

Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee  
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/  
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

**Minutes of June 17, 2010 Meeting**

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative  
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative  
Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Christopher Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Gerardo Villalobos, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Charles Modica, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Martins Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Joe Bartolata, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Virginia Becerra, Clements Environmental  
Kara Bouton, Allan Company  
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Rosa Linda Cruz, Los Angeles County Office of County Counsel  
Bahman Hajjaliakbar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Richard Hubbard, Allan Company  
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition, Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council  
Darry Kato, Waste Management Recycle America  
Gary Lane, Waste Management Recycle America  
Linda Lee, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Carol Ly, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Iheanacho Ofo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Carrie Schneider, Clements Environmental  
Bereket Tadele, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Emiko Thompson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Steve Uselton, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery  
Paul Willman, Bryan Stiraat & Associates

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF MAY 27, 2010**

A motion to approve the Minutes of the May 27, 2010, meeting was unanimously approved.

**III. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO CITY OF BALDWIN PARK'S NONDISPOSAL FACILITY ELEMENT (ALLAN COMPANY MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY)**

Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa gave a PowerPoint presentation on the June 10, 2010, Staff Report (see Attachment 1) on the City of Baldwin Park's (City) request for the Task Force to review and approve an Amendment to the City's Nondisposal Facility Element (NDFE), in accordance with the requirements of Section 41734(a)(1) of the California Public Resources Code and Section 18764(b), Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

Along with copies of the PowerPoint, a revised Staff Report was distributed to the Subcommittee for review and comment. Exhibit B in the Staff Report was revised to correct the name of the facility from Pico Rivera Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to Allan Company MRF.

Mr. Aiyetiwa reported to the Subcommittee that the City's initial NDFE was approved by the California Integrated Waste Management Board, now California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) in 1994. The City is proposing to amend its current NDFE to include the Allan Company MRF.

The facility received a temporary Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) in August 2008 in order to comply with Assembly Bill 1473, which requires nondisposal facilities that fail CalRecycle's "3-Part Test" to obtain full SWFPs. The facility failed the 3-Part Test because the residuals generated on a daily basis would be more than ten percent of the amount received. As a result, the operator of the facility must obtain a full SWFP.

Allan Company MRF is permitted to process 750 tons per day (tpd) of source-separated recyclable materials from residential curbside collection programs and

collection programs of multi-family, commercial accounts, and other recycling programs. The current diversion rate is approximately 80 percent. The facility operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and it is open to the public from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 5 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Mr. Aiyetiwa discussed the role of the Task Force as it relates to the NDFE Amendment process. The Task Force is responsible, among other things, for providing technical guidance and information regarding solid waste facilities and management to local jurisdictions during preparation and revision of NDFEs.

Mr. Aiyetiwa stated that based on Staff's findings, (1) the City of Baldwin Park's NDFE Amendment conforms with the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, complies with environmental regulations and State laws and regulations, and the facility will not impair solid waste management activities in Los Angeles County; and (2) Staff recommends Task Force concurrence with the City's NDFE Amendment.

The Subcommittee discussed the NDFE Amendment and expressed concern over potential noise impacts at the facility since it is staffed 24 hours a day seven days a week. Mr. Richard Hubbard of Allan Company said that Allan Company is working with its neighbors to reduce noise at the MRF. Trucks are allowed to bring in materials to the facility only between the hours of 7 a.m and 10 p.m., and no transfer of materials out of the facility is allowed on Sundays. The MRF does not process glass at night, and the operator is working on the viability of using rubber wheels on recycling containers to minimize noise impacts.

The Subcommittee also expressed concern that, for the future, the PowerPoint slide discussing the Role of Local Task Force should be expanded to include all of the roles and responsibilities mandated by Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations and County Code Chapter 3.67. The concern is that if this slide is viewed by itself, it could be taken out of context with the reader thinking that the Task Force is only involved in NDFE reviews. Staff indicated that this slide will be expanded in future considerations of NDFE Amendments.

Mr. Mike Mohajer noted that Staff's findings indicate that the facility is identified in the Countywide Summary Plan dated June 1997; however, this finding is only informational in nature and does not provide a means for approval of the NDFE Amendment.

In conclusion, the Subcommittee made a motion to recommend to the Task Force to concur with the subject amendment to the City of Baldwin Park's NDFE and request the owner/operator to submit monthly reports (on a quarterly basis) as indicated in the Staff Report. The Subcommittee also requested Staff to prepare a letter from the Task Force to CalRecycle and the City of Baldwin Park notifying them of the Task Force's concurrence with the NDFE Amendment and to request that the owner/operator of the facility mitigate all potential noise impacts. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **IV. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO CITY OF CARSON'S NONDISPOSAL FACILITY ELEMENT (PICO RIVERA MRF)**

Mr. Aiyetiwa gave a PowerPoint presentation on the June 10, 2010, Staff Report (see Attachment 2) on the City of Carson's request for the Task Force to review and approve an Amendment to the City of Carson's NDFE, in accordance with the requirements of Section 41734(a)(1) of the California Public Resources Code and Section 18764(b), Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

Along with copies of the PowerPoint, a letter, dated June 16, 2010, from the City of Pico Rivera to Task Force was distributed to the Subcommittee for review and comment. The letter notified Task Force that the City would like to withdraw its opposition to the Amendment request and will not oppose inclusion of the facility in the City of Carson's NDFE. The City of Pico Rivera understood that, until recent clarification from CalRecycle, it was required by law to amend its NDFE. In a letter dated June 9, 2010, CalRecycle stated that the host jurisdiction is not required to amend its NDFE for a facility they do not utilize as part of their waste management system.

Mr. Aiyetiwa reported that the City's initial NDFE was approved by CalRecycle in 1994, and the City is proposing to amend its current NDFE to include the Pico Rivera MRF.

The facility received a temporary SWFP in August 2008 in order to comply with Assembly Bill 1473, which requires nondisposal facilities that fail CalRecycle's "3-Part Test" to obtain full SWFPs. The facility failed the 3-Part Test because the residuals generated on a daily basis would be more than ten percent of the amount received. As a result, the operator of the facility must obtain a full SWFP.

The estimated amount of material received at the facility is 234 tpd of source separated materials from the City of Carson, Long Beach, Inglewood, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills Estates, Manhattan Beach, Moreno Valley, Banning, Beaumont, Murrietta, and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles and Riverside Counties. The facility's design capacity is 327 tpd with a monthly limit of 5,800 tons. The current diversion rate is approximately 70 percent. The facility operates six days per week, Monday through Saturday, from 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. except holidays. The transfer of materials takes place Monday through Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Saturday from 5:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Aiyetiwa concluded that based on Staff's findings, (1) the City of Carson's NDFE Amendment conforms with the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, complies with environmental regulations and State laws and regulations, and the facility will not impair solid waste management activities in Los Angeles County; and (2) Staff provides three options for the Task Force to consider.

Option A recommends the Task Force to concur with the subject amendment to the City of Carson's NDFE.

Option B recommends the Task Force to not concur with the amendment to the City of Carson's NDFE to incorporate the Pico Rivera MRF, and direct Staff to monitor and encourage the ongoing dialogue between the facility operator and the City of Pico Rivera.

Option C recommends the Task Force to not concur with the amendment to the City of Carson's NDFE to incorporate Pico Rivera MRF, and direct Staff to monitor and encourage the ongoing dialogue between the facility operator and the City of Pico Rivera, and direct Staff to respond to CalRecycle's letter of June 9, 2010, which clarifies the NDFE Amendment process, and upon the City of Pico Rivera's submittal of a request to amend its NDFE to incorporate Pico Rivera MRF, direct Staff to bring back the items (both City of Carson and City of Pico Rivera) to the Task Force for review and comment.

Considering that the opposition from the City of Pico Rivera was withdrawn, Staff asked that the Subcommittee recommend to the Task Force concurrence with the subject amendment as provided in Option A.

Mr. Christopher Salomon asked Counsel to comment on CalRecycle's determination that a host jurisdiction, like the City of Pico Rivera, is not required to amend its NDFE for a facility that it does not utilize for solid waste management. Ms. Rosa Linda Cruz of County Counsel stated the City of Pico Rivera does not have to amend its NDFE, and that the Task Force can be confident in concurring with the amendment request.

The Subcommittee discussed the NDFE Amendment and asked what stormwater prevention plans are in place since the facility is adjacent to a floodplain. Mr. Gerardo Villalobos advised the Subcommittee that the facility has a stormwater prevention plan and employs best management practices under a general NPDES permit. All materials are processed inside the facility and any debris outside of the facility is swept by a full-time employee of the facility, who even checks the street for debris. Processing procedures do not allow for processing out of the facility.

In conclusion, the Subcommittee made a motion to recommend to the Task Force to concur with the subject amendment to the City of Carson's NDFE and request the owner/operator to submit monthly reports (on a quarterly basis) as indicated in the Staff Report. The Subcommittee also requested Staff to prepare a letter from the Task Force to CalRecycle, the City of Pico Rivera, and the City of Carson notifying them of the Task Force's concurrence with the NDFE Amendment. The letter should also include mention of Staff's excellent job in working with the Cities and CalRecycle to coordinate this amendment request to a successful conclusion, and to indicate that the facility's conditional use permit with the City of Pico Rivera does not allow recyclable materials to be stored in open areas. The motion was unanimously approved.

**V. UPDATE ON RE-VEGETATION EFFORTS AT SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL**

Ms. Linda Lee gave the Subcommittee an update on re-vegetation efforts at Sunshine Canyon City/County Landfill, as requested by the Subcommittee at its meeting on May 27, 2010. Ms. Lee reported that the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) resumed its hearing on June 15, 2010, to hear an update on the Order for Abatement issued to the Landfill on March 24, 2010.

During the hearing, BFI indicated that during the second quarter of 2010, the Landfill received 11,300 tpd of solid waste, 24 odor complaints, and one Notice of

Violation for nuisance odor. BFI reduced the number of their own trucks queuing up on Sepulveda Boulevard on Monday mornings, which is approximately 30 to 40 percent of all incoming trucks, by holding them at transfer stations and diverting about 200 tpd of solid waste to Olinda Alpha Landfill in Orange County, Southeast Resource Recovery Facility in Long Beach, and CVT in Anaheim, California. BFI is also using three primary misting systems on Mondays from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and during adverse wind conditions to reduce odors at the Landfill. However, BFI petitioned SCAQMD to suspend the three misting systems because BFI believes the misting systems are ineffective, and that a neutralizer system in transfer trucks would be a more efficient way to mitigate odors. In addition, BFI is adding 14 new wells to reduce surface emissions of landfill gas.

SCAQMD will resume the hearing on Thursday, July 8, 2010, to consider BFI's petition to suspend the misting systems and to review and approve BFI's proposals to study wind flow patterns, effective neutralizers in transfer trucks, and how to minimize odors from the working face; reports on alternatives to disposal at the existing working face, analysis and recommendations to prevent erosion impacts to gas collection system, and BFI's status on implementing the Order for Abatement; and a vegetation plan for the southern berm area.

Mr. Mohajer asked Mr. Villalobos whether odor control requirements are included in the Landfill's SWFP and clarification on the Local Enforcement Agency's staffing requirements. Mr. Mohajer would like to know the effectiveness of the Local Enforcement Agency in monitoring permit compliance at the Landfill. Mr. Villalobos said that he would research this matter and report back to the Subcommittee.

Ms. Betsey Landis asked that maps showing the current working faces be included in the quarterly reports. The Subcommittee concurred.

#### **VI. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **VII. NEXT MEETING DATE**

To be announced at a later date.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.