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From: Jody Quintana (NC MRY) [mailto:Jody.Quintana@wholefoods.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 10:10 AM

To: Jeff Lindenthal; Kimberle Herring

Cc: William Merry; Maggie Mcgovern (NC MRY); Ben Dorsey (NC MRY); Kelli Takikawa (NC MRY); Gus Martinez (NC MRY)

Subject: Landfill Tour

Dear Jeff and Kimberly,

I want to thank you sincerely for the wonderful tour of various aspects of the landfill that you gave us yesterday. It was all fascinating, and it gave me hope that there are solutions to our very serious waste and energy challenges. I was heartened to learn that there are people like you, and the board of MRWMD, who are giving serious thought to how we can solve these challenges now, and in the future.

I was unaware that we have a Materials Recovery Facility that sorts out so many useful resources, such as saleable household items (available for purchase at The Last Chance Mercantile), cardboard, roofing material, wood, metal, and plastic from construction and other debris. We got to see how yard waste and wood scraps are ground into a landscaping material with a grinder that runs on the facilities own methane-generated electricity. We observed the heavy equipment compacting the tons of trash that we have yet to find a use for (or a way to sort) and the pipes that syphon off the methane that is generated from the landfill. And we saw the many windrows of composting material-- everything from food waste (including that from Whole Foods Market, Monterey) with ground-up yard waste to sewage sludge (in different areas, of course.) We also got a rare perspective of the Salinas River and Valley from back of the landfill-- a very windy spot that may someday be home to a windmill for electricity generation, or solar panels!

All in all, we felt that we were given the grand tour and our only regret was that we didn't have more time to spend with you. Many, many thanks to you and to your organization for such a generous introduction to your impressive facility. I, for one, hope to be back!

Jody Emerson Quintana

Green Mission Cluster Leader for the Monterey Bay Region

Whole Foods Market, NC