



Fact Sheet

Public Hearing for Order to Amend Special Order 98-165 for the Closure of Five Former Non-Hazardous Class II Surface Impoundments as Landfills at the Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC Facility in Kern County

What is this about?

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) is a state agency responsible for protecting California's waters from pollution. The Central Valley Water Board is proposing a public hearing to consider amending Special Order No. 98-165 which regulates the closure of five former Class II non-hazardous surface impoundments, Waste Management Units (WMUs) Nos. 18, 21, 22, 23, and 27 as landfills. The proposed Order amends the original conventional final cover closure design, to construction of a vegetated, minimum three-foot thick evapotranspirative soil cover system as an engineered alternative over five WMUs instead of four. The proposed cover design exceeds the minimum prescriptive requirements of title 27 for non-municipal solid waste landfills. Closure of the five WMUs would result in greater protection for human health, the environment, and water quality. The WMUs never accepted hazardous or municipal solid waste. The facility is approximately eight miles west of Buttonwillow in Kern County.

Public Hearing

The Central Valley Water Board will hold a public hearing on the amendment to the closure of WMUs 18, 21, 22, 23, and 27. At the hearing, the Board will review testimony and public comments on the proposed Order. The hearing is scheduled for the following:

Date: 29 November 2012

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Location: Buttonwillow Multipurpose Gymnasium

556 Milo Street

Buttonwillow, CA 93206

What is a landfill closure?

Landfill closure is the process of installing a final cover system to minimize infiltration of liquids and control settlement and erosion. Closure designs must be approved the Board in accordance with regulatory closure standards. Proposed closure design for WMUs 18, 21, 22, 23, and 27 is an evapotranspiration (ET) soil cover and exceeds the prescriptive requirements of Title 27. Soil covers of this type have been constructed in Region 5, and throughout Kern County based on the arid environment, low precipitation, and high rates of evaporation.

More Information

The Central Valley Water Board's Tentative Order to be considered at the hearing is available upon request. Please contact Kristen Pineda at (559) 445-5108 or for anyone wishing to speak with someone in Spanish, please contact Anthony Medrano at (559) 488-4395, if you or someone you know would like a copy of this information.