

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

**May 19, 2022**

**WEB CONFERENCE**

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative  
Dorcas (Dee) Hanson-Lugo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health  
Patrick Holland, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Betsey Landis, Chair, Environmental Organization Representative  
Sam Shammass, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tim Fargo, City of Los Angeles  
Kristine Jegalian, City of Los Angeles  
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens  
Chris Coyle, Republic Services  
Steve Cassulo, Waste Connections  
Joe Bartolata, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Michael Harmon, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Ramon Herman, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Karlo Manalo, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Robel Mesfin, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Dave Nguyen, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Gladys Rietze, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Vu Truong, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Jeffrey Zhu, Los Angeles County Public Works

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Betsey Landis called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 21, 2022 MEETING**

Mr. Patrick Holland made a motion to approve the Minutes, as corrected, and Mr. Mike Mohajer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**III. UPDATE ON CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL**

Mr. Karlo Manalo, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL). The next quarterly update on odor complaints from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) will be presented in July 2022.

Update on Lawsuits

Mr. Manalo also reiterated the two separate lawsuits CCL filed against the County. The first lawsuit was filed on October 20, 2017, challenging operational conditions and fee conditions of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP). The second lawsuit was filed on April 13, 2018, challenging a decision by the hearing officer that upheld a NOV issued by Regional Planning on December 11, 2017, for failure to pay Bridge and Thoroughfare Fee, accepting prohibited auto shredder waste, and failure to pay out-of-area fees. The trial has been continued to December 2022. Mr. Manalo reported that both CCL and the County are currently engaged in settlement discussions to resolve both lawsuits.

Task Force Request for CCL to Submit a Report regarding NOVs Received

- CCL submitted their Thirteenth Monthly Update to the Task Force on April 29, 2022. The update addressed the April 19, 2021, letter's requirements and updates on implementation of Conditions 68 (status of air quality monitoring for surrounding communities), 77 (relocation of the site entrance from Henry Mayo Drive to Wolcott Drive), and 79 (schedule of the Street Improvement project), as well as the Stipulated Order for Abatement from AQMD.
- The monthly report did not note any NOVs issued. However, CCL's website posted NOVs issued on April 29, 2022, by the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD) for hazardous wastes detected onsite. The NOVs were disseminated to the FPRS on May 16, 2022. CCL is working on correcting the violations to meet compliance by May 30, 2022.

Mr. Mike Mohajer inquired if the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) had taken any action regarding the hazardous wastes that were detected onsite by the LACFD

inspector. Ms. Dee Hanson-Lugo of the LEA stated that she would inquire with her inspection team to see who was present at the Landfill during the LACFD's inspection, and if LACFD or CCL notified the LEA of this incident. Ms. Hanson-Lugo indicated that she would provide a response to Mr. Mohajer's inquiry to be shared with the FPRS members.

#### Stipulated Order for Abatement

The hearing by the AQMD Hearing Board was held on May 17, 2022. Staff will present a summary at next month's FPRS meeting.

#### **IV. DISCUSSION ON FOC REPORTS**

Mr. Ramon Herman, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on the FOC, Semiannual Waste Characterization studies, and Quarterly Monitoring Reports for various landfills. The information provided in the Semiannual Waste Characterization Studies are reflective of the incoming waste stream during the one-week period when the study was conducted and was not representative of the entire year or season. Mr. Herman noted that staff provided a detailed staff report containing the Waste Characterization Studies and Quarterly Monitoring Reports data at the FPRS meeting mailouts. Mr. Ramon reported the following information:

#### CCL First Quarter 2022 Monitoring Report dated March 15, 2022

- CCL disposed of approximately 510,500 tons in the first quarter of 2022. Compared to the fourth quarter of 2021, the disposal tonnage decreased by 2 percent.
- The beneficial reuse material (including diversion and soil) total for the first quarter of 2022 was approximately 114,500 tons. Compared to the fourth quarter of 2021, the beneficial reuse tonnage decreased by 13 percent.

#### SCL First Quarter 2022 Monitoring Report dated April 15, 2022

- SCL disposed of approximately 728,220 tons in the first quarter of 2022. Compared to the fourth quarter of 2021, the disposal tonnage increased by 10 percent.
- The beneficial reuse material (including diversion and soil) total for the first quarter of 2022 was 11,600 tons. Compared to the fourth quarter of 2021, the beneficial reuse tonnage increased by 36 percent.

Mr. Mohajer noted that SCL's Waste Characterization shows that organics account for 80 percent and 78 percent of the waste stream in Fall of 2021 and Spring of 2022, which is a significant increase from previous reports.

## **V. UPDATE ON SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL**

### Odor Complaints

Mr. Vu Truong, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on the [odor complaints from the AQMD](#) for the month of April 2022 at SCL.

- During the month of April 2022, 38 complaints were made to the AQMD hotline. Of those, 16 were classified as Trash and the rest were listed as No Field Response and None, which meant the inspector visited the site and did not detect any odor.
- Compared to March 2022, the number of complaints received in April 2022 decreased from 58 to 38 complaints.
- Compared to April 2021, the number of complaints for April 2022 increased from 22 to 38 complaints.
- As of May 5, 2022, AQMD issued one NOV related to odor for the month of April 2022.
- According to the AQMD report, the total number of complaints received during 2022 is 338.

Mr. Mohajer stated that the number of NOVs issued by AQMD to SCL for the first four months of 2022 exceeded the total number of NOVs for the entire 2021 calendar year.

Mr. Wayde Hunter with the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens commented that there was no mention in the April meeting minutes of the landfill's noncompliance for weekend soil cover being referred to Department of Regional Planning (DRP) as indicated in an e-mail he received from Mr. Dave Nguyen of Public Works (PW) on May 5, 2022. After some discussion, Mr. Hunter corrected himself upon realizing the referral was noted in the April meeting minutes.

Mr. Mohajer inquired why an update on this topic was not agendaized. Mr. Holland responded that there will be discussion with PW staff on how to provide updates, as well as discussion with County Counsel on PW pending enforcement issues and what is appropriate to share during the meeting.

### Vegetation Report

Ms. Gladys Rietze, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on Republic Services' First Quarter 2022 Vegetation Project Status Report for SCL dated April 30, 2022.

Ms. Rietze informed that in accordance with SCL's CUP and the Oak Tree Permit for the SCL Extension Project, all native oak trees that will be removed for any project-related impact are to be mitigated at a ratio of 2:1. All mitigation oaks are required to be monitored for seven years after the tree reaches 0.5 inches in diameter.

A surplus of coast live oak trees was previously planted in SCL's mitigation areas, which now serves as a mitigation bank for the landfill to draw from for future removals of coast live oak trees. There are currently 48 coast live oak trees remaining in the mitigation bank. However, 40 coast live oak trees will be deducted for the landfill's oak tree mitigation bank to replace the trees that will be removed for the Entrance Toe Berm Project (Project), leaving a remainder of eight oak trees in the mitigation bank, which is equivalent to four future removals.

Ms. Landis asked how erosion and odors will be addressed after the trees are removed in the Project area. Mr. Chris Coyle, Republic Services, stated the project is included in the Joint Technical Document (JTD) and located in the City of Los Angeles; therefore, permitting and plan review is going through City Planning. As part of construction, SCL is required to landscape the front facing slopes, facing the Interstate 5 freeway.

Mr. Coyle continued to inform that SCL will be vegetating the slopes to avoid erosion and the project would serve as odor control providing a physical barrier between the Landfill and the roadway. Mr. Coyle also informed that there is a conceptual drawing in the JTD which will be shared once they are permitted by the City Planning Department.

### **IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comment.

### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:54 p.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 16, 2022, at 11 a.m.