

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

Minutes of April 21, 2016

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
Jack Hadijinian, League of California Cities
Charlie Tripp, Long Beach Public Works Department
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Gail Farber, rep by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Cynthia Harding, rep by Gerry Villalobos, County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Health
Grace Hyde, rep by Chris Salomon, County of Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles
County

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles
Sam Pedroza, League of California Cities
Wayne Nastri, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dale Sargent, City of Santa Clarita
Ben Lucha, City of Palmdale
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Clark Ajwani, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Vanessa Olivas, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Gabriel Arenas, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jason Jones, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Joe Bartolata, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jonathan Lee, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Mackenzie Domann, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:12 p.m., by Ms. Margaret Clark.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 18, 2016, AND MARCH 17, 2016, MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the February 18, 2016, and March 17, 2016, minutes. The motion passed with one abstention (Mr. Jack Hadjinian).

III. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE (ATAS)

Mr. Clark Ajwani provided a report from the ATAS meeting stating there was a presentation from Timothy Standke of MSolTec representing EviroPure Food Waste Technology. Their technology utilizes oxygen, minerals, vitamins, and amino acids to turn food waste into greywater that has the potential to be used for irrigation. This technology has not been introduced in California but has been tested throughout the United States.

Mr. Ajwani also reported the United States Department of Energy (DOE) created a five year Bioenergy plan, which sets their goals in identifying, researching, and developing activities with regards to producing bioenergy. The plan incorporates the use of algae and biomass conversion only. There is no mention of utilizing solid waste to create bioenergy. The Subcommittee recommended the Task Force send a letter to DOE informing them of the benefits of utilizing municipal solid waste to generate bioenergy. Ms. Betsey Landis made the motion to send the letter seconded by Mr. Mike Mohajer. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ajwani mentioned the County Sanitation District provided an update on the filming of their Carson facility. Staff will send out the information on when and where it will be aired. Mr. Ajwani also stated that the progress continues on the Pitchess Detention Center conversion project, and they are continuing to finalize the details for a potential request for proposal.

Mr. Mohajer added that there is another food waste processing technology to divert food waste and greenwaste, which gave a presentation last fall at the Southern California Waste Management Forum. They have an operating facility in Ontario to create animal feed from the food waste.

Finally, Mr. Ajwani reported the official date set for the County sponsored Southern California Conversion Technology Conference is July 29, 2016.

IV. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)

Ms. Betsey Landis gave an update on the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (FPRS) meeting. Ms. Landis reported in March 2016, a total of 185 complaints were made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) hotline relating to odors at Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL). In comparison with February 2016, the number of complaints decreased by 2 percent, from 188 to 185. When compared to March of 2015, the number of complaints decreased by 38 percent. Of the 188 complaints received in March 2016, two complaints were called in from nearby schools or parents of students that attend a nearby school. As of April 21, 2016, SCAQMD issued six Notices of Violation to SCL for the month of March. Ms. Landis stated the Subcommittee received a copy of the latest odor complaints from SCAQMD, and they have a copy on their website.

In addition, the Subcommittee received the 2015 Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Fourth Quarterly Report that was prepared by the Independent Monitor Consultant, UltraSystem. Even though throughout the report, it listed several non-compliant issues that the Landfill had to mitigate, the summary of the report stated the landfill is in compliance. Due to this inconsistency, the Subcommittee recommended that the Consultant needs to be consistent in his report findings. The Subcommittee also recommended the Task Force send a letter to Republic requesting the landfill to provide a schedule or milestones as to when the deficiencies that were noted in the 2015 Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Fourth Quarterly Report would be fixed. Ms. Landis made the motion to send a letter to Republic, and it was seconded by Mr. Mohajer. The motion passed with two abstentions (Mr. Ron Saldana and Mr. Chris Salomon).

Ms. Landis also reported that Dr. Cyrus Rangan of County of Los Angeles Public Health's item was on the agenda but he was not present to provide an update on the potential health impacts associated with odors generated by landfill gas. The Subcommittee recommended the Task Force send a letter to Dr. Rangan asking him to come to the May Task Force meeting to present his finding on this topic. Ms. Landis made a motion to send the letter to Dr. Rangan and it was seconded by Mr. Mohajer. The motion passed unanimously.

V. CONSIDERATION OF REVISED PRELIMINARY DRAFT COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT

Mr. Joe Bartolata provided an update on the revised Preliminary Draft Countywide Siting Element (CSE). Mr. Bartolata indicated that staff has received comments from the City of Los Angeles' Bureau of Sanitation and the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. All the comments received have been addressed and necessary changes have been made in the document.

Mr. Bartolata recommended that the Task Force concur with the revisions to the Preliminary Draft CSE. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion for the Task Force to concur with the revised Preliminary Draft CSE seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Gabriel Arenas gave an update on current legislation and reviewed items on the attached [legislative table](#).

- AB 1669 (Hernandez) – Staff has no recommendation at this time. The Task Force recommended the bill be watched until next month.
- AB 1923 (Wood) – Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Mr. Carlos Ruiz. The motion passed unanimously.
- AB 2039 (Ting) – This bill was pulled by the author.
- AB 2153 (Garcia) – Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Mr. Ron Saldana. The motion passed unanimously.
- AB 2206 (Williams) – Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis. The motion passed unanimously.
- AB 2313 (Williams) – The Task Force recommended the bill be watched until next month.
- AB 2323 (Ridley-Thomas) – Mr. Ruiz made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Mr. Mohajer. The motion passed unanimously.
- AB 2396 (McCarty) – Ms. Landis made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Mr. Chris Salomon. The motion passed unanimously.
- AB 2511 (Levine) - The Task Force recommended the bill be watched until next month.
- AB 2530 (Gordon) - The Task Force recommended the bill be watched until next month.
- AB 2576 (Gray) - The Task Force recommended the bill be watched until next month.
- AB 2585 (Williams) – The Task Force recommended the bill be watched until next month.
- AB 2725 (Chiu) - The Task Force recommended the bill be watched until next month.
- SB 778 (Allen) – Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Mr. Ron Saldana. The motion passed with one abstention (Mr. Salomon).
- SB 1043 (Allen) – Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support if existing language as of April 7, 2016, stays in, if the bill is amended support if amended seconded by Mr. Ruiz. The motion passed with one abstention (Mr. Salomon).

- SB 1383 (Lara) – Ms. Landis made a motion to send a letter of opposition seconded by Mr. Mohajer. The motion passed with two abstentions (Mr. Charlie Tripp and Mr. Ruiz).
- SB 1402 (Pavley) – Mr. Ruiz made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Ms. Landis. The motion passed with three abstentions (Mr. Mohajer, Mr. Salomon, and Mr. Jack Hadjijinian).

VII. SUMMARY OF CALRECYCLE’S WORKSHOP: “A CONVERSATION ABOUT RECYCLABLE COMMODITY PRICES: TRENDS AND IMPACTS ON CALIFORNIA

Ms. Vanessa Olivas provided a summary of CalRecycle’s Public Workshop on Recyclable Commodity Prices: Trends and Impacts held on April 13, 2016, in Lakewood, CA. This was the second Public Workshop CalRecycle hosted to explore how current global market conditions have contributed to a decline in commodity prices in recyclable materials and how it has impacted the flow of recyclables in California. The first Workshop was held in February in Northern California.

The Workshop consisted of three 20 minute sessions to discuss current trends and short and long-term approaches to moving forward and what CalRecycle can do to help achieve the State’s 75 percent recycling goal by 2020 (AB 341). Possible solutions, based on the feedback provided during the breakout sessions, included focusing on regional needs; outreach and education; increase of clean recyclable material; and appropriate financial support including incentives, access to capital, and potential subsidies. Development of organics processing facilities and business assistance such as targeted business development and matchmaker sites such as Los Angeles County’s material exchange website LACoMAX.com were also possible solutions. According to CalRecycle, the outcomes of this workshop were similar to those from the Northern California Workshop.

VIII. METHOD FOR ESTIMATING EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS FOR COMPOSTING

Ms. Kawsar Vazifdar gave the attached PowerPoint presentation on the Method for Estimating Emissions Reductions for Composting, prepared by the California Air Resources Board (ARB) in collaboration with CalRecycle. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to send a comment letter to ARB regarding process emissions from composting, transportation emissions from composting and landfilling, total composting emissions calculated, reduced fertilizer use emissions reduction benefits from compost application, laboratory scale experiment versus macro scale field studies, large uncertainty in factors, and emissions reduction benefits from water use. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlos Ruiz and passed unanimously.

IX. GREENHOUSE GAS QUANTIFICATION METHODOLOGY FOR CALRECYCLE FUNDING

Ms. Mackenzie Domann gave the attached PowerPoint presentation on Greenhouse Gas Quantification Methodology for CalRecycle Funding. Ms. Betsey Landis made a motion to send a letter of comment to the Air Resources Board regarding the effort to properly account for recycled products shipped to foreign countries or other states that do not implement applicable regulations equivalent to those in California and the emission reduction factor for anaerobic digestion projects and suggest they also consider pipeline injection. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlos Ruiz and passed unanimously.

X. AB 901: NEW REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR RECYCLERS, COMPOSTER, AND SOLID WASTE FACILITIES

Mr. Russell Bukoff reported Assembly Bill 901 will be holding a workshop on April 26, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the AQMD Diamond Bar Headquarters.

XI. CALRECYLCE UPDATE

Ms. Jennifer Wallin reported the following:

AB 876 (Organics Infrastructure Planning) Guidance Published on Webpage

Guidance regarding AB 876 (Organics Infrastructure Planning) has been published on the website. This guidance has been developed, well in advance of the first annual reporting information that is due (August 1, 2017), to provide an overview of the types of data that will be required and the tools that have been developed. The related calculator is being tested and will be posted soon.

Local Conservation Corps Grant Program

The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery administers a program to provide opportunities for the Local Conservation Corps (Corps) to provide recycling services and implement litter abatement projects related to the collection and recovery of beverage containers, used oil, covered electronic waste, and waste tires.

Funds will be allocated evenly among all eligible program applicants except as follows: CalRecycle proposes guidelines for the FY 2016–17 cycle (Cycle 31) that would permit the Corps to negotiate material fund amounts between organizations in order to maximize the effectiveness of recycling and recovery programs. A plan for negotiated distribution of funds must be approved by

CalRecycle before the award is approved and published. The effectiveness of this funding methodology will be reviewed annually. Application Due Date: April 28, 2016

Workshops

AB 901 – New Reporting Requirements for Recyclers, Composters, and Solid Waste Facilities. Stakeholder Workshop on April 26, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the AQMD Diamond Bar Headquarters.

Rate Determination Survey Methodology Workshop on April 28, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. in Los Angeles.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

XIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 19, 2016, in conference room B.

The meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

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