

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 2674 (Schiavo)

As Amended June 11, 2026

Majority vote

SUMMARY

Original Committee of Reference: Banking and Finance

Requires the Air Resources Board (ARB) to post temperature and monitoring data regarding methane emissions from landfills on its website.

Senate Amendments

Current Committee Recommendation: Concur in Senate Amendments

- 1) Delete the prior version of the bill.
- 2) Require the ARB to post temperature and monitoring data regarding methane emissions on its website.

COMMENTS

Landfill monitoring. MSW landfill monitoring requirements are set by federal regulations established by the United States Environmental Protection agency (USEPA), and the frequency of the monitoring is generally dependent on what is being monitored. In most cases, landfills are subject to:

- a) Quarterly Monitoring:
 - i) Surface emissions monitoring ensures methane emissions are kept below a certain level and to assess how effectively the gas collection and control systems (GCCS) are working.
 - ii) Components containing landfill gas under pressure must be monitored for leaks.
 - iii) Groundwater elevations measured to determine groundwater gradient and direction.
 - iv) Chemical analysis of groundwater samples may also be required, especially if certain constituents are detected at elevated levels.
- b) Monthly Monitoring:
 - i) Wellheads at landfills using GCCS must conduct monthly monitoring of items such as temperature, oxygen, nitrogen, methane and pressure levels.
 - ii) Landfill covers are inspected monthly to identify and repair issues such as exposed waste, leachate breakouts, and erosion gullies.
- c) Weekly Monitoring:

The overall integrity of a landfill site, including the cover material, drainage structures, potential erosion areas, and leachate piping and storage facilities.

Pursuant to federal regulations, landfill operators are required to operate GCCS for each area, cell, or group of cells. Landfill gas wellheads must generally maintain temperatures below 131°F. Operators may request a waiver to operate at higher temperatures if they can demonstrate that the elevated temperature will not result in fire initiation or significantly impair anaerobic decomposition by killing methanogenic organisms. (Chiquita Canyon Landfill, which is currently experiencing a serious subsurface elevated temperature event, had a waiver at the time the event began.)

Landfill design and operational practices influence subsurface fire risk, severity, and duration. The USEPA provides general guidance correlating internal landfill temperatures with operational status: 90–131°F normal operating range; 131–145°F potential presence of exothermic chemical reactions; above 145°F inhibition of methane generation; and, above 165°F cessation of biological activity and elevated fire risk.

While temperature is an important characteristic indicating the presence of a landfill fire, temperature alone is not a definitive indicator of an active or imminent subsurface fire. Additional diagnostic parameters include the carbon dioxide-to-methane ratio, hydrogen concentration, rate of landfill settlement, and excess leachate generation.

Regulation of landfill emissions. ARB implemented the LMR to monitor and reduce methane emissions from landfills in 2010. The LMR requires owners and operators of certain landfills to install and operate GCCS, monitor surface methane concentration and other performance parameters, repair emission exceedances and other performance issues, source test, keep records of these actions and data, and report specified information to ARB or the air districts. In November of last year, ARB updated the LMR to include specific processes for monitoring, reporting, and dealing with SETs at landfills. The regulation establishes a tiered response framework for elevated subsurface temperatures at landfill gas collection wells, triggered at two critical thresholds: 131°F (55°C) and 145°F (62.8°C). These requirements apply to interior wellheads and are designed to detect and prevent subsurface fires. The new provisions include a shorter timeline by which landfill operators must respond to a leak and new monitoring requirements for landfills with and without gas collection and control systems. The state will also begin requiring operators to respond to detected leaks via third-party technology verified by ARB — including the California Satellite Methane Project.

LMR allows air districts to voluntarily enter into memoranda of understanding with ARB to implement and enforce the LMR and to assess fees to cover costs. Currently, 22 of the 35 local air districts are implementing and enforcing the LMR.

Additionally, federal, state, and local agencies all play a role in regulating landfills, including:

- a) Local air districts in California play a lead role in regulating stationary sources of air pollution, including issuing permits for landfill GCCS. Local air districts regulate enclosed flares and other landfill gas combustion devices used to destroy methane and co-pollutants, and respond to nuisance and odor complaints.
- b) CalRecycle regulates solid waste handling, processing, and disposal activities to protect public health and safety and the environment and certify local enforcement agencies.

- c) The State Water Resources Control Board and the regional water quality control boards regulate discharges to land that could impact surface water and groundwater quality, including regulatory and permitting requirements for landfills.
- d) The Department of Toxic Substances Control regulates the management of hazardous waste.
- e) USEPA regulates emissions of volatile organic compounds from landfills through requirements similar to those in the LMR.

Related legislation. AB 28 (Schiavo) establishes a protocol for CalRecycle to require a corrective action plan in the event of a subsurface elevated temperature event at a landfill. Authorizes the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) to establish a multiagency coordination group to investigate and provide recommendations for addressing landfill fires. Authorizes CalRecycle to impose penalties of up to \$100,000 per day for specified violations. This bill is awaiting concurrence in Senate amendments on the Assembly Floor.

According to the Author

AB 2674 strengthens transparency and public accountability by requiring the California Air Resources Board to publicly post landfill temperature and monitoring data it receives from landfill operators. By providing communities, local governments, and regulators with accessible information, this measure will build public trust, support early awareness of potential landfill issues, and help ensure California's landfill methane reduction efforts protect both the environment and the people who live and work nearby.

Arguments in Support

The Santa Clarita Sierra Club Group states, "By improving public access to landfill monitoring data, A 2674 promotes accountability, strengthens public trust, and empowers communities with information necessary to understand environmental conditions in their neighborhoods."

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, pursuant to Senate Rule 28.8, negligible state costs.

VOTES

ASM BANKING AND FINANCE: 7-1-1

YES: Valencia, Fong, Krell, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Soria

NO: Dixon

ABS, ABST OR NV: Chen

ASM JUDICIARY: 10-0-2

YES: Kalra, Bauer-Kahan, Bryan, Connolly, Dixon, Harabedian, Papan, Sanchez, Stefani, Zbur

ABS, ABST OR NV: Macedo, Pacheco

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 13-0-2

YES: Wicks, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Ta

ABS, ABST OR NV: Hoover, Tangipa

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-3-15

YES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO: DeMaio, Dixon, Macedo

ABS, ABST OR NV: Alanis, Castillo, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Gipson, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Patterson, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Tangipa

SENATE FLOOR: 38-0-2

YES: Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNeerney, Menjivar, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ABS, ABST OR NV: Padilla, Reyes

ASM NATURAL RESOURCES: 14-0-0

YES: Bryan, Ellis, Alanis, Connolly, Garcia, Haney, Hoover, Kalra, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Pellerin, Schultz, Wicks, Zbur

UPDATED

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