

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

Minutes for September 15, 2022

WEB CONFERENCE

Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steve Cassulo, Waste Connections
Fahim Rahimi, Los Angeles County Public Works
Michelle Dewey, rep by Scott Beckner, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
Dorcas (Dee) Hanson-Lugo, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens, Inc.
Ben Lucha, City of Palmdale
Kay Martin, rep by James Stewart, Bioenergy Producers Association
Mark McDannel, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Valerie Moore, Republic Services
Darshna Patel, rep by Timothy Hoang, City of Los Angeles
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ron Kent, Southern California Gas Company
Kevin Mattson, Waste Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Christine Arbogast, Tetra Tech
Karen Gork, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Cesar Leon, Tetra Tech
Eric Morofuji, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
David Thompson, City of Los Angeles
Kathy Ton, Los Angeles County Local Enforcement Agency
Felicia Truong, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Josephine Chen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Darren Kwan, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works
Margarita Quiroz, Los Angeles County Public Works
Airon Tee, Los Angeles County Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Fahim Rahimi called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 18, 2022 SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to approve the minutes, and Mr. Eugene Tseng seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. UPDATE ON THE IMPACTS OF SENATE BILL 54

Mr. Charles Darensbourg provided an [update](#) regarding the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act, Senate Bill (SB) 54.

Mr. Mohajer stated that SB 54 will make it more difficult to develop thermal conversion technology facilities in California and that local jurisdictions should continue efforts to develop either composting or anaerobic digestion facilities for SB 1383 compliance.

IV. REQUIREMENTS OF SENATE BILL 1383 WASTE MEASUREMENT SAMPLING/CHARACTERIZATION

Mr. Eugene Tseng from the County of Los Angeles Local Enforcement Agency provided a [presentation](#) on SB 1383 Waste Measurement Challenges/Issues for Organic Processing Facilities.

Mr. Wayde Hunter asked about the labor costs for sampling. Mr. Tseng responded some facilities conduct almost 1,000 samples per year and that the average cost of a sample ranges from \$800 to almost \$1,000 per sample, depending on the complexity. He also mentioned a study that was conducted for the duration of one quarter at a small facility which cost almost \$300,000.

Mr. Hunter asked if the regulations include a sunset date for the sampling requirements. Mr. Tseng responded that they do not. Mr. Mohajer added that new legislation would need to be adopted to establish a sunset date for the SB 1383 sampling requirements.

Mr. Hunter expressed concern about who would absorb the cost and asked how the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) uses the data collected. Ms. Michelle Dewey responded that she would convey the Subcommittee's comments to CalRecycle. Mr. Tseng asked that she also provide the presentation to CalRecycle.

V. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Christine Arbogast reported that Tetra Tech continues to support Public Works with the following:

- SB 1383 and other waste diversion planning efforts.
- Expanding evaluation of potential locations for organic waste processing at old landfill sites and other sites within the County.
- Reviewing responses to the Calabasas Anaerobic Digestion Facility Request for Proposals.

VI. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Mr. Rahimi provided the following update:

- CalRecycle's most recent public meeting was on August 16, 2022, which staff summarized at last month's Subcommittee meeting.
- CalRecycle's next public meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2022.

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

Mr. Rahimi provided an update on events and conferences, which can also be found in the [Conversion Technology Newsletter](#) and Subcommittee meeting minutes:

- Annual Southern California Waste Management Forum (SCWMF) Conference & Exhibit: November 3, 2022, Ontario, CA
- California State Association of Counties (CSAC) 128th Annual Meeting: November 14 – 18, 2022, Anaheim, CA
- National Zero Waste Conference: November 30 – December 1, 2022, Virtual
- WASTECON 2022: December 5 - 8, 2022, San Diego, CA

Mr. Mohajer suggested that the SB 54 presentation given today be summarized and published in the Conversion Technology Newsletter.

Ms. Dewey announced a recent public notice on CalRecycle's website regarding Co-Digestion Grant Program awards and that it may be discussed at CalRecycle's next public meeting.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Subcommittee members thanked Mr. Mark McDannel for his years of service on the Subcommittee and wished him a happy retirement.

No public comment.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m. The next ATAS meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 10 a.m.