

Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

June 16, 2022

WEB CONFERENCE

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Dorcas (Dee) Hanson-Lugo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Patrick Holland, Los Angeles County Public Works
Betsey Landis, Chair, Environmental Organization Representative
Sam Shammass, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tim Fargo, City of Los Angeles
Kristine Jegalian, City of Los Angeles
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Jennifer Ang, Los Angeles County Public Works
Alexander Castro, Los Angeles County Public Works
Josephine Chen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Dustin Dvorak, Los Angeles County Public Works
Michael Harmon, Los Angeles County Public Works
Ramon Herman, Los Angeles County Public Works
Tran Kiem, Los Angeles County Public Works
Karlo Manalo, Los Angeles County Public Works
Omid Mazdiasni, Los Angeles County Public Works
Robel Mesfin, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works
Gladys Rietze, Los Angeles County Public Works
Trishena Robinson, Los Angeles County Public Works
Aric Rodriguez, Los Angeles County Public Works
Jeffrey Zhu, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Betsey Landis called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 19, 2022 MEETING

Mr. Patrick Holland made a motion to approve the Minutes, as corrected, and Mr. Sam Shammass seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. UPDATE ON CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Ramon Herman, staff to the Task Force, provided the following updates:

Odor Complaints and Notice of Violations (NOV)

The next quarterly update from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) will be presented at next month's Subcommittee meeting.

Update on Lawsuits

Parties are currently in settlement discussions for both lawsuits against the County: The first lawsuit Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL) filed was on October 20, 2017, challenging operational conditions and fee conditions of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP). The second lawsuit CCL filed was on April 13, 2018, challenging a decision by the hearing officer that upheld a NOV issued by Regional Planning on December 11, 2017, for failure to pay Bridge and Thoroughfare Fee, accepting prohibited auto shredder waste, and failure to pay out-of-area fees. Trial date was continued to December 2022.

Task Force Request for CCL to Submit a Report regarding NOVs Received

- CCL submitted their Fourteenth Monthly Update to the Task Force on May 31, 2022. The update addressed the April 19, 2021, letter's requirements and updates on implementation of Conditions 68 (status of air quality monitoring for surrounding communities), 77 (relocation of the site entrance from Henry Mayo Drive to Wolcott Drive), and 79 (schedule of the Street Improvement project), as well as the Stipulated Order for Abatement from AQMD.
- No NOVs were issued to CCL for the month of May 2022 and the Landfill Operator has taken required action to correct violations in the NOV issued by the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD) on April 29, 2022, for hazardous wastes detected onsite.

- The Landfill Operator notified the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) of the April 29, 2022, NOV on the same day it was issued. Based on the LEA's review of the NOV, there was no action warranted by the LEA.
- The Landfill Operator received approval from AQMD for six additional orchard fans proposed on August 27, 2021, October 12, 2021, and May 27, 2022. However, CCL is still awaiting final approval from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for installation of the additional orchard fans. Once approved, CCL may use up to nine orchard fans.
- The AQMD Hearing Board meeting regarding the Stipulated Order for Abatement was held on May 17, 2022. A summary of the Hearing Board meeting will be provided by staff on the next agenda item.

Ms. Landis asked why CCL is using orchard fans and if the fans were for the smell. Mr. Karlo Manalo responded that the orchard fans were part of the corrective measures for the Stipulated Order for Abatement and that staff can provide more information in response to her inquiry. She requested an update be presented from staff at next month's Subcommittee meeting. Mr. Holland confirmed it would be presented.

Mr. Mohajer requested clarification on the LEA's response regarding the NOV issued to CCL by the LACFD. Mr. Manalo responded that Ms. Dee Hanson-Lugo confirmed that CCL notified the LEA the same day the NOV was issued and upon the LEA's review, no action was warranted by the LEA in accordance with their Solid Waste Facilities Permit. Mr. Mohajer read from the May 19, 2022, approved meeting minutes, that Ms. Hanson-Lugo would provide a response to him and would be shared to the Subcommittee. Ms. Hanson-Lugo commented that she did not provide a response to Mr. Mohajer directly since staff to the Task Force contacted her and she provided her response back to the staff. Mr. Mohajer requested the details as mentioned in the minutes, in addition to the type of hazardous waste identified by LACFD. Ms. Hanson-Lugo responded that she would send something in writing. Mr. Holland recommended Ms. Hanson-Lugo sending her update to staff for dissemination to the Subcommittee.

Mr. Mohajer mentioned that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the Honor Ranch Project in Santa Clarita last Tuesday, which involves approximately two million square feet of development and includes about 34,000 houses and industrial buildings and will take several years to materialize. The Development is only in the beginning stages. Because of the project's proximity, it will have impact on the landfill and the community in relation to environmental justice. A report may be requested from Task Force in the future once the project commences.

AQMD Order of Abatement Meeting

Mr. Omid Mazdidasni, staff to the Task Force, provided the Stipulated Order for Abatement update for CCL. The AQMD Hearing regarding the Stipulated Order for Abatement was held on May 17, 2022, and included the following modifications to the Stipulated Order for Abatement:

- Performing odor surveillance monitoring during morning hours when unfavorable winds occur.
- Allowing disposal into Cell 8 following a Notice to the Community at the regularly scheduled community meeting.
- Allowing working face size increase as allowed by the CUP with increased number of Orchard fans used.
- Immediate reduction of working face size upon receipt of a NOV related to odor.
- Assessing potential odor pathways and best odor control measures for new developments within a three-mile radius of the Landfill.

The Landfill is also required to continue implementing the Standard Operating Procedures, Odorous Load Profiles, and Key Performance Indicators. Additionally, the Landfill Operator has posted information on Landfill's website regarding Updates on Implementing Odor Mitigation Measures, as well as lists of completed and ongoing tasks per the Stipulated Order for Abatement. The next AQMD Hearing will be held on September 20, 2022.

IV. DISCUSSION ON FOC REPORTS

Staff did not receive any Finding of Conformance (FOC) reports for this period and will provide an update at next month's Subcommittee meeting.

V. UPDATE ON SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL

Odor Complaints

Mr. Robel Mesfin, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on the [odor complaints from the AQMD](#) for the month of May 2022 at SCL.

- During the month of May 2022, 17 complaints were made to the AQMD hotline. Of those, 2 were classified as Trash and the rest were listed as "No Field Response" or "None". The category "None" indicates that the inspector visited the site and did not detect any odor.

- Compared to previous month, April 2022, the number of complaints received in May 2022 decreased from 38 to 17 complaints.
- Compared to previous year, May 2021, the number of complaints for May 2022 increased from 4 to 17 complaints.
- As of June 9, 2022, AQMD issued zero NOVs related to odor for the month of May 2022.
- Compared to 2021, the number of NOVs issued increased from 6 to 7 NOVs in 2022.
- According to the AQMD report, the total number of complaints received during 2022 is 355.

Mr. Wayde Hunter of the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens wanted to confirm that odor complaints categorized as "none" meant that no odor was detected by the AQMD inspector in the field and that a "no field response" meant that inspector did not go out to examine the odor complaint. Mr. Michael Harmon responded that Mr. Hunter's understanding of the categories for "no field response" and "none" are correct.

NOV issued by Regional Planning

Ms. Gladys Rietze, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on the NOV issued to SCL by Regional Planning.

At the April 2022 Subcommittee meeting, staff provided an update on PW's January 15, 2019 Weekend Soil Cover Requirement. PW staff began inspecting the Landfill for compliance with this requirement on Monday mornings at the start of operations beginning in February 2022. Based on the inspections, it was determined that the Landfill was out of compliance with the weekend soil cover requirement. Consequently, PW referred the matter to Regional Planning for further enforcement action on April 11, 2022.

On April 28, 2022, Regional Planning issued a NOV to the Landfill for not meeting Condition 45N of the Landfill's CUP.

PW staff continues to inspect the Landfill for compliance with this requirement. Since May 14, 2022, staff observed that the Landfill has been using soil cover at the working face over the weekend. PW staff will continue to inspect the Landfill for compliance and provide support to Regional Planning in its enforcement role.

Mr. Mohajer asked if there were any discussions with County Counsel, as mentioned in the approved May 2022 meeting minutes, regarding how staff may

provide updates to the Subcommittee regarding PW pending enforcement issues at the Landfill. Mr. Harmon responded that staff had a brief discussion with County Counsel regarding this topic, which is why the NOV update was included in today's meeting agenda. Updates are based on what is public record. Any determination or decision making from departments will remain under purview of those departments and their respective County Counsel until decisions are made public.

Mr. Mohajer asked if County Counsel was aware that the Task Force established the FOC and the fact that PW wears two different hats, as staff to the Task Force and as staff of PW. The Task Force is responsible for enforcing requirements of the FOC that specifically says that SCL must comply with all regulatory requirements, which include the requirements of the CUP. Mr. Mohajer suggested modifying the May 2022 meeting minutes in order to differentiate the two hats PW wears. Mr. Holland and the Subcommittee agreed with the change.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Holland announced that this would be his last Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee meeting as he is transferring to Waterworks Division within PW. He thanked the Subcommittee and respective Task Force members, as well as staff. Mr. Holland also announced that Mr. Chris Sheppard was appointed to Acting Principal Engineer and that PW has not yet filled the other Assistant Division Head position within Environmental Programs Division. Mr. Holland anticipates Mr. Sheppard to be very involved with the Subcommittee. Subcommittee members respectively thanked Mr. Holland for his service with the Task Force and Subcommittee.

No public comment.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:52 p.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 21, 2022, at 11 a.m.