APPENDIX 1

COMMENTS RECEIVED AND RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

This section provides a summary of comments received during the public review period for the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Fink Road Landfill In-Fill Project. The public review period for this project was from September 19, 2009 to October 20, 2009. A total of eight (8) letters were received during the public review period. Section A provides a list of all written correspondence received during the public review period; Section B provides a written response to individual comments; and Section C contains a copy of each correspondence that was received.

A. AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE COMMENTED ON THE DRAFT INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND)

- Letter # 1 Stanislaus County, Department of Environmental Resources Solid Waste Management, Vicki Jones, Senior Resource Management Specialist, September 22, 2009.
- <u>Letter # 2</u> Stanislaus County, Department of Agriculture, L. Denton Hoeh, Ag Manager, October 1, 2009.
- <u>Letter # 3</u> Stanislaus County, Building Department, Steve Treat, Interim CBO, October 5, 2009.
- Letter # 4 California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Title 27 Permitting and Mining, William Brattain, P.E., Water Resources Control Engineer, October 6, 2009.
- <u>Letter # 5</u> J.B. Anderson Land Use Planning, Mark Niskanen, Senior Planner, October 13, 2009.
- Letter # 6 San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, David Warner, Director of Permit Services, and Jessica R. Willis for Arnaud Marjollet, Permit Services Manager, October 13, 2009.
- Letter # 7 California Integrated Waste Management Board, Permitting and LEA Support South Branch, Joy Isaacson, October 15, 2009.
- <u>Letter # 8</u> Stanislaus County, Environmental Review Committee, Christine Almen, Senior Management Consultant, October 16, 2009.

B. RESPONSES TO WRITTEN COMMENTS

Response to comments submitted by Stanislaus County, Department of Environmental Resources - Solid Waste Management, Vicki Jones, Senior Resource Management Specialist, September 22, 2009. (Letter # 1).

Response to Comment No. 1A: This letter notes that the Department of Environmental Resources – Solid Waste Management Division has no comments. Therefore, no response is necessary.

Response to comments submitted by Stanislaus County, Department of Agriculture, L. Denton Hoeh, Ag Manager, October 1, 2009. (Letter # 2).

Response to Comment No. 2A: This letter concurs with the findings of the IS/MND that the proposed project would not have a significant impact on the environment. Therefore, no response is necessary.

Response to comments submitted by Stanislaus County, Building Department, Steve Treat, Interim CBO, October 5, 2009. (Letter # 3).

Response to Comment No. 3A: This letter notes that the Building Department has no comments. Therefore, no response is necessary.

Responses to comments submitted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Title 27 Permitting and Mining, William Brattain, P.E., Water Resources Control Engineer, October 6, 2009. (Letter # 4).

Response to Comment No. 4A: This comment does not pertain to the adequacy of the IS/MND. Therefore, no response is necessary.

Response to Comment No. 4B: This comment does not pertain to the adequacy of the IS/MND, however, as requested, the County will submit an amended Report of Waste Discharge as part of an amendment to the landfill's Joint Technical Document and will include all relevant information required by Title 27, California Code of Regulations as noted in this letter.

Responses to comments submitted by J.B. Anderson Land Use Planning, Mark Niskanen, Senior Planner, October 13, 2009. (Letter # 5).

Response to Comment No. 5A: This letter notes that J.B. Anderson Land Use Planning has no comments to provide on behalf of the Del Puerto Health Care District since the project will not increase the demand for public services. Therefore, no response is necessary.

Responses to comments submitted by San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, David Warner, Director of Permit Services, and Jessica R.

Willis for Arnaud Marjollet, Permit Services Manager, October 13, 2009. (Letter # 6).

Response to Comment No. 6A: This comment does not pertain to the adequacy of the IS/MND. Therefore, no response is necessary.

Response to Comment No. 6B: To further support the finding that the project will not have a significant impact as a result of fugitive dust emissions, Section 5.3 Air Resources of the IS/MND is revised as follows and incorporates the following mitigation measures into the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) to control fugitive dust:

Mitigation Measures

The following mitigation measures can be used to help control fugitive dust during the proposed action:

- Monitor dust generating activities and implement appropriate measures for maximum dust control
- Apply water to unpaved surfaces and areas around the site during the construction process
- Limit or reduce vehicle speed on unpaved roads and traffic areas
- Maintain areas in a stabilized condition by restricting vehicle access
- Install wind barriers to limit airborne dust caused by wind
- During high winds, cease outdoor activities that disturb the soil

As part of the construction specifications for the In-Fill Project, Stanislaus County will incorporate the following requirements:

- The contractor(s) shall monitor dust-generating activities and implement including appropriate dust control measures, including applying water to unpaved surfaces and areas around the site during the construction process;
- The contractor(s) shall limit or reduce vehicle speed on unpaved roads and traffic areas; and
- The contractor(s) shall maintain areas in a stabilized condition by restricting vehicle access, and ceasing outdoor activities that disturb the soil during high winds.

Response to Comment No. 6C: Section 5.3 Air Resources is revised to incorporate the following mitigation measure and this measure has been incorporated into the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) to minimize NOx emissions from off road construction equipment emissions:

As part of the construction specifications for the In-Fill Project, Stanislaus County will incorporate a requirement that the contractor(s) incorporate using off-road construction equipment that achieves fleet average emissions equal to or less than the Tier II emissions standard of 4.8 g/hp-hr NOx through a combination of uncontrolled engines and those complying with Tier II and above engine standards.

Responses to comments submitted by California Integrated Waste Management Board, Permitting and LEA Support – South Branch, Joy Isaacson, October 15, 2009. (Letter # 7).

Response to Comment No. 7A: This comment does not pertain to the adequacy of the IS/MND. Therefore, no response is necessary.

Response to Comment No. 7B: This comment does not pertain to the adequacy of the IS/MND. The County would, however, provide notification, as requested, should any significant differences in the project scope and/or description are anticipated.

Response to Comment No. 7C: This comment does not pertain to the adequacy of the IS/MND. Therefore, no response is necessary.

Response to Comment Nos. 7D: This comment does not pertain to the adequacy of the IS/MND. The County acknowledges, however, that an application for a Solid Waste Facility Permit revision will be required and submitted for this project.

Response to Comment No. 7E: This comment does not pertain to the adequacy of the IS/MND. The County acknowledges, however, that any subsequent environmental documents including Notices of Completion, any addendums, and/or copies of public notices pertaining to the Fink Road Landfill have been requested by the Integrated Waste Management Board and will be provided to the agency.

Responses to comments submitted by Stanislaus County, Environmental Review Committee, Christine Almen, Senior Management Consultant, October 16, 2009. (Letter # 8).

Response to Comment No. 8A: These comments do not specifically pertain to the adequacy of the IS/MND. See Response to Comment Nos. 8B-8E.

Response to Comment No. 8B: The Office of the Fire Warden (Fire Prevention Bureau) revised their comments in correspondence dated November 17, 2009, to that of recommendations. These

Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration Fink Road Landfill In-Fill Project December 2009

recommendations were addressed in follow-up correspondence dated December 17, 2009.

Response to Comment No. 8C: The Office of the Fire Warden (Fire Prevention Bureau) revised their comments in correspondence dated November 17, 2009, to that of recommendations. These recommendations were addressed in follow-up correspondence dated December 17, 2009.

Response to Comment Nos. 8D: The Office of the Fire Warden (Fire Prevention Bureau) revised their comments in correspondence dated November 17, 2009, to that of recommendations. These recommendations were addressed in follow-up correspondence dated December 17, 2009.

Response to Comment No. 8E: This comment does not pertain to the adequacy of the IS/MND. The County acknowledges, however, that an encroachment permit must be taken out for any work in a Stanislaus County right-of-way and that Public Works shall approve any traffic control plan that involves a County right-of-way.

C. LETTERS RECEIVED

Copies of the 8 letters that were received during the public review period follow this section.

STANISLAUS COUNTY CEQA REFERRAL RESPONSE FORM

TO:	Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources Attn: Ms. Jami Aggers, Assistant Director 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C Modesto, CA 95358	
FROM:	Stanislaus County DER - Solid Waste Manageme	n
PROJECT:	Fink Road Landfill In-Fill Project	
Based on this	agency's particular field(s) of expertise, it is our position the above described project:	1
<u> </u>	Will not have a significant effect on the environment. May have a significant effect on the environment. No Comments.	1.
Listed below capacity, soil to 1. 2. 3.	are specific impacts which support our determination (e.g., traffic general, carrying ypes, air quality, etc.) - (attach additional sheet if necessary)	
INCLUDE WH	are possible mitigation measures for the above-listed impacts PLEASE BE SURE TO IEN THE MITIGATION OR CONDITION NEEDS TO BE IMPLEMENTED (PRIOR TO A MAP, PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT, ETC.):	•
4. In addition, ou	r agency has the following comments (attach additional sheets if necessary).	
Response pre	pared by:	
Vicki Name	Tones Sr. Resource Management 9/22/09 Title Specialist Date	

2A

STANISLAUS COUNTY CEQA REFERRAL RESPONSE FORM

10.	Attn: Ms. Jami Aggers, Assistant Director 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C Modesto, CA 95358		
FROM:	Stanislaus County Department of Agriculture	·	
PROJECT:	Fink Road Landfill In-Fill Project		_
Based on this	s agency's particular field(s) of expertise, it is our position	on the above described project	et:
<u>×</u>	Will not have a significant effect on the environment. May have a significant effect on the environment. No Comments.		
capacity, soil	are specific impacts which support our determination types, air quality, etc.) - (attach additional sheet if necessity)	n (e.g., traffic general, carry ssary)	/ing
1. 2. 3. 4			20 20 33
INCLUDE WI	are possible mitigation measures for the above-listed HEN THE MITIGATION OR CONDITION NEEDS TO I G A MAP, PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PER	BE IMPLEMENTED (PRIOR	TO. TO -
2. 3. 4.			
In addition, oເ	ur agency has the following comments (attach additiona	al sheets if necessary).	
Stanislaus Co rather than ex	ounty Department of Agriculture supports projects that uxpansion into properties zoned for agriculture.	use in-fill measures	
Response pre	epared by:		
1. Ju Name	ten Holh Ag Manager Title	/0-1-09 Date	_

3A

Date

STANISLAUS COUNTY **CEQA REFERRAL RESPONSE FORM**

TO:	Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources Attn: Ms. Jami Aggers, Assistant Director 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C Modesto, CA 95358
FROM:	<u></u>
PROJECT:	Fink Road Landfill In-Fill Project
Based on this	agency's particular field(s) of expertise, it is our position the above described project:
	_Will not have a significant effect on the environment. May have a significant effect on the environment. No Comments.
Listed below capacity, soil to 1. 2. 3.	are specific impacts which support our determination (e.g., traffic general, carrying ypes, air quality, etc.) - (attach additional sheet if necessary) A
INCLUDE WE	are possible mitigation measures for the above-listed impacts PLEASE BE SURE TO IEN THE MITIGATION OR CONDITION NEEDS TO BE IMPLEMENTED (PRIOR TO A MAP, PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT, ETC.):
4 ′	
No Co	r agency has the following comments (attach additional sheets if necessary).
Response pre	pared by:
Marie	Тителіп С.ВО. 10-5-09 Title Date
Name	Title Date



California legional Water Quality Cor ol Board Central Valley Region

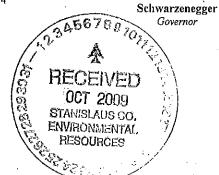
Karl E. Longley, ScD, P.E., Chair

LETTER #4

11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114 Phone (916) 464-3291 • FAX (916) 464-4645 http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley

6 October 2009

Jami Aggers, Assistant Director Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C Modesto, CA 95358-9494



COMMENTS ON INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, FINK ROAD LANDFILL IN-FILL PROJECT, STANISLAUS COUNTY, SCH #2009092057

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board staff has reviewed the September 2009 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Fink Road Landfill In-Fill Project in Stanislaus County. The proposed project is to conduct landfilling in areas within the previously approved landfill footprint that are not being used for refuse disposal, and to increase the final height of the landfill by 160 feet. The purpose of the project is to extend the life of the landfill by 10 to 20 years without increasing the landfill footprint.

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The project will require that Stanislaus County submit an amended Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) as part of an amendment to the landfill's Joint Technical Document (JTD). The RWD/JTD will need to include all relevant information required by Title 27, California Code of Regulations (Title 27) including, but not limited to:

- 1. An updated preliminary closure plan and closure cost estimate pursuant to Title 27, Sections 21750(i) and 21790.
- 2. An updated stability analysis pursuant to Title 27, Section 21750(f)(5).
- 3. Information regarding proposed liner construction in the in-fill areas including proposed phases of construction and tie in with existing liner systems.
- 4. Information regarding the existing liner system's (LCRS piping, etc.) ability to accommodate the proposed increased height and weight of the waste.

If you have any questions, please call me at (916) 464-4622.

WILLIAM BRATTAIN, P.E.

Water Resources Control Engineer

Title 27 Permitting and Mining

cc list: see next page

California Environmental Protection Agency



cc: State Clearinghouse, Sacramento
Troy Weber, California Integrated Waste Management Board, Sacramento
John Oad, Stanislaus County Environmental Health, Modesto



LAND USE PLANNING

139 S. Stockton Avenue, Ripon, CA 95366

Phone: (209) 599-8377

Fax (209) 599-8399

October 13, 2009

Ms. Jami Aggers
Assistant Director
Department of Environmental Resources
Stanislaus County
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C
Modesto, California 95358



Subject:

CEQA Referral: Initial Study and Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Notice of Public Meeting – Fink Road Landfill In-Fill Project

Dear Ms. Aggers:

Our Firm, J.B. Anderson Land Use Planning, has been retained by the Del Puerto Health Care District (hereinafter referred to as the "District") to review various CEQA Referral documents released by Stanislaus County. Most recently, our Firm received a CEQA Referral, dated September 16, 2009, for the Fink Road Lanfill In-Fill Project (hereinafter referred to as the "Project"). It is our understanding that the Stanislaus County Environmental Resources Department is accepting written comments on the Project's Mitigated Negative Declaration until October 19, 2009.

As you may be aware, the District is located in the western portion of Stanislaus County and was established in 1946 to provide health care services to residents and employees living in the City of Patterson and unincorporated areas of west Stanislaus County. The Fink Road Landfill is located within the area served by the District.

As noted on Page 5-35 of the Project's Initial Study, "the proposed modifications would not alter or increase the demand for public services and existing levels of service would not be affected by the project." Based on our review of the above-mentioned CEQA Referral document and the understanding the project will not increase the demand for public services, we have no comment on the environmental determinations provided in the Project's Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration.

On behalf of the District, thank you for the opportunity to review and provide written comment on the Fink Road Landfill In-Fill Project. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the phone number listed above.

Sincerely.

Mark Niskanen Senior Planner

Margo Arnold, Del Puerto Health Care District

5A



HEALTHY AIR LIVING™

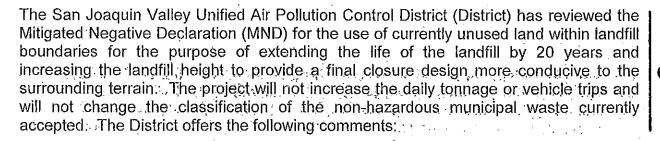
October 13, 2009

Jami Aggers Stanislaus County Dept. Environmental Resources 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C Modesto, CA 95358

Project: Fink Road Landfill In-Fill

District Reference No: 20090576

Dear Ms. Aggers:



6A

1. The MND concludes that construction activities could lead to a short-term significant increase in criteria pollutants, particularly PM10 fugitive dust, and identifies mitigation measures that "can be used" to reduce dust emissions. In order to conclude that fugitive dust emissions would have a less-than-significant impact, mitigation measures reducing dust emissions must be fully enforceable through permit conditions, agreements, or other legally binding instruments (CEQA Guidelines §15126.4, subd.(a)(2)). Therefore, the District recommends that those measures identified in the MND that are not requirements of District Regulation VIII be made enforceable and incorporated as conditions of project approval.

6B

2. Construction activities will result in NOx emissions from operation of construction equipment. The MND does not identify mitigation measures to reduce NOx emissions. Feasible mitigation of construction exhaust emission includes use of construction equipment powered by engines meeting, at a minimum, Tier II emission standards, as set forth in §2423 of Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, and Part 89 of Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations. The District recommends

6C

Seyed Sadredin
Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer

Northern Region 4800 Enterprise Way Modesto, CA 95356-8718 Tel: (209) 557-6400 FAX: (209) 557-6475 Central Region (Main Office) 1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue Fresno, CA 93726-0244 Tel: (559) 230-6000 FAX: (559) 230-6061 Southern Region 34946 Flyovar Court Bakersfield, CA 93308-9725 Tel: 661-392-5500 FAX: 661-392-5585 incorporating, as a condition of project approval, a requirement that off-road construction equipment used on site achieve fleet average emissions equal to or less than the Tier II emissions standard of 4.8 g/hp-hr NOx. This can be achieved through any combination of uncontrolled engines and engines complying with Tier II and above engine standards.

6C cont'd

If you have any questions or require further information, please call Jessica Willis at (559) 230-5818.

Sincerely,

David Warner

Director of Permit Services

Arnaud Marjollet

Permit Services Manager

DW:jw

Cc: File



CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED

LETTER #7



1001 I STREET, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814 • P.O. BOX 4025, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812-4025 (916) 341-6000 • WWW.CIWMB,CA.GOV

WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MARGO REID BROWN MBROWN@CIWMB.CA.GOV (916) 341-6051

October 15, 2009

SHEILA JAMES KUEHL SKUEHL@CIWMB.CA.GOV (916) 341-6039

Ms. Jami Aggers Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C Modesto, CA 95358



JOHN LAIRD JLAIRD@CIWMB.CA.GOV (916) 341-6010 (SWIS No. 50-AA-0001)

SUBJECT: SCH No. 2009092057: Fink Road Landfill In-Fill Project

CAROLE MIGDEN

Dear Ms. Aggers:

CMIGDEN@CIWMB.CA.GOV (916) 341-6024 Thank you for allowing the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) staff to provide comments for this proposed project and for your agency's consideration of these comments as part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process.

ROSALIE MULE

RMULE@CIWMB.CA.GOV (916) 341-6016 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

As stated in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the above referenced facility, the proposed project would increase landfill height and utilize existing space within the currently permitted disposal area. The objective of this interior expansion is to provide an estimated 10-20 years of additional capacity (approximately from 2023 to 2037-38). The in-fill project will allow for increased disposal volume between existing landfill cells LF-1 and LF-2 and between LF-2 and LF-3. The permitted maximum elevation will be extended from 385 to 545 feet mean sea level. No changes in permitted maximum tonnage, site acreage, traffic volumes, or waste types are addressed in this document. Existing project facilities, including the adjacent waste to energy plant, drainage basin, surface impoundments, and scalehouse facility will remain the same. Some interior roads will be rerouted and additional slope drains installed.

If this description varies substantially from the project as understood by the Lead Agency, CIWMB requests notification of any significant differences. If any changes to this project description are anticipated please inform CIWMB immediately.

7B

CIWMB COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

CIWMB is the Enforcement Agency for Stanislaus County. Fink Road Landfill operates under a full Solid Waste Facilities Permit (SWFP) originally issued December 16, 1993. An application for revision was received and accepted in 2007 and a new revised permit was issued August 17, 2007.

7C

The proposed project will require revision of the current permit issued by CIWMB. Please have the operator submit an application for permit revision to CIWMB. The application (CIWMB Form E-1-77) can be found at http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/LEACentral/Forms/default.htm#Permit

7D

In addition, CIWMB staff requests copies of any subsequent environmental documents (EDs) including any Notices of Completion, any Addendums, and/or copies of public notices. Also, please notify CIWMB of any public information hearings/meetings.

7E

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at (916) 341-6772 or email me at <u>jisaacson@ciwmb.ca.gov</u>. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joy Isaacson

Permitting and LEA Support - South Branch California Integrated Waste Management Board

mfloorson



LETTER #8

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE Richard W. Robinson Chief Executive Officer

Patricia Hill Thomas Chief Operations Officer/ Assistant Executive Officer

Monica Nino-Reid Assistant Executive Officer

Stan Risen Assistant Executive Officer

1010 10th Street, Suite 6800, Modesto, CA 95354 P.O. Box 3404, Modesto, CA 95353-3404 Phone: 209.525.6333 Fax 209.544.6226

STANISLAUS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

October 16, 2009

Jami Aggers Assistant Director Department of Environmental Resources 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C Modesto, CA 95358

SUBJECT:

ENVIRONMENTAL REFERRAL – FINK ROAD LANDFILL IN-FILL PROJECT NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Ms. Aggers:

The Stanislaus County Environmental Review Committee (ERC) has reviewed the subject project and has determined that it may have a significant effect on the environment.

The following comments/conditions are submitted by the Office of the Fire Warden (Fire Prevention Bureau) dated October 6, 2009.

This project poses a potentially significant impact which requires mitigations on the West Stanislaus Fire Protection District. On behalf of the West Stanislaus Fire Protection District, the following mitigation measures are required. If you have any questions about this comment, please contact the West Stanislaus Fire Protection District.

- o This project is within the State Responsible Area Fire Severity Hazard Zone. All structures must comply with Chapter 7A of the California Building Code. All structures must have a defensible space of 100 feet per the California Public Resources Code.
- A fire protection water supply shall be installed meeting the minimum requirements of the California Fire Code and the California Public Resources Code.
- On page 5-34 please note that the Cal-Fire Del Puerto Fire Station is a seasonal fire station and is not staffed year round. The Crows Landing (West Stanislaus Fire Protection District) Fire Station is a volunteer station. The five minute response time is incorrect. The response time is from seven to ten minutes at best.

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ENVIRONMENTAL REFERRAL – FINK ROAD LANDFILL IN-FILL PROJECT NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Page 2

In addition, the following comments/conditions are provided by the Department of Public Works dated October 7, 2009:

- An encroachment permit must be taken out for any work in Stanislaus County right-ofway.
- Public Works shall approve any traffic control plan that involves County right-of-way.

The ERC appreciates the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

Christine Almen, Senior Management Consultant

Environmental Review Committee

cc: ERC Members

8E