

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of March 15, 2007

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mary Ann Lutz, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
David Ross, Business/Commerce Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Dr. Jonathan Fielding, rep. by Ken Murray, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Health
Stephen Maguin, rep. by Charles Boehmke, County Sanitation Districts of L.A. County
Gerry Miller, rep. by Charles Modica, City of Los Angeles
Rita Robinson, rep. by Karen Coca, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Greig Smith, rep. by Nicole Bernson, City of Los Angeles
Mark Waronek, rep. by Michael Miller, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Don Wolfe, rep. by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Christine F. Andersen, City of Long Beach
Carl Clark, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Martins Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Salomon Belilty, 1800GOTJUNK?
Dave Hauser, Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc.
Vanessa Hevener, City of Lynwood
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition
Ben Lucha, City of Santa Clarita
Anita Jimenez, City of Santa Fe Springs
Natalie Jimenez, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Chris Magdosku, City of Whittier
Debbie Morris, HF&H Consultants, LLC
John McTaggart, General Public Representative Alternate
Dassi Pintar, California Integrated Waste Management Board
Martin Rosen, City of Los Angeles
Christopher Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of L.A. County
Wu Tan, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Cathy Toso, Emmy Waste Consulting
Steve Uelton, California Integrated Waste Management Board
Sophia Vallozzi, Emmy Waste Consulting
Jason Varner, City of Monrovia

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2007

A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 22, 2007. The motion was passed unanimously. (Ms. Nicole Bernson, Mr. Charles Boehmke, and Mr. Carlos Ruiz were absent at the time the vote was taken.)

III. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Ms. Betsey Landis stated that the Subcommittee and Public Works staff met with Mr. David Edwards, of Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc. (BFI), to discuss the Finding of Conformance for Sunshine Canyon Landfill (County Extension). The Subcommittee was not satisfied with the maps BFI provided. The Subcommittee is also waiting for BFI to accept the replacement Conditional Use Permit. The discussion will be postponed to next month's meeting.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL (COUNTY EXTENSION) FINDING OF CONFORMANCE

This item will be rescheduled for a later date.

V. REPORT ON WASTE BOARD'S PROPOSED REGULATIONS ON POSTCLOSURE MAINTENANCE AND FINANCIAL ASSURANCE DEMONSTRATION FOR LANDFILLS

Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa reported on the California Integrated Waste Management Board's (Waste Board) Agenda Item 8, entitled "Discussion and Request for Rulemaking Direction to Notice for 45-day Comment Period Proposed Regulations on Postclosure Maintenance and Financial Assurance Demonstration for Landfills", from the March 13, 2007, meeting ([see attachment](#)). Assembly Bill 2296 requires the Waste Board to adopt regulations by January 1, 2008. The regulations include providing for an increase in the closure and post closure maintenance cost estimates to provide a reasonable contingency. Waste Board staff is proposing a 20 percent contingency to be based on reasonably foreseeable costs the State may incur if it assumes responsibility. A study is to be conducted to define conditions that potentially affect landfills and examine various financial assurance mechanisms that would protect the State from long-term postclosure and corrective action costs.

Waste Board staff is recommending the following:

- Closure, postclosure maintenance and corrective action cost estimates be based on costs the State may incur if the State assumes the operator's/owner's responsibility.
- The owner/operator must provide assurance that the funds for post closure maintenance are fully available regardless of side-agreements by and with the owner/operator and the provider of the assurance plan.

The Waste Board accepted staff's recommendations and allowed the first part of the regulation to proceed. All other parts regarding longer-term financial demonstration amendment and corrective action issues were deferred until after the study is completed. The Waste Board also authorized staff to begin the 45-day period to review and comment on the revised regulation. Discussion ensued.

Staff took the initiative to request the Waste Board staff to come to the Task Force and make a presentation on the proposed regulations, including various financial assurance issues, such as the operator's and government's financial responsibility, current State requirements, and taxpayer's liability. An update on the Waste Board staff's availability will be provided.

A motion to send a letter to the Waste Board supporting Option 1 of the Proposed Regulations on Postclosure Maintenance and Financial Assurance Demonstration for Landfills was made. The motion was approved with Mr. Boehmke opposing.

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Chuk Agu presented the legislative update. Mr. Agu indicated that most of the 40 Bills listed in the Legislative Update Table ([see attachment](#)) were introduced at the end of February 2007. Mr. Agu also noted that since this is the beginning of the legislative cycle, most of these Bills would customarily undergo future amendments. Mr. Agu also stated that staff is in the process of analyzing these Bills in more detail, and is not yet in a position to recommend positions on these Bills at this time. However, staff will continue to monitor the Bills closely and make its recommendation at a future Task Force meeting.

Due to time constraints at the Task Force meeting, Mr. Agu provided a summary on 13 of the 40 Bills that staff considers as having a major impact. Additionally, Ms. Bernson included the City of LA. sponsored AB 1473, Mr. Mike Mohajer included AB 548, 656, and 769, and Ms. Landis included AB 1109. The following 19 Bills were presented and discussed:

- AB 546-Introduced by Brownley

This Bill would expand the definition of Covered Electronic Devices (CED) to include a CPU (e.g. computer hard drive), and impose a \$10 recovery fee on each CPU sold.

A motion to send a letter of support was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 548-Introduced by Levine

This Bill would require owners of multi-family complexes to provide recycling services to their tenants beginning July 1, 2008.

A motion to watch SB 548 was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 656-Introduced by Plescia

This Bill would require the Waste Board and the State Water Resources Control Board to prepare and forward a report to the Legislature by July 1, 2008, on whether the incidental disposal of alkaline batteries at landfills causes any significant environmental impacts.

A motion to send a letter of support was made. The motion passed with Ms. Bernson, Ms. Karen Coca, Ms. Landis, and Mr. Charles Modica opposing.

- AB 722-Introduced by Levine

This Bill would prohibit the sale of incandescent light bulbs and halogen lamps beginning January 1, 2012.

A motion to watch AB 722 was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 769-Introduced by Aghazarian

This Bill would exempt all fuel used to transport biomass, including the organic fraction of municipal solid waste, from the State's Sales and Use Tax.

Task Force members requested staff to provide additional information on this Bill at the next Task Force meeting.

- AB 1109-Introduced by Huffman

This Bill would (1) require DTSC to establish maximum levels of mercury and lead in all general purpose lights and for the light manufacturers to establish a recycling system for the unwanted lights by July 1, 2009; (2) require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to reduce energy consumption for lighting at State facilities by 50 percent, increase the efficiency standard for general purpose lights; and (3) prohibit the use of general purpose lights at State facilities which do not meet the specified efficiency standards.

A motion to watch AB 1109 was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 1150-Introduced by Lieu

This Bill would revise the definition of “transformation” to include incineration of solid waste, or the processing of solid waste through a noncombustion thermal, chemical, or biological process.

A motion to send a letter of opposition was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 1207-Introduced by Smyth

This Bill would require the Waste Board to develop regulations for the land application of biosolids by July 1, 2009 and prohibit local jurisdictions from enacting any ordinance or restriction contrary to the Waste Board’s regulations.

A motion to send a letter of support was made. The motion passed with Ms. Landis opposing.

- AB 1237-Introduced by Hancock

This Bill would require the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) and the Waste Board inspections to be unannounced. The Bill also extends the Waste Board’s 60-day review period to 90 days, and unlike the

current law, it also construes non-action by the Board as a tacit objection.

A motion was made to watch AB 1237. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 1473-Introduced by Feuer

This Bill would authorize the LEA to stay their cease and desist order up to three years if certain conditions are met. This Bill sunsets January 1, 2012, or on the date the Waste Board adopts the regulations, whichever comes first.

A motion to send a letter of support was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 1535-Introduced by Huffman

This Bill would expand the definition of CEDs to include a personal computer and impose a \$6 recovery fee on the sale of each computer.

A motion to watch AB 1535 was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 1610-Introduced by Nunez

This Bill would authorize the Waste Board to increase the fee on solid waste disposed from \$1.40 to \$2 per ton effective July 1, 2007.

A motion to send a letter of opposition was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- SB 55-Introduced by Florez

This Bill would require a publicly-owned treatment works (POTW) to demonstrate, among other things, that its biosolids are tested and treated before being transported; and to indemnify the receiving party for any liability for remediation costs associated with sludge disposal or processing.

A motion to send a letter of opposition was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- SB 140-Introduced by Kehoe

This Bill would require the State Air Resources Board (SARB) to develop regulations requiring all diesel fuel sold in the State to contain a minimum two percent renewable diesel within one year of the required study's publication (effective date of the regulations), and five percent within two years after the effective date of the Bill.

A motion to send a letter of support was made. The motion passed with Mr. Boehmke abstaining.

- SB 842-Introduced by Scott

This Bill would authorize a gasification facility's discharge of air contaminants or emissions to be regulated by the SARB or Air Quality Management Districts rather than having an absolute zero threshold.

A motion to send a letter of support was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- SB 1016-Introduced by Wiggins

This Bill would, among other things, require the Waste Board to consider jurisdiction's programs in determining compliance with AB 939 and establish the 2006 Countywide disposal tonnage as the Base Tonnage Year.

A motion was made to watch the Bill and to place this Bill on the next Task Force meeting agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

- SB 966-Introduced by Simitian and Kuehl

This Bill would require every retailer of prescription drugs to establish a free take back program by July 1, 2008.

A motion to watch SB 966 was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- SB 1020-Introduced by Padilla

This Bill would increase the 50 percent waste diversion requirement to 75 percent beginning 2012.

A motion to send a letter of opposition was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- SB 1021-Introduced by Padilla`

This Bill would make available \$15 million in grant funding to local governments and non-profit agencies to place source-separated beverage recycling containers at multi-family homes for calendar year 2008.

A motion to watch SB 1021 was made. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. REPORT ON EARTH DAY EVENTS BY PUBLIC WORKS

Ms. Natalie Jimenez provided a brief presentation on the Earth Day Events by Public Works ([see attachment](#)). She stated that Public Works revamped its mission, vision, and values statement in 2006. One of the values is "The Environment" that encourages their employees to consider the importance of preserving the environment in their daily work assignments.

In April, Public Works will coordinate over 80 events throughout the County. The objective is to educate residents and businesses on how to reduce, reuse, recycle, and prevent pollution. Events include the ongoing household hazardous/electronic waste collection events, Smart Gardening workshops, Environmental Defenders events, a beverage recycling campaign partnered with K-Earth at the Los Angeles Zoo, and Watershed Management Division's Earth Day events in the Board of Supervisors' districts. Also, an environmental message will be printed on County paychecks and Waterworks water bills.

An article, for *Inside Solid Waste*, on all of the April events will be submitted for consideration in May.

VIII. REPORT FROM THE WASTE BOARD

Mr. Steve Uselton stated that the due date for the 2005 Annual Report is March 15, 2007. Most jurisdictions, except for 12 from Los Angeles County, have submitted their reports. The 2005 Annual Report is part of the biennial review process of 2005 and 2006 Annual Reports to determine jurisdictions' progress on implementing their programs and their diversion rates.

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2007, at 1 p.m.

X. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.