

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

Minutes of June 16, 2016, Meeting

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Conference Room B, Headquarters Building
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Bahman Hajjaliakbar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Gerardo Villalobos, represented by Jeanne Biehler, County of Los Angeles Department
of Public Health

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Christopher Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

OTHERS PRESENT:

Martins Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Nam Doan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Gabriel Esparza, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Anna Gov, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition/Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory
Committee
Patrick Kwong, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Karlo Manalo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Nick Morell, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Steve Cassulo, Waste Connections, Inc.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MAY 19, 2016, MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the Minutes of the May 19, 2016, meeting was made by Mr. Mike Mohajer, seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis, and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Bahman Hajialiakbar was not present at the time of the vote.

III. UPDATE ON SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL

Odor Complaints

Mr. Nam Doan provided the Subcommittee with an update on the [odor complaints](#) at Sunshine Canyon City/County Landfill (Landfill) for the month of May 2016.

During the month of May 2016, 30 complaints were made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) hotline. In comparison with the prior month, April 2016, the number of complaints received in May 2016 decreased by 83 percent (from 181 to 30 complaints). Compared to May of last year, the number of complaints received this May increased by 150 percent (from 12 to 30 complaints). Mr. Doan reported that out of the 30 complaints received in May, four complaints were called in from nearby schools, or from complainants whom identified themselves as parents of students attending one of the nearby schools. As of June 16, 2016, AQMD has issued 0 Notices of Violation to the Landfill in the month of May 2016.

Mr. Wayde Hunter commented that the update by Mr. Doan should include the total number of complaints for the current year, and total number of complaints made since 2009. Mr. Mike Mohajer stated that there have been over 9,000 complaints since 2009 and approximately 180 Notices of Violations issued by AQMD, but no Notices of Violations due to odor nuisance have been issued by the County Health Officer.

Mr. Hunter commented that AQMD has held a couple of town hall meetings in Granada Hills (April 21, 2016 and June 9, 2016). At the June meeting, AQMD stated that they would, within 45 days, file an Order for Abatement for odors, which would include measures such as a reduction in daily trash tonnage, and restriction of the Landfill's hours of operation. Mr. Hunter asked whether anyone

from the County attended these town hall meetings. Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa answered that staff did not attend the June 9 meeting; however, the County is well aware of AQMD's proposal as the County is part of the Interagency Task Force that AQMD is working with.

Mr. Mohajer commented that AQMD told him that it would have been helpful if County Departments, other than the County Department of Public Health, had attended the town hall meeting. Mr. Mohajer replied to AQMD that he would follow up and wrote to Supervisor Michael Antonovich, who also sits on the AQMD Governing Board, in reference to AQMD's concern. Mr. Mohajer stated that Supervisor Antonovich replied that his deputy, Mr. Jarrod DeGonia, had attended the town hall meeting. Mr. Mohajer also stated that Mr. DeGonia expressed the same concern to him that most County Departments did not attend the town hall meeting on June 9. Ms. Landis requested that staff provide status updates to the Subcommittee in the future on AQMD's actions.

Mr. Mohajer provided the following summary of the June 9, 2016, town hall meeting:

- AQMD indicated meeting with various City and County Departments (City Planning Department, County Public Works, County Public Health, the City of Los Angeles Department of Planning, but not with County Department of Regional Planning) to seek their input, as AQMD is going to be moving forward with their Order for Abatement within 45 days.
- There are a number of issues that have been considered and some of them include:
 - Reduction of daily tonnage
 - Prevention from receiving any waste before 9:00 AM
 - Enhanced monitoring
 - Use of alternative intermediate cover, specifically Posi-Shell. Mr. Mohajer commented at the town hall meeting that Republic Services would not be able to utilize the Posi-Shell alternative intermediate cover material unless the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is addressed. He added that the aesthetic appearance is an important factor and must be considered under CEQA.
- AQMD indicated that there is no hydrogen sulfide being generated by organic waste, in response to a question from the audience.

Mr. Mohajer provided commentary that he disagreed with AQMD's answer and commented that organic waste does generate hydrogen sulfide.

- AQMD will take their recommendations to their Hearing Board who will make their own decision based on their legal requirements.

Mr. Mohajer also commented that he met with Ms. Cynthia Harding, the Interim Director of County of Los Angeles Public Health, regarding having Dr. Cyrus Rangan making a presentation at the August Task Force meeting on odor nuisances at the Landfill.

Status of New Access Road and Tree Planting

Mr. Karlo Manalo indicated that there is nothing new to present on the new access road and tree planting. As staff reported at the last Subcommittee meeting, the earthwork for Liner CC-3B Part 1 berm needs to be completed before hydroseeding can be started for Phase 1 of the access road.

Update on the Use of ADC

Mr. Manalo provided the Subcommittee with an update on the Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) Pilot Project at the Landfill.

Staff received the ADC Pilot Project monthly report from Republic Services on June 15, 2016, and Republic Services reported no maintenance issues and no observations of fire, vectors, scavenging, or blowing litter at the working faces related to the use of the ADC material. Also, according to inspection reports by the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Local Enforcement Agency for the month of May, the ADC material, as well as the dirt cover, were effective in covering the working faces.

Mr. Hunter commented that staff's monthly ADC update should include a status report on the Intermediate Cover Enhancement (ICE) demonstration project that was scheduled to start on June 9, 2016. Mr. Aiyetiwa recommended that status updates on ADC and ICE projects be presented separately, because they have separate requirements and affect separate areas of the Landfill. Mr. Aiyetiwa reported that Republic Services has not started the ICE project because they are still waiting on approval from County Public Works.

Mr. Mohajer commented that the Task Force has asked staff to provide updates on the ICE project at Subcommittee meetings. He added that a [letter](#) was also sent from the Task Force to Republic Services, dated May 25, 2016, requesting that the ICE project be implemented in compliance with the Landfill's land use permit requirements; that all involved regulatory agencies will be given an opportunity to provide their respective input and recommendations regarding the project; and that the surrounding community and interested groups be notified and be provided with adequate opportunities to comment on the project. As such, Mr. Mohajer and Ms. Landis expressed their concern about the lack of project information and ongoing status from the County and Republic Services. Mr. Mohajer reiterated that the community and the Task Force want to be informed on the factors that were considered for project with the justifications prior to any formal approval decision. Mr. Aiyetiwa stated he would discuss these comments with management.

Revegetation Update at Sunshine Canyon Landfill

Mr. Russell Bukoff provided the Subcommittee with an update on the revegetation efforts at Sunshine Canyon Landfill as discussed at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Technical Advisory Committee meeting held on June 1, 2016.

Request to Revegetate Deck A in the City Sage Mitigation Area

- Mr. Nick Hendricks, of the Los Angeles City Planning Department, reported that the City of Los Angeles would like Republic Services to commence revegetation efforts on City Deck A.
- Mr. Rob Sherman, of Republic Services, replied that he would like the opportunity to create a dialogue with the City regarding revegetation efforts on City Deck B, instead of Deck A. He stated Deck B is a better candidate for revegetation, as it is physically closer to existing resources, and perhaps wind seeding may occur from Deck C to Deck B.
- Mr. Hendricks agreed and directed Republic Services to contact Mr. Joseph Decruyenaere, the County of Los Angeles Biologist knowledgeable about the Landfill, to ask him to provide a rationale for selecting Deck A over Deck B for revegetation.
- A conference call has been tentatively scheduled for June 23, 2016, between Republic Services and Mr. Decruyenaere.

Mr. Hendricks and Mr. Bukoff have also been invited to participate in the conference call.

Mr. Hunter commented that Republic Services should be asked to revegetate all the remaining decks because these decks are located within the old Sunshine Canyon City Landfill which closed in 1991. He stated that it was required to be closed off within 9 months and revegetated.

Mr. Mohajer asked Mr. Aiyetiwa whether this portion of the Landfill that is closed was part of the total City/County Landfill. Mr. Aiyetiwa stated that the approval of the conditional use permit for the City/County Landfill issued by the County does not include the old City Landfill. Mr. Hunter commented that there was a condition in the combined City/County Landfill land use permit that the old City Landfill has to be closed. Mr. Mohajer requested that staff provide documentation that the closed City Landfill is not part of the City/County Landfill by the next Subcommittee meeting. Mr. Bahman Hajjaliakbar stated that staff would look into it and report back at the next Subcommittee meeting.

Ms. Landis stated that she liked the idea of having Republic Services revegetate both decks A and B at the same time and requested staff to suggest this to Republic Services. Mr. Bukoff said he would consult with his management on how to proceed.

After further discussion, Mr. Mohajer made a motion to request that the Task Force send a letter to CalRecycle asking them to provide guidance on which portions of the old City Landfill are officially closed, and if they are closed, why have these closed portions not been revegetated. Alternatively, if these landfill portions are not closed, the Task Force would like CalRecycle to explain why they are not closed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hajjaliakbar and passed with an abstention from Ms. Jeanne Biehler.

Mr. Bukoff continued with his update on the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

County Sage Mitigation Slopes

- Mr. Jim Aidukas, of Ultrasystems, the independent monitor, reported that the County Sage Mitigation Area and cut slopes on the County side have been exhibiting signs of erosion with deep

ruts visible across the area. He stated methods to stabilize the slopes and promote sage growth should be investigated and considered for implementation. He further stated that no sage mitigation activity is currently taking place on the County side.

- Mr. Aiyetiwa added that this area needed to be revegetated, as required by the approved mitigation measures. Concerns over the current drought came up, as it may not be feasible to revegetate the area if water has to be trucked in. Mr. Aiyetiwa reiterated that the County sage slopes need to be revegetated since erosion is occurring.

Ms. Landis commented that there are ways to hold in moisture on the slopes, such as using straw wattles, to lessen the frequency of bringing a water truck in to irrigate the slopes.

Ms. Landis also inquired if this issue was resolved at the meeting. Mr. Aiyetiwa stated they had agreed to meet with Republic Services at the Landfill to better understand why Republic Services believes the County slopes should not be revegetated at this time. Ms. Landis asked Mr. Aiyetiwa to seek the advice the Mr. Joe Decruyenaere, the County Biologist, prior to attending the meeting. Mr. Aiyetiwa stated that he would contact Mr. Decruyenaere.

IV. UPDATE ON CALABASAS LANDFILL REVISED SWFP REVISION

Ms. Anna Gov provided an update on the Calabasas Landfill's Solid Waste Facility Permit revision. Staff received Calabasas Landfill's Finding of Conformance (FOC) proposal on April 28, 2016. Staff reviewed the proposal and sent an email with their comments to the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, the Landfill operator, on May 16, 2016. The applicant is currently working on providing staff with additional information, and staff is working with the applicant and will provide future status updates.

V. UPDATE ON CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL AND LANCASTER LANDFILL

Ms. Gov informed the Subcommittee that there is nothing new to present on either the Chiquita Canyon Landfill or the Lancaster Landfill. Ms. Gov indicated Lancaster Landfill had submitted an FOC Report which will be discussed in the next agenda meeting item.

VI. DISCUSSION ON FOC REPORTS

Ms. Gov presented the Subcommittee with the 2016 Semi-Annual Spring Waste Characterization for the Lancaster Landfill which provided the breakdown of specific material types and categories for the incoming waste stream such as paper, plastics, glass, metals and yard waste during the reporting period of March 24 to 31, 2016. These materials were listed for each residential, commercial, and industrial source. Compared to the previous waste characterization report for the reporting week of September 21 to 25, 2015, Lancaster Landfill received about 117 percent more paper-waste and 5 percent more plastic-waste.

Ms. Gov also presented the Subcommittee with the 2016 Semi-Annual Waste Characterization for the Antelope Valley Recycling and Disposal Facility which also provided the breakdown of specific material types and categories for the incoming waste stream such as paper, plastics, glass, metals and yard waste during the reporting period of March 24 to 31, 2016). These materials were listed for each residential, commercial, and industrial source. Compared to the previous waste characterization report for the reporting week of September 21 to 25, 2015, Antelope Valley Recycling and Disposal Facility received about 120 percent more paper-waste and 95 percent more plastic-waste.

Mr. Mohajer commented that he did not receive the reports discussed by Ms. Gov. Ms. Landis requested that reports be sent to all Subcommittee members with adequate time for members to review prior to the meetings. Mr. Mohajer also requested that reports sent several weeks prior to the meetings be included in the meeting information package mailed/emailed to the Subcommittee the week before said meetings.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no discussion or comments made from the public.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.