

*Rio Dell City Hall
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July 21, 2026

TO: Rio Dell City Council

FROM: Kyle Knopp, City Manager

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action Authorizing the City Manager to Submit a Low Population Waiver Application to CalRecycle Under SB 1383 (14 CCR § 18984.12) and Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Application

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a motion authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to prepare, execute, and submit a Low Population Waiver Application to the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) requesting a full waiver from the organic waste collection service requirements of Article 3 (14 CCR §§ 18984 through 18984.10) for a period of five (5) years, and to take all other actions reasonably necessary to carry out the intent of this motion, including submitting any renewal application(s) prior to expiration; or,

Take no action. This will result in all SB1383 requirements becoming effective on January 1, 2027.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Senate Bill 1383 (Lara, Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016) established statewide targets to reduce the disposal of organic waste in landfills and directed CalRecycle to adopt regulations (14 CCR Division 7, Chapter 12, Article 3) requiring jurisdictions to provide organic waste collection services to all generators, including three-container or two-container collection, container labeling and color requirements, contamination monitoring, and associated recordkeeping.

Recognizing that these requirements impose a disproportionate burden on very small, low-volume jurisdictions, the regulations (14 CCR § 18984.12(a)) and subsequent legislation, SB 613 (Seyarto, Chapter 878, Statutes of 2023), authorize CalRecycle to grant a Low Population Waiver to a city or special district that meets both of the following thresholds:

- The jurisdiction disposed of less than 5,000 tons of solid waste in calendar year 2014; and
- The jurisdiction has a total population of less than 7,500 people.

An approved waiver may be granted for a period of up to five years and does not relieve the jurisdiction of its other SB 1383 obligations, including edible food recovery coordination, and continuing to promote and provide information to generators about waste prevention, community composting, on-site organic waste management, and other means of recovering organic waste.

The City of Rio Dell qualifies for the Low Population Waiver on both statutory bases:

Eligibility Criterion	Rio Dell Data
2014 solid waste disposal < 5,000 tons	Yes – confirmed less than 5,000 tons disposed in 2014. Current year estimate is 1,500tn +/-
Total population < 7,500	3,224
Generators to be included in waiver	725 (all residential, commercial, and industrial generators)

Given Rio Dell's small population, limited generator base, and correspondingly low disposal tonnage, full compliance with the multi-container collection, container color/labeling, contamination monitoring, and related recordkeeping requirements of Article 3 would impose significant administrative and capital costs relative to the City's limited solid waste enterprise resources, without a commensurate benefit to statewide organics diversion goals. Staff therefore recommends requesting a full waiver from the following provisions for the maximum allowable term of five years:

- 14 CCR § 18984 – Combined Organic Waste Collection Services
- 14 CCR § 18984.1 – Three-Container Organic Waste Collection Services
- 14 CCR § 18984.2 – Two-Container Organic Waste Collection Services
- 14 CCR § 18984.3 – Unsegregated Single Container Collection Services
- 14 CCR § 18984.4 – Recordkeeping Requirements for Compliance with Organic Waste Collection Services
- 14 CCR § 18984.5 – Container Contamination Minimization
- 14 CCR § 18984.6 – Recordkeeping Requirements for Container Contamination Minimization
- 14 CCR § 18984.7 – Container Color Requirements
- 14 CCR § 18984.8 – Container Labeling Requirements
- 14 CCR § 18984.9 – Organic Waste Generator Requirements
- 14 CCR § 18984.10 – Commercial Business Owner Responsibilities

If approved, the waiver could be valid for up to five years from the date of CalRecycle approval. The City would remain obligated to comply with all other applicable SB 1383 requirements not covered by the waiver, including edible food recovery program coordination and ongoing outreach and education to generators regarding waste prevention, home composting, and organic waste diversion options. Staff will track the waiver's expiration date and return to Council for authorization to apply for renewal at least 180 days prior to expiration, consistent with 14 CCR § 18984.12(a).

There is no direct cost to apply for the waiver; CalRecycle does not charge an application fee. Approval of the waiver is expected to provide an opportunity to avoid substantial future costs to the City's solid waste/wastewater enterprise associated with procuring additional collection containers, retrofitting container color and labeling, and establishing contamination-monitoring and recordkeeping systems that would otherwise be required under full Article 3 compliance.

ATTACHMENTS

- Draft Low Population Waiver Application (CalRecycle form)

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Low Population Waiver Application for Cities or Special Districts Providing Solid Waste Collection Services

CalRecycle is providing this form as a convenience to assist cities or special districts providing solid waste collection services for purposes of applying for low population waivers under 14 CCR 18984.12(a) or SB 613 (Seyarto, Chapter 878, Statutes of 2023). Use of this form is optional and not a regulatory requirement.

A jurisdiction (city or special district providing solid waste collection services) may apply to CalRecycle for a waiver for some or all of its generators from some or all of the requirements of Article 3 in 14 CCR 18984 through 18984.13.

To qualify for a low population waiver, the following must apply to the jurisdiction:

- The jurisdiction disposed less than 5,000 tons of solid waste in 2014.
- The jurisdiction has a total population of less than 7,500 people.

CalRecycle-approved waivers are valid for a period of up to five years. A jurisdiction may apply to renew a waiver at any time up to 180 days prior to the expiration of an existing approved waiver. An approved waiver does not waive a jurisdiction from its obligation to comply with the other requirements of the SB 1383 regulations including, but not limited to, promoting and providing information to generators about waste prevention, community composting, managing organic waste on site, and other means of recovering organic waste.

Please clearly print or type your responses. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Jurisdiction Name: City of Rio Dell	County: Humboldt
Person Completing the Application:	
First Name: Kyle	Last Name: Knopp
Title: City Manager	
Mailing Address: 675 Wildwood Avenue	
City: Rio Dell	
Zip Code: 95562	
E-mail Address: knoppk@cityofriodell.ca.gov	
Phone Number: 707-764-3532	

1. Did you dispose less than 5,000 tons of solid waste in 2014?	Yes ☒	No ☐
2. What is the current total population of your jurisdiction?	3,224	
3. How many generators are included in this waiver request? (This total includes all generators, such as residential, commercial, industrial, etc.)	725	
4. What duration are you requesting?	☐ 1 year	☐ 2 years
	☐ 3 years	☐ 4 years
		☒ 5 years

(Requests cannot be longer than 5 years)						
5. What requirements of Article 3 in 14 CCR 18984 are you requesting to be waived? (Select all that are that are applicable to this request.)						
☐ 14 CCR 18984 Combined Organic Waste Collection Services		☐ 14 CCR 18984.1 Three-Container Organic Waste Collection Services		☐ 14 CCR 18984.2 Two-Container Organic Waste Collection Services		
☐ 14 CCR 18984.3 Unsegregated Single Container Collection Services		☐ 14 CCR 18984.4 Recordkeeping Requirements for Compliance with Organic Waste Collection Services		☐ 14 CCR 18984.5 Container Contamination Minimization		
☐ 14 CCR 18984.6 Recordkeeping Requirements for Container Contamination Minimization		☐ 14 CCR 18984.7 Container Color Requirements		☐ 14 CCR 18984.8 Container Labeling Requirements		
☐ 14 CCR 18984.9 Organic Waste Generator Requirements		☐ 14 CCR 18984.10 Commercial Business Owner Responsibilities		This box is blank		

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

_____	Kyle Knopp	City Manager	7/21/2026
Signature	Printed Name	Title	Date