Executive Summary

Overview of the EIR Process

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that before a decision can be made to approve a project with potentially significant environmental effects, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared that fully describes the environmental effects of the project. This Final EIR analyzes the construction and operation of the proposed Jess Ranch Compost Facility (Proposed Project).

The EIR is a public information document for use by governmental agencies and the public to identify and evaluate potential environmental consequences of a proposed project, to recommend mitigation measures to lessen or eliminate adverse impacts, and to examine feasible alternatives to the project. The information contained in the EIR is reviewed and considered by the governing agency prior to the ultimate decision to approve, disapprove, or modify the proposed project.

This Final EIR has been prepared on behalf of Alameda County (County) as Lead Agency in conformance with CEQA. Plans for the Proposed Project have proceeded to a degree sufficient for adequate environmental analysis. Accordingly, this Final EIR presents the overall types and levels of activities that Alameda County could anticipate under the Proposed Project and describes their associated environmental impacts. The analyses, where necessary, are based on conservative assumptions that tend to overstate project impacts.

This Final EIR was initially published as a Draft EIR. A Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the Draft EIR was prepared and was sent to responsible and local agencies in order to solicit comments to help determine the scope of the Proposed Project and solicit concerns of the affected public and agencies. After distribution of the NOP, the Draft EIR was then subject to review and comment by the public, as well as responsible and other interested jurisdictions, agencies, and organizations during a 30-day review period which included a public scoping meeting.

Written responses to comments on the Draft EIR were prepared and specified changes to the Draft EIR. A Partial Recirculation Draft EIR was prepared and recirculated for a 45-day public comment period in order to address comments on the Draft EIR. The responses to comments and any changes to the Draft EIR and Partial Recirculated Draft EIR therein specified become the Final EIR.

After reviewing comments from the public and agencies, the Proposed Project was approved by the lead agency and a Final EIR was prepared. The Final EIR determined that significant and unavoidable impacts would occur under the Proposed Project, therefore the County has also prepared a Statement of Overriding Considerations in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15093.

This Final EIR has been prepared in accordance with Sections 15089 and 15132 of the CEQA Guidelines and consists of the Draft EIR (Included as Appendix I); Partial Recirculation Document (included as Appendix J); and the Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Plan (included as Appendix K). Consistent with the requirements of CEQA

and Section 15088 of the CEQA Guidelines, a reasoned response to all comments on the environmental issues raised on the Draft EIR are provided in this Final EIR (see Section 1.4).

Responses are not required on comments regarding the merits of the Proposed Project or on the issues not relates to the Proposed Project's environmental impacts. Section 15088(c) of the CEQA Guidelines states that the level of detail contained in the response may correspond to the level of detail provided in the comment (i.e. responses to general comments may be general). A general response may be appropriate when a comment does not contain or specifically refer to readily available information or does not explain the relevance of evidence submitted with the comment.

For clarity, all remaining text changes in this Final EIR (when compared to the Draft EIR) are shown with an underline for additions and strikethrough for deletions. These text changes reflect both edits in response to comments received on the Draft EIR as well as staff-initiated text changes.

Proposed Project

The owners of Jess Ranch (ranch), Joe and Connie Jess are the applicants for the Proposed Project located in eastern Alameda County, California. The Proposed Project would be located within the 160-acre Jess Ranch property located south of Interstate 580 (I-580) at 15850 Jess Ranch Road (APN 99B-7800-007-08).

The owners have been operating the ranch since 1969 and became owners in 1973. Like much of the Altamont area, the 160-acre ranch has historically been used as a cattle grazing operation. The current primary use of the ranch is for cattle grazing and breeding. Due to the arid nature of this part of the County, the owners have previously brought in biosolids to apply to the grassland. Biosolids applications have since been discontinued.

The Project is being proposed in response to a series of county and state mandates to increase solid waste and organics diversion from landfills. Targets were established under Senate Bill (SB) 1383 to achieve a 50 percent reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020 and 75 percent reduction by 2025. Because compostable organic materials comprise a large portion of the waste stream, and because organics diversion is critical to achieving statewide organic waste reduction goals and a countywide 75 percent landfill waste diversion goal, the Alameda County Waste Management Authority (ACWMA) and the Alameda County Source Reduction and Recycling Board have targeted organic materials for diversion from landfills and have policies and goals to develop composting capacity in Alameda County.

Currently, a major portion of Alameda County's potential composting feedstock is being transported out of County to composting facilities such as the Recology Blossom Valley Organics North facility located in Vernalis (San Joaquin County), the Newby Island Landfill composting facility located in Milpitas (Santa Clara County), and the Redwood Landfill composting facility located in Marin County. According to the Alameda County Integrated Waste Management Plan, approximately 20 percent of organics in Alameda County are currently in the waste stream (ACWMA 2020. It is anticipated that a portion of the feedstock supplying the Proposed Project would come from Alameda County.

Organic feedstocks would also likely come from other Bay Area counties and the Central Valley.

The Proposed Project is located in the eastern portion of unincorporated Alameda County. San Joaquin County and the Central Valley is immediately to the east. As such, the Project site is conveniently located close to the organic waste generating communities of the Bay Area and the potential agricultural soils amendment markets of the Central Valley. The location and design of the Proposed Project have been chosen to serve the anticipated market areas—primarily agricultural uses in the Central Valley — while minimizing the potential for aesthetic concerns, odors and similar effects in residential areas.

The Proposed Project would receive and process organic materials, primarily greenwaste, food waste, and biosolids, but may also receive untreated scrap wood, natural fiber products, non-recyclable paper waste, and inert material, such as sediment, gypsum, wood ash, and clean construction debris. Non-hazardous liquid wastes may also be accepted for use in moisture conditioning of the compost piles. The Proposed Project would process organic material utilizing an aerated static pile (ASP) system with positive or negative aeration or a combination of both. The Proposed Project would be developed in two phases, with Phase 1 supporting a daily throughput of up to 500 tons per day (TPD) and Phase 2 developing the facility to full build out for a maximum of 1,000 TPD. The proposed Project will receive organic materials and produce compost-based soil amendments for agricultural, horticultural, erosion control and land reclamation uses.

Summary of Alternatives

The County considered alternatives to the Proposed Project evaluated in this Final EIR, including the use of alternate composting technologies for processing and disposal of organic material. The alternatives analyzed for the Proposed Project focus on reducing or avoiding identified significant environmental impacts. In addition to the Proposed Project, the County evaluated the No Project Alternative, an enclosed In-Building Technology Alternative, and Reduced Project Size Alternative.

Under the No Project Alternative, an in-county composting facility would not be developed, but the other elements of the County's waste reduction and diversion programs would continue. However, it is likely that the long-range goal of 75 percent and greater diversion (County General Plan) could not be met in the absence of an in-county composting facility. Compostable materials would continue to be processed by out-of-county facilities, which would require longer hauling distances and greater traffic impacts. Furthermore, exporting compostable organics out-of-county would preclude the assurance of a long-term, cost-effective, and reliable in-county facility.

The In-Building Technology Alternative assumes development of a compost facility at the Project site, but rather than composting organic materials in conventional windrows or aerobic static piles outdoors through the entire composting process, the initial active composting phase (i.e., the first few weeks of decomposition) all composting activities would be conducted in an enclosed structure. To enclose all of the composting operations at the proposed composting site, a building would need to be more than 10 acres in size, or 500,000 square feet. Alameda County's East County Area Plan restricts

building sizes and areas where buildings can be located on agricultural parcels. The Project site is designated Large Parcel Agriculture, which restricts the building size to a floor area ratio (FAR) of 0.01 of parcel square footage and the building(s) must be located in a contiguous 2-acre development envelope. Based on a FAR of 0.01 and the site parcel consisting of 123.19 acres, the maximum building size allowable on the Project site would be approximately 54,000 square feet, which limits the feasibility of this alternative.

The Reduced Project Size Alternative assumes that the Project would process an average of 500 tons per day of organic waste. Construction of the Reduced Project Size Alternative would occur as was described for Phase 1 of the Proposed Project; however, the Reduced Project Size Alternative would not progress into Phase 2 (full build-out) as is described in Section 2.2.4, Construction of the Proposed Project. While some impacts on resources would be less under the Reduced Project Size Alterative, this alternative is not consistent with the Project need and objectives of assisting Alameda County and surrounding counties in meaningfully meeting their future diversion goals. The Reduced Project Size Alternative would help Alameda County to meet some of its immediate waste diversion goals; however, it would not support growth in the region, as would the Proposed Project, which could accommodate two times more compost per year at some future time when Phase 2 would be implemented based on County need. A summary comparison of alternatives is included in Table ES-1.

Table ES-1. Summary Comparison of Alternatives

Alternatives	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Reduced Project Size Alternative
Does alternative meet Project objectives?	Yes	No	No
Aesthetics			
Impact AES-1: Permanent alteration of the visual character and quality of the Proposed Project area	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure AES-1: Provide visual screening of Project facilities.	X	—	X
Impact AES-2: Introduction of new sources of light and glare at the site	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure AES-2: Reduce light and glare effects.	X	—	X
Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases			
Impact AQ-1: Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan	SU	NI	SU
Impact AQ-2: Violate any air quality standard or contribute significantly to an existing or projected air quality violation	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure AQ-1: Implement BAAQMD's Basic Construction Mitigation Measures.	X	—	X
Mitigation Measure AQ-2: Use Tier 2 or better equipment.	X	—	X
Mitigation Measure AQ-3: Composting control measures.	X	—	X
Impact AQ-3: Result in a cumulative net increase of any nonattainment pollutant (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)	SU	NI	SU
Impact AQ-4: Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact AQ-5: Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact AQ-6: Generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact AQ-7: Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs	LTS	NI	LTS

Alternatives	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Reduced Project Size Alternative
Biological Resources			
Impact BIO-1: Impacts on candidate, sensitive, or special-status species.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measures BIO-1 to BIO-36 (see Table 4-2)	X	—	X
Impact BIO-2: Impacts on riparian, aquatic or wetland habitat, or other sensitive natural community.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measures BIO-1 to BIO-36 (see Table 4-2)	X	—	X
Mitigation Measure BIO-36: Provide mitigation for permanent impacts on sensitive communities at a minimum 1:1 ratio.	X	—	X
Impact BIO-3: Impacts on state and/or federally protected wetlands.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measures BIO-1 to BIO-36 (see Table 4-2)	X	—	X
Impact BIO-4: Impacts on wildlife movement.	NI	NI	NI
Impact BIO-5: Conflict with local policies and ordinances.	NI	NI	NI
Impact BIO-6: Conflict with conservation plans.	NI	NI	NI
Cultural Resources			
Impact CR-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical or archaeological resource.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure CR-1: Halt construction activities if any cultural materials are discovered.	X	—	X
Impact CR-2: Disturb human remains.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure CR-2: Halt construction activities if any human remains are discovered.	X	—	X
Energy			
Impact ENRG-1: Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy, or wasteful use of energy resources, during Project construction or operation.	LTS	NI	LTS

Alternatives	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Reduced Project Size Alternative
Impact ENRG-2: Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.	LTS	NI	LTS
Geology and Seismicity			
Impact GEO-1: Structures, facilities, and workers could be subject to seismic hazards.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact GEO-2: Project construction activities could result in soil erosion or loss of top soil.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact GEO-3: Structures and facilities could be subject to damage related to shrink-swell potential and/or settlements of site soils.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure GEO-1: Perform geotechnical investigation and reporting.	X	—	X
Impact GEO-4: Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure GEO-2: Follow the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Standard Procedures for the Assessment and Mitigation of Adverse Impacts on Paleontological Resources.	X	—	X
Impact GEO-5: Damage to structures, pavements, and/or utilities at the compost facility site if cut and fill slopes fail, resulting in landsliding.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure GEO-3: Perform geotechnical investigation for slope stability.	X	—	X
Hazards and Human Health			
Impact HAZ-1: Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials during construction and operation.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact HAZ-2: Construction and operation of the Proposed Project could create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact HAZ-3: Composting facility workers and end users of compost could be exposed to chemical contaminants and/or pathogens potentially present in compost feedstocks.	LTSM	NI	LTS
Mitigation Measure HAZ-1: Prepare and implement screening, monitoring, testing, and training procedures.	X	—	X

Alternatives	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Reduced Project Size Alternative
Impact HAZ-4: Composting facility workers could suffer health effects as a result of exposure to bioaerosols.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure HAZ-2: Provide worker training and protective equipment.	X	—	X
Impact HAZ-5: Composting operations may attract vectors, which may pose a health risk to facility workers and the general public.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure HAZ-3: Prepare a Vector Control Plan.	X	—	X
Impact HAZ-6: Composting operations may expose workers, residents, and structures to increased fire hazards.	LTS	NI	LTS
Hydrology and Water Quality			
Impact HWQ-1: Degradation of water quality during construction and operation.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure HWQ-1: Prepare and implement a SWPPP.	X	—	X
Impact HWQ-2: Degradation of groundwater quality during operation.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact HWQ-3: Alteration of the existing drainage pattern of the site.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact HWQ-4: Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge.	LTS	NI	LTS
Land Use and Agriculture			
Impact LU-1: Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact LU-2: Conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use.	LTS	NI	LTS
Noise			
Impact NO-1: Substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity during construction.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact NO-2: Substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity due to operations at the compost facility.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact NO-3: Substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity due to traffic volume associated with the project.	LTS	NI	LTS

Alternatives	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Reduced Project Size Alternative
Impact NO-4: Generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels.	LTS	NI	LTS
Public Services and Utilities			
Impact PSU-1: Increase demand for police and fire protection and emergency medical services.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact PSU-2: Require a sufficient water supply to serve the Project site.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact PSU-3: Generate wastewater requiring treatment.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact PSU-4: Generate stormwater drainage requiring the construction of drainage facilities.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact PSU-5: Generate solid waste requiring landfill disposal.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact PSU-6: Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities.	LTS	NI	LTS
Transportation and Circulation			
Impact TRANS-1: Increase in traffic on local roadways during construction.	LTS	NI	LTS
Impact TRANS-2: Increase in traffic on local roadways during operation.	LTS	NI	LTS
Tribal Cultural Resources			
Impact TCR-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource.	LTSM	NI	LTSM
Mitigation Measure TCR-1: Implement Mitigation Measures CR-1 and CR-2.	X	_	X

Notes: NI = no impact; LTS = less than significant; LTSM = less than significant with mitigation incorporated; SU = significant and unavoidable
The In-Building Composting Alternative is not included in this table because it was eliminated from consideration due to infeasibility of construction resulting from sizing requirements that would not meet County zoning restrictions, much higher cost, and increased impacts on various resources. See Section 4.2.2 for discussion.

Table of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impacts identified in this Final EIR are summarized in Table ES-2 below. For potentially significant impacts, mitigation measures are identified where feasible to reduce impacts to a less-than-significant level. Refer to Chapter 3, Environmental Setting and Impact Analysis, for a detailed discussion of impacts and mitigation measures.

Table ES-2. Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact	Level of Significance	Mitigation Measure
3.3 Aesthetics		
Impact AES-1: Permanent Alteration of the Visual Character and Quality of the Proposed Project Area	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure AES-1: Provide visual screening of Project facilities.
Impact AES-2: Introduction of New Sources of Light and Glare at the Site	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure AES-2: Reduce light and glare effects.
3.4 Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases		
Impact AQ-1: Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan	Significant and Unavoidable	None; impact would remain significant and unavoidable
Impact AQ-2: Violate any air quality standard or contribute significantly to an existing or projected air quality violation	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure AQ-1: Implement BAAQMD's Basic Construction Mitigation Measures Mitigation Measure AQ-2: Use of Tier 2 or Better Equipment Mitigation Measure AQ-3: Composting Control Measures
Impact AQ-3: Result in a cumulative net increase of any nonattainment pollutant (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)	Significant and Unavoidable	None; impact would remain significant and unavoidable
Impact AQ-4: Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations	Less than Significant	None required
Impact AQ-5: Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people	Less than Significant	None required
Impact AQ-6: Generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment	Less than Significant	None required
Impact AQ-7: Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reduction the emissions of GHG	Less than Significant	None required
3.5 Biological Resources		
Impact BIO-1: Impacts on Candidate, Sensitive, or Special-Status Species	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Conduct pre-construction surveys and implement avoidance and minimization measures for special-status plant species. Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Conduct environmental tailboard trainings.

Table ES-2. Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact	Level of Significance	Mitigation Measure
		Mitigation Measure BIO-3: Obligate all contractors to comply with EACCS AMMs Mitigation Measure BIO-4: Hire a qualified biological monitor to remain onsite during all construction activities in or adjacent to habitat for special status species. Mitigation Measure BIO-5: Delineate construction area to prevent encroachment of construction personnel and equipment outside of the construction area. Mitigation Measure BIO-6: Prevent nighttime construction. Mitigation Measure BIO-7: Restrict grading to the minimum area necessary and limit grading to the dry season. Mitigation Measure BIO-8: Prevent earth-moving-activities in riparian areas within 24 hours of predicted storms or after major storms. Mitigation Measure BIO-9: Store and inspect pipes, culverts and similar materials greater than four inches in diameter to prevent covered wildlife species from using these as temporary refuges. Mitigation Measure BIO-10: Erosion control measures Mitigation Measure BIO-11: Remove all vegetation which obscures the observation of wildlife movement prior to the initiation of grading. Mitigation Measure BIO-12: Place all trash and debris from work area in containers with secure lids. Mitigation Measure BIO-13: Stockpile material in order to avoid effects to covered species. Mitigation Measure BIO-14: Cover excavated holes and trenches deeper than 6 inches at the end of each workday with plywood or similar materials. Mitigation Measure BIO-15: Prevent trash dumping, firearms, open fires, hunting and pets at or near work sites. Mitigation Measure BIO-16: Park vehicles on pavement, existing roads, and previously disturbed areas. Mitigation Measure BIO-17: Minimize off-road vehicle travel. Mitigation Measure BIO-18: Set speed limit on unpaved roads, within natural land-cover types, or during off-road travel. Mitigation Measure BIO-19: Prohibit refueling of vehicles within 100 feet of a wetland, stream, or other waterway. Mitigation Measure BIO-20: Wash vehicles only at approved areas, outside of job sites. Mitigation Measure BIO-21: Discourage the introduction and establishment of invasive plant species.

Table ES-2. Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact	Level of Significance	Mitigation Measure
		Mitigation Measure BIO-22: Restore all exposed and/or disturbed areas resulting from project-related activities to their original contour and grade using locally native grass and forb seeds, plugs or a mix of the two. Mitigation Measure BIO-23: Translocation of special-status species. Mitigation Measure BIO-24: Hire a qualified botanist to perform focused surveys to determine the presence/absence of special status plant species in the project area. Mitigation Measure BIO-25: Avoid state listed, federally listed, and/or CNPS List 1 or CNPS List 2 plant species found within 100 feet of the project area. Mitigation Measure BIO-26: Hire a qualified biologist to survey the work site immediately prior to construction activities. Mitigation Measure BIO-27: Use bare hands to capture California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, California glossy snake, and/or San Joaquin coachwhip. Mitigation Measure BIO-28: Hire a qualified biologist to stake and flag an exclusion zone prior to ground disturbing activities if these activities would occur within the typical dispersal distance and/or within 500 feet of suitable aquatic habitat for California red-legged frogs and California tiger salamanders. Mitigation Measure BIO-29: Provide mitigation for permanent impacts on California red-legged frog and California tiger salamander habitat at a minimum 3:1 ratio. Mitigation Measure BIO-30: Hire a qualified biologist to conduct preconstruction surveys to identify active migratory bird and/or raptor nests if construction activities would occur during the migratory bird nesting season. Mitigation Measure BIO-31: Conduct work outside of nesting season if an active nest is identified near a proposed work area. Mitigation Measure BIO-32: Hire a qualified biologist to determine if active dens for San Joaquin kit fox and/or American badger occur within 500 feet of the proposed work areas. Mitigation Measure BIO-33: Avoid disturbance and destruction to dens. Mitigation Measure BIO-34: Implement exclusion zones following current USFWS procedures or the latest USFES procedures available at the time. Mitigation Measure BIO-35: Provide mitigation for permanent impacts on San Joaquin kit fox habitat at a minimum 3:1 ratio.
Impact BIO-2: Impacts on Riparian, Aquatic or Wetland Habitat, or other Sensitive Natural Community	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure BIO-1 through Mitigation Measure BIO-35 (described above).

Table ES-2. Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact	Level of Significance	Mitigation Measure
		Mitigation Measure BIO-36: Provide mitigation for permanent impacts on sensitive communities at a minimum 1:1 ratio.
Impact BIO-3: Impacts on State and/or Federally Protected Wetlands	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure BIO-1 through Mitigation Measure BIO-36 (described above).
Impact BIO-4: Impacts on Wildlife Movement	No Impact	None required
Impact BIO-5: Conflict with Local Policies and Ordinances	No Impact	None required
Impact BIO-6: Conflict with Conservation Plans	No Impact	None required
3.6 Cultural Resources		
Impact CR-1: Cause a Substantial Adverse Change in the Significance of a Historical or Archaeological Resource	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure CR-1: Halt Construction Activities if Any Cultural Materials Are Discovered.
Impact CR-2: Disturb Human Remains	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure CR-2: Halt Construction Activities if Any Human Remains Are Discovered.
3.7 Energy		
Impact ENRG-1: Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy, or wasteful use of energy resources, during Project construction or operation	Less than Significant	None required
Impact ENRG-2: Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency	Less than Significant	None required
3.8 Geology and Seismicity		
Impact GEO-1: Structures, facilities, and workers could be subject to seismic hazards	Less than Significant	None required
Impact GEO-2: Project construction activities could result in soil erosion or loss of top soil	Less than Significant	None required

Table ES-2. Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact	Level of Significance	Mitigation Measure
Impact GEO-3: Structures and facilities could be subject to damage related to shrink-swell potential and/or settlements of site soils	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure GEO-1: Perform geotechnical investigation and reporting
Impact GEO-4: Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure GEO-2: Follow the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Standard Procedures for the Assessment and Mitigation of Adverse Impacts on Paleontological Resources
Impact GEO-5: Damage to structures, pavements, and/or utilities could occur at the compost facility site if cut and fill slopes failed, resulting in landsliding.	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure GEO-3: Perform geotechnical investigation for slope stability
3.9 Hazards and Human Health		
Impact HAZ-1: Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials during construction and operation	Less than Significant	None required
Impact HAZ-2: Construction and operation of the Proposed Project could create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment	Less than Significant	None required
Impact HAZ-3: Composting facility workers and end users of compost could be exposed to chemical contaminants and/or pathogens potentially present in compost feedstocks	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure HAZ-1: Prepare and implement screening, monitoring, testing, and training procedures
Impact HAZ-4: Composting facility workers could suffer health effects as a result of exposure to bioaerosols	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure HAZ-2: Provide worker training and protective equipment
Impact HAZ-5: Composting operations may attract vectors, which may pose a health risk to facility workers and the general public	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure HAZ-3: Prepare a Vector Control Plan

Table ES-2. Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact	Level of Significance	Mitigation Measure
Impact HAZ-6: Composting operations may expose workers, residents, and structures to increased fire hazards	Less than Significant	None required
3.10 Hydrology and Water Quality		
Impact HWQ-1: Degradation of water quality during Construction and Operation	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure HWQ-1: Prepare and implement a SWPPP
Impact HWQ-2: Degradation of Groundwater Quality during Operation	Less than Significant	None required
Impact HWQ-3: Alteration of the Existing Drainage Pattern of the Site	Less than Significant	None required
Impact HWQ-4: Substantially Decrease Groundwater Supplies or Interfere Substantially with Groundwater Recharge	Less than Significant	None required
3.11 Land Use and Agriculture		
Impact LU-1: Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract	Less than Significant	None required
Impact LU-2: Conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use	Less than Significant	None required
3.12 Noise		
Impact NO-1: Substantial Temporary or Periodic Increase in Ambient Noise Levels in the Project Vicinity during Construction	Less than Significant	None required
Impact NO-2: Substantial Permanent Increase in Ambient Noise Levels in the Project Vicinity due to Operations at the Compost Facility	Less than Significant	None required
Impact NO-3: Substantial Permanent Increase in Ambient Noise Levels in the Project Vicinity due to Traffic Volume Associated with the Project	Less than Significant	None required
Impact NO-4: Generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels	Less than Significant	None required

Table ES-2. Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact	Level of Significance	Mitigation Measure
3.13 Public Services and Utilities		
Impact PSU-1: Increase demand for police and fire protection and emergency medical services	Less than Significant	None required
Impact PSU-2: Require a sufficient water supply to serve the Project site	Less than Significant	None required
Impact PSU-3: Generate wastewater requiring treatment	Less than Significant	None required
Impact PSU-4: Generate stormwater drainage requiring the construction of drainage facilities	Less than Significant	None required
Impact PSU-5: Generate solid waste requiring landfill disposal	Less than Significant	None required
Impact PSU-6: Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities	Less than Significant	None required
3.14 Transportation and Circulation		
Impact TRANS-1: Increase in Traffic on Local Roadways during Construction	Less than Significant	None required
Impact TRANS-2: Increase in Traffic on Local Roadways during Operation	Less than Significant	None required
3.15 Tribal Cultural Resources		
Impact TCR-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Mitigation Measure TCR-1: Implement Mitigation Measures CR-1 and CR-2
3.16 Wildfires		
Impact WILD-1: Impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan	No Impact	None required
Impact WILD-2: Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and	No Impact	None required

Table ES-2. Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact	Level of Significance	Mitigation Measure
thereby expose Project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire		
Impact WILD-3: Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts on the environment	No Impact	None required
Impact WILD-4: Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes	No Impact	None required