



**PRESS RELEASE
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COUNTY FIRE RESPONDS TO ALISAL FIRE AT THE TAJIGUAS LANDFILL

Around 10:45 a.m. this morning, Santa Barbara County Fire responded to a fire at the Tajiguas Landfill. As areas of the landfill smoldered and burned from the Alisal Fire, a flare-up occurred in the biofilter outside the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). The biofilter is an uncovered concrete structure filled with woodchips that receives and filters air from inside the MRF. County Fire is managing the ignited woodchips and is protecting the MRF from the flames. County and incident staff are currently assessing the damage to the biofilter and the facility.

Staff is also assessing damage to the landfill. In addition to the biofilter, the Alisal Fire damaged drainage, landfill gas collection systems, and heavy equipment. The new MRF and Anaerobic Digester are currently intact. The waste management structures are equipped with indoor and exterior fire suppression equipment, fire hydrants, and two water tanks that hold up to 300,000 gallons.

The County has implemented a contingency plan, and facilities in Ventura County will manage waste collected in the area on a short-term emergency basis. Waste collection services from residents and businesses will continue as usual, and the South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station remains open to serve the public. Santa Barbara County Public Works would like to thank the County fire crews that entered the landfill on Monday at 4 p.m. and defended the facility through the night.