

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

May 18, 2023

Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steve Cassulo, Waste Connections
William Chen, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Rachelle Huber, Republic Services
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens, Inc.
Ben Lucha, Antelope Valley Resident
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Darshna Patel, City of Los Angeles
Fahim Rahimi, Los Angeles County Public Works
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Michelle Dewey, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
(CalRecycle)
Ron Kent, Southern California Gas
Dee Hanson Lugo, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Kay Martin, Bioenergy Producers Association
Kevin Mattson, Waste Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Daniel Shore, BRADAM Energies
Cesar Leon, Tetra Tech
Nicole Ward, Waste Connections
Josephine Chen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Tran Kiem, Los Angeles County Public Works
Henry Kong, Los Angeles County Public Works
Genevieve Osmena, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works
Airon Tee, Los Angeles County Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Fahim Rahimi called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF APRIL 20, 2023, SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to approve the April 20, 2023 minutes and Mr. Wayde Hunter seconded. Minutes approved with one abstention.

III. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Ceasar Leon reported that Tetra Tech continues to support Public Works with the following:

- Tetra Tech continues to identify potential locations for organic waste processing or thermal conversion facilities at old landfill sites and other sites in the County. Two sites have been identified and will be investigated further.
- Tetra Tech is conducting a Long-Term Solid Waste Disposal Needs Study for the Antelope Valley as required by the Lancaster Landfill Conditional Use Permit, Condition 92. The study will include a high-level review of economic, environmental, and technical considerations for thermal conversion technology facilities.
- Tetra Tech supported Public Works with the preparation of a grant application for the CalRecycle Organics Grant Program, Cycle 7 for the development of a proposed anaerobic digestion (AD) facility at the Calabasas Landfill. The application was submitted on May 2, 2023, for \$5 million.

IV. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Ms. Kawsar Vazifdar provided the following update:

- At CalRecycle's monthly meeting on May 16, 2023, CalRecycle mentioned they will be holding another Senate Bill (SB) 54 Information session on May 31, 2023, focusing on source reduction and responsible end markets. CalRecycle also provided an update that their Director will appoint the SB 54 Advisory Board members by July 1, 2023.
- The SB 1383 Chat with CalRecycle will be held on May 24, 2023 and will be focusing on recovery of prepared foods.
- CalRecycle announced fourteen new local assistance awards for \$6 million to support local jurisdictions in implementing programs required by SB 1383.

- CalRecycle announced that it will be awarding \$4.2 million to eight new regional projects for the second cycle of their community composting for Green Space program.

Mr. Mohajer asked staff to distribute an article regarding changes at Anaergia's headquarters that may affect the proposed AD facility at the Calaberas Landfill. He also commented that \$340 million of the State budget was previously designated for organic waste processing infrastructure, but that infrastructure funding may be reduced in the future.

V. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Ms. Tran Kiem provided an update on events and conferences, which can also be found in the [Conversion Technology Newsletter](#) and Subcommittee meeting minutes:

- Little Hoover Commission Business Meeting: May 23, 2023, Virtual
- Southern California Waste Management Forum (SCWMF) Annual Business Meeting: May 24, 2023, Fullerton, CA
- ACE 2023 Air and Waste Management (A&WMA) 116th Annual Conference and Exhibition: June 5 - 8, 2023, Orlando, FL
- California Hydrogen Leadership Summit: June 20, 2023, Sacramento, CA
- California Resource Recovery Association Conference and Tradeshow: August 13 - 16, 2023, Burlingame, CA
- Resource Recycling Conference: August 14 - 16, 2023, Orlando, FL
- County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) Policy Conference: August 24 - 25, 2023, Sacramento, CA
- American Public Works Association (APWA) Public Work Expo 2023: August 27 - 30, 2023, San Diego, CA

VI. PRESENTATION BY BRADAM Energies

Mr. Daniel Shore, of Bradam Energies (BE) provided a [presentation](#) on their system that uses a non-incineration carbon energy recovery technology to process various waste streams and produce renewable natural gas, synthetic natural gas, or hydrogen.

Mr. Eugene Tseng asked if BE's technology can also process radioactive waste. Mr. Shore stated that radioactive waste was used for pilot testing but should not be mixed in with other streams of waste. He added that BE's technology can process medical waste.

Ms. Rachelle Huber asked if BE has a timeline for permitting its technology in Los Angeles County. Mr. Shore stated that they currently have plants in Ontario,

Canada that were permitted in four to five years. Mr. Shore expressed that one of BE's goals is to prepare a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document for a potential plant. Ms. Huber asked about the downtime for BE's plant. Mr. Shore explained that parts of the plant can be shut down without affecting overall operations, reducing any downtime.

Mr. Wayde Hunter asked how BE processes their feedstock since each plant accepts a variety of waste streams. Mr. Shore responded that their plants have equipment and machinery remove contaminants from incoming waste, but also emphasized that waste haulers have a responsibility in ensuring that collected waste contains minimal contaminants.

Mr. Tseng asked about the type of rotary kiln used in BE's process. Mr. Shore responded it is an indirect heat kiln. Mr. Tseng asked if carbon black, one of BE's main products, is made from processed char. Mr. Shore responded that their carbon black is not made of char, but rather is a residual byproduct of waste that is processed using pressure and indirect heat.

Ms. Darshna Patel asked about the time and cost required to build a BE plant. Mr. Shore replied that it would take between one year and 18 months and would cost \$220 million. Mr. Tseng asked about the throughput of such a plant. Mr. Shore responded that the annual tonnage is about 1 million tons. Ms. Huber asked how much revenue is produced from a plant of this size. Mr. Shore replied that revenue is dependent on whether the plant produces hydrogen or electricity.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Leon asked what type of support BE is seeking to pursue a CEQA document. Mr. Shore responded that they are looking for funding to prepare the document.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m. The next ATAS meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 15, 2023.