

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

Minutes of November 19, 2009 Meeting

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Conference Room C
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Alva, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Christopher Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Gerardo Villalobos, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Charles Modica, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition, Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Efraim Ramirez, Vice President of EDCO
Josh Rosenbaum, City of Signal Hill Community Development Department
Wu Tan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2009

The Subcommittee instructed Staff to revise the Minutes of the September 17, 2009 Minutes as indicated below:

- Section III, Page 2, 4th Paragraph: Attach Mr. Mohajer's original e-mail to item No. 1 in the paragraph.
- Section III, Page 3, 1st Paragraph: Delete the phrase "...or expected to be generated..." in the second sentence in the paragraph.
- Section III, Page 3, 5th Paragraph: Revise the paragraph to read as follows: "The following two new facilities require appropriate permitting pursuant to the California Code of Regulations."
- Section III, Page 4, 4th Paragraph ("Description of Facilities"): Revise the paragraph to read as follows: "In order to clearly convey the function of the facilities, the Subcommittee instructed Staff to specify whether facilities listed in the NDFE Amendment Staff Report are materials recovery facilities (MRF); transfer stations (TS); construction, demolition, and inert (CDI) debris processing facilities, etc., instead of listing them as transfer/processing facilities. The revised terminology should then be consistently used throughout the Staff Report."
- Section III, Page 5, 3rd Paragraph: Add the phrase "...(on a quarterly basis)..." after the words "...submit monthly reports..." in the first sentence of the paragraph.

A motion to approve the Minutes with the above changes was unanimously approved.

III. AMENDMENT TO CITY OF SIGNAL HILL'S NONDISPOSAL FACILITY ELEMENT 2009

Mr. Wu Tan gave a PowerPoint presentation ([see Attachment No. 1](#)) on the November 12, 2009 Staff Report (Staff Report) regarding the City of Signal Hill's request for the Task Force to review and approve the Amendment to the current

City of Signal Hill's Nondisposal Facility Element (NDFE), in accordance with the requirements of Section 41734(a)(1) of the California Public Resources Code and Section 18761(b), Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

Mr. Tan reported that the City's initial NDFE was approved in 1996 by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (Waste Board). The City is proposing to amend its current NDFE to include the proposed EDCO Recycling and Transfer facility. The owner/operator of the facility is in the process of obtaining a Solid Waste Facility Permit. The proposed facility would be a 1,500 tons per day transfer station with a recovery rate of less than five percent that would process municipal solid waste, green waste and construction and demolition debris. The facility would also accept and process mixed recyclables collected curbside from the City of Signal Hill and its surrounding jurisdictions. Although the facility will primarily be operating as a transfer facility at its onset, the owner/operator expects to include a buyback center and a sorting line for the processing of recyclables at a later time.

There are also existing active and/or abandoned oil wells on site that are owned and operated by another company. Proponent indicates that the site will satisfy all permit requirements in regard to the oil wells. Grading of the land for the project is expected to begin by the end of 2009, and the project is expected to be completed by 2011.

Mr. Tan concluded that based on Staff's findings: (1) the City of Signal Hill's proposed NDFE Amendment conforms with the Los Angeles County Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, State laws and regulations, and other environmental regulations; and (2) Staff recommends Task Force concurrence with the City's NDFE Amendment.

Consistent with Task Force Policy, the owner/operator of the facility is required to submit Form 7 (titled "Monthly Disposal Quantity Reporting For Use by Solid Waste Station and Nondisposal Facility Operators Origin Survey") on a quarterly basis (within 30 days from the end of the quarter) to the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Environmental Programs Division. The Monthly Report shall contain the type and quantity of waste (by weight) received at the facility for processing, recycling, and disposal at off-site facilities. The facilities' owners/operators may submit the quarterly reports in an alternative reporting format as required by their respective Local Enforcement Agency.

The Subcommittee discussed the NDFE Amendment and expressed concern that the Subcommittee's previous comments, as outlined in the September 17, 2009 Minutes, regarding adequacy and accuracy of information and description of facilities to be provided in NDFE Amendment Staff Report were not adhered to in this submittal. As a result, it was difficult for the Subcommittee to make an informed decision on this submittal. The Subcommittee strongly reiterated that the Staff Report on the NDFE Amendment should include complete, adequate, and accurate information.

Additionally, the Subcommittee instructed for the letter to the applicant to include: (1) information on the project's timeline and implementation schedule, as well as the commencement date of operation of the facility, (2) details regarding the future buyback center and material recovery operation, and (3) a discussion on the status of the active and/or abandoned oil wells located on or in proximity of the facility.

During the deliberation, Staff and project proponent presented and provided the Subcommittee with enough additional and necessary information for the Subcommittee to make an informed decision regarding the subject amendment.

In conclusion, the Subcommittee made a motion to: (1) recommend to the Task Force to concur with the subject amendment to the City of Signal Hill's NDFE; (2) request for the owner/operator to submit monthly reports (on a quarterly basis) as indicated in the Staff Report; (3) prepare a letter from the Task Force to the Waste Board notifying them of the Task Force's concurrence with the NDFE Amendment, including (a) a request for the applicant to provide additional information on the project's timeline and implementation schedule, details regarding the future buyback center and material recovery operation, as well as the commencement date of operation of the facility, and (b) a recommendation for the applicant to comply with State of California Department of Conservation Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources requirements with regards to the existing active and/or abandoned oil wells on-site; and (4) to submit the letter to the Chair of the Subcommittee to review before it is forwarded to the Waste Board. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT
None

V. NEXT MEETING DATE

To be announced at a later date.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.