



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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July 23, 2009

Vapor and smoke from heat vents at the Frank R. Bowerman Landfill can be seen from nearby communities

IRVINE, Calif. – Recently a series of heat vents were discovered at the Frank R. Bowerman Landfill in Irvine. These naturally-occurring vents release a combination of water vapor, gases and smoke that are visible from nearby communities. The heat vents are not related to landfill activity and pose no imminent danger to the public. Consultants are monitoring the heat vents and have developed a series of recommendations. Next week the United States Geological Survey will be on hand to examine the vents and provide additional recommendations as to how to proceed.

The Orange County Fire Authority is aware of the heat vents. OC Waste & Recycling notified the Orange County Fire Authority upon the discovery of the vents. The Orange County Fire Authority has also responded to the site recently due to concerned citizens calling 911 to report the smoke that they observed. "We wanted the public to be aware of the heat vents so that they recognize the plume when they see it," said Kevin Kondru, Deputy Director for Central Region for OC Waste & Recycling. "The plume created by the smoke being vented is usually only visible in the early morning hours. We realize that it is unusual to see a plume rising from the foothills east of Irvine, so we want people to know about this natural phenomenon. We have aerial photos and pictures of the vents on our Web site so that people can see the vents for themselves." To view the photos, visit www.oclandfills.com.

Authorities have determined that there is no public danger and appropriate safety measures are being implemented at the landfill.

Bowerman Heat Vents Revised 7/23/2009 Page 2

OC Waste & Recycling manages a regional solid waste system composed of a network of three active landfills and four household hazardous waste collection centers (HHWCC), which accept household-generated hazardous waste at no charge to Orange County residents.

For more information contact OC Waste & Recycling Public Information Office at 714.834.4176 or visit the Web site: www.oclandfills.com.

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