



## Prima Deshecha Landfill Subsequent EIR Public Scoping Meeting – FAQ October 4, 2023

**Q: What is the purpose of this public information meeting?**

**A:** To inform the public about the Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR) process regarding the proposed project to increase the permitted maximum daily tonnage at Prima from 4,000 to 8,000 tons per day, and to provide a public forum to discuss the changes. The public scoping meeting on October 4, 2023 is intended to examine the proposed project early in the EIR environmental analysis/review process. It is intended to identify issues pertinent to the proposed project. OCWR is accepting public input at this meeting regarding the proposed project and range of environmental topics that should be analyzed in the preparation of the Subsequent EIR. It also offers an opportunity to connect with OC Waste & Recycling (OCWR) team members with any questions.

**Q: What is the Project?**

**A:** The proposed Project would increase the permitted daily maximum tonnage of waste received at the Landfill from 4,000 tons per day (TPD) to 8,000 TPD. Waste would continue to be disposed of in existing areas of the Landfill that are designated for disposal. The proposed Project would also allow for up to 36 operational emergency days on which the 8,000 TPD limit could be exceeded. Such operational emergency days could occur if another OCWR facility is temporarily closed, as a result of a freeway closure or other unforeseen event, necessitating diversion of waste to the Prima Deshecha Landfill.

**Q: Is the landfill expanding?**

**A:** No, the landfill property is not expanding. The changes allowed by the Subsequent EIR will result in increasing the maximum permitted daily tonnage from 4,000 to 8,000 tons per day. The proposed increase would not change the nature or location of approved activities within the Landfill, including the limits of refuse, nor would it alter the footprint, property limits, or configuration of the Landfill.

**Q: Why is an increase in daily tonnage being proposed now?**

**A:** The tonnage increase is being triggered in response to the imminently anticipated closure of the Olinda Alpha Landfill in Brea, which is also owned and operated by OCWR. OCWR operates a landfill system (3 active landfills), with combined capacity serving the entire County of Orange. With the anticipated closure and ramp down of the Olinda Alpha landfill over the next few years, OCWR is planning for shifting tonnage to continue to maintain systemwide capacity to serve County residents by proposing an increase in tonnage at the Prima landfill from 4,000 to 8,000 TPD. Some tonnage from Olinda may also be shifted to the FRB landfill in Irvine.

**Q: What will be analyzed in the Subsequent EIR?**

**A:** In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Subsequent EIR will analyze various environmental topics to determine if the proposed Project will result in substantially worsened or new significant environmental impacts, not previously analyzed in prior environmental documentation for the Prima Deshecha General Development Plan. Based on the Initial Study (IS) completed for the proposed Project, OCWR has determined that the proposed Project could result in potentially significant adverse impacts related to *air quality, greenhouse gases, energy, hazards and hazardous materials, transportation, and noise*. These topics will be further analyzed in the Subsequent EIR. Mitigation measures will be developed and included in the SEIR, if necessary, to reduce potentially significant adverse impacts associated with implementation of the proposed Project.

**Q: What opportunities will the public have to provide comments on this project? Where can I review the Subsequent EIR?**



**A:** There will be several opportunities for the public to review and comment on this project through the CEQA process. From September 27 – October 27, 2023, OCWR will release the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Subsequent EIR and Initial Study (IS), for a 30-day public review period. The NOP and IS documentation will provide an initial analysis that indicates which environmental topics will be studied further in the Subsequent EIR and which environmental topics do not require additional analysis. The NOP and IS will be posted on OCWR's website at [oceanfills.com/PrimaSEIRtonnage](https://oceanfills.com/PrimaSEIRtonnage). During the NOP review period, the public is invited to provide written substantive comments on the range of environmental topics that should further be assessed in the preparation of the draft Subsequent EIR. The public will have the opportunity to comment either directly during the public information meeting on October 4, 2023, or submit written substantive comments to Aimee Halligan, OC Waste & Recycling, 601 North Ross Street, 5th Floor, Santa Ana, CA 92701 or via email to [aimee.halligan@ocwr.ocgov.com](mailto:aimee.halligan@ocwr.ocgov.com). Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on October 27, 2023, the close of the public review period. Please include your name, address, and contact information in your correspondence.

In mid-2024, OCWR expects the Draft Subsequent EIR to be ready to be released. At that time, OCWR will issue a Notice of Availability (NOA) of draft Subsequent EIR, and the document will be circulated for a mandatory 45-day public review period. This document will also be posted on the OCWR website at [oceanfills.com/PrimaSEIRtonnage](https://oceanfills.com/PrimaSEIRtonnage). The Final Subsequent EIR will include responses to substantive comments received during this review period. Finally, once the Final Subsequent EIR is completed, a public hearing will be held at the Orange County Board of Supervisors regularly scheduled Board meeting date when the item will be considered for approval. Anyone requesting advanced notification will be notified in advance of these public meetings. Both public hearing notices will also be placed on the OCWR website listed above. If you have any questions, please contact Aimee Halligan, OCWR CEQA Manager, at [Aimee.Halligan@ocwr.ocgov.com](mailto:Aimee.Halligan@ocwr.ocgov.com).

**Q: I have a general question or complaint about the landfill who do I contact?**

**A: General/odor:** For general questions or concerns or odor or dust complaints, you may contact OCWR at [primanotice@ocwr.ocgov.com](mailto:primanotice@ocwr.ocgov.com). OCWR investigates and responds to all complaints received.

**Litter:** Litter control crews are regularly dispatched from the County (OC Public Works) to remove litter from Avenida La Pata. All waste hauling vehicles that visit the landfill are required to be covered per CA Vehicle Code (CVC); this is regulated by the local Police Department and CHP. For any problems including complaints about litter at Prima, send OCWR an email at [primanotice@ocwr.ocgov.com](mailto:primanotice@ocwr.ocgov.com). The public can also submit a complaint to CHP at: [chp.ca.gov/notify-chp/commend-or-complain](https://chp.ca.gov/notify-chp/commend-or-complain) or to Orange County Public Works (OCPW) at [myoceservices.ocgov.com/ServiceRequest](https://myoceservices.ocgov.com/ServiceRequest)

**Noise:** You may contact OCWR at [primanotice.ocwr.ocgov.com](https://primanotice.ocwr.ocgov.com) regarding noise concerns at Prima. Note that Camp Pendleton periodically conducts ammunitions and training exercises which may be heard by residents. Camp Pendleton noise advisories can be found at: [pendleton.marines.mil/Main-Menu/Base-Information/Noise-Advisory/](https://pendleton.marines.mil/Main-Menu/Base-Information/Noise-Advisory/)

**Tours:** You can learn about landfill tours by visiting <https://oceanfills.com/landfills/landfill-tours>. Tours can be scheduled by contacting OCWR at [ocwrlandfill@ocwr.ocgov.com](mailto:ocwrlandfill@ocwr.ocgov.com).

