

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

Minutes of May 19, 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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Craig Beck, rep by Charlie Tripp, Long Beach Public Works Department
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
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles
Wayne Nastri, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Curtis Williams, City of Santa Clarita
Rob Sherman, Republic Services
Jon Emerson, City of Redondo
Wayde Hunter, SCL-CAC
Joe Vitti, SCL-CAC
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
Gabriel Arenas, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jason Jones, 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 1:13 p.m., by Ms. Margaret Clark.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR APRIL 21, 2016

A motion was made to approve the April 21, 2016, minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. POTENTIAL HEALTH IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH ODORS GENERATED BY LANDFILL GAS

Dr. Cyrus Rangan was not present to provide an update on this item. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to send a letter to the Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health requesting Dr. Cyrus Rangan to provide a presentation to the Task Force with regard to the Potential Health Impacts Associated with Odors Generated by Landfill Gas. The motion was seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis and passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Mike Mohajer reported that the Public Education and Information Subcommittee met this morning. No articles were discussed for the summer issue and there are delays for the spring issue. Mr. Mohajer expressed concerns with funding, staffing, and meeting newsletter deadlines, which he indicated Mr. Carlos Ruiz will discuss internally with the Administration.

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

Mr. Clark Ajwani provided a report from the ATAS meeting stating there was a presentation from Sustainable Animal Feed Enterprises (SAFE), which operates out of Central/Northern California. They offer an organic waste solution from collection, processing, and what they consider recycling of organic waste to create animal feed from food waste. SAFE has a partnership with haulers in San Jose, Santa Clara, Stanford University, and one soon to be with Sunnyvale. SAFE uses a retrofitted waste hauling truck, which has dual compartments for trash and food waste, and bag opener within the truck. Contamination is removed at a central location, and the food waste is placed into a dehydrator and sterilization process to create animal meal.

Mr. Ajwani also reported there was an update on the Southern California Conversion Technology Conference, which is to be held on July 29, 2016. He stated several speakers have expressed interest and availability, and Senator Lara has expressed interest in being a Keynote speaker.

Finally, Mr. Ajwani reported that the Sanitation Districts reported that they are developing plans to increase the food waste co-digestion at their Carson facility. They could possibly increase processing of food waste up to 550 tons per day.

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

Ms. Betsey Landis provided an update on the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (FPRS) meeting. Ms. Landis stated in April 2016 a total of 181 complaints were made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) hotline relating to odors at Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL). In comparison with March 2016, the number of complaints decreased by 2 percent, from 185 to 181. When compared to April of 2015, the number of complaints increased by 202 percent, from 60 to 181. Of the 181 complaints received in April 2016, 47 complaints were called in from nearby schools or parents of students that attend a nearby school. As of May 19, 2016, SCAQMD issued 5 Notices of Violation to SCL for the month of April.

Ms. Landis also reported that the subcommittee discussed the status of the SCL access road and tree planting project at the landfill. According to the landfill operator, the remaining hydroseeding in the Phase 1 By-Pass Road project area will be done once all the earthwork of Liner CC-3B Part 1 berm is completed so as not to disturb the slope areas that will be hydro-seeded. At the present, the schedule for completion of this work is sometime in July. Nonetheless, the hydro-seeding will likely not occur until late September, or early October.

Ms. Landis also reported one incident related to the Alternative Daily Cover Project where a portion of the alternative daily cover peeled off in May due to high winds from the night before. The subcommittee also discussed a six-month Intermediate Slopes Pilot Project which was approved by the SCL-LEA and is scheduled to commence in June. Seven experimental grids would be selected for experiment during the pilot project. Since this project will be experimenting with using Posi-Shell, a material that might not promote the growth of vegetation as cover, on the intermediate slopes, Ms. Landis made a motion to send a letter to Republic Services reminding the operator of the CUP requirements for revegetating slopes that are inactive for more than 180 days, as well as requesting that the operator to get input from all involved agencies and community representatives in the proposed pilot project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Mohajer and passed with abstentions from Ms. Reina Pereira, Mr. Ron Saldana, Mr. Chris Salomon, and Mr. Gerry Villalobos.

Finally, Ms. Landis reported that the Task Force sent a letter requesting Republic Services to provide the status and schedule of milestones on issues identified in the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Independent Monitor Quarterly Site Monitoring Status Report for the period from October 1, 2015, to December 31, 2015, which was sent to Republic on May 17, 2016.

VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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

- AB 45 (Mullin) – Mr. Mike Mohajer directed staff to re-send and fax the previous Task Force letter to the Senate EQ. The Task Force recommended the bill be watched until next month.
- AB 1103 (Dodd) – Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of opposition seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis. The motion passed with one abstention (Mr. Ron Saldana).
- AB 1669 (Hernandez) – Mr. Carlos Ruiz made a motion to send a letter of opposition seconded by Ms. Landis. The motion passed with one abstention (Mr. Chris Salomon).
- AB 2313 (Williams) – Ms. Landis made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Mr. Saldana. The motion passed with one abstention (Mr. Mohajer).
- AB 2511 (Levine) – Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support seconded by Mr. Ruiz. The motion passed with two abstentions (Ms. Betsey Landis and Mr. Salomon).
- AB 2530 (Gordon) – The Task Force recommended the bill be watched until next month.
- SB 1043 (Allen) – Staff is working with the author to put language back into the bill under biomass conversion.
- HR 4931 (Slaughter) – The Task Force recommended the bill be watched until next month.

VIII. CARB PROPOSED SHORT LIVED CLIMATE POLLUTANT REDUCTION STRATEGY

Ms. Kawsar Vazifdar gave the attached [PowerPoint presentation](#) on the CARB Proposed Short Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy (SLCP). Ms. Betsey Landis expressed her concerns over the presence of harmful pathogens in compost materials and stated that there is a need for stricter controls and inspections on composting.

After an extensive discussion regarding the elimination of organic materials from landfills by 2025 and the effects on the materials recovery facility (MRF) operators, Mr. Mike Mohajer asked Mr. Carlos Ruiz to have staff provide the Task Force with the specific pages of the guidelines that mandates local governments to take responsibility for ensuring that businesses are complying with AB 1826, which requires organic waste diversion.

Mr. Mohajer also stated that a follow-up letter to CARB needs to be sent regarding the proposed SLCP reduction strategy to include comments that were not previously addressed, as well as comments on the 75 percent organic waste diversion goal by 2020 and the 95 percent organic waste diversion goal by 2025.

IX. AB 901: NEW REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR RECYCLERS, COMPOSTERS, AND SOLID WASTE FACILITIES

Mr. Russell Bukoff gave the attached [PowerPoint presentation](#) on AB 901: New Reporting Requirements for Recyclers, Composters, and Solid Waste Facilities.

After the presentation was provided, Mr. Mike Mohajer stated that the presentation did not include discussion on “end user” with respect to recyclable and compostable materials. In particular, the materials shipped to “end users” outside the state of California or the United States. Mr. Mohajer also made a motion to send a letter to CalRecycle expressing issues of concerns that were brought up by various stakeholders such as City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and County Sanitation Districts at the April 26, 2016, AB 901 Workshop. The motion was seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis and passed unanimously.

X. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Item was not discussed.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2016, in conference room B.

The meeting adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

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