

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

Minutes of August 18, 2016

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Sam Pedroza, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Craig Beck, rep by Charlie Tripp, Long Beach Public Works Department
Gail Farber, rep by Bahman Hajjaliakbar, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Cynthia Harding, rep by Gerry Villalobos, County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Health
Grace Hyde, rep by Christopher Salomon, County of Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles
County

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles
Jack Hadijinian, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Wayne Nastri, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dale Sargent, City of Santa Clarita
Ben Lucha, City of Palmdale
Dr. Cyrus Rangan, LA County Department of Public Health
Ken Pellman, LA County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures
Robert Smice, LA County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle
Wayde Hunter, SCL-CAC
Joe Vitti, SCL-CAC
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Clark Ajwani, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Caren Alvarez, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jason Jones, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Tranette Sanders, County of Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:09 p.m., by Ms. Margaret Clark.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 21, 2016

A motion was made by Ms. Betsey Landis and seconded by Mr. Mike Mohajer to approve the July 21, 2016, minutes, as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

III. POTENTIAL HEALTH IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH ODORS GENERATED BY LANDFILL GAS

Dr. Cyrus Rangan provided a report on the potential health impacts associated with odors generated by landfill gas. Dr. Rangan touched on some of the Task Force's concerns in regards to odors generated by landfill gas, such as the acute concern of the ever increasing problem of odors that is pervading the community and schools, and the health impacts to day to day health. As the County Public Health Officer, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (Public Health) is looking at what can be done to abate this problem and recommends the Landfill operator, regulatory agencies, and concerned stakeholder work together to solve the problem.

Dr. Rangan also discussed air quality issues and that data on air quality is not very good. As such, Public Health is having discussions with the Air Quality Management District on the best way to improve data collection.

Mr. Mohajer commented that the County Public Health Officer needs to be involved in the solution and the enforcement of the County Code. Dr. Rangan discussed that there will be more involvement from his Department.

After an extensive period of questions and answers, Dr. Rangan stated that in order to come up with a solution to the problem, there's a strong need for more real time data of odor complaints, continued work with the community, and collaboration between all of the involved parties.

IV. BIOSECURITY OF PROCESSED AND UNPROCESSED GREEN WASTE/MATERIALS

Mr. Robert Smice of the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures presented on the attached Agricultural Quarantines, Biosecurity of Processed and Unprocessed Green Waste/Material, and Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer.

Within this presentation, Mr. Smice outlined the Commissioner's process of exotic insect and plant pest eradication, which included a detailed and extensive step-by-step description from initial detection to final elimination. Furthermore, Mr. Smice also indicated that several areas are currently quarantined for the movement of green material, which may have been affected by pathogens such as the Light Brown Apple Moth, Asian Citrus Psyllid, Huanglongbing, and Phytophthora ramorum. Mr. Smice then presented information on several plants and crops known to contain the above-mentioned pathogens.

After an extensive discussion, Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to send a letter to the Los Angeles County Departments of Public Works and Public Health, with a copy to the Agricultural Commissioner, regarding the transportation of green waste out of and into quarantine areas and the possible need for coordination among the agencies due to the requirement of AB 1826 and AB 1594. The motion was seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis and passed with one abstention (Mr. Chris Salomon).

V. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE (PEIS)

Mr. Mike Mohajer reported that the Public Education and Information Subcommittee met and they are putting articles together for the Fall edition of Inside Solid Waste (ISW), which will most likely come out in November. Below is a list of articles that will be considered for the next ISW Newsletter:

- Update on County Pharmaceutical Ordinance
- Sunshine Canyon Notice of Odor Abatement & Townhall Meeting
- Update on Anaerobic Digestion at the Sanitation Districts' Carson Facility
- Update on AB 901 Draft Regulations

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

Mr. Clark Ajwani provided a report from the ATAS meeting stating there was a presentation from Organic Waste Logistics (OWL) discussing their food waste processing technology that they have implemented in the UK and are looking to bring to the US. OWL's solution is to place sealed steel vacuum pressured bins onsite of large food waste generators such as restaurants and markets to assist them with source separation of food waste, removal of contamination, and collection. A macerator and separator within the bins will remove contaminants such as plates and silverware at a restaurant. After the food waste is separated onsite, it will be ground into slurry within the bin that can be stored for up to 30 days because it is hydrolyzed to allow for less truck trips during collection.

Mr. Ajwani also provided an update on the Conversion Technology Conference stating it was a big success with over 200 attendees and 20 speakers. He also mentioned they received positive feedback from the survey that was sent out to the conference attendees.

VII. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)

Mr. Betsey Landis provided an update on the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (FPRS) meeting. Ms. Landis stated that there was an extensive conversation on the independent monitor's Quarterly Site Monitoring Status Report from January – March 2016 for Sunshine Canyon Landfill (Sunshine), and that there are a number of issues the Subcommittee will be following up on based on the report.

Mr. Ron Saldana commented that there are issues at other landfills in Los Angeles County which are critical to the County's solid waste management system and should also be discussed besides the issues at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill. Ms. Landis responded that other landfills will be discussed when there is a need to take action.

Ms. Landis also reported that they were provided with an update on Calabasas Landfill's revised Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) Revision, the SWFP was issued by the LEA on April 4, 2016, and the Finding of Conformance requirement is almost complete.

Ms. Landis also informed that there was also an update on the Chiquita Landfill. The Landfill operator is currently working with Regional Planning to revise the draft environmental impact report.

VIII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Clark Ajwani gave an update on current legislation and reviewed items on the attached legislative table.

- AB 1612 (Assembly Committee on Budget) – Mr. Ron Saldana made a motion to watch bill seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis. The motion passed with opposition from Ms. Margaret Clark.
- AB 1613 (Assembly Committee on Budget) – Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to send a comment letter to Governor Brown on the Task Force priorities on AB 1613. The motion was seconded by Mr. Saldana and the motion passed unanimously.

IX. RESPONSE TO THOMAS M. BRUEN'S LETTER REGARDING THE TASK FORCE'S ROLE

Mr. Bahman Hajialiakbar reported on Mr. Thomas M. Bruen's, counsel for Sunshine Canyon Landfill, letter to the Task Force dated June 30, 2016, regarding the jurisdictional role of the Task Force. At the July meeting, the Task Force approved a motion to send a letter to Mr. Bruen, in response to his letter, which stated they did not consider the Task Force to have jurisdiction to enforce permits or entitlements granted to the Landfill.

The Task Force asked staff to prepare and process a response letter to Mr. Bruen, in consultation with County Counsel. Currently, staff is working with Counsel on the letter, and one of Counsel's suggestions is that to ensure consistency with the Brown Act, the item be put on the agenda because it was not correctly identified on the July 18, 2016, agenda.

In a related matter, the Task Force also sent a letter to Mr. Rob Sherman, from Republic, requesting that he or a representative attend the August meeting to give an update on the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Alternative Intermediate Cover Pilot Project and the Independent Monitor Report.

However, we received an email from Mr. Sherman indicating he would not be attending the meeting because Republic "does not consider the Task Force to have jurisdiction over these matters," as previously communicated in Mr. Bruen's letter.

X. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Ms. Jennifer Wallin reported the following:

AB 901 Special Topics Workshop Series, Thresholds, and Organics Management

Date: August 22-24, 2016

Location: CalEPA Building, Coastal Hearing Room (2nd floor), 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact(s): Ilonka.Zlatar@calrecycle.ca.gov

Description: CalRecycle continues to seek stakeholder feedback with a series of eight special-topic workshops on issues that emerged during general workshops on AB 901 reporting held in April and July. [AB 901](#) requires recycling, composting and disposal facilities, as well as exporters, broker and transporters of recyclables or compost to report to CalRecycle the types, quantities and destinations of materials sold, transferred or disposed in the state.

Workshop Details: All workshops will be discussion-based.

**Public Meeting Notice: Covered Electronic Waste Stakeholder Workshop:
Designated Approved Collector Regulations**

Date: August 31, 2016 10:00AM -1:00PM

Location: Cal/EPA Building, Sierra Hearing Room, 2nd floor, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description: This workshop will present and discuss issues associated with the “designated approved collector” provision within the covered electronic waste (CEW) recycling payment system. CalRecycle will provide as a discussion topic draft regulations to revise aspects of this provision, such as designating authorities, scopes and oversight, timeframes, and other considerations. Proposed changes would be intended to improve the integrity of the provision. This workshop is a continuation of discussions held on this topic at previous workshops in [June 2013](#), [March 2014](#), and [December 2015](#). There is no cost to attend this workshop; however the courtesy of an RSVP is requested for planning purposes. Please send your intention to EWaste@CalRecycle.ca.gov. Interested parties should continue to monitor this notice site for developing details. Questions regarding this workshop can be directed to: EWaste@CalRecycle.ca.gov.

More information:

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Actions/PublicNoticeDetail.aspx?id=1831&aiid=1659>

Future of E-Waste Collection and Management in California

Date: September 14, 2016 9:00AM -2:00PM

Location: Cal/EPA Building, Coastal Hearing Room, 2nd floor, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description: This workshop will engage stakeholders in an initial discussion concerning the future of e-waste collection and management in California. CalRecycle envisions a series of workshops over the next several months on this topic. All interested parties are encouraged to attend and actively participate in the project. There is no cost to attend this workshop; however the courtesy of an RSVP is requested for planning purposes. Please send your intention to EWaste@CalRecycle.ca.gov. Interested parties should continue to monitor this notice site for developing details.

More information:

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Actions/PublicNoticeDetail.aspx?id=1854&aiid=1682>

XI. ALTERNATIVE INTERMEDIATE COVER PILOT PROJECT AT SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL

Item was not discussed.

XII. FOURTH QUARTER 2015 INDEPENDENT MONITOR REPORT AT SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL

Item was not discussed

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

XIV. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 15, 2016, in conference room A.

The meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

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