

951 California Blvd Napa, CA 94559 www.countyofnapa.org Main: (707) 299-1464

> Jason W. Downs Fire Marshal

MEMORANDUM

November 14, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for bringing your concerns about potential fire code violations and unreported fires at Upper Valley Disposal on Whitehall Lane to our attention. Ensuring the safety of our community is a top priority, and the Napa County Fire Department takes these matters very seriously.

A thorough fire inspection was conducted at the Upper Valley Disposal facility on November 4th, 2024, and after a careful review, I can confirm that no violations of the California Fire Code or National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards were identified. The facility is in full compliance with all relevant fire safety regulations, including those specific to the handling, storage, and disposal of materials that could pose a fire risk.

Additionally, Napa County's Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) staff investigated recent reports of fires at the UVDS compost facility, alleged to have occurred on 10/21/24, 10/26/24, 10/31/24, and 11/2/24, and found no evidence of fires within the composting operational areas on these dates. Review of facility records further supports the improbability of fires emanating from the compost piles during the specified periods. Visual field observations conducted on 11/4/24 suggest that steam generated from the movement of compost during normal operations could easily be mistaken for smoke.

If you witness an active fire emergency or any situation that poses an immediate threat to life or property, it is critical that you contact 911 right away. This allows emergency responders to quickly assess the situation and take appropriate action.

For concerns related to fire code violations or if you believe a facility may be in non-compliance with fire regulations, I strongly encourage you to directly contact the Napa County Fire Marshal's Office. The Fire Marshal is responsible for investigating potential code violations and enforcing fire safety standards throughout the county. We can be reached at 707-299-1464 or by email at firemarshal@countyofnapa.org.

Thank you for your vigilance and commitment to fire safety. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Napa County Fire Marshal's Office.

Sincerely,

Jason Downs Fire Marshal

Napa County Fire Department

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