

S87B

Date: June 17, 2009
To: Darlene J. Bloom, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
From: Michael B. Giancola, Director, OC Waste & Recycling
Subject: **Frank R. Bowerman Landfill Heat Vents**

At the request of Supervisor Campbell, this memo is to inform you that OC Waste & Recycling will be making a brief presentation on Tuesday, June 23, 2009 about the newly discovered heat vents at the Frank R. Bowerman Landfill. This presentation is for informational purposes only and no action is required by the Board of Supervisors.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Rob Richardson, County Executive Office
Alisa Drakodaidis, Deputy CEO
Nick Chrisos, County Counsel

Attachment

Frank R. Bowerman (FRB)

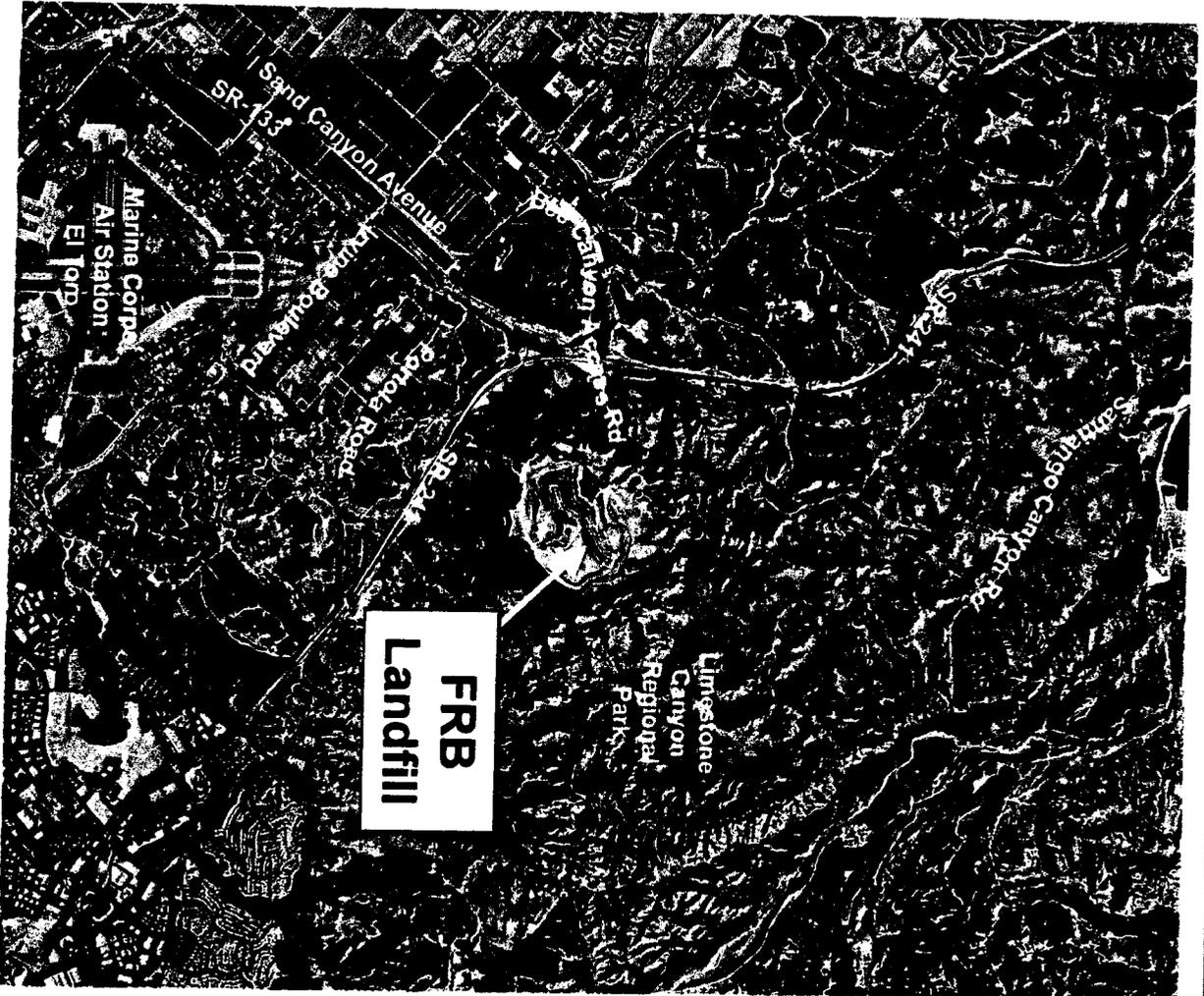
Landfill Heat Vents

Presentation to the Board of Supervisors

Mike Giancola, Director

OC Waste & Recycling

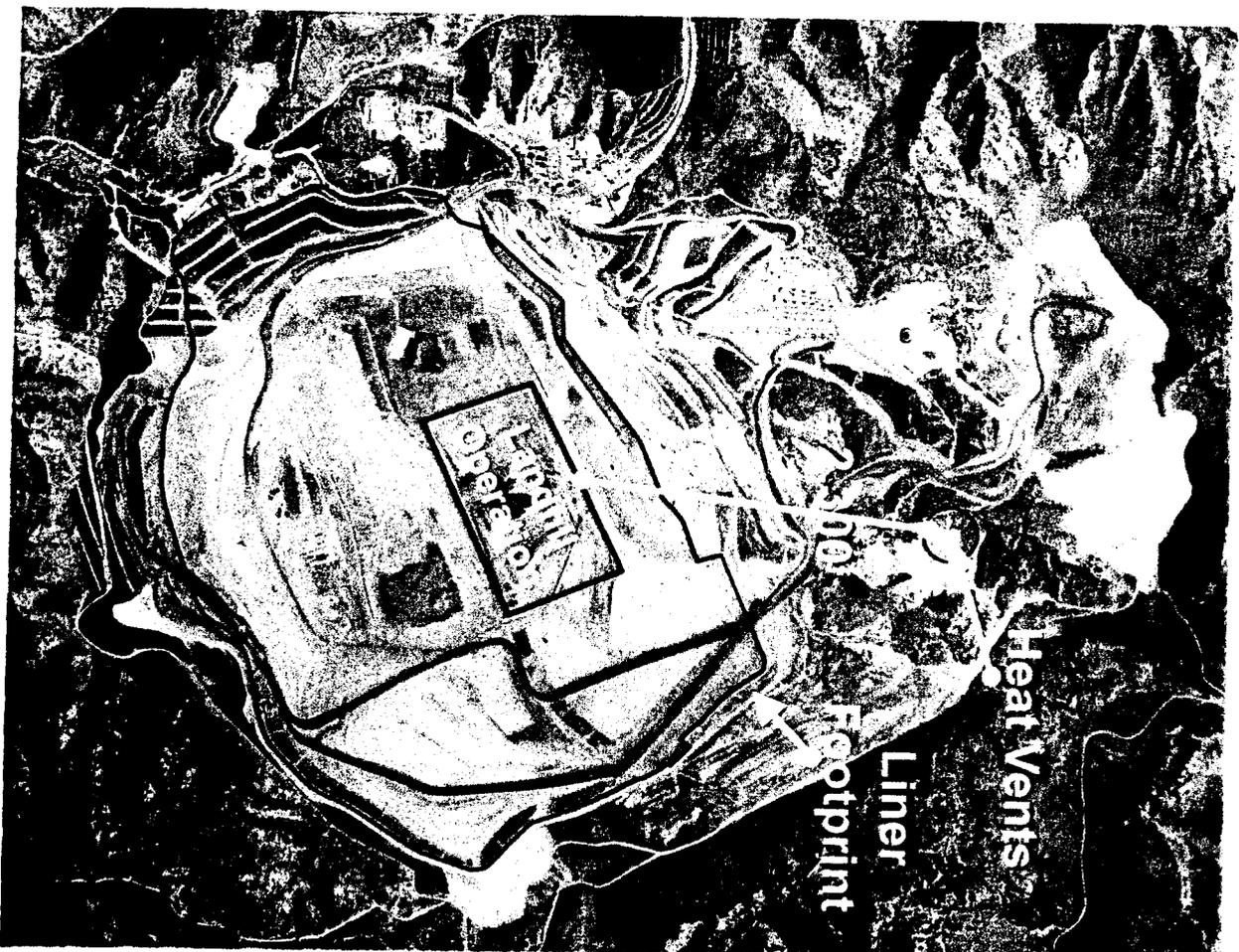
June 23, 2009



FRB Landfill Vicinity

Initial Discovery: Heat Vents





FRB Site Map

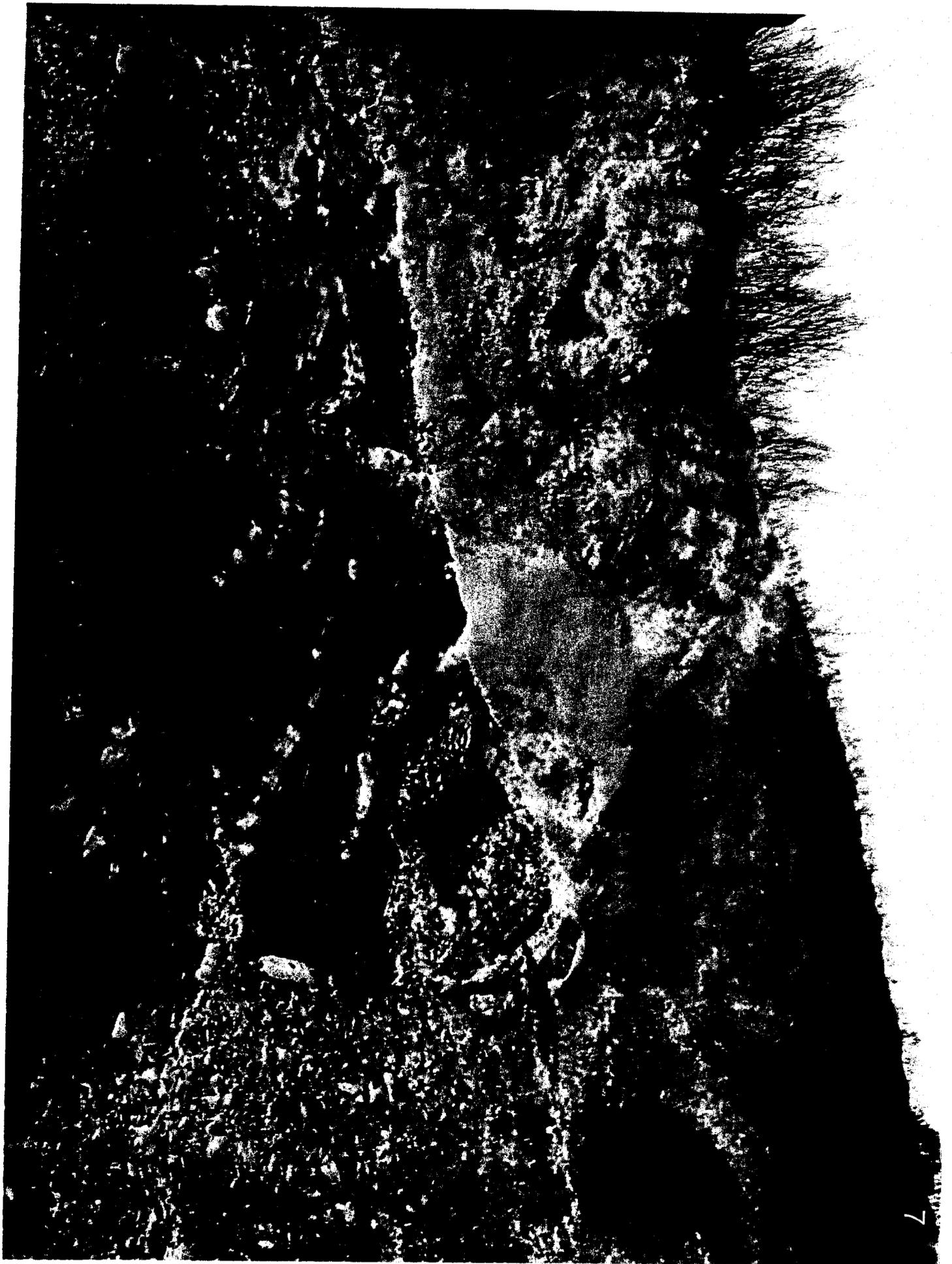
- 10 - 15 vents
- Located in northeast
- East Flank Slide Area
- Unstable area
- Difficult to access
- Approximately 2,300 feet from landfill operations

What are the Heat Vents?



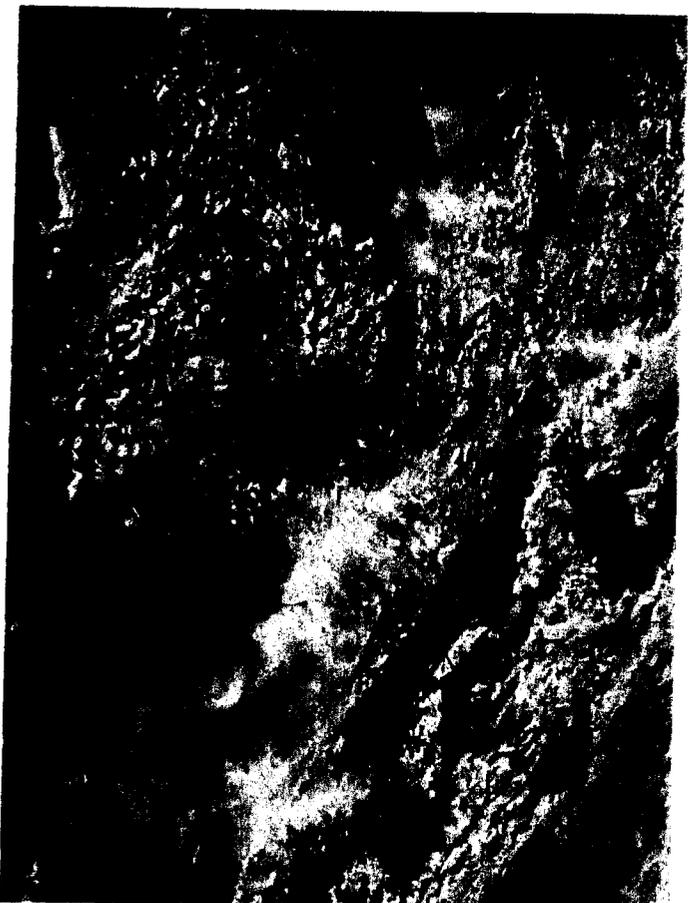
- Gases venting from thermal activity
- Unrelated to landfill activity
- Definitive cause unknown
- Probably caused by earthquake movement
- Probably organic matter combusting
- Continued excessive exposure to fumes would be unsafe







Current Status



- High levels of Carbon Monoxide (CO) and Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S) detected in the vents
- CO and H₂S non-detectable at 100 feet upwind and 500 feet downwind
- Does not affect daily landfill operations
- May impact 2011 landslide remediation project design as vents are in the landslide area
- Cost impact is unknown
- No easy or immediate remedy

Safety Issues



- No imminent danger to landfill staff or public
- Area perimeter of impacted area fenced
- Staff directed to stay away from the area and warning signs posted
- Consultant is implementing full safety measures approved by OCCFA and OC Waste & Recycling Safety Officer

Heat Vents are not Unique



Ventura County



Lassen Peak National Park, Oregon

Action Taken



- Notified Stakeholders
- Authorized Geosyntec to initiate investigations and develop recommendations
- Coordinated with OCHA Safety Officer
- Consulted with California Geologic Survey and United States Geologic Survey

Next Steps

1. Monitor and document the daily vent activity
2. Implement Geosyntec's and other experts' recommendations
3. Provide periodic updates to all stakeholders
4. Institute additional safety measures as necessary

Questions?

