

Landfill Yard Waste Fire Incident (8-10-25) Update

Presenting: Dave Brown, Reg. Engineer, Waste Connections



Organic Waste Yard

Feedstock Includes:

- *Residential Organics*
- *Commercial Organics*
- *White Wood*
(Pallets, Untreated Wood)

Rough Dimension (7/25/25)

- *150' x 140' footprint*
- *Height ranges 8-12'(H)*
- *5,000 cy of Material*



Fire Incident

[Approximate timeline, official report from CalFire Report still unavailable]

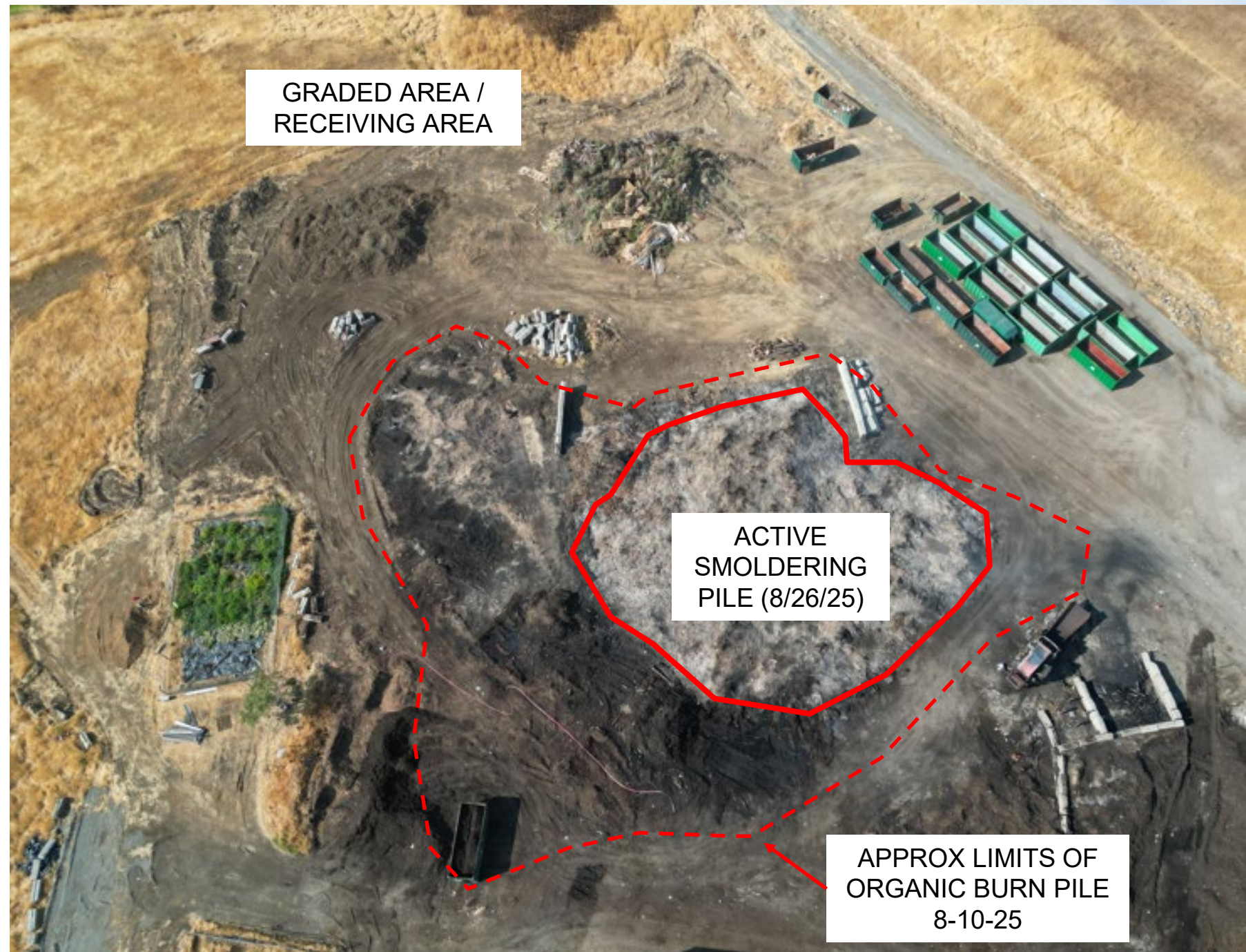
Sunday, Aug 10, 2025:

- 107F, elevated afternoon winds, low humidity
- 3:30 p.m. – Facility employees last out
- 4:45-4:47 p.m. – 911 call from asphalt contractor reporting smoke/flames
- Facility Operator immediately onsite (moving machinery out of building)
- CalFire onsite within 30 minutes, scene responder
- Site assisted response, cleared large 60'x100' area south of pile
- Air support to saturate adjacent to building and perimeters
- Perimeter control established, CalFire exit near 12:20 a.m. (8/11/25)
- All impacted areas non-structural, includes Organic Waste Pile and Grinder (equipment)



Ongoing Measures

- **24-hour Fire Watch, first few days by facility operator, 3rd party support ongoing**
- **Daily review by CalFire first 1.5 weeks, currently periodic check-ins. No change in how handling:**
 - **Perimeter monitoring**
 - **Continue to push/compile as possible**
 - **Douse/water as necessary**
 - **Remove and separate non-burning materials**
- **Receiving Area (for inbound Organic Waste) relocated south and grinding on 2-3 week interval**
- **Burned Material to be weighed via on-equipment Loader scales and landfilled to active face (pending lab results for characterization - non-structure, non-asbestos burn material)**



CalFire Investigation Report

1/10/2025



Investigation Report

Incident Information

DPA Authority at State Origin: Region: Northern
Incident Type: 151-Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire Incident Name: PLYMIRE
Action Taken: 10-Fire control or extinguishment, other Aid Given/Received: 1-Mutual aid received
Battalion: 3

Casualties

Civilian Deaths: 0 Civilian Injuries: 0
Fire Service Deaths: 0 Fire Service Injuries: 0

Losses (\$)

Estimated Property Losses: \$10000
Estimated Content Losses: \$1000000 Estimated Contents Pre-Incident Value: \$1000000

Dates and Times

Alarm: 08/10/2025 16:49:52 Arrival: 08/10/2025 16:59:52 Controlled: 08/10/2025 20:20:34 Cleared: 08/10/2025 20:20:34

Location

Latitude: 40.196051 Longitude: -122.293164
County: Tehama Unit: TGU FDID: 52555
Address: 19995PLYMIRERD-Road
Cross Street: 14001 BLK MENDENHALL RD & 14000 BLK SKUNK HOLLOW R
City: WRB State: CA Zip Code: 96080

Details

Property Use: 000-Property Use, other
Mixed Use Property: 58-Business and residential use

Apparatus and Personnel

Suppression Apparatus: 11 Suppression Personnel: 2
EMS Apparatus: 0 EMS Personnel: 0
Other Apparatus: 4 Other Personnel: 2

CAL FIRE Incident Reporting System (CALFIRS)

Current Date: 09/04/2025 11:24

Incident Number: 25CATGU0008846 Exposure: 0 Incident Date: 08/10/2025

Officer in Charge

Name: DE LOS SANTOS, VICTOR
Position or Rank: FIRE APPARATUS ENGINEER

Member Making Report

Name: DE LOS SANTOS, VICTOR Date: 08/13/2025
Position or Rank: FIRE APPARATUS ENGINEER

Statements and information included in this report are based on the best available information at the time of the report. I reserve the right to update and/or modify this report at any time, based on new or additional information becoming available.

Wildland Fire

Area Type: 1-Rural, including farms > 50 acres

Heat Source: 72-Spontaneous combustion, chemical reaction

Material First Ignited: Wood Pile

Factors Contributing to Ignition: 00-Factors contributing to ignition, other

Human Factors Contributing to Ignition: None

Investigation

Reported: 08/10/2025 16:48:43

Investigation Attachments Included in Report?: Yes

Were there persons or property involved? (Victim, Witness, Subject): No

Narrative

Additional Narratives

On Wednesday August 10, 2025 at approximately 4:49 PM the Emergency Command Center (ECC) received a report of a vegetation fire at Tehama County Landfill. The ECC dispatched a full wildland response, including myself on E2562. E2562 arrived at the scene at approximately 4:59 PM and found multiple piles of large logs fully involved. Training 7 instructed E2562 to get the right flank to make sure the piles did not spread to the vegetation. P2522 spoke with landfill representee to find video of the fire being caused by spontaneous combustion, south end of the large green waste piles. After all active flames were put out fire was turned back to the property owners. The large debris piles resulting in \$1,010,000 damage including the debarker and Tehama solid waste, \$500,000 saved. In my opinion, based on my training experience evidence at scene I believe the probable fire cause was spontaneous combustion. I reserve the right to change my opinion if more information evidence is brought forward.

Authored By: VICTOR DE LOS SANTOS
Authored Date: 08/13/2025

Acres Burned

State Responsibility Area: 0.25
Local Responsibility Area: 0

CAL FIRE Incident Reporting System (CALFIRS)

Ongoing Operations

- **Operational change from single pile to windrows**
 - Ability to isolate rows
 - Smaller piles
- **Expanded yard footprint**
 - Increases ability to manage yard waste multiple windrows and allow for grinding while other windrows being received
- **Clearances/Separation:**
 - Maintain yard waste away from structures
 - Maintain equipment away from yard waste when not directly in use

