

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of September 19, 2002

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Albert Avoian, Business/Commerce Representative
Clarence Gieck, Greater Los Angeles Solid Waste Management Association
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
John McTaggart, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Ginger Bremberg, represented by Lois Shade, General Public Representative
Margaret Clark, rep. by Michael Miller, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Thomas L. Garthwaite, rep. by Virginia Maloles, County of L.A. Dept. of Health Services
James A. Noyes, represented by Mike Mohajer, County of L.A. Dept. of Public Works
Jim Stahl, represented by Donald Nellor, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ron Deaton, City of Los Angeles
David Kim, City of Los Angeles Appointee
Joe Massey, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Ed Shikada, City of Long Beach
Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Judith Wilson, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Ben Wong, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mariana Acosta, City of South El Monte	Chris Ludlum, City of Arcadia
Paul Alva, County of L.A. DPW	Phil Moralez, CIWMB
Steven Angarita, City of San Fernando	Brian McClure, City of La Mirada
Alvin Cruz, County of L.A. DPW	Paul Ryan, PERA
Tammy Evans, City of Monrovia	Jason Rush, Ware Disposal
Jan Harmon, City of West Hollywood	Joan Satt, JS Consultants
Susan Janikowski, City of Santa Fe Springs	Cynthia Vant Hul, City of Claremont

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of August 15, 2002, were approved as presented.

III. MONTHLY STATUS REPORT ON AB 939 REGIONAL AGENCY FORMATION

There was no update on the AB 939 Regional Agency Formation as no representative from the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation was able to attend this Task Force meeting.

IV. INLAND EMPIRE REGIONAL COMPOSTING AUTHORITY

Mr. Mike Sullivan, from the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (CSD) as well as the Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority, conducted a presentation on a potential regional indoor composting facility in Rancho Cucamonga. The CSD and the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) formed the Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority in February 2002. Mr. Sullivan stated that its goal is to establish composting facilities within the jurisdiction of the two agencies. The Authority purchased a 410,000-square-foot warehouse on 24 acres of land in Rancho Cucamonga with the intention of converting the warehouse into an indoor composting facility. The projected cost of retrofitting and converting the existing warehouse is approximately \$30 million. The projected overall capacity of the indoor composting facility is 300,000 tons per year. The facility will accept biosolids and green waste from both CSD and IEUA facilities as well as manure stockpiled in Chino. Mr. Sullivan detailed the possible design of the facility, such as an aeration system embedded in the warehouse floor, a conveyor belt system to move the material through the various composting stages, probes to monitor pile temperatures, and woodchip ventilation biofilters. Based on the current schedule and design plans, Mr. Sullivan stated they project the facility could possibly begin operating in December 2004.

V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Paul Alva distributed an updated legislation summary table (see attached) and stated that there were no significant changes since the last update presented to the Task Force as the legislative session ended in August. The new legislative session will begin on December 1, 2002. Although there were no new Bills to present, Mr. Alva provided status information on Bills that were discussed in previous meetings and reminded the Task Force that the Governor has until the end of September to sign any enrolled Bills that he plans to chapter.

- SB 441- Introduced by Sher

The language of this Bill was completely changed so that the Bill no longer pertains to alternative daily cover. The Task Force had opposed the Bill as it was originally presented and sent a letter opposing the original Bill. The initial solid waste concerns of this Bill might be resurrected in the form of a different Bill during the next legislative session.

- AB 1482- Introduced by Richman

This Bill was chaptered by the Governor and will become law. The Bill enables member agencies of a regional agency to allocate violation penalties according to degree of fault. However, member agencies can still be individually penalized for their own violations.

- SB 1374- Introduced by Kuehl

This Bill was chaptered and mandates the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) to develop a construction and demolition (C&D) model ordinance to divert 50-70 percent of C&D waste. Local jurisdictions must adopt the model ordinance or adopt a similar one.

- AB 2308- Introduced by Chavez

This Bill was enrolled and is pending the Governor's signature. The Task Force was previously involved with this Bill, which addresses inert waste disposal counting.

- AB 2770- Introduced by Matthews

This Bill was enrolled and is pending the Governor's signature. This is the conversion technology study Bill for which the Task Force previously withdrew support.

- SB 1523- Introduced by Sher

This Bill was enrolled and is pending the Governor's signature. This Bill imposes a \$10 recycling fee on every purchase of a cathode ray tube (CRT) device. The funds raised would be used to provide grants for the proper management of e-waste.

- SB 1619- Introduced by Romero and Sher

This Bill was enrolled and is pending the Governor's signature. This Bill delineates how the \$10 recycling fee on CRT devices levied by SB 1523 above will be divided and allocated among cities, non-profit organizations, and various agencies.

Mr. Mike Mohajer added that SB 1542 by Escutia would require the CIWMB provide to local jurisdictions and private businesses a model for environmental justice. These environmental justice concerns would apply to the development and revision of countywide siting elements. This could have a major impact.

VI. REPORT FROM THE CIWMB

Mr. Phil Morales presented a summary of the Biennial Reviews (see attached), stating that the CIWMB has approximately 25 Los Angeles County jurisdiction Biennial Reviews to complete. Mr. Morales stated that the CIWMB is targeting to complete all of these by the end of this year.

Mr. Morales also stated CIWMB staff will be required to place an environmental justice statement on all of its future agenda items, as they expect the Escutia Bill (SB 1542) to pass. He stated that this requirement would be difficult to enact considering that an official definition of "environmental justice" has not yet been established. Mr. Morales also stated that raising the environmental justice issue for every agenda item would not be relevant unless the issue is raised in order to seek remedies to specific complaints. Task Force members agreed that this environmental justice requirement would cause unnecessary complications and that without a specific definition, this required use of environmental justice merely ensures the use of political correctness in agenda language. Ms. Betsey Landis suggested that the CIWMB might include statements regarding methods of community notification in order to satisfy the environmental justice requirement. Mr. Mohajer questioned the authority of the CIMWB to enact this requirement on agenda items other than the siting element items for which the concern was originally intended.

Mr. Morales also stated that there is a new CIWMB member, Mr. Sal Cannella, who has replaced Senator David Roberti as of September 11, 2002.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Gieck emphasized the importance of staff mailing meeting agendas far enough in advance so that Task Force members are able to prepare and research topics prior to the meetings.

Ms. Jan Harmon of the City of West Hollywood asked Mr. Morales for an update on the timeline for the Annual Report. Mr. Morales stated that data from the Board of Equalization must be received in order to activate the diversion rate calculator that is necessary to complete the Annual Report. Mr. Morales stated that this data might be released in October, but the CIWMB will notify all the jurisdictions when it is actually released.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is tentatively set for October 17, 2002.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Attach.