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#### **Via Hand Delivery**

21 February 2020

Ms. Kristen A. Hernandez Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) MSW Permits Section, Waste Permits Division (MC-124) 12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg. F Austin, Texas 78753

Subject: Tracking No. 24549480 Response to Information Request – New Registration Application Austin Community Transfer Station – Travis County Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) – Registration No. 40306 RN100215938/CN600127856

Dear Ms. Hernandez:

On behalf of Waste Management of Texas, Inc. (WMTX), Geosyntec Consultants (Geosyntec) has prepared this cover letter and accompanying materials in response to the information request on the above-referenced registration application, as transmitted in a 12 February 2020 email from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to WMTX.

#### **RESPONSE TO COMMENTS**

TCEQ's comments are presented below in italicized type, with responses immediately following the comments in regular type. Additionally, the resulting replacement pages to the registration application are enclosed with this letter to replace the previously submitted versions of the applicable pages. These revisions have an updated footer reflecting the revision date. A working copy is also attached to this submittal that uses a redline/strikethrough format, in order to highlight the revised text and facilitate TCEQ's review. Note that references to the application page numbers in the responses refer to the page numbers of the updated (replacement) pages.

Comment NT1: Part I/II Report, Section 3, Page I/II-10. Explain the quantity of waste that would be considered 'de minimis' as referenced in Tables I/II-1 and I/II-6.

- Response to Comment NT1: The Part I/II Report has been revised as requested. Specifically, changes have been made to Section 2.2 (Page I/II-5), Section 3.2 with Table I/II-1 (Page I/II-10), and Section 7.1 with Table I/II-6 (Page I/II-28) to indicate the quantity of waste that would be considered *de minimis*. Section 3.2 was further revised to clarify the waste acceptance rate during dual operations of the transfer station and the landfill, and to update the estimated waste acceptance rate in the first year of operation as a result of these changes. Section 7.1 was further revised to make a similar clarification and to report the estimated vehicular traffic that would result from the dual operation scenario.
- Comment NT2: Part I/II Report, Section 6, starting on Page I/II-17. Include the year mapping data was taken into footnote of Table I/II-3.

Ms. Kristen A. Hernandez 21 February 2020 Page 2

Response to Comment NT2: Table I/II-3 in Section 6.1.2 (Page I/II-19) of the Part I/II Report has been revised as requested.

Comment NT3: Part I/II Report, Section 14, Page I/II-39; Appendix I/IIL. Missing COG Response.

- Response to Comment NT3: As of the date of this response letter, a CAPCOG response has not been received.
- Comment NT4: Part I/II, Appendix I/IIA, Drawings I/IIA-8, 9, and 10. Provide land use map to include easements.
- Response to Comment NT4: Because of the scale at which the land use drawings are presented, Drawing I/IIA-7 (Site Plan) was selected for revision to more legibly show the on-site utility easements because it presents an enlarged scale of the transfer station registration boundary, and it has been revised accordingly. Drawings I/IIA-8 and -9 (i.e., the "land use" drawings) have been revised to include a note referencing that on-site easement information is presented on Drawing I/IIA-7.

Also note that an updated Easement Map pertaining specifically to easements within the transfer station registration boundary has been prepared based on updated easement research. It is requested that this map be added to Part I/II, Appendix I/IIC as Page No. I/IIC-11, to replace the previous version of that page. For consistency, Sections 4.3 and 6.4.1 of the Part I/II Report (Pages I/II-14 and I/II-24, respectively) have been updated to reflect the number of easements within the registration boundary. None of the easements are within or otherwise conflict with the footprint of the transfer station building.

Comment T5: Part I/II, Appendix I/IIA, Drawing I/IIA-13. Remove Note 3 in table.

Response to Comment T5: Drawing I/IIA-13 has been revised as requested.

#### INTERNET POSTING OF REGISTRATION APPLICATION REVISIONS

An electronic copy of this submittal, including the registration application revisions, has been posted to the internet at the same URL as the initial online posting of the application.

#### **APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

The applicant's signed original certification statement for this submittal, including the attached permit application revisions, is enclosed.

#### CLOSING

One original and two (2) copies of this submittal are being provided to the TCEQ MSW Permits Section in Austin. A copy is also being sent directly to the TCEQ Region 11 office in Austin, as indicated in the "copy to" list below. Additionally, a copy of this submittal is being placed in the University Hills Branch Library

Ms. Kristen A. Hernandez 21 February 2020 Page 3

for public viewing and copying, to accompany the copy of the application that was previously placed at the library when the application was initially submitted.

Geosyntec trusts that this submittal provides the information necessary to complete TCEQ's technical review of the registration application. If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at (512) 451-4003, or by e-mail at sgraves@geosyntec.com.

Sincerely, Scott M. Graves, P.E.

Scott M. Graves, P.E. Principal, Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

Copy to: Mr. Elijah Gandee, Air & Waste Section Manager, TCEQ Region 11 Mr. Charles Rivette, Waste Management of Texas, Inc. Mr. Kenneth May, CAPCOG

### APPLICANT CERTIFICATION STATEMENT AND SIGNATURE PAGE

#### APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

<u>Certification of Submittal:</u> Response to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Information Request (dated 2/12/2020, TCEQ Tracking No. 24549480), including attached registration application revisions.

Responsible Official:

Steve Jacobs Director of Disposal Operations Waste Management of Texas, Inc. 9900 Giles Road Austin, TX 78754

I, Steve Jacobs

(Site Operator (Permittee/Registrant)'s Authorized Signatory)

Director of Disposal Operations, (Title)

certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

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Signature:

Date: 2-21-20

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me by the said\_Steve Jacobs

On this <u>21</u> day of <u>Feb</u>, <u>2020</u>

My commission expires on the 19 day of March, 2023

Notary Public inland for

<u>TVAVIS</u> County, Texas (Note: Application Must Bear Signature & Seal of Notary Public)



### REDLINE/STRIKETHROUGH (i.e., "MARKED") PAGES

To facilitate TCEQ's review, the attached pages present a redline/strikethrough "marked" version of the proposed text revisions to the registration application. Note that due to repagination of the redline/strikethrough version, the page numbers may not match the final page numbers in the "clean" (replacement page) version.

Prepared for: Waste Management of Texas, Inc.

#### **REGISTRATION APPLICATION**

#### PART I/II SUPPLEMENTAL TECHNICAL REPORT

#### AUSTIN COMMUNITY TRANSFER STATION TYPE V MSW FACILITY REGISTRATION NO. MSW-40306 AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Prepared by:

# Geosyntec<sup>D</sup>

Texas Board of Professional Engineers Firm Registration No. F-1182 8217 Shoal Creek Blvd, Suite 200 Austin, Texas 78757 (512) 451-4003

SEALED FOR THIS PART I/II SUPPLEMENTAL TECHNICAL REPORT, AND FOR REGISTRATION PURPOSES ONLY.

WITHIN EACH APPENDIX, ITEMS THAT REQUIRE A SIGNATURE AND SEAL BY A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL (E.G., ENGINEER, SURVEYOR) ARE SIGNED, SEALED, AND DATED, AS APPROPRIATE, BY THE RESPONSIBLE PROFESSIONAL

Submitted September 2019 Revised <u>FebrJan</u>uary 2020

#### 2.2 Existing Conditions Summary

The transfer station registration boundary will be entirely within the permit boundary of the existing Austin Community RDF (also referred to herein as the "landfill facility"). The Austin Community RDF is an active operating Type I MSW landfill whose remaining landfill capacity is limited. The proposed transfer station will commence operations as the landfill nears its full capacity and is receiving accepting only *de minimis* quantities of waste, or after the landfill has ceased accepting waste and is in the process of being/is closed. *"De minimis* quantities of waste" is defined herein as less than 300 tons/day of waste accepted by the Austin Community RDF for landfill disposal. Additionally, during this short-term transition period of "dual operations" (i.e., when both the landfill and the transfer station are accepting waste), the maximum transfer station waste accepted at the landfill and the transfer station will not exceed 3,200 tons/day (i.e., the maximum amount of waste received by the two facilities on any day that the transfer station is in operation will not exceed 3,200 tons).

The approximately 360-acre landfill facility includes two MSW management units: one approximately 64-acre unit on the eastern portion of the landfill facility ("East Hill"), and one approximately 178-acre unit on the western portion of the landfill facility ("West Hill"). The overall landfill facility also includes a closed industrial waste unit, and a closed area of initial MSW disposal referred to as the "Phase I Unit". These waste management units are shown on a facility layout plan included in Appendix I/IIA of this application. As shown, the transfer station registration boundary will be located outside of the waste disposal footprints of these waste management units.

The existing Austin Community RDF infrastructure includes a perimeter fence, gate house and scales, landfill office building, maintenance shop/office building, all-weather roads, soil borrow and stockpile areas, environmental monitoring systems (landfill gas and groundwater), a lined leachate evaporation pond, stormwater management features, and solid waste disposal areas. As noted, the approximately 10.8-acre transfer station facility area on the eastern portion of the landfill facility where the transfer station registration boundary, building, and supporting operational features will be located are not within the landfill waste footprint limits. Furthermore, the area used for transfer station operations will not interfere with the landfill's environmental monitoring systems or other landfill-related infrastructure that will remain in place after closure of the landfill.

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report STAustin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL Geosyntec Consultants

#### 3.2 Waste Acceptance Amounts and Storage Durations

Waste acceptance rates are tabulated below in Table I/II-1.

Year of Operation	Estimated Annual Waste Acceptance Rate <sup>(1)<u>(2)</u> (tons/year)</sup>	Estimated Daily Average Waste Acceptance Rate <sup>(1)(2)</sup> (tons/day)	Maximum Amount of Solid Waste Allowed to be Received Annually <sup>(32)</sup> (tons/year)	Maximum Amount of Solid Waste Allowed to be Received Daily <sup>(3)</sup> (tons/day)
1	6 <u>36</u> 69, <u>3</u> 200	2, <u>039</u> 145	998,400	3,200
2	669,200	2,145	998,400	3,200
3	669,200	2,145	998,400	3,200
4	669,200	2,145	998,400	3,200
5	669,200	2,145	998,400	3,200

### TABLE I/II-1 5-YEAR PROJECTION OF WASTE ACCEPTANCE RATES

Notes:

(1) Individual daily acceptance rates are expected to fluctuate on a day-to-day basis. The basis for the estimated daily average and estimated annual waste acceptance rate in Year 1 is the assumption that the Austin Community RDF landfill (Permit MSW-249D) is accepting only *de minimis* waste quantities or has ceased accepting waste and is in the process of being/is closed. "De minimis quantities of waste" is defined herein as less than 300 tons/day of waste accepted by the Austin Community RDF for landfill disposal. Additionally, during this short-term transition period of "dual operations" (i.e., when both the landfill and the transfer station are accepting waste), the maximum transfer station waste acceptance rate will be limited so that the maximum combined amount of waste received per day at the landfill and the transfer station will not exceed 3,200 tons/day. The resulting Year 1 transfer station daily average and annual waste acceptance rate is a weighted-averagen estimate based on the market conditions projected to exist under theis assumption of a four-month dual operation transition period when the landfill is accepting 300 tons/day (with average daily transfer station waste acceptance estimates correspondingly reduced to 1,825 tons/day), and the remaining eight months of Year 1 with the landfill accepting no waste, and the transfer station accepting a daily average of 2,145 tons/day. For this, tThe estimated annual waste acceptance rate in Year 1 is calculated by multiplying the weighted-average daily rate by 312 days (i.e., operating 6 days/week, 52 weeks/year), rounded to the nearest hundred tons.

(2) The basis for the estimated daily average and estimated annual waste acceptance rate in Year 2 and beyond is the assumption that the Austin Community RDF landfill (Permit MSW-249D) has ceased accepting waste and is in the process of being/is closed. The resulting transfer station daily average and annual waste acceptance rates for Year 2 and beyond are estimates based on the market

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report STAustin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL Geosyntee Consultants

Submitted September 2019; Revised FebrJanuary 2020 Page No. I/II - 10

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conditions projected to exist under this assumption. For this, the estimated annual waste acceptance rate is calculated by multiplying the average daily rate by 312 days (i.e., operating 6 days/week, 52 weeks/year), rounded to the nearest hundred tons.

(2) The maximum amount of waste that would be allowed to be received annually is calculated by multiplying the maximum allowable daily waste acceptance rate (registered limit) by 312 days (i.e., operating 6 days/week, 52 weeks/year), rounded to the nearest hundred tons. The "dual operations" combined daily tonnage limitation set forth above in Note 1 will apply. However, for the purposes of calculating maximum daily and annual values for the transfer station, a worst-case (i.e., largest) transfer station waste acceptance rate of 3,200 tons/day is used. With the limitation in place that the dual operations cannot exceed a combined total of 3,200 tons/day, this means by definition that the landfill would be accepting no waste under this calculation scenario used as the basis for establishing the maximum possible amount of waste that the transfer station could accept.

In addition to the waste acceptance rates tabulated above, the following storage-related amounts and durations are established:

- On average, solid waste accepted at the facility will be transferred on a daily basis (i.e., remaining at the facility for less than 24 hours).
- The maximum length of time material will remain (i.e., be temporarily stored) on-site is 48 hours.
- The maximum amount of waste that may be stored at the facility for more than 24 hours is 2,500 tons.

#### 3.3 Facility Service Area

#### **3.3.1** Waste Sources and Generation Areas

The facility will serve, in general, individuals, businesses, communities, institutions, and public and private solid waste collection vehicles in the City of Austin, Travis County, and surrounding counties.

#### 3.3.2 Population-Equivalent Served

The average population-equivalent of areas served by the facility, using the above 5-year average daily projected waste acceptance rates and a per capita disposal rate of 5 lbs/person/day, is 858,000 persons.

#### 4. **PROPERTY, OWNER, AND OPERATOR INFORMATION**

This section provides property and owner-related information, to address the requirements of 30 TAC §330.59(d) through (h).

#### 4.1 Legal Description of Facility

A legal description of the transfer station registration boundary is presented in Appendix I/IIC.

#### 4.2 Property Ownership

As shown on the documentation provided in Appendix I/IIC, WMTX is the owner of the land that comprises the Austin Community RDF permit boundary, and accordingly owns the land within the transfer station registration boundary that is situated entirely within the permit boundary of the existing Austin Community RDF.

Property owner affidavits and legal authority are discussed subsequently in Section 4.4 (with legal authority documentation in Appendix I/IID).

#### 4.3 Easements

A survey of easements within the Austin Community RDF permit boundary is presented on a survey drawing in Appendix I/IIC. These easement locations are derived from the surveyor's easement research on recorded easements listed in the real property records of Travis County for the subject parcels of land. For this registration application, updated easement research was conducted A duplicate of this survey map that has been modified to show the for areas within and adjacent to the transfer station registration boundary. This surveyor's easement map focused on the transfer station registration boundary and adjacent areas and proposed transfer station building location-is also provided in Appendix I/IIC. These on-site utility easements are also included on the Transfer Station Area Site Plan (Drawing I/IIA-7). As shown, there are <u>sixfour</u> utility easements (and zero drainage or pipeline easements) within or adjacent to the transfer station boundary, no solid waste loading or storage will occur within any easement (or right of way) that crosses the facility.

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report STAustin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL Geosyntec Consultants

a golf course, a church, ponds (stock tanks and stormwater management ponds), and landfills, as well as large portions of undeveloped "open" land. A "General Land Use Map" is presented on Drawing I/IIA-8, and a "Detailed Land Use Map" is presented in Drawing I/IIA-9. A "Structures and Inhabitable Buildings Map," showing buildings and inhabitable structures within 500 feet of the site, is presented on Drawing I/IIA-12. The following table provides an approximate breakdown, by percent of total area, of the existing land uses within one mile of the transfer station registration boundary (and excluding the land within the registration boundary) (see also Drawing I/IIA-8 and I/IIA-9).

Land Use	Area in Acres*	Percentage of Total Area
Industrial	1,169	46.7
Open	758	30.3
Commercial	171	6.8
Recreational	169	6.7
Residential	162	6.5
Water	51	2.0
Institutional	25	1.0
Total	2,505	100

### TABLE I/II-3SUMMARY OF SURROUNDING LAND USE

\*based on examination of aerial imagery <u>dated November 2019</u> and <u>latest</u> <u>available</u> City of Austin (COA) Land Use mapping information <u>(dated 2016,</u> <u>and obtained in November 2019)</u>.

#### **Directional Land Uses**

A description of the surrounding land use in each direction around the site, within one mile of the transfer station registration boundary, is presented below.

- <u>North</u>. The closed Sunset Farms Landfill lies directly to the north of the site. Beyond that landfill, land use is a mix of undeveloped/agricultural and residential, including a school and a day care facility.
- <u>East</u>. Land use east of the site is a mix of industrial, undeveloped, residential, recreational, and commercial. A church and a large semiconductor manufacturer are located east of the site.

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report STAustin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL Geosyntec Consultants

#### 6.2 Wells Within 500-Feet of the Facility

In Appendix I/IIA, drawings are included that present water well map and an oil and gas well map. These maps include a 500-ft offset line from the transfer station registration boundary, and reveal the following:

- <u>Water Wells</u>: There are no known off-site water well locations within 500 feet of the registration boundary. Further, there are also no known existing water wells located within the facility boundary. Water well abandonment is discussed subsequently in Section 10.1.
- <u>Oil and Gas Wells</u>: There are no known off-site oil and gas well locations within 500 feet of the registration boundary. Further, there are also no known oil and gas wells located within the facility boundary. Oil and gas well abandonment is discussed subsequently in Section 10.2.

#### 6.3 Prevailing Wind Direction

A wind rose is included on a location map in Appendix I/IIA (see Drawing I/IIA-12). The wind rose indicates that the prevailing wind direction in the area is from the south.

#### 6.4 **Easements and Buffer Zones**

#### 6.4.1 Easements

As discussed previously in Section 4.3 of this report, there are  $\underline{six}$  four utility easements (and zero drainage or pipeline easements) within or adjacent to the transfer station registration boundary, but there are no easements in the area that will be occupied by the transfer station building. Accordingly, no solid waste loading or storage will occur within any easement (or right of way) that crosses the facility, nor in any buffer zone.

#### 6.4.2 Buffer Zones

30 TAC §330.543(b) requires that a minimum 50-ft separating distance be maintained between the facility boundary and solid waste storage and processing areas. The buffer zone must provide for safe passage for fire-fighting and other emergency vehicles.

The buffer zones are evident on the facility layout plan presented in Part III, Attachment 1, Drawing III-1-4), and the shortest buffer distance is labeled on this plan (i.e., a 56-ft distance from

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report STAustin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL Geosyntec Consultants

Item	2019 Landfill Daily Tonnage Values	2019 Landfill Daily Traffic Values (# of Vehicles)	Transfer Station Daily Tonnage Estimates	Transfer Station Daily Traffic Estimates (# of Vehicles)
Peak Day	5,213	623	3,200	573
Average of Busiest Day of Each Month	4,345	592	3,006	538
Average of M-F Operating Days	3,469	550	2,442	437
Average of All Operating Days	3,045	504	2,145	384

### TABLE I/II-6 COMPARISON OF LANDFILL TRAFFIC TO TRANSFER STATION TRAFFIC

Operation of the transfer station will be phased in as the landfill phases out of operation -i.e., the transfer station will not commence operation until the landfill nears its full capacity and is accepting only de minimis amounts of waste. "De minimis quantities of waste" is defined herein as less than 300 tons/day of waste accepted by the Austin Community RDF for landfill disposal. Additionally, during this short-term transition period of "dual operations" (i.e., when both the landfill and the transfer station are accepting waste), the maximum transfer station waste acceptance rate will be limited so that the maximum combined amount of waste received per day at the landfill and the transfer station will not exceed 3.200 tons/day (i.e., the maximum amount of waste received by the two facilities on any day that the transfer station is in operation will not exceed 3,200 tons). Thus, the cumulative traffic impacts from the co-located facilities will be minimal as the two facilities will not be fully operational at the same time. As shown by the comparisons presented above for the case when the landfill is not accepting waste, the daily number of vehicles (and corresponding vehicle trips in and out of the site) will go down for the transfer station on its peak and average operating days, as compared to the daily number of vehicles generated by the landfill on its peak and average operating days. The transfer station traffic volumes are also less than those that were the basis of the Transportation Study for the Austin Community RDF permit.

During the initial transition period of dual operations, a worst-case peak day for the transfer station would be on a day when the landfill accepts 300 tons of waste and the transfer station would accept a maximum of 2,900 tons of waste. On such a day, the transfer station would be estimated to generate 519 vehicles, and the landfill would be estimated to generate 50 vehicles, for a total of

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report STAustin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL Geosyntec Consultants

569 vehicles. This is not tabulated above because it represents a short-term case that will only exist during a brief time period (estimated to be about four months or less) after transfer station operations commence – and, more importantly – because the combined total number of vehicles for dual-operations of the landfill and transfer station is less than a peak day when only the transfer station is accepting waste, due to the tonnage limitation that will be imposed on the transfer station registration.

#### Volume of Vehicular Traffic on Roads Used to Access the Transfer Station:

Data on the volume of vehicular traffic, existing and projected, on the roads within one mile of the proposed transfer station that will be used to access the facility are tabulated below in Table I/II-7. The existing data were obtained from recent TxDOT-published traffic count data sources, as referenced in the footnotes to the table. The projected data were calculated using the population forecast in the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (regional growth percentage from 2020 to 2040).

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report STAustin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL Geosyntee Consultants

Submitted September 2019; Revised <u>FebrJan</u>uary 2020 Page No, I/II - 29

### **CLEAN REPLACEMENT PAGES**

The pages that follow completely replace the previous versions of these pages.

Note that, for convenience and due to repagination, a full replacement of the Part I/II Report is being provided, even though only a few pages were changed as noted in the cover letter.

Prepared for: Waste Management of Texas, Inc.

#### **REGISTRATION APPLICATION**

#### PART I/II SUPPLEMENTAL TECHNICAL REPORT

### AUSTIN COMMUNITY TRANSFER STATION TYPE V MSW FACILITY REGISTRATION NO. MSW-40306 AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Prepared by:

# Geosyntec<sup>▶</sup>

consultants

Texas Board of Professional Engineers Firm Registration No. F-1182 8217 Shoal Creek Blvd, Suite 200 Austin, Texas 78757 (512) 451-4003

> Submitted September 2019 Revised February 2020



SEALED FOR THIS PART I/II SUPPLEMENTAL TECHNICAL REPORT, AND FOR REGISTRATION PURPOSES ONLY.

WITHIN EACH APPENDIX, ITEMS THAT REQUIRE A SIGNATURE AND SEAL BY A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL (E.G., ENGINEER, SURVEYOR) ARE SIGNED, SEALED, AND DATED, AS APPROPRIATE, BY THE RESPONSIBLE PROFESSIONAL

## TABLE OF CONTENTSPART I/II SUPPLEMENTAL TECHNICAL REPORT

1.	INT	RODUCTION1
1	.1	Terms of Reference
1	.2	Organization of Part I/II Supplemental Technical Report1
2.	FAC	CILITY DESCRIPTION
2	.1	Overview
2	.2	Existing Conditions Summary Scott M. GRAVES
2	.3	Maps and Drawings
2	.4	Adjacent Land Ownership
3.	WA	STE ACCEPTANCE PLAN FOR REGISTRATION PURPOSES ONLY
3	.1	Waste Characteristics
3	.2	Waste Acceptance Amounts and Storage Durations10
3	.3	Facility Service Area
	3.3.	1 Waste Sources and Generation Areas
	3.3.2	2 Population-Equivalent Served11
3	.4	Facility Design Capacity12
3	.5	Intended Destination of Solid Waste Received at this Facility
3	.6	Facility Qualification as a Registration
4.	PRO	OPERTY, OWNER, AND OPERATOR INFORMATION14
4	.1	Legal Description of Facility
4	.2	Property Ownership
4	.3	Easements14
4	.4	Property Owner Affidavit and Legal Authority14
4	.5	Evidence of Competency – Facility Operator
4	.6	Appointment Letters
5.	ΟΤΙ	HER PERMITS/AUTHORIZATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS16
5.	.1	Other Permits or Approvals/Authorizations

	5.2	Non-Applicable Regulatory Programs	16
	5.3	Application Fees	16
	5.4	Internet Posting	16
	5.5	Other Owner/Operator Acknowledgements and Informational Items	17
6	. LAI	ND USE	
	6.1	Land Use Information	
	6.1.	1 Zoning	
	6.1.2	2 Surrounding Land Use	
	6.1.	3 Growth Trends and Directions of Major Development	21
	6.1.4	4 Proximity to Specified Uses	22
	6.2	Wells Within 500-Feet of the Facility $2/21/2020$	23
	6.3	Prevailing Wind Direction	24
	6.4	Easements and Buffer Zones	24
	6.4.	1 Easements	24
	6.4.2	2 Buffer Zones For registration purposes only	24
	6.5	Conclusions Regarding Land Use	24
7	. TRA	ANSPORTATION	26
	7.1	Roads and Traffic	
	7.2	Airports	32
8	. GEI	NERAL GEOLOGY AND SOILS STATEMENT	
	8.1	Geology	
	8.2	Topography and Soils	33
	8.3	Faults	34
	8.4	Seismic Impact Zones	34
	8.5	Unstable Areas	
9.	GRO	OUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER STATEMENT	
	0.1	Groundwater	26
	9.1 0.2	Surfaça Watar	
	9.2	Stammuster Demoitting Hader TDDES	
	7.3	Stoffiwater Permitting Under IPDES	

10. ABANDONED OIL AND WATER WELLS	
10.1 Water Wells Within the Facility Boundary	<b>20</b> 38
10.2 Oil and Gas Wells Within the Facility Boundary	38
11. FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS STATEMENT	39
11.1 Floodplains	39
11.1.1 Introduction and Purpose	<sup>v</sup> 39
11.1.2 FEMA Map FEMA Map	39
11.1.3 City of Austin Updated (Interim) 100-Year Floodplain	39
11.2 Wetlands	40
12. PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES	41
13. TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION REVIEW	42
14. COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS REVIEW REQUEST	43
TABLES	

Table I/II-1	5-Year Projection of V	Waste Acceptance Rates
--------------	------------------------	------------------------

- Table I/II-2Theoretical Facility Design Capacity
- Table I/II-3
   Summary of Surrounding Land Use
- Table I/II-4 Regional Growth
- Table I/II-5
   Transfer Station Peak Daily Traffic Generation Estimate
- Table I/II-6
   Comparison of Transfer Station Traffic vs. Landfill Traffic
- Table I/II-7Volume of Traffic on Area Roads

#### APPENDICES

WITHIN EACH APPENDIX, ITEMS THAT REQUIRE A SIGNATURE AND SEAL BY A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL (E.G., ENGINEER, SURVEYOR) ARE SIGNED, SEALED, AND DATED, AS APPROPRIATE, BY THE RESPONSIBLE PROFESSIONAL:

- Appendix I/IIA General Location Maps
- Appendix I/IIB Adjacent Land Ownership Map and List
- Appendix I/IIC Registration Boundary, Property Ownership, and Easement Information
- Appendix I/IID Property Owner Affidavit and Legal Authority
- Appendix I/IIE Evidence of Competency
- Appendix I/IIF Appointments
- Appendix I/IIG Land Use
- Appendix I/IIH Transportation
- Appendix I/II-I Wetlands Documentation
- Appendix I/IIJ Endangered and Threatened Species Documentation
- Appendix I/IIK Texas Historical Commission (THC), Antiquities Code Documentation
- Appendix I/IIL Capitol Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG) Documentation

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 <u>Terms of Reference</u>

Waste Management of Texas, Inc. (WMTX) is submitting an application to register a Type V municipal solid waste (MSW) transfer station facility. Within this report, the terms "facility" and "site" refer to the transfer station facility and its registration boundary, unless expressly stated otherwise. The proposed facility will be located within the permitted boundaries of an MSW Type I facility (namely, the Austin Community Recycling and Disposal Facility (RDF), TCEQ Permit No. MSW-249D). The facility is located on the east side of Austin, Texas, in Travis County.

The purpose of the transfer station is to provide an efficient means to transfer MSW to dulypermitted landfills as the Austin Community RDF landfill nears its full capacity and after the landfill has ceased accepting waste and is in the process of being/is closed. The proposed facility will provide WMTX with the ability to transfer MSW from collection vehicles to larger transfer trailers for shipment to duly-permitted landfills.

The complete registration application is divided into Parts I through IV as required by 30 TAC §330.57. Part I includes the Part I Application Form, this report, and attached appendices. These materials collectively present site and applicant information to address the items required by 30 TAC §330.59; 30 TAC §281.5; and 30 TAC §305.45. Part II presents an existing conditions summary and information on the character of the facility and surrounding area. Part II has been combined with Part I, as allowed. This includes provision of a single Part I/II Supplemental Technical Report (i.e., this report), referencing and attaching as appendices the various required informational items of Parts I and II

Part III presents facility design information, schematic designs of the facility, and required plans. Part IV presents the Site Operating Plan (SOP), which describes the general procedures for conducting day-to-day operations at the facility.

#### 1.2 Organization of Part I/II Supplemental Technical Report

The remainder of this report is organized as follows:

• a facility description is presented in Section 2 (includes reference to maps showing the facility location and facility layout);

- the waste acceptance plan is presented in Section 3;
- property, owner, and operator information are discussed in Section 4;
- the applicability and status of other permits is addressed in Section 5, along with other applicant acknowledgements;
- a land use evaluation and discussion on the facility's potential impact on the surrounding area is addressed Section 6;
- information on transportation (roads, traffic, airports) is presented in Section 7;
- information on geologic conditions and soils is addressed in Section 8;
- information on groundwater and surface water conditions at and near the site are addressed in Section 9;
- abandonment of any oil and gas wells and water wells discovered are discussed in Section 10;
- floodplains data and wetlands are discussed in Section 11;
- information on endangered or threatened species is discussed in Section 12;
- compliance with the Texas Antiquities Code and related Texas Historical Commission (THC) documentation is addressed in Section 13; and
- documentation of council of governments review request (submitted to the Capitol Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG)) is discussed in Section 14.

Appendices to this report contain maps/drawings, data, and relevant documentation of the topics discussed in this report. The appendices are organized as follows:

- Appendix I/IIA presents a series of location maps;
- Appendix I/IIB presents an adjacent land ownership map and a landowner list;
- Appendix I/IIC includes ownership-related information, including a legal description of the registration boundary;

- Appendix I/IID provides a property owner affidavit and documents the legal authority of the applicant;
- Appendix I/IIE addresses evidence of competency of the operator;
- Appendix I/IIF presents letters of appointment that define the roles of certain individuals involved in the application;
- Appendix I/IIG presents land use information;
- Appendix I/IIH provides transportation information and coordination documentation;
- Appendix I/II-I provides wetlands documentation;
- Appendix I/IIJ provides documentation on endangered and threatened species;
- Appendix I/IIK provides THC antiquities code coordination documentation; and
- Appendix I/IIL provides CAPCOG correspondence.

#### 2. FACILITY DESCRIPTION

This section provides information on the general facility location, to address 30 TAC §330.59(b) and (c), as well as §330.61(c), (e), (f), and (g) to show proximity to surrounding features. Facility layout, pursuant to §330.61(d), is also addressed.

#### 2.1 <u>Overview</u>

As mentioned, the proposed facility will be located within the permit boundary of an MSW Type I facility (namely, the Austin Community RDF, TCEQ Permit No. MSW-249D). The transfer station registration boundary will occupy an area of approximately 10.8 acres within the 359.71acre Austin Community RDF. The proposed facility is located approximately 500-ft north of US Highway 290 and Giles Lane, on the east side of Austin, in Travis County, Texas. The proposed transfer station will occupy an area near the existing Austin Community RDF entrance and scales west of Giles Lane, as shown on maps and drawings included in Appendix I/IIA. The transfer station itself (i.e., the building) will be less than one acre in size. In total, the area to actually be developed for transfer station operations (the building, associated all-weather access roads and vehicle turnaround areas, approach ramps, parking, support features, etc.) will be less than approximately 10 acres. The transfer station building and area developed for transfer station operations will be located outside of the waste disposal footprint of the landfill.

The proposed transfer station building will be an enclosed structure (i.e., a pre-engineered metal building with a roof, exterior walls on three sides, openings on the fourth side for collection vehicles to enter the building to unload, covered load-out tunnels on the sides of the building with building openings at the load-out tunnels, and ancillary support features). The transfer station building will have a reinforced concrete slab tipping floor with an area of approximately 25,000 square feet, and reinforced concrete push walls to resist typical forces for transfer operations. Details on the layout of the transfer station, design features, and design criteria are provided in the Site Development Plan (Part III) portion of the application, as required.

The transfer station will utilize the Austin Community RDF's existing gate and scale house. Incoming loads will be weighed and directed to the tipping floor inside the enclosed transfer station building. Solid waste unloaded in this area will be pushed by a front-end loader(s) into the transfer trailers, which will haul the waste to an area landfill for disposal.

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL

#### 2.2 Existing Conditions Summary

The transfer station registration boundary will be entirely within the permit boundary of the existing Austin Community RDF (also referred to herein as the "landfill facility"). The Austin Community RDF is an active operating Type I MSW landfill whose remaining landfill capacity is limited. The proposed transfer station will commence operations as the landfill nears its full capacity and is accepting only *de minimis* quantities of waste, or after the landfill has ceased accepting waste and is in the process of being/is closed. "*De minimis* quantities of waste" is defined herein as less than 300 tons/day of waste accepted by the Austin Community RDF for landfill disposal. Additionally, during this short-term transition period of "dual operations" (i.e., when both the landfill and the transfer station are accepting waste), the maximum transfer station waste acceptance rate will be limited so that the maximum combined amount of waste received per day at the landfill and the transfer station will not exceed 3,200 tons/day (i.e., the maximum amount of waste received by the two facilities on any day that the transfer station is in operation will not exceed 3,200 tons).

The approximately 360-acre landfill facility includes two MSW management units: one approximately 64-acre unit on the eastern portion of the landfill facility ("East Hill"), and one approximately 178-acre unit on the western portion of the landfill facility ("West Hill"). The overall landfill facility also includes a closed industrial waste unit, and a closed area of initial MSW disposal referred to as the "Phase I Unit". These waste management units are shown on a facility layout plan included in Appendix I/IIA of this application. As shown, the transfer station registration boundary will be located outside of the waste disposal footprints of these waste management units.

The existing Austin Community RDF infrastructure includes a perimeter fence, gate house and scales, landfill office building, maintenance shop/office building, all-weather roads, soil borrow and stockpile areas, environmental monitoring systems (landfill gas and groundwater), a lined leachate evaporation pond, stormwater management features, and solid waste disposal areas. As noted, the approximately 10.8-acre transfer station facility area on the eastern portion of the landfill facility where the transfer station registration boundary, building, and supporting operational features will be located are not within the landfill waste footprint limits. Furthermore, the area used for transfer station operations will not interfere with the landfill's environmental monitoring systems or other landfill-related infrastructure that will remain in place after closure of the landfill.

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL

#### 2.3 <u>Maps and Drawings</u>

A group of maps and drawings are presented in Appendix I/IIA to show the general location of the facility, proximity to surrounding features, land use of the area, etc. This appendix also includes a facility layout plan for the transfer station. As mentioned, the required transfer station process and design drawings are provided in the Site Development Plan (Part III), as required.

#### 2.4 Adjacent Land Ownership

A map presenting the adjacent land ownership is included in Appendix I/IIB. The map shows properties within <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-mile of the registration boundary and addresses mineral interest ownership under the facility. A land ownership list, keyed to the land ownership maps, is also provided in Appendix I/IIB. A compact disk (CD) containing the land owners list in electronic format is provided with the original binders of this application submitted to TCEQ, at the front of the binder after the cover letter.

This information has been provided to satisfy the requirements of 30 TAC §330.59(c)(3), 30 TAC §305.45(a)(6)(D), and 30 TAC §281.5.

#### 3. WASTE ACCEPTANCE PLAN

This section provides information on waste acceptance to address 30 TAC §330.61(b), including a description of the waste characteristics, the maximum amount of waste to be received daily and annually for five years, and other amounts and durations of, and capacity for, receipt and/or storage, as detailed herein. This section also provides information on the anticipated facility service area (i.e., sources/generation areas of the waste) and population-equivalent served.

#### 3.1 <u>Waste Characteristics</u>

The proposed facility is a Type V MSW facility (a transfer station). The general classifications of solid waste that may are allowed to be accepted at the transfer station, and that are prohibited from acceptance, are provided below. The waste classifications are defined in 30 TAC §330.3.

<u>Allowable Wastes</u>: The facility is allowed to accept the following classifications of solid wastes, for subsequent transfer to a properly-permitted MSW landfill facility for disposal:

- household waste;
- yard waste;
- commercial waste;
- construction waste;
- demolition waste;
- brush;
- rubbish;
- Class 2 non-hazardous industrial solid waste;
- Class 3 non-hazardous industrial solid waste;
- shredded or quartered tires; and
- certain special wastes. Special waste is defined by 30 TAC §330.3(148). Only those special wastes listed below are allowed to be accepted at this facility without prior written approval from the Executive Director. Further, such special waste must be compatible with the compaction and loading equipment operated at the facility, unless modifications are made to the facility to accommodate the special waste.
  - Dead animals and slaughterhouse waste that are incidental to routine collection of MSW and that can be systematically processed along with other solid waste.

- Drugs and contaminated foods, other than those contained in normal household waste.
- Empty containers which have been used for pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, or rodenticides, provided the containers have been triple rinsed, crushed, or rendered unusable upon receipt at the gate.
- Incidental amounts of non-regulated asbestos-containing materials (non-RACM). An incidental amount is defined as the maximum of 10-percent of the waste received on an annual basis by scale weight (annual basis is defined as the most recent four consecutive quarters).
- Waste from oil, gas, and geothermal activities subject to regulation by the Railroad Commission of Texas when those wastes are to be processed, treated, or disposed of at a solid waste management facility. Only those wastes authorized for disposal at a solid waste management facility will be accepted.
- Waste generated outside the boundaries of Texas that contains any industrial waste; any waste associated with oil, gas, and geothermal exploration, production, or development activities; or any material that is listed in the bullets above.
- Special waste other than as described above and approved for acceptance by the TCEQ Executive Director.

<u>Prohibited Wastes</u>: The facility is prohibited from accepting, and shall not accept, the following wastes:

- regulated hazardous waste;
- polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs);
- liquid wastes;
- certain special wastes not listed above as allowable, namely:
  - hazardous waste from conditionally exempt small-quantity generators that may be exempt from full controls under Title 30 TAC Chapter 335, Subchapter N (relating to Household Materials Which Could Be Classified as Hazardous Wastes);
  - Class 1 non-hazardous industrial waste;
  - o untreated medical waste;
  - municipal wastewater treatment plant sludges, other types of domestic sewage treatment plant sludges, and water-supply treatment plant sludges;

- o septic tank pumpings;
- o grease and grit trap wastes;
- wastes from commercial or industrial wastewater treatment plants; air pollution control facilities; and tanks, drums, or containers used for shipping or storing any material that has been listed as a hazardous constituent in 40 CFR, Part 261, Appendix VIII but has not been listed as a commercial chemical product in 40 CFR §261.33(e) or (f);
- soil contaminated by petroleum products, crude oils, or chemicals in concentrations of greater than 1,500 milligrams per kilogram total petroleum hydrocarbons; or contaminated by constituents of concern that exceed the concentrations listed in Table 1 of 30 TAC §335.521(a)(1);
- o incinerator ash;
- o used oil;
- lead acid storage batteries; and
- o used-oil filters from internal combustion engines.

#### 3.2 Waste Acceptance Amounts and Storage Durations

Waste acceptance rates are tabulated below in Table I/II-1.

Year of Operation	Estimated Annual Waste Acceptance Rate <sup>(1)(2)</sup> (tons/year)	Estimated Daily Average Waste Acceptance Rate <sup>(1)(2)</sup> (tons/day)	Maximum Amount of Solid Waste Allowed to be Received Annually <sup>(3)</sup> (tons/year)	Maximum Amount of Solid Waste Allowed to be Received Daily <sup>(3)</sup> (tons/day)
1	636,300	2,039	998,400	3,200
2	669,200	2,145	998,400	3,200
3	669,200	2,145	998,400	3,200
4	669,200	2,145	998,400	3,200
5	669,200	2,145	998,400	3,200

### TABLE I/II-15-YEAR PROJECTION OF WASTE ACCEPTANCE RATES

Notes:

(1) Individual daily acceptance rates are expected to fluctuate on a day-to-day basis. The basis for the estimated daily average and estimated annual waste acceptance rate in Year 1 is the assumption that the Austin Community RDF landfill (Permit MSW-249D) is accepting only de minimis waste quantities or has ceased accepting waste and is in the process of being/is closed. "De minimis quantities of waste" is defined herein as less than 300 tons/day of waste accepted by the Austin Community RDF for landfill disposal. Additionally, during this short-term transition period of "dual operations" (i.e., when both the landfill and the transfer station are accepting waste), the maximum transfer station waste acceptance rate will be limited so that the maximum combined amount of waste received per day at the landfill and the transfer station will not exceed 3,200 tons/day. The resulting Year 1 transfer station daily average and annual waste acceptance rate is a weighted-average estimate based on the market conditions projected to exist under the assumption of a four-month dual operation transition period when the landfill is accepting 300 tons/day (with average daily transfer station waste acceptance estimates correspondingly reduced to 1,825 tons/day), and the remaining eight months of Year 1 with the landfill accepting no waste, and the transfer station accepting a daily average of 2,145 tons/day. The estimated annual waste acceptance rate in Year 1 is calculated by multiplying the weighted-average daily rate by 312 days (i.e., operating 6 days/week, 52 weeks/year), rounded to the nearest hundred tons.

(2) The basis for the estimated daily average and estimated annual waste acceptance rate in Year 2 and beyond is the assumption that the Austin Community RDF landfill (Permit MSW-249D) has ceased accepting waste and is in the process of being/is closed. The resulting transfer station daily average and annual waste acceptance rates for Year 2 and beyond are estimated based on the market conditions projected to exist under this assumption. For this, the estimated annual waste acceptance

rate is calculated by multiplying the average daily rate by 312 days (i.e., operating 6 days/week, 52 weeks/year), rounded to the nearest hundred tons.

(2) The maximum amount of waste that would be allowed to be received annually is calculated by multiplying the maximum allowable daily waste acceptance rate (registered limit) by 312 days (i.e., operating 6 days/week, 52 weeks/year), rounded to the nearest hundred tons. The "dual operations" combined daily tonnage limitation set forth above in Note 1 will apply. However, for the purposes of calculating maximum daily and annual values for the transfer station, a worst-case (i.e., largest) transfer station waste acceptance rate of 3,200 tons/day is used. With the limitation in place that the dual operations cannot exceed a combined total of 3,200 tons/day, this means by definition that the landfill would be accepting no waste under this calculation scenario used as the basis for establishing the maximum possible amount of waste that the transfer station could accept.

In addition to the waste acceptance rates tabulated above, the following storage-related amounts and durations are established:

- On average, solid waste accepted at the facility will be transferred on a daily basis (i.e., remaining at the facility for less than 24 hours).
- The maximum length of time material will remain (i.e., be temporarily stored) on-site is 48 hours.
- The maximum amount of waste that may be stored at the facility for more than 24 hours is 2,500 tons.

#### 3.3 Facility Service Area

#### **3.3.1** Waste Sources and Generation Areas

The facility will serve, in general, individuals, businesses, communities, institutions, and public and private solid waste collection vehicles in the City of Austin, Travis County, and surrounding counties.

#### 3.3.2 Population-Equivalent Served

The average population-equivalent of areas served by the facility, using the above 5-year average daily projected waste acceptance rates and a per capita disposal rate of 5 lbs/person/day, is 858,000 persons.

#### 3.4 Facility Design Capacity

It is important to recognize that the facility, based on its size and other design attributes, has the theoretical design capacity to safely and efficiently transfer more than the maximum amounts tabulated in Table I/II-1 on a daily (and annual) basis. For example, the transfer station has been designed with additional tipping floor area for staging and storage of waste. Table I/II-2, presented on the following page, provides a summary of the facility's theoretical design capacity, along with associated assumptions that form the basis for these calculations.

#### 3.5 Intended Destination of Solid Waste Received at this Facility

The destination of the solid waste received by the facility is a properly-permitted Type I MSW facility, where the waste will be disposed.

#### 3.6 Facility Qualification as a Registration

Per 30 TAC §330.9(b)(4), this transfer station facility qualifies for a registration because it will be located within the permitted boundaries of an MSW Type I facility (namely, the Austin Community RDF, TCEQ Permit No. MSW-249D).

Item	Value	Notes
Unloading		
Number of Tipping Floor Unloading Positions	6	-
Average Time to Unload a Collection Vehicle (minutes)	8	Conservative value - typically able to unload more quickly
Number of Vehicles Unloaded Per Hour, Per Position	7	Calculated as 60 minutes per hour divided by the average loading time (and rounded down to nearest whole number)
Hourly Unloading Capacity (tons/hour)	294	Calculated as number of vehicles per hour per position x number of positions x average collection vehicle capacity (i.e., 7 tons)
Daily Unloading Capacity (tons/day)	5,880	Calculated as the hourly capacity multiplied by the number of operating hours per day (assumed to be 20 hours - but not a limiting parameter of the registration)

### TABLE I/II-2THEORETICAL FACILITY DESIGN CAPACITY

Load-out Capacity		
Number of Transfer Trailer Loading Positions	2	-
Average Time to Load a Transfer Trailer (minutes)	15	Conservative value - typically able to transfer and load-out more quickly
Number of Vehicles Loaded Per Hour, Per Position	4	Calculated as 60 minutes per hour divided by the average loading time (and rounded down to nearest whole number)
Hourly Load-out Capacity (tons/hour)	160	Calculated as number of vehicles per hour per position x number of positions x average transfer trailer vehicle capacity (i.e., 20 tons)
Daily Load-out Capacity (tons/day)	3,200	Calculated as the hourly capacity multiplied by the number of operating hours per day (assumed to be 20 hours - but not a limiting parameter of the registration)

Theoretical Maximum Design Capacity

The above scenario, while not particularly likely (because it assumes the transfer station is running at its peak efficiency for a 20-hour day), is used to establish the maximum design-basis transfer rate of the facility. The 20-hour day assumption is not a limiting parameter of this registration. Also, a conservatively-low transfer vehicle capacity was assumed solely for the purposes of generating a conservative load-out design capacity calculation. From the above scenario, the limiting factor for determining the design capacity is the Daily Load-out Capacity plus the Available Storage to be provided. As such, the theoretical daily design capacity of the facility is: 3,200 tons/day + 2,500 tons/day = 5,700 tons/day.

#### 4. **PROPERTY, OWNER, AND OPERATOR INFORMATION**

This section provides property and owner-related information, to address the requirements of 30 TAC §330.59(d) through (h).

#### 4.1 <u>Legal Description of Facility</u>

A legal description of the transfer station registration boundary is presented in Appendix I/IIC.

#### 4.2 <u>Property Ownership</u>

As shown on the documentation provided in Appendix I/IIC, WMTX is the owner of the land that comprises the Austin Community RDF permit boundary, and accordingly owns the land within the transfer station registration boundary that is situated entirely within the permit boundary of the existing Austin Community RDF.

Property owner affidavits and legal authority are discussed subsequently in Section 4.4 (with legal authority documentation in Appendix I/IID).

#### 4.3 <u>Easements</u>

A survey of easements within the Austin Community RDF permit boundary is presented on a survey drawing in Appendix I/IIC. These easement locations are derived from the surveyor's easement research on recorded easements listed in the real property records of Travis County for the subject parcels of land. For this registration application, updated easement research was conducted for areas within and adjacent to the transfer station registration boundary. This surveyor's easement map focused on the transfer station registration boundary and adjacent areas is also provided in Appendix I/IIC. These on-site utility easements are also included on the Transfer Station Area Site Plan (Drawing I/IIA-7). As shown, there are six utility easements (and zero drainage or pipeline easements) within the transfer station boundary, but there are no easements in the area that will be occupied by the transfer station building. Accordingly, no solid waste loading or storage will occur within any easement (or right of way) that crosses the facility.

#### 4.4 **Property Owner Affidavit and Legal Authority**

WMTX is the owner and operator of the facility. WMTX is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Waste Management, Inc., a Delaware corporation based in Houston, Texas, whose shares are publicly

traded on the New York Stock Exchange. No other person or entity owns more than 20-percent of the company or facility.

A signed property owner affidavit, pursuant to 30 TAC §330.59(d)(2), is presented in Appendix I/IID. The legal authority and status of the applicant has been verified as required by 30 TAC §330.59(e) and §281.5 and is also included in Appendix I/IID.

#### 4.5 <u>Evidence of Competency – Facility Operator</u>

Information demonstrating the competency of the facility operator is presented in Appendix I/IIE.

#### 4.6 <u>Appointment Letters</u>

Letters that authorize the Applicant's Agent to sign the application, and that designate the Engineer, are presented in Appendix I/IIF.

#### 5. OTHER PERMITS/AUTHORIZATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

#### 5.1 Other Permits or Approvals/Authorizations

Besides this TCEQ registration application for the proposed Type V MSW facility (transfer station), other facility permits, authorizations, or construction approvals within the transfer station registration boundary, or that are otherwise applicable/relevant, are identified on the Part I Application Form.

#### 5.2 <u>Non-Applicable Regulatory Programs</u>

The facility will not accept or manage hazardous or radioactive waste, perform underground injection or ocean dumping of waste, or discharge waste into waters of the U.S. Also, the facility does not propose to perform subsurface area drip dispersal. No jurisdictional wetlands will be affected. Therefore, the facility does not require any additional permits or construction approvals under the following programs:

- Hazardous Waste Management Program under the Texas Solid Waste Disposal Act;
- Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program under the Texas Injection Well Act;
- Ocean dumping permits under the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act;
- Dredge or fill permits under the Federal Clean Water Act;
- Licenses under the Texas Radiation Control Act; or
- Subsurface area drip dispersal system permits under Texas Water Code, Chapter 32.

#### 5.3 <u>Application Fees</u>

On behalf of the applicant, Geosyntec Consultants has paid the \$150 registration application fee. The e-pay receipt confirmation number is provided on the Part I Application Form, and a copy of the payment receipt is attached to the overall application cover letter at the front of the application binder.

#### 5.4 <u>Internet Posting</u>

In accordance with 30 TAC §330.57(i), a complete copy of this application will be posted (upon submittal of the application to TCEQ) to the internet at the publicly-accessible website identified (Web address link provided) on the Part I Application Form. Future revisions and supplements to

the application will be posted at the same location. The internet posting is for informational purposes only.

#### 5.5 <u>Other Owner/Operator Acknowledgements and Informational Items</u>

The owner/operator acknowledges the following:

- The construction and operation of this facility must comply with Subchapter U of 30 TAC Chapter 330 (relating to Standard Air Permits for Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Facilities and Transfer Stations), or other approved air authorizations. As indicated in the Part I Application Form, the Austin Community RDF facility has received an Air New Source Review (Standard Air Permit) Registration and holds a Title V Air Permit. These air authorizations will be amended as needed to incorporate the transfer station as a co-located facility within the landfill permit boundary before the transfer station is placed into operation or when otherwise required.
- Liquids resulting from the operation of this facility will be disposed of in a manner that will not cause surface water or groundwater pollution. The facility will provide for the treatment of wastewaters resulting from waste management activities and from cleaning and washing. The operator will ensure that stormwater and wastewater management is in compliance with the regulations of the Commission. As indicated in the table in the Part I Application Form, the Austin Community RDF facility has received a TPDES Storm Water Multi-Sector General Permit. Permit coverage for the transfer station under the TPDES program will be obtained as described and certified in Section 9.3 of this Part I/II Report.
- It is the responsibility of the owner or operator to possess the property-related rights and interests required by applicable provisions of 30 TAC §330.67.
- It is the responsibility of the owner or operator to obtain any permits or approvals that may be required by local agencies, such as for building construction, discharge of uncontaminated waters into ditches under control of a drainage district, discharge of effluent into a local sanitary sewer, etc.
- The owner or operator will be aware of and meet their requirements and responsibilities associated with the public notice process for registrations, as required by applicable provisions of 30 TAC §330.69.
- The owner or operator will be aware of and meet their requirements and responsibilities associated with standard registration conditions for MSW facilities, as required by applicable provisions of 30 TAC §330.73.

#### 6. LAND USE

#### 6.1 Land Use Information

A land use evaluation was conducted for this project to assess the potential impact of the facility on the surrounding area. A comprehensive land use analysis was performed by Richardson Verdoorn (RVi) in 2006 for the TCEQ-permitted expansion of the Austin Community RDF (TCEQ Permit No. MSW-249D). The RVi analysis was adopted as the baseline for the current Austin Community Transfer Station land use evaluation, and updated for this registration application as appropriate to reflect current land use conditions and growth trends. The results of the analysis are summarized in the following sections and updated with more current information where applicable. A copy of the RVi land use analysis is included in Appendix I/IIG.

Existing land uses in the area were determined using City of Austin GIS data (including land use maps), the City of Austin's Property Profile website, 2018 aerial imagery, the THC's Texas Historic Sites Atlas, and the Travis County Cemetery Project. CAPCOG's Regional Solid Waste Management Plan: 2002-2022 was also reviewed for information relevant to land use compatibility.

#### 6.1.1 Zoning

There is no zoning within the proposed transfer station registration boundary. Zoning within the two-mile radius of the site and the zoning district definitions are shown on Drawing I/IIA-10. The transfer station registration boundary is not within the city limits of any municipality, nor is it within the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) of a municipality. When this registration application was initially filed on 27 September 2019, the site was within the ETJ of the City of Austin; however, the City of Austin subsequently released portions of the WMTX property, including the entire area occupied by the transfer station registration boundary, from its ETJ. A copy of the City of Austin Ordinance releasing the land from its ETJ is included in Appendix I/IIG.

#### 6.1.2 Surrounding Land Use

#### **Overview of Surrounding Land Uses**

The characteristics of the surrounding land use within a one-mile radius of the transfer station registration boundary were investigated, and the results show that land within the one-mile radius of the site is developed with a wide variety of commercial, industrial, residential, institutional, and recreational uses. The area includes residential areas, one school, recreational facilities, a day care,

a golf course, a church, ponds (stock tanks and stormwater management ponds), and landfills, as well as large portions of undeveloped "open" land. A "General Land Use Map" is presented on Drawing I/IIA-8, and a "Detailed Land Use Map" is presented in Drawing I/IIA-9. A "Structures and Inhabitable Buildings Map," showing buildings and inhabitable structures within 500 feet of the site, is presented on Drawing I/IIA-12. The following table provides an approximate breakdown, by percent of total area, of the existing land uses within one mile of the transfer station registration boundary (and excluding the land within the registration boundary) (see also Drawing I/IIA-8 and I/IIA-9).

Land Use	Area in Acres*	Percentage of Total Area
Industrial	1,169	46.7
Open	758	30.3
Commercial	171	6.8
Recreational	169	6.7
Residential	162	6.5
Water	51	2.0
Institutional	25	1.0
Total	2,505	100

### TABLE I/II-3SUMMARY OF SURROUNDING LAND USE

\*based on examination of aerial imagery dated November 2019 and latest available City of Austin (COA) Land Use mapping information (dated 2016, and obtained in November 2019).

#### **Directional Land Uses**

A description of the surrounding land use in each direction around the site, within one mile of the transfer station registration boundary, is presented below.

- <u>North</u>. The closed Sunset Farms Landfill lies directly to the north of the site. Beyond that landfill, land use is a mix of undeveloped/agricultural and residential, including a school and a day care facility.
- <u>East</u>. Land use east of the site is a mix of industrial, undeveloped, residential, recreational, and commercial. A church and a large semiconductor manufacturer are located east of the site.

- <u>South</u>. Land use immediately south of the site is a mix of retail commercial and warehousing. Further south, across U.S. Highway 290, land use is a mix of undeveloped/agricultural, retail commercial/office, institutional, warehousing, residential, and industrial, including a pipeline terminal/fuel storage facility.
- <u>West</u>. The Austin Community RDF and the closed Travis County Landfill are located west of the site. Besides those landfills, land use towards the west is a mix of industrial and commercial.

#### **Summary**

The surrounding land use within one mile of the site is summarized below.

- There are 880 residential units, including:
  - Approximately 691 single family homes; and
  - 2 multifamily properties with approximately 189 housing units.
- There are approximately 43 businesses representing a mix of commercial, manufacturing, and industrial activity.
- Undeveloped, park/park-like, or agricultural land, which includes the following:
  - Bluebonnet Hill Golf Course;
  - Southern Walnut Creek Greenbelt;
  - Walnut Creek Sports Park;
  - Harris Branch Recreational Center and Neighborhood Park; and
  - Undeveloped/agricultural land.
- There are three landfills: the active Austin Community RDF, the closed Sunset Farms Landfill, and the closed Travis County Landfill.
- The Community Bible Fellowship Church is approximately 300 feet east of the site.

The total land area within a one-mile radius is 3.9 square miles. Based on the number of housing units in the area, it is estimated that the population density within a one-mile radius of the site is about 582 people per square mile. This is estimated by assuming an average of 2.58 people per household (the average for Travis County based on the latest available 2013-2017 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate [census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/ traviscountytexas/PST045218]). Overall, the land within a one-mile radius of the transfer station

registration boundary has a lower population density than Travis County as a whole, where the average population density is about 1,034 people per square mile (based on the same 5-Year Estimate referenced above). The land within one mile of the transfer station registration boundary can be summarized as being a suburban area used for a mix of industrial, residential, and commercial.

#### 6.1.3 Growth Trends and Directions of Major Development

The 2006 RVi Land Use Analysis included in Appendix I/IIG provides a detailed description of growth trends near the Austin Community RDF site through the mid-2000s. The Austin Community RDF and vicinity was at that time, and continues to be, located in one of the most rapidly growing sectors of the Austin metropolitan area. The five-mile radius around the existing Austin Community RDF has continued and will continue to experience substantial residential growth. From 2000 through the first half of 2006, the area within five miles around the Austin Community RDF increased by 6,580 households, from 49,447 households to 56,027. With respect to the proposed transfer station facility and growth trends at the time of this application, much of the residential growth within five miles is occurring within major new subdivisions located north and east of the facility. Based on historical aerial imagery available since 2006, the area surrounding the site has continued to experience rapid growth.

Population growth estimates in the eight ZIP codes that make up the majority of the area within five miles of the transfer station registration boundary were made using the City of Austin's "DTI 2040 Population and Employment Forecast." Projected growth in these ZIP codes is estimated as follows:

ZIP code	2020 Population Forecast	2040 Population Forecast	% growth from 2020 to 2040
78754 (site is in this ZIP code)	19,975	34,727	74%
78752	25,536	37,752	48%
78753	47,114	56,769	20%
78723	39,282	52,638	34%
78724	22,138	34,419	55%
78725	13,972	25,678	84%
78653	14,759	43,371	194%
78660	32,776	43,853	34%

#### TABLE I/II-4 REGIONAL GROWTH

#### 6.1.4 Proximity to Specified Uses

The aforementioned general and detailed land use maps (Drawings I/IIA-8 and I/IIA-9, respectively) show the proximity to residences and other land uses within a one-mile radius of the transfer station registration boundary, and the surrounding land use was summarized in the previous subsections. The proximity to specified uses within one mile of the facility is as follows:

- <u>Residences.</u> Based on a review of the latest available aerial imagery (obtained in January 2020, with latest available imagery dated January 13, 2018), it is estimated that there are approximately 880 existing residences located within one mile of the facility. The nearest existing residence is approximately 3,037 feet north of the facility, in the Parkside at Harris Branch subdivision.
- <u>Commercial Establishments.</u> Based on a review of aerial imagery (obtained in January 2020, with latest available imagery dated January 13, 2018), it is estimated that there are approximately 43 businesses within one mile of the site, representing a mix of both commercial and industrial activity. However, the majority of the business activity is industrial. Excluding the Austin Community RDF, the nearest business is the 7-Eleven Convenience Store located to the south of the site.
- <u>Churches.</u> There is one church located within one mile of the site: The Community Bible Fellowship Church is located on Giles Lane, approximately 300 feet east of the site.
- <u>Historic/Archaeologically Significant Sites.</u> There are no historic sites located within one mile of the site.

Horizon Environmental Services, Inc. performed a Cultural Resources Survey in 2003 which included undisturbed portions of the Austin Community RDF site as of the date of the field assessment. The assessment concluded that there would be "no effect" to cultural resources by the then-proposed expansion of the Austin Community RDF. The survey was forwarded to the THC for concurrence. The THC concurred that no historic properties were affected and the landfill expansion project may proceed. The correspondence with the THC, as well as the Cultural Resources Survey, are included in Appendix I/IIK.

In 2019, additional coordination has occurred with the THC to inform them of the proposed transfer station and request their review of the project for conformance with the Texas Antiquities Code. The THC replied to the request with a response dated 25 October 2019 that indicated "No Significant Sites – Project May Proceed." This documentation of coordination for this project is also included in Appendix I/IIK.

- <u>Parks.</u> There are three recreational areas and one golf course located within one mile of the site. Walnut Creek Sports Park is located approximately 0.75 mile south of the site along Daffan Lane. Southern Walnut Creek Greenbelt is located approximately 0.9 mile south of the site, south of Old Manor Road. Harris Branch Recreational Center and Harris Branch Neighborhood Park are located approximately 0.8 mile north of the site on Farmhaven Road. The Bluebonnet Hill Golf Course (public) is located approximately 2,700 feet southeast of the site on Decker Lane.
- <u>Schools and Day Care Centers.</u> There is one school located within one mile of the site. The Bluebonnet Trail Elementary School is located approximately 5,029 feet northwest of the site on Farmhaven Road. There is one licensed day care facility located within one mile of the site. The Children's Courtyard is located approximately 3,580 feet northeast of the site on Harris Branch Parkway.
- <u>Ponds and Lakes.</u> There are scattered ponds (mostly stock tanks and stormwater management basins) located within the one-mile radius around the site. There are no lakes within one mile of the site.
- <u>Other</u>. There are no known sites having exceptional aesthetic quality within one mile of the facility.

#### 6.2 <u>Wells Within 500-Feet of the Facility</u>

In Appendix I/IIA, drawings are included that present water well map and an oil and gas well map. These maps include a 500-ft offset line from the transfer station registration boundary, and reveal the following:

- <u>Water Wells</u>: There are no known off-site water well locations within 500 feet of the registration boundary. Further, there are also no known existing water wells located within the facility boundary. Water well abandonment is discussed subsequently in Section 10.1.
- <u>Oil and Gas Wells</u>: There are no known off-site oil and gas well locations within 500 feet of the registration boundary. Further, there are also no known oil and gas wells located within the facility boundary. Oil and gas well abandonment is discussed subsequently in Section 10.2.

#### 6.3 <u>Prevailing Wind Direction</u>

A wind rose is included on a location map in Appendix I/IIA (see Drawing I/IIA-12). The wind rose indicates that the prevailing wind direction in the area is from the south.

#### 6.4 <u>Easements and Buffer Zones</u>

#### 6.4.1 Easements

As discussed previously in Section 4.3 of this report, there are six utility easements (and zero drainage or pipeline easements) within the transfer station registration boundary, but there are no easements in the area that will be occupied by the transfer station building. Accordingly, no solid waste loading or storage will occur within any easement (or right of way) that crosses the facility, nor in any buffer zone.

#### 6.4.2 Buffer Zones

30 TAC §330.543(b) requires that a minimum 50-ft separating distance be maintained between the facility boundary and solid waste storage and processing areas. The buffer zone must provide for safe passage for fire-fighting and other emergency vehicles.

The buffer zones are evident on the facility layout plan presented in Part III, Attachment 1, Drawing III-1-4), and the shortest buffer distance is labeled on this plan (i.e., a 56-ft distance from the transfer station building to the eastern registration boundary, but because the adjoining land to the east is owned by WMTX the shortest setback from land not owned/controlled by WMTX is 249-ft). As shown, a 50-ft or greater buffer will be maintained between the transfer station and the facility boundary.

#### 6.5 <u>Conclusions Regarding Land Use</u>

The Austin Community Transfer Station is viewed as a compatible land use for the following reasons:

1. The Austin Community RDF (landfill) has been in existence for over 45 years (the initial MSW landfill permit for the property was issued in 1974), and solid waste management activities have been a continuous, predominant land use in the area since 1968. The transfer station operation would be a continuation of this established land use.

2. The closed Travis County Landfill and the closed Sunset Farms Landfill are located directly south and north of the site, respectively. In addition, the Austin Community RDF will be filled to capacity and closed in the near future. The presence of these landfills further establishes the presence of waste management activities as a land use, and these nearby features will limit the ability to significantly develop or change the use of that nearby land.

#### 7. TRANSPORTATION

#### 7.1 <u>Roads and Traffic</u>

A comprehensive Transportation Study evaluating roads and traffic was performed for the Austin Community RDF for Permit MSW-249D – covering a study period through the year 2027. This process included agency coordination with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), who provided affirmation that they have "no objections" to the findings of the study that the main roads that will be used to access the site are available and adequate. Copies of the Transportation Study and the TxDOT coordination letters and response are provided in Appendix I/IIH of this application as supporting information relevant to the following:

- availability and adequacy of roads that the owner or operator will use to access the site, which are the same roads for the transfer station as they were for the Austin Community RDF, as studied, namely:
  - US 290;
  - Giles Lane; and
  - o Johnny Morris Road.
- the volume of vehicular traffic on access roads within one mile of the facility, both existing and expected, during the expected life of the facility; and
- the volume of traffic expected to be generated by the facility on the access roads within one mile of the proposed facility, which, as discussed below, is greater for the Austin Community RDF than will be for the transfer station.

#### Volume of Traffic Associated with Proposed Transfer Station:

If the transfer station were to operate at its maximum daily waste acceptance rate (see Section 3.2, Table I/II-1 in the Part I/II Supplemental Technical Report), the estimated facility-generated vehicles are tabulated below in Table I/II-5.

Vehicle Type	Truck Capacity (tons)	Estimated Distribution of Waste Stream <sup>(1)</sup> (tons/day)	Estimated Vehicle Counts <sup>(2)</sup> (vehicles/day)	
Collection - Rear Loader	6	700	117	
Collection - Front Loader	10	2,200	220	
Collection - Rolloffs	5	290	58	
Private Individuals	0.25	10	40	
	Subtotal	3,200	435	
Transfer Trailers	25	3,200	128	
Facility Personnel/Misc.	-	-	10	
	1	<b>Sotal Vehicles per Day</b>	573	
		Total Trips per Day	1,146	

### TABLE I/II-5 TRANSFER STATION PEAK DAILY TRAFFIC GENERATION ESTIMATE

Notes:

(1) The distribution of waste stream is based on operator experience with hauling and transfer stations, and assumes a peak day (i.e., receiving waste at the maximum allowable daily rate).

(2) Vehicle counts refer to one-way trips (i.e., vehicles entering the site). To obtain the total number of vehicle trips on public roadways, the vehicle counts should be doubled (to account for vehicles both entering and leaving the facility on the same day).

(3) Vehicles for facility personnel/miscellaneous were conservatively estimated as being 10 vehicles per day (considered a conservatively high estimate).

#### Comparison of Transfer Station Traffic to Landfill Traffic:

For the year 2027, the comprehensive Transportation Study conducted for the Austin Community RDF estimated 667 vehicles (i.e., 1,334 trips) per day. Actual 2019 scale records from the Austin Community RDF provide accurate daily vehicle counts and waste tonnage received. From this, comparisons can be made of the actual waste vehicle daily traffic being generated by the landfill versus the estimated daily traffic that will be generated by the transfer station. These comparisons are presented below in Table I/II-6.

Item	2019 Landfill Daily Tonnage Values	2019 Landfill Daily Traffic Values (# of Vehicles)	Transfer Station Daily Tonnage Estimates	Transfer Station Daily Traffic Estimates (# of Vehicles)
Peak Day	5,213	623	3,200	573
Average of Busiest Day of Each Month	4,345	592	3,006	538
Average of M-F Operating Days	3,469	550	2,442	437
Average of All Operating Days	3,045	504	2,145	384

### TABLE I/II-6 COMPARISON OF LANDFILL TRAFFIC TO TRANSFER STATION TRAFFIC

Operation of the transfer station will be phased in as the landfill phases out of operation -i.e., the transfer station will not commence operation until the landfill nears its full capacity and is accepting only de minimis amounts of waste. "De minimis quantities of waste" is defined herein as less than 300 tons/day of waste accepted by the Austin Community RDF for landfill disposal. Additionally, during this short-term transition period of "dual operations" (i.e., when both the landfill and the transfer station are accepting waste), the maximum transfer station waste acceptance rate will be limited so that the maximum combined amount of waste received per day at the landfill and the transfer station will not exceed 3,200 tons/day (i.e., the maximum amount of waste received by the two facilities on any day that the transfer station is in operation will not exceed 3,200 tons). Thus, the cumulative traffic impacts from the co-located facilities will be minimal as the two facilities will not be fully operational at the same time. As shown by the comparisons presented above for the case when the landfill is not accepting waste, the daily number of vehicles (and corresponding vehicle trips in and out of the site) will go down for the transfer station on its peak and average operating days, as compared to the daily number of vehicles generated by the landfill on its peak and average operating days. The transfer station traffic volumes are also less than those that were the basis of the Transportation Study for the Austin Community RDF permit.

During the initial transition period of dual operations, a worst-case peak day for the transfer station would be on a day when the landfill accepts 300 tons of waste and the transfer station would accept a maximum of 2,900 tons of waste. On such a day, the transfer station would be estimated to generate 519 vehicles, and the landfill would be estimated to generate 50 vehicles, for a total of 569 vehicles. This is not tabulated above because it represents a short-term case that will only

exist during a brief time period (estimated to be about four months or less) after transfer station operations commence – and, more importantly – because the combined total number of vehicles for dual-operations of the landfill and transfer station is less than a peak day when only the transfer station is accepting waste, due to the tonnage limitation that will be imposed on the transfer station registration.

#### Volume of Vehicular Traffic on Roads Used to Access the Transfer Station:

Data on the volume of vehicular traffic, existing and projected, on the roads within one mile of the proposed transfer station that will be used to access the facility are tabulated below in Table I/II-7. The existing data were obtained from recent TxDOT-published traffic count data sources, as referenced in the footnotes to the table. The projected data were calculated using the population forecast in the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (regional growth percentage from 2020 to 2040).

Road Segment/Location	TxDOT- Published Traffic Counts <sup>(1)(2)</sup> (vpd)	Landfill- Generated Traffic Contribution <sup>(3)</sup> (%)	Projected 2040 Traffic <sup>(4)</sup> (vpd)	Transfer Station- Generated Traffic Contribution <sup>(5)</sup> (%)
US 290 at Giles Lane	62,306	1.1%	116,859	0.5%
Giles Lane - South of Transfer Station				
Entrance	8,619	11.6%	18,184	5.0%
Giles Lane - North of Transfer Station				
Entrance	6,648	3.7%	14,026	1.6%
Johnny Morris Road - South of US 290	5,990	5.6%	12,637	2.4%

### TABLE I/II-7VOLUME OF TRAFFIC ON AREA ROADS

Key: vpd = Vehicles per Day

1. Data Source for US 290: TxDOT 2018 District Traffic Web Viewer, AADT Annuals.

2. Data Source for Giles Ln. and Johnny Morris Rd.: TxDOT "2015 Austin Urban Traffic Map (Sheet 83 of 139 Urban Sheets)," Average Daily Traffic Counts(Sept. 2016).

3. Landfill-generated traffic contribution is based on the 2019 peak landfill daily vehicle trips (i.e., 623 vehicles x 2 trips = 1,246 vehicle trips).

4. Projected 2040 traffic is calculated using the regional growth percentage presented in the CAMPO 2040 Regional Transportation Plan population forecast.

5. Transfer station-generated traffic contribution is based on the peak transfer station daily vehicle trips (i.e., 573 vehicles x 2 trips = 1,146 vehicle trips).

The above TxDOT traffic data are from years when the Austin Community RDF was operating; therefore, landfill-generated traffic are included in these counts. The key takeaway from Table I/II-7 is that the transfer station, with a registered maximum daily waste acceptance rate and, thus, a constant maximum value of peak daily traffic over the life of the facility – will contribute a small and ever-decreasing percentage of the total traffic volumes on these area roadways during the life of the transfer station.

#### Traffic Conclusions:

From the data presented herein and for the reasons described below, this proposed facility (i.e., the transfer station) will result in lower facility-generated traffic volumes as compared to the Austin Community RDF. Therefore, it is apparent that the transfer station will have <u>less traffic impact</u> on

surrounding roadways than the already-approved and operating landfill. Accordingly, it is concluded that the <u>roads the operator will use to access the site are available and adequate</u>. This conclusion is based on the following rationale:

- The comprehensive Transportation Study (attached) for the landfill was for a study period through the year 2027.
- The comprehensive Transportation Study for the landfill considered planned improvements to US 290 and the Giles Lane intersection. These improvements, now constructed, have improved safety and traffic flow.
- The comprehensive Transportation Study was based on the landfill generating 667 vehicles per day (i.e., 1,334 trips per day) in 2027. Accurate landfill vehicle counts from scale records reveal that on the peak landfill operating day of 2019 when the most tonnage was received and the most traffic was generated, 623 vehicles crossed the scale (i.e., 1,246 trips).
- The transfer station will restrict its allowable tonnage to not exceed a maximum allowable value; using the waste hauling truck capacities, throughout its expected life the transfer station facility is projected to generate no more than 573 vehicles per day (i.e., 1,146 trips) on a peak day if operating at the maximum allowable waste acceptance rate.
- The transfer station daily waste acceptance rates will fluctuate from day-to-day, but are projected to be, on average, well below the allowable daily maximum (see Table I/II-6). Accordingly, the transfer station traffic generation is also well below that of a peak day (e.g., about 437 vehicles (874 trips) on an average weekday again, also indicating a reduction compared to average daily landfill traffic generation at the Austin Community RDF.
- The distribution of transfer station traffic throughout the day is anticipated to be similar to that of the landfill. The waste vehicle types will also be similar.
- It can be reasonably concluded that the proposed transfer station will have less overall traffic impact compared to the landfill, and that the roads used to access the site are available and adequate, based on the following considerations: (i) the transfer station traffic volumes will be reduced as compared to those actually being experienced at the Austin Community RDF on its peak and average daily (and annual) basis; (ii) the transfer station will generate less traffic than the landfill that was used as the basis for the comprehensive Transportation Study; and (iii) the transfer station's maximum peak daily traffic will remain constant over time due to the registered limit on the transfer station's maximum allowable daily waste acceptance, resulting in a small and ever-decreasing contribution

percentage to the traffic volumes projected on area roadways over the expected life of the transfer station.

A coordination letter was submitted to TxDOT in September 2019 for this proposed transfer station (see Appendix I/IIH), requesting their review and concurrence of these findings. TxDOT's October 2019 reply and documentation of additional follow-up coordination is also included in Appendix I/IIH.

#### 7.2 <u>Airports</u>

An airport map is provided in Appendix I/IIA. The map presents the current edition of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Sectional Aeronautical Chart for the area, identifies the site location, and shows a six-mile offset radius from the facility's registration boundary. As shown, there is one small public-use airport within six miles of the facility: the Austin Executive Airport (formerly known as the Bird's Nest Airport), located approximately 5.1 miles northeast of the facility. A small private-use airport, the Dryden Airport, is located approximately 4.2 miles south of the facility. As additional information, it is noted that the nearest large, public/commercial use airport is Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA), which is more than 8.2 miles south of the facility.

Because the proposed transfer station is located much more than 10,000 feet from the end of any airport runway, a demonstration of airport safety per 30 TAC §330.545(a) is not required. Furthermore, because the proposed transfer station is not a "landfill unit" or "lateral expansion" of a landfill unit, the FAA and airport notifications for landfills within a six-mile radius of an airport (or five-mile radius of any large commercial airport runways), per 30 TAC §330.545(b), are not applicable.

The transfer station will manage solid waste indoors, within a single-story building with a roof, of a height much lower than surrounding terrain. Therefore, no adverse impacts to air traffic or airport safety will be created by transfer station operations.

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL

#### 8. GENERAL GEOLOGY AND SOILS STATEMENT

#### 8.1 <u>Geology</u>

The site is underlain by the Upper Cretaceous age Taylor Group. The Taylor Group consists of massive beds of shale and marl, with clayey chalk, clay, sand, and some nodular and phosphatic zones. Beneath the site, the upper portion of the Taylor is composed of weathered montmorillonite clay with high shrink/swell potential. The clay is generally hard and occasionally contains shell fragments. Underlying the weathered material is the unweathered Taylor Group, which in the site area is composed of calcareous claystone. The top if this unit is most often encountered between 20 and 50 ft below ground surface. Below the claystone is an unweathered marl layer. Based on regional data, the base of the Taylor Group in the site area is at a depth of approximately 700 ft below ground surface [Golder Associates, Permit Amendment Application, Austin Community Recycling & Disposal Facility, January 2008].

Underlying the Taylor Group is the Austin Chalk, which consists of massive beds of chalk and marl with bentonitic seams, glauconite, and pyrite nodules. The Austin Chalk is approximately 400-ft thick. Below the Austin Chalk are the Eagle Ford Group, Buda Limestone, and Del Rio Clay, which have a combined thickness of approximately 150 feet. Underlying those units are the Edwards and associated limestones, which have a thickness of approximately 300-ft. The base of the Edwards and associated limestones is approximately 1,600 feet below ground surface [Golder Associates, Permit Amendment Application, Austin Community Recycling & Disposal Facility, January 2008].

#### 8.2 <u>Topography and Soils</u>

The site is located in Travis County, Texas. The topography of Travis County decreases from west to east, with the greatest change in relief associated with the inactive Balcones Fault Zone. The Balcones Fault Zone divides Travis County into two physiographic provinces: the Gulf Coastal Plains to the east; and the Great Plains to the west. The Gulf Coastal Plain physiographic province is further subdivided into the Rolling Prairie Physiographic Region and the Blackland Prairie Physiographic Region.

The natural surface relief in the site area is towards both the Walnut Creek and Decker Creek drainage watersheds. Drainage features of the site are erosional valleys which generally transport surface water toward the southern, western, and eastern portions of the site. There is a natural drainage divide that passes through the eastern portion of the landfill facility, and the proposed transfer station facility is on the east side of this divide (with topography draining generally

eastward, ultimately reaching the Decker Creek watershed). Maps showing the general site topography are included with this report in Appendix I/IIA.

Shallow soils in the eastern portion of the landfill facility (where the proposed transfer station facility will be located) are predominantly Heiden Series, Houston-Black Series, and Ferris-Heiden complex. The Heiden Series are well-drained clay soils that are developed in calcareous marl under a cover of grasses. The Houston-Black Series consist of deep, moderately well drained soils that have developed in calcareous marls, alluvial clays, and chalk under prairie grasses. The Ferris-Heiden soils consist of deep clay soils developed in calcareous marls.

#### 8.3 <u>Faults</u>

The Balcones Fault Zone passes through the center of Travis County, from the northeast to southwest. The fault system is approximately six to eight miles wide and is located 2-3 miles west of the site. No movement has occurred along the fault since the Miocene Epoch, 12.5 to 5 million years ago.

A detailed fault study was previously prepared for the Austin Community RDF landfill in March 1994 by Rust Environmental and Infrastructure as part of the Subtitle D location restrictions evaluation and was evaluated and updated as needed in January 2008 by Golder Associates. From this, the nearest mapped inactive fault is located approximately 0.7 miles west of the western edge of the facility boundary (which is over 1.7 miles, or about 9,000-feet west of the proposed transfer station). There are no active faults or surface expressions of faults at the site or in the area.

#### 8.4 <u>Seismic Impact Zones</u>

It is important to note that regulatory requirements regarding the siting of MSW facilities include requirements for "municipal solid waste landfill units and lateral expansions" to not be located in seismic impact zones unless certain demonstrations are made (30 TAC §330.557). For this application – a proposed transfer station – this location restriction is not applicable. However, as general information on the seismicity (or lack thereof) in the area, an evaluation was performed for this application to assess whether the facility is in a seismic impact zone, based on available United States Geologic Survey (USGS) seismic hazard maps online at: https://earthquake.usgs.gov/hazards/hazmaps/. The results of this evaluation clearly indicate that facility is not in a seismic impact zone (i.e., an area with a 10 percent or greater probability that the maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material, expressed as a percentage of the earth's gravitational pull (g), will exceed 0.10g in 250 years).

#### 8.5 <u>Unstable Areas</u>

An unstable area assessment was previously prepared for the Austin Community RDF landfill as part of approved location restrictions, with the conclusion that no unstable areas exist at, or adjacent to, the site. The site is situated on a substantial thickness of stiff and stable Taylor Group materials that provide a good foundation, and is underlain by bedrock terrain, not prone to differential subsidence or karst activity, not in a setting susceptible to natural or human-induced events or forces that could impair structures, and not in an area susceptible to mass movement.

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL

#### 9. GROUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER STATEMENT

#### 9.1 <u>Groundwater</u>

The Taylor Group, which directly underlies the site, produces only a small amount of the total groundwater used in Travis County. In the site area, groundwater in the Taylor Group primarily occurs within the weathered portions, perched on top of unweathered claystone. These clays have a relatively high shrink/swell potential, and during dry periods, desiccation cracks may form and allow precipitation to enter the formation. Perched groundwater, where present, generally moves in subdued conformity to topography following the weathered/unweathered interface. On the eastern portion of the site, where the proposed transfer station will be located, the interface slopes gently toward the east.

The first significant aquifer underlying the site is the Edwards and associated limestones, at a depth of about 1,600 feet below ground surface. The site is located east of the downdip limit of fresh to slightly saline water, and the groundwater in the Edwards beneath the site is not considered potable because of high concentrations of dissolved solids. The site is more than five (5) miles away from a recharge zone of the Edwards. At the site, the Edwards is overlain by confining units that serve as low permeability aquitards.

#### 9.2 <u>Surface Water</u>

The transfer station facility is located within the Gilleland Creek-Colorado River watershed of the Lower Colorado River Basin (more specifically, within the Decker Creek sub-watershed). For reference, it is noted that the western portion of the landfill facility (non-transfer station areas) is located within the Walnut Creek Watershed of the Lower Colorado River Basin.

The major regional surface water features within the vicinity of the site include Ferguson Creek, Walnut Creek, Harris Branch, Gilleland Creek, Decker Creek, and Walter E. Long Lake. There are also several tributaries/branches of these creeks scattered around the vicinity of the site, along with scattered stock-tank-type ponds randomly located within a one-mile radius of the site. The general topographic maps presented in Appendix I/IIA show the streams and surface water bodies in the general site vicinity.

As mentioned, there is a natural drainage divide that passes through the eastern portion of the landfill facility, and the proposed transfer station facility is on the east side of this divide (with topography draining surface water generally eastward, ultimately reaching the Decker Creek watershed). Drainage west of this divide (not associated with transfer station areas) flows west,

ultimately reaching the Walnut Creek Watershed. The proposed transfer station facility will not modify the existing drainage system for the landfill.

Perimeter drainage features of the landfill are up-gradient from the proposed transfer station, and will divert water around and away from the transfer station area. The Site Development Plan (Part III, Attachment 2) includes a surface water drainage report that provides additional specifics on the drainage rates and drainage design features related to the proposed transfer station.

#### 9.3 **Stormwater Permitting Under TPDES**

#### **TPDES** Certification

Surface water from the existing landfill facility is discharged under Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Multi-Sector Storm Water General Permit TXR050000 (Permit No. TXR05AJ96) for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity, obtained through WMTX's filing of a Notice of Intent to comply with this TPDES Multi-Sector General Permit, as required by §402 of the federal Clean Water Act. The existing landfill facility also has and implements a site-specific Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

The transfer station facility has been designed to prevent the discharge of pollutants into waters of the State of Texas or waters of the United States, as defined by the Texas Water Code and the federal Clean Water Act, respectively. The facility will be subject to applicable TPDES stormwater permitting requirements and the federal Clean Water Act, §402, as amended. In accordance with 30 TAC \$330.61(k)(3)(A), this TPDES Certification affirms that WMTX will modify and/or obtain the appropriate TPDES permit coverage as required for this facility before the transfer station is placed into operation or when otherwise required.

WITNESS MY HAND on this day of	Janay, 2020.
Stach	
SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED before me	by Steve Jacobs on the $3/$ day
Mach	YAZMIRA OCASIO-MARTINEZ Notary Public, State of Texas

Notary Public



GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL

Geosyntec Consultants Submitted September 2019; Revised January 2020 Page No. I/II - 37

of

#### 10. ABANDONED OIL AND WATER WELLS

Pursuant to 30 TAC §330.61(l), this section provides a description and discussion of all existing or abandoned water and oil and gas wells situated within the facility boundary. Previously in this report, information was presented on water and oil and gas wells within 500 feet of the proposed facility (but not within the registration boundary). The information presented is based on a Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and TCEQ search for water wells; and a Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) search for crude oil wells, natural gas wells, and other wells associated with mineral recovery.

#### 10.1 <u>Water Wells Within the Facility Boundary</u>

There are no known water wells within the facility boundary. In the event that previously unknown or abandoned water wells are discovered during development of the transfer station, the facility will provide written notification to the TCEQ Executive Director of their location within 30 days of their discovery; the facility shall also provide, within 30 days prior to construction, the TCEQ Executive Director with written certification that the well has been capped, plugged, and closed in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations of the Commission or other state agency.

#### 10.2 <u>Oil and Gas Wells Within the Facility Boundary</u>

There are no known oil and gas wells within the facility boundary. In the event that previously unknown or abandoned oil and gas wells are discovered during development of the transfer station, the facility will provide written notification to the TCEQ Executive Director of their location within 30 days of their discovery. The facility will also properly cap, plug, and close the wells in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations of the RRC. A copy of the plugging report will be submitted to the TCEQ Executive Director within 30 days after the well has been plugged.

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL

#### 11. FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS STATEMENT

#### 11.1 Floodplains

#### **11.1.1 Introduction and Purpose**

Pursuant to 30 TAC §330.61(m)(1), this section provides data on floodplains. This section also discusses how the facility will be in compliance with the applicable provisions of the floodplain location restriction in 30 TAC §330.547 as they pertain to transfer stations.

#### **11.1.2 FEMA Map**

With respect to mapped floodplains, the site and vicinity are part of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Numbers 48453C0460K (January 6, 2016) and 48453C0480J (August 18, 2014). The latter FIRM covers the location of the proposed transfer station facility. This area is identified by FEMA is an "area of minimal flood hazard," and there are no mapped 100-year floodplains or floodways on or near the site. West of the site, more than 5,000 feet away from the proposed transfer station area, the valley of Walnut Creek includes 100-year floodplains and floodways. The FEMA-mapped 100-year flood elevations along Walnut Creek at the point closest to the site are approximately 531 feet above sea level (ft, MSL). Northeast of the site, more than 1,700 feet away from the transfer station registration boundary, is the 100-year floodplain of Decker Creek. The FEMA-mapped 100-year flood elevations along Decker Creek at the point closest to the site are approximately at elevation 601.5 ft, MSL. In contrast, the proposed transfer station area is near a topographic high (drainage divide on a ridge), approximately at elevation 630 ft, MSL.

A Floodplain Map, using the FEMA FIRMs as base maps, is provided in Appendix I/IIA. As shown on the map and as discussed above, the proposed transfer station facility will not be in or near a 100-year floodplain.

#### 11.1.3 City of Austin Updated (Interim) 100-Year Floodplain

To assess another source of potentially-relevant floodplain delineation information, the City of Austin's "FloodPro" map viewer tool was used to check whether the proposed transfer station facility is affected (i.e., in a City-delineated 100-year floodplain). The FloodPro mapping tool (http://www.ATXfloodpro.com) presents an interim 100-year floodplain based on the current 500-year floodplain, as an interim means of assessing the effects of larger storm intensities than previously thought for a given flood frequency (i.e., as presented in the National Weather Service's 2018 "Atlas 14" rainfall study).

The FloodPro map viewer tool allows a search by address, and interactive viewing of mapped floodplain areas. Using FloodPro, the information presented above based on the FEMA FIRMs was confirmed. The only difference is that the 100-year flood elevations in Walnut Creek over 5,000 feet away from the transfer station facility are a few feet (at most) higher on the City of Austin interim maps. From this, the transfer station will be situated on land that is more than 90 feet higher in elevation than the potential flood levels of Walnut Creek. The FloodPro map viewer also shows that the 100-year flood elevations in Decker Creek, over 1,700 feet away from the transfer station facility, are approximately equal to those on the FEMA FIRMs, indicating the transfer station will be situated on land that is more than 18 feet higher in elevation than the potential flood levels of transfer station facility will not be impacted by a 100-year flood from either of the two nearest creeks and their associated 100-year floodplains/floodways.

#### 11.2 <u>Wetlands</u>

As required by 30 TAC §330.61(m)(2), a wetlands determination under applicable federal, state, and local laws was made by a qualified Geosyntec ecologist for the proposed transfer station facility and adjacent areas that will be developed to support transfer station operations.

In September 2019, Geosyntec's ecologist performed a general determination of "Waters of the US" (including wetlands). The wetlands determination consisted of a pre-field inspection desktop study, followed by a field inspection of the site. It is noted that Geosyntec's 2019 study focused on the proposed transfer station facility area that will be developed and potentially disturbed as part of the transfer station operations. The existing landfill areas west of the transfer station site were beyond the scope of Geosyntec's study because a wetlands study was previously conducted for the landfill permit application, the existing landfill is operating in accordance with MSW-249D (found to be in compliance with wetlands location restrictions), and the transfer station will not be located within any landfill footprint (nor will adjacent stormwater conveyances be affected).

Geosyntec's 2019 wetlands study findings presented in their environmental site assessment report are provided in Appendix I/II-I. In Geosyntec's best professional judgment, there do not appear to be any wetlands or other jurisdictional water bodies (e.g., streams) within the limits of disturbance of the proposed transfer station area. Accordingly, the demonstrations required by paragraphs (1) - (5) of 30 TAC §330.553(b) are not required.

#### 12. PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES

With respect to endangered and/or threatened species, this facility, and operation of this facility, must meet 30 TAC §330.551(a), which requires that a facility and the operation of a facility shall not result in the destruction or adverse modification of the critical habitat of endangered or threatened species, or cause or contribute to the taking of any endangered or threatened species.

Pursuant to 30 TAC §330.61(n) and §330.551, a site-specific endangered and threatened species assessment was conducted in September 2019 by a Geosyntec ecologist. The assessment included a review of state and federal reference information and a field survey for threatened or endangered species and their habitats at the proposed transfer station facility and adjacent areas that will be developed to support transfer station operations.

Geosyntec's site-specific field survey was conducted to check for listed species or suitable habitats for listed species. Geosyntec concluded that suitable habitat does not occur for any federally-listed species that could potentially occur within the County (i.e., Travis County) and that there is no critical habitat occurring for any federally listed species within the project area. Further, with respect to state-listed endangered or threatened species, no state-listed species were observed in the study area during the investigations or have been documented in the vicinity. Geosyntec's 2019 study findings are provided in Appendix I/IIJ.

In summary, Geosyntec's findings are that ongoing facility development and operation is not expected to cause or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitats or contribute to the taking or harming of any endangered or threatened species.

It is noted that Geosyntec's 2019 study focused on the proposed transfer station facility area that will be developed and potentially disturbed as part of the transfer station operations. The existing landfill areas west of the transfer station site were beyond the scope of Geosyntec's study because threatened/endangered species assessments were previously conducted for the landfill permit application with findings that landfill development and operation are not expected to cause or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitats or contribute to the taking or harming of any endangered or threatened species, and the existing landfill is operating in accordance with MSW-249D (found to be in compliance with endangered species location restrictions). As mentioned, the transfer station will not be located within any landfill footprint.

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL

#### **13. TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION REVIEW**

As part of the previous landfill permitting activities, culminating with the current (now approved) Permit MSW-249D, the landfill facility has been evaluated for compliance with the Natural Resources Code, Chapter 191, Texas Antiquities Code. THC performed their review for the landfill facility, and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) issued a "no effect" finding (project may proceed).

For this proposed transfer station registration application, coordination with THC has been performed to inform them of this project, and to confirm the understanding that the portion of the property proposed for the transfer station facility was covered under the previous finding, or otherwise is in compliance with the Texas Antiquities Code, and may proceed.

A copy of the THC coordination letter, which also includes backup information from the previous coordination efforts, is provided with this application as Appendix I/IIK. As shown in this appendix, THC replied to the recent coordination request for this project with a response dated October 2019 that indicated "No Significant Sites – Project May Proceed."

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL

#### 14. COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS REVIEW REQUEST

30 TAC §330.61(p) requires that the owner or operator shall submit documentation that Parts I and II of the application were submitted for review to the applicable council of governments for compliance with regional solid waste plans. The owner or operator shall also submit documentation that a review letter was requested from any local governments as appropriate for compliance with local solid waste plans. A review letter is not a prerequisite to a final determination on a permit or registration application.

The applicable council of governments for this facility location is CAPCOG. Documentation that Parts I and II of this application were submitted to CAPCOG for their review for compliance with regional solid waste plans is provided in Appendix I/IIL.

GW7107/Austin Transfer Station Part I and II Supplemental Technical Report CL

#### **APPENDIX I/IIA**

#### **GENERAL LOCATION MAPS**

LIST OF DRAWINGS					
Drawing No.	Title	Drawing Date (latest revision)			
I/IIA-1	General Location Highway Map	January 2020			
I/IIA-2	Detailed Highway Map	January 2020			
I/IIA-3	General Topographic Map	January 2020			
I/IIA-4	Aerial Photograph of Surroundings	January 2020			
I/IIA-5	Site Aerial Photograph	January 2020			
I/IIA-6	Facility Layout Plan	January 2020			
I/IIA-7	Transfer Station Area Site Plan	February 2020			
I/IIA-8	General Land Use Map	February 2020			
I/IIA-9	Detailed Land Use Map	February 2020			
I/IIA-10	Zoning Map	January 2020			
I/IIA-11	Airport Map	January 2020			
I/IIA-12	Structures and Inhabitable Buildings Map	January 2020			
I/IIA-13	Water Wells Map	February 2020			
I/IIA-14	Oil and Gas Wells Map	January 2020			
I/IIA-15	Floodplain Map	January 2020			



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**REGISTRATION DRAWING** 

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PROJECT NO	GW7107	DESIGN BY	SMG	REVIEWED BY	MC	PART NO.	DRAWING:
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	SUE	BMITTAL & REVISION RECORD
NO	DATE	DESCRIPTION
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- IRON ROD FOUND
- CALCULATED POINT
- POINT OF COMMENCING
- POINT OF BEGINNING
- DEED RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
- PLAT RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
- REAL PROPERTY RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
- OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

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ABL	E			LINE TABL	E
IG	DISTANCE		LINE #	BEARING	DISTANCE
6 <b>"</b> W	190.44'		L12	N05°13'50"W	178.02'
0"E	377.96'		L13	N13'59'47"W	83.10°
5 <b>"</b> W	145.16'		L14	N44°57'09"W	94.10'
9 <b>"</b> E	17.22'		L15	N27"18'58"E	63.44'
6"E	286.41'		L16	S62'47'33"E	250.16'
1 "W	222.94'		L17	S27'49'22"W	232.21'
3 <b>"</b> W	86.31'		L18	S62'12'48"E	358.30'
9 <b>"</b> W	78.97'		L19	S19'52'42"E	45.96'
1 W	272.11'		L20	S62'32'36"E	327.56'
1 "W	123.41'		L21	S27°05'16"W	629.63'
1 "W	209.68'		L22	S27'47'30"W	520.78'



### **Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.**

3711 South MoPac Expressway · Building 1, Suite 550 · Austin, TX 78746 Ph: 512.439.0400 · Fax: 512.329.0096 **Fexas Registered** Texas Registered www.cecinc.com Surveying Firm 10194419 Engineering Firm F-38

EASEMENT EXHIBIT FOR THE REGISTRATION BOUNDARY AREA Situate In

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS Made For WASTE MANAGEMENT OF TEXAS, INC. AUSTIN COMMUNITY TRANSFER STATION GILES LANE

DATE:	FEB., 2020	SCALE:	1"=300	DRAWING NO .:			
DRAWN BY:	CEC	CHECKED BY:	JM	1			
PROJECT NO:	196-411	APPROVED BY:	FWF	SHEET 1 OF	1		