

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

**Minutes of December 10, 2007**

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Traffic Management Center Conference Room (1<sup>st</sup> Floor-Annex Building)  
900 South Fremont Avenue  
Alhambra, California

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative  
Mike Miller, League of California Cities  
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative  
Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Christopher Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

John McTaggart, General Public Representative  
Charles Modica, City of Los Angeles  
Ken Murray, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Paul Alva, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Joe Bartolata, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Carl Pederson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF JUNE 21, 2007**

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2007, meeting was made. The motion was unanimously approved.

**III. COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT CHAPTER 4 REVISIONS**

Mr. Chuk Agu gave a Power Point presentation on the preliminary draft of Chapter 4 (Current Disposal Rate and Assessment of in-County Disposal Capacity Needs). Chapter 4 quantifies the current disposal rate in Los Angeles County and addresses the disposal capacity needs of the 88 cities in Los Angeles County and the County unincorporated communities for a planning period of 15 years.

The major assumptions include: (1) 2005 is the base year of planning period, (2) 2005-2020 is the planning period, (3) the 2005 Annual Report is the basis of disposal capacity needs analysis, and (4) the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County will implement a waste-by-rail system by 2014.

The major revisions include: (1) modifying the disposal capacity need analysis methodology, (2) modifying the number and types of scenarios, and (3) including summary tables and graphs showing the disposal capacity need and shortfall for the scenarios.

Mr. Agu noted that information contained in the preliminary draft is tentative and will continue to be updated as new information becomes available. Based on the Subcommittee's input, staff will further fine-tune Chapter 4 and resubmit it to Subcommittee for review.

The comments provided by the Subcommittee include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Consider diversion programs, alternative technologies, and in-County disposal as higher priority solutions for the projected disposal shortfall rather than relying on the use of out-of-County disposal facilities.
- Place more emphasis on truck transport to out-of-County waste disposal facilities since it is a more viable option during the planning period.

- Reevaluate the remaining disposal capacity of Sunshine Canyon Landfill in light of the potential closure of the City-side in 2011, in the event the City and BFI, Inc. fail to reach an agreement on the terms of the City permits.
- Consider the use of the term “disposal need” instead of “disposal capacity shortfall.”
- Revise the definition of Class III Landfill Disposal Need in this Chapter to read: “Class III Landfill Disposal Need” refers to the difference between the total disposal need (excluding inert waste landfills) and the available disposal capacity of the transformation facilities, any available out-of-County disposal facilities, and alternative technology facilities.
- Include in the footnote of the Disposal Capacity Need Analysis tables that Puente Hills Landfill’s permitted capacity is based on the CUP requirement and the daily disposal capacity will be reduced if waste-by-rail is not implemented during the specified benchmark dates.
- Delete references to “new” landfills, since it is unlikely that new landfills will be sited in Los Angeles County in the foreseeable future.
- Change references to January 1, 2006, as the end of the 2005 base-year to December 31, 2005.

Mr. Agu indicated that staff will incorporate the Subcommittee comments and resubmit another draft to Subcommittee for review.

#### **IV. COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT CHAPTER 9 REVISIONS**

Mr. Chuk Agu gave a Power Point Presentation on the revised draft of Chapter 9 (Out-of-County Disposal) of the Countywide Siting Element. Chapter 9 describes how jurisdictions in Los Angeles County may use the out-of-County disposal option to offset deficiency of in-County disposal capacity during the fifteen-year planning period.

Major assumptions include: (1) the primary mode of transporting waste out-of-County to distances less than 200 miles will be by truck, and to distances greater than 200 miles will be by train; (2) only in-State Class III landfills or equivalent Subtitle D out-of-State landfills are considered; (3) all permitted material recovery facilities/transfer stations in the County have potential rail-loading capability; (4) all rail-yards, rail-loading and inter-modal facilities in the County have potential solid waste handling capability; and (5) the County Sanitation District’s waste-by-rail system will be fully operational by 2014.

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Major revisions include: (1) incorporating previous Subcommittee comments, (2) eliminating the individual landfill Fact Sheets and Maps for out-of-County landfills and incorporating the fact sheet information into the Table and replacing the maps with a “dot on the map,” (3) updating landfill and facility information based on results of a detailed email landfill survey, and (4) modification of the Table of Contents.

The comments provided by the Subcommittee include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Consider the issue of whether all solid waste should be processed at the material recovery facilities/transfer stations prior to transport to out-of-County disposal facilities.
- Ensure that all out-of-County landfills considered meet federal Subtitle D requirements, or are equivalent to California Class III landfills.
- Verify and address the viability and status of the County Sanitation District’s waste-by-rail system in light of the Puente Hills Landfill CUP requirements.

Mr. Agu indicated that staff will incorporate the Subcommittee’s comments; continue to research and obtain missing information; complete the update of text, tables, figures and fact sheets; select the final list of out-of-County landfills potentially available for Los Angeles County solid waste export; and resubmit the revised Chapter 9 to Subcommittee for review.

Ms. Betsey Landis (Subcommittee Chairperson) requested that Subcommittee members provide staff with any additional written comments on Chapters 4 and 9 by December 31, 2007.

**V. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**VI. NEXT MEETING DATE**

To be announced at a later date.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.