoning Code*.

The project area is adjacent to parcels zoned "AE-40", "FS-80", and "AP-80". The General Plan Land Use designation of these parcels is Intensive Agriculture.

3.2 Physical Suitability

The total acreage of the project is approximately 46± acres. As discussed in the previous section, this land is designated "AE-40", which requires a 36 acre minimum parcel size. The parcel is sufficient in size to meet the site area and configuration requirements, minimum yard requirements, and minimum distance between structures.

3.3 Environmental Impact

This proposed project will not cause substantial environmental damage nor will it injure fish, wildlife or their habitat. The environmental impacts of this project are discussed at length in Section 2.1 above.

3.4 Public Health

The design and improvements of the proposed project will not cause substantial public health problems. In Section 2.1, the impacts of the project on public health are discussed.

3.5 Access

Access to this parcel will be from County Road 27 and/or County Road N. Driveway improvements will be addressed with an Encroachment Permit. The proposed project will not cause vehicular access problems. The impacts of the project on transportation and traffic are discussed in Section 2.1 above.

3.6 Waste Water Discharge

There is no sewer system that serves the project area; therefore this project will not result in the violation of existing requirements prescribed by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board). This proposal does not require sewage disposal. The Applicant is required to obtain Report of Waste Discharge and Industrial Stormwater Permits from the Regional Board.

3.7 Other County, State, and/or Federal standards and regulations

There is a ten (10) day appeal period following Planning Commission action on this Conditional Use Permit that expires Monday, July 3, 2006. If the Planning Commission action occurs on a different date, the permit will become effective 10 days from that date.

In addition to the Conditions of Approval, the applicant's and his/her technical or project management representative's attention is directed to the attached memoranda from Glenn County agencies reflecting their comments on reviewing the application. The items noted are a guide to assist the applicant in meeting the requirements of the Conditions of Approval and applicable government codes. The memoranda may also note any unusual circumstances that need special attention. The items listed are a guide and not intended to be a comprehensive summary of all codified requirements or site-specific requirements.

3.7.1 Air Pollution Control District

1. The applicant shall apply for an Authority to Construct and Permit to Operate from the District.

3.7.2 Glenn County Environmental Health

1. That the applicant shall operate the site so that it is in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

2. That no more than a total of 12,500 cubic yards of green material (including active compost, feedstock, and finished compost) may be on-site at any one time. If the 12,500 cubic yards limit of green material is exceeded, the facility will need a full solid waste facility permit.
3. That the applicant shall maintain records showing how much green material, in cubic yards, is on site at any time.
4. That this operation shall not receive feedstock directly from, or sell compost directly to the general public.
5. That the applicant shall maintain a log of all complaints received regarding composting operations and of any actions taken to respond to complaints.
6. That no more than 40,000 cubic yards of feedstock, active compost, finished compost and other agricultural materials may be on site at any one time.
7. That compost or compost feedstock stored on-site between October 31 and April 1 shall be covered with a tarp before the onset of rainy weather.
8. The Applicant will be regulated as an "Agricultural Materials Composting Operation" by the Health Department in the Department's role as the Local Enforcement Agency for solid waste. If any of the preceding standards are not complied with, additional permits may be necessary.

3.7.3 Glenn County Planning & Public Works

1. The compost turning area shall be a minimum of 100 feet from property lines and County Road right-of-ways. All manure handling/holding facilities shall be a minimum of 100 feet from property lines and right-of-ways (GCC §15.790.010)
2. The Applicant shall obtain all necessary permits prior to commencing operations and shall submit copies of all permits to the Planning Division.
3. The Applicant shall comply with *General Plan Section 6 Standards* §6.12 (Standards for Landfills, Recycling and Composting Facilities)
4. The Applicant shall comply with Glenn County Code §15.610 (Off-Street Parking and Loading Facilities). The Applicant shall provide parking for two employees and a truck parking/loading area for two trucks.
5. Prior to any work being done in the County Right of Way an Encroachment Permit shall be applied for and received from Glenn County Public Works.
6. That the final location of the entrance/driveway will be determined upon granting of an Encroachment Permit.
7. That the driveway to the project shall be constructed to County Standard S-19 "Private Road Intersection" except the minimum drive width shall be 24 feet instead of 12 feet shown thereon, in anticipation of truck traffic to and from the site.

3.7.4 Northeast Center of the California Historical Resources Info Center (NEIC)

1. If any potential prehistoric, protohistoric, and historic cultural resources are encountered during any phase of project operations, all work should cease in the area of the find pending an examination of the site and materials by the project archaeologist.

3.7.5 Pacific Gas and Electric Company

1. Any relocation or rearrangement of any existing PG&E facilities in this area, to accommodate this project will be at the expense of the developer/property owner. There shall be no building of structures, or the storage of any materials allowed over or under any existing PG&E facilities, or inside any easements that exist which infringe on PG&E's easement rights.

3.7.6 California Regional Water Quality Control Board

1. The applicant shall obtain an approved Report of Waste Discharge Permit and Industrial Storm Water Permit, if necessary.

4. FINDINGS:

A. Negative Declaration:

Finding #1.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on aesthetics because there are no scenic resources in the area and the adopted standards for construction and lighting will minimize any future impacts from development. Additionally, General Plan standards for Composting Facilities will reduce adverse impacts.

Finding #2.

That the project will have no significant adverse impacts on agricultural resources because the zoning and use of the land is agricultural and no significant change in land use will result.

Finding #3.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effects on air quality because the project will not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to any existing air quality violation. Standards, codes, and mitigation measures reduce any potential impact to less than significant. Additionally, the project is not near any sensitive receptors.

Dust is a potential impact to air quality. The Applicant and Glenn County Air Pollution Control District have recommended mitigation measures and conditions of approval to mitigate any impact to less than significant. The following dust control plan will reduce impacts to less than significant:

*The applicant shall water driveways and loading areas at a **minimum** frequency of two times per day (once in the morning, once in the afternoon, and more often as needed) when the driveways and loading areas are being utilized. The applicant shall suspend hauling and turning operations during high wind conditions of 25 miles per hour and higher. The applicant shall ensure that all trucks entering and exiting the facility maintain a minimum free board space of six inches. If fugitive material is found to be exiting the trucks during transport, the applicant shall ensure that the truck loads are covered.*

The applicant submitted an Odor Control Plan to minimize odors in the vicinity of the site. The Odor Control Plan includes the following:

Our compost format is derived from the Lubke system of composting. This uses several methods to help control odor while increasing the compost value by trapping stinky ammonia and converting it to a usable form of nitrogen. These methods are:

- 1) Use of clay with its negative charges to attract the positive charges of ammonium. We will be adding 10% clay to our mix.*
- 2) A correct C:N, will sequester stinky ammonia, limiting odor.*
- 3) The addition of organic microbes and stimulants will also aid in the odor control. If the clay, correct C:N and microbe stimulants do not suppress odors sufficiently, the following measures will be utilized.*
- 4) As a first measure, high carbon wood ash will help control odor.*
- 5) As a second measure, oxidizing agents such as potassium permanganate are used to prevent the formation of hydrogen sulfide, which causes odor.*
- 6) As a third measure, odor neutralizing agents, such as Essential Oils can be sprayed into foul odor airstreams to neutralize odor.*
- 7) As a final measure, biofilters will be used to filter foul odor on-site.*

When wind is blowing in the direction towards any residence within .5 miles we will only turn rows when absolutely needed. We will track odor complaints and work with residents to solve problems.

Finding #4.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on biological resources because there are no sensitive habitats or natural communities as defined by the Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Finding #5.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on cultural resources because there are no known resources in the area.

Finding #6.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on geology and soils concerning the capacity of the soils. No on-site sewage disposal is needed for the project. There are no geologic hazards in the area and the Building Code will require any new construction to meet standards for soils.

Finding #7.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on hazards and hazardous materials because the project does not involve the use of hazardous materials either directly or indirectly. In addition, the project will not interfere with any adopted emergency response plan nor expose people to risk of loss, injury or death.

Finding #8.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse effect on hydrology and water quality because the project does not place any structures within a 100-year flood plain and will not significantly alter the drainage pattern of the area. The Applicant will need to meet the requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board prior to commencing operations.

Permits required to the Regional Board, who has jurisdiction over waste discharge, will mitigate potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level. The Applicant has proposed to compact the surface to 90% to minimize leachate, use a 2 foot levee around the site to eliminate run-off, and install a 2.75 acre filter strip to mitigate potential impacts from stormwater.

The Glenn County Environmental Health Department has recommended the following Mitigation Measure to reduce the impact to water quality to less than significant:

That the operator shall cover all compost feedstock stored onsite with a tarp prior to the onset of the rain season, or between October 31 and April 1, to minimize leachate into the groundwater.

Finding #9.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on land use and planning because the project area is designated "Intensive Agriculture" in the *General Plan* and is zoned "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size). The proposed use meets the requirements of the Glenn County Code and General Plan with an approved Conditional Use Permit.

Finding #10.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on mineral resources. Aggregate, gas, oil, and geothermal resources are not known to exist at the project site.

Finding #11.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on noise because the project is not within the vicinity of a public or private airstrip. Any future construction is required to meet the established standards prescribed by the *County Code*. Additionally this project would not expose people to excessive noise levels or ground borne vibration.

Finding #12.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on population and housing because the project will not displace any housing or construct any new housing. This project would not induce substantial population growth.

Finding #13.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on public services because adequate fire protection, police protection, schools, parks and any other public facilities is available to serve this project.

Finding #14.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on recreation because it would not significantly increase the use of existing recreational facilities nor does the project include any such facilities.

Finding #15.

That the proposed Conditional Use Permit (CUP #2006-006) will not have a significant adverse impact on transportation/circulation, nor will it have a substantial impact on parking or traffic related hazards in the area. Glenn County Public Works recommended the following mitigation measure to reduce impacts to County Roads:

That the applicant shall enter into a Road Maintenance Agreement with the County of Glenn Public Works Division prior to commencement of any operations covered in this Conditional Use Permit. Said agreement shall be for the maintenance of all County roads adversely affected by this permit and operations thereof.

Finding #16.

That the proposed project will not have a significant adverse impact on utilities and septic systems because the project does not include solid waste. Potential liquid waste generated at the site is under the jurisdiction of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Permits from the Regional Board are required prior to commencing operations.

Finding #17.

That there is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record that the project (CUP #2006-006) may have a significant impact on the environment either cumulatively or individually with mitigation measures.

The following Noxious Weed and Weed Seed Control Plan will mitigate any impact to less than significant related to invasive species, noxious weeds, and weed seeds:

Truckloads believed to contain noxious weed and/or weed seed will be covered with tarps to minimize dispersal of weeds and seeds. The compost turning system heats the compost to a temperature that kills weed seed.

The Applicant submitted a Vector Control Plan to mitigate any potential impacts to a less than significant level. The following Plan is recommended:

- 1. There will be no standing water on the site related to the composting facility.*
- 2. Weeds and grasses will be chopped to limit rodent habitat.*
- 3. Manure and other fly-attracting materials will be tarped.*
- 4. Manure will be brought on-site and mixed into the windrows just prior to commencement of the composting system.*
- 5. The compost turning system will heat windrows to 140 + degrees, which will kill fly larvae.*

The proposed Noxious Weed and Weed Seed and Vector Control Plan will mitigate potential impacts to native plant species and human health to a less than significant level.

B. Conditional Use Permit #2006-02:

Finding A (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.A).

That the proposed use at the particular location is necessary or desirable in providing a service or facility which will contribute to the general well-being of the public. The proposed compost facility will divert waste from landfills, provide dairy operators a local disposal option, and will create fertilizer for the local agriculture industry.

Finding B (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.B).

That such use will not, under the circumstances of the particular case, be detrimental to the health safety or general welfare of persons residing or working on the vicinity, or injurious to property or improvements in the vicinity. The proposed project will not have adverse effects on nearby residents or the public in general.

Finding C (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.C).

That the site for the proposed use is adequate in size and shape to accommodate said use and to accommodate all of the yards, setbacks, wall or fences, and other features required herein or by the planning commission.

Finding D (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.D).

Except in the case of the expansion of a nonconforming use, that the granting of the permit will not adversely affect the general plan or any area plan of the county. The proposed project is not an expansion of a non-conforming use and conforms to the County Code and General Plan.

5. SAMPLE MOTIONS:

- A. I move that the Planning Commission find that on the basis of the Initial Study for **Conditional Use Permit #2006-006**, prepared by the Planning and Public Works Agency, that the Conditional Use Permit, as applied for by **Compost Solutions**, will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment because the codified County standards, Conditions of Approval, and Mitigation Measures (Air Pollution, Hydrology and Water Quality, Transportation/Traffic, and Mandatory Findings of Significance) shall reduce impacts to a less than significant level. Therefore, a Mitigated Negative Declaration shall be granted with the Findings listed in the Staff Report.
- B. I move that the Planning Commission approve **Conditional Use Permit #2006-006**, as applied for by **Compost Solutions**, on **Assessor's Parcel Number: 024-030-031** and that the Planning Commission has reviewed, analyzed and considered the Mitigated Negative Declaration that was recommended for this project and the Conditional Use Permit to be approved with the Findings listed in the Staff Report and the Mitigation Measures and Conditions of Approval as attached.



GLENN COUNTY PLANNING & PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY

John F. Linhart, Director
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August 3, 2010

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GLENN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, September 15, 2010, 9:00 a.m.

TO: Glenn County Planning Commission

FROM: John F. Linhart, Director
Casey Murray, Assistant Planner

RE: **Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, Amendment
Compost Solutions, Inc.**

[GO TO SAMPLE MOTIONS](#)

Attachments:

1. [Mitigation Monitoring Program and Conditions of Approval \(6 pgs.\)](#)
2. [Mitigated Negative Declaration \(6 pgs.\)](#)
3. [CEQA Initial Study \(122 pgs.\)](#)
4. [Initial Request for Review- September 29, 2009 \(3 pgs.\)](#)
5. [Application \(4 pgs.\)](#)
6. [Environmental Information Form \(6 pgs.\)](#)
7. [Insert about Air Pollution \(1 pg.\)](#)
8. [Insert about Liquid Waste Disposal \(1 pg.\)](#)
9. [Insert about Drainage \(1 pg.\)](#)
10. [Initial Project Description \(4 pgs.\)](#)
11. [Revised Request for Review – February 16, 2010 \(3 pgs.\)](#)
12. [Revised Project Description \(Report of Compost Facility Information RCSI\) \(17 pgs.\)](#)
13. [Agency Comments:](#)
 - a. Glenn County Environmental Health Department – February 19, 2010 (2 pgs.)
 - b. Glenn County Air Pollution Control District – March 5, 2010 (1 pg.)
 - c. Glenn County Building Inspection Division – February 17, 2010 (1 pg.)
 - d. Glenn County Engineering & Surveying – October 21, 2009 (1 pg.)
 - e. California Regional Water Quality Control Board – October 1, 2009 (1 pg.)

14. [Northeast Information Center – Initial Project Comments – April 10, 2006 \(2 pgs.\)](#)
15. [Maps:](#)
 - a. Assessor’s Parcel Map
 - b. Topographic Map
 - c. Aerial Photograph Map of Site
 - d. Site Plan (Exhibit “A”)
16. [“Appendix J” EPA Biosolids Composting \(5 pgs.\)](#)
17. [EPA Biosolids Technology Fact Sheet \(11 pgs.\)](#)
18. [EPA Biosolids and Residuals Management Fact Sheet \(16 pgs.\)](#)
19. [Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2007-0088 \(24 pgs.\)](#)
20. [Technical Report for a Proposed Compost Facility \(117 pgs.\)](#)
21. [Existing Mitigation Monitoring Program and Conditions of Approval \(5 pgs.\)](#)
22. [Existing Mitigated Negative Declaration - Adopted June 21, 2006 \(7 pgs.\)](#)

1. PROJECT SUMMARY:

Compost Solutions, Inc. has proposed an amendment to Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 to allow an increase in the annual tonnage limit from 30,000 tons to 50,000 tons, including between 1,500 and 15,000 tons of biosolid composting and the future construction of a 3,750 square foot on-site bagging facility at their existing composting facility.

The existing facility occupies approximately 28 acres of the parcel. The existing footprint will not be expanded with this project. All new activities will be located within the existing project boundaries.

The primary goal of the project is to provide cost-efficient compost for the County of Glenn and the surrounding counties that complies with applicable Federal, State and local requirements for safely handling these materials.

The project site is located on the north side of County Road 27, on the east side of County Road N, west of County Road P, south of County Road 25, approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the City of Orland, in the unincorporated area of Glenn County, California. The site is approximately 2.4 miles east of Interstate 5. The project is located on land owned by Road 27 Limited Partnership. The Assessor’s Parcel Number for the site is 024-030-031. This parcel is zoned “AE-40” (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size) and is designated “Intensive Agriculture” in the General Plan.

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission grant the proposed amendment to **Conditional Use Permit 2006-006** a Mitigated Negative Declaration with the Findings as stated in the Staff Report. Staff also recommends that the Planning Commission approve the proposed amendment to **Conditional Use Permit 2006-006** with the Findings as stated in the Staff Report and the proposed Mitigation Monitoring Program and Conditions of Approval as attached.

1.1 Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

Properties surrounding the project site are zoned "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size) and "FS-80" (Farmland Security Zone, 72 acre minimum parcel size), and are designated "Intensive Agriculture" in the General Plan. Land use within one mile of the facility is agricultural and low density rural residential. All parcels within 1.75 miles of the project site are zoned for agricultural uses. Almond orchards are located on adjacent properties to the north, south, and west. The adjacent property east of the facility is farmed for annual crops. Other crops grown within a mile of the site include walnuts, corn, olives, and prunes. There are seven residences within 0.5 miles of the facility boundary. There are five dairies within 3 miles of the facility boundary.

The project is located southeast of the City of Orland within the valley. The property is currently graded to a flat plain draining 0.1% to the east and 0.2% to the south. Surface water near the facility consists mainly of irrigation ponds and ditches. There is a large seasonal pond at the northeastern corner of the site. Runoff flows across the property to its south end and into a roadside ditch. The roadside ditch flows into a swale about 300 feet to the east of the property. The swale drains to the south through a culvert under County Road 27 and continues to the south through several small reservoirs until it reaches the Colusa Drain, 10 miles to the south.

2. ANALYSIS:

The proposed project to amend the existing composting facility is consistent with surrounding land uses. This area of Glenn County has been a productive agricultural area. The composting facility has been located at this site for four years and the additions and modifications will increase the use of the site. The proposed project will not be detrimental to the health, safety or general welfare of persons residing or working in the vicinity. The project will allow the operator to increase the quantity and the quality of the finished product.

2.1 Mitigated Negative Declaration:

The existing Mitigated Negative Declaration for Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 was adopted by the Glenn County Planning Commission on June 21, 2006.

This project will allow an increase in the annual tonnage as well as the composting of biosolids and a future bagging facility. The proposed expansion was not covered under the existing project. As the project will have an impact on the conclusion arrived at the original assessment, the Planning Commission cannot recertify the previously adopted Mitigated Negative Declaration. In addition, this project does not qualify for an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). A Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared.

A copy of the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration is attached (Attachment #2). Additionally, a detailed discussion of the project and its potential impacts has been attached (Attachment #3) and includes a discussion of potential environmental impacts from the proposed project as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Initial Study only evaluates those impacts as a result of the proposed amendment; impacts from the existing composting facility were evaluated in the original Initial Study. The Initial Study for the amendment concludes that this project will result in no new Potentially Significant Impacts to the environment that cannot be reduced to less than significant levels.

3. CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT:

3.1 Desirability and Contribution to Public Well-Being (Glenn County Code §15.220.020 (A)):

The site is in an area of existing agricultural uses and the project will bring additional tax revenues to the County. There is a demand by the agricultural industry for compost. The location is desirable because the site has an existing composting facility in place. The project will allow the operator to increase the quantity and the quality of the finished product.

Composting of organic yard wastes and other materials offers an efficient, environmentally safe and cost effective method to divert materials from the wastestream. It allows for the development of a multi-faceted program, involving diversion from landfilling, processing into usable end-products and revenue generation from the finished marketable commodity. Most importantly, composting is a proven, viable management alternative that complements landfill disposal, directly resulting in

reduced disposal costs and environmental impacts. Therefore, it concluded that this project will contribute to the general well being of the public within Glenn County.

3.2 Hazards (Glenn County Code, §15.220.020 (B)):

This project will not be subjected to hazardous conditions due to flooding, adverse geologic conditions, proximity to airports, fire hazards, or topography. Impacts from hazards on the project are further discussed in the Initial Study (Attachment #3). Given the analysis in the Initial Study, staff has concluded that this project will not be detrimental to the health, safety or general welfare of persons or property in the vicinity of the project.

3.3 Suitability of Parcel Size (Glenn County Code, §15.220.020 (C)):

The project site is approximately 45.89 acres in size. The composting facility occupies approximately 28 acres of the parcel. The existing facility is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the proposed project. There is adequate space for on-site parking and unloading/loading. The proposed project will not extend beyond the existing facility boundary.

3.4 General Plan Consistency (Glenn County Code, §15.220.020 (D)):

The proposed project to amend an existing composting facility is consistent with the Land Use Designation of "Intensive Agriculture" and the zoning of "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size). The proposed project will meet the land use and zoning requirements of the General Plan and the Zoning Code. The existing composting facility is a permitted use with approval of a conditional use permit according to Glenn County Code §15.330.040.B,Y.

Parcels surrounding the project site have an "Intensive Agriculture" land use designation, are zoned "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size) and "FS-80" (Farmland Security Zone, 72 acre minimum parcel size), and consist of agricultural uses and residences associated with agriculture. The proposed project is compatible with the surrounding land uses.

4. OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

There is a ten (10) calendar day appeal period following the January 20, 2010 Planning Commission action on this Conditional Use Permit Amendment that is set to expire Saturday, January 30, 2010, at 5:00 P.M (Glenn County Code §15.050.020).

The appeal made to the Glenn County Board of Supervisors must be made in accordance with Section 15.050.020 of the Glenn County Code. The Board of Supervisors will hear the appeal as outlined by this code. The decision of the Board of Supervisors may then be challenged in court.

An approved conditional use permit expires one (1) year from the date of granting unless substantial physical construction and/or use of the property in reliance on the permit has commenced prior to its expiration. An approved conditional use permit may be extended by the director for an additional sixty (60) calendar days provided that the applicant/owner submits a written request for extension to the director at least twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the expiration date. Only one (1) extension shall be allowed for each permit (Glenn County Code §15.090.100.A).

The necessary permits shall be secured in all affected federal, state and local agencies. It is the responsibility of the applicant to make certain all requirements are met and permits are obtained from all other agencies.

In addition to the Mitigation Measures and Conditions of Approval, the applicant's and his/her technical or project management representative's attention is directed to the attached memoranda from other agencies reflecting their comments on reviewing the application. The items noted are a guide to assist the applicant in meeting the requirements of the Mitigation Measures, the Conditions of Approval, and applicable government codes. The memoranda may also note any unusual circumstances that need special attention. The items listed are a guide and not intended to be a comprehensive summary of all codified requirements or site-specific requirements.

5. CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL:

The following section is a discussion of the current mitigation measures and conditions of approval for Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 as approved by the Glenn County Planning Commission on June 21, 2006. Some revision of the current conditions of approval is required due to changes in their applicability and/or relevance. A copy of the Proposed Mitigation Monitoring Program and Conditions of Approval is attached.

5.1 Mitigation Measure #1

That the following Dust Control Plan shall be implemented:

*The applicant shall water driveways and loading areas at a **minimum** frequency of two times per day (once in the morning, once in the afternoon, and more often as needed) when the driveways and loading areas are being utilized. The applicant shall suspend hauling and turning operations during high wind conditions of 25 miles per hour and higher. The applicant shall ensure that all trucks entering and exiting the facility maintain a minimum free board space of six inches. If fugitive material is found to be exiting the trucks during transport, the applicant shall ensure that the truck loads are covered.*

Timing/Implementation: In Perpetuity

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Air Pollution Control District

The existing Dust Control Plan will continue to be implemented under the proposed project.

5.2 Mitigation Measure #2

That the following Odor Control Plan shall be implemented:

Our compost format is derived from the Lubke system of composting. This uses several methods to help control odor while increasing the compost value by trapping stinky ammonia and converting it to a usable form of nitrogen. These methods are:

1) Use of clay with its negative charges to attract the positive charges of ammonium. We will be adding 10% clay to our mix.

2) A correct C:N, will sequester stinky ammonia, limiting odor.

3) The addition of organic microbes and stimulants will also aid in the odor control.

If the clay, correct C:N and microbe stimulants do not suppress odors sufficiently, the following measures will be utilized.

4) As a first measure, high carbon wood ash will help control odor.

5) As a second measure, oxidizing agents such as potassium permanganate are used to prevent the formation of hydrogen sulfide, which causes odor.

6) As a third measure, odor neutralizing agents, such as Essential Oils can be sprayed into foul odor airstreams to neutralize odor.

7) As a final measure, biofilters will be used to filter foul odor on-site.

When wind is blowing in the direction towards any residence within .5 miles we will only turn rows when absolutely needed. We will track odor complaints and work with residents to solve problems.

Timing/Implementation: In Perpetuity

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Air Pollution Control District

Either some or all of the measures in the existing Odor Control Plan will be incorporated into the final Odor Impact Minimization Plan for the site. The OIMP will act as the overall program document for odor control at the composting facility.

5.3 Mitigation Measure #3

That the operator shall cover all compost feedstock stored onsite with a tarp prior to the onset of the rain season, or between October 31 and April 1, to minimize leachate into the groundwater.

Timing/Implementation: In Perpetuity

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Environmental Health Department

The facility is designed so that materials, chemicals, and other pollutant sources will only be left exposed during the dry season. During the winter months (November 1 through April 1), feedstock is placed in bunkers constructed of 1,000 pound straw bales and covered with plastic as described in the existing Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). As the SWPPP has provisions for minimizing leachate into the groundwater, the existing Mitigation Measure #3 is not necessary.

5.4 Mitigation Measure #4

That the applicant shall enter into a Road Maintenance Agreement with the Glenn County Public Works Division prior to commencement of any operations covered in this Conditional Use Permit. Said agreement shall be for the maintenance of all County roads adversely affected by this permit and operations thereof.

Timing/Implementation: Prior to commencing operations

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Planning & Public Works Agency

Glenn County Public Works has recommended that in lieu of a Road Maintenance Agreement, the applicant agree to a funding mechanism with the County to provide a

funding source for deterioration of County roads due to truck traffic. This requirement has been made a condition of project approval.

5.5 Mitigation Measure #5

That the following Vector Control Plan shall be implemented:

1. *There will be no standing water on the site related to the composting facility.*
2. *Weeds and grasses will be chopped to limit rodent habitat.*
3. *Manure and other fly-attracting materials will be tarped.*
4. *Manure will be brought on-site and mixed into the windrows just prior to commencement of the composting system.*
5. *The compost turning system will heat windrows to 140 + degrees, which will kill fly larvae.*

Timing/Implementation: In perpetuity

Enforcement/Monitoring: Glenn County Environmental Health, Glenn County Air Pollution Control District

The existing Vector Control Plan will continue to be implemented under the proposed project.

5.6 Condition of Approval #6

That the area in operation shall be confined to those areas as delineated in Exhibit "A" as filed with the Glenn County Planning Division.

The existing facility has remained in the same location since the initial approval of Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 on June 21, 2006. The facility has been kept within the geographical parameters of Assessor's Parcel Number: 024-030-031. The following revised Condition of Approval has been proposed so that the condition corresponds to the revised site plan.

Condition of Approval #1

That the area in operation shall be confined to those areas as delineated in the revised Exhibit "A" (Site Plan) as filed with the Glenn County Planning & Public Works Agency on September 23, 2009.

5.7 Condition of Approval #7

The applicant/landowner shall provide to the Glenn County Planning Division proof that all necessary permits from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board have been obtained prior to commencement of the uses permitted with Conditional Use Permit #2006-006.

The facility is currently regulated under Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2007-0088 adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on June 22, 2007, for composting of green waste. This Order does not currently allow for the discharge of biosolids; therefore, submittal of a new Application/Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) is required in order for the Central Valley Water Board to consider the proposed changes in operations. To ensure compliance, the following Condition of Approval is recommended:

Condition of Approval #6

The applicant shall provide proof that all necessary permits from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) have been obtained prior to commencement of the uses permitted with this amendment to Conditional Use Permit 2006-006. The applicant shall provide the Glenn County Planning Division with copies of all documents and permits required by the RWQCB.

5.8 Condition of Approval #8

That the applicant/landowners shall file a signed copy of the Conditional Use Permit Conditions of Approval with the Planning Division within 10 days of approval, or this Conditional Use Permit shall be void.

All conditional use permits require that the applicant/landowners agree to and sign the Conditions of Approval for the project. The applicant and landowner will be required to file a signed copy of the revised Conditions of Approval. Staff recommends that the current Condition of Approval #8 be deleted.

5.9 Condition of Approval #9

That no more than 40,000 cubic yards of feedstock, active compost, finished compost, and other agricultural materials shall be on site at any one time.

This condition of approval was originally required by the Glenn County Environmental Health Department. The facility will be required to obtain a Compostable Material Handling Facility permit. The new permit will require the operator to have a method for dealing with unusual daily peak loads. No manure products will be received if the product cannot be immediately composted. It is recommended that this condition of approval be deleted.

5.10 Condition of Approval #10

To meet Glenn County General Plan Standards 6.12 (Standards for Landfills, Recycling and Composting Facilities), landscaping shall be planted prior to commencing operations. Landscaping along County Road 27 shall be at least five feet in height and create a continuous barrier within 18 months of approval of this Permit. Landscaping along County Road N shall be at least five feet in height and create a continuous barrier within 36 months of approval of this Conditional Use Permit. Landscaping shall be maintained in a healthy condition; unhealthy plants shall be replanted.

To meet the requirements of the General Plan performance standards, the applicant proposed and implemented a landscaping plan along County Road 27 and County Road N. The landscaping strips are in place and are monitored for compliance yearly by planning staff. The landscaping strips act as a visual screen and sound attenuation. The condition will continue to be implemented under this amendment:

Condition of Approval #5

Landscaping along County Road 27 and County Road N shall be at least five feet in height and continue to create a continuous visual barrier. Landscaping shall be maintained in a healthy condition; unhealthy plants shall be replanted.

5.11 Condition of Approval #11

That the Applicant(s) and/or successor(s) in interest shall defend, hold harmless and indemnify Glenn County from any claim, action or proceeding against Glenn County and/or its agents, officers and employees, to attack, set aside, void or annul the approval(s) granted by Glenn County concerning this proposal/project or any action relating to or arising out of such approval. The Applicant(s) and/or successor(s) in interest shall further indemnify Glenn County and/or its agents, officers and employees from liability for any award, damages, costs and fees, including but not limited to legal fees and costs, incurred by the County and/or awarded to any plaintiff in any action challenging the validity of this permit or any environmental or other documentation

related to approval of this permit. Applicant(s) and/or successor(s) in interest further agree to provide a defense for the County in any such action.

This condition of approval represents the “hold harmless” clause of the permit. To assure protection to the County, this condition of approval shall remain and is included in the revised Mitigation Monitoring Program and Conditions of Approval.

5.12 Condition of Approval #12

That the applicant shall deposit an annual nonrefundable fee of two-hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars for the purpose of Mitigation Monitoring. The first deposit shall be made within ten (10) working days from the date of approval of the Conditional Use Permit and by June 1 of each successive year.

The applicant has consistently paid the annual mitigation monitoring fee. Most recently this fee was paid on May 11, 2010. The next payment will be due on or before June 1, 2011. Staff recommends the following revised condition of approval:

Condition of Approval #3

That the applicant shall pay an annual nonrefundable fee of two-hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars for the purpose of Mitigation Monitoring. The payment shall be made annually by June 1.

5.13 Condition of Approval #13

That the County has submitted a certificate of Fee Exemption for a De Minimus Impact upon Fish and Game Resources. In the event the Department of Fish and Game disagrees with the County, the applicant shall be responsible for all required Fish and Game fees.

On June 21, 2006, the County prepared a Certificate of Fee Exemption for a De Minimus Impact upon Fish and Game Resources in accordance with Fish and Game Code Section 711.4(c). Any future Department of Fish & Game fees are the responsibility of the applicant; therefore, this condition may be deleted.

5.14 Condition of Approval #14

If upon approval of this Conditional Use Permit any health or safety hazard arises due to the operation allowed by this Permit; the Planning Commission shall hold a Public

Hearing to hear comments and consider whether Conditions of Approval need to be revised, added, or revoked.

Glenn County Code Section 15.090.110 Revocation/Modification authorizes the Glenn County Planning & Public Works Agency Director to seek revocation of a conditional use permit by the Glenn County Planning Commission if the conditions of approval of the permit have not been complied with. The current Condition of Approval #14 gives the Planning Commission an opportunity to review the permit should any health or safety concerns arise; therefore, this condition of approval shall remain.

5.15 Condition of Approval #15

That Conditional Use Permit #2006-006 shall expire ten (10) years from the date of approval. The applicant shall apply for a Conditional Use Permit Extension at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration date. The operation shall cease if an extension is not granted.

Based on this condition of approval, Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 is set to expire on June 21, 2016. Since the applicant has applied for an amendment to Conditional Use Permit 2006-006 at this time, staff recommends that the permit be extended for an additional ten (10) year period. Staff recommends the following revised condition of approval:

Condition of Approval #11:

That Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, as amended, shall remain effective for a period of ten (10) years and shall expire on August 18, 2020. This Permit may be extended by the Planning Commission at their discretion. An application for an extension shall be submitted at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration date. The operation shall cease if an extension is not granted.

6. FINDINGS:

6.1 Mitigated Negative Declaration:

Finding #1.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on aesthetics because there are no scenic resources in the area and the adopted standards for lighting will minimize any impacts from development. The project is to increase the use of an existing facility; therefore, the character of the site will not significantly change.

Finding #2.

That the project will not have any significant adverse impacts on agriculture or forest resources because the zoning and use of the land is agricultural. Other agricultural activities within the vicinity will not be adversely impacted by this project. There are no forest resources located within the vicinity of the project.

Finding #3.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on air quality because the project will not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to any existing air quality violation. Federal, state, and local standards and codes reduce any potential impacts to less than significant.

Finding #4.

That the proposed project will have no significant adverse impacts on biological resources. The sensitive habitats or natural communities as defined by the Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will not be adversely impacted by this project.

Finding #5.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on cultural resources because there are no known resources recorded in the area. No new development will occur in an undisturbed area. Effective mitigation is in place in case of any accidental discoveries of cultural resources.

Finding #6.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on geology and soils because there are no geologic hazards in the area and the building codes will require new construction to meet standards for soil conditions. The project does not require a sewage disposal system.

Finding #7.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on global climate change as a result of greenhouse gas emissions. The project is consistent with the AB 32 goal of reducing GHG emissions and is not in conflict with any existing guidelines or standards. The project will reduce GHG emissions and provide consistency with AB 32. The project will not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHG's.

Finding #8.

That hazards and hazardous materials will not have any significant adverse impacts on the environment as a result of the proposed project. The project will not interfere with any adopted emergency response plan nor expose people to risk of loss, injury, or death.

Finding #9.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on hydrology and water quality because the project does not place any structures within a 100-year flood plain and will not significantly alter the drainage pattern of the area. The project does not significantly interfere with groundwater recharge in the area. The project will not substantially deplete groundwater supplies or expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding. Revised Waste Discharge Requirements will be required to be obtained from the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Finding #10.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on land use and planning because the project would not physically divide an established community. The project site is designated "Intensive Agriculture" in the General

Plan and is zoned "AE-40" (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 36 acre minimum parcel size). The proposed use meets the requirements of the Glenn County Code and General Plan with an approved Conditional Use Permit. The project will not conflict with any existing habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan.

Finding #11.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on mineral resources. The project site is not located in an area which contains significant aggregate resources. The project is to expand the use of an existing facility and would have no impact on any future natural gas well development.

Finding #12.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on people residing or working in the area from excessive noise levels. Noise generating activities are required to meet the established standards prescribed by the County Code. The existing facility and proposed project will not create significant noise. The project site is not within two miles of a public airstrip and not in the vicinity of a private airstrip which would expose people in the area to unacceptable noise levels. Additionally, this project will not expose people to excessive ground borne vibration.

Finding #13.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on population and housing because the project will not displace any number of people or housing. This project will not increase population in the area. This project would not induce substantial population growth directly or indirectly.

Finding #14.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on public services. The services of fire protection, police protection, schools, parks and any other public facilities are sufficient to accommodate the proposed project.

Finding #15.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on recreation because it would not increase the use of existing recreational facilities nor does the project include any such facilities.

Finding #16.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on transportation/circulation because it will not significantly increase traffic volumes on existing roads. The project will not change any air traffic patterns. The parcel will provide adequate parking capacity. Existing roads do not have dangerous curves or intersection and they provide adequate emergency access to the project site. Alternative transportation plans will not be impacted.

Finding #17.

That the proposed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on utilities and service systems. The project can be adequately served by existing utilities and service systems. Waste Discharge Requirements will be required to be obtained from the Regional Water Quality Control Board in order to ensure proper disposal of wastewater.

Finding #18.

That there is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record that the project may have a significant impact on the environment either cumulatively or individually with the proposed mitigation measures, conditions of approval, codified federal, state, and county standards, and adopted Best Management Practices.

6.2 Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, Amendment:

According to Glenn County Code Sections 15.220.010 and 15.220.030, the following findings listed in Glenn County Code Section 15.220.020 shall be made prior to recommending approval of a Conditional Use Permit or a Major Amendment to a Conditional Use Permit:

Finding #1 (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.A).

That the proposed use at the particular location is necessary or desirable in providing a service or facility which will contribute to the general well-being of the public. The site is in an area of existing agricultural uses. Composting of organic yard wastes and other materials offers an efficient, environmentally safe and cost effective method to divert materials from the wastestream. The location is desirable because the site has an existing composting facility in place.

Finding #2 (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.B).

That such use will not, under the circumstances of the particular case, be detrimental to the health safety or general welfare of persons residing or working on the vicinity, or injurious to property or improvements in the vicinity. The proposed project will not have adverse effects on nearby residents, uses, or the public in general.

Finding #3 (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.C).

That the site for the proposed use is adequate in size and shape to accommodate said use and to accommodate all of the yards, setbacks, walls or fences, and other features required herein or by the Planning Commission.

Finding #4 (Glenn County Code §15.220.020.D).

That granting the permit will not adversely affect the general plan or any area plan of the county because the proposed project conforms to the General Plan and County Code.

7. **SAMPLE MOTIONS:**

A. **Environmental Determination:**

I move that the Planning Commission find that on the basis of the Initial Study for the amendment to **Conditional Use Permit 2006-006**, prepared by the Planning & Public Works Agency, that the amendment to the conditional use permit, as applied for by Compost Solutions, Inc., could have a potentially significant impact on the environment; however, implementation of applicable federal, state, and county standards, adopted best management practices, mitigation measures, and conditions of approval will reduce any potentially

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significant impacts to a less than significant level. Therefore, a Mitigated Negative Declaration shall be granted with the Findings as stated in the Staff Report and the Mitigation Measures as attached.

B. Conditional Use Permit 2006-006, Amendment:

I move that the Planning Commission approve the proposed amendment to **Conditional Use Permit 2006-006**, as applied for by Compost Solutions, Inc., on Assessor's Parcel Number: 024-030-031 with the Findings as stated in the Staff Report and the Mitigation Measures and Conditions of Approval as attached.

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