

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

**Unofficial Minutes of August 20, 2015**

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division  
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative  
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association  
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative  
Sam Pedroza, League of California Cities

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Gail Farber, rep by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works  
Grace Robinson Hyde, rep by Chris Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of  
Los Angeles County  
Jeffrey Gunzenhauser, rep by Gerry Villalobos, County of Los Angeles Department of  
Public Health

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Dr. Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative  
David Thornburg, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.  
David Kim, City of Los Angeles  
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles  
Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Enrique Zaldivar, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation  
Jim Kuhl, Long Beach Public Works Department  
Cathy Warner, League of California Cities

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tranette Sanders, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Curtis Williams, City of Santa Clarita  
Jason Jones, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Jon Emerson, City of Redondo Beach  
Wayde Hunter, NVC/GHNNC  
Joe Vitti, NVC/GHNNC  
Kawsar Vazifdar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle  
Natasha Dyer, SCS Engineers  
Carlos Slythe, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Jalaine Madrid, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Steve Howe, Regreen

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 1:10 p.m., by Ms. Margaret Clark.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 16, 2015, MINUTES**

Approval of the July 16, 2015, minutes was postponed until the next meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

**III. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE (PEIS)**

Mr. Mike Mohajer reported the PEIS reviewed a number of articles to be covered on the next ISW issue.

Articles reviewed:

- Southern CA CT Program Update
- Mattress Recycling event in the Antelope Valley
- Mattress Recycling Plan Submitted to CalRecycle
- Worms Join the Green Team – pilot project at Public Works' cafeteria
- Debut of Vanguard Gardens – community garden facility in the unincorporated Willowbrook area

Articles Mr. Mohajer requested for staff to write:

- County's EPR efforts on drafting a pharmaceutical and sharps waste ordinance
- Update on 1826 Guidelines
- PaintCare Update
- Carpet Recycling Update
- Sunshine Canyon Landfill Update

**IV. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE (ATAS)**

Mr. Clark Ajwani gave an update on the ATAS. Mr. Ajwani reported there has not been a lot of progress on the Conversion Technology (CT) Conference. The CT white paper should be finalized early next month. Staff attended the Waste Conversion Technology Conference in San Diego, which highlighted discussions about what is needed to develop CTs in California. Next week Mr. Coby Skye will be attending the Waste-Con Conference in Florida to discuss CT and the County's Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Management Future.

On November 18, 2015, there is a Southern California Waste Management Forum Annual Conference in Pomona to discuss AB1826, composting, and the roads to zero waste. The Conversion Technology Semi-Annual Status Report to the Board of Supervisors is expected to be signed today.

**V. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY & PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)**

Ms. Betsey Landis gave her report from the Facility Plan & Review Subcommittee (FPRS). She reported that the FPRS discussed the odor complaints for the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) made in July 2015. A total of 23 complaints were made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District hotline. In comparison with June 2015, the number of complaints decreased by 44 percent (from 41 to 23 complaints). Compared to July 2014, the number of complaints this July decreased by 73 percent (from 83 to 23 complaints).

The FPRS also discussed the Independent Site Monitoring Status Report for the SCL, and requested staff to prepare a written report with staff's analysis of future Status Reports. There was an update on the Proposed Alternative Daily Cover Pilot Project for the SCL. A motion was made by the FPRS to recommend to the Task Force to write a letter to the Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA) and their Board of Directors.

Mr. Russell Bukoff updated the FPRS with the Second Quarter 2015 Vegetation Report. The FPRS also had a discussion of Finding of Conformance Quarterly reports and an update on the Countywide Siting Element.

**VI. THE ORGANIC WASTE RECYCLING PROCESSOR BY REGREEN INTERNATIONAL SOLUTIONS, INC.**

Mr. Stephen Howe of Balliet, Camera and Howe Consultants, gave the [attached presentation](#) on the organic waste recycling processor by Regreen International Solutions, Inc.

**VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Mr. Coby Skye gave an update on current legislation and reviewed items on the attached [legislative table](#). Since the Task Force did not have quorum, staff was directed to review previous positions the Task Force has taken on existing bills and to submit letters accordingly.

**VIII. DISPOSAL OF MARINE FLARES**

Mr. Sam Pedroza gave a presentation on the disposal of Marine flares. Mr. Pedroza works for the County Sanitation District and came across a

challenge with the disposal of marine flares, since these are not items taken at the County's Household Hazardous Waste event because they are considered explosives. After intensive research, it turns out there is no collection program for marine flares and residents would need to collect them and pay thousands of dollars to properly dispose of them. Mr. Pedroza spoke with a Fire Chief in the Marina to find out if they had a collection program and how do they deal with it. They have been collecting the marine flares because they are in charge of collecting other explosives. The marine flares are shipped off with the other explosives for a disposal cost of over \$13K, which the County pays for. Mr. Pedroza also mentioned it is a State law that every year flares be replaced. Mr. Pedroza is not sure the method used for disposal, but he assumes its incineration.

In Mr. Pedroza's research, he did find out that Del Norte Solid Waste Management Authority, up north, is working on an effort to create and EPR program for the flares. There is a movement on AB 522 which deals with illegal fireworks which is now before the Governor's office for review.

**IX. CALRECYCLE REPORT REGARDING LAND APPLICATION OF UNCOMPOSTED GREEN AND WOODY WASTE**

Ms. Kawsar Vazifdar gave a [power point presentation](#) on the Direct Land Application of Uncomposted Green and Woody Wastes.

**X. COMPOSTING OPERATIONS BIOSECURITY PROBLEMS**

Ms. Landis gave a presentation on composting operations biosecurity problems. She distributed material to the Task Force members regarding this subject and expressed her concerns on this matter.

Ms. Landis went over the following handouts: California Department of Food and Agriculture Code, Section 14511-14564, pointing out Section 14525, 14526; 14591 (f), State interior Quarantine Requirements, and Exhibit GW4-Green Waste Receiver-Composting; Information about Quarantine of Plant Pests and Pathogens in California, August 2015; Definitions; and Composting Operations for all jurisdictions and sanitation districts in California, Biosecurity Problems, Unanswered Questions form.

Ms. Landis proposed that the Task Force send a letter to CalRecycle, suggesting the following changes to their new composting regulations:

1. The approval or cancelling of permitting, licensing and certification of Green Waste Receivers (such as biomass/cogeneration facilities,

composting operations, landfills, processors or transfer stations) and Transporters such as Green Waste Haulers by California Department of Food and Agriculture are mandatory regulatory actions and, in particular, take precedence over any other state or local permitting processes in Plant Pest/Pathogen Quarantine areas throughout the state.

2. Wherever CalRecycle green waste/composting regulations mention consulting with or referencing state or local regulatory agencies, such as Air Resources Board, Water Resources Board, or Board of Public Health, the list specifically shall include California Department of Food and Agriculture.
3. Any new set of permitting regulations involving green waste or “organic food waste” that neglects the extremely severe environmental impacts of aggressive, invasive plant pests and /or pathogens on all nurseries, landscape businesses, agricultural enterprises, urban landscaping (street trees), wildland ecosystems, parkland and residential gardens, must prepare an Environmental Impact Report (CEQA process).

No action was taken at this time due to a lack of quorum.

#### **XI. CALRECYCLE UPDATE**

Ms. Jennifer Wallin gave an update from CalRecycle. Ms. Wallin reported that CalRecycle is getting all the information for AB 1826 and it will be posted online mid-September.

#### **XII. LA COUNTY PHARMACEUTICAL ORDINANCE/PROGRAM UPDATE**

This item was postponed for next month.

#### **XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments.

#### **XIV. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2015, in Conference Room C.

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

fm

P:\epub\EA\EA\TF\TF\Minutes\2015 Minutes\TF MinutesAugust20draft