

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Permitting and Compliance Division
Waste and Underground Tank Management Bureau
Solid Waste Section
Metcalf Building
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

CHECK LIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

1. Current facility name: Tire Depot, Inc.
Name of transferor: Vern Reum
Address of facility: 55528 US Highway 93
Polson, MT 59860
New facility name: Mission Valley Renewable Energy, LLC.
Name of transferee/applicant: Mission Valley Renewable Energy, LLC.
Address of transferee/applicant: 55528 U.S. Highway 93
Polson, MT 59860
Facility telephone: 406-883-6111
2. This application is for a:
 solid waste landfill transfer station resource recovery or processing facility
 other: License transfer from individual to new owner, a corporation.
3. a) Legal description of location: Section 25, T22N, R20W, M.P.M.
b) General description of facility location: 4.5 miles South of Polson on U.S. Hwy. 93.
4. If the applicant does not own the property, give name and address of lessor who holds title to the property: Applicant owns the property.
5. Total acreage of system: 8 acres
6. Population and service area: Waste tires are accepted for disposal from locations within and outside the state of Montana.

Tonnage to be accepted per year: The maximum capacity based upon the current facility design is for over 1000 tons of waste tires annually.
7. Description of the benefits and purpose of the proposed action:
a) The facility is an existing facility that has been licensed by the Department's Solid Waste Program for 13 years. The proposed action consists of the transfer of the solid waste license from the former individual site owner to the new site owner, a corporation.

8. Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives whenever alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider:

Following the Department's finding that the Mission Valley Renewable Energy's license transfer application was complete, the Department considered two alternatives in the preparation of this checklist EA:

Alternative A. Deny the license transfer as proposed by the applicant— the "no action alternative". If this alternative were chosen, the applicant could:

1. Close the facility. This is not a preferred alternative because it would place a burden on tire retailers and the general public of Montana. Tire Depot handles a large portion of the waste tires around the state. Tire retailers would be forced to locate new facilities to dispose of waste tires. Additional costs may be incurred by consumers for waste tire disposal at the tire retailers who currently dispose of their tires at this location.

Alternative B. Approve the license transfer as proposed by the applicant. Several factors support the viability of this option:

1. The facility has been licensed by the Department since 1995. As a result, the facility has an established 13-year history of waste tire management and disposal.
2. There is an ongoing need for the economical management and disposal of waste tires.

9. A listing and appropriate evaluation of mitigation, stipulations and other controls enforceable by the agency or another government agency.

The proposed facility must meet the minimum requirements of the Montana Solid Waste Management Act and the rules promulgated under that Act as well as State and County subdivision and County zoning regulations.

10. Recommendation:

The recommended action is to approve the license transfer application to Mission Valley Renewable Energy, LLC.

11. If an EIS is needed, and if appropriate, explain the reasons for preparing the EA:

Due to the absence of significant potential environmental impacts as indicated by this checklist environmental assessment, the Department finds that an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary.

12. If an EIS is not required, explain why the checklist EA is an appropriate level of analysis:

The Department finds that transfer of the solid waste management system license to the applicant would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The facility has been licensed by the Department since 1995.

There are expected to be no potential impacts to surface water resources, terrestrial and aquatic life, vegetation and other aspects of the physical environment, and the impact to the human environment, if any, is expected to be minor. Thus, a checklist Environmental Assessment is an adequate document to address potential impacts of the proposed solid waste management system license transfer.

13. Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction:

none

14. Individuals or groups contributing to this EA:

Mission Valley Renewable Energy, LLC.

Checklist EA prepared by:

Joe Blaine and Mary Louise Hendrickson - *Montana DEQ, Permitting and Compliance Division, Waste and Underground Tank Management Bureau, Solid Waste Program*

Date: September 16, 2008

G:\WUT\SWS\EAs\sw-ea\tireDeot\TireDepot091608cklstEA.doc

IMPACTS

<u>PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT</u>	Major	Moderate	Minor	No	Unknown	Attached
1. TOPOGRAPHY: Are there unusual geologic features?				X		
Will the surface features be changed?				X		
2. GEOLOGY & SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY & MOISTURE: Are fragile, compactible or unstable soils present?				X		
Are there special reclamation considerations?				X		
3. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY & DISTRIBUTION: Are important surface or ground water resources present?				X		
Is there potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality?				X		
4. AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced?				X		
Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)?				X		
5. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OR LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY: Will the project use resources that are limited in the area?				X		
Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?				X		
6. IMPACTS ON OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are there other studies, plans or projects on this tract?				X		
7. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN, AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there substantial use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish?				X		
8. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY & QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be permanently altered?				X		
Are any rare plants or cover types present?				X		
9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present?				X		
Any wetlands?				X		
Any species of special concern?				X		
10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE: Are any historical, archaeological or paleontological resources present?				X		
11. AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographical feature?				X		
Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas?				X		
Will there be excessive noise, light or odors?				X		
12. AGRICULTURE: Will grazing lands, irrigation waters or crop production be affected?				X		

IMPACTS

<u>HUMAN ENVIRONMENT</u>	Major	Moderate	Minor	No	Unknown	Attached
1. SOCIAL STRUCTURES & MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?				X		
2. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS & DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?				X		
3. DENSITY & DISTRIBUTION OR POPULATION & HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing?				X		
4. HUMAN HEALTH & SAFETY: Will this project add to health and safety risks in the area?				X		
5. COMMUNITY & PERSONAL INCOME: Will the facility generate or degrade income?				X		
6. QUANTITY & DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs?				X		
If so, estimate number.						
7. LOCAL & STATE TAX BASE REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue?				X		
8. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will substantial traffic be added to existing roads?				X		
Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc.) be needed?				X		
9. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES & PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?				X		
10. ACCESS TO & QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL & WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract?				X		
Is there recreational potential within the tract?				X		
11. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS & GOALS: Are there state, county, city, USFS, BLM, tribal, etc., zoning or management plans in effect?				X		
12. TRANSPORTATION: Will the project affect local transportation networks and traffic flows?				X		