

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

Minutes of October 16, 2014

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Coby Skye, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
John Kaddis, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition
Eugene Sun, Council Member, City of San Marino
Fernando Berton, California Energy Commission*
Rob Sherman, Republic Services
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association
Mark McDannel, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Jacques Franco, Department of Resource Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)*

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Jim Stewart for Kay Martin, BioEnergy Producers Association
Miguel Zermeno for Alex Helou, City of Los Angeles

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Larry Levin, Juniper Hills
Ron Kent, Southern California Gas Company
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program

OTHERS PRESENT:

Samantha Foley, Cerrell Associates*
Victor Le, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Saeid Shirzadegan, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

*Designates participants over the telephone

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Skye called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 21 AND SEPTEMBER 18, 2014 MEETINGS

Mr. Mohajer made a motion to approve the minutes of August 21, 2014, with Mr. McDannel seconding the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with one abstention.

Mr. Sun made a motion to approve the September 18, 2014 minutes with Mr. Hunter seconding the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with three abstentions.

III. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Saeid Shirzadegan made a brief presentation on Waste Management, Inc.'s efforts to implement a Conversion Technology project at the Lancaster Landfill. The landfill is owned and operated by Waste Management. As part of the conditional use permit for the landfill, Waste Management has agreed to evaluate and promote the development of Conversion Technology facilities that benefit the Antelope Valley and the County. Waste Management has secured initial agreements to move forward with a full-scale Conversion Technology operation which is being referred to as Lancaster Advanced Recycling for Green Waste and Organics Project. The project is in its initial stages and therefore permitting and construction is not expected in the immediate future. Waste Management is willing to provide a presentation once more information becomes available.

Ms. Foley reported that Cerrell Associates has been working on a video which was originally geared towards the Countywide Siting Element but has since been tailored to include the Sustainable Waste Management Future Roadmap, Conversion Technologies as well as the Siting Element and how these efforts interact with each other. The script for the video is pending approval with Public Works director Gail Farber.

Ms. Foley also informed the subcommittee members that the City of Glendale's City Manager is publishing a series of Op-Eds regarding Scholl Canyon Landfill and the city's commitment to place a conversion technology facility there.

IV. RECAP ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY/PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Skye stated that the County will shortly be submitting what will most likely be their final 6-month Conversion Technology Update to the County Board of Supervisors. Pending Board approval, future updates will be included in the annual report to the Board for the Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Management Future.

Mr. Skye informed the Subcommittee that there have been discussions to place an anaerobic digestion system at the Pitchess Detention Center in Castaic which is a County owned facility. Organic waste generated at the facility and perhaps other facilities would be digested to produce biogas. This will assist the County to comply with recently passed Assembly Bill 1826, which requires the commercial sector, including public buildings, to divert organic waste.

Mr. McDannel updated the subcommittee members on the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County's (LACSD) Food Waste Project in Carson which will eventually digest 84 Tons per Day. Waste Management, their partner in the project, is actively seeking additional customers that would be willing to send their food waste to the facility. LACSD anticipates the pilot to continue for two years.

Mr. Zermeno reported that in the preceding week the Los Angeles City Council voted to authorize the Bureau of Sanitation to begin negotiations with the City of Long Beach and the LACSD for potential co-ownership of the Southeast Resource Recovery Facility (SERRF). Co-ownership would include upgrading the technology utilized at the site which currently uses technology which is more than a decade old. Mr. Mohajer asked Mr. Zermeno about the status of the negotiations between the City of Los Angeles and Green Conversion Systems (GCS). Mr. Zermeno stated that the parties are negotiating terms and the project is on hold until there is further progress with the negotiations. Mr. Zermeno added that if the negotiations for SERRF co-ownership are successful, the facility will most likely be updated with GCS technology.

Mr. Skye reported that the County sponsored Conversion Technology bill, Senate Bill 498, was recently signed by the governor.

Mr. Berton asked if there were plans to develop a Conversion Technology forum in the future since it had been a while since one has been held. Mr. Skye stated that the Task Force is organizing a conference related to various topics about solid waste management and specifically implementation of AB 1826 and SB 498 which will include the topic of Conversion Technologies. Mr. Skye added that the County's new Conversion Technology Technical Contract which is presently being negotiated has a provision that requires the consultant to organize and hold a Conversion Technology conference on an annual basis.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for November 20, 2014.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.