

Frank R. Bowerman Landfill - Mitigated Negative Declaration Public Information FAQ

Q: What is the project (Project)?

A: Bowerman Power (BP) is working with OC Waste & Recycling (OCWR) to develop the proposed Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) Plant at Frank R. Bowerman (FRB) Landfill to process landfill gas (LFG) into RNG and deliver the produced RNG to SoCalGas to benefit Orange County residents.

Q: What is Renewable Natural Gas (RNG)?

A. RNG is a term used to describe biogas that has been upgraded for use in place of fossil natural gas. LFG generated from organic waste and collected by the FRB landfill is used by BP to produce RNG.

Q. What is the benefit of this facility?

A:_The Project will divert the portion of LFG currently being flared and process it into RNG that will supply the SoCalGas pipeline. This effort will promote the beneficial use of existing and future LFG collected by FRB Landfill to help reduce Orange County's reliance on fossil fuels and support long-term sustainability goals in the region. Additionally, the Project will contribute to the California Public Utility Commission's Renewable Gas Program to procure RNG made from LFG, reduce the volume of LFG being flared, and help reduce on-site greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with flaring.

Q: Where will the proposed Bowerman Power RNG Plant Project be located?

A: The proposed Bowerman Power RNG Plant Project is co-located within the FRB Landfill, and the specific address is 11006 Bee Canyon Access Road, Irvine, CA 92602.

Q: Is the landfill expanding?

A: The proposed RNG plant will be located entirely within the existing landfill property. The proposed project will not change the nature or location of approved activities within the Landfill, including the limits of refuse, nor will it alter the footprint, property limits or configuration of the Landfill.

Q: Why is there methane gas in the landfill?

A: Landfill gas (LFG) is a natural byproduct of the decomposition of organic material in landfills and is composed of 50 percent methane. This LFG is extracted from the landfill using a network of collection pipes, wells and blower systems. The blower system draws the methane into the pipes, where it is conveyed to the onsite Bowerman power plant and converted into renewable electrical energy or flared when the powerplant is offline. When the powerplant reaches its full operational capacity, approximately 30 percent of the collected LFG is then routed to the flares for incineration, as mandated by air quality regulations. Producing RNG from this excess LFG maximizes its beneficial use as compared to the less productive alternative of flaring. The proposed project is intended to minimize the need to incinerate LFG at the flare station and instead direct transport the LFG derived RNG to SoCalGas' existing natural gas pipeline system and allow Orange County customers to then utilize the RNG. This process reduces the use of non-renewable resources, such as coal, oil or natural gas. In addition, the facility will be subject to the same rigorous regulations and safety measures that are currently in place for the Bowerman Power Plant and the landfill flare station.

Q: What opportunities will the public have to provide comments on this project? Where can I review the CEQA document for this project?

A: The revised Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) will be available on the OCWR website at oclandfills.com/bp-rng-ceqa; at OCWR located at 601 N. Ross Street, 5th Floor, Santa Ana, California, 92701; at Irvine Heritage Park Library, 14361 Yale Avenue, Irvine, CA 92604 and at FRB Landfill. OCWR invites the public to provide comments on only the revised portions of the document during the public review period from September 2 – October 1, 2025.

Q: Who will approve the project?

A: Final approval will be decided by the Orange County Board of Supervisors, with a target timeline for a public hearing in December 2025.

Q: How can I submit a comment regarding the new Recirculated Focused Draft of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration?

A: Orange County residents may submit comments in the following ways:

- By Email: Send your comment to ocwr-ceqareview@ocwr.ocgov.com
- By Mail: Orange County Waste & Recycling (OCWR), 601 N. Ross Street, 5th Floor, Santa Ana, CA 92701; must be postmarked by 10/1/2025.

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

A: Specific contacts and online links:

- For general questions, concerns, odor or dust complaints, residents should use the Neighborhood Support Portal (NSP) https://ocwrnsp.ocgov.com/Concern OCWR investigates and responds to all complaints.
- Tours: You can learn about landfill tours by visiting https://oclandfills.com/landfills/landfill-tours. Tours can be scheduled by contacting OCWR at ocwrlandfill@ocwr.ocgov.com