

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

Minutes for June 20, 2019

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Jack Hadjinian, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Gideon Kracov, Los Angeles County Disposal Association
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Grace Hyde, rep by Sam Shammas, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Dr. Barbara Ferrer, rep by Shikari Nakagawa-Ota, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Mark Pestrella, rep by Carlos Ruiz, Los Angeles County Public Works
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Craig Beck, Long Beach Public Works Department
Jeff Farano, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Wayne Nastri, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles
Liz Reilly, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division

OTHERS PRESENT:

Clark Ajwani, Los Angeles County Public Works
Elijah Carder, Los Angeles County Public Works
Nam Doan, Los Angeles County Public Works
Patrick Holland, Los Angeles County Public Works
Perla Gomez, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works
Margarita Quiroz, Los Angeles County Public Works
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle
Elizabeth Zaragoza, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:13 p.m. by Ms. Clark.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 16, 2019

A motion was made by Mr. Kracov and seconded by Mr. Mohajer to approve the May 16, 2019, minutes as corrected. The motion passed with one abstention.

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

Mr. Doan reported there was a presentation by Ms. Perla Gomez of the Los Angeles County Public Works. Mr. Doan stated that Ms. Gomez presented on the current legislation bills that can potentially be related to conversion technologies (CT). He also reported that CalRecycle presented a new revised draft on Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383) regulations during a public workshop on June 18, 2019. Mr. Doan mentioned a 15-day formal comment period has begun, and all comments must be submitted by July 3, 2019. Staff is currently working on a comment letter on behalf of the Task Force (TF).

Mr. Doan also reported the ATAS received an update by Alternative Resources Inc. (ARI), on CT project development. ARI is currently reviewing the proposed regulatory text issued by CalRecycle for SB 1383 focusing on the provisions for new technology verification. Mr. Doan mentioned that ARI is developing various outreach documents, including fact sheets to highlight the facility sites and emissions in California for CT projects and information to demonstrate the benefits of converting organic waste to renewable natural gas.

Lastly, Mr. Doan reported that the ATAS received an update from Mr. Mark McDonald of the Los Angeles County Sanitation District (CSD), who reported on the anaerobic digester project at the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson. The 5-digester project has been placed on hold indefinitely as CSD is now pursuing a 2-digester project at the waste water treatment plant.

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

Ms. Landis reported that the subcommittee received an update on Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) odor complaints. During the month of May, a total of 2 complaints were made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) hotline and one was listed as "No Field Response".

Compared to April 2019, the number of complaints received in May decreased from 12 to 2. Compared to May 2018, the number of complaints for this year have decreased from 5 to 2 complaints. There is a total of 124 complaints reported so far this year. As of June 4, 2019, AQMD has not issued any odor complaint Notice of Violation (NOV) to SCL for the month of May 2019.

Ms. Landis mentioned an update was requested on the Order of Abatement (OA) issued by South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD). She mentioned that on December 15, 2016, the AQMD Hearing Board issued an OA requiring SCL to take corrective action to abate odor emissions from the landfill. Ms. Landis also stated that some of the requirements include: changing operational hours to accept trash, alternative daily cover (ADC) and immediate cover enhancement measures, repairing and expanding the gas collection control system. On June 6, 2019, the Hearing Board determined that the Landfill is in compliance with all of the conditions of the abatement and if the Board does not have the authority to continue to regulate the Landfill, the abatement will expire on June 30, 2019.

Ms. Landis also reported there was a discussion on the perimeter monitoring, and the abandoned wells that have been releasing a lot of gas. She reported that the abandoned wells are owned by different companies, but the nuisance made still requires a certain level of emissions. The TF asked Republic Services (Republic) to monitor the chemical profile of the gas and work on preventing it from getting worse. Lastly, she mentioned the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health are also monitoring the emissions of the wells. The FPRS requested monthly reports from Republic.

Ms. Landis reported that staff provided the First 2019 Quarter Vegetation Report on SCL. She mentioned everything is going well and there is a lot of weeds. She also mentioned that the mitigation on Level C is going very well.

Lastly, Ms. Landis reported that there was a discussion on the Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL), Finding of Conformance (FOC). She mentioned the report was not compiled well, and that staff will reach out to CCL for clarification.

Mr. Ruiz discussed landfill waste characterization reports FOC, requirements, the composition of the waste, the percentage of the waste stream, and the organic waste component. Staff found that if the definition of organic waste is followed as currently stated in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Planning Guidelines and Procedures, the amount of the organic waste to be diverted from landfills is much more than people think. This broad definition also includes

petroleum products. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that the definition in the draft organic recycling regulation differs from the one in Title 14 in that there is no direct reference to petroleum products, but it does not exclude them.

V. REPORT FROM GOALS AND PRIORITIES SUBCOMMITTEE (GPS)

Mr. Ruiz reported that the new subcommittee was going to have their first meeting following the TF meeting and the GPS would provide a report at the next TF meeting on July 18, 2019.

VI. LEGISLATIVE TABLE

Mr. Carder gave an update on the [legislative table](#). He reported that three bills were added since the last TF meeting: Assembly Bill 614 (AB 614), Senate Bill 210 (SB 210), and Senate Bill 405 (SB 405). He also reported that Assembly Bill 176 (AB 176) was removed from the table. There are now 63 bills in total on the legislative table at this time. The last day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills to fiscal committees is Wednesday, July 10th, and the last day for policy committees to meet and report bills to the floor is Friday, July 12th. To obtain more detailed information on the bills mentioned below, please click on the legislative table link above.

AB 161 (Ting) – Solid Waste: Paper Waste: Electronic Proofs of Purchase. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Mr. Kracov. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 293 (Eduardo Garcia) – Greenhouse Gases: Offset Protocols. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support if amended, opposed unless amended, seconded by Ms. Landis. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 296 (Cooley) – Climate Change: Climate Innovation Grant Program: Voluntary Tax Contributions. Ms. Landis made a motion to send a letter of support if amended, seconded by Mr. Mohajer. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 614 (Eggman) – Income Taxes: Credits: Food Banks. Mr. Hadjinian made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Mr. Mohajer. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 827 (McCarty) – Solid Waste: Commercial and Organic Waste: Recycling Bins. Staff recommended oppose unless amended. Mr. Kracov made a motion to support if amended. Mr. Gideon mentioned that the state is behind their diversion numbers. The TF has already opposed the dual stream bill, and this is another bill that is trying to address contamination. Mr. Kracov expressed his

concern that if the TF keeps rejecting new ideas to deal with contamination, then the TF might be seen as being against everything. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hadjinian and passed unanimously.

AB 1080/SB 54 (Gonzalez, Calderon, Friedman, and Ting/Allen, Skinner, Stern, and Wiener) – California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support if amended/oppose unless amended, seconded by Mr. Ruiz. The motion passed with one opposition and one abstention.

SB 667 (Hueso) – Greenhouse gases: recycling infrastructure and facilities. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support if amended, seconded by Mr. Hadjinian. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Ms. Wallin, of CalRecycle, gave an update on grants and events.

- Used Oil and Used Oil Filter Collection/Recycling Programs (Fiscal Year 2019-2020) application due on June 27, 2019.
- Tire Incentive Program (Fiscal Year 2019-2020) application due on August 22, 2019
- Public Meeting Notice: Rate Determination Survey Methodology Public Workshop on July 11, 2019, in Sacramento, CA.
- Public Meeting Notice: Farm and Ranch Cleanup Grant – Informal Rulemaking Workshop: General Feedback and Regulation Revision July 18, 2019, in Sacramento, CA.

Ms. Clark asked what the dual stream system means in SB 1383. Ms. Wallin explained there will be a system where trash will be divided into: 1) organic waste, 2) recyclables, and 3) landfill trash. Mr. Ajwani further explained that the primary intent of the regulation is to reduce the disposal of organic waste and for everyone to have a three-bin system. The TF requested an email from Ms. Wallin regarding CalRecycle's recent updates on SB 1383.

Mr. Kracov asked what the TF role is in reviewing the FOC reports. Mr. Ruiz answered that the TF responsibility is to advise the cities and County in the development and implementation of the waste management plans. One of the conditions of the FOC is to do a waste characterization of the waste stream every six months. This information may be used to assess trends in diversion and

disposal and the impacts that proposed legislation would have on the waste stream and on local governments. Mr. Ruiz also mentioned that with the new China Sword Policy, staff must review and try to access what it is happening and what the TF, cities, and counties need to know regarding the changes in the waste streams. The current organic waste disposal waste stream may vary from 50-80 percent, depending on how organics are being defined. Ms. Landis explained that the TF role on FOC is that when the FPRS discusses the FOC, they may request the TF to make a motion to send a letter.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m. The next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, July 17, 2019, in Conference Room C of Public Works Headquarters.