

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

Minutes of June 21, 2012

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition
John Kaddis, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Ron Kent, Southern California Gas Company
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Kay Martin*, Bioenergy Producers Association
Eugene Sun, Council Member, City of San Marino
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association
Mark McDannel, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (LACSD)

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

David Cieply, Republic- Allied Waste Company
Jacques Franco, Department of Resource Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
Alex Helou, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Suk Chong, represented by Coby Skye, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sue Higgins* Alternative Resources Inc (ARI)
Becky Bendikson, Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Community Advisory Committee
Anthony Bertrand, Republic Services
Macaria Flores, Cerrell Associates
William Gorham, Cerrell Associates
George Gomez, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Achaya Kelapanda, Republic Services
Tobie Mitchell, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Pat Proano, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

*designates participants over the telephone

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Coby Skye called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 19 AND MAY 17, 2012 MEETING

The May 17, 2012 minutes approval was postponed to the next ATAS meeting.

Mr. Mohajer made a motion to approve the April 19, 2012 minutes. Mr. Wayne Hunter seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. RECAP ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS

Mr. Pat Proano provided a recap on a meetings held in Sacramento with CalRecycle, the Air Resources Board, the California Energy Commission, and the Department of Natural Resources. A delegation representing several local jurisdictions, the recyclers, University of California at Riverside, an environmental group and utility representative participated in these meetings intended to educate the various agency heads about the benefits and opportunities for conversion technologies in California.

Ms. Kay Martin asked what the relationship is between the California Conversion Technology Coalition and the Task Force. Mr. Skye stated that one key difference is that the ATAS and the Task Force are entities that address issues impacting the solid waste management system on a countywide basis, whereas the Coalition is a group focused on promoting conversion technologies statewide.

Ms. Martin asked whether or not the Task Force is an advisory group for the statewide Coalition? Mr. Pat Proano stated that the ATAS and Task Force are key stakeholders in support of conversion technologies. He added that the County's approach is going to be positive and collaborative with everyone, including CalRecycle.

IV. DISCUSSION ON RECENT LETTERS REGARDING THE SALINAS VALLEY PLASCO PROJECT

Ms. Martin suggested having a broader discussion within the Task Force regarding a statewide legislative approach for conversion technologies. Mr. Proano stated that the County's consultant (ARI) has initiated gathering preliminary thoughts and ideas for a MRF or feedstock standard, and asked Ms.

Sue Higgins to elaborate in these findings. Ms. Higgins stated that ARI and Cerell Associates coordinated a conference call, with County staff, technology providers, MRF operators and other industry representatives, to obtain input and ideas on how to proceed with a potential MRF Performance Standard that was suggested by CalRecycle in their AB341 draft Report to the Legislature. During this conference call, the group highlighted pros and cons of the proposal, and highlighted the need to be mindful of the variability that is out there and not establishing a standard that is restricted or confining to the industry.

Ms. Martin asked if this information will be presented at the next Task Force meeting. Mr. Skye stated, as mentioned by Mr. Proano, staff just began preliminary discussions on this topic with the County team and are going to be involving additional stakeholders, such as the ATAS and the Task Force at the appropriate time.

Mr. Mohajer stated the following:

We are discussing two separate issues; first issue is the Plasco issue and second is that, the County formed a coalition under the County Engineers Association of California. Mr. Proano stated that the coalition is evolving under the umbrella of the California State Association of Counties.

Plasco received a letter from Calrecycle over two years ago, identifying their project in Salinas Valley, CA as gasification according to Public Resources code, section 40117. Following this determination, they received Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) pre-certification from the California Energy Commission that the energy being generated from the Plasco project is renewable.

Now the administration changed, CalRecycle decided to withdraw the determination. Salinas Valley Counsel wrote a letter asking for legal justification on how they went back on their determination. As of a result of this issue, Governor Brown's office sent a letter to Plasco, expressing support of legislation that will allow Plasco project to proceed in a pilot bases, and be reconsidered as an eligible renewable energy resource under State Law. In addition, the Governor fully supports CalRecycle's efforts to develop alternative polices regarding waste to energy in California, including the development of a technology neutral, feedstock based standard to replace the definition of gasification for the purpose of determining RPS eligibility.

Mr. Mohajer made a motion to request the Task Force to send a letter to CalRecycle, expressing concern over the issue and offer to work collaboratively

with CalRecycle to ensure that this issue moves forward and does not affect other projects in the State. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeff Yann. Mr. Proano suggested that the entire Subcommittee have the opportunity to review the letter before it is sent. This was supported by the rest of the Subcommittee.

V. UPDATE ON PHASE III & IV CONTRACT

Ms. Sue Higgins provided the following updates:

- ARI is currently working with Cerrell Associates (Cerrell) and their subcontractor Teknowledge, to finalize and publish a technology and financial services database and web-based models. The database and models are running on a temporary domain hosted by Teknowledge. In addition, ARI is looking into re-issuing a Request for Expressions of Interest.
- ARI provided technical assistance and technology information to IRS Demolition for a potential CT project development at their site in South Gate.
- ARI in conjunction with the County is currently working on developing an approach to categorize/prioritize Phase IV sites based on status of development, and County involvement to focus County technical resources on the more advanced higher priority projects, and to identify the appropriate level of monitoring for less advanced projects.

VI. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Mr. William Gorham provided the following updates:

- On May 8 and 9, 2012, the County, Cerrell, and other stakeholders participated in a meeting in Sacramento with the Director of CalRecycle, California Air Resources Board, California Energy Commission, and the Department of Natural Resources.
- Cerrell participated on the California Contract Cities Annual Municipal Seminar, at this event we were able to interact with approximately 250 attendees and communicate the positive message of CTs in California.

Mr. Pat Proano express his gratitude to Cerrell, for the hard work and participation on the California Contract Cities Annual Seminar, their participation was very valuable to help us inform and communicate the importance of CTs to other County and Cities entities.

Mr. Skye added that 175 people signed up for the County's monthly CT e-newsletter.

VII. CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY ACTION PLAN

Mr. Skye presented to the ATAS a revised draft copy of the Conversion Technology Action Plan for review and discussion. Mr. Mohajer recommended some changes to page 2, section 2 and page 7, section 5.1. Mr. Ron Kent also had comments regarding page 7, section 5.1. Mr. Skye encouraged the ATAS members to review and communicate any additional comments or changes to the Action Plan, so that it could be finalized by staff for the upcoming meeting.

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

No discussion.

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE

Tentatively scheduled for July 19, 2012

X. ADJOURNMENT

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