



Monterey County Board of Supervisors

Response to the

**2012 Monterey County Civil Grand Jury
Interim Final Report No. 5**

February 12, 2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page(s)
I. Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority	
<i>Findings F-5, F-7, and F-8</i>	2
<i>Recommendations R-1, R-2, and R-5</i>	3

REPORT TITLE: Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority (SVSWA)
RESPONSE BY: Monterey County Board of Supervisors
RESPONSE TO: Findings F-5, F-7, and F-8

Finding F-5: The CGJ has found that Waste Management's Madison Lane Transfer Station accepts solid waste from self-haul customers. These are self-haul customers that prefer to go to this site rather than the SSTS or Johnson Canyon landfill.

Response F-5: The Board agrees with the finding. The Madison Lane Transfer Station has received up to 2,600 tons per year of solid waste from self-haul customers and the facility is permitted by the Environmental Health Division as the Local Enforcement Agency of Cal Recycle, to receive up to 500 tons of solid waste per day.

Finding F-7: The CGJ feels that SVSWA's financial decision making policies affect the well-being of many businesses in its jurisdiction. The SVSWA is not looking out for the citizens of the Salinas Valley and north east Monterey County.

Response F-7: The Board partially agrees with the finding. The SVSWA landfill fees and proposed rate increases impact residential and commercial businesses' solid waste disposal rates within the SVSWA's jurisdiction.

Finding F-8: The County's notice to withdraw from the SVSWA will put a financial burden on the remaining members of the SVSWA.

Response F-8: The Board partially agrees with the finding. A notice to withdraw, and subsequent withdrawal, should it occur, has potential to place a financial burden on the remaining SVSWA members, depending upon conditions set forth in the negotiated agreements related to withdrawal. Should the withdrawal be implemented, it would be based on the County's intent on lowering long-term solid waste disposal cost to residents and businesses in the unincorporated areas currently in the SVSWA boundaries.

REPORT TITLE: Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority (SVSWA)
RESPONSE BY: Monterey County Board of Supervisors
RESPONSE TO: Recommendations R-1, R-2, and R-5

Recommendation R-1: The SVSWA should give proper notice of topics of presentation to County EHB on public meetings so that the public receives correct answers on County questions.

Response R-1: This recommendation has not yet been implemented. Noticing by the SVSWA is not within the purview of the County.

Recommendation R-2: The CGJ recommends that the staff of both SVSWA and MRWMD continue to work on the common area of interest and benefit to address waste in Monterey County to the betterment of its citizens. It is the CGJ's recommendation that a consolidation of the two agencies should occur.

Response R-2: This recommendation requires further analysis. The County is coordinating with representatives of the SVSWA member cities to consider funding a feasibility study evaluating the numerous variables of existing solid waste landfill operations, infrastructures, service levels, strategic goals and objectives of the SVSWA and the MRWMD. Additionally, managers of the SVSWA and MRWMD are actively engaging in discussions with management of the SVSWA members agencies regarding potential consolidation or further coordination between the agencies.

Recommendation R-5: The CGJ recommends that the City of Salinas and unincorporated NE Monterey County utilize the Madison Lane Transfer Station site as a self-haul and Materials Recovery Center.

Response R-5: This recommendation requires further analysis. The Madison Lane Transfer Station currently is permitted to receive 500 tons of solid waste per day, enough capacity for self-haul customers. This recommendation would require a thorough and thoughtful analysis and review of solid waste disposal and Materials Recovery options. Completion of this analysis is contingent upon participation of the SVSWA member agencies funding the feasibility study noted in the response to R-2 above.