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JOB F12021

Linda Novick  
Harvest Power  
430 Main St.  
San Francisco, CA 94105-2006

**SUBJECT: Groundwater Extraction  
Tulare Compost Facility  
24487 Road 140  
Tulare County, California**

Dear Linda:

The facility is a compost yard which has occupied nominally 35 acres zoned agricultural. The facility now operates on that zoning using a Conditional Use Permit for 500 tons per day (tpd) compost. The facility wishes to expand the daily compost tonnage to 1000 tpd but not exceeding 156,000 tons per year. No change to the acreage is proposed. Better equipment allows for more tonnage to be processed on the same acreage. The site has an existing well which fills a 3000 gallon water truck that applies water to the compost for five days a week during normal working hours.

The total number of water truck loads per day for 1000 tpd compost is a maximum of 27 for June through October (5 months, 22 weeks, 5 working days/week, 110 working days). At 3000 gallons per water truck load, the daily gallonage is  $3000 \times 27 = 81,000$  gallons per day;  $81,000$  gallons per day  $\times 110$  working days =  $8,910,000$  gallons total for June through October.

The total number of loads per day for 1000 tons/day is half the maximum  $\frac{1}{2}(27) = 13.5$  for November through May (7 months, 30 weeks, 5 working days/week, 150 working days). At 3000 gallons per load, the daily gallonage is  $3000 \times 13.5 = 40,500$  gallons per day;  $40,500$  gallons per day  $\times 150$  working days =  $6,075,000$  gallons total for November through May.

The total water usage for the year is  $8,910,000 + 6,075,000 = 14,985,000$  gallons, which converts to  $14,985,000 / 7.48 / 43,560 = 46$  acre-feet. The compost yard is 35 acres. So the water usage is  $46 / 35 = 1.3$  feet per acre per year. As crops in this area use up to 3 feet of water per year, I would consider that within a standard agronomic usage for an already agriculturally zoned parcel and consistent with the water usage that would otherwise occur on this parcel if the compost yard did not exist. The compost yard therefore does not draw excessively on the underlying groundwater table.

Please call if you have questions or comments in this regard.



JMM/bf

Respectfully submitted,

*John M. Minney*  
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CE 32537, GE 602, Well Drilling Contractor C-57642035

