

Notice of Intent to Prepare a Joint Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Public Scoping Meeting for the West Coast Recycling Group Project

SCOPING PERIOD: November 3, 2010 through December 3, 2010

The City of West Sacramento (City) intends to prepare a joint Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, §21000 *et seq.*; see also 14 CCR §15220, 15222 [State CEQA Guidelines]), and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. §4321 *et seq.*) for the West Coast Recycling Group, L.L.C. (WCRG) metal recycling facility project (proposed project). The City will be the lead agency for compliance with CEQA. In addition, the City is authorized to act as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) “responsible entity” for the project and will be the lead agency for compliance with NEPA (see 24 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] §58.2). David Tilley, the City’s project manager, will serve as the Certifying Officer for the project. Documents and files related to the proposed project are available for review at the City of West Sacramento, Community Development Department, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA, 95691.

This Notice of Public Scoping Meeting has been prepared pursuant to NEPA and the scoping meeting is in addition to the scoping meetings held on October 14, 2010.

SCOPING MEETING

DATE & TIME: November 18, 2010, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

LOCATION: West Sacramento Civic Center, Room 104, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691

The scoping meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to learn more about the project and provide input to the environmental process. Persons desiring to be heard on environmental issues will be afforded the opportunity to be heard. The meeting will last for one hour, or until all comments are heard. Comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Written comments or questions concerning the EIR/EIS should be directed to the City’s project manager at the following address within 30 days from receipt of this notice and no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 3, 2010. All comments must include full name and address in order for staff to respond appropriately.

David Tilley, Senior Planner
City of West Sacramento
Community Development Department
1110 West Capitol Avenue, 2nd Floor
West Sacramento, CA 95691
email: davidt@cityofwestsacramento.org

Fax: 916.371.0845

PROJECT LOCATION

The project site consists of approximately 15 acres on formerly used industrial land at 3125 Industrial Boulevard at the Port of West Sacramento (Port) within the city limits of West Sacramento in Yolo County, California. The Port is located approximately 0.5 mile south of U.S. Highway 50 and 1.25 miles west of Interstate 5, and is bounded by Industrial Boulevard to the north and east, the Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel (SDWSC) and turning basin to the south, and Lake Washington to the west. The project site is located in the northwestern portion of the Port facility.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

WCRG is seeking a conditional use permit from the City of West Sacramento and a ground lease from the Port of West Sacramento to construct and operate a scrap metal shredding and recycling facility at the Port. Operations at the facility would include scrap metal sorting and scrap metal shredding, material separation and processing to extract usable material, and stabilization of nonmetallic material to make it useful as sanitary day cover in landfills. The vehicles that are to be shredded on-site will already have been dismantled by other companies to remove vehicle fluids, tires, batteries, and reusable parts. The facility would be a state of the art design, with modern emission controls, and an industrial stormwater system to capture and reuse rainwater. Estimated project cost is \$34 million.

In addition, the City of West Sacramento has applied for an over-the-counter grant from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development Department, and funded by HUD. This grant would fund design and construction of a new main entrance to the Port located on the south side of Industrial Boulevard west of the Port's current main entrance and east of Beacon Boulevard. This new entrance would act as the vehicle access point for the WCRG project and will be evaluated as part of the EIR/EIS.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The West Coast Recycling Group (WCRG) proposes to develop approximately 15 acres at the Port of West Sacramento (Port) in the city of West Sacramento to construct and operate a scrap metal shredding and recycling facility. The project site is on formerly used industrial land at 3125 Industrial Boulevard in Yolo County, California. The Port is located approximately 0.5 mile south of U.S. Highway 50 and 1.25 miles west of Interstate 5, and is bounded by Industrial Boulevard to the north and east, the Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel (SDWSC) and turning basin to the south, and Lake Washington to the west. The project site is located in the northwestern portion of the Port facility.

Much of the approximately 15-acre project site was previously used as a log export yard. A portion of the site is currently being used as a concrete recycling facility. The remainder of the property is currently composed of vacant industrial land and a heavy equipment storage area. Predominant land uses in the vicinity of the project site are industrial. Land uses adjacent to and surrounding the Port include industrial facilities, warehouses, a firehouse, office buildings, and other commercial land uses. Residential land uses are located south and east of the Port.

The project would require a conditional use permit from the City of West Sacramento and a ground lease from the Port of West Sacramento.

Operations at the proposed facility would include scrap metal sorting and scrap metal shredding, material separation and processing to extract usable material, and stabilization of nonmetallic material to make it useful as sanitary day cover in landfills. The vehicles that are to be shredded on-site will already have been dismantled by other companies to remove vehicle fluids, tires, batteries, and reusable parts. The facility would be a state-of-the-art design, with modern emission controls, and an industrial storm water system to capture and reuse rainwater.

A portion of the metal material delivered for shredding at the facility would include retired automobiles or end-of-life vehicles. However, other sources of scrap metal would also be shredded such as appliances, agricultural equipment, and industrial scrap metal. The scrap metal may be bailed or placed into bins for transport. The project includes design and construction of a new main Port entrance from Industrial Boulevard. The new entrance would be located west of the current main entrance at Harbor Boulevard and approximately 350 feet east of the Beacon Drive/Industrial Boulevard intersection (centerline to centerline).

The proposed metal recycling facility would process automobiles and scrap metals through the shredder at an average hourly throughput of 170 gross tons, with a maximum of 220 gross tons per hour. The maximum daily shredder throughput is estimated to be 1,760 gross tons per day. The monthly throughput is estimated to be 25,000 gross tons.

PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The following subject areas will be analyzed in the combined EIS/EIR for probable environmental effects: aesthetics (including light and glare); air quality; biological resources; climate change/greenhouse gases; cultural resources; geology and soils; paleontology; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; land use; noise and vibration; population, employment, and housing; public services; recreation; transportation and traffic; utilities and service systems; environmental justice; cumulative impacts; and growth-inducing impacts.

ALTERNATIVES

Consistent with the requirements of the State CEQA Guidelines §15126.6, and §1502.14 of the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations implementing NEPA, the EIR/EIS will examine a range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed project that are potentially feasible. The alternatives must feasibly attain most of the objectives of the proposed project while also avoiding or substantially lessening at least one of the significant environmental effects of the proposed project. As required by NEPA, the alternatives will be evaluated at the same level of detail as the proposed project. As a result of the scoping and agency consultation efforts conducted to date, the alternatives currently proposed for evaluation in the EIR/EIS include:

1. No Project/Action Alternative. This alternative, required by both CEQA and NEPA, would evaluate the environmental impacts if the proposed project were not constructed and existing operations on the project site were to continue.
2. Proposed Project. This alternative would evaluate the proposed project as described in the Project Description.
3. One or more other alternatives (to be identified). Alternative(s) will be based on input received during the scoping process and feasible project options that could minimize or avoid significant environmental effects. These alternatives may possibly include a reduced project alternative and/or an alternative site, and will be identified during the scoping process.

One of the purposes of the NOI is to solicit input from the public, agencies, Indian tribes, and interested organizations regarding potential alternatives to the proposed project. Therefore, the City welcomes comments during the public scoping process regarding these alternatives or suggestions for other alternatives to be examined in the EIR/EIS.

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

To ensure that the full range of project issues of interest to responsible, trustee, and other agencies and the public are addressed, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Written comments or questions concerning the EIR/EIS should be directed to the City's environmental project manager at the address provided on the first page of this notice by **5:00 p.m. on December 3, 2010**. Please provide the name and address of a contact person who should receive future correspondence regarding the project.