

SOLID INSIDE WASTE

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE



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Volume 42

Report on Conversion Technology Forwarded to the Legislature

On March 15, 2005, the Waste Board considered and approved a report that will provide the Legislature with an assessment on the current state of conversion technologies. The term “conversion technologies” refers to an array of state-of-the-art technologies capable of converting residual solid waste (material remaining after recyclables have been extracted) into useful products including renewable and environmentally benign fuels, chemicals, and other sources of clean energy including electricity. Under the auspices of the Waste Board, the Report was prepared by the University of California at Davis, University of California at Riverside and other Waste Board consultants pursuant to Assembly Bill 2770 which was authored by Assembly Member Matthews in 2002.

As a part of its action, the Waste Board adopted Resolution 2005-78 which includes the Report’s Findings as well as the Waste Board Recommendations to the Legislature.

Findings:

“Conversion technologies are distinct from landfills and incineration, and can result in substantial environmental benefits for California, including the production of renewable energy, reduced dependency on fossil fuels, and reduction of greenhouse gases.”

“Conversion technologies can enhance landfill diversion efforts and can be complementary to the existing recycling infrastructure. The Board requirements for

the diversion eligibility for such facilities require that conversion technology facilities complement the local infrastructure and that they maintain or enhance the environmental benefits and economic sustainability of the integrated waste management system.”

“Conversion technologies would be expected to meet federal, state, and local air emissions requirements. Local air districts in California are best equipped to review and condition conversion technology facilities.”

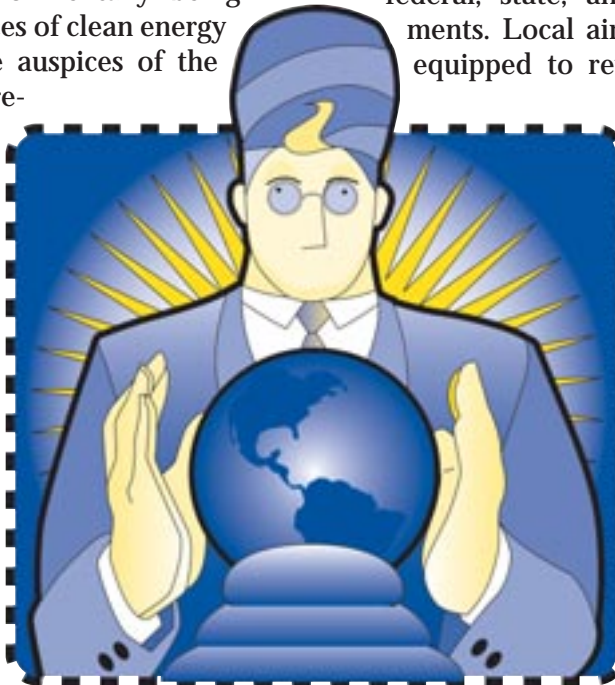
“Definitions of conversion technologies in current statute are scientifically inaccurate, and should be amended.”

Recommendations to The Legislature:

“The definition of ‘conversion technology’ approved by the Board in Resolution Number 2002-177 be promulgated in law, and that more specific definitions of various conversion technologies be developed during a regulatory process.”

“The existing definition of ‘gasification’ is scientifically inaccurate and should be deleted.”

“The ‘transformation’ definition be amended to mean the combustion or incineration of solid waste.”



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JOIN THE TEAM: If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for *Inside Solid Waste* please contact **Emily Montanez** at (626) 458-3579, or emontanez@ladpw.org. Quarterly meetings are held at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters. If you feel you have something to contribute why not become a member of the Subcommittee?

NEWS ABOUT LARA

The Los Angeles Regional Agency, better known as LARA, approved a resolution to accept The City of Hermosa Beach as the newest member of LARA during a special meeting held in the City of Artesia on January 13, 2005.

On January 13, 2004, the CIWMB Executive Board, chaired then by Linda Moulton-Patterson, approved and recognized LARA as a 14-City Regional Agency, the largest in the State of California to improve solid waste diversion through effective program implementation, better communication with CIWMB, and improved waste diversion calculation and reporting. The LARA Executive Board is chaired by Ms. Margaret Finlay, Duarte's Mayor Pro-Tem. The Vice Chair is Larry R. Nelson, Artesia's Mayor Pro-Tem, Treasurer is Bruce Inman, Sierra Madre's Director of Public Works, and Alison Sherman of Torrance is Secretary.

Hermosa Beach is a small South Bay Area city of 1.3 square miles with a total disposal of approximately 23,000 tons for 2002. "Since it is a very small city, the impacts of diversion swings are much more acute," said Sol Blumenfeld, Hermosa Beach's Director of Community Development.

Karen Coca, LARA Board Executive Director, welcomes the addition of the City of Hermosa Beach to

LARA. "Hermosa Beach is adding significant new diversion programs and will be an asset to the organization," Ms. Coca added.

LARA is actively providing assistance to its members by hosting a series of workshops to help cities conduct waste audits, support grant-writing efforts, and train jurisdictions on other strategies to help promote recycling awareness for residents. Recently, LARA dedicated a portion of their budget to purchase a series of radio spots on local top 20 AM and FM stations. The spots were produced in English and Spanish and focused on solid waste issues, particularly informing residents about the need to be mindful about our diminishing landfill space.

LARA is now poised to increase from 14 cities to 15 local cities, as the addition of one more City requires the approval of the CIWMB in Sacramento. The next step for LARA is to request from the CIWMB to include LARA on the CIWMB Agenda. Local LARA cities continue to work cooperatively and effectively to increase the region's solid waste diversion. For more information about LARA, please contact Joe Maturino at (213) 473-8447.

Conversion Technology Update from page 1

"Conversion technologies are distinct from landfills and incineration."

"The Legislature should consider some level of diversion credit for conversion technology facilities in accordance with the conditions set forth in Resolution 2002-177."

Since 1999, the County of Los Angeles, the Task Force and many cities in Los Angeles County have been strong advocates for the development of these technologies for a number of reasons. With the 89 jurisdictions within Los Angeles County collectively disposing of 12 million tons of residual waste per year (that is the waste remaining after recycling and other diversion

activities have been completed), the need to assure adequate disposal capacity and to assist jurisdictions in complying with the State's 50 percent waste reduction mandates necessitates the development of conversion technology facilities as an important tool in meeting these critical public service needs. The advent of these technologies is the result of technological advances that have the potential to improve the quality of life and lessen our dependence on landfilling, incineration, and imported fossil fuels, while complying with strict environmental standards and enhancing the recycling market.

For additional information, please contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

WORKSHOPS INVESTIGATE REVAMPING AB 939

On October 5, November 30, and December 2, 2004, the Waste Board held the first of a series of workshops to solicit stakeholder input on revamping the State's waste diversion compliance system. Workshop participants included representatives from environmental groups, consultants, waste and recycling industries, and jurisdictions. The primary topic of discussion is the possibility of converting the current system, which relies on documenting numerical compliance, to a program-based system.

Since 1999, the Task Force has been a leading advocate for such a change since it is estimated that jurisdictions in Los Angeles County cumulatively spend as much as \$10 million or more per year in documenting compliance with the State's 50 percent waste reduction mandate. Compounding this burden on financial resources which otherwise could be used to implement more waste reduction programs, it's been demonstrated that each component of the measurement system used to document compliance contains systemic errors. This problem is particularly acute in Los Angeles County with 88 cities and 130 unincorporated communities. Failure to mathematically achieve and maintain the 50 percent waste reduction mandate may subject jurisdictions to penalties of up to \$10,000 per day.

The Waste Board is scheduled to hold additional workshops in the near future. Therefore, the Task Force, which has been an active participant in these workshops to ensure a more reasonable and practical way for measuring solid waste diversion, encourages jurisdictions to monitor these developments and forward any comments to the Waste Board. The willingness of the Waste Board to consider potential alternatives presents a unique opportunity for jurisdictions to effect needed changes in the way diversion compliance is measured.

For more information, please contact Mr. Fred Rubin, of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3500, Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

COUNTY ADOPTS C&D RECYCLING AND REUSE ORDINANCE

The County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors recently adopted a Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Recycling and Reuse Ordinance, adding another major program to the County's many waste reduction programs.

The Ordinance will require construction projects in the unincorporated County areas to recycle 50 percent of the C&D debris generated starting April 5, 2005. The Ordinance applies to all demolition and grading projects and to projects over \$100,000 in value with the exception of one single-family home or duplex.

Training workshops will be conducted in late March and April to orient the building industry with the requirements of the Ordinance and to assist with completing the forms. Information on the training workshops and other resources are available on the County's website at 888CleanLA.com.

For more information, please contact Richard Ledesma at (626) 458-3584 or visit www.888CleanLA.com and select the C&D link.



WASTE BOARD CONSIDERING PROPOSED CHANGES TO STATE DISPOSAL REPORTING REGULATIONS

The Waste Board is considering draft revisions to the State's Disposal Reporting System (DRS) regulations in an effort to improve solid waste origin reporting and to analyze disposal reporting methods used in the State of California. The proposed draft revisions will affect all DRS stakeholders from waste haulers to jurisdictions. Currently, the draft regulations and comments received are being reviewed by the Waste Board. It is expected that the draft regulations will be scheduled on a Waste Board agenda by mid-year 2005.

As required by SB 2202 (Sher, Chapter 740, Statutes of 2000), the Waste Board submitted a report to the Legislature in early 2002 recommending changes to the State DRS to address its deficiencies. The Waste Board then proceeded to develop draft revised regulations incorporating the recommendations in the report, which were first made available in November 2002 and subsequently in June 2003. In September 2004, the Waste Board issued a formal notice releasing the revised DRS regulations for a 45-day comment period. An additional 45-day comment period was issued and ended on January 15, 2005.

The proposed changes in the regulations would affect DRS stakeholders including waste haulers, transfer stations, landfill and transformation facilities, agencies, jurisdictions, and districts. Upon request by a jurisdiction, waste haulers and facility operators are required to provide quarterly disposal information pertaining to that jurisdiction.

New requirements were added such as signage to be posted at the facilities with statements similar to "State Law requires submittal of information on where your waste is from," scales and weighing requirements for solid waste facility operators, and training requirements for all stakeholders excluding districts.

Also, the requirements for the frequency of the Origin Survey have been modified in the proposed regulations. All permitted facilities must conduct origin surveys continuously, each day of operation, for every load with some exceptions. Currently, facilities survey all loads at least one week per quarter during the standard survey weeks.

Requirements for determining origin of waste have also been modified in the proposed regulations affecting haulers and facilities. Major modifications include maintaining documentation for verification of jurisdiction of origin allocations; tracking tons by jurisdiction for all loads identified as C&D/Inert, Designated Waste, and Disaster Waste; and reporting the jurisdiction of origin by commercial haulers based on dispatcher records of hauling routes and generator locations, billing records, or other relevant records.

Another change to the proposed regulations is the addition of a Quarterly Disposal Report and Annual Methods Report. Quarterly Disposal Reports for haulers and transfer stations will summarize waste disposed within California and exports out of California to their agencies. Landfill and transformation operators will report disposal tonnage by jurisdiction of origin and breakdown the types of waste accepted at their facility on a quarterly basis. As for the Annual Methods Report, all facilities must submit their method of disposal reporting to the host agency and agencies will forward those reports to the Board.

For more information, please contact Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa, of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3553, or Mr. Boons Baythavong of the Waste Board at (916) 341-6231. For information regarding the Los Angeles County Disposal Reporting System, please visit www.solid-wastedrs.org.



Earth Day Events 2005

April 16

Feria de la Amistad
Stevenson Middle School
725 S. Indiana Street
Los Angeles

April 16

Earth Day Festival and Expo
Sun Valley Park
8133 Vineland Blvd.
Sun Valley

April 23

Earth Day Fair
Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
3720 Stephen White Drive
San Pedro

April 23

Earth Day Fair
Civic Center Courtyard
1440 W. Garvey Ave.
West Covina



April 23

Earth Day Celebration
Rogers Park
400 W. Beach Ave.
City of Inglewood

April 23

Greening the Earth Day
Memorial Park
85 E. Holly St.
City of Pasadena

April 24

Children's Earth Day
Star Eco Station
10101 W. Jefferson Blvd.
Culver City

April 23 & 24

Earth Day Expo 2005
L.A. Zoo
5333 Zoo Drive
Los Angeles

Open House Brings Educators Resources and Opportunities

The City of Pasadena Department of Public Works, in collaboration with Kidspace Childrens Museum, held its 5th Annual Open House for Educators on Thursday, February 17, 2005, at Kidspace Childrens Museum, Pasadena.

The theme of this year's Open House was "Building Green Partners." Educators learned of programs and opportunities to "green" every aspect of their school in areas such as conserving water, implementing recycling programs, landscaping with native plants, and serving organically grown food in the cafeteria. A panel of environmental specialists spoke on Building Green Partners bringing examples of successful partnerships in school recycling programs. The panel was comprised of representatives from the City of Sierra Madre, Valley Vista Services, and KPOP (Kids Protecting Our Planet) a non-profit environmental education organization. A pilot school recycling program was brought to Sierra Madre Elementary School, and the panel's presentations covered the process in implementing the program from getting buy-in from the Pasadena Unified School District to the services offered by Valley Vista. KPOP spearheaded a six-week Plastics Challenge beverage container recycling program with first grade students at McKinley School in 2004 in partnership with the Allan Company. The Plastics Challenge was so successful that the effort has been adopted by the McKinley PTA, and is an ongoing program.

Open House for Educators is an opportunity for educators of all grade levels to network with organizations and public agencies which provide resources and funding for environmental programs in schools. The event was launched in 2000 to bring the City of Pasadena's school outreach programs to the attention of local educators. In the ensuing years the open house has been held at the headquarters of CORAL Foundation (Communities Organizing Resources to Advance Learning), Eaton Canyon Nature Center, and Kidspace Children's Museum.

The scope of the participating organizations grew from strictly the City's recycling section to other organizations such as the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Armory Center for the Arts, Huntington Gardens, the Cousteau Society, City of Pasadena Water and Power, and City of Pasadena Parks and Natural Resources. The California Integrated Waste Management Board has provided curriculum resources since the first year. Exhibitors provided information and resources on funding, school recycling, solar energy, urban gardens, green purchasing, water conservation, native plants, and city and state resources.

For more information, please contact Carolyn Meredith, Recycling Coordinator at (626) 744-4721, or by email at cmeredith@cityofpasadena.net.

There are five permanent collection centers where L.A. County residents can dispose of their household hazardous waste.

Materials such as paint, motor oil, anti-freeze, cleaning products, and pesticides can be taken to any of the five locations. Electronic waste will also be accepted including computers, monitors, printers, televisions, and cell phones.

Please read each permanent center description below for details or call 1-800-98-TOXIC or 1(888)CLEAN-LA for more information.

GAFFEY STREET COLLECTION CENTER
1400 N. Gaffey St., San Pedro, CA 90021
Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

HYPERION TREATMENT PLANT
7660 W. Imperial Highway, Gate B
Playa Del Rey, CA 90293
Open Saturdays and Sundays 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

WASHINGTON BOULEVARD COLLECTION CENTER
2649 E. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90021
Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

RANDALL STREET S.A.F.E. CENTER
11025 Randall St., Sun Valley, CA 91352
Open Saturday, Sunday, and Monday
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

UCLA LOCATION
550 Charles E. Young Dr. West
Los Angeles, CA 90095
Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday
8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Electronic waste accepted on Saturdays only

What's Up?

HHW ROUNDUPS are open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. For more information, call the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, at 1(888)CLEAN-LA (253-2652). For information about City of Los Angeles events call 1(800)98-TOXIC (988-6942).

- April 16 **Azusa** - Northrop Gruman Corporation
West 3rd St. and Zachary Pedilla Ave.
- April 16-17 **Northridge** - Cal State Northridge
1811 Nordhoff St.
Parking Lot at Lassen St. and Lindley Ave.
(Conducted by the City of Los Angeles)
- April 30 **Santa Clarita** - College of the Canyons
26455 Rockwell Canyon Rd.
South Parking Lot
- April 30 **Avalon** - Avalon HHW Facility
Pebble Beach Rd. at Roaring Canyon.
- April 30 **Hawthorne** - Betty Ainsworth Sparts Center
El Segundo Blvd. And Doty Ave.
- May 7 **Rancho Palos Verdes** - City Hall/City Yard
30940 Hawthorne Blvd.
- May 14 **West Covina** - Maintenance Yard
825 Sunset Ave.
- May 21 **Pomona** - Fairplex
LA County Fair, Hotel & Exposition Complex
Arrow Hwy., Gate 23
- May 28 **La Mirada** - La Mirada Regional Park
Tennis Courts/Swimming Pool Parking Lot
Adelfa Dr.
- June 4 **Torrance** - American Honda
1919 Torrance Blvd.
- June 5 **Calabasas** - Calabasas Landfill
530 Lost Hills Rd.
- June 11 **Pasadena** - Rose Bowl
1001 Rose Bowl Dr., Parking Lot K
- June 18 **Irwindale** - LA County Dept. of Public Works
Flood Control Maintenance Yard
160 E. Longden Ave.

TASK FORCE MEETINGS

Meetings will be held at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Headquarters, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra.

May 19 - 1 p.m.
 June 16 - 1 p.m.
 July 21 - 1 p.m.

All meetings are in conference room B.

For information call Andrea Wong at (626) 458-3547. M - Th, 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

ANTELOPE VALLEY NEWS

ENVIRONMENTAL PRIDE WEEK

Antelope Valley residents will be celebrating Earth Day by participating in a series of collection and beautification events, collectively known as Antelope Valley Environmental Pride Week (April 23 — April 30, 2005). Environmental Pride Week is a collaborative effort between the Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force, the County of Los Angeles, the Cities of Palmdale and Lancaster, Waste Management, local town councils, and hundreds of volunteers.



tons of trash, 50,000 waste tires, 165 tons of electronic waste, and 325 tons of household hazardous waste have been collected. Importantly, all collected recyclable materials were recycled to the maximum extent possible.

In 2005, planned activities include waste tire collection events, community cleanup projects, free trash disposal at a local landfill, and smart gardening workshops. Coupled with the opening of the Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center in

Spring 2005 (see article below), Environmental Pride Week is anticipated to be another great success.

Established in 2001 to raise environmental awareness, instill good environmental stewardship, and encourage community pride, Environmental Pride Week has become a highly anticipated event. Since then, 2,700

For more information on the Antelope Valley collection events, please visit www.888CleanLA.com or call (888) CLEAN LA.

ENVIRONMENTAL COLLECTION CENTER TO OPEN IN SPRING 2005

Beginning Spring 2005, Antelope Valley residents will be able to take their unwanted household hazardous waste, electronic waste, and waste tires to the Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center. The Center, located at the Antelope Valley Public Landfill in the City of Palmdale, is a public-private partnership between the Cities of Palmdale and Lancaster, the County of Los Angeles, the California Integrated Waste Management Board, and Waste Management, Inc.

The Center will provide residents with a convenient location to drop off their household hazardous wastes (e.g., paint, used motor oil, pesticides, aerosol cleaning products, lighter fluid, and expired prescription drugs) twice per month. In addition, during one Saturday every three months, the Center will accept electronic wastes (e.g., VCRs, stereos, fax machines, computers, and cellular phones) and waste tires (provided grant funding is secured).

“The Center is part of an overall County strategy to enhance the level of service to residents and to provide the safest, most efficient and convenient method for collecting these wastes,” said Shari Afshari of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. “We are exploring the possibility of partnering with additional public and private agencies to see if additional Centers can be developed. We are very excited about this new development and its influence on the future direction of the Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Management Program.”

For additional information regarding the County’s mobile household hazardous collection events and other permanent collection centers near you, please visit www.888CleanLA.com or call (888) CLEAN LA.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Below is a summary of bills recently introduced as well as selected bills passed during the recently concluded legislative session (followed by the Task Force's position):

CURRENT SESSION

AB 177, AB 727, AB 1090 (as introduced January 24, February 17, February 22, by Bogh, Bermudez, Matthews, respectively) - Monitor

These Spot Bills encourage the development of conversion technologies by removing existing disincentives and making them eligible for diversion credit. For a description of conversion technologies, please go to page 1.

AB 338 (as introduced February 10, 2005, Levine) - Support

To spur the waste tire recycling market, this Bill would require CalTrans to gradually increase the amount of asphalt containing crumb rubber in proportion to the total amount of asphalt paving materials used, to be not less than 35% by January 1, 2013. This Bill mirrors AB 338 (2004, Levine) that was vetoed by the Governor due to trade protection issues.

BILLS PASSED IN 2004

SB 50 (Chapter 863, Sher) - Support

This clean-up Bill requires retailers to collect a point of purchase fee (between \$6 and \$10) for each Covered Electronic Waste (e.g., televisions, computer monitors, and laptops) sold. The State would use the collected fees to establish a Statewide CEW recycling program.

The Task Force supported this Bill because it would help offset local government costs in collecting/managing these CEWs.

AB 1873 (Chapter 137, Bogh) - Support

This Bill increases the fine for illegally dumping commercial quantities of trash from \$1,000 for the first offense and up to \$10,000 for the third offense.

AB 2176 (Chapter 879, Montanez) - Oppose

This Bill requires the Waste Board, by April 30, 2005, to make available a model ordinance for consideration by local jurisdictions to increase recycling at large venues and large events. The Task Force opposed this Bill because it would encroach on the local land use authority by requiring local jurisdictions to establish planning requirements that dictate where and how facilities may be sited/constructed.

AB 2901 (Chapter 891, Pavley) - Support

This Bill requires cell phone retailers, by July 1, 2006, to establish a collection system to recycle or properly dispose of unwanted cell phones.

For additional information, please contact Mr. Fred Rubin, of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3500.