

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

Minutes of September 20, 2007

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carl Clark, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
Margaret Clark, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Sam Perdomo, 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
Mary Ann Lutz, represented by Michael Miller, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Stephen Maguin, represented by Chris Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of L.A. County
Gerry Miller, represented by Charles Modica, City of Los Angeles
Rita Robinson, represented by Karen Coca, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Greig Smith, represented by Nicole Bernson, City of Los Angeles
Don Wolfe, represented by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Christine F. Andersen, City of Long Beach
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Mark Waronek, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Martin Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Joe Bartolata, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Susan V. Collins, R3 Consulting Group, Inc.
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition
Natalie Jimenez, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Carlyle A. Johnston, County of Santa Barbara Department of Public Works
Armine Kesablyan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Sevak Khatchadorian, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Coby King, Coby King Communications
Mike Lara, City of Pasadena
Teri Cohan Link, ArrowBio
Howard Morris, City of Pomona
Mark Patti, City of Santa Clarita
Meghan Ralston, Drug Policy Alliance
Steve Samaniego, City of West Covina
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Hossein Torabzadeh, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Steve Uselton, California Integrated Waste Management Board
Jason Varner, City of Monrovia

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2007

A motion to approve the minutes of August 16, 2007, was made with the following changes ([see attachment](#)):

- On page 3, Item VI, second paragraph should read: “and an emerging technology facility capable of processing between 22 to 200 tons per day.”
- On page 5, Item XI, first paragraph should read: “Ms. Clark raised a question regarding what the City of Los Angeles would do if...”

The motion passed unanimously. (Ms. Nicole Bernson, Ms. Karen Coca, Mr. Charles Modica, and Mr. Sam Perdomo were absent at the time the vote was taken.)

III. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Coby Skye reported the Subcommittee met earlier and approved the Phase II Conversion Technology Final Report (Final Report) with minor revisions. The Final Report was ready for the Task Force to review and consider at this Task Force meeting. Mr. Skye also stated the Subcommittee discussed the progress of its public outreach efforts which have been successful in reaching many key stakeholders. The Subcommittee planned to launch a new website, SoCalConversion.org, at the same time as the release of the Final Report. Mr. Skye stated the Subcommittee also discussed Senate Bill 1020.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF PHASE II CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

Mr. Skye conducted a PowerPoint presentation on the Final Report ([see attachment](#)).

Mr. Skye briefly discussed the definition and benefits of conversion technologies. He stated the Task Force adopted the Phase I Conversion Technology

Evaluation Report in 2005 which detailed a step-by-step plan to develop a conversion technology demonstration facility. Then in July 2006, the Phase II Evaluation Process began. It started with narrowing down the list of and closely evaluating the most viable conversion technology suppliers and material recovery facilities (MRFs). The Subcommittee and technical consultants have been working to identify permitting requirements and funding sources. They have been scrutinizing and reviewing various technologies and MRFs as well as conducting facility tours. The Phase II Evaluation Process has found four technology suppliers and four MRFs suited for co-location with a conversion technology.

The fundamental recommendation of this Final Report is to establish a competition among the four technology suppliers and four MRFs. The Subcommittee will be soliciting formal, site-specific proposals for assessment.

Mr. Skye distributed a handout listing last minute revisions to the Final Report by the Subcommittee at an earlier meeting. Mr. Skye stated the Subcommittee had approved the Final Report with those changes and recommended the Task Force approve the Final Report.

Discussion ensued. Members of the Task Force stated they were not prepared to make a decision on the Final Report because they needed more time to review the document and/or had not received the Final Report in hard copy form. Mr. Skye indicated that due to the size of the Final Report and consistent with Task Force policy, an electronic copy was transmitted by e-mail the prior week and members were called inquiring if they preferred a hard copy.

Questions and concerns regarding the details of the Final Report were raised. A motion was made to supply the Task Force with hard copies of the Final Report, appendices and/or the Executive Summary, as appropriate; address the comments raised; allow each member additional ten days to review the Final Report; and for the Final Report to be considered at the October 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

V. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Ms. Betsey Landis reported the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee met with staff and the representatives from the City of Pomona (City) to consider Amendment No. 2 to the City's non-disposal facility element. The Subcommittee concurred with the staff report that only minor changes be made on the Summary Table and Compliance Sheet Exhibit B.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO CITY OF POMONA'S NON-DISPOSAL FACILITY ELEMENT

The Task Force made a motion to concur with Amendment No. 2 to the City of Pomona's non-disposal facility element. The motion passed unanimously. (Ms. Bernson, Ms. Coca, Mr. Modica, and Mr. Perdomo were absent at the time the vote was taken.)

VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Skye discussed the following Legislative Bills ([see attachment](#)):

- SB 1020-Introduced by Padilla

This Bill would require the Waste Board to adopt policies, programs, and incentives to ensure that the State achieves a 60 percent solid waste diversion rate by 2012 and a 75 percent diversion rate by 2020.

Staff distributed a copy of the amendments to SB 1020, dated September 6, 2007 ([see attachment](#)). A motion was made to send a letter of concern to Senator Padilla in response to the September 6 version of SB 1020, forward a sample letter to all cities in the County requesting their communication to the author, and invite representatives from Senator Padilla's office to meet with the Subcommittee members. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 1473-Introduced by Feuer

This Bill requires the Waste Board to authorize an enforcement agency, upon Waste Board's concurrence, to issue a temporary solid waste facilities permit to a currently operating solid waste transfer or processing station or a composting facility, which, as of January 1, 2008, is required under the act to have a solid waste facilities permit, but which a permit has not been obtained by that facility.

A motion was made to send a letter to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to support AB 1473. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 258-Introduced by Krekorian

This Bill would require the State Water Board and other regional boards to implement a program by January 1, 2009, for the control of discharges of preproduction plastics from point and nonpoint sources, including waste discharge, monitoring, and reporting requirements that targets plastics manufacturing, handling, and transportation facilities.

A motion was made to send a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger to support AB 258. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 484-Introduced by Nava

This Bill would prohibit a contractor under contract with CalTrans, from disposing of asphalt concrete or Portland cement concrete in a solid waste landfill, unless the contractor determines that no other means of using or disposing the material is feasible or the concrete will be used for beneficial reuse in the construction or operation of a solid waste landfill.

A motion was made to send a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger to support AB 484. The motion passed unanimously.

- SB 735-Introduced by Wiggins

This Bill would require CalTrans to track the use of recycled and virgin materials for sub-base, base, and lean concrete base. It would require that CalTrans report to the Legislature on January 1, 2010, and biennially thereafter on the use of recycled materials that it is required to track.

A motion was made to send a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger to support SB 735. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 546-Introduced by Brownley

This Bill would require a retailer that sells a covered electronic device to provide a customer with either a sign, written material, or on the sales receipt, the Waste Board's Internet website, which describes where and how to return, recycle, and dispose of a covered electronic device, as well as the locations for its collection or return.

A motion was made to send a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger to support AB 546. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 679-Introduced by Benoit

This Bill would require the court to impose an assessment in addition to any other penalty or fine, in the amount of \$100 for an infraction or \$200 for a misdemeanor, for use by the City or County for illegal dumping enforcement.

A motion was made to send a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger to support AB 679. The motion passed unanimously.

- AB 548-Introduced by Levine

This Bill would require on or after July 1, 2008, that an owner of a multi-family dwelling consisting of five or more units, provide recycling services that are consistent with any other State or local law or requirement governing the collection, handling, or recycling of solid waste.

Mr. Skye stated that this Bill is on the watch list. The Task Force had concerns with AB 548 previously and it has been significantly watered down. The Task Force will continue to watch this Bill.

- SB 966-Introduced by Simitian

This Bill would require the Waste Board to develop model programs for the collection and proper disposal of pharmaceutical drug waste.

A motion was made to send a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger to support SB 966. The motion passed unanimously.

- SB 1021-Introduced by Padilla

This Bill would, for calendar year 2008, make available \$15 million in grant funding to place source separated beverage container recycling containers at multi-family homes.

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

- SB 826-Introduced by Padilla

Mr. Skye mentioned that previously this Bill would have required the Waste Board to adopt State minimum standards to identify and mitigate environmental justice impacts in disproportionately affected communities in which solid waste facilities are located. Now, this Bill has been completely changed and no longer deals with environmental justice.

- AB 712-Introduced by De Leon

This Bill would impose a new tipping fee of \$0.50 per ton of waste disposed in California beginning April 1, 2008. This Bill would also provide up to four million dollars in grants for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfills through organic material diversion, excluding "thermal technologies." Mr. Skye stated that Waste Management, Inc., sponsors this Bill and it is now a two-year Bill.

- AB 1719-Introduced by Hancock

Ms. Coca stated this Bill would amend several Public Resource Codes that concern recycling beverage containers and plastic bags. This Bill has been gutted and amended and will be reconsidered next year. She suggested that staff add AB 1719 to the watch list.

- AB 1058-Introduced by Laird

This Bill requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop and promote green building standards for residential occupancies and submit them to the Building Standards Commission for review, adoption, approval, and publication by July 1, 2009. Mr. Mike Mohajer stated this Bill will have a huge impact on building officials of cities and counties throughout California. He suggested the County watch this Bill closely.

- AB 1610-Introduced by Nunez

Previously, this Bill would have authorized the Waste Board to increase the fee to \$2 per ton beginning July 1, 2007. Mr. Mohajer stated that this Bill has been gutted and amended and is irrelevant to the Task Force. AB 1610 will be deleted from the legislative table.

VIII. PRESENTATION ON LOS ANGELES COUNTY RESIDENT-GENERATED HYPODERMIC NEEDLES AND SYRINGES WASTE MANAGEMENT

Ms. Meghan Ralston, Syringe Access Pharmacy Coordinator of the Drug Policy Alliance, a nonprofit organization which serves as a resource, support, advocate, and partner for all groups addressing sharps disposal issues, provided an overview on the Disease Prevention Demonstration Project (DPDP) ([see attachment](#)).

DPDP was created and is administered by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (Public Health). It is a voluntary program that allows California pharmacists to enroll with Public Health to sell up to ten sharps per customer without a prescription. DPDP seeks to reduce the amount of HIV and Hepatitis C transmission and increase access to HIV and hepatitis C testing.

Ms. Ralston elaborated on the roles each entity such as Public Health, the pharmacies, and the Drug Policy Alliance play in order to effectively address the disposal of sharps in the County. To date, the Drug Policy Alliance has enrolled 181 pharmacies and informed more than 1,700 pharmacists. They are actively educating and reaching out to any sharp users. Moreover, they will be hosting a Los Angeles Pharmacists Disease Prevention Summit for Los Angeles area pharmacists in March 2008.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Mohajer stated that SB 1305 prohibits disposal of sharps in trash cans beginning September 1, 2008, and each jurisdiction needs to have a program to manage sharps.

A motion was made to send a letter of coordination to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Public Health, the Board of Supervisors, the Waste Board, State legislators, the State Department of Public Health, and waste haulers explaining Public Works' efforts on sharps and household hazardous waste management and urging various agencies to coordinate outreach efforts as a team and also work with pharmacists to provide free sharp containers to their customers. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. REPORT FROM THE WASTE BOARD

Mr. Steve Uselton reported that the 2006 Electronic Annual Report is available for jurisdictions to update their program activities. Cities won't be able to calculate diversion rates at this time because taxable sales data from the Board of Equalization is not yet available. Each city will describe the programs it implemented to reduce waste in 2006. The Waste Board is working on getting the rest of the disposal information. This is the first year of electronic reporting

for waste haulers and transfer stations, and the Waste Board is working out some issues in the new system.

Mr. Uselton stated the Waste Board is sponsoring a public workshop on organics. It will be held at the Strategic Policy Development Committee meeting in Sacramento on October 10, 2007. One of the Board's strategic directives is to reduce the amount of organics from the waste stream by 50 percent by 2020.

Beginning July 1, 2007, the Waste Board has officially restructured along two primary programs: a Sustainability Program, and a Permitting and Mitigation Program. There is a single point of contact as well as teams to handle special programs for each jurisdiction.

X. UPDATE ON CIWMB AB 2296 FINANCIAL ASSURANCE FOR SOLID WASTE LANDFILLS' POST-CLOSURE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Mr. Mohajer stated he reviewed the draft table of risk factors prepared by the State's contractor and made recommendations to the Waste Board ([see attachment](#)). Some of the landfill operators have raised questions to the Waste Board in reference to the post closure. They inquired about what items are included in the post closure for which they have to provide financial assurance. The Waste Board will conduct a workshop in Sacramento on October 3, 2007. Mr. Mohajer will attend that workshop and provide an update on the outcome of this workshop at the October 2007 Task Force meeting.

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 18, 2007, at 1 p.m.

XII. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Mohajer announced the annual Southern California Waste Management Forum will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario on Thursday, November 15, 2007. The Chair of the Waste Board will be the keynote speaker at this conference. Information on this conference may be obtained from Mr. Mohajer or staff.

The meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.