

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

**July 18, 2024**

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Basil Cantu, City of Long Beach Public Works  
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens  
Shikari Nakagawa-Ota, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health  
Sam Shammass, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts  
Christopher Sheppard, Los Angeles County Public Works

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative

OTHERS PRESENT:

Steve Cassulo, Waste Connections  
Kate Downey, Republic Services  
Larry Israel, South Coast Air Quality Maintenance District  
Jordan Sisson, Los Angeles County Disposal Association  
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program  
Erin Rowland, Long Beach Public Works  
Josephine Chen, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Alexander Fitchmun, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Michael Harmon, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Cameron Jones, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Omar Carrillo Maldonado, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Karlo Manalo, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Gladys Rietze, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Caleb Yun, Los Angeles County Public Works

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Christopher Sheppard called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m., and welcomed new appointed members, Mr. Basil Cantu and Mr. Wayde Hunter.

## II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 20, 2024, MEETING

Mr. Sam Shammas made a motion to approve the June 20, 2024, minutes, and Mr. Cantu seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.

## III. CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Karlo Manalo, staff to the Task Force, reported on Chiquita Canyon Landfill's (CCL) Notices of Violations (NOVs) and status update on environmental mitigation measures:

- CCL received 17 NOVs in June 2024, all of which were air quality-related from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD).
- The Landfill Operator submitted their [Thirty-Ninth Monthly Update](#), dated July 1, 2024, in accordance with the [April 19, 2021, Task Force letter](#) requirements and subsequent request for additional updates on NOVs issued and mitigation measures imposed by regulatory agencies.
- CCL reported that the continuous source of odors from the Landfill is from a large and unexpected increase in production of landfill gas and liquids due to a chemical reaction within an older portion of the landfill's waste mass.
- As a result of the NOVs, CCL entered into a [Stipulated Order for Abatement](#) (SOA) with AQMD on September 6, 2023, and that was last modified on April 24, 2024, to address and abate the odors at the landfill.
- The Local Enforcement Agency (LEA), with recommendations from CalRecycle, provided mitigation measures in letters dated [October 17, 2023](#), and [November 21, 2023](#), for CCL to implement to address ongoing odors.
- On June 6, 2024, the LEA issued CCL a [Compliance Order](#) that alleges violations of site maintenance and gas monitoring and control, memorializes the prior mitigation measures recommended by CalRecycle and imposed by the LEA, and enforcing additional related reporting requirements.
- CCL continues to implement the measures required by AQMD and the LEA, and is providing periodic reports to various regulatory agencies that can be accessed through CCL's [odor mitigation website](#).
- On [June 11](#) and [June 28, 2024](#), CCL received site inspection reports from the LEA that allege violations for methane concentration exceedances and for alleged leachate and stability issues, high temperatures, landfill gas collection issues, and settlement. CCL has taken steps to address the alleged violations.

- On [June 27, 2024](#), the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) issued an NOV to CCL for failing to comply with the Water Board's March 20, 2024, Order that required CCL to provide a technical report to investigate potential surface water and groundwater impacts due to current conditions at the landfill.
- On [July 1, 2024](#), Los Angeles County Regional Planning issued an NOV to CCL for violations to the CCL Conditional Use Permit (CUP) related to tonnage exceedances.
- On July 15, 2024, CCL provided their initial response to the Water Board's Order, which included responses to certain requests for additional analysis and data collection, and request for additional time in completing the Order's requirements.

Mr. Hunter requested a copy of Mr. Manalo's talking points. Mr. Sheppard responded that the information presented would be noted in the minutes.

#### **IV. SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL**

##### Odor Complaints and Notices of Violation

Mr. Michael Harmon, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on the [odor complaints from AQMD for June 2024 at SCL](#):

- During the month of June 2024, 31 complaints were made to the AQMD hotline. Of those, 1 was classified as Trash, 15 were listed as No Field Response, 2 were listed as Landfill Gas Odors, and 13 were classified as None, which meant the inspector visited the site and did not detect any odor.
- Compared to May 2024, the number of complaints received for June 2024, increased from 18 to 31 complaints.
- Compared to June 2023, the number of complaints for June 2024 increased from 22 to 31 complaints.
- AQMD issued 0 NOVs related to odor for the month of June 2024.
- The total number of NOVs issued this calendar year is 41.

Mr. Hunter commented that May and June odor complaints are down, which is the case historically for summer months due to current weather patterns and in September odors may increase as shown in the past.

### Alternative Daily Cover Pilot Program

Mr. Harmon provided an update on the Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) Pilot Program that Public Works (PW) approved on March 24, 2024, which expanded the current ADC program approved by PW on January 15, 2019.

The newly approved ADC one-year Pilot Program, entails expanding the use of ADC on Saturdays and Sundays. The pilot was done in consultation with other regulatory agencies with the goal of reducing odors by enhancing the landfill gas collection efficiency. As part of the pilot, information will be collected by Republic Services to demonstrate any improvements in both the landfill gas collection systems, monitor reductions in odors, and demonstrate the effectiveness of Envirocover, as an alternative to soil, in controlling vectors and scavenging.

At the end of the one-year pilot, there will be an evaluation to determine the continued use of the Envirocover on Saturdays. The program will allow the Landfill Operator to use ADC from closure on Saturday afternoon to Monday morning under typical conditions, but during high winds or rain events, the conventional six-inch daily soil cover must be used. The Landfill Operator is required to report observations and performance of the ADC monthly.

Conditions of approval required notification and opportunity for comment by several community groups. To date, the ADC item was brought to the SCL Community Advisory and SCL Technical Advisory Committees. The pilot may be stopped at any time if PW determines any violations of the requirements.

Mr. Hunter asked if the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council (GHNNC) was informed about the ADC. Ms. Kate Downey from Republic Services responded that a written notification had been made, but the GHNNC has been unable to reach a quorum to hold a meeting. She also noted that Republic Services' General Manager is a member of the GHNNC and will be notified of the next meeting.

Mr. Hunter commented that the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens submitted a letter to PW in opposition of approving the ADC program. He further noted that the odors have not dissipated.

Mr. Sheppard informed Mr. Hunter that PW will continue to monitor the pilot program, making certain of compliance with all the reporting requirements and if there are any deviations or concerns, PW can rescind the approval.

## **V. FINDING OF CONFORMANCE REPORTS**

Mr. Manalo provided an update on the Finding of Conformance (FOC) Waste Characterization Study Report for CCL, which only reflects the incoming waste stream during the one-week period when the study was conducted and not representative of the entire year or season.

### Spring 2024 Waste Characterization Study for CCL

- Organic Materials composed of 57 percent of the total collected sample for this study period. Compared to Fall 2023 Study, the percentage of Organic Materials was reported as 57 percent.
- Other Waste composed of 28 percent of the total collected sample. Compared to Fall 2023, the percentage of Other Waste was reported at 26 percent.
- Metals composed of 6 percent of the total collected sample. Compared to Fall 2023, the percentage of Metals was reported at 7 percent.

During this study period, there were no apparent changes in the waste composition observed. PW staff is expecting to review FOC Quarterly Reports from various landfills this month that will be reported at next month's Subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Hunter requested that PW staff provide information on what constitutes the FOC and what this Subcommittee must evaluate. Mr. Sheppard recommended a high-level overview of the FOC and its components that would benefit new members and serve as a refresher to others.

## **VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Eugene Tseng, as the Technical Advisor of the SCL-LEA, clarified that the ADC had been approved and used since October 2015. The LEA has been working with the AQMD on evaluating the effectiveness of the ADC and has been monitoring the results monthly since 2015 and would be happy to share the information with the Subcommittee.

Mr. Larry Israel from the AQMD informed that the status hearing for CCL's SOA will be held on Saturday, August 17, 2024, at 10 a.m., in the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons and will be an all-day hearing. If it is not concluded that day, then the hearing will continue Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at AQMD Headquarters in Diamond Bar.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 18, 2024, at 11 a.m.