



MITCHELL ENGLANDER

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCILMEMBER, TWELFTH DISTRICT

September 25, 2012

Dr. Barry Wallerstein
Executive Director
South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Dear Dr. Wallerstein:


I am writing to express my serious concern that Notices of Violation (NOVs) for the Sunshine Canyon Landfill have been settled by the SCAQMD with Allied-Republic Waste for a reported \$467,500.00.

This office had been led to believe that no NOVs would be settled until the odor problem was solved at Sunshine Canyon. This is what had been represented to us as well as to members of the community surrounding the landfill and to members of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee. Taking this action without the appropriate outreach to the stakeholders involved and their elected representatives is a show of extremely poor faith.

In spite of the efforts of the AQMD and staff to craft a Stipulated Order of Abatement and the Operator's efforts to comply with that Order, the odor problem has not been solved, and by many accounts it is even worse. It is, therefore, incomprehensible that these NOVs have been settled at all – let alone for the amount in question. It has further not been made clear as to the disposition of these funds. Is the community to be somehow compensated for the uninhabitability of their homes over the last several years?

I have been extremely complimentary of this agency and their aggressiveness in tackling the odor problems at Sunshine Canyon, but it is incumbent upon me to express my sincere dissatisfaction with this outcome. The worst possible outcome at this juncture would be for the District to treat this situation as a "problem solved." The residents, Van Gogh schoolchildren, their teachers and administrators are counting on your ongoing intervention to fix this odor problem definitively. Nothing less is acceptable.

Sincerely,



MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, Twelfth District

ME:nb



cc: Dr. William Burke, Chair SCAQMD Governing Board
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Councilmember Jan Perry, SCAQMD Governing Board, City of Los Angeles
Becky Bendikson, Chair, Sunshine Canyon Landfill CAC
Wayde Hunter, Vice Chair, Sunshine Canyon Landfill CAC
Maria Armoudian, Sunshine Canyon Landfill CAC
Kenneth Ashford, Sunshine Canyon Landfill CAC
Joe Vitti, Sunshine Canyon Landfill CAC
Cindy Chen, Sunshine Canyon Landfill LEA Program Manager
Leon Marzillier, President, Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Frank Bush, Sunshine Canyon Landfill LEA Board of Directors
Jill Whynot, SCAQMD
Derrick Alatorre, SCAQMD
Nicholas Sanchez, SCAQMD