

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

Minutes of November 16, 2017

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
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Ron Saldana, California Waste and Recycling Association
Sam Pedroza, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Robb Cohn, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Mark Pestrella, rep by Phil Doudar, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Bernadette Halverson, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Cynthia Harding, rep by Maurice Pantoja, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Grace Hyde, rep by Sam Shammas, County of Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles
Jack Hadijinian, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles
Craig Beck, Long Beach Public Works Department
Enrique Zaldivar, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Wayne Nastri, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Josh Mills, Republic Services
Rob Sherman, Republic Services
Michael Beaudoin, Republic Services
Doug Kramer, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Dale Sargent, City of Santa Clarita
Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Clark Ajwani, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Saeid Shirzadegan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Bonitto Housen, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Tranette Sanders, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Morena Guardado, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:09 p.m. by Mr. Mike Mohajer.

II. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 19, 2017, MINUTES

Ms. Betsey Landis made the motion to approve the October 19, 2017, minutes as corrected, seconded by Mr. Ron Saldana. The motion passed with one abstention from Mr. Robb Cohn.

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

Mr. Clark Ajwani provided updates from the ATAS meeting. During the second week of November members of ATAS and staff toured the CR&R anaerobic digestion facility, which is currently processing approximately 230 tons per day of organic waste coming from 15 cities in Southern California. The material coming in is 80-90% green waste with some food waste mixed into the residential organics green carts. The CR&R facility is digesting material to produce biogas utilized in their fleet of trash vehicles with the expectation that the natural gas will soon be connected and stored in the pipeline. Protocols are being established with the Southern California Gas Company.

Republic Services is partnering with Agromin in Chino to compost 75 tons of organic waste per day using covered aerated static piles. Republic Services is also looking to utilize their American Waste transfer station in Gardena to pre-process organic waste of up to 250 tons per day turning the processed organic waste into cake material or slurry that can be utilized at other composting or anaerobic digestion facilities. Permits for this process will be submitted in a few weeks with the goal of starting at the beginning of 2019.

Mr. Ajwani stated that Tom Blank from Waste Management mentioned that they are working on a detailed plan for a proposed 500 tons per day composting facility at the Palmdale Landfill.

Mr. Ajwani also mentioned that CalRecycle issued Request for Proposals for market studies service contracts for organics consulting and will be providing a more detailed update at the next meeting.

Mr. Ron Saldana asked about the progress of the subcommittee's goals to construct a conversion technology facility. Mr. Ajwani stated the goal of the ATAS is to facilitate the development of conversion technology facilities and not necessarily be involved in the construction. Given that, progress has been made

due to the development of the CR&R facility as well as the Sanitation Districts co-digestion project.

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

Ms. Betsey Landis provided a report from the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (FPRS) meeting. She reported the total number of complaints made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) hotline regarding odors at Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) from September to October decreased by 39 percent from 44 to 27 complaints. In comparison with September 2016, the number of complaints decreased by 86 percent from 193 to 27 complaints. The total number of complaints received by SCAQMD since 2009 was 10,961. The total number of complaints received by SCAQMD in 2017 was 988. SCAQMD did not issue any Notice of Violations to SCL in the month of October.

Ms. Landis provided an update on the status of the Chiquita Canyon Landfill Finding of Conformance. She indicated that the Landfill has not provided the necessary material to determine their Finding of Conformance.

V. REPORT FROM PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Mike Mohajer reported on the Public Education and Information Subcommittee meeting. He stated the Inside Solid Waste (ISW) edition for Fall 2017 will be released in November 2017, and the articles for the Winter edition were discussed. Below is a list of articles that are being considered for the next edition:

- EDCO operations
- City of Los Angeles Environmental Benefit Recycle
- City of Los Angeles Exclusive Franchise Waste Collection
- City of Santa Monica Zero Waste
- Updates on Sunshine Canyon Landfill and Chiquita Canyon Landfill
- Summary on Southern California Waste Management Forum Conference
- Summary on SB 1383 proposed regulations by CalRecycle
- Summary on Legislation AB 901

VI. SUNSHINE CANYON 2017 ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Rob Sherman and Mr. Michael Beaudoin of Republic Services provided the attached [PowerPoint presentation](#) on the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Odor Mitigation Action Plan Update and their 2017 Sunshine Canyon Landfill Action

Plan. Some of the highlights of the presentation were the installation or replacement of gas wells, enhancement of intermediate cover areas, increasing organics diversion, applying of odor neutralizer at the landfill and transfer station, application of alternative daily cover, installation of gabion cube structure in the new cell developments, etc.

Republic Services' staff also spoke about their future commitments by continuing the community outreach by providing weekly e-blasts, expanding their website with weekly updates, sending quarterly newsletters, and participating in neighborhood groups. Their commitment also included improved operations and maintenance resources, additional flare capacity, gas system optimization and expansion, and an experienced and augmented team.

Ms. Margaret Clark inquired about the Food Finders Program mentioned in their presentation. Mr. Sherman explained that as part of their initiatives, Republic Services has partnered with Food Finders, they have purchased a truck for this local program through which 350,000-360,000 unwanted meals have been diverted.

VII. SB 1383 PROPOSED REGULATIONS

Ms. Kawsar Vazifdar delivered a presentation summarizing CalRecycle's proposed regulations for Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383), which requires CalRecycle to prepare regulations to achieve a 50% reduction in disposal of organic waste from 2014 levels by the year 2020, a 75% reduction by the year 2025, and achieve a 20% reduction in the amount of edible food disposed in landfills by the year 2025.

CalRecycle released proposed regulation text for SB 1383 on October 24. To review the proposed regulation text, CalRecycle hosted two workshops on October 30 in Sacramento and November 2 in Huntington Beach. The proposed regulation text requires jurisdictions to provide and enforce mandatory organic waste collection services for every organic waste generator including all residents and businesses. The organic waste collection services are required to be source separated unless mixed waste organic collection services meeting organics recovery thresholds are in place before the year 2020. CalRecycle will impose civil and administrative penalties on jurisdictions not in compliance with the regulations.

On November 14, staff submitted [comments](#) to CalRecycle on behalf of the Task Force. The comments recommended that CalRecycle allow mixed waste collection services after the year 2020 and provide allowances for jurisdictions that demonstrate a good faith effort to comply with the regulations.

CalRecycle will provide updated draft regulatory language in January 2018, which will include proposed regulatory text on reporting requirements and requirements for procurement of recycled organic products.

Staff will continue to participate in stakeholder workshops, review the upcoming draft regulatory language, and prepare comments.

VIII. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

No update

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Mike Mohajer provided a copy of a [letter](#) written by Assembly Member Cristina Garcia, author of AB 1132. Mr. Mohajer stated the letter gives authority to South Coast Air Quality Management District to issue cease and desist notices to anyone who does not meet the air quality requirements subject to a number of conditions, effective January 1, 2018.

Ms. Margaret Clark shared that the China ban on importation of various types of recycling materials was brought up for discussion at the National League of Cities in Charlotte, North Carolina this month. A brief discussion was made regarding the last updates regarding the issue.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 18, 2018, in conference room B.

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

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