

NOVEMBER 17, 2011 MINUTES
PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste
Management Task Force

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Mohajer (Chair), Integrated Waste Management Task Force; Laura Cronin, City of Santa Monica; Angela Williams, City of Inglewood; Suk Chong, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Nicholas Morell, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County; Mario Rivas, City of Huntington Park; Jose Reynoso, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Solid Waste Management Program); Cynthia Van Hul, GHG Climate Team, Ray Hamada, City of Irwindale; John Kaddis, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mike Kaspar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works; Kerjon Lee, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Chair.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of August 18, 2011 were approved with changes.

III. NEWSLETTER ARTICLES- WINTER 2012 EDITION

No articles were submitted by Stakeholders.

Articles requested by Mike Mohajer:

- AB480
- AB341
- County Styrofoam Ban
- Paint and Carpet Update
- State Water Boards Regulation of Composting Facilities
- New CalRecycle Director
- CalRecycle Organic Policy Roadmap
- Mesquite Regional Landfill Update

- San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments 2012 Future of Solid Waste Management Forum Summary
- Status of Irwindale MRF
- Status of Azusa MRF
- Sunshine Canyon Landfill Odor Mitigations
- Battle of the Schools

IV. TASK FORCE MEETING DEBRIEFING, Mike Mohajer

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) met on September 15, 2011 and October 20, 2011. The following is a brief summary of some of the issues discussed/addressed by the Task Force:

- Mr. Mike Mohajer stated that AB 341 ultimately requires cities to be responsible for mandatory commercial recycling. CalRecycle defines business to include Federal and State government, school districts, State colleges and universities. One issue he pointed out is that buildings with varying business occupants may have varying disposal methods and it would be difficult for local governments to follow up with recycling. Comments to CalRecycle should state that they need to define how a local city can require the State government to implement recycling and that the regulations should be revised to not require local government to be responsible for all recycling efforts. CalRecycle also needs to state what their expectations are from the cities regarding commercial buildings.
- Mr. Mike Mohajer mentioned that currently, private landfill operators are not allowed to insure themselves and AB 480 would allow private landfill operators to insure themselves for the cost of the closure, post closure, and corrective action of a landfill. The Task Force's concern with the bill is that the private landfill operator could file for bankruptcy and leave local governments responsible for cost of closure, postclosure and corrective actions. AB 480 moved quickly through until the Task Force intervened. As a result, the author withdrew the bill. Since the bill is now a two-year bill, letters will be sent in November to the city mayors and managers advising them of the bill's existence and encouraging them forward letters of opposition to the author and members of the Senate EQ committee.

V. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled on February 16, 2012, at Public Works Headquarters.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10 a.m.