



CERTIFIED MAIL: 7014 2870 0001 3244 4427

August 30, 2018

Ralph K. Thompson (*Sent via E-mail to: [ralphkthompson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ralphkthompson@sbcglobal.net)*)  
29600 Palomares Road  
Castro Valley, CA 94552

**SUBJECT: Alameda County Community Development Agency (CDA) Referral to Alameda County Department of Environmental Health (ACDEH) for Fill Import Clearance to Property located at 29600 Palomares Road, Castro Valley, California (APN: 085A-3400-007-00)**

Dear Mr. Thompson:

On August 3, 2018, ACDEH received a referral from CDA code enforcement (Attachment 1) requiring the subject property owner to obtain written confirmation from ACDEH that imported fill material or fill material proposed for import to the subject property meets acceptable standards for cleanliness and for use for agricultural purposes.

On August 30, 2018, ACDEH and CDA met with you to discuss the path forward for your site. As discussed during the meeting, you are required to submit a completed Service Request Application (Attachment 2) and required fees to initiate fill import clearance by the due date specified below. A meeting with you and your environmental professional is scheduled for Monday, September 17, 2018 at 10:00 am to discuss the next steps in determining the suitability of the existing fill material that was imported to your site.

Your ACDEH site identification number is RO0003325 and the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker Global ID is T10000011886, which has been established as a document repository for your site (<http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>). Please include your ACDEH identification number on the check.

Also attached for you and your environmental professional's review are ACDEH's Fill Import Clearance Process Diagrams and Fill Material Characterization Guidance document.

Failure to comply with the requirements in this letter will result in ACDEH referral of your case to CDA Code Enforcement for further enforcement action.

#### **DELIVERABLE REQUEST & MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Friday, September 7, 2018** – Service Request Application and fees due

**Monday, September 17, 2018 at 10:00 am** – Meeting at ACDEH with Mr. Thompson and Environmental Consultant

In the interim, please feel free to contact me at (510) 777-2478 or [paresh.khatri@acgov.org](mailto:paresh.khatri@acgov.org) should you have any questions regarding this process.

Mr. Thompson  
Ralph Thompson Property, Page 2 of 2

Sincerely,



Paresh C. Khatri  
Supervising Hazardous Materials Specialist  
Local Oversight & Site Cleanup Programs

**ENCLOSURES:**

Attachment 1 – ACCDA August 3, 2018 Referral  
Attachment 2 – ACDEH Service Request Application  
Attachment 3 – ACDEH Fill Import Clearance Process Diagrams  
Attachment 4 – ACDEH Fill Material Characterization Guidance

**DISTRIBUTION LIST:**

Michael Pine (*Sent via electronic mail to: [mikegpine@gmail.com](mailto:mikegpine@gmail.com)*)  
Dilan Roe, ACDEH, (*Sent via electronic mail to: [dilan.roe@acgov.org](mailto:dilan.roe@acgov.org)*)  
Paresh Khatri, ACDEH; (*Sent via electronic mail to: [paresh.khatri@acgov.org](mailto:paresh.khatri@acgov.org)*)  
Albert Lopez, CDA, (*Sent via electronic mail to: [albert.lopez@acgov.org](mailto:albert.lopez@acgov.org)*)  
Rodrigo Orduna, CDA, (*Sent via electronic mail to: [rodrigo.orduna@acgov.org](mailto:rodrigo.orduna@acgov.org)*)  
Edward Labayog, CDA, (*Sent via electronic mail to: [edward.labayog@acgov.org](mailto:edward.labayog@acgov.org)*)  
Andy Cho, PWA, (*Sent via electronic mail to: [andyhjc@acpwa.org](mailto:andyhjc@acpwa.org)*)

Electronic File; GeoTracker



ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Chris Bazar  
Agency Director

Albert Lopez  
Planning Director

224 West Winton Ave  
Room 111

Hayward, California  
94544-1215

phone  
510.670.5400  
fax  
510.785-8793

[www.acgov.org/cda](http://www.acgov.org/cda)

**DATE:** August 3, 2018

**TO:** Alameda County Environmental Health Services  
Attn: Dilan Roe  
Supervising Hazardous Materials Specialist

**FROM:** Alameda County Code Enforcement Division

**SUBJECT PROPERTY:** 29600 Palomares Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552  
**APN:** 085A-3400-007-00


Code enforcement is referring the subject property to Environmental Health Services because we have required the property owner to obtain written confirmation from your department that the fill material they have brought on their property and/or the fill materials they are proposing to bring into their property meets acceptable standards for cleanliness and for use for agricultural purposes. As of the present date we have not received that confirmation.

I understand that the property owner has already made contact with Environmental Health, under direction from Code Enforcement, to request that Environmental Health let them know what steps are necessary for them to take, to receive clearance from your department for the fill material. If you consider that the property owner or other interested party of the subject property is not acting expeditiously or in good faith to comply with your requirements for clearance that the soil is clean, please let Code Enforcement know, and we will follow up with Code Enforcement action.

**Property Owner:** Ralph K Thompson  
**Mailing Address:** 29600 Palomares Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552  
**Phone #:** (510) 886-7785

If you have any questions, please contact me at (510) 670-6556  
or by e-mail at [edward.labayog@acgov.org](mailto:edward.labayog@acgov.org).

Sincerely,

  
Edward Labayog  
Sr. Code Enforcement Investigator

Cc: Albert Lopez  
Rodrigo Orduna  
Paresh Khatri

COD2018-00183



## Fill Import Clearance (FIC) Service Request Application

OFFICE USE ONLY					
Date Rec'd:	Rec'd By:	Amt \$:	PE Code:	RO#:	GT ID#:

SERVICE REQUEST TYPE & MINIMUM FEE DEPOSIT (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)								
SERVICE REQUEST TYPE	FEE	PE CODE	SERVICE CODE	SERVICE REQUEST TYPE	FEE	PE CODE	SERVICE CODE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPLICATION PROCESSING FEE (1 HOUR)	\$174	5502	312	<input type="checkbox"/> FILL MATERIAL CHARACTERIZATION REPORT REVIEW (3 HOURS STAFF TIME)	\$522	5502	311	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INTERAGENCY COORDINATION (2 HOURS STAFF TIME)	\$348	5502	311	<input type="checkbox"/> SOIL IMPORT MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW (3 HOURS STAFF TIME)	\$522	5502	311	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSULTATION MEETING (TWO STAFF, 2 HR STAFF TIME)	\$696	5502	707	<input type="checkbox"/> FILL EVALUATION/CLEARANCE LETTER (2 HOURS STAFF TIME)	\$348	5502	313	
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE VISIT/EVALUATION (5 HOURS STAFF TIME)	\$870	5502	105	<input type="checkbox"/> FILL EVALUATION/CLEARANCE LETTER (2 HOURS STAFF TIME)	\$348	5502	313	
<input type="checkbox"/> EXISTING FILL MATERIAL REPORT / DATA REVIEW (5 HOURS STAFF TIME)	\$870	5502	311	<input type="checkbox"/> LEGAL DOCUMENT PREPARATION	\$174/HR	5502	232	

**Minimum fees are checked. Additional fees may be required to complete review.**

**Indicated fees are due upon application submittal.** Fees can be paid via cash, credit card, check or money order.

Please return this application to ACDEH in person, or by mail at 1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Ste 111, Alameda CA, 94502.

FILL DESTINATION SITE ADDRESS			
Alameda County Assessor's Parcel Number (APN):			
Street:	City:	State:	Zip Code:

PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION			
Property Owner Name:			
Mailing Address ( <input type="checkbox"/> same as property address)			
Street:	City:	State:	Zip Code:
Phone:	Email:		

OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
Name:	Relationship to Owner:		
Mailing Address			
Street:	City:	State:	Zip Code:
Phone:	Email:		

AFFIDAVIT	
<input type="checkbox"/> I attest under penalty of perjury to the truth and correction of all the facts, exhibits, reports, and attachments presented with and made a part of this request.	
<input type="checkbox"/> I have reviewed the requirements and steps for the project phase(s) associated with this application described in the Tables listed on the ACDEH Land Use Website at <a href="http://www.acgov.org">www.acgov.org</a> .	
<input type="checkbox"/> I agree to pay all fees and costs associated with receiving the necessary approvals for my project.	
Property Owner Signature:	Date:
Owner's Representative Signature:	Date:

OFFICE USE ONLY			
Application Completeness Review:	LOP Staff Signature: _____	Date: _____	
Refund Amount: \$ _____	LOP PM Signature: _____	Date: _____	



**Alameda County Department of Environmental Health Local Oversight Program**

1131 Harbor Bay Pkwy, Alameda, CA 94502

Phone: 510-567-6700 • Fax: 510-337-9335 • Web: [www.acgov.org/aceh/lop](http://www.acgov.org/aceh/lop)

**Fill Import Clearance (FIC)  
Service Request Application**

<b>Initiating Action for Service Request (CHECK APPLICABLE BOX)</b>	
<b>OWNER INITIATED SERVICE REQUEST</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing Fill Import Clearance Evaluation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed Fill Import Clearance Evaluation	
<b>REGULATORY AGENCY INITIATED SERVICE REQUEST</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>Note: This section should only be filled out if you have been contacted by ACDEH regarding one the categories below.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Alameda County Public Works Agency (PWA) Referral to ACDEH – Violation of AC Grading Ordinance – Stop Work Order	
<input type="checkbox"/> Alameda County Community Development Agency (CDA) Referral to ACDEH – Exemption from Fill Import Moratorium	
<input type="checkbox"/> CDA Referral to ACDEH – Fill Import Clearance (Proposed & Existing Fill)	
<input type="checkbox"/> CDA Referral to ACDEH - Site Development Review	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Regulatory Agency Referral to ACDEH	
<input type="checkbox"/> Complaint Investigation	

<b>Project Description</b>
<p>Provide a brief project description: <i>Include purpose, quantity, and location of fill to be imported and/or location of existing imported fill.</i></p>



**Alameda County Department of Environmental Health Local Oversight Program**

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Phone: 510-567-6700 ♦ Fax: 510-337-9335 ♦ Web: [www.acgov.org/aceh/lop](http://www.acgov.org/aceh/lop)

**Fill Import Clearance (FIC)  
Service Request Application**

**Site Description**

Existing Site Description: *Describe current site conditions, including current land use, topography, existence of ecological receptors (e.g. streams, creeks, lakes, etc.) and existence of structures or proposed structures. Attach Site Map with Application.*



## Alameda County Department of Environmental Health Local Oversight Program

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Phone: 510-567-6700 ♦ Fax: 510-337-9335 ♦ Web: [www.acgov.org/aceh/lop](http://www.acgov.org/aceh/lop)

# Fill Import Clearance (FIC) Service Request Application

## Application Instructions

*Please note, all project applications are subject to a 10-business day processing period before being placed in ACDEH's permitting queue.*

To initiate regulatory oversight on a project, complete and submit **pages one through three** of this Service Request Application. Fill in all blanks. If a particular item does not apply to your project, check the not applicable box.

Submit the completed application form and send it to:

Paresh Khatri  
Alameda County Department of Environmental Health  
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway  
Alameda, CA 94502  
(email preferred: [paresh.khatri@acgov.org](mailto:paresh.khatri@acgov.org)).

Submit the associated fees to:

Alameda County Department of Environmental Health  
c/o Finance Department  
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway  
Alameda, CA 94502-6577.  
(Fees can be paid via cash, credit card, check or money order in-person)

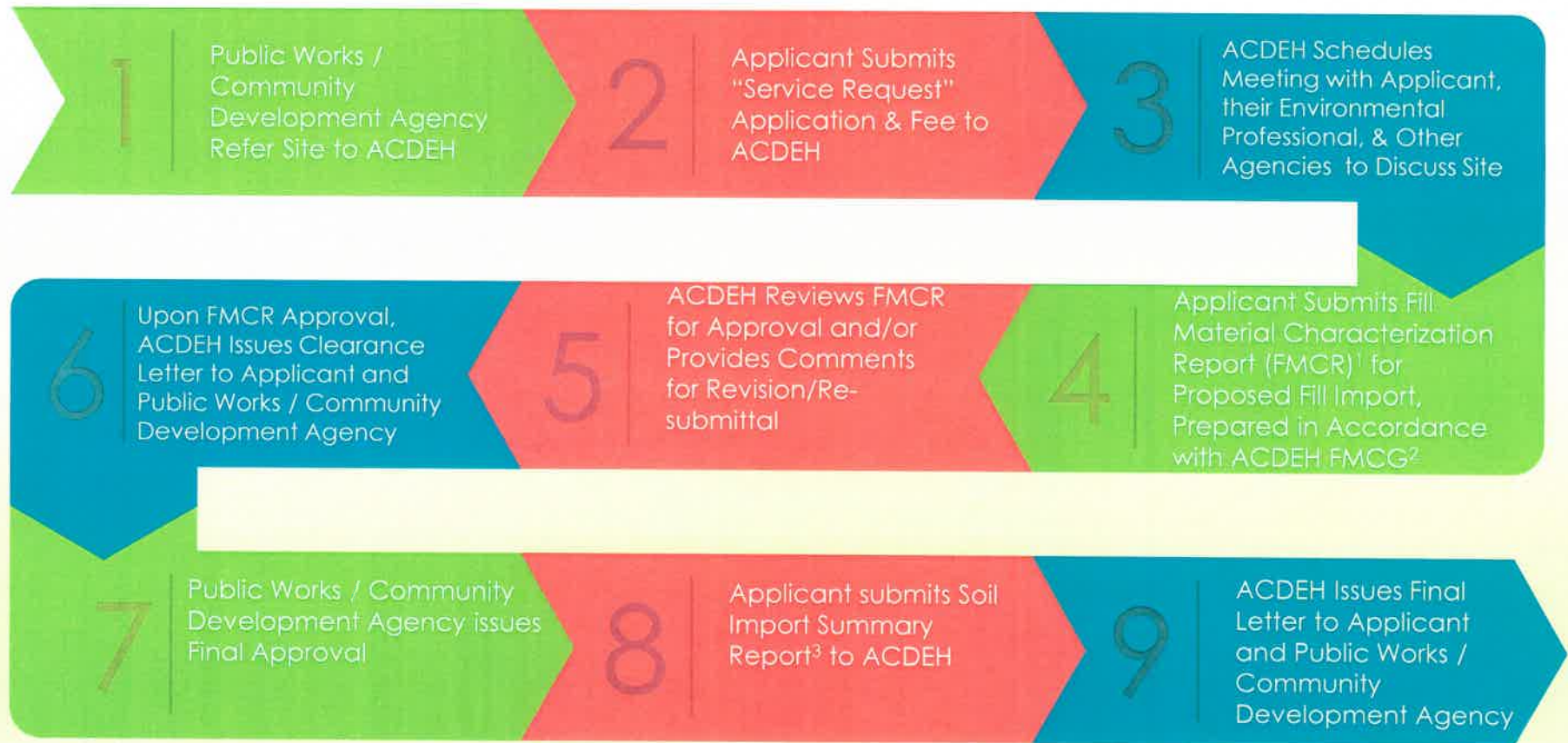
This deposit will be applied towards work performed for opening an account, preliminary site review time by ACDEH staff, inter-agency coordination, and an in-person meeting with you and your environmental professional. Additional fees may be required to complete the evaluation and provide clearance for fill import, as listed in the Service Request Type / Minimum Fee Deposit Schedule listed on Page 1 of this application. If it is determined that contaminated fill has been brought to the site, you will be required to enter into a Voluntary Remedial Action Agreement (VRAA) under ACDEH's Site Cleanup Program (SCP) for further site characterization, remediation, and/or mitigation.

Once the application has been accepted, a Case Number will be established in the State Water Board's GeoTracker website (<http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>). All technical reports/submittals must be uploaded in pdf format to GeoTracker.

An application processing fee of \$174 will be charged for processing each Service Request Application. Incomplete applications (missing key information and/or supporting documents) will be rejected by ACDEH and may be assessed an additional re-submittal processing fee of \$174.00.

## ALAMEDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FILL IMPORT CLEARANCE PROCESS

### CATEGORY 1:



<sup>1</sup> Fill Material Characterization Report (FMCR) to be prepared by licensed Professional Civil Engineer or Geologist.

<sup>2</sup> ACDEH Fill Material Characterization Guidance (FMCG) Document provided by ACDEH.

<sup>3</sup> Soil Import Summary Report (SISR) to be prepared by licensed Professional Civil Engineer or Geologist, which includes quantity of fill imported, waste manifests, bills of lading, map of fill import at the site, etc.



## ALAMEDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH EXISTING IMPORTED FILL CLEARANCE PROCESS WITH REPORTS

### CATEGORY 2:



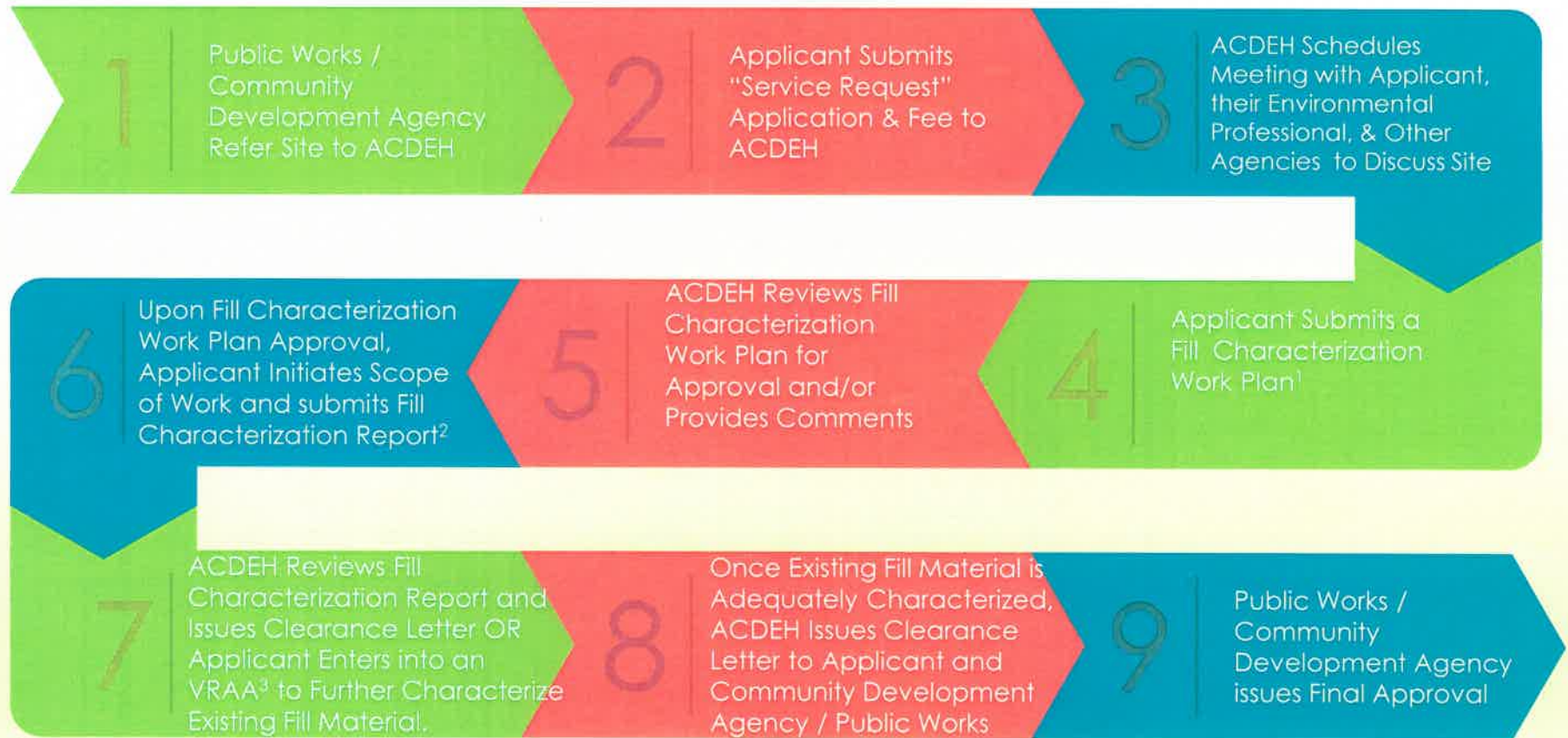
<sup>1</sup> Soil Import Summary Report (SISR) to be prepared by licensed Professional Civil Engineer or Geologist.

<sup>2</sup> ACDEH Fill Material Characterization Guidance (FMCG) Document provided by ACDEH.

<sup>3</sup> VRAA: Volunteer Remedial Action Agreement implemented under ACDEH's Site Cleanup Program.

**CATEGORY 3:**

**ALAMEDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
EXISTING IMPORTED FILL CLEARANCE PROCESS WITHOUT REPORTS**



<sup>1</sup> Fill Characterization Work Plan to be prepared by licensed Professional Civil Engineer or Geologist.

<sup>2</sup> Fill Characterization Report to be prepared by licensed Professional Civil Engineer or Geologist , which includes fill testing analytical results, quantity of fill imported, waste manifests, bills of lading, map of fill import at the site, etc.

<sup>3</sup> VRAA: Volunteer Remedial Action Agreement implemented under ACDEH's Site Cleanup Program.

<b>ALAMEDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LOCAL OVERSIGHT PROGRAM</b>	<b>Revision Date: NA</b>
	<b>ISSUE DATE: August 1, 2018</b>
	<b>Previous Revisions: NA</b>
<b>SUBJECT: Fill Material Characterization Guidance</b>	

**INTRODUCTION:**

This document has been prepared by Alameda County Department of Environmental Health (ACDEH) to provide guidance regarding the characterization of fill materials to determine: (a) the suitability of the fill material for import to sites within Alameda County, including but not limited to agricultural lands, redevelopment sites, and environmental cleanup sites, and (b) the suitability of the fill material for export from environmental cleanup sites regulated by ACDEH and re-use at other locations.

The use of imported fill material has recently come under scrutiny in Alameda County due to the identification of agricultural properties in rural portions of the county that have been importing large volumes of fill material. These areas have a diverse natural environment including biological habitats, aquatic environments, wetlands, and critical groundwater basins, which require protection and have the potential to be adversely impacted from contaminated fill material.

There are currently no established standards in the statutes or regulations that address environmental requirements for imported fill material. However, regulatory guidance documents have been developed by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (the "Regional Water Board") regarding the characterization and sourcing of imported fill material. The CalEPA guidance documents were prepared to address fill material being imported to active environmental cleanup sites, however, are also applicable to other sites where imported fill material may pose a risk to sensitive receptors and the environment.

This guidance document has been prepared by ACDEH to ensure that unsuitable fill material is not introduced onto properties with sensitive land uses and to provide clarification of the process of evaluating the suitability of fill material. This document addresses both human health and ecological risk associated with exposure pathways to fill material and identifies fill sources which are unsuitable for use as fill material based on current and historic land use activities as discussed in the CalEPA guidance documents and as required by other authorities specific to Alameda County. The protocols and criteria presented in this document are intended to be sufficiently conservative to be applicable to all sites regardless of land use or other site characteristics. Alternative criteria for fill characterization and suitability may be proposed for consideration by ACDEH via submittal of a site-specific soil import management plan and associated supporting technical documents.

This guidance document was prepared based on the following:

- (1) Regulatory guidance documents adopted by the DTSC and Regional Water Board;
- (2) Applicable risk based screening levels;
- (3) Regional background levels;
- (4) Other criteria provided to ACDEH by designated Groundwater Basin Managers within Alameda County; and
- (5) Accepted industry practices.

# FILL MATERIAL CHARACTERIZATION GUIDANCE

August 1, 2018

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**Section 1** of this guidance document discusses criteria for assessing and identifying potentially suitable fill material sources. **Section 2** discusses the evaluation of the suitability of potential fill material. **Section 3** discusses ACDEH's fill material import suitability determination process. **Section 4** describes the conditions and reporting requirements for importing suitable fill material.

## 1. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIALLY SUITABLE FILL MATERIAL SOURCES

Suitable fill materials are materials that will not have an adverse effect on human health or the environment when imported. Prior to collecting analytical data to confirm suitability of potential fill material, potential source areas should be screened based on historical land use and material composition.

Historic and current land use at, and in the vicinity of, the parcel containing the proposed fill material should be evaluated for environmental impacts to determine the applicable laboratory analysis that should be conducted to characterize the fill material. This assessment consists of the review of historical records and typically consists of conducting a phase one environmental site assessment (Phase I ESA) or preliminary environmental assessment (PEA) within six months of the assessment. The assessment should be sufficient to identify Recognized Environmental Conditions (RECs). RECs are typically associated with the production, use, storage, transport, recycling, or disposal of hazardous materials or waste at or in the vicinity of the parcel being evaluated and are used to determine what potential contaminants may be present and therefore should be analyzed for.

Fill material from parcels with the following conditions are not suitable for use as a proposed fill material source without additional evaluation and approval from ACDEH beyond what is required in this guidance:

- a. Regulated environmental cleanup sites; or
- b. Unaddressed or insufficiently addressed RECs; or
- c. Current or historic industrial land uses; or
- d. Current or historic unacceptable commercial land uses. Unacceptable commercial land uses are operations that generate revenue through, or that significantly involve:
  - i. Manufacturing, repairing, or restoring operations; or
  - ii. Providing maintenance services; or
  - iii. The use, storage, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials or waste.
- e. Materials containing animal or human waste or debris such as lumber, metal, or refuse

## 2. EVALUATION OF FILL MATERIAL SUITABILITY

Proposed fill material source areas that are considered potentially suitable based on the initial screening of historic and current land use must be sampled, analyzed, and meet applicable environmental and human health risk levels before a final determination of the suitability of the proposed fill material can be made. Sampling protocols and strategies, and laboratory analyses vary based on conditions at the location being sampled, the type of compounds that are being evaluated, and the volume of fill material. Samples must be collected and analyzed in a manner sufficient to characterize the lateral and vertical extents of the proposed fill material source area. Minimum sampling and analysis requirements to evaluate the suitability of a proposed fill material source area are derived from various regulatory guidance documents, industry best practices, and requirements from designated Groundwater Basin Managers within Alameda County which are described in further detail below.

### 2.1. Minimum Analytical Requirements

Minimum analytical requirements for characterization of potentially suitable fill material proposed for import to a destination (a) outside of the jurisdiction of Zone 7 Water Agency (Zone 7); or (b) within the jurisdiction of Zone 7

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are provided in Table 1a and Table 1b, respectively. Sampling and laboratory analysis must be conducted in accordance with the following requirements:

- A. All analysis must be performed in accordance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) SW-864 Compendium;
- B. Analysis of samples must be completed and reported by an analytical laboratory accredited by the California State Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program and the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program;
- C. The laboratory reporting limits must not exceed the screening levels adopted by ACDEH as described in Section 2.4 below;
- D. The laboratory reporting limits must be reported on a dry-weight basis; and
- E. The results of the laboratory analysis must be reported in a standard laboratory data package, including a summary of the quality control and quality assurance sample results and chain of custody documentation.

### **2.2. Minimum Sampling Requirements**

Sampling for the characterization of potentially suitable fill material must be conducted under the direct charge of a professional engineer or geologist licensed in the state of California and in accordance with industry best practices including, but not limited to those discussed in the subsections below.

#### **2.2.1. Vapor Forming Compounds**

Vapor forming compounds consist of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) that readily form a vapor when exposed to air. In order to minimize volatilization of VOCs and SVOCs during sample collection, and ensure that analytical results are representative of the proposed fill material, discrete samples must be collected and analyzed in accordance with United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Method 5035. Composite sampling is not acceptable for the evaluation of VOCs and SVOCs.

#### **2.2.2. Composite Sampling**

Composite sampling is acceptable under the following conditions:

1. Analysis is for non-vapor forming chemicals;
2. The composite sample is comprised of no more than 4 discrete samples;
3. The composite sample is comprised of roughly equivalent masses of each of the discrete samples;
4. Sufficient mass of discrete samples from each of the composited locations are submitted so as to allow for analysis of the discrete samples; and
5. Each of the discrete samples that comprise the composite sample must be analyzed in the event that the composite sample exceeds 25% of the applicable screening level.

#### **2.2.3. In Situ Characterization**

Pre-excavation (e.g., In Situ) characterization of potentially suitable fill materials must meet the minimum requirements for provided in Table 2a (for import to a destination outside of the jurisdiction of Zone 7 Water Agency's jurisdiction) and Table 2b (for import to a destination within the Zone 7 Water Agency's jurisdiction). Additional requirements include:

- Characterization of soil lithology in the proposed source area using the Unified Soil Classification System from the ground surface to the total depth of the proposed excavation for the fill material. The

## FILL MATERIAL CHARACTERIZATION GUIDANCE

August 1, 2018

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characterized soil lithology at each sample location must be presented as a soil boring log and must be reviewed and stamped by a registered geologist.

- Collection and analysis of at least one sample from each sample location for every five feet below ground surface that the proposed fill area extends.
- Characterization of layers of proposed fill material that exhibit significantly different geological characteristics or lithologies as separate sources. For example, if soil at a site generally consists of clay from the ground surface to a depth of 3 feet below ground surface with interbedded silts and sands beyond, the clay layer should be characterized and managed one source and the interbedded silts and sands should be characterized as a second source.
- Use of direct push technology for sample collection and analyses for VOCs and SVOCs. Samples collected for analysis of non-vapor forming compounds may be collected using direct push technology, augers, or from a bucket, sidewall, or base sample from "pot hole" excavations.

### 2.2.4. Stockpile Characterization

The minimum sample quantities for the characterization of potentially suitable fill materials that have been excavated and stockpiled are based on the total volume of the stockpiled fill material and are summarized in Table 3. Stockpiles must be generated from the same source area, must be segregated by fill material composition, and be located on the parcel generating the proposed fill material. Samples being analyzed for VOCs and SVOCs must be collected from at least 1 foot below the exposed surface of the stockpile.

### 2.3. Conditions Requiring Additional Sampling and Analysis

In addition to the minimum sampling requirements identified above, the following conditions, if present, require additional sampling and analysis as indicated:

1. **Evidence of Contamination** – Samples must be collected and analyzed from any locations where there is evidence of contamination such as strong odors, staining, observable sheen or free product, stressed vegetation, and/or elevated responses from field screening instruments such as a photoionization detector.
2. **Contaminants Associated with Surface Deposition** – When characterization for contaminants associated with surface deposition (e.g., pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, asbestos, and lead) are required for fill material characterization, representative samples must be collected from surface and near surface soils in accordance with the following:
  - For in situ characterization, one sample should be collected from each of the following intervals from each sample location: 0 to 6 inches below ground surface; 6 inches to 2 feet below ground surface; and 2 feet to 3 feet below ground surface; and
  - For stockpiled fill materials, fill material from the surface and near surface (0 to 3 feet below ground surface) must be segregated from other fill material and characterized as a separate potential fill source.
3. **Groundwater and Saturated Soil** – If groundwater or saturated soil is encountered during fill characterization or excavation, the following additional samples must be collected and analyzed:
  - One soil sample per sample location from immediately above the saturated soil (i.e., the capillary fringe); and
  - One groundwater sample from each soil boring, excavation, or dewatering well in which groundwater is encountered.

4. **Dewatering** – If dewatering is conducted to support excavation of potentially suitable fill material, characterization of the fill material must be conducted after dewatering has been implemented and soil is no longer saturated.

### 2.4. Screening Levels

To be considered suitable fill material, analytical results of the fill characterization sampling must be less than applicable environmental and human health risk based screening levels.

#### 2.4.1. Default Screening Levels

ACDEH has adopted the Regional Water Board's Tier 1 Environmental Screening Levels dated February 2016 (ESLs) as default screening levels for all constituents with the following exception:

- **Arsenic:** the screening level for arsenic adopted by ACDEH is 11.00 milligrams of arsenic per kilogram of sample. This concentration based on the upper estimate (99<sup>th</sup> percentile) for regional background levels of arsenic in the urbanized San Francisco bay region<sup>3</sup>.

The use of Tier 1 ESLs as a default screening level is applicable to all sites regardless of land use or other site characteristics.

#### 2.4.2. Alternative Screening Levels

In the event that fill characterization fails the default screening levels, alternative screening levels may be proposed for consideration by ACDEH via submittal of a site-specific soil import management plan. The soil import management plan must include a site-specific risk assessment for the receiving location and associated supporting technical documents.

The use of hazardous waste characteristic of toxicity levels (California Code of Regulations Title 22 Section 66261.24) as a screening level to evaluate the suitability of the import of soils is unacceptable for all sites except for appropriately designed and permitted treatment, storage, disposal, or recycling facilities.

## 3. ACDEH FILL MATERIAL IMPORT SUITABILITY DETERMINATION PROCESS

To obtain a determination from ACDEH that a proposed fill material is suitable, ACDEH requires submittal of a technical report (the "Fill Material Characterization Report") documenting the characterization of the proposed fill material. This technical report must contain, at a minimum, the following element:

- A. A cover letter from the owner of the proposed fill source material with the following statement: "I have read and acknowledge the content, recommendations, an/or conclusions contained in the attached document or report submitted on my behalf to ACDEH". This cover letter must be signed by the owner of the proposed fill source material or a legally authorized representative of the owner of the proposed fill source material;
- B. A statement that fill material characterization was conducted under the responsible charge of a registered professional with licensure in the state of California. This statement must be accompanied by the signed and dated seal of the licensed registered professional with responsible charge;
- C. Narrative identifying and summarizing the following elements:
  - a. The location, assessor's parcel number, and physical address of the proposed fill material source area;
  - b. A summary of historical land uses and operations conducted at and in the vicinity of the proposed fill material source area with citations for supporting documentation;

## FILL MATERIAL CHARACTERIZATION GUIDANCE

August 1, 2018

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- c. Identification and description of any identified RECs;
  - d. A summary of fill material characterization efforts conducted, including a description of sampling and analysis and applicable geology and hydrogeology within the proposed fill material source area;
  - e. A summary of the results of analytical sampling; and
  - f. Recommendations and conclusions for the suitability of proposed fill material.
- D. Tables summarizing the site characterization analytical data;
- E. A completed Proposed Fill Material Source Characterization Summary Form. A copy of this form is provided in pdf in Attachment A. An excel spreadsheet of this form is available on request;
- F. Figure(s) depicting the following elements:
- a. Sample locations;
  - b. Parcel lines and parcel numbers;
  - c. Lateral extent(s) and depth(s) of the proposed fill material source area(s);
  - d. Location of any identified RECs;
  - e. Location of known current and historic infrastructure including structures, roadways, utilities, and any above ground or below ground storage tanks.
- G. Boring logs depicting the geology, sample depths, and any encountered groundwater from each sample location;
- H. Copies of laboratory analytical data;
- I. Copies of supporting environmental documents such as Phase I ESA, PEA, or historic subsurface investigation reports.

The Fill Material Characterization Report and supporting documentation must be submitted to ACDEH via email to [deh.loptoxic@acgov.org](mailto:deh.loptoxic@acgov.org) and upload to the State Water Board's GeoTracker database. ACDEH will review the Fill Material Characterization Report and will issue a directive letter that (a) determines that the proposed fill material is suitable for import; (b) requests additional characterization; or (c) determines that the proposed fill material is not suitable for import. ACDEH's determination will include conditions described in Section 4 and may include additional conditions or requirements.

### 4. CONDITIONS OF ACDEH FILL MATERIAL IMPORT SUITABILITY DETERMINATION

As a condition of import, a technical report be submitted to ACDEH via email and uploaded to GeoTracker documenting the import of soil (the "Soil Import Summary Report"). The report must be uploaded to the GeoTracker information repositories for both the fill material source area and the destination. Please note that for locations importing soil from multiple sources, a single report can be submitted that documents import from multiple sources. For locations in which soil import activities last more than one year, a Soil Import Summary Report must be submitted on a semi-annual basis for the duration of import activities. The Soil Import Summary Report must contain the following elements at a minimum:

- A. A cover letter from the owner of the proposed fill source material that states, at a minimum, the following: "I have read and acknowledge the content, recommendations, and/or conclusions contained in the attached document or report submitted on my behalf to ACDEH." This cover letter must be signed by the



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owner of the proposed fill source material or a legally authorized representative of the owner of the proposed fill source material;

- B. The technical report must include a statement that fill material characterization was conducted under the responsible charge of a registered professional with licensure in the state of California. This statement must be accompanied by the signed and dated seal of the licensed registered professional with responsible charge;
- C. Summary tables of soil import logs. These logs must include the following information for each delivery of fill material: arrival date, manifest number or truck tag, quantity of fill material delivered, originating facility, and profile number;
- D. A figure depicting the location and depth of imported soil. If fill material from multiple sources has been imported, the location and depth of imported soil from each source must be distinguished;
- E. Copies of all manifests or other documentation of soil import as an appendix; and
- F. Copies of all fill characterization profiles as an appendix.

### 5. CLOSING

If you have questions or comments regarding the requirements and guidance presented in this document, please do not hesitate to contact ACDEH. This document was prepared by, or under the direction of, the undersigned.



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Dilan Roe, P.E. C73703  
Chief  
Land Water Division



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Jonathan Sanders  
Senior Hazardous Materials Specialist  
Local Oversight and Site Cleanup Program

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### **ENCLOSURES**

#### **Tables**

Table 1a	Minimum Required Analyses for Characterization of Fill Material for Off-Site Reuse for Receiving Facilities Located outside of Zone 7 Water Agency Jurisdictional Boundaries
Table 1b	Minimum Required Analyses for Characterization of Fill Material for Off-Site Reuse for Receiving Facilities Located within Zone 7 Water Agency Jurisdictional Boundaries
Table 2a	Minimum Required Sample Density and Spacing for In Situ (Pre-excavation) Characterization of Proposed Fill Material Sources for Receiving Facilities Located outside of Zone 7 Water Agency's Jurisdictional Boundaries
Table 2b	Minimum Required Sample Density and Spacing for In Situ (Pre-excavation) Characterization of Proposed Fill Material Sources for Receiving Facilities Located within Zone 7 Water Agency's Jurisdictional Boundaries
Table 3	Minimum Required Sample Density and Spacing for Stockpile (Post-Excavation) Characterization of Proposed Fill Material Sources

#### **Appendices**

Appendix A	Proposed Fill Material Source Characterization Summary Form
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### **REFERENCES**

1. DRAFT Technical Reference Document: Characterization and Reuse of Petroleum Hydrocarbon Impact Soil as Inert Waste. San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board. October 2006.
2. Environmental Screening Levels (ESLs) revision 3. San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board. February 2016.
3. Establishing Background Arsenic in Soil of the Urbanized San Francisco Bay Region. Duverge. December 2011
4. Information Advisory: Clean Imported Fill Material. Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). October 2001.
5. Interim Guidance for Sampling Agricultural Properties revision 3. Department of Toxic Substances Control. August 7, 2008.
6. Preliminary Endangerment Assessment Guidance Manual. Department of Toxic Substances Control. January 1994. Revised October 2015.

## **TABLES**

**Table 1a**  
**Minimum Required Analyses for Characterization of Fill Material for Off-Site Reuse**  
**for Receiving Facilities Located outside of Zone 7 Water Agency Jurisdictional Boundaries**

Laboratory Analysis <sup>(1)</sup>	Analytical Method	Current and Historic Land Use At or Within 500 Feet of Fill Source Area			Current and Historic Land Use at Parcel(s) Containing Fill Source Area			
		Major Roadway or Freeway	Mining Area or Rock Quarry	Regulated Cleanup Site and RECs	Agricultural	Residential / Acceptable Commercial <sup>(2)</sup>	Existing Historic Engineered Fill <sup>(3)</sup>	Industrial / Unacceptable Commercial
California Title 22 Metals <sup>(4)</sup>	USEPA 6010B and/or USEPA 7471A	X (Lead Only)	X	Additional As Required	X	X	X <sup>(5)</sup>	N/A
Asbestos	PLM or OSHA 191		X (PLM)	Additional As Required		X (OSHA 191)	X <sup>(5)</sup>	N/A
pH	USEPA 9045D		X	Additional As Required			X <sup>(5)</sup>	N/A
Pesticides	USEPA 8141A; and USEPA 8151A; and USEPA 8081A or 8080A			Additional As Required	X		X <sup>(5)</sup>	N/A
VOCs	USEPA 8260B with collection by USEPA 5035			Additional As Required		X	X <sup>(5)</sup>	N/A
SVOCs & PAHs	USEPA 8270C SIM	X (PAHs Only)		Additional As Required		X	X <sup>(5)</sup>	N/A
TPH	USEPA 8015M	X <sup>(5)</sup>	X <sup>(5)</sup>	Additional As Required	X <sup>(5)</sup>	X	X <sup>(5)</sup>	N/A
PCBs	USEPA 8082 or 8080A			Additional As Required		X	X <sup>(5)</sup>	N/A

Adapted from Department of Toxic Substances Control's Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material dated October 2001.

**Notes:**

- (1) All analysis should be performed in accordance with USEPA SW-846 methods. A standard laboratory data package, including a summary of the QA/QC (Quality Assurance/Quality Control) sample results must accompany all analytical reports;
- (2) Acceptable commercial land use excludes any commercial use that generates revenue from manufacturing, repair/restoration, maintenance/cleaning, or the storage/transport of hazardous materials;
- (3) Existing homogeneous engineered fill. Fill containing waste or debris or that is heterogeneous is not acceptable for off-site reuse.
- (4) Include when Hexavalent Chromium analysis required by USEPA method 71.99
- (5) Analysis required by Alameda County Department of Environmental Health;

**Abbreviations:**

USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency  
N/A - Not Acceptable for off-site re-use  
PLM - Polarized Light Microscopy  
OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Administration Testing Method Number  
SIM - Selected Ion Monitoring  
VOCs - Volatile Organic Compounds  
SVOCs - Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds  
PAHs - Poly Aromatic Hydrocarbons  
TPH - Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as reported for gasoline range, diesel range, and motor oil range  
PCBs - Polychlorinated Biphenyls;

**Table 1b  
Minimum Required Analyses for Characterization of Fill Material for Off-Site Reuse  
for Receiving Facilities Located within Zone 7 Water Agency Jurisdictional Boundaries**

Laboratory Analysis <sup>(1)</sup>	Analytical Method	Current and Historic Land Use At or Within 500 Feet of Fill Source Area			Current and Historic Land Use at Parcel(s) Containing Fill Source Area			
		Major Roadway or Freeway	Mining Area or Rock Quarry	Regulated Cleanup Site and RECs	Agricultural	Residential / Acceptable Commercial <sup>(2)</sup>	Existing Historic Engineered Fill <sup>(3)</sup>	Industrial / Unacceptable Commercial
California Title 22 Metals <sup>(4)</sup>	USEPA 6010B and/or USEPA 7471A	X (Lead Only)	X	Additional As Required	X	X	X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	N/A
Asbestos	PLM or OSHA 191		X (PLM)	Additional As Required		X (OSHA 191)	X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	N/A
pH	USEPA 9045D		X	Additional As Required			X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	N/A
Pesticides	USEPA 8141A; and USEPA 8151A; and USEPA 8081A or 8080A	X <sup>(6)</sup>	X <sup>(6)</sup>	Additional As Required	X	X <sup>(6)</sup>	X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	N/A
VOCs	USEPA 8260B with collection by USEPA 5035			Additional As Required		X	X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	N/A
SVOCs & PAHs	USEPA 8270C SIM	X (PAHs Only)		Additional As Required		X	X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	N/A
TPH	USEPA 8015M	X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	Additional As Required	X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	X	X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	N/A
PCBs	USEPA 8082 or 8080A			Additional As Required		X	X <sup>(5, 6)</sup>	N/A

Adapted from Department of Toxic Substances Control's Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material dated October 2001.

**Notes:**

- (1) All analysis should be performed in accordance with USEPA SW-846 methods. A standard laboratory data package, including a summary of the QA/QC (Quality Assurance/Quality Control) sample results must accompany all analytical reports;
- (2) Acceptable commercial land use consist excludes any commercial use that generates revenue from manufacturing, repair/restoration, maintenance/cleaning, or the storage/transport of hazardous materials;
- (3) Existing homogeneous engineered fill. Fill containing waste or debris or that is heterogeneous is not acceptable for off-site reuse.
- (4) Include when Hexavalent Chromium analysis required by USEPA method 7199
- (5) Analysis required by Alameda County Department of Environmental Health;
- (6) Analysis required by Zone 7 Water Agency

**Abbreviations:**

USEPA -United States Environmental Protection Agency

N/A – Not Acceptable for off-site re-use

PLM – Polarized Light Microscopy

OSHA – Occupational Safety and Health Administration Testing Method Number

SIM – Selected Ion Monitoring

VOCs – Volatile Organic Compounds

SVOCs – Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds

PAHs – Poly Aromatic Hydrocarbons

TPH – Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as reported for gasoline range, diesel range, and motor oil range

PCBs – Polychlorinated Biphenyls;

Table 2a

**Minimum Required Sample Density and Spacing for In Situ (Pre-excavation) Characterization of Proposed Fill Material Sources for Receiving Facilities Located outside of Zone 7 Water Agency's Jurisdictional Boundaries**

Requirements	Size of Contiguous Fill Source	Minimum Lateral Sample Distribution	Minimum Vertical Sample Distribution
(1) Additional lateral sample locations may be required to address identified RECs; (2) Additional samples must be collected from fill material that exhibits signs of potential contamination (e.g., strong odor, staining, presence of sheen or free product, stressed vegetation in the vicinity, elevated response from photo-ionization detector); (3) Fill source area cannot be located on parcel(s) with historic industrial or unacceptable commercial land uses or parcel(s) associated with regulated environmental cleanup sites unless approved by regulatory oversight agency;	$\leq 2.0$ acres	4 sample locations.  <u>AND</u> Sample Locations must be distributed throughout the fill material source area.	1 sample collected and analyzed per sample location.  <u>AND</u> 1 sample collected and analyzed for every 5 feet bgs.  <u>AND</u> 1 sample collected from each layer exhibiting different geological characteristics or lithology encountered.
(4) Samples that are collected, but not planned for analysis must be submitted with the samples planned for analysis under chain of custody to an appropriately certified analytical laboratory. The samples that are not planned for analysis must remain on hold with the laboratory until ACDEH has issued a determination regarding the suitability of fill material for import and released the un-analyzed samples for disposal; (5) When contaminants associated with surface deposition (e.g. pesticides, asbestos, and lead) are required to be evaluated, ACDEH requires the following additional samples be collected from each sample location: One sample from 0 to 6 inches bgs, One sample from 6 inches to 2 feet bgs, One sample from 2 feet to 3 feet bgs. One of these samples must be selected for analysis for each sample location;	$\geq 2.0$ acres  $< 4.0$ acres	1 sample location per 0.5 acre.  <u>AND</u> Sample Locations must be distributed throughout the fill material source area.	1 sample collected and analyzed per sample location.  <u>AND</u> 1 sample collected and analyzed for every 5 feet bgs.  <u>AND</u> 1 sample collected from each layer exhibiting different geological characteristics or lithology encountered.
(6) If groundwater is encountered, ACDEH requires the following additional samples be collected and analyzed: One sample per Sample Location from immediately above the saturated fill material (i.e., the capillary fringe); One groundwater samples must be collected and analyzed for each boring, excavation, or dewatering well in which groundwater is encountered.	$\geq 4$ acres  $< 10.0$ acres	8 sample locations.  <u>AND</u> Sample Locations must be distributed throughout the fill material source area.	1 sample collected and analyzed per sample location.  <u>AND</u> 1 sample collected and analyzed for every 5 feet bgs.  <u>AND</u> 1 sample collected from each layer exhibiting different geological characteristics or lithology encountered.
(7) If dewatering will be conducted to support excavation below an existing water table, ACDEH requires that, historically saturated fill material be sampled after dewatering is in effect. (8) Composite sampling may or may not be appropriate, depending on the quality and homogeneity of the source/borrow area and compounds of concern.	$\geq 10.0$ acres	8 sample locations.  <u>AND</u> Sample Locations must be distributed throughout the fill material source area.	4 sample collected and analyzed per sample location.  <u>AND</u> 1 sample collected and analyzed for every 5 feet bgs.  <u>AND</u> 1 sample collected from each layer exhibiting different geological characteristics or lithology encountered.

Table 2b

**Minimum Required Sample Density and Spacing for In Situ (Pre-excavation) Characterization of Proposed Fill Material Sources for Receiving Facilities Located within Zone 7 Water Agency's Jurisdictional Boundaries**

Requirements	Size of Contiguous Fill Source	Minimum Lateral Sample Distribution	Minimum Vertical Sample Distribution
<p>(1) Additional lateral sample locations may be required to address identified RECs</p> <p>(2) Additional samples must be collected from fill material that exhibits signs of potential contamination (e.g., strong odor, staining, presence of sheen or free product, stressed vegetation in the vicinity, elevated response from photo-ionization detector)</p> <p>(3) Fill source area cannot be located on parcel(s) with historic industrial or unacceptable commercial land uses or parcel(s) associated with regulated environmental cleanup sites unless approved by regulatory oversight agency;</p>	<p>≤2.0 acres</p>	<p>8 sample locations.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Sample Locations must be distributed throughout the fill material source area.</p>	<p>1 sample collected and analyzed per sample location.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>1 sample collected and analyzed for every 5 feet bgs.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>1 sample collected from each layer exhibiting different geological characteristics or lithology encountered.</p>
<p>(4) Samples that are collected, but not planned for analysis must be submitted with the samples planned for analysis under chain of custody to an appropriately certified analytical laboratory. The samples that are not planned for analysis must remain on hold with the laboratory until ACDEH has issued a determination regarding the suitability of fill material for import and released the un-analyzed samples for disposal;</p> <p>(5) When contaminants associated with surface deposition (e.g. pesticides, asbestos, and lead) are required to be evaluated, ACDEH requires the following additional samples be collected from each sample location: One sample from 0 to 6 inches bgs; One sample from 6 inches to 2 feet bgs; and One sample from 2 feet to 3 feet bgs. One of these samples must be selected for analysis for each sample location;</p>	<p>≥2.0 acres &lt;4.0 acres</p>	<p>1 sample location per 0.25 acre.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Sample Locations must be distributed throughout the fill material source area.</p>	<p>1 sample collected and analyzed per sample location.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>1 sample collected and analyzed for every 5 feet bgs.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>1 sample collected from each layer exhibiting different geological characteristics or lithology encountered.</p>
<p>(6) If groundwater is encountered, ACDEH requires the following additional samples be collected and analyzed: One sample per Sample Location from immediately above the saturated fill material (i.e., the capillary fringe); One groundwater samples must be collected and analyzed for each boring, excavation, or dewatering well in which groundwater is encountered.</p>	<p>≥4 acres &lt;10.0 acres</p>	<p>16 sample locations.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Sample Locations must be distributed throughout the fill material source area.</p>	<p>1 sample collected and analyzed per sample location.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>1 sample collected and analyzed for every 5 feet bgs.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>1 sample collected from each layer exhibiting different geological characteristics or lithology encountered.</p>
<p>(7) If dewatering will be conducted to support excavation below an existing water table, ACDEH requires that, historically saturated fill material be samples after dewatering is in effect.</p> <p>(8) Composite sampling may or may not be appropriate, depending on the quality and homogeneity of the fill material and compounds of concern.</p>	<p>≥10.0 acres</p>	<p>16 sample locations.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Sample Locations must be distributed throughout the fill material source area.</p>	<p>4 sample collected and analyzed per sample location.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>1 sample collected and analyzed for every 5 feet bgs.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>1 sample collected from each layer exhibiting different geological characteristics or lithology encountered.</p>

Table 3

**Minimum Required Sample Density and Spacing for Stockpile (Post-Excavation)  
Characterization of Proposed Fill Material Sources for Receiving Facilities**

Requirements	Size of Fill Source	Minimum Number of Fill Material Samples to be Collected
(1) Top Soil (0 to 6 inches bgs) and near surface soil (6 inches to 3 feet bgs) must be stockpiled separately if sampling for contaminants associated with surface deposition (e.g. pesticides, asbestos, and lead) (0-6 inches below ground surface) is required; (2) 4-point composite samples may be used in lieu of discrete samples for analysis other than VOCs and SVOCs, however, the total number of samples must be preserved; (3) VOC and SVOC samples are to be collected from fill material at least 1 foot into the stockpile;	$\leq 1,000 \text{ yd}^3$	1 sample collected and analyzed per 250 cubic yards of stockpiled fill material.
	$>1,000 \text{ yd}^3 \text{ \& } <5,000 \text{ yd}^3$	4 samples collected and analyzed for first 1,000 cubic yards <b>AND</b> 1 sample for each additional 500 cubic yards.
	$\geq 5,000 \text{ yd}^3$	12 samples collected and analyzed for first 5,000 cubic yards <b>AND</b> 1 sample for each additional 1,000 cubic yards.



**ATTACHMENT A**

**Proposed Fill Material Source Characterization Summary Form**

