

Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of June 19, 2008

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dave Hauser, Browning-Ferris Industries of California, Inc.*
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition
Mark McDannel, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Michael Theroux, Theroux Environmental Consulting
P. Christine Urbach, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health*
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Fernando Berton, California Integrated Waste Management Board
Kay Martin, Bioenergy Producers Association
John McTaggart, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Eugene Tseng, Eugene Tseng and Associates

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS

Paul Alva, represented by Coby Skye, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Wittenberg, Cerrell Associates*
Sue Higgins, Alternative Resources, Inc.*
Virginia Jauregui, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Tobie Mitchell, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

*designates a call-in attendee

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 15, 2008

The minutes of May 15, 2008 were approved.

III. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS

Mr. Theroux attended the California Biomass Collaborative's 5th Annual Forum on Bioenergy Sustainability and Lifecycle Analysis, which was held from May 28 to May 30, 2008 in Sacramento, CA. Attending was Barbara Bramble, Senior Program Advisor for International Affairs of the National Wildlife Federation, who stated that when it comes to a lifecycle assessment, conversion technologies are best for biofuels production; this is also an opinion shared by the EPA. Mr. Skye provided a presentation, and was featured in a panel discussion regarding conversion technologies at SWANA's 37th Annual Western Regional Symposium held between May 19 through May 22, 2008 in Palm Springs, CA.

IV. UPDATE ON PUBLIC OUTREACH CONTRACT

Mr. Wittenberg and Mr. Gibson provided an update on the public outreach contract. Representatives of Cerrell Associates met with various environmentalists regarding conversion technologies, and have been highly successful in making these organizations more aware of the environmental benefits of conversion technologies and the need to promote their development. Mr. Theroux commented that it is critical to recognize conversion technologies for their ability to make biofuels, and that the work being done by the Subcommittee has a potential global impact. Mr. Skye noted that this information is useful not simply as guidance to other agencies, but as a means to help advance the cause of conversion technologies in general. Representatives of Cerrell Associates noted that various suggestions by Mr. Theroux were incorporated into the website and are currently being tested.

V. UPDATE ON FACILITATION CONTRACT

Mr. Skye provided an update on the facilitation contract. Copies of report updates from the shortlisted technology vendors were provided to Subcommittee members for their review. Mr. Theroux noted for the record that going forward, because of the potential for conflict of interest, he would recuse himself from voting and decision making related

to the facilitation RFO. Discussion ensued related to the eligibility of a conversion technology facility as a renewable energy generation facility. Staff was directed to touch base with Energy Commission staff regarding the nature of this issue.

The issue of the potential location for the demonstration projects was raised. Following discussion, the Subcommittee clarified that all potential projects must be located either adjacent to or within the boundaries of one of the three remaining MRF identified in the report. Projects located within the vicinity would not qualify for consideration.

VI. DISCUSSION ON DRAFT SCOPE OF WORK

The draft scope of work was submitted to the Department of Public Works' administrative division for compilation and development of the boilerplate language for the Request for Proposals. The RFP is on track to be released later this year, and for tentative selection and consideration by the Board of Supervisors in concert with the Subcommittee's recommendation regarding the RFO.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr. Mohajer expressed his concern regarding the use of a proposed increase in the Statewide landfill tipping fee to subsidize composting by the Waste Board; he also mentioned that the likelihood of development of compost facilities in Los Angeles County is improbable. Discussion related to composting activities and the role of the Waste Board in developing conversion technologies ensued.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is to be determined.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01a.m.