

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

Minutes of May 26, 2011

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jacques Franco *, Department of Resource Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
Rafael Garcia, Browning-Ferris Industries of California, Inc.
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition
John Kaddis, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Mark McDannel, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Eugene Sun, Council Member, City of San Marino
Eugene Tseng, Eugene Tseng and Associates
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Kay Martin, BioEnergy Producers Association

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Paul Alva, represented by Coby Skye, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Ron Goodman*, represented by Gary Bautista, Southern California Gas Company
Alex Helou*, represented by Miguel Zermeno, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

OTHERS PRESENT:

Traacey Anthony, Alternative Resources Inc (ARI)
Becky Bendikson, SCL-CAC for City and County of LA
Chip Clements, Clements Environmental
Matt Gallagher*, Cerrell Associates
Sue Higgins*, Alternative Resources Inc. (ARI)
Tobie Mitchell, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Angélica SantaMaría, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Bereket Tadele, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

*designates participants over the telephone

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH AND APRIL 2011

A motion was made to approve the minutes of March 26, 2011, and April 21, 2011. The motion was passed unanimously.

III. CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS

Mr. Jacques Franco (CalRecycle) reported that the video presentation from April's Biomass Collaborative Conference will be posted on their website. The conference featured a panel on conversion technologies that generated a lot of discussion.

Mr. Franco also reported that the California Air Resources Board recently hosted a workshop for stakeholders regarding the draft AB 118 2011-2012 Investment Plan. Over seven years, the AB 118 program provides annual grant funding to projects in California that advance the diversification of our transportation fuel infrastructure. Currently the Plan contains an \$ 8 million allocation towards pre-landfill biomethane projects. This allocation could be beneficial to potential conversion technology projects. At the workshop, some stakeholders indicated their desire to open the \$8 million allocation to other biomethane producers. Mr. Franco indicated that the Investment Plan would be finalized in June and if the Subcommittee and Task Force wished to submit comments to the CEC, they would have to do so by Wednesday, June 1. A motion was made to request the Task Force send a letter of support for the \$8 million allocation to the CEC. The motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Franco abstaining.

Mr. Chip Clements (Clements Environmental) reported that he made a presentation on conversion technologies to the Executive Committee of the California Refuse Recycling Council. The Executive Committee voted to send a letter of support to CalRecycle with regard to their recent gasification determination for the proposed Plasco project in Salinas, CA.

Ms. Tobie Mitchell (LA County DPW) provided an update on CalRecycle's Organics Roadmap IV. The Roadmap describes how CalRecycle will address organic material in the wastestream and focus on Strategic Directive 6.1, which calls for a reduction of 50 percent in the amount of organics disposed in California by 2020. Ms. Mitchell pointed out that in order for the State to meet the goals of Strategic Directive 6.1, California will need to divert more than 10 million tons more organics per year, which is more than double the current processing capacity in the state. The Roadmap discusses multiple approaches to diverting organics including mulching, composting, anaerobic digestion, and other conversion technologies. Mr. Mike Mohajer (LA County Task Force) expressed concern that the Organics

Roadmap IV does not place high enough priority on the advancement of conversion technologies. He made a motion to ask the Task Force to send a letter to CalRecycle requesting that conversion technologies be researched and developed on an equal level with composting. The motion passed with Mr. Franco abstaining.

Mr. Coby Skye (LA County DPW) reported that the Governor of Maryland recently publicized his support for Senate Bill 690, a bill that would establish waste-to-energy and conversion technologies as qualifying technologies for the State's renewable portfolio standard. Also, Mr. Skye reported that he will be representing Los Angeles County at the VerdeXchange conference in Toronto, Canada, and would be visiting the Plasco plasma gasification facility in Ottawa. He would provide a summary of his visit at next month's meeting.

IV. UPDATE ON PHASE III & IV CONTRACT

Ms. Sue Higgins (Alternative Resources Inc) provided an update to the Subcommittee on Phase III & Phase IV efforts. Ms. Higgins reported that ARI is working with Public Works staff to further evaluate the potential of integrating a conversion technology facility at the Calabasas Landfill. Various-sized facilities and technologies were evaluated through an economic model designed by ARI. Currently, the team is narrowing its focus to two different sizes of anaerobic digestion facilities and one thermal technology facility. ARI will continue to update the Subcommittee on their findings.

Ms. Higgins also reported that ARI and Public Works are in the final review stages of the two Requests for Expressions of Interest (RFEIs). Public Works is intending to send to these RFEIs to financial firms and technology vendors interested in participating in a Phase IV commercial conversion technology project.

V. UPDATE ON PUBLIC OUTREACH PLAN

Mr. Matt Gallagher (Cerrell Associates) reported on Cerrell's outreach activities during the previous month, which included efforts to develop a web-based version of the economic model ARI created for the Calabasas Landfill. Once complete, this web version will enable stakeholders to analyze various technologies and multiple facility sizes in a user friendly manner.

Mr. Gallagher reported that he will be sharing a more detailed report at next month's meeting, which summarizes the accomplishments of the public outreach team since the contract began.

VI. OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr. Miguel Zermeno (City of Los Angeles) provided an update on the City's alternative technology program. On May, 25, 2011, the City of Los Angeles Public Works Board authorized the Bureau of Sanitation to enter into contract negotiations with Green Conversion Systems (GCS). GCS, a waste-to-energy project developer, is proposing to build a 1,100 tpd facility in the City of Los Angeles that would include upfront processing followed by a waste-to-energy system. In the event that an agreement cannot be reached with GCS, the Bureau would be authorized to initiate contract negotiations with the second and third ranked project developers, Urbasser and Wheelabrator respectively.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is June 16, 2011.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.