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December 8, 2003

Ms. Deidra Dingman  
 Solid Waste Program Manager  
 Contra Costa County Community Development Dept.  
 651 Pine Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor North  
 Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Comments on EIR for West County Bulk Materials Processing Center  
 and related activities

Dear Ms. Dingman:

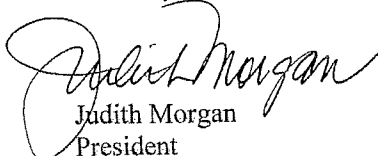
The Richmond Chamber Board of Directors endorses the proposals by Republic Services of Northern California for the post-closure uses of the West Contra Costa County Sanitary Landfill and surrounding area. We would like to have our support on the record as part of the consideration of the Environmental Impact Report.

The increased processing volumes that the new facilities will provide will improve waste handling for the business community and achieve economies of scale which could benefit both business and residential customers.

Because the transfer facility and new proposed uses will generate additional traffic, it is appropriate that these uses be clustered together in a single area to minimize the area affected. The industrial nature of the properties to the west of the Richmond Parkway along Parr Avenue makes this site the best neighborhood for such activity. Republic's proposals attempt to address the traffic impacts: a short, direct route to get to the Parkway and the scheduling of haul off for night hours - means that potential impacts on Parkway traffic will be minimal. 10-1

We are aware that there is a competing proposal to locate the transfer facility at the current site of the Integrated Resource Recovery Facility off of Pittsburg Avenue. The changing nature of the neighborhood near this facility makes it less desirable as a site for the full transfer operations. Existing and planned residential projects adjacent to that site make increased traffic - both delivery and haul off - and the noise and odor impacts more difficult, if not impossible to mitigate. Recycling can and should continue at that site, but to expand that facility should require another look at the environmental impacts. Too much time has elapsed since the EIR was done, and it must be updated and revised to reflect current conditions and the changing land uses in the surrounding neighborhoods and community. This is a community in transition and we support efforts to revitalize this area. Placing heavy industrial uses at the landfill site seems both appropriate and necessary to help ensure the vitality of the North Richmond area. 10-2

Sincerely,

  
 Judith Morgan  
 President