

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

**Minutes of June 16, 2011**

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

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Rafael Garcia, Browning-Ferris Industries of California, Inc.  
Ron Goodman, Southern California Gas Company  
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition  
John Kaddis, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  
Kay Martin\*, BioEnergy Producers Association  
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:**

Jacques Franco \*, Department of Resource Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) Alex Helou, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Traecey Anthony, Alternative Resources Inc (ARI)  
Becky Bendikson, SCL-CAC for City and County of LA  
Chip Clements, Clements Environmental  
Laura Cronin, City of Santa Monica  
Matt Gallagher\*, Cerrell Associates  
Jennifer Lao, HDR  
Tobie Mitchell, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works  
Z. Suau, League of California Cities  
Matthew Tsuda, EcoTelesis

\*designates participants over the telephone

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH AND APRIL 2011**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of May 26, 2011. The motion was passed unanimously.

## **III. CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS**

Mr. Coby Skye provided an update on his recent trip to Toronto, where he presented at the first annual VerdeXchange conference in Canada. Mr. Skye was also able to visit the Plasco facility in Ottawa and see the renovations being made to their initial facility.

Mr. Chip Clements (Clements Environmental) reported that the City of San Bernardino has recently released a Request for Qualifications for a conversion technology program. Mr. Coby Skye (LA County DPW) noted that this solicitation was included in the County's June 15, 2011 e-newsletter.

Ms. Tobie Mitchell (LA County DPW) informed the members that the 3rd Annual Waste to Clean Energy Finance and Investment Summit will be held July 12-14, 2011 in Newport Beach CA, and WASTECON will be taking place in Nashville, TN, August 23-26, 2011.

Mr. Skye and Dr. Eugene Tseng (Eugene Tseng and Associates) invited members to a July 6, 2011 briefing with JFE, a Japanese company that designs solid waste ecoparks. The briefing will take place at Public Works Headquarters and will be an opportunity to hear about several of JFE's projects in Japan, and discuss potential synergies between the Los Angeles County conversion technology program and their efforts.

Mr. Mike Mohajer (LA County Task Force) shared with the members that he had recently attended a San Gabriel Council of Governments meeting, at which the topic was the proposed South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Energy Policy. Mr. Mohajer expressed concern that the Energy Policy could potentially have negative impacts on future conversion technology development in the SCAQMD region. Mr. Ron Goodman (The Gas Company), shared that his company also had concerns and would be willing to work with Staff in drafting a letter. Following further discussion of the ramifications of this Energy Policy to conversion technology development, Mr. Mohajer made a motion to request the Task Force send a letter to SCAQMD requesting their Board postpone adoption of the Energy Policy until interested stakeholders are given adequate time to submit comments. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **IV. UPDATE ON MEETING WITH WHITE HOUSE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Dr. Tseng provided an update on his May 19, 2011 briefing to the US EPA and the White House Council on Environmental Quality. The purpose of the briefing was to provide a status update on the Los Angeles County Conversion Technology Project, the UCLA Extension Solid Waste Program, and the Navy Conversion Technology Project. During this meeting, three key issues were discussed including 1) the importance of recognizing municipal solid waste as a renewable resource at the Federal level, 2) why it is critical to define and distinguish the differences between “waste-to-energy” and “non-combustion conversion technologies”, and 3) why pioneer conversion technologies need funding to establish a process and opportunity for future growth in the industry.

Dr. Tseng was invited back to Washington D.C. by the Navy on July 29, 2011 to provide another briefing on the status of the LA County projects as well as an overview of the integrated facility design approaches used in successful international projects. Dr. Tseng made a motion requesting the Task Force to recommend that a representative from Los Angeles County accompany him to Washington D.C. to represent the ATAS and provide a presentation on the County’s conversion technology efforts. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Mark McDannel abstaining.

#### **V. UPDATE ON PHASE III & IV CONTRACT**

Ms. Traacey Anthony (Alternative Resources Inc) provided an update to the Subcommittee on Phase III & Phase IV efforts. Ms. Anthony reported that ARI is working with Cerrell’s web designer to develop an online economic model that can be used by stakeholders to determine tip fees for various types of conversion technology facilities. Ms. Anthony also reported that the City of Avalon had contacted the County regarding a potential project at the Pebbly Beach Landfill. The City is interested in utilizing conversion technologies to manage their waste on the island. Once the Pebbly Beach Landfill reaches capacity, the alternative would be to ship waste off the island at a high cost. Mr. Mike Mohajer indicated that he does not believe the County should invest any substantial funds into a project that is small-scale.

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

## **VI. 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 is developing. Once complete, this web version will enable stakeholders to analyze various technologies and multiple facility sizes in a user friendly manner.

Mr. Gallagher also noted that the County has expanded public outreach through their contract by procuring an environmental subcontractor to provide public outreach and education to elected officials and key stakeholders in Sacramento. That effort began in June. The team is organizing meetings with several key stakeholders over the summer.

Due to time limits Mr. Gallagher was not able to fully discuss the report that summarized Cerrell's accomplishments since the contract was established in 2007. The Subcommittee asked Mr. Gallagher to discuss the report in more detail at the July meeting

## **VII. OPEN DISCUSSION**

There was no open discussion.

## **VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 21, 2011.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.