

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ORDER NO. R5-2006-0021

SPECIAL ORDER  
FOR  
CITY OF BAKERSFIELD  
BAKERSFIELD SANITARY LANDFILL  
KERN COUNTY  
MODIFYING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2005-0135

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, (hereafter Central Valley Water Board), finds that:

1. The City of Bakersfield (hereafter Discharger) owns and maintains a municipal solid waste landfill in the northeast part of the City of Bakersfield. The facility consists of one unlined waste management unit (Unit) covering approximately 132 acres.
2. Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-05-0135, adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 16 September 2005, prescribes requirements for the closure and post-closure maintenance of the landfill, including the construction of an engineered alternative final cover.
3. The Discharger submitted a design plan for the proposed closure of the landfill in a Final Closure Plan dated 25 August 2003. The Final Closure and Post-Closure Maintenance Plans were determined to be adequate in a letter from the Central Valley Water Board staff dated 13 December 2004. The plan proposed the construction of an engineered alternative in lieu of the prescriptive cover design specified in §21090(a) of Title 27. The proposed engineered alternative is an evapo-transpirative design consisting of a three-foot thick vegetated soil layer.
4. The China Grade Sanitary Landfill is located adjacent to the City of Bakersfield Sanitary Landfill and is owned by the County of Kern. A test pad was constructed at the China Grade Sanitary Landfill to demonstrate that an evapo-transpirative cover constructed of soil from a nearby borrow source would be an appropriate engineered alternative to the prescriptive design.
5. The test pad successfully demonstrated that a three-foot thick evapo-transpirative cover constructed in that locality of soil from the local borrow source will likely perform in a manner consistent with the performance goals contained in Title 27.
6. The Discharger proposes to construct the final cover of soils from the same borrow source that was used to construct the test pad at the China Grade Sanitary Landfill.

7. Construction Specification C.2 of the WDRs requires the final cover to be four feet thick as a minimum. This specification was written in error and should have specified a three-foot thick final cover.

### PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

8. All local agencies with jurisdiction to regulate land use, solid waste disposal, air pollution, and to protect public health have approved the use of this site for the discharges of waste to land stated herein.
9. The Central Valley Water Board notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for this discharge, and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
10. The Central Valley Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the modification of WDRs Order No. R5-2005-0135
11. Any person affected by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with Sections 2050 through 2068, Title 23, California Code of Regulations. The petition must be received by the State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Chief Counsel, P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, California 95812, within 30 days of the date of issuance of this Order. Copies of the laws and regulations applicable to the filing of a petition are available on the Internet at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_laws/index.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_laws/index.html) and will be provided on request.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Sections 13263 and 13267 of the California Water Code, that the requirements of Order No. R5-2005-0135 are modified as follows:

Construction Specification C.2 shall read:

**“By 31 December 2006**, the final cover system shall be constructed with an engineered alternative design known as an evapo-transpirative or monolithic design. The cover shall, at a minimum, consist of a three-foot thick vegetated soil layer placed over the existing interim cover soil. The soil layer shall be placed in such a manner that vegetative growth is assured and structural integrity is maintained.”

If, in the opinion of the Executive Officer, the Discharger fails to comply with the provision of this Order, the Executive Officer may apply to the Attorney General for judicial enforcement or issue a complaint for Administrative Civil Liability.

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I, KENNETH D. LANDAU, Acting Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on 26 January 2006.

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KENNETH D. LANDAU, Acting Executive Officer

REH:reh/rac:1/26/06

## INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO. R5-2006-0021  
CITY OF BAKERSFIELD  
MODIFYING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2005-0135  
CITY OF BAKERSFIELD SANITARY LANDFILL  
KERN COUNTY

The City of Bakersfield owns and maintains the City of Bakersfield Sanitary Landfill, located in the northeast part of the City of Bakersfield about three quarters of a mile south of the Kern River. Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-05-0135, adopted by the Central Valley Water Board, prescribes requirements for closure and post-closure maintenance for the landfill including construction of an engineered alternative final cover.

The Discharger submitted a design plan for the proposed closure of the landfill in a Final Closure Plan dated 25 August 2003. The Final Closure and Post-Closure Maintenance Plans were determined to be adequate in a letter from Central Valley Water Board staff dated 13 December 2004. The plan proposed the construction of an engineered alternative in lieu of the prescriptive cover design specified in §21090(a) of Title 27. The proposed engineered alternative is an evapo-transpirative design consisting of a three-foot thick vegetated soil layer

Construction Specification C.2 of the WDRs requires the final cover to be four feet thick as a minimum. This specification was written in error and should have specified a three-foot thick final cover in accordance with the approved Final Closure Plan. This special order modifies Construction Specification C.2 of the Waste Discharge Requirements so that a three-foot thick cover is required.

REH:reh/rac:1/26/06