

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

Minutes of October 20, 2011

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mary Ann Lutz, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association (Formerly GLASWMA)
Eugene Sun, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Carl Clark, rep. by David Thornburg, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
Dr. Jonathan Fielding, rep. by Cindy Chen, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Gail Farber, rep. by Pat Proano, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Stephen Maguin, rep. by Chris Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Michael Conway, City of Long Beach
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Gerry Miller, City of Los Angeles
Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Enrique Zaldivar, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jon Angin, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Martins Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Becky Bendikson, SCL-CAC
David Coscia, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Rogelio Gamino, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Zach Granat, GHNNC
Wayde Hunter, NVC/GHNNC
Natalie Jimenez, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Armine Kesablian, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Tobie Mitchell, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Mark Patti, City of Santa Clarita
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wu Tan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle
Sean Wine, Clean Energy

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:07 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

A motion was made to approve the September 15, 2011, minutes with minor corrections. The motion passed with two abstentions from Cindy Chen and Chris Salomon.

III. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE (ATAS)

Ms. Tobie Mitchell reported the subcommittee reviewed the first draft of a public outreach and education work plan presented by the County's contracted public outreach consultant, Cerrell Associates. The purpose of this work plan is to educate and inform the public about the County's conversion technology projects. The subcommittee requested dates and action items be added to the plan, and a new draft will be presented at the January meeting. The subcommittee also discussed the anaerobic digestion project for Phase III, being developed by CR & R, Inc., of the conversion technology project will be going before the Riverside Planning Commission for the first public hearing in an effort to obtain a permit to construct their project. Lastly, the subcommittee heard a presentation by Agilyx a conversion technology company demonstrating their ability to convert waste plastics into transportation fuel.

Mr. Pat Proano added that authorization was given by the County CEO to expand the educational outreach efforts and reach out to the Brown Administration and other key decision makers in Sacramento. For the past few months Cerrell has been meeting with representative in Sacramento to get the word out about the conversion technology projects and their importance to Los Angeles County. They are getting the word out and have received positive feedback.

IV. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Ms. Betsey Landis reported the subcommittee received a timeline for the Task Force's involvement in approving the Draft Revised Countywide Siting Element. Public Works' technical review and update of the draft is anticipated to be completed by December 31. The Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee will review the draft and consider it by January 31, 2012, and the Task Force's consideration will take place by February 29, 2012. Public Works will then address those comments for Task Force final consideration and concurrence at its April 30, 2012 meeting.

Ms. Landis also reported a letter was received from Thomas Bruen, attorney for Republic Services, in response to the Task Force's previous letter requesting Republic to substantiate their claim that leaving dirt in place each day is not standard industry practice. Ms. Landis made a motion to send a letter to Republic thanking them for the letter and asking them to provide the information requested in the previous letter. There was a discussion regarding the Task Forces' authority over operations at the Landfill. Mr. Pat Proano introduced Ms. Judith Fries, County Counsel, to address the Task Forces' enforcement authority over Republic. Ms. Fries stated that although the Task Force doesn't have regulatory authority over Republic, the Task Force is appropriately within the right to ask Republic to provide information; however, Republic has no obligation to provide an answer. Mr. Proano stated that County Counsel validated the action Public Works took over a year ago requiring Republic to use a 9-inch daily soil cover at the landfill. Republic has been compliant although they asked that the requirement be lifted and were denied. Mr. Proano also mentioned Public Works is working with the Air Quality Management District on the odor issues at the landfill, and the Air Quality Management District is taking the lead in writing the Stipulated Order for Abatement to Republic. After the discussion, Mr. Pat Proano seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Skye gave an update of the bills sent throughout the year ([see attached](#)). He stated there was a 50-50 rate of success for the Task Force, but for key bills, the Task force was mostly successful in supporting the passage of good legislation or opposing bills that would harm the County. He highlighted key bills such as AB 341, AB 1178, and SB 33, that the Task Force was successful in their position. Mr. Mike Mohajer mentioned that currently, private landfill operators are not allowed to insure themselves and AB 480 would allow private landfill operators to insure themselves for the cost of the closure, post closure, and corrective action of a landfill. The Task Force's concern with the bill is that the private landfill operator could file for bankruptcy soon after closure of the landfill. AB 480 moved quickly through until the Task Force intervened. As a result, the author withdrew the bill. Since the bill is now a two-year bill, letters will be sent in November to the city mayors and managers advising them of the bill's existence and encouraging them forward letters of opposition to the author and members of the Senate EQ committee.

VI. UPDATE ON CARPET & PAINT STEWARDSHIP REGULATIONS

Ms. Armine Kesablyn reported that staff has reviewed the revised proposed regulations for carpet and paint regulations by CalRecycle and determined that the comments previously submitted were not addressed. Staff recommended resending a joint letter to CalRecycle from the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles Public Works, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, and the

Task Force specifically expressing their concern that local governments should receive proper compensation under the regulations. Ms. Kesablyn emphasized that all comments were due by October 25, 2012. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to resend the letter and Ms. Betsey Landis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. AGILYX TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATION

Mr. Jon Angin of Agilyx Corporation gave the [attached presentation](#) on the technology converting difficult-to-recycle plastics into crude oil fuel. The presentation included a summary of Agilyx, an overview of plastic waste issues, a review of their system and process of converting plastics, and a life cycle analysis.

VIII. ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE PRESENTATION

Mr. Sean Wine of Clean Energy gave the [attached presentation](#) on clean fuel vehicles being used in the solid waste industry. The presentation highlighted the growing market, decrease in truck costs, time-fill stations, and available engines that use the clean fuel.

IX. CALRECYCLE/STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD WORKSHOP ON DRAFT REGULATORY REVISION TO TITLE 14 AND 27

Mr. Wu Tan reported on the informal Staff Workshops hosted by the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) regarding concepts for a statewide order for composting facilities. Mr. Tan stated the Water Board raised a few concerns regarding materials found in leachate and runoff such as salt, nutrients, pathogens and metals. He also stated that the Water Board is responsible for protecting water quality from discharges of waste that could affect surface water and ground water through permitting and enforcement. Waste discharge permitting requirements apply to discharges of waste that affect waters of the state such as surface water and groundwater. Waste is broadly defined as anything that could affect the water quality. Waste discharge requirements based on Title 27, Chapter 3, of the California Code of Regulations may be waived under certain conditions. Concepts of the statewide order categorize waste types into either eligible or ineligible facilities based on the levels of threat to water quality, and are separated into three tiers. There has been interagency coordination to develop the concepts, which includes informal workshops and stakeholder workgroups. The next stakeholder group meeting will be held November 16, 2011.

Mr. Tan also reported that on October 18, 2011, CalRecycle hosted a meeting and discussed the proposed Title 14 and 27 regulatory revisions related to

composting. Discussions included ambiguous definitions and inspection criteria, regulatory overlap, and classifications.

Mr. Mike Mohajer, on behalf of the Task Force, sent comments via email to the Water Board stating the need for a consistent usage of the terminologies between CalRecycle and the Water Board, including clarifications on the definitions for nuisance, organic waste, and compostable organic waste. Staff concurred with Mr. Mohajer's comments and recommended sending a letter to the Water Board requesting they address the comments.

Mr. Mohajer added there is lack of adequate composting facilities in California and CalRecycle and the Water Board define them differently. He stated a clear definition for organics and compostable- and non-compostable organics is needed because it affects the diversion rates. He also mentioned the regulations adopted by both CalRecycle and the Water Board must ensure the protection of public health and safety. Ms. Mary Ann Lutz made a motion to send a letter to the Water Board, CalRecycle, California EPA, and EPA Pacific Southwest Region (Region 9) asking them to clarify their definitions for composting related terms and ensure that all agencies are consistent in their regulation language. The letter must be sent by November 16, 2011. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mohajer and passed unanimously.

X. REPORT FROM CALRECYCLE

Ms. Jennifer Wallin reported the California Air Resources Board will be conducting meeting on October 21, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. and CalRecycle will present their plan to pursue legislation regarding AB 341 and what their mandate and rule making will be under the bill. They will also present CalRecycle's ARB regulations, which have been adopted as legislation. There will be a webcast of the meeting.

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2011, in Conference Room C.

XII. OPEN DISCUSSION

The Waste Management Forum will be held November 9, 2011, at the Crown Plaza in Fullerton. See [attached flyer](#) for more information.

The meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.