

Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee  
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/  
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

**Minutes of January 4, 2007**

County of Los Angeles  
Department of Public Works  
3rd Floor Annex, Large Conference Rom  
900 South Fremont Avenue  
Alhambra, California

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Alva, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works  
Fernando Berton, California Integrated Waste Management Task Force  
Kay Martin, Bioenergy Producers Association  
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force  
John McTaggart, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force  
Ed Wheless, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Alex Helou, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation  
Eugene Tseng, Eugene Tseng and Associates  
P. Christine Urbach, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  
Michael Theroux, Theroux Environmental Consulting

OTHERS PRESENT:

Coby Skye, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works  
Mark McDannel, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Jim Binder, Alternative Resources, Inc.  
Mark Wittenberg, Cerrell Associates  
Ben Gibson, Cerrell Associates  
Sue Higgins, Alternative Resources, Inc.  
Virginia Jauregui, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 31, SEPTEMBER 21, AND OCTOBER 19**

Mr. Wheless made a motion to approve the minutes of August 31, September 21 and October 19. The minutes of August 31, September 21 and October 19 were approved. Because of the length of time between the meeting date and approval of respective minutes, a request was made by Mr. Wheless to have the minutes available to Subcommittee members within 24 hours. After some discussion, Mr. Alva stated that staff would make every possible effort to have the minutes ready in draft format within a week for Subcommittee review. Mr. Mohajer abstained from voting for the minutes of August 31, September 21 and October 19; Mr. McTaggart abstained from voting on the minutes of August 31; Mr. Berton abstained from voting on the minutes of October 19, 2006; and Dr. Martin abstained from voting for the minutes September 21 and October 19, 2006.

**III. RECAP ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS**

Mr. Berton commented that the Swedish Minister for the Environment will be hosting two seminars, one in Sacramento on renewable energy technologies January 11th, and one in Los Angeles related to sustainable cities and energy efficiency on January 12th. Mr. Skye reported on his meeting with staff from the City of Lancaster regarding their interest in developing a conversion technology facility in the Antelope Valley. Mr. Skye said that not a lot of details were available since the idea is still in the concept stages.

In November, Mr. Berton was a presenter at a renewable energy conference in Venice, Italy. Over 400 delegates representing 44 countries were in attendance, and a wide variety of topics were covered including research on thermal and anaerobic digestion technologies. Mr. Berton also was present at the Waste Board Chair's December presentation to the City of London regarding California efforts to reduce and manage waste. Currently, the Waste Board is in the process of approving the scope of work for the life cycle analyze for greenhouse gas reduction. The Scope of Work's author, Brenda Smith, will be invited to discuss this issue at the next Subcommittee meeting.

#### **IV. UPDATE ON PUBLIC OUTREACH CONTRACT**

After careful review of the 5 proposals received, the evaluation committee recommended that Cerrell Associates be awarded the public outreach contract. Mr. Gibson and Mr. Wittenberg of Cerrell Associates made an informal introduction to the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee is awaiting formal approval from the Board of Supervisors to initiate the contract, which is anticipated to occur at the Board of Supervisors' January 30, 2007 meeting.

#### **V. UPDATE ON FACILITATION CONTRACT**

Ms. Higgins provided an update on the facilitation contract. ARI is currently working on six tasks and subtasks simultaneously. A high priority is the verification and evaluation of technology supplier qualifications via the RFI responses, coordinating the technology supplier interviews, as well as the MRF evaluations. Plans for the facility tours are nearing completion, and progress has been made on funding research and negotiation efforts. Based on the pace of review, and noting that some MRF owners/operators have requested a slower pace for moving forward, Ms. Higgins recommended that the Subcommittee review and discuss the task schedule at the next meeting.

#### **VI. REVIEW OF RFI RESPONSES**

Ms. Higgins noted that RFI responses were received in December, and responses were forwarded to the Subcommittee and MRF operators for review. ARI has examined overall criteria proposed by the technologies including supplier qualification, economics and technology performance. ARI is currently conducting a more in-depth analysis of specifics proposed by the suppliers, and will focus on analyzing implementation plans for team arrangement strategies and specifics regarding how the suppliers intend to finance their projects during interviews in January. Ms. Higgins noted that many suppliers have previously or are currently financing conversion technology projects with private financing, and anticipates this type of financing is feasible for our project. ARI is continuing to evaluate and work with the suppliers to provide more thorough calculations, supporting documentation, and clarification when appropriate. ARI will present a draft report to the Subcommittee within one to two months.

#### **VII. MRF EVALUATIONS**

According to Ms. Higgins, all MRF facilities have met the minimum standard criteria necessary to host a successful demonstration facility. Chip Clements, in conjunction

with ARI, prepared a supplemental list of comparative criteria and asked that the Subcommittee review and provide comments the week of January 8th. After the criteria for MRF evaluation is approved, weights can be assigned. Mr. Mohajer expressed concern regarding an item that related to the facility's location or use of Los Angeles County waste as a feedstock, and more specifically, the reference to waste being directed from franchise areas in the unincorporated County areas. Mr. Mohajer expressed a concern that the burden of support rest too much on the unincorporated County and recommended that this criteria be eliminated or revised. Staff clarified that this reference was not intended to imply an unbalanced support from unincorporated County areas and would revise the criteria to be clearer.

#### **VIII. DISCUSSION ON UPCOMING TOURS**

Mr. Alva explained that due to limited funding availability, a recommendation for the touring participants and schedule will be put forward at the next Subcommittee meeting.

#### **IX. OPEN DISCUSSION**

No discussion took place.

#### **X. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is scheduled to meet January 18, 2007 at 10 a.m.

#### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.