

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

Minutes of March 15, 2012 Meeting

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
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:

Martin Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Joe Bartolata, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Becky Bendikson, City/County Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory
Committee
Jay Chen, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Bahman Hajjaliakbar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition, Granada Hills North Neighborhood
Council
Linda Lee Miller, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Richard Lust, IRS
David Nguyen, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Virginia Pajarito, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wu Tan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jim Teter, Republic Services Inc.
Emiko Thompson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 16, 2012 MINUTES

Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 16, 19, 2012 meeting and the motion was unanimously approved by the Subcommittee.

III. COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT UPDATE

Mr. Martin Aiyetiwa provided an update on the revision process of the Countywide Siting Element (CSE). Mr. Aiyetiwa stated that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for contracting out work related to the development of the CSE was cancelled by County Public Works for a number of reasons. The proposed work had consisted of preparing an environmental document, publishing the document, preparing for public meetings, conducting public relations, and distributing CSE documents. Public Works still intends to contract out such work and will be preparing a new RFP by the end of March, with a Proposer's Conference to be scheduled in early April and the contract awarded in July 2012.

Ms. Betsey Landis and Mr. Mike Mohajer both commented that the Subcommittee needs to be continually updated on the RFP process since they are representatives of the Task Force and have been closely involved in the CSE development process.

Mr. Mike Mohajer commented that he would like to have on the record that he was recently asked about the RFP, with its landfill feasibility study component, at a public meeting. Mr. Mohajer explained that he did not have information prior to this meeting to properly answer questions. After the meeting, he went to the County website and learned about the RFP which was issued to contract out work related to the CSE. Upon inquiry to County Counsel, he was advised that the appropriate response in this case would be to refer the public to the designated RFP contact. Mr. Mohajer requested that for future RFP releases regarding the CSE, a courtesy notice be provided to the Task Force so the Task Force could provide an appropriate response when approached by the public. Mr. Aiyetiwa assured the Subcommittee that staff would provide future updates on the RFP activities, and he further stated that the feasibility study was referenced in the RFP only for convenience and to provide the County with the capacity to do such a study, if needed.

After much discussion, it was agreed that Public Works would review the need to reference such a study in this RFP. If Public Works determined

that the study should be included in the RFP, Public Works would return to the Subcommittee next month to provide the reasoning behind this determination.

The Subcommittee also inquired about the type of environmental document that would be prepared. Mr. Aiyetiwa noted that the type of document to be prepared (whether an Environmental Impact Report or Negative Declaration) had not yet been determined, and Public Works would make that decision in consultation with the selected RFP contractor after an initial study of environmental factors has been conducted.

IV. SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL

Ms. Linda Lee Miller provided an update on the activities at the Landfill. She noted that the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) will hold a public consultation meeting on April 18, 2012, to discuss Republic Services, Inc.'s (Republic) proposals to install a new flare and construct a landfill gas-to-energy project. Both projects require renewal and revision of the landfill's existing Title V Permit. These proposals were previously presented to the Subcommittee in the last two months.

Ms. Miller indicated that Republic's vegetation consultant, John Minch and Associates, Inc., would be available at the April Subcommittee meeting to answer questions the Subcommittee may have regarding the Landfill's revegetation progress.

Ms. Miller continued by reporting that on January 27, 2012, Republic submitted a request to County Public Works to conduct a Focused Study for the Evaluation of Alternative Daily Cover at the Landfill. The purpose of the Study would be to obtain data and determine whether daily soil cover required by Public Works is the best management practice for controlling odors at the working face, or if an alternative daily cover material may be feasible. Public Works determined that the proposal was not clear and requested Republic to address specific comments in a letter, dated February 27, 2012. The letter reiterated Public Works' position that the daily soil cover requirement continues to be effective in conjunction with other odor mitigation measures ongoing at the Landfill. Mr. Carlos Ruiz added that the County is not opposed to the study; however, the soil cover requirement will remain until the landfill odor issues are addressed. Mr. Wayne Hunter commented that he is thankful for Public Works' stand on this issue.

Ms. Miller also noted that of the 104 complaints received by AQMD in February 2012, 30 percent were verified. The number of complaints decreased from January 2012, during which AQMD received 163

complaints, and 55 percent were verified. AQMD issued one notice of violation in February.

V. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF NONDISPOSAL FACILITIES ELEMENT PROCESS UNDER THE NEW STATE LAW (PRC SECTION 41734.5)

Ms. Emiko Thompson discussed the Nondisposal Facilities Element (NDFE) process, which was recently revised by the enactment of Assembly Bill 341(AB 341) in 2011. As described in Public Resources Code 41734.5, once an NDFE is adopted, the city, county, or regional agency shall update all information required to be included in the NDFE, including, but not limited to, new information regarding existing and new, or proposed, nondisposal facilities. Copies of the updated information shall also be provided to the local task force and shall be appended or otherwise added to the NDFE. The local task force shall not be required to review and comment on the updates to the NDFE.

Prior to adoption of AB 341, the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) was required to review NDFE amendments and provide comments with respect to regional impacts. Task Force staff visited the nondisposal sites, reviewed submittal documents, made presentations to the Task Force, and prepared comment letters on behalf of the Task Force.

Ms. Thompson suggested two options for future processing of NDFE amendments: (1) Staff disseminate the amendment information to the Task Force via email, or (2) staff review the amendment information, place it on Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee meeting agenda, and if directed by the Task Force, and send a comment letter to the local jurisdiction. Staff may request the jurisdiction to provide additional information or make a presentation to the Task Force.

After some discussion, Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to recommend to the Task Force to acknowledge regulation changes to the NDFE process, and following the new regulation, review NDFE amendments at Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee meetings and provide comments, not give an approval or disapproval, on the amendments.

The first NDFE amendment to be reviewed under these new procedures will be the City of Azusa's Amended NDFE, tentatively scheduled for the May 17, 2012, Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee meeting.

VI. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no discussion/public comment.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

To be announced at a later date.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.