

# Eagle Mountain Landfill Project

## SITE INFORMATION

Location:	Riverside County, 10 miles north of I-10 at Desert Center
Maximum tonnage:	20,000 tons per day of municipal solid waste
Tonnage reservation:	2,000 tons per day reserved exclusively for Riverside County
Landfill capacity:	708 million tons
Project life:	Approximately 100 years
Waste shed:	Permitted to receive non-hazardous (Class III) municipal solid waste from Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, Orange, San Diego, and Santa Barbara Counties
Total site area:	4,643 acres
Landfill refuse footprint:	2,164 acres
Precipitation:	3.5 inches per year
Evaporation:	156 inches per year
Depth to Groundwater:	300 to 1,550 feet

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Eagle Mountain Landfill is located in Riverside County approximately 200 miles east of Los Angeles along the Union Pacific Railroad. The landfill is situated on a closed open pit iron ore mine that used to be operated by Kaiser. A 52-mile rail spur previously constructed to service the iron ore mine would be renovated to accommodate trains hauling solid waste to the landfill. The arid desert climate, distance from groundwater, and proximity to the railroad make the site an ideal location for a regional waste-by-rail landfill.

The waste-by-rail system currently envisioned is primarily an intermodal system. At the local materials recovery or transfer facilities, waste would be loaded into fully enclosed and sealed containers. The containers would then be trucked to a local intermodal rail yard to be placed onto rail cars. The loaded train would haul the containers over the Union Pacific mainline and then the rail spur leading to the remote intermodal rail yard located at the landfill. From the intermodal yard, the containers would be loaded onto trucks and transported to the landfill for disposal. After the solid waste is disposed off at the landfill the empty containers would be loaded onto the train at the intermodal yard for the return trip.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The development of the Eagle Mountain Landfill will include many innovative and state-of-the-art environmental control systems. The Eagle Mountain Landfill's planned environmental protection features include:

- Groundwater protection
- Landfill gas recovery
- Covering and compacting refuse
- Dust and litter control
- Screening of unacceptable wastes
- Desert tortoise protection



SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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WASTE-BY-RAIL



**ECONOMIC BENEFITS**

Host fees would generate up to \$29 million per year in revenue for Riverside County when the site reaches full daily capacity. The project would also create jobs in the community. Over \$100 million will be spent during the initial construction of the site, creating additional jobs and economic benefits.

**PROJECT STATUS**

On August 9, 2000, the District No. 2 Board of Directors approved the acquisition of the project for \$41 million. The purchase of Eagle Mountain Landfill by the Sanitation Districts and its eventual operation are contingent upon successful resolution of pending federal litigation.

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