

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

**Minutes of May 21, 2015, Meeting**

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  
Mark McDannel, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force  
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Eugene Sun, Mayor, City of San Marino  
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Jim Stewart for Kay Martin, BioEnergy Producers Association  
Raphael Garcia for Rob Sherman, Republic Services, Inc.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ron Kent, Southern California Gas Company  
Larry Levin, Juniper Hills  
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program  
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvements Association  
Alex Helou, City of Los Angeles  
California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery  
(CalRecycle)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Traacey Anthony, Alternative Resources, Inc.  
Chuck Everett, Soukos Environmental, U.S.A.  
Alex Petronakis, Soukos Environmental, U.S.A.  
Sam Petronakis, Soukos Environmental, U.S.A.  
Joe Vitti, Sunshine Canyon Landfill –Community Advisory Committee  
Krishna Nand, Environmental Management Professionals  
Brenda Eells, CH2M Hill  
Gabriel Arenas, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Jason W. Jones, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF APRIL 16, 2015, MEETING MINUTES**

A motion to approve the Minutes of the April 16, 2015, Meeting was made by Mr. Wayde Hunter and seconded by Mr. Mark McDannel, and it passed, subject to the following amendment, with Mr. Mike Mohajer abstaining:

Add Mr. Eugene Sun and Mr. John Kaddis to the Minutes under the heading Subcommittee Members Not Present.

**III. PRESENTATION FROM CHUCK EVERETT OF SOUKOS ENVIRONMENTAL U.S.A., ON THEIR CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY AND WASTE PROCESSING SYSTEM**

Mr. Chuck Everett, consultant and business development advisor to Soukos Environmental, U.S.A. (Soukos), provided a [PowerPoint Presentation](#) on the company's 'closed and cold' waste conversion system. Mr. Everett commented that Soukos has patented and trademarked a cold processing technology called Theseus that converts municipal solid waste into energy through cleaning, sorting, and compressing extracted recyclable material, while converting the non-recyclable material into dry, multipurpose, pellets that can be transformed (burned) into energy or processed into building materials, biodiesel fuel, electricity, or other consumer products.

**IV. DISCUSSION ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL**

Ms. Traacey Anthony, of Alternative Resources, Inc. (ARI), Public Works' Conversion Technology technical consultant provided the Subcommittee with an update on ongoing planning discussions for a Conversion Technology Conference to be hosted by Public Works. She informed the Subcommittee that current discussions on the conference were centered on scheduling and a location. A tentative date of August 13, 2015, has been proposed. She reported that although the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) has been

discussed, a confirmed location for the venue has yet to be determined, as cost, among other factors, still needs to be resolved before a venue can be confirmed. Mr. Coby Skye commented on the possibility that the Public Works Headquarters in Alhambra is also strongly being considered as a possible venue for the conference.

**V. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

Mr. Skye informed the Subcommittee that Public Works is currently drafting a Scope of Work for a new outreach services contract geared toward the County's Sustainable Waste Management Future (Roadmap) and its ongoing efforts toward conversion technology (CT) advancement. Public Works anticipates a Request for Proposal solicitation to be prepared by the end of the year. Mr. Skye commented that with the signing into law of Assembly Bill 1826 in 2014, management of organic material is among the principal drivers of Public Works' continued event participation and outreach activities regarding CTs. The signing of Senate Bill 498 in 2014 is also generating broader discussion on thermal conversion systems.

**VI. RECAP ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY/CONVERSION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Skye provided the Subcommittee with an update on the status of potentially placing an anaerobic digestion facility at the Pitchess Detention Facility in Castaic. ARI has engaged in discussions with the staff from the Sheriff's Department on developing a model for the proposed facility.

For the purpose of compliance of AB 1826, Public Works has also been discussing options to begin separating commercial generated organics on a pilot scale for the County's unincorporated areas while also engaging with the County Sanitation Districts to receive some of the organic material at the Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility.

Mr. Mike Mohajer commented on Governor Brown's recently proposed State Budget revision that would increase grant funding from the State's Cap and Trade account from \$20 million to \$60 million, expressing dissatisfaction with the budget's limitations placed on CT advancement. He noted the revised budget's organics infrastructure investment is disproportionately allotted for composting and anaerobic digestion while eliminating funding for biomass facilities in the

State. He also criticized what he identified as the budget's misplaced focus and direction toward food waste prevention, as opposed to food waste diversion.

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Betsey Landis, a member of the Task Force and its Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee, commented on her participation in the California State Science Fair, expressing concern over the absence of a clear, scientific, definition of organic material being provided to middle school students.

Mr. Skye informed the Subcommittee that the next ATAS Meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2015, at the County Sanitation Districts Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson. Following the meeting there will be a tour of the facility.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.